

"Misery won't touch you gentle. It always leaves its thumbprints on you; sometimes it leaves them for others to see, sometimes for nobody but you to know of." ~ Edwidge Danticat



# The Dallas Post Tribune

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ISSN # 0746-7303



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VOLUME 74 NUMBER 4

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

October 7 - 13, 2021

## BREAKING NEWS



This undated photo provided by the Arlington Police Department in Arlington, Texas shows Timothy George Simpkins. Police are searching for Simpkins, who is the suspected shooter at a Dallas-area high school, leaving four people injured before fleeing, authorities said Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2021. (Arlington Police Department via AP)

## Police: Student opens fire at Texas high school; 4 hurt

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — A student opened fire inside a Dallas-area high school during a fight, injuring four people before he fled, authorities said Wednesday.

The shooting happened at Timberview High School

in Arlington, which is part of the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area. Two people were shot and two others had unspecified injuries, Arlington Assistant Police Chief Kevin Kolbye said at a news conference.

Three of the four were

taken to hospitals and the other person refused treatment, he said.

Police were searching for the suspected shooter, whom they identified as 18-year-old Timothy George Simpkins. They said he might be driving a 2018 sil-

ver Dodge Charger with the license plate number PFY-6260.

Kolbye said the shooting happened after a fight broke out.

"This is not a random

Continue **Fire** Page 6

## Leo Chaney, Jr Opportunity Park

By Dr. J. Ester Davis  
Photos by Dr. Fred A. Jones

The City of Dallas has one of the largest municipal park systems in the nation, dedicating more than 21,000 acres of developed and undeveloped parkland into more than 300 parks, seven(7)lakes, 33 ponds today. History has written that renaming of same is a common audacity journey. History always places a 'bright light' on the truth of rationale and changing times. With a bit of research we found that between 1915 and 1953, Dallas dedicated nine(9)parks as Negro Parks in our communities. Phyllis Wheatley Park was founded in 1920, renamed South Dallas Negro Park. The Eloise Lundy Park was founded in 1915, renamed Hall Street Park now Griggs Park. The William 'Bill' Blair Park was Rochester Park founded in 1945. . . . renamed William "Bill" Blair Park during his lifetime of plus 90 years.

So many Dallasites are "lover" of nature and this space. We love the parks!

And the name is truly significant. But as I have said so many times. . . let's please get the history right.

**The Leo Chaney Family has been working with the City of Dallas since 2013** renaming Opportunity Park to **The Leo Chaney Opportunity Park.** Leo Chaney, Jr., a former Dallas City Councilman and family business owner, died in 2013. I had the pleasure of speaking with his sister, Shelia Chaney Bellfield, the fifth of six siblings to Leo Chaney, Jr. "Aunt Shelia" was remarkable and upheld her title as 'family historian' with executive power pride. It is the history of the man that makes the man. "Who did you go to start this odyssey"? The sure answer with no hesitancy was **Adam Bazaldua**, the sitting City Council member for District 7. The focus of renaming the park to **the Leo Chaney, Jr Opportunity Park, speaks**

Continue **Park** Page 6



## Utterly Sickening: Treatment of Haitians at Mexican Border Sparks Outrage

By Lauren Victoria Burke, NNPA Newswire Contributor

After over 12,000 Haitian migrants gathered at the Mexican border, shocking footage of them being herded like cattle, whipped with horse lariats and treated in a way unlike any other immigrants entering the U.S. in recent memory became public.

U.S. Border Control Agents on horseback were widely criticized as were the policies behind their actions after video first

broadcast by Al Jazeera went viral for all the wrong reasons.

"If we were to close our eyes and this was occurring under the Trump administration, what would we do? The inhumane treatment of the Haitian refugees seeking help is utterly sickening," wrote NAACP President Derrick Johnson on September 21.

"Our nation claims to be better than this... SHOW

IT!" Johnson demanded the day before.

