## SAFE TRAVELING DURING MEMORIAL WEEKEND !!!



## Meghan Markle's Love Letter to Mom Perfectly Showcases **Their Unbreakable Bond**



(Photo: Alexi Lubomirski, Kensington Palace via AP)

There's nothing like a mother-daughter bond.

Long before Meghan Markle met Prince Harry and said "I Do" in a wedding viewed all around the world, the actress developed an everlasting relationship with her mom Doria Ragland.

Gary L. Bond, III, Receives **Duke Tip Award in Texas Recognition Ceremony** 



In a 2014 blog post resurfacing from The Tig, Meghan expressed her love and appreciation for a woman that served as a role model, parent and friend.

"She will swivel her hips into the sweetest little dance you've ever seen, swaying her head and snapping her fingers to the beat like she's been dancing since the womb. And you will smile. You won't be able to help it. You will look at her and you will feel joy," she wrote on her personal blog. "I'm talking about my mom."

In the thoughtful piece, Meghan admits that she found parts of her mother annoying when she was growing up.

But now that she is older and wiser, Meghan couldn't help but acknowledge everything made possible because of mom.

"I get all of it. The curfews that were prefaced with 'I want you home by that time, Flower, not because I'm worried about what you'll do, but because I'm worried about what everyone else out there is up to.' The jogs together in our neighborhood, and bike rides to the La Brea Tar Pits after school. The time spent in the kitchen, helping her prep dinner, carefully tossing fresh herbs into the salad, and knowing when the shrimp in the gumbo was juuuuust right," she recalled. "I didn't get it then. But I get it now."

Meghan added, "She was keeping me safe. She was teaching me to take care of my body. She was introducing me to history, and fostering a love of being outdoors. She was planting the seed for me to become a foodie. She was showing me how to be a daughter, not just in that moment, but for when I became that grown woman. For right now. And thirty years from now. She was loving me. So tightly."

Fast-forward to today when Doria was right by her daughter's side as she married Prince Harry in front of 600 guests inside Saint George's Chapel.

Whether getting ready at a private hotel or riding in the car to the venue, Doria couldn't help but have a giant smile on her face as she experienced the unforgettable day.

"To all of the wonderful mamas in this world, thank you. For all the lessons, for all the love. For you," Meghan wrote. "I love you, Mommy."

Gary L. Bond a 7th - grade student currently attending Great Hearts Irving in Irving, Texas, was recognized for achieving high scores while attending the Duke TIP 7th Grade Talent Search in a ceremony on Thursday, May 17 at the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science at the University of North Texas.

Gary attends Greenville Avenue Church of Christ in Richardson, Texas and is the son of proud parents, Gary L Bond, II and Theronica R. Bond. He is also: the sibling of a younger brother, Theodore L. Bond, parental grandson of; Gary L. Bond, Sr. and MaryNell Wagner, maternal grandson of; Shirley Gray.

### The Dallas Post Tribune sends CONGRATULATIONS to Gary for his achievement!

### IN THIS ISSUE...

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Lupe Valdez defeated Andrew White in the **Democratic runoff nomination** 

SPORTS - PAGE 6



NFL awards Super Bowl to Arizona (2023), New Orleans (2024)

Every way of a man [is] right in his own eyes: but the LORD

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

pondereth the hearts.

(Proverbs 21:2 KJV)



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## 2018 Bobbie L. Lang Hall of Fame Luncheon and Induction Ceremony



Commissioner Price and Vonciel Jones-Hill presented Inductee Mary Holland Bolden her awards.



Commissioner Price congratulates Inductee Johnnie B. Brashear on her recognition.



Commissioner Price presented Inductee Robert Craft his awards.



#### by Gwendolyn J. Brantley

Ten nominees were inducted and enshrined at the African American Education Archives and History Program Bobbie L. Lang Hall of Fame Luncheon at the Hilton Garden Hill (Duncanville) on Saturday, April 14, 2018: Mary Holland Bolden, Johnnie B. Brashear, Robert Earl Craft, Betty Glover, Rachel Lee McGee, Carla Ranger, Dr. Velma Prince Smith, Wanda Jean Meshack Smith, Robert Ward and Dr. Claude Randolph Williams, Sr.

