

Angela West cleared of DWI charge after toxicology report comes back negative ~ Article Page 4



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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

September 2 - 8, 2021

In this image made through a night vision scope and provided by the U.S. Army, Maj. Gen. Chris Donahue, commander of the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division, XVIII Airborne Corps, boards a C-17 cargo plane at Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan, Monday, Aug. 30, 2021, as the final American service member to depart Afghanistan. (Master Sgt. Alexander Burnett/U.S. Army via AP)



WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States completed its withdrawal from Afghanistan late Monday, ending America's longest war and closing a chapter in military history likely to be remembered for colossal failures, unfulfilled promises and a frantic final exit that cost the lives of more than 180 Afghans and 13 U.S. service members, some barely older than the war.

Hours ahead of President Joe Biden's Tuesday deadline for shutting down a final airlift, and thus ending the U.S. war, Air Force transport planes carried a remaining contingent of troops from Kabul airport. Thousands of troops had spent a harrowing two weeks protecting the airlift of tens of thousands of Afghans, Americans and others seeking to escape a country once again ruled by Taliban militants.

In announcing the completion of the evacuation and war effort, Gen. Frank McKenzie, head of U.S. Central Command, said the last planes took off from Kabul airport at 3:29 p.m. Washington time, or one minute before midnight in Kabul. He said a number of American citizens, likely numbering in "the very low

Last Troops Exit Afghanistan Ending America's Longest War

By Robert Burns and Lolita C. Baldor

A U.S. military aircraft takes off from the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan, Monday, Aug. 30, 2021. (AP Photo/Wali Sabawoon)

Continue Troops Page 5

Mayor Johnson signs official proclamation declaring August 'Black Business and Philanthropy Month' in Dallas

DALLAS -- Mayor Eric Johnson has issued an official proclamation declaring the month of August 2021 "Black Business and Philanthropy Month" in the City of Dallas.

"Dallas is a vibrant and diverse city," Mayor Eric Johnson said. "This proclamation serves as a way to honor our city's incredible Black businesses and philanthropists, who are pillars of our communities. They deserve our recognition and support."

Harrison Blair, the President of the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, joined Mayor Johnson on Thursday for the official signing of the

proclamation at Dallas City Hall.

"I am grateful to Mayor Johnson for supporting our Black business community and for issuing this proclamation," Blair said. "The Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce is proud to partner with the mayor on his continued efforts to increase diversity in growing business sectors in our communities."

Below is the full text of the mayor's proclamation:

WHEREAS, Black Dallasites have a rich history of investing their time and talent in uplifting Dallas' communities; and

Continue Mayor Page 2

Ida topples New Orleans jazz landmark where Armstrong worked



A collapsed historical building is seen on S. Rampart St. in New Orleans, La., early Monday, Aug. 30, 2021. Hurricane Ida became a tropical storm as its top winds slowed over Mississippi on Monday. (Max Becherer/The Advocate via AP)

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A storied New Orleans jazz site where a young Louis Armstrong once worked toppled when Ida blew through Louisiana as one of the most powerful hurricanes to ever hit the U.S.

The Karnofsky Tailor Shop, where a Jewish family employed Armstrong, collapsed Sunday during the storm. Armstrong would play a small tin horn as he worked on the coal and junk wagons, according to the National Park Service.

The business opened downtown in 1913 and had a residence above it where the late jazz legend would often eat meals. The family, who provided Armstrong a "second home," lent him money to buy his first cor-

net.

"Louis said it was the

Karnofskys that instilled the love of singing in his heart," jazz historian and retired photojournalist John McCusker said, according to WWL-TV.

Morris Karnofsky, the family's son and Armstrong's childhood friend, opened the city's first jazz record shop on that same street, according to the park service. Armstrong would visit Morris Music when he returned to New Orleans after moving away.

A cluster of other sites that were integral to jazz's early history in the city were also situated on South Rampart Street.