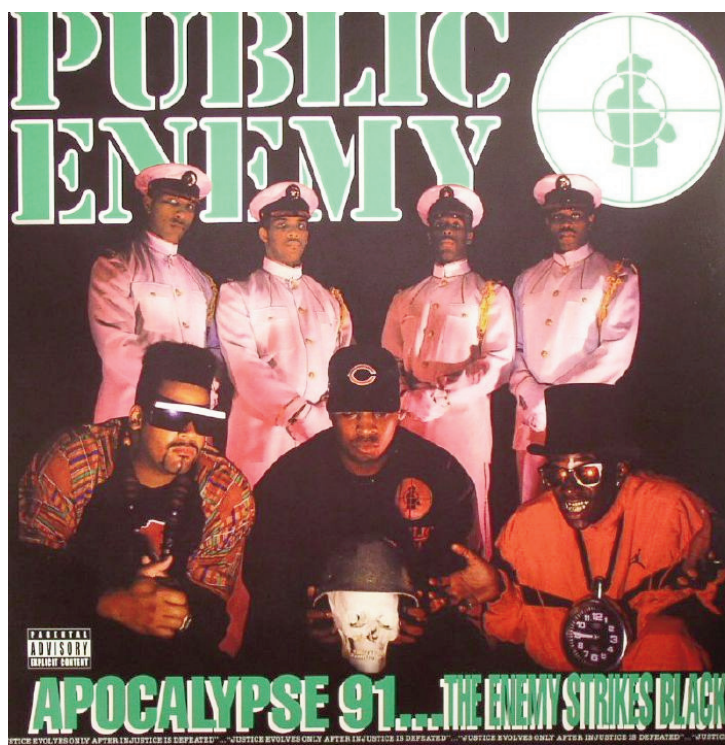
"Whips and horses? That's what we do? To people that are vulnerable? Do we see any Haitians with guns and knives? No! We see them with the clothes on their back and the babies in their arms," said Patrice Lawrence, co-Director of the UndocuBlack Network, during a September 20 appearance on Roland Martin Unfiltered.

UndocuBlack Network assists currently and formerly undocumented Black people to find community and access to resources.

"This is cruelty. It's evil... What I saw today was slave patrol — it is shameful and absolutely disgraceful," she added.

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus gathered at a

Continue **Border** Page 2



## The HD Videos For "By The Time I Get To Arizona," "Night Train" and "Shut 'Em Down" Debut On Public Enemy's Official YouTube Channel

Written by Stacy M. Brown

Los Angeles, CA – October 1, 2021 – Def Jam Recordings/UME releases the 30th Anniversary digital Deluxe Edition of Public Enemy's platinum selling, landmark release, Apocalypse 91... The Enemy Strikes Black. The Deluxe Edition of Apocalypse 91... features thirteen bonus tracks, eight of which have never

been available through digital platforms, and it can be pre-ordered and pre-saved "We never begged for acceptance and thought that was the most rebellious sh\*\* ever," says Chuck D. "So we set out to never repeat ourselves on an album. Once you thought you had us figured out, we flipped on you again. Apocalypse 91 came with a totally differ-

ent sound than Fear Of A Black Planet which had a totally different style than It Takes A Nation Of Millions To Hold Us Back which was even more different than Yo! Bum Rush The Show. With Apocalypse 91," Chuck D continues, "we wanted to grate on nerves and still be great in our approach. Never beg for acceptance. This is what it is, down

your throat. Boom." Originally released on October 1, 1991, Public Enemy's GRAMMY® nominated album, Apocalypse 91... The Enemy Strikes Black, hit No. 4 on the Billboard 200 and includes the single "Can't Truss It," which was certified gold and hit Top 10 on the Hot 100, the

Continue **HD** Page 2



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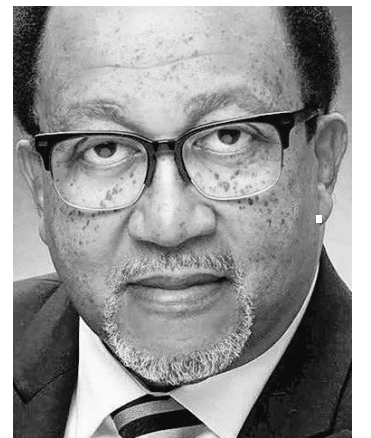
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# EDITORIAL PAGE

## Successful Black American-Owned Business Leaders Unfairly Targeted

By Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr.



Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

(NNPA NEWSWIRE)  
 — There is an old African proverb that captures one of the challenges that too many financially successful Black-owned business leaders face today in America. That proverb is “Your earned riches may engender envy and jealous criticism but be not dismayed by the foolishness of the envious.”

Across the nation as business owners are attempting to recover from the COVID-19 global pandemic, African America business leaders who are defying the odds with their financial success are often targeted by “mainstream media” and others who summarily and unfairly castigate Black business leaders economic achievements. Is this syndrome racially-motivated? The simple answer is “Yes.”