Awards and medallions were presented to the inductees by AAEAHP, U. S. Congresswoman Eddie B. Johnson, State Senator Royce West and State Representatives Yvonne Davis and Helen Giddings.

The Honorable John Wiley Price, Dallas County Commissioner, District 3 served as Master of Ceremonies and Vonceil Jones-Hill was part of the presentations. Norma Adams-Wade introduced elected officials.

AAEAHP volunteers have resulted in 146 individuals being inducted into the AAEAHP Hall of Fame. A permanent pictorial exhibition of inductees (2004-2017) is located in the Helen Giddings Solarium in the African American Museum in historic Fair Park.

The Alfred L. Roberts, Sr. Scholarship **Program** presented scholarships to Rachel Clifton (Wilmer Hutchins High School- attending Texas A & M University), Ayomide Oyefeso (Carter High School- attending University of North Texas). The Robert L. Price Scholarship was awarded to **Chelsee** Gibson (Townview Center- attending University of Houston). The Shirley Ison-Newsome Book Scholarship was awarded to **Destiny Dawson** (Cedar Hill High School- attending University of North Texas). The students plan to major in the field of education. The leaders of the Hall of Fame Committee are Dr. Roscoe C. Smith, Chairman and Gwendolyn J. Brantley, Co-Chair.



Commissioner Price presented awards to Inductee Carla Ranger.



Robbie Redmond (Daughter of Inductee Dr. Velma Prince Smith) accepted awards on behalf of her mother, presented by Commissioner Price.



Commissioner Price presented awards to Inductee Wanda Meshack Smith

Dr. Alfred L. Robert, Sr. and Commissioner Price presented awards to Inductee Betty Glover.



Inductee Rachel Lee McGee receives awards presented by Commissioner Price.

For additional information including the 2019 Nomination Form contact:

Dr. Alfred L. Roberts, Sr., P.O. Box 411091, Dallas, Texas 75241 or president@aaeahp.org.



Vonciel Jones - Hill and Commissioner Price presented awards to Inductee Robert Ward.



Dr. Alfred L. Robert, Sr. and Commissioner Price presented awards to Inductee Dr. Claude R. Williams, Sr.

## **A Spectacular Afternoon with AAEAHP**



Dr. Roscoe C. Smith, Chairman, HOF, Gwen Brantley, Co-Chair, HOF and Bobbie L. Lang (luncheon named in her honor).



Scholarship Recipients: Rachel Clifton, Ayomide Oyefeso, Chelsee Gibson, and Destiny Dawson. Dr. Andre Hilburn and Lincoln Butler are members of the Scholarship Committee.

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### **A Soldier Story: Honoring Those Who Served** Freeman is good at his craft, By Dr. J. Ester Davis enjoys his customers and

Judge Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from, 1902 to 1932, and author of "The Soldier's Faith" was once asked the meaning of Memorial Day. "It reaffirms from year-to-year our national act of sacrifice, enthusiasm and faith". Continuing he says "our deceased brothers and sisters still live in us and bid us to life with our memorable times. . . not death."

My Day

Dr. Hubert Freeman, DDS, is a well-known 'inspiring dentist' in Dallas, with lots of expressions of gratefulness from students he has mentored now out there emulating his style. He acknowledges that he has possibly trained and motivated more hygiene nurses in the medical field to which he is extremely proud. His years of creating a winning 'smile' span several decades. Dr.

golf on his days off. He flavors it with a sense of humor. Last month, I reluctantly and unwillingly had to go to the dentist. You know the feeling. First of all, I was prepared to stay incognito, because most doctor/dentist offices are closed on Wednesdays and therefore, completely unavailable. Dr. Freeman called me back, and into his office I jour-Now the real neyed. breadth of this story is not only his coming in on his off day, but he was in a reflective mood and I was not . . . at first. I simply only had time to think about the things I had scheduled that would not be realized until much later. It pays to listen because "this soldier story" stuck with me.