In 2019, a real estate firm that specializes in historic preservation was under contract to restore a part of the

Continue Ida Page 2

State mask bans face federal civil rights inquiries

By Collin Binkley

The Education Department announced Monday that it's investigating five Republican-led states that have banned mask requirements in schools, saying the policies could amount to discrimination against students with

disabilities or health conditions.

The department's Office for Civil Rights sent letters to education chiefs in Iowa, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Utah. Those states have barred schools from requiring masks

among all students and staff, a move that the department says could prevent some students from safely attending school.

"It's simply unacceptable that state leaders are putting politics over the health and education of the students

they took an oath to serve," Education Secretary Miguel Cardona said in a statement. "The department will fight to protect every student's right to access in-person learning safely."

Continue Mask Page 4



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EDITORIAL PAGE

Senator West's Weekly Update: SB1 Voter Restriction Bill and Pediatric Cases



Dear Friends,

As Covid cases continue to rise, I hope you and your family are safe and well. I want to recommend you continue to adhere to safety protocols as we weather this pandemic.

This past week, after the return of enough Texas House democratic members, the house was able to reach quorum and **pass SB1**. The final passage of SB1 will **restrict access** to voting to thousands of Texans across the state. It seems those most impacted will be **people of color** in large metropolitan areas of the state and all this is based on the **lie of voter fraud** espoused by the former president. This supposed "fraud" election is the same election that re-elected the members of the Texas legislature who voted on this bill. **We will continue to do all we can moving forward to fight against these type of bills.**

For several weeks now, the number of Covid-19 cases has drastically increased to levels similar or **above previous outbreaks**. This has left a **shortage of ICU beds** and a shortage of health care workers in hospitals given the ever-increasing number of healthcare workers leaving the profession. **This shortage of beds is of particular concern because of the growing number of pediatric cases which we had not seen before.** As kids continue to attend school and interact with others, please make sure to follow **CDC guidelines** to better protect your children. This next month we will be focusing on redistricting in Texas. Please visit our **website** to learn more about how to get involved as we move towards the upcoming redistricting session.

Sincerely,
 State Senator Royce West

NEWS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW!

Dallas Water Utilities offers payment plans to customers

DALLAS – DWU is offering payment plans to customers with past due balances. Currently 11% of DWU customers have past due balances of more than 60 days with 50% of them having a balance of under \$300. DWU is encouraging customers with outstanding balances of more than 60 days to establish payment plans prior to Oct. 1, 2021. At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, Dallas Water Utilities (DWU), like most water utilities across the

country, suspended water disconnections and late fee charges. To ensure continued and efficient delivery of utility services, DWU will resume water disconnections for accounts that are past due and will begin applying late fees for past due balances starting Oct. 1, 2021. "DWU understands that customers with past due balances are facing financial hardships," said Director of Dallas Water Utilities, Terry Lowery. "DWU's goal is to continue

to provide this essential service and to help customers establish a payment plan that fits their budget to avoid disconnection or late fee charges." All residential customers will receive information in both their August and September utility bills encouraging them to contact customer service and establish a payment plan if their account is past due. DWU is also assisting customers with identifying non-profit agencies that may be able to provide

financial assistance. DWU Customer Service can be reached via phone at 214-651-1441, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday to help customers establish a payment plan that fits their budget. Customers can also email dldwucustomerserviceforadmin@dallascity-hall.com where a representative will make contact to establish the payment plan. Customers are asked to include name, address, account number and preferred phone number when emailing.

Continued **Mayor** Page 1

WHEREAS, Black Business Month and Black Philanthropy Month are annual, global celebrations of African-descent entrepreneurship and giving in all its forms; and **WHEREAS,** Black Business Month celebrates and encourages the need to support Black-owned businesses across the country; Dallas is the proud home of hundreds of Black-owned business-

es; nearly thirteen percent of all businesses in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex are Black-owned; and **WHEREAS,** Black Philanthropy Month aims to invite all people of African ancestry and allied brothers and sisters to take August and beyond to promote the power of giving to transform lives; Dallas is home to numerous Black-run philanthropic organizations, including many of our houses of worship, and