Former Congressman and past leader of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), The Honorable Parren Mitchell (D-MD), 1922-2007, once said in defense of Black business leaders, “There is a national systematic campaign to unfairly subjugate and to prevent the financial success of Black American businesses.”

It appears that business

leaders from communities of color in the United States are being held to a different standard of business practice, ethics, and regulation. Such is the case, I believe, with respect to Jack Brown III who was recently targeted for business practice criticisms by the New York Times because of what they state are personal financial profits that Mr. Brown has earned as result of his businesses providing shelters to New York City’s homeless.

The Times emphasized, “Since 2017, as homeless has risen to record levels, the city has awarded more than \$352 million to a nonprofit run by Mr. Brown to operate shelters. The money is meant to help homeless people regain their footing in life, but it has benefited Mr. Brown, too.”

Is the Times implying that there is something wrong or unethical for earning a financial profit from ones work and business? Brown’s CORE Services’ companies, nonprofits and for-profits, have worked effectively in New York for over a decade.

Both nonprofits and for-profits have to be run as

successful businesses in order to be sustainable. Jack Brown has been a national leader in multiple Black-owned businesses not only in NYC, but also in other cities he has been effective in providing much need services to the homeless and to people “returning” back to society after prison incarceration.

Investigative journalism has its rightful and respected space in our democracy. But it should always be balanced and non-racially prejudicial. The Times piece on Jack Brown was full of unsubstantiated innuendo and one-sided reporting.

Those of us in America’s Black press are fully aware to the double standards and the racial stereotyping that cast unfair dispersions on Black entrepreneurs who dare to strive to own legitimate multi-million dollar businesses.

After the Times feature on Brown was published, Rudy Giuliani who is well known for his unprincipled attacks on African American leaders joined in the chorus against Jack Brown. I conclude with the following tweet that I posted: It is questionable

to see Rudy Giuliani and The NY Times aligned. But today the Times published an innuendo-filled story targeting successful Black-owned business leader, Jack Brown, who Rudy Giuliani then calls Brown a “poverty pimp.”

Sadly, Former President Trump, Giuliani, some in the NY Times, and many others take the position that there are limits and ceilings both politically and economically across the nation that are categorically prescribed by race. We do not agree. We will not submit.

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

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Continued **HD** Page 1

the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs and Dance Singles charts concurrently. Other tracks include “By The Time I Get To Arizona,” “Shut Em Down” and Chuck D’s groundbreaking collaboration with Heavy Metal group Anthrax for the re-mix of Public Enemy’s 1988 classic “Bring Tha Noize (w/Anthrax),” which paved the way for a whole generation of Rap/Metal artists such as Rage Against The Machine and System Of A Down.

The Deluxe Edition of Apocalypse 91... The

Enemy Strikes Black also features thirteen bonus tracks, eight of which make their debut to digital platforms including “Can’t Truss It (Goree Island Conga Radio Mix),” “More News At 11 (Extended Gary G-Wiz Mega Bomb)” and remixes of “Nighttrain” by Pete Rock.

Leading into the 30th anniversary of Apocalypse 91... The Enemy Strikes Black, Public Enemy has been releasing a mix of music videos that have previously never been available digitally and classic videos remastered in HD formats for the first time on

Public Enemy’s official YouTube channel, Channel ZERO. The HD videos for “By The Time I Get To Arizona,” “Nighttrain” and “Shut Em Down” will premiere on October 1.

In addition, Chuck D has teamed up with Z2 Comics and Simon & Schuster for his first-ever graphic novel, Apocalypse 91: The Revolution Never Sleeps, the latest in the publisher’s series of graphic celebrations of music icons which pair some of most notable names in comics with music luminaries from all genres. The book will be available in November, marking the 30th anniversary

of the album that inspired it, Apocalypse 91...The Enemy Strikes Black.

Apocalypse 91... The Enemy Strikes Black ranked No. 2 in The Village Voice’s 1991 Pazz & Jop critics’ poll, No. 7 on SPIN’s 20 Best Albums of the Year in 1991, with AllMusic citing the album as “one of the great records of golden age hip-hop,” and Entertainment Weekly giving it an A+ stating “Apocalypse ’91 has an emotional and intellectual sweep, advancing political awareness along with fellow feeling, enlightenment with pleasure.”