EDITORIAL PAGE

Dr. Freeman, busy with my emergency situation kept walking and talking. Somehow, he returned to his roots and started with the military. He needed to find a

job, he said, after high school. "You know in those days, we had the draft and people would not hire you if you were close to that age", he recalled. Oh, yes, the draft. Sure wish we had it today, I thought. Dr. Freeman has an engaging warm but authoritative voice because he is accustomed to people paying attention to what he is say-He continued to ing. rebound. I detected along the way that he was deeply attached to the symbolism ing the dental chair, but I of the United States Army. He enlisted, of course. Found himself overseas stationed in Turkey. His career aspirations were still a series of random searches, maybe a biologist, maybe marine life or research. Security was where he landed. He did not say much about that. His tone and smile broaden as he "spoke of a friend" on base that told him about an opening as a dental assistant. "I had no dreams of being a dentist", he

announced emphatically with me still in the chair. " I did not even know I could be a dentist", he added. But "the friend" insisted he would be a natural for the position.

Needless to say, the rest is history.

Dr. Hubert Freeman, after the military entered the School of Dentistry at Meharry Medical College in Nashville. He graduated in 1974.

I began to feel better leavthought more and more of the message and definition of Memorial Day as cited by Judge Holmes and reminisced by Dr. Freeman.

Ester Davis can be reached at Estyler2000@aol.com. You can reach Dr. Hubert Freeman at 972.283.2700

Honoring Those Who Served

## Lupe Valdez defeated Andrew White in **Tuesday's Democratic runoff nomination** for Texas Governor

After a tight race throughout much of the evening Tuesday, Lupe Valdez pulled ahead late to comfortably defeat Andrew White in the Democratic runoff for governor, according to unofficial returns. Valdez goes into the November general election as the first openly lesbian and first Latina candidate to win a major party gubernatorial nomination in Texas. She told cheering supporters in Dallas that she's not deterred by conventional wisdom that she faces long odds against Gov. Greg well-funded Abbott, а incumbent.

White pledged his full support to Valdez and said he is "ready to help in any way I can to give Greg Abbott an early retirement party."

Valdez rode a strong show-

To become governor she'll have to topple Abbott, who boasts high approval ratings and a \$41 million war chest. Abbott's campaign wasted no time attacking Valdez, ing in Dallas County, where releasing a video Tuesday night that recapped some of her stumbles during the nominating contest. Among them: Her backtracking on whether she'd be open to raising taxes as governor. "Lupe Valdez's inability to articulate a clear vision for Texas, coupled with her lack of leadership in Dallas County, proves that she is wrong for Texas," Abbott spokesman Alejandro Treviño said in a statement. "As she continues in her struggle to give definitive answers on questions like whether or not she would raise taxes on Texans, Governor Abbott will be crisscrossing the state articulating his message of economic freedom and individual liberty."

weeks-long push for a debate with Valdez, which she ultimately agreed to earlier this month after a tumultuous stretch that saw her lose an endorsement to White from a group of young Hispanic activists. At the debate, they clashed over long-simmering issues in the race: Valdez's cooperation with federal immigration authorities as sheriff, White's personal opposition to abortion and whether Democrats should nominate a self-styled "moderate" in White. With the nomination in hand, Valdez will also be up against recent Texas history: The state's voters have not elected a Democrat to statewide office in more than two decades. Aguon said he still believes Valdez has a shot at toppling Abbott. "I hope so," he said with a sigh. "We held our breath for same-sex marriage and look what happened: We saw it in our lifetime." Valdez painted the GOPcontrolled state government as one that cares more about special interests than the needs of their constituents. She also said the Republican Party, which is heavily dominated by white men, is out of touch with the changing demographics of the second most populous state in the U.S. "There's a change coming in Texas and a lot of people are ready for it," she said.

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### A Message from The Dallas **Post Tribune Editor**

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

"Please tell me when I didn't have an uphill battle," she said.

Valdez, 70, also said she's tired of politicians not looking out for everyday people.

"Let me find a path for you," she said. "Let me find a path for your health care. Let me find a path for your living wage."

It was a closer race than expected, with Valdez ahead of White by just over 5 percentage points as the final precincts were coming in. By 10 p.m., White had called Valdez and conceded the race.

"Tonight was a tough, tough night, but I've enjoyed getting to know so many people around this state," White told reporters at the Harris County Democratic Party headquarters in his hometown of Houston. "I wouldn't trade this for the world."

she had served as sheriff, and neighboring Tarrant County. She also won big in populous border counties like El Paso, Hidalgo and Webb.

White, the son of late Gov. Mark White, saw a big boost from his home county of Harris, but it wasn't enough to overtake Valdez.