organizations that aim to empower, enrich, and assist our communities; and **WHEREAS,** Black communities have vested reasons to celebrate and renew their rich, shared traditions of giving, entrepreneurship, and innovation throughout Dallas, the State of Texas, and the United States; and **WHEREAS,** an extraordinary legacy of philanthropy, entrepreneurship, and achievement

merit a concerted effort to lift up important stories, spotlight good work, educate generations, inspire giving, and support in every way Black-owned businesses and organizations. **NOW, THEREFORE, I, ERIC JOHNSON,** Mayor of the City of Dallas, do hereby proclaim August 2021, as **BLACK BUSINESS AND PHILANTHROPY MONTH** in Dallas, Texas.

Continued **Ida** Page 1

block that included the Karnofsky shop, The Times Picayune/The New

Orleans Advocate reported. The company's CEO floated the idea of repurposing the building as a nightclub or jazz lounge.

But when daylight came Monday morning, all that was left was a pile of bricks and other remnants of the historic site.



(AP Photo/Eric Gay)

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Schedule of Services

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

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

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

CREATING GOD

By Oscar H. Blayton

(Continued from July 22, 2021)

It has been, and continues to be, heresy to suggest that the darker people of the world – who many creationists believe carry the mark of Cain – were created in God's image. This would remove people with light skin from the pinnacle of God's divine plan, or at the very least, relegate them to sharing God's grace with those whom Western culture enslaved and devalued.

This hoarding of God's goodness was bolstered by the fact that art, history, culture and religion all grew out of what people know

best. The famous Renaissance artists Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci and Raphael never articulated a saint or angel as having the appearance of an Asian or African because the historiography that informed their world view, and thus their sense of the cosmological, was constricted by their European tribe.

Anthropologists tell us that a "tribe" is, in part, a form of human social organization based on a set of smaller groups having political integration and defined

by traditions of common descent, language, culture and ideology. Europeans often avoid the term "tribe" in favor of "nation" or "kingdom" when describing their social organizations and assign lesser degrees of civilization to tribal units. But a tribe by any other name is still a tribe, and tribal behavior is one defining factor when a common language, culture and ideology control it.

European tribal ethos is clouded by racism on many levels and in many ways. And when it was transport-

ed across the Atlantic Ocean, beginning in the late 15th century, it found fertile ground where it could run rampant with the genocide of the original inhabitants and the importation of enslaved labor from Africa. It was not by accident that European priests stepped off the boats with the first Spanish adventurers; and every subsequent wave of colonists brought their ethnocentric gods with them. The importation of their version of creator and the redeemer asserted their privilege to

claim all that they surveyed – in the name of their god.

We should not attempt to deny the fact that religion was used to justify many forms of racist evil that landed on America's shores as this society marched towards its present-day existence. This racism still exists in America's DNA. So deeply is it embedded in the American ethos that, in many Black churches across this country, the image of a white Jesus is the central point of focus. And some Black churchgoers do not push back more

rigorously against the common practice of depicting Adam and Eve as European-looking people with light skin, as they gave birth to the human race, despite the scientific evidence that the first humans, and the ancestors of us all, were inhabitants of Africa and had dark skin.

It is not likely that many white Americans will come to see their god as anything other than a white anthropomorphic deity, because creationism, coupled with a white Adam and Eve created in the image of their god, secures their place at the top of the hierarchy of all things. But it is important that people of good conscience conduct their lives with the understanding that this is a version of a god that tribalism, born of white supremacy, has created.

The End



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Angela West cleared of DWI charge after toxicology report comes back negative

By FOX 4 Staff

DALLAS - Angela West, the wife of Texas gubernatorial candidate Allen West, has been cleared of the DWI charge against her after her toxicology report came back negative.

Angela was arrested last month after an offi-

cer suspected she was driving while intoxicated. Her infant grandson was in the car with her at the time of her arrest.

George R. Milner released a statement that the Dallas County District Attorney's Office will not file charges

against Angela after "thoroughly" reviewing all evidence.