Continued **Border** Page

reception on the night of September 20 at the National Observatory to celebrate the CBC’s 50th anniversary. Though the reception took place at the Vice President’s residence, there wasn’t a lengthy discussion on the crisis at the border. But members are asking for an investigation into what they saw on video.

America has accepted other refugees from around the world from Syria,

Afghanistan and Central America. Policy regarding Haiti appears to be different.

The scenes were reminiscent of illustrations from the early 1800s during slavery in the U.S. when runaway slaves were tracked down by bounty hunters and overseers on horseback. When the footage was shown widely on social media the outrage was quick to follow.

Haiti has recently experienced an earthquake and a presidential assassination.

Many are asking why Haitians at the Mexican border aren’t eligible for political asylum.

On September 21, the Vice President responded to the controversy.

“What I saw depicting and treating human beings the way they were was horrible. I fully support what is happening right now which is a thorough investigation into what is going on here — but human beings should never be treated that way,” said Vice President Harris during a trip to Maryland.

“These are human rights abuses, plain and simple. Cruel, inhumane, and a violation of domestic and international law,” Rep. Ilan Omar (D-Minn.) tweeted. “There needs to be a course correction and the issuance of a clear directive on how to humanely process asylum seekers at our border.”

Though Mayorkas appeared before a Senate committee last week, he is likely to have to answer many more questions in the weeks to come.

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## "A JOURNEY THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF JOHN"

ST. JOHN 21:1-14

### CHRIST'S APPEARANCE BY THE SEA OF TIBERIAS

By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith



After detailing the triumphant resurrection of Christ and His various appearances unto His own, we come now to Christ's third appearance unto His disciples which took place on the Sea of Tiberias, another name for the Sea of Galilee. In Matthew 28:10, Jesus had instructed His disciples to meet Him in Galilee; yet in St. John 21:1-2, we find that seven of them went fishing on the Sea of Tiberias. The impulsive Peter decided to go fishing, and through his influence, other disciples joined him. Thomas, who was absent when the Lord first appeared unto them (St. John 20:19-23) is now with them in mutual association with his brethren. Following the advice of the impetuous Peter, the other six disciples went fishing with Peter only to catch nothing that night (v. 3). Is it awfully noteworthy that the disciples were so engaged in their own pursuit, until they failed to recognize Christ (v. 4). The fact that they toiled all night and caught nothing (v. 3), prompted the Lord to use this occasion and teach the spiritual lesson that "Without me, ye can do nothing" (St. John 15:5). What was the purpose of Jesus' query to His disciples in verse 5? The purpose of His question was to draw or elicit a confession of their failure! The Lord exhibits His sovereignty over the sea in verse 6 by instructing the disciples to cast their net on the right side of the ship to draw fish. Our Lord knew exactly what side of the ship to cast the net to attract fish! Our Lord is indeed sovereign over the sea, and He is sovereign over the sea of circumstances in our lives. Among the group of seven, it was the beloved disciple John who recognized that "It is the Lord" in v. 7. When the Lord blesses us, we need to recognize Him! Having heard that it was Jesus, Peter jumped into the water and swam to Jesus, with the other disciples coming in a little boat, dragging an abundance of fish (v. 7-8). Even in Christ's resurrection glory, we find Him still caring for the needs of His disciples (v. 9). Jesus supplied the need of His disciples and He will supply our needs in v. 7. When the Lord blesses us, we need to recognize Him! Operating through the power of Christ's command, Peter was able to draw the net ashore that was full of an abundance of fish (v. 10-11). In condescending love and grace, we find our Lord still desiring to dine and commune with His own (v. 12-14), even loving them unto the end (St. John 13:1). As Master of the Christian family, our Lord still dispenses His mercies; in fact, He dispenses them each day of our existence! In I John 4:19, this verse supplies us with the reason why we love Him, for it reads: "We love Him, because He first loved us."

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## Help Wanted: Thousands of job openings posted in New Mexico

By SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — There are tens of thousands of online job postings in New Mexico, and the head of the state labor department said Wednesday that the agency is trying to find creative ways to connect workers with employers to fill those vacancies.

Workforce Solutions Secretary Ricky Serna said during a briefing that more than 13,000 of those job postings are within the health care and social assistance field, where many employees have been working long hours to accommodate the demands of the COVID-19 pandemic and other medical care that was delayed as a result.

While about 99% of health care workers in New Mexico have either been vaccinated or have exemptions, there are still some who face being fired if they don't comply with the state's vaccine mandates.