Valdez's supporters said her campaign style of focusing on kitchen table issues resonated with voters, even though White had more campaign cash throughout the year. They also said her professional career as a federal agent and previous political experience in Dallas County made a difference.

"I've always been a fan of how she represented herself and held her own in the community," said supporter Brandon Vance.

The victory by Valdez is an important sign of change, another supporter said.

"The country's changing, we've just got to pull them out of the darkness," said Paul Aguon of Carrollton, adding that he and his husband Mark Patterson supported Valdez for sheriff when she first ran in 2004 back when Dallas County was a Republican stronghold.

"I never projected she'd be governor," Patterson said.

Valdez said she's confident that she'll have an easier time raising money now that she has the nomination.

"He may have all that money, but we've got the grassroots," she said. "For sure, no one is going to buy this election."

Valdez finished ahead of White in the March primary, getting 43 percent of the vote to White's 27 percent, as both emerged from a crowded field that included seven little-known candidates.

The runoff period was highlighted by White's

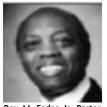
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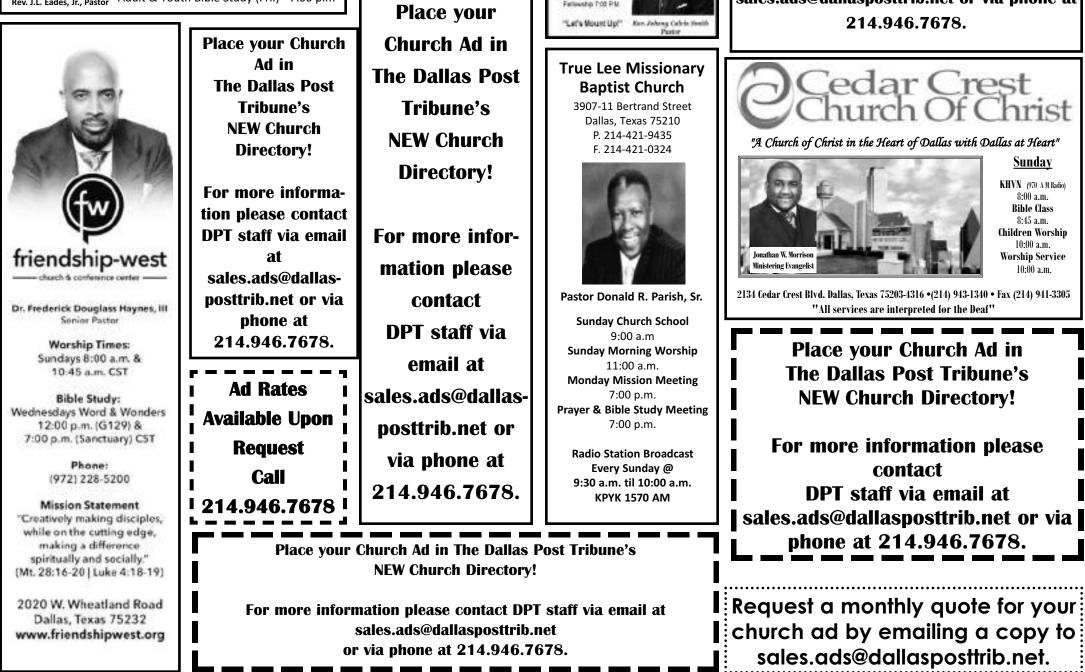


#### Schedule of Services Sunday School - 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m. Brotherhood (1st & 3rd Wed.) - 8:00 p.m. Senior Mission (1st & 3rd Wed.) - 8:00 p.m. Adult & Youth Bible Study (Fri.) - 7:00 p.m

Sunday Worship Services - 7:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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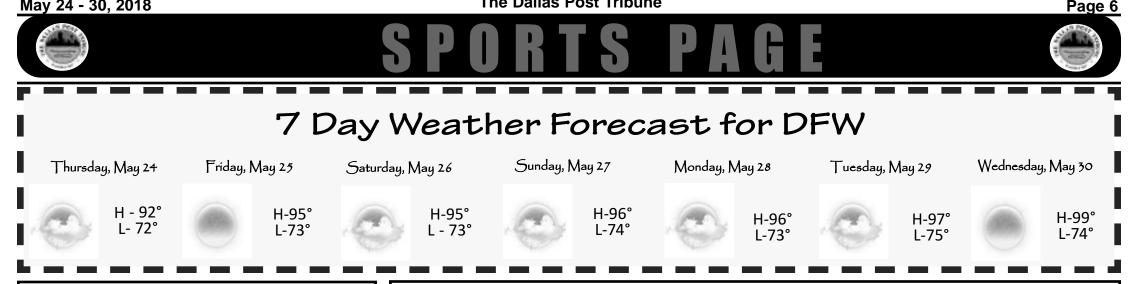