He added that the toxicology report proved there was no alcohol in her blood, as well as no drugs in her system.

The district attorney's office confirmed the

charge has been dropped, releasing the following statement:

"This office rejected the case after reviewing the toxicology results which showed conclusively that there were no drugs or alcohol in Ms. West's system at the time of the drawing of her blood."

Allen West has been adamant of his wife's innocence, even demanding an apology from police.

The Dallas Police Department released the following statement Wednesday, before it was announced the DA's office would reject the case:

"The Dallas Police Department is aware of the lab results coming from the toxicology report. Due process is guaranteed to everyone, and Mrs. West is no different.

"The officer made her decision based on the information available to her at that time. The purpose of addressing the media and releasing the video footage of the suspected DUI arrest of Mrs. Angela West was not to prove guilt or innocence, but to show the interaction between the officer and Mrs. West because of the accusations regarding the encounter. The remainder of the process lies in the hands of the District Attorney's office. We respect the ultimate decision of the District Attorney's office and we will refrain from commenting further."

Dallas PD previously released bodycam video of the arrest. It showed Angela take a field sobriety test, where she never seemed to stumble. The chief would not say which portion, if any, she failed.

Angela's attorney said, "While I have the utmost respect for Dallas Police Chief Eddie Garcia, his officer got this one wrong."

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Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
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2288	Joker's Wild Overall Odds are 1 in 4.40	\$2	9/19/21	3/18/22
2290	Winner Winner Chicken Dinner Overall Odds are 1 in 4.98	\$1	9/22/21	3/21/22
2286	Money Money Money Overall Odds are 1 in 4.09	\$5	9/22/21	3/21/22
2040	Mad Money Multiplier Overall Odds are 1 in 2.98	\$20	9/22/21	3/21/22
2337	\$5 Million Fortune Overall Odds are 1 in 3.53	\$50	9/23/21	3/22/22

Texaslottery.com is the official source for all pertinent game information. Game closing procedures may be initiated for documented business reasons. These games may have prizes unclaimed, including top prizes. In addition, game closing procedures will be initiated when all top prizes have been claimed. During closing, games may be sold even after all top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. For help with a gambling problem, ncpgambling.org. © 2021 Texas Lottery Commission. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

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Continued Mask Page 1

It marks a sharp escalation in the Biden administration's battle with Republican states that say wearing masks should be a personal choice. President Joe Biden last week asked Cardona to explore possible legal action, prompting the department to examine whether the policies could amount to civil rights violations.

The state policies conflict with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which recommends universal mask wearing for students and teachers in the classroom.

If the investigations determine that the state mask bans have discriminated against students with disabilities, it could lead to sanctions including a loss of federal education funding.

The department said it has not opened investigations in other states where mask bans have been overturned by courts or are not being enforced, including in Florida, Texas, Arkansas and Arizona. But the agency said it is "closely monitoring" those states and is prepared to take action if necessary.

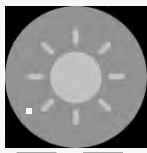
The investigations aim to determine whether state mask bans amount to a violation of students' right to a free, public education. The department is raising concerns that, in areas with high COVID-19 transmissions, the bans could discriminate against students who are at heightened risk for severe illness.

The department is launching the investigations at its own discretion and not in response to complaints from parents, but Cardona said families have raised concerns that mask bans could put children with disabilities or health conditions at risk.

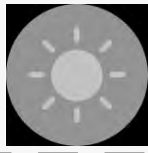
SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

Day Weather Forecast for DFW

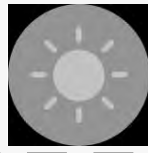
Thursday, Sept. 2

H - 91°
L - 77°

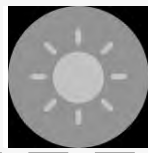
Friday, Sept. 3

H - 90°
L - 75°

Saturday, Sept. 4

H - 91°
L - 74°

Sunday, Sept. 5

H - 92°
L - 75°

Monday, Sept. 6

H - 92°
L - 75°

Tuesday, Sept. 7

H - 92°
L - 75°

Wednesday, Sept. 8

H - 90°
L - 73°

Payton: Saints planning up to a month away from New Orleans

By BRETT MARTEL

The New Orleans Saints are investigating the possibility of remaining in the Dallas area for up to a month and opening their regular season against Green Bay in the Cowboys' home stadium, coach Sean Payton said.