In a state that has struggled for years to attract more jobs, Serna acknowledged that Workforce Solutions hasn't tracked any information on the impact that vaccine mandates and testing requirements might have on health care providers.

"It's definitely an interest of ours to understand where placement will occur not only immediately but following the public health orders," he said. "We certainly want to ensure that these workers, primarily in health care where the need is high and has been high for many, many years ... don't leave the state of New Mexico."

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## Fate of George Floyd pardon request now with Texas governor

By JUAN A. LOZANO

HOUSTON (AP) — A Texas agency on Monday approved a request that George Floyd be granted a posthumous pardon for a 2004 drug arrest made by a now-indicted ex-Houston police officer whose case history is under scrutiny following a deadly drug raid.

The unanimous recommendation by the seven member Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles will now be forwarded to Gov. Greg Abbott, who will make the final decision.

It was not clear when Abbott would decide the fate of the request. A spokeswoman for Abbott did not immediately return an email seeking comment.

Allison Mathis, an attorney with the Harris County Public Defender's Office who submitted the pardon request in April, said she was pleased by the board's decision.

"A man was set up by a corrupt police officer intent on securing arrests rather

than pursuing justice. No matter what your political affiliation is, no matter who that man was in his life or in his death, that is not something we should stand for in the United States or in Texas," Mathis said.

The board's recommendation was first made public on Monday by a reporter with The Marshall Project.

The May 2020 killing of Floyd, who was Black, by a white Minneapolis police officer prompted worldwide protests against racial injustice. The officer, Derek Chauvin, was sentenced in June to 22 1/2 years in prison for Floyd's murder.

Floyd, who grew up in Houston, was arrested in February 2004 by Officer Gerald Goines and accused of selling \$10 worth of crack in a police sting. Floyd later pleaded guilty to a drug charge and was sentenced to 10 months in a state jail.

Goines' casework has been under scrutiny following a deadly 2019 drug raid

he led that resulted in the deaths of Dennis Tuttle, 59, and his wife, Rhogena Nicholas, 58. Goines, who is no longer on the Houston force, is facing two counts of felony murder, as well as other charges in state and federal court over the raid.

Prosecutors allege Goines, 57, lied to obtain the warrant to search the couple's home.

More than 160 drug convictions tied to Goines have since been dismissed by prosecutors, and a dozen current and former officers, including Goines, tied to the narcotics unit that conducted the drug raid have been indicted.

In May, the top leaders in Harris County, where Houston is located, unanimously approved a resolution to support the pardon request for Floyd.

Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg urged Abbott to grant the posthumous pardon.

"We lament the loss of former Houstonian George

Floyd and hope that his family finds comfort in Monday's decision by the Texas State Board of Pardons and Paroles to recommend clemency," said Ogg, who submitted a letter to the board supporting the pardon request.

During a public visitation in Houston in June 2020 before Floyd's funeral, Abbott expressed a commitment to pursuing policing reforms. But a sweeping reform bill named for Floyd failed to gain traction in the regular Texas legislative session earlier this year.

Since he took office in 2015, Abbott has granted just a handful of pardons each year.

Mathis said she was hopeful Abbott would grant this one.

"I also hope that he, and the Texas Legislature, will work more stridently toward reforming the integrity of the racist, classist criminal justice system in Texas," Mathis said.

# SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

## Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Oct. 7	Friday, Oct. 8	Saturday, Oct. 9	Sunday, Oct. 10	Monday, Oct. 11	Tuesday, Oct. 12	Wednesday, Oct. 13
H - 76° L - 62°	H - 78° L - 59°	H - 81° L - 63°	H - 82° L - 64°	H - 77° L - 62°	H - 77° L - 60°	H - 78° L - 61°

### Diggs keeps INT roll going with Dallas, getting 2 this time

By SCHUYLER DIXON

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Trevon Diggs already had the interception that made him the first Dallas player since the 1970 merger with at least one pick in each of the first four games.

Turns out the second-year cornerback wasn't finished in the Cowboys' 36-28 victory over Carolina on Sunday.

Diggs won a tug of war with top Panthers receiver DJ Moore for his second takeaway, and single-handedly extended the club's NFL-best streak of games with multiple takeaways to eight going back to last season.

The Cowboys are up to 10 takeaways after starting the day leading the league in that category. By himself, Diggs has a chance to finish the weekend with more takeaways than about half the 32 teams.