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## **NFL** awards Super Bowl to Arizona (2023), New Orleans (2024)

ATLANTA (AP) — The Super Bowl is headed back to New Orleans for the 11th time and will make its fourth stop in Arizona.

NFL owners voted unanimously on both sites Wednesday at the league's annual spring meeting in Atlanta, which will host the 2019 Super Bowl at Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

The 2023 title game will be played at University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Arizona, while New Orleans' Mercedes-Benz Superdome will host in 2024.

Saints owner Gayle Benson, whose husband Tom Benson passed away in March, appreciated that the vote took only 60 seconds to complete. She attributed the quick tally to New Orleans' unique culture.

"It's different from any other city that we have around," she said. "We just have so many things to offer — the food, the culture, the hotels. We've got it all. It should be (there) every year."

This will be eighth time the game is held at the 43-year-old Superdome, more than any other stadium. Its most recent Super Bowl was in 2013, which is remembered for the power going out during the second half, resulting in a 34-minute delay.

The retractable roof stadium in suburban Phoenix previously held the Super Bowl in 2008 and 2015.

"We're thrilled by the unanimous vote and we look forward to making this the most fan-friendly Super Bowl in the history of Super Bowls and bigger and better than any Super Bowl,"

If you have sports information that you would like placed in the **DALLAS POST TRIBUNE Sports** Section e-mail us at: production@dallasposttrib.net

## NFL considering 15-yard-penalty for protesting national anthem

ATLANTA (AP) — The NFL approved a new owner for the Carolina Panthers, passed a rule to eject players who hit with their helmets, and took steps to spice up fund owner who is the kickoff.

Still to be resolved: a much more contentious issue.

What to do, if anything, about players who kneel during the national anthem?

"We recognize with our visibility and the interest itself that it's taken a life of its own," Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said Thursday.

"We ask the world, 'Don't turn your head. in Look at us. Wait a minute. Look at the NFL. hood. Look at everything we're doing.' And then when we have some issues we've got to work through, we realize we've asked you to look. "Let's do as good as we can do." At their annual spring meeting, league owners welcomed David Tepper to their ranks by signing off on his record \$2.2 billion deal to purchase the Panthers from disgraced team founder Jerry Richardson, who abruptly decided to sell after the NFL began investigating alleged sexual and racial misconduct in the workplace. During a brief news conference in which he took only a handful of questions, Tepper immediately made a bit of news by seeming to imply he would be willing to listen to offers for a new stadium from other cities in North and South Carolina. The team has made no secret of its desire to replace 22-year-old Bank of America Stadium, and its lease runs only through the upcoming season. "What's the name of the team? Carolina Panthers. It's going to be the Carolina Panthers," Tepper said. "And that means this team has to have some kind of pres-

ence in the Carolinas and last time I saw, how many are there? That's right, there's two of them."

But Tepper, a hedge worth a reported \$11 billion, also reiterated several times that the largest city in the Carolinas is the "logical place for this team."

"As far as a new stadium, you're asking me too much and the only thing I have a market on now is lack of knowledge," he said. "I'll learn a lot more in the future."

Tepper's purchase was the first order of business at the luxury hotel Atlanta's tony Buckhead neighbor

the 2017 season even after Kaepernick left the 49ers and failed to land a job with another team.

President Trump turned the anthem protests into a campaign issue, saying the NFL should fire any player who takes a knee during "The Star-Spangled Banner." The NFL hasn't gone that far, but Kaepernick has yet to land another job and one of his former teammates and fellow protesters, safety Eric Reid, is also out of work.

Both have filed collusion grievances against the NFL.