While the Superdome appears to have been spared significant damage from Hurricane Ida, there are logistical challenges with staffing an NFL game there in the near future because of the widespread damage in the New Orleans area.

Many New Orleans residents have evacuated and officials have advised them not to return for at least another several days while roadways are cleared and widespread damage to power lines are repaired. Some neighbor-

hoods are expected to be without power for weeks.

"There's a chance that, if our stadium is not ready to host the Packers in Week 1, where might that game be?" Payton said Tuesday. "That game could very well be right here at AT&T Stadium. We've got enough fans in this area and Houston, certainly from northern Louisiana, that we think that would be something that's very realistic."

Payton said the Dallas area, where the Saints relocated on Saturday as Ida approached the Gulf Coast, also seems to make the most sense as a temporary practice base because multiple Division I college football programs there have offered help and because of conflicts or logistical challenges

with other locations the club considered.

TCU, where Payton's son, Connor, is a student, and SMU have reached out and "completely would love to be a part of helping us and hosting us," Payton said.

Payton said the Saints are focused on making a four-week plan, "knowing we can always adjust if need be."

"A lot of it will depend on, when is the city ready to receive people to come back? When's the power back up?" Payton continued. "When are all the things up and running at least for people to return? And we don't know the answer to that yet."

Payton said the Saints cannot use the Greenbrier Resort in West Virginia, where they held three



New Orleans Saints quarterback Jameis Winston (2) passes with teammates running back Tony Jones (37) looking on during NFL football practice in Arlington, Texas, Tuesday, Aug. 31, 2021. (AP Photo/LM Otero)

training camps from 2014 to 2016, because the San Francisco 49ers are using it between season-opening road games in Detroit and Philadelphia.

And while Payton is fond of Oxnard California, where the Cowboys traditionally begin their training camp, that spot didn't make sense in terms of travel

because the Saints have road games at Charlotte and New England in the first month of the season.

"I don't think it's in our best interest to go to California," Payton began, "and then make two East Coast trips."

Meanwhile, Payton also spoke for the first time about his decision late last week to name

Jameis Winston his starting quarterback over Taysom Hill. The two competed throughout the preseason to succeed retired record-setting passer Drew Brees. And Payton assured that Hill, a strong all-around athlete who's played multiple positions, would continue to have a considerable role.

Continued **Troops** Page 1

hundreds," were left behind, and that he believes they will still be able to leave the country.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken put the number of Americans left behind at under 200, "likely closer to 100," and said the State Department would keep working to get them out. He praised the military-led evacuation as heroic and historic and said the U.S. diplomatic presence would shift to Doha, Qatar.

Biden said military commanders unanimously favored ending the airlift, not extending it. He said he asked Blinken to coordinate with international partners in holding the Taliban to their promise of safe passage for Americans and others who want to leave in the days ahead.

The airport had become a U.S.-controlled island, a last stand in a 20-year war that claimed more than 2,400 American lives.

The closing hours of the evacuation were marked by extraordinary drama. American troops faced the daunting task of getting final evacuees onto planes while also getting themselves and some of their equipment out, even as they monitored repeated threats — and at least two actual attacks — by the Islamic State group's Afghanistan affiliate. A suicide bombing on Aug. 26 killed 13 American service members and some 169 Afghans. More died in various incidents during the airport evacuation.

The final pullout fulfilled Biden's pledge to end what he called a "forever war" that began in response to the

attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, that killed nearly 3,000 people in New York, Washington and rural Pennsylvania. His decision, announced in April, reflected a national weariness of the Afghanistan conflict. Now he faces criticism at home and abroad, not so much for ending the war as for his handling of a final evacuation that unfolded in chaos and raised doubts about U.S. credibility.