Best cornerback in the NFL? Diggs has quarterback Dak Prescott's vote after joining linebacker Chuck Howley (1968) as the only Dallas players with five interceptions through four games.

"Turn on the tape," Prescott said. "Watch the guys he's following week in and week out, the best player. That's a guy I've been going against since the spring, I know the standard he holds himself to

and he's going to continue to get better."

Diggs showed signs of being a high-value pick as a second-rounder out of Alabama last year, with the younger brother of 2020 All-Pro Buffalo receiver Stefon Diggs getting two interceptions in his eighth game and finishing his rookie year with three.

Now, Everson Walls' 40-year-old club record of 11 could be in play. Last week, Diggs joined Walls as the only Cowboys with interceptions in each of the first three games. Now he's left Walls behind.

"I really don't calculate things that I do," Diggs said. "Things like interceptions and stuff, I really just go out there and play. I can't even remember high school or college, I just want to go out there and just play and execute."

Diggs was waiting for Sam Darnold's throw on the first interception. He jumped a short route to Moore on the second, juggling the ball just as he and the receiver tumbled to the ground together. The official emphatically signaled Diggs was the winner.

"I love the challenge," Diggs said. "It's mano y mano. Who's better at the end of the day. And I like to compete. I like to compete every play so I feel like I want to see who's better."

### Cowboys cutting LB Jaylon Smith with looming \$9.2M guarantee



Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts (1) runs the ball as Dallas Cowboys linebacker Jaylon Smith (9) attempts to make the stop in the second half of an NFL football game in Arlington, Texas, Monday, Sept. 27, 2021. (AP Photo/Michael Ainsworth)

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys are releasing linebacker Jaylon Smith in what could be considered a cost-cutting move because of a guaranteed salary next season in the case of an injury.

Smith's role had been reduced after Micah Parsons was drafted 12th overall this year and the Cowboys moved free-agent pickup Keanu Neal to linebacker from safety.

The move can't become official before Wednesday.

The decision won't save the Cowboys any money on Smith's \$9.8 million salary cap figure this year, but protects them from his \$9.2 million salary for 2022 becoming guaranteed if he gets injured.

The team said on its website that attempts to trade Smith were unsuccessful.

Dallas drafted Smith in

the second round in 2016 knowing he wouldn't play as a rookie because of a significant left knee injury sustained in his final game with Notre Dame at the Fiesta Bowl.

After an up-and-down debut in 2017, Smith had his best season in 2018 with 150 tackles and career bests of four sacks and 13 quarterback pressures. It was the only one of his four full seasons when the Cowboys made

the playoffs.

Smith signed a \$64 million, five-year extension before the 2019 season. About \$34 million of that contract was guaranteed.

Even with Neal out for a second consecutive game because of COVID-19 protocols Sunday against Carolina, Smith played just 28 snaps. Neal is expected to return from the COVID-19 reserve list this week against the New York Giants.

### How a Black high school principal was swept into a "critical race theory" maelstrom in a mostly white Texas suburb

By Brian Lopez/Texas Tribune

Continued Black - September 30, 2021 (Part 3)



James Whitfield - Photo Credit Ben Torres/Texas Tribune

In the Aug. 16 disciplinary letter, titled a "Review of Past Events and Directives for Future Behavior," GCISD Superintendent Robin Ryan brought up the photos. He called one of the pictures "overly intimate," noting that it was the only photo in the shoot the district asked Whitfield to take down. Ryan said having this photo up was not appropriate for a middle school administrator.

"I am the quintessential boogeyman for these people," James Whitfield says. "Anything that has to do with anything related to equity, or inclusion or diversity — they're going to try to attach it to CRT." Credit: Ben Torres for The Texas Tribune

who had discussed the situation with local media after the meeting, was dishonest with the press and that he "deliberately and dishonestly maligned the District."

In the letter, Ryan also took exception to a Whitfield tweet regarding sending kids back to school without proper safety protocols, in which he said the "lack of regard for the health and well-being of our people is appalling!" While Whitfield did not mention the district in the tweet, Ryan argued that it didn't matter because publicly, he is perceived as the principal of Colleyville Heritage.

Ryan concluded that Whitfield's past and present behaviors violated the district's professional ethical

conduct, practices and performance policy and the district's policy on ethical conduct toward professional colleagues. Both policies mention that the educator won't harm others by knowingly making false statements about colleagues or the district and that the educator shall not be deceptive regarding school policies.