"I think there's certainly resolve and I can assure the issue is getting the very best of every owner and the very best look at all our constituencies with an eye first and foremost to our fans. That's No. 1," Jones said. "We know our fans want us to zero in on football, and they don't want to think about or think that we're thinking about anything other than football." The NFL was reportedly considering whether to assess a 15-yard penalty against any player who takes a knee or conducts any other protest during the anthem. Another possible option would be to change up the pregame routine, keeping teams in their respective locker rooms until after the anthem has played.

down the field alongside the coverage players. That will make the play more like a punt and should improve safety.

Wedge blocks - two blockers teaming up on the same player - will also be banned. In addition, any kick that hits the ground in the end zone will be an automatic touchback.

The new rules will be re-evaluated in 2019 to determine their effectiveness, but the league doesn't want to eliminate kickoffs altogether.

"It's part of the game," said Atlanta Falcons President and CEO Rich McKay, head of the league's competition committee. "If we can make plays more competitive and safer, we should do it." In another attempt to improve safety, any player who initiates contact with his helmet is subject to ejection after an in-game video review that will be decided in New York. Al Riveron, the league's head of officiating, said a foul can be called regardless of where on the body not just the head or neck area — that one player hits another with his helmet. The rule is not position-specific, so offensive players will be subject to the same criteria as defensive players. "This is about eliminating unnecessary use of the helmet," Riveron said. If a player is ejected, Riveron and his staff in New York will use network camera angles to determine if the ejection is necessary. He promised that games will not become "an ejection fest" every week. "Immediately when I learn in New York that there's an ejection, I will ask the network to give me everything you've got," Riveron said. "I will take a look at it, I will rule on it and I will say yes, he's ejected, (or) no, leave him in the game."

Cardinals president Michael Bidwill said.

Both teams have major stadium renovations planned. Benson said the Mercedes-Benz Superdome will soon begin an overhaul. Bidwill work has already begun on University of Phoenix Stadium.

"Yes, we've already completed a number of renovations, but \$100 million worth of renovations will be done by the Super Bowl by 2023," Bidwill told The Associated Press.

After this season's game in Atlanta, the next three Super Bowls will be held at Miami's Hard Rock Stadium (2020), Raymond James Stadium in Tampa (2021) and the new Hollywood Park stadium in Los Angeles (2022).

# Historically black colleges make gains on NCAA's APR report

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)** — Athletes at historically black colleges and universities are making major gains in the classroom, according to the NCAA's latest Academic Progress Rate.

The single-year rate at HBCUs over the last five years has increased 34 points to 962 compared with a five-point gain at all other schools.

Overall, the four-year rate for all college athletes increased two points to 983. The APR measures classroom performance by using a points system that rewards athletes for staying in school and remaining academically eligible.

In addition, the number of programs facing postseason ineligibility because of consistently low scores dropped to nine - nearly half of what it was in 2017-18. Alabama A&M had four teams make the list and was the only school with more than one.

That was the easy part. As a minority owner of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Tepper was already familiar to the league's owners and his approval was a mere formality. The vote was unanimous.

Anthem protests are a much thornier issue.

"We certainly want to make and will make a thought-out, deliberate decision," said Jones, who has made it clear he opposes kneeling during the anthem and was one of the few people to speak with reporters in the hotel lobby after the meeting broke up. "Whatever we do, let's put the focus on what the NFL's about and that's playing football."

The owners began discussing the issue which has reached all the way to the White House — and will talk more before wrapping up their meetings Wednesday.

Former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick began kneeling during the national anthem in 2016, a quiet but powerful protest against police brutality and racial inequities in the justice system.

Other players took up the cause, and the gesture carried on during

That is the protocol long followed by college football, preventing anthem protests from being carried out in its stadiums.

The new kickoff rules are aimed at making the high-speed play a bit safer and perhaps more exciting.

Players on the kickoff team can't get a running start, while eight of the return team's 11 players must start out in a 15yard zone near midfield, forcing them to run

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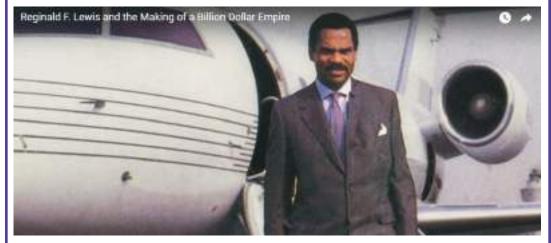


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### DOCUMENTARY ON AMERICA'S FIRST BLACK BILLIONAIRE SCREENED AT CANNES



#### By Freddie Allen (Editorin-Chief, NNPA Newswire)

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, the president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), co-hosted an event celebrating international filmmakers and the European premiere of a documentary about the life and legacy of Reginald F. Lewis, America's first Black billionaire, during the Cannes Film Festival in France.