The U.S. war effort at times seemed to grind on with no endgame in mind, little hope for victory and minimal care by Congress for the way tens of billions of dollars were spent for two decades. The human cost piled up — tens of thousands of Americans injured in addition to the dead. More than 1,100 troops from coalition countries and more than 100,000 Afghan forces and civilians died, according to Brown University's Costs of War project.

In Biden's view the war could have ended 10 years ago with the U.S. killing of Osama bin Laden, whose al-Qaida extremist network planned and executed the 9/11 plot from an Afghanistan sanctuary. Al-Qaida has been vastly diminished, preventing it thus far from again attacking the United States.

Congressional committees, whose interest in the war waned over the years, are expected to hold public hearings on what went wrong in the final months of the U.S. withdrawal. Why, for example, did the administration not begin earlier the evacuation of American citizens as well as Afghans who had helped the U.S. war

effort and felt vulnerable to retribution by the Taliban?

It was not supposed to end this way. The administration's plan, after declaring its intention to withdraw all combat troops, was to keep the U.S. Embassy in Kabul open, protected by a force of about 650 U.S. troops, including a contingent that would secure the airport along with partner countries. Washington planned to give the now-defunct Afghan government billions more to prop up its army.

Biden now faces doubts about his plan to prevent al-Qaida from regenerating in Afghanistan and of suppressing threats posed by other extremist groups such as the Islamic State group's Afghanistan affiliate. The Taliban are enemies of the Islamic State group but retain links to a diminished al-Qaida.

The final U.S. exit included the withdrawal of its diplomats, although the State Department has left open the possibility of resuming some level of diplomacy with the Taliban depending on how they conduct themselves in establishing a government and adhering to international pleas for the protection of human rights.

The speed with which the Taliban captured Kabul on Aug. 15 caught the Biden administration by surprise. It forced the U.S. to empty its embassy and frantically accelerate an evacuation effort that featured an extraordinary airlift executed mainly by the U.S. Air Force, with American ground forces protecting the airfield. The airlift began in such chaos that a number of Afghans died on the airfield,

including at least one who attempted to cling to the airframe of a C-17 transport plane as it sped down the runway.

By the evacuation's conclusion, well over 100,000 people, mostly Afghans, had been flown to safety. The dangers of carrying out such a mission came into tragic focus last week when the suicide bomber struck outside an airport gate.

Speaking shortly after that attack, Biden stuck to his view that ending the war was the right move. He said it was past time for the United States to focus on threats emanating from elsewhere in the world. "Ladies and gentlemen," he said, "it was time to end a 20-year war."

The war's start was an echo of a promise President George W. Bush made while standing atop of the rubble in New York City three days after hijacked airliners slammed into the twin towers of the World Trade Center.

"The people who knocked these buildings down will hear all of us soon!" he declared through a bullhorn. Less than a month later, on Oct. 7, Bush launched the war. The Taliban's forces were overwhelmed and Kabul fell in a matter of weeks. A U.S.-installed government led by Hamid Karzai took over and bin Laden and his al-Qaida cohort escaped across the border into Pakistan.

The initial plan was to extinguish bin Laden's al-Qaida, which had used Afghanistan as a staging base for its attack on the United States. The grander ambition was to fight a "Global War on Terrorism"



(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

based on the belief that military force could somehow defeat Islamic extremism. Afghanistan was but the first round of that fight. Bush chose to make Iraq the next, invading in 2003 and getting mired in an even deadlier conflict that made Afghanistan a secondary priority until Barack Obama assumed the White House in 2009 and later that year decided to escalate in Afghanistan.

Obama pushed U.S. troop levels to 100,000, but the war dragged on though bin Laden was killed in Pakistan in 2011.