Whitfield was then given directives. One of them was to focus on his job, as Ryan believed Whitfield had "been focusing on yourself and your personal concerns," and to work on his areas of growth as identified in his evaluation. Whitfield was supposed to sign Ryan's letter, but he refused. And on Aug. 30, he was put on paid

leave.

He said he was given no reason for the decision. In a letter obtained by The Texas Tribune, Ryan tells Whitfield that he made the decision because "it is in the best interest of the District."

"They took my keys. They took my badge. They took my computer," Whitfield said. "Treated me like I was some criminal."

In the aftermath, Whitfield has received an outpouring of support — from Facebook groups advocating for him to a petition to a student walk-out on Sept. 9 and 10.

Zelling organized the walkouts with her friends. They have been staunch supporters of Whitfield since the July 26 meeting. Each day,

about 100 students walked out, and they have been at board meetings speaking in support of Whitfield.

She said the timing of the school board is suspicious.

"If Stetson Clark did not speak at that meeting, I think Dr. Whitfield would still be principal," she said.

Laura Leeman, a parent in the district, said she finds it hard to understand why the district didn't publicly support Whitfield and why the district has not given the community any reason as to why he is on leave.

"The lack of response has been a dagger in our hearts," Leeman said. "He was put there for a reason, and he was excelling."

Joy Baskin, director of

legal services for the Texas Association of School Boards, said it is unusual for a school district to work toward terminating a teacher's contract during the school year or to discuss nonrenewal when the school year has just begun.

The easiest way for school districts to get rid of employees is to not renew their contracts toward the end of the school year. The district would still have to have good cause. If a teacher's or administrator's contract is terminated midyear, then the Texas Education Agency needs to be involved to conduct "mini trials," she said.

To Be Continued - Part 4

# Precious Memories

## Clara McLaughlin: Icon Dies

*"My Day"*

By Dr. J. Ester Davis



W Luncheon: Icons of Significance  
Debra Jones, Sharon Scaife, Speaker Clara McLaughlin, Inez Clark, Linda D. Smith  
Thursday, September 20, 2018  
Clara McLaughlin, Media Owner/Publisher/Florida & Atlanta  
Ester Davis, Host/Producer, "Ester Davis Show" BPENTV.US, ROKU, Facebook LIVE, an American Signature Since 1988

On Sunday afternoon leaving Waukegan on my way back to Chicago, I received a dreaded phone call from Clara's family. She had received her wings and flew away peacefully. Clara Francis was my most 'worldliest' best friend. . . the one you only encounter once in a lifetime. She was always an inspiration to me and a true original. We had so many good times together in so many ideal places over the past five decades. We were both from small towns. Gainesville, Florida and Conroe, Texas. Our real common thread was 88 keys, 'power-of-the-pen' writing and the art of appearances. We both had mothers with the same idiosyncrasies—emphasis on speaking well, strict manners, lengthy practice session and recitals as little girls. As young adults, Clara joined the U.S. Navy and played the piano for the Navy Chapel. I moved to Dallas to model, had a grand corporate career, trained and played the piano for youth choirs, corporate meetings and Baptist conventions. As adults, we both had pianos in our homes to entertain our families, dinner guests while hoarding mounds of unedited scripts. Years later, we would still laugh about that "one time" in

Washington, D.C. for a conference. A regular piano was in the lobby with a pianist. When he took a break . . . oh yes, we did. Clara and I decided to see how far we could muddle through a Chopin piece. We did laughingly well, received an applause and tips for the musician when he returned. The business community in Texas is familiar with Clara Frances McLaughlin because she was always seeking her next role. While living in Houston and raising her family, she boldly and assuredly became **the First Black Woman to Own. . . and be the largest shareholder of a major network affiliated station. The stations were in the Longview Tyler area. Ebony Magazine** did an in depth spread on her then accomplishments. I remember, the FCC denied her third request for a television license in that area. While in Dallas, she created a college prep program, sending young people to college. She kept children and students in her spacious home in Heath, Texas. But defeat came when she made a serious bid to buy one of the radio stations at auction in Dallas. The well orchestrated plan was to move it to Bishop College Campus for students to run. She

had major stakeholders, some board applause and community support. The transition of Paul Quinn College to Dallas combined with the then accreditation issues of Bishop College delayed/stalled and later dismissed the planned completion. But Clara was a fearsome talent always challenging and innovative. Came calling was a business opportunity in Jacksonville, Florida and a chance to work close to home. So, in 2002, she purchased The Florida Star and Georgia Star. These two foundational black newspapers were launched into national read cycles propelled by a weekly television presence with audiences in Texas, Florida, Georgia and Howard University where she graduated and served as Editor-In-Chief of the Bison Yearbook. As pictured, Clara was in Dallas for the "W Luncheon: Icons of Significance" in 2018. She was my guest speaker here and I was hers in Jacksonville several times. Pampering cancer for years, she was a fierce fighter with purpose. Again, Clara was my friend. I will miss so much our midnight telephone calls. I will never forget her. But for now, it is appropriate for tears.