Dr. Chavis joined Loida Nicolas-Lewis, the widow of Reginald F. Lewis, and Ken Naz of MariKen Productions in hosting the affair at the Le Majestic Beach on Wednesday, May 16. The Honorable David Lisnard, the mayor of Cannes also attended the star-studded event.

"On behalf of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, we are very pleased to co-host, along with the Lewis family, the European premier of the documentary," said Dr. Chavis.

The documentary titled, "PIONEERS: Reginald F. Lewis and the Making of a Billion Dollar Empire," chronicles the rise of one of Wall Street's greatest entrepreneurs.

As a young man growing up in Baltimore, Lewis began his record-breaking, entrepreneurial journey with the

Black Press, Dr. Chavis said, distributing newspapers like the Baltimore AFRO.

According to a 1988 New York Times article, when Lewis was 9 years-old, he acquired a paper route that "ultimately became a \$15 to \$20-a-week business—a lot of money in those days," he said.

Lewis attended Virginia State University then Harvard Law School and worked in corporate law after he graduated. He helped to establish the first African American law firm on Wall Street. In 1983, he launched TLC Group, L.P. and organized the \$22.5 million leveraged buyout of McCall Pattern Company, according to his official biography.

"Lewis streamlined operations, increased marketing, and led the company to two of the most profitable years in McCall's 113-year history," Lewis's biography said. "In the summer of 1987, he sold the company for \$65 million, making a 90-to-1 return on his investment."

According to his biography, Lewis then outmaneuvered Citicorp to acquire Beatrice Foods, which included 64 companies in 31 countries; the deal was worth \$985 million, the largest leveraged buyout of overseas assets by an American company at that time.

"As Chairman and CEO of the new TLC Beatrice International, [Lewis] moved quickly to reposition the company, pay down the debt, and vastly increase its worth," his biography said. "By 1992, the company had sales of over \$1.8 billion annually, making it the first Black-owned business to generate a billion dollars in annual sales."

In the documentary, Ken Chenault, the former CEO of American Express, said that Lewis's success helped to pave the way for many African American businessmen and women on Wall Street.

Lewis was not only an incredibly successful businessman, he also gave back to the Black community in extraordinary ways.

Lewis represented The Wilmington Ten, a group of political prisoners, who were wrongfully convicted in 1971 of firebombing a Whiteowned grocery store in Wilmington, N.C. Dr. Chavis, who was a 24 year-old civil rights leader with the New York-based Commission for Racial Justice, at the time, was one of the Wilmington Ten, and credited Lewis with helping to get their convictions overturned by the federal appeals court in 1980 and ultimately championing the eventual exonerations of the group.

This article was originally published at BlackPressUSA.com.

Stacey Abrams wins Dem primary

## in Georgia gubernatorial race



**ATLANTA (AP)** — Stacey Abrams won Georgia's Democratic primary in the gubernatorial race Tuesday, becoming the state's first woman nominee for governor from either major party.

If the former state House minority leader wins the general election in November, she'll become the first black woman governor in the U.S.

Abrams got a last-minute boost with an endorsement -in the form of a 60-second robo-call -- from Hillary Clinton.

In the ballroom of a downtown Atlanta hotel, Abrams supporters trickled in to a soundtrack of R&B and hip hop songs.

Two young women — one black and one white and both wearing shirts reading "Elect Black Women" — huddled over a table talking and laughing as Rihanna's "Diamonds"

played in the background. People mingled and sipped drinks as a slideshow of images of Abrams and a diverse collection of supporters played on two large screens in the front of the room.

Abrams beat former state Rep. Stacey Evans. The onetime legislative colleagues tussled over ethics accusations and their records on education. Both are Atlanta-area attorneys.

Meanwhile, the Republican contest centered largely on who loved guns the most and was toughest on immigration.

The Republican field includes five white men: former legislators, officeholders and businessmen, some with decades of political experience and others positioning themselves as outsiders challenging the establishment. They include Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle of Gainesville, Secretary of State Brian Kemp of Athens, former state Sen. Hunter Hill of Atlanta, state Sen. Michael Williams of Cumming and businessman Clay Tippins of Atlanta.