When Donald Trump entered the White House in 2017 he wanted to withdraw from Afghanistan but was persuaded not only to stay but to add several thousand U.S. troops and escalate attacks on the Taliban. Two years later his administration was looking for a deal with the Taliban, and in February 2020 the two sides signed an agreement that called for a complete U.S. withdrawal by May 2021. In exchange, the Taliban made a number of promises including a pledge not to attack U.S. troops.

Biden weighed advice from members of his nation-

al security team who argued for retaining the 2,500 troops who were in Afghanistan by the time he took office in January. But in mid-April he announced his decision to fully withdraw.

The Taliban pushed an offensive that by early August toppled key cities, including provincial capitals. The Afghan army largely collapsed, sometimes surrendering rather than taking a final stand, and shortly after President Ashraf Ghani fled the capital, the Taliban rolled into Kabul and assumed control on Aug. 15.

Some parts of the country modernized during the U.S. war years, and life for many Afghans, especially women and girls, improved measurably. But Afghanistan remains a tragedy, poor, unstable and with many of its people fearing a return to the brutality the country endured when the Taliban ruled from 1996 to 2001.

The U.S. failures were numerous. It degraded but never defeated the Taliban and ultimately failed to build an Afghan military that could hold off the insurgents, despite \$83 billion in U.S. spending to train and equip the army.

Keeping Up The Good Trouble: Two of Sam Tasby's descendants continue his legacy in Dallas ISD

BY THE HUB



Above Photo: *Keeping Up The Good Trouble: Two of Sam Tasby's descendants continue his legacy in Dallas ISD. (Photo courtesy of Dallas ISD)*



Photo to the right: *Dr. Calissa Tasby and her great grandfather, Sam Tasby. (Photo courtesy of Dallas ISD)*

Five decades after Sam Tasby was the centerpiece of the lawsuit that ended segregation in Dallas ISD, two of his descendants are working in the district to continue his legacy of equity and bettering lives through education.

In her social studies classroom at Seagoville Middle School, Rashonda Phelps proudly showcases a picture of her grandfather Sam Tasby on a poster listing her favorite

things. She credits her grandfather as the reason she is in education.

"When I was trying to figure out what I wanted to do for a career, I talked with my grandfather. He always stressed the importance of education, and he supported us and pushed us," Phelps said. "I ended up getting my teaching certification, and I haven't looked back since."

Dr. Tasby, who attend-

ed Ronald McNair Elementary School as a child, said one of her greatest joys was starting to work in Dallas ISD while her great-grandfather was still alive.

"He was so passionate about education and equal rights," she said. "It's a privilege to help continue what he started."

Looking forward

Dr. Tasby and Phelps vividly remember Sam Tasby talking about his

Over at David W. Carter High School, Sam Tasby's great-granddaughter, Dr. Calissa Tasby, supports students as a licensed mental health clinician with the Mental Health Services Department. She helps students work through anxiety and depression caused by the pandemic and address any personal crises.

historic lawsuit that led to the desegregation order for Dallas ISD. He thought it was outrageous that his kids couldn't attend the "white school" in northwest Dallas. As the Dallas Morning News reported in his obituary, Tasby was harassed and lost his job following the lawsuit. But he remained

committed to fighting for what was right, his descendants said.

Dr. Tasby said her great-grandfather would be proud of the district's equity efforts, including the elimination of out-of-school suspensions for non-major infractions and the push to ensure an equitable distribution of

resources among all schools.

"That goes back to what my great-grandfather pushed for," she said. "Students should have the same opportunity as each other, regardless of the color of their skin or their zip code. The work continues, but we are making progress."

Things Parents Should Know Sending Their Kids Back to School

By Breonna Randall, Howard University News Service



Dr. Stacey Eadie is a pediatrician with her own practice, Peds in a Pod, in Baltimore.



Dr. Andrea Goings is a pediatrician with her own practice, Baby Doc House Calls, in Los Angeles.



Children, especially younger children, seem to always have a sniffle or runny nose. However, in today's climate, it's better to be safe than sorry.