Continued Fire Page 1  
act of violence," he said. "This is not somebody attacking our school."  
Timberview serves about 1,900 students in ninth through 12th grades. The sprawling complex opened in 2004.  
The shooting happened just days after a shooting at a Houston charter school that injured an administrator. Texas' deadliest school shooting occurred in May

of 2018 when a then-17-year-old armed with a shotgun and a pistol opened fire at Santa Fe High School near Houston, killing 10 people, most of whom were students.  
Timothy George Simpkins was taken into custody without incident, the Arlington Police Department tweeted. He was booked in the Arlington jail on three counts of aggravated assault with a deadly

weapon and was being held on \$75,000 bail.  
One person was in critical condition, another was in good condition and a third person was treated for minor abrasions and was scheduled to be released from the hospital Wednesday afternoon, police said. A fourth person was hurt but did not require treatment at a hospital. Police said earlier that three of the four injured were students.

## Florida Star and Georgia Star Publisher Clara McLaughlin Dies

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

*McLaughlin had battled cancer and other illnesses for some time, but family and friends said she fiercely fought to the end.*

Clara McLaughlin, the famous author, and publisher of The Florida Star and The Georgia Star in Jacksonville, Florida, has died.  
McLaughlin had battled cancer and other illnesses for some time, but family and friends said she fiercely fought to the end.  
She was a total icon," Arthia Nixon, a publicist, author, and writer for McLaughlin's two publications told the Black Press. "She gave me my first job, and when my daughter was six, she gave her space to write a column."  
McLaughlin's interest in publishing began in high school, creating the first student newsletter in Gainesville, Florida. Later, she attended the Hampton Institute in Virginia and displayed an interest in music.  
She then joined the U.S. Navy and worked as an organist for the Navy Chapel.

Following her military service, McLaughlin attended Howard University, where she served as editor-in-chief of the school's Bison yearbook.  
She earned a journalism degree from the historically Black university and later helped found the National Black Communications Society.  
After expressing her disdain for how television depicted females of color, McLaughlin purchased KLMG-TV, becoming the first Black woman to own and be the largest shareholder of a network-affiliated station.  
McLaughlin purchased The Florida Star and Georgia Star in 2002 and catapulted those foundational Black newspapers into national must-reads.  
Both newspapers are members of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, the trade association representing



Clara McLaughlin  
Florida Star and Georgia Star  
Publisher

the Black Press of America.  
A Female Entrepreneur of the Year Award recipient, McLaughlin dined with several U.S. Presidents, including George Bush, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama.  
She also authored the book "Black Parents' Handbook: A Guide to Healthy Pregnancy, Birth and Child Care."  
"She was a trailblazer," Nixon stated. "She also was like a mom to me in so many ways, and this hits hard. She put up a really good fight."

## Leo Chaney, Jr Opportunity Park

Continue Park Page 1

By Dr. J. Ester Davis / Photo by Dr. Fred A. Jones

**bound books of encyclopedias. The Chaney Family owned a dry cleaning business that Leo, Jr., grew up in, dating back to the 50's and 60's. The brand had about eight(8)locations around the city, being "downtown for a while" Aunt Shelia said, and the entire family worked in the business. As one of the younger Chaney's, she had**

the job of sorting the hangers. She remembers every detail of her contribution to the family business. The business started on Bexar Street, onward to Spring Avenue, Oakland Avenue, Highland Hills. Aunt Shelia said "down the street was grocery stores, a gas station, Griffin Cleaners, Baccus Cleaners and we were all friends". Why was it

important to get this done. I asked. ". . .because we need to know our history in order to not redo it". And adding an addendum. . . "a politician seeking to run, needs to run a business or something else first. Well said.  
Thank you Aunt Shelia. To Dallas and beyond, enjoy this piece of history in the grand City of Dallas.