If no candidate receives more than 50 percent — a strong possibility given the crowded GOP field — the two with the most votes will advance to a July 24 runoff.

Cagle walked through a crowd of supporters shaking hands, offering hugs and taking selfies while country singer Tyler Hammond performed on stage.

Hundreds packed the venue in Gainesville for his watch party, chanting "Cagle, Cagle, Cagle" before he stepped onstage with his wife, Nita.

In Athens, supporters of Kemp streamed into the upstairs ballroom of the downtown Holiday Inn around 7 p.m. to await returns at the candidate's watch party.

Kemp is hoping to fend off his rivals to finish at least second in order to secure a runoff spot.

Kemp thanked his supporters and said he was "looking forward to being in that runoff."

The candidates are vying to succeed term-limited Republican Gov. Nathan Deal, who has held the office since 2011.

All of Georgia's statewide constitutional offices are up for grabs this election cycle, including those vacated by Cagle and Kemp, as well as the position of insurance commissioner vacated by Ralph Hudgens, who isn't seeking re-election. Georgia's 180 state House and 56 state Senate seats are also up for a vote.

Five of Georgia's U.S. House members face primary challengers.

Associated Press writers Kate Brumback in Atlanta, Jeff Martin in Athens, Jonathan Landrum in Gainesville and Alex Sanz in Johns Creek contributed to this report.

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## **ROYAL WEDDING FEATURES**

## **BLACK BISHOP, BLACK MUSICIANS**



By Lauren Victoria Burke (NNPA Newswire Contributor)

Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, an American actress with an African American mother, were married on May 19 after exchanging vows at St. George's Chapel in the Windsor Castle in England about an hour from London.

The ceremony was striking for its racial diversity in a royal family not know for it. The blend of African American and British culture noted by many onlookers resulted in a memorable ceremony with cutting edge aspects and several obvious historical first for the British royal family.

It wasn't just the entrance of tennis champion Serena Williams wearing Versace or Oprah Winfrey in a pink Stella McCartney dress and hat, it was the music, the style and the words spoken at the ceremony. Gone was the predictable stuffiness that often accompanies royal ceremonies; the wedding's diversity made the affair even more regal.

The bride's mother, Doria Ragland, stood nearby, some-

times shedding tears, as the only blood relative on Meghan's Markle's side of the family to attend the wedding. Markle's father, Thomas, was too ill to attend the ceremony after a recent heart ailment.

Sheku Kanneh-Mason, a Black 19-year-old classic cellist from Nottingham England, who was the first Black musician to win the BBC Young Musician of the Year award in 2016, performed at the wedding. Kanneh-Mason performed "Sicilienne," "Après un rêve" and "Ave Maria" during a break in the ceremony when the royal couple had to depart the altar to sign a registry in a backroom and out of the sight of their guests.

During an address focused on the power of love, that BBC commentators defined as "spirited," Bishop Michael Curry, the head of the U.S. Episcopal Church, brought the Black church to the royal wedding. Curry began and ended his speech quoting Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. saying, "Martin Luther King was right: We must discover love. And when we do, we will make a new world."

Karen Gibson directed The Kingdom Choir in a performance of "Stand By Me." The Ben E. King song is a R&B standard from 1961.

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"A Black woman in an updo directing a Black choir in "Stand By Me" after a Black preacher gave a three-point sermon, complete with altar call, might be the official end of the United Kingdom. This is the real 'Brexit,'" tweeted former Obama White House official Joshua DuBois.

As the newly-minted British royal couple left St. George's Chapel with family following and entered a carriage after the ceremony, The Kingdom Choir again sang. This time it was an Etta James styled version of "Amen (This Little Light of Mine)," a 1920s gospel song that was popular during the Civil Rights Movement.

"Black bride. Black pastor. Black choir. Black cellist. African chants. Folks clapping and sangin' "This Little Light of Mine." Even a horse named "Tyrone." This is the Blackest royal wedding evuh," tweeted Dr. Stacey Patton, as the church ceremony ended.

This article was originally published at BlackPressUSA.com.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist, political analyst and contributor to the NNPA Newswire and BlackPressUSA.com. She can be contacted at LBurke007@gmail.com and on Twitter at @LVBurke.