For the first time since March 2020, millions of students, pre-kindergarten to high school seniors, will be attending in-person classes. Aside from attending class, they will be also participating in extracurricular activities, like sports, music and clubs. Parents have many concerns and questions. Howard University News Service reached out to five physicians for answers, Dr. Hadie Shariat, pediatrician, Howard University Hospital; Dr. Katherine Hager, Infectious Disease Fellow, Howard University Hospital; Dr. Catherine Marshall, pediatrician at Balboa Pediatrics; Dr. Andrea Goings, pediatrician, Baby Doc House Calls, and Dr. Stacey Eadie, pediatrician at her own

private practice, Peds in a Pod.

Should I get my child vaccinated?

The unanimous opinion among our doctors was if your child can get vaccinated, they should. The only thing that has proven to be effective so far in fighting COVID-19 is the vaccine, they said. While a tiny fraction of people has died from the vaccine, more than 600,000 have died from the disease. Children under the age of 12 cannot be vaccinated, though pharmaceutical companies are working on a vaccine for them.

What if my child is too young for the vaccine?

In this case, the doctors advise, your child should stay away from unvaccinated adults,

stay away from crowded indoor places, always wear a mask and keep practicing social distancing and good hygiene. Also always remember to keep up with your local safety guidelines. Guidelines and prevalence of coronavirus are different in different cities and states. Residents may need to be more careful in some locales.

What kind of mask should my child wear and how many do they need?

The readily available blue and white surgical masks are the best option for students of all ages. They will protect your child if they are wearing them properly. The mask should cover their nose and their mouth. If the mask falls to the ground or gets wet either by sneezing into it or from water, they should be discarded, and a new mask put in place. Younger children should carry about a half a dozen surgical masks with them a day.

Students in grades 9-12 should not need to change theirs as often. They may only need to have about three. For older children doubling up by wearing a surgical mask and a cloth mask

on top throughout their school day is the best option.

If your child is most comfortable wearing only a cloth mask, that is fine, but remember it needs to be cleaned daily, never wait more than a day to clean or rotate your child's cloth mask. N-95 masks are said to be the best option, but only if they have been fit tested by a doctor to a child's face. Children with disabilities who are not able to wear a mask all day should wear a shield.

What should be on my back-to-school shopping list?

You should buy everything that you would already get but more. Make sure your child has more than enough supplies, so they won't need to ask their classmates to share. Young children like to chew on their pens and sharing those supplies could increase the spread of germs. Aside from masks, you may want to add new items like hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes.

What are some school habits my child needs to break and new ones they should include?

The number one habit that children of all ages

need to break is sharing. They should not share toys, school supplies, food, drinks or anything else. It won't be easy to get young children to unlearn "sharing is caring," but it is very important that they try their best.

Other habits that students need to break is any unnecessary touching. Hugging or kissing other students is a no-no. Students have been away from their friends for a very long time, and they may want to show physical affection towards each other when they reunite but it is very important that they don't as much as possible.

They should also use disinfectant wipes to clean their desks between classes and the handles and locks to their lockers. Finally, most schools do not have automatic sinks or dryers. So, students should consider using paper towels to turn handles off and on and opening doors after washing their hands for at least 20 seconds.

Are there warning signs that my child may have been exposed to the coronavirus?

Children, especially younger children, seem to always have a sniffle or runny nose. However,

in today's climate, it's better to be safe than sorry. Every day after your child comes home, spend two minutes with your child and let them tell you about their day without asking any specific questions. In that time, they may tell you if they shared toys or snacks with anyone that they shouldn't have. If your child is having a cough or runny nose, yes it could be allergies or a common cold, but do not risk the safety of your family and others. Keep your children home and quarantine them until they can take a Covid-19 test at a medical facility, not an at home rapid test. A two-year old may get sick and have just a runny nose or sore throat from the disease, but if they infect their grandmother, for example, she could end up in the hospital on a ventilator.

Are extracurricular activities okay for my child to participate in?

There is nothing wrong with your child returning to their extracurricular activities, just as long as these activities are supervised and are following all Center for Disease Control and Prevention and local health guidelines.