

“Get in good trouble, necessary trouble, and help redeem the soul of America.” ~ Congressman John Lewis



ISSN # 0746-7303

# The Dallas Post Tribune

2726 S. Beckley Ave • Dallas, Texas 75224  
P.O. Box 570769 Dallas, Texas 75357 - 0769

CIRCULATION  
VERIFICATION  
COUNCIL



50¢

Serving Dallas More Than 70 Years — Tel. 214 946-7678 - Fax 214 946-7636 — Web Site: [www.dallasposttrib.com](http://www.dallasposttrib.com) — E-mail: [production@dallasposttrib.net](mailto:production@dallasposttrib.net)

VOLUME 77 NUMBER 34

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

May 1 - 7, 2025

## Advocates fear Texas lawmakers are about to worsen the state's homelessness crisis

By Joshua Fechter

DALLAS — As thousands of Texans sleep on the streets, Republicans in the Texas Legislature have pushed proposals that advocates worry will only worsen the state's homelessness crisis.

GOP lawmakers have advanced bills to force cities to beef up their enforcement of a statewide ban on homeless encampments and prevent organizations that provide services to the homeless from setting up shop near schools. They've also pushed legislation that housing advocates fear will accelerate evictions, potentially driving up homelessness as a result.

As the state's housing costs rose in recent years, so did the number of people experiencing homelessness. Nearly 28,000 Texans did not have a permanent roof over their heads last year, according to federal estimates — about an 8% increase from the year before the start of the COVID-19

pandemic. Of those, more than 12,000 were unsheltered — meaning they lived outside, in their cars or in other places not fit for human habitation.

Homeless advocates say proposals that have gained traction in the Legislature so far do little if anything to address the root causes of the state's homelessness crisis — chiefly its shortage of affordable homes — and would make it harder for unhoused people to get out of homelessness.

“A lot of legislators feel like the cities aren't doing their job,” said Eric Samuels, who heads the Texas Homeless Network. “The presumption is they're not already working to prevent and end homelessness, which is far from the case.” Chief among those proposals is a stiffening of the state's ban on homeless encampments. Gov. Greg Abbott signed the ban into law

Continue **Fear** Page 4

## Target CEO Rakes In \$20.4M as Boycott Deepens and Black Leaders Demand Accountability

By Stacy M. Brown



Portland, OR, USA - Jan 14, 2022: Masked shoppers outside a Target Store in northeast Portland, Oregon, during the Omicron variant surge.

As Target Corporation grapples with a sweeping boycott led by grassroots activists and civil rights groups, the company's chair and CEO, Brian Cornell, walked away with a pay package worth \$20.4 million last year. That total marked a 6.3 percent increase over the previous

year, primarily driven by \$16.1 million in stock awards, alongside a \$1.4 million salary and \$2.3 million in bonuses and incentives. The company has faced mounting pressure following its decision to walk back significant diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) commitments, espe-

cially its highly publicized \$2 billion pledge in 2021 to support Black-owned businesses, improve the Black consumer experience, and invest in its Black workforce. The backlash has only intensified since February 1, when Rev. Jamal Bryant and a coalition of grassroots organizations an-

nounced a national boycott against the retail giant. That same day marked the beginning of Black History Month and the launch of a public education and selective buying campaign spearheaded by the Black Press of America. The

Continue **Target** Page 5

## Leaving a legacy at Dallas ISD: Delila V. is turning challenges into chapters



Photo Credit: Dallas ISD

DALLAS — At 17 years old, the Woodrow Wilson High School senior is writing her own legacy built on self-love, resilience, and the power of voice.

Born with CHARGE syndrome, a rare genetic disorder affecting vision, hearing, and growth, Delila faced more challenges than most experience in a lifetime. Instead of allowing those obstacles to define her, Delila is rewriting her story and using her journey to amplify the voices of those who feel different because of their disabilities.

From an early age, Delila struggled to feel comfort-

able in her own skin. She is partially blind and was deaf for many years before receiving a BAHA implant, which helped her better connect with the world around her.

“It was so hard to understand what's going on in the world when I'm completely deaf. Most of the time, I was embarrassed to open up,” said Delila. “I used to be really quiet and insecure, but over time, I learned to love myself and to show others that they can too.”

In high school, Delila found herself reflecting on

Continue **Legacy** Page 6



FERRIS, TEXAS — In one of the most consequential development moments in the City of Ferris's 150-year history, Cawley Partners has officially acquired over 5,200 acres straddling Dallas and Ellis counties for a transformative mixed-use project—marking a new era of opportunity and growth for Ferris and the

southern DFW corridor.

The master-planned development, known as South Creek Dallas, will include up to 5,000 homes, expansive digital commerce parks, data centers, advanced manufacturing, and potentially a corporate campus exceeding 1,000 acres. Strategically located near the future Loop 9 corridor,

## City of Ferris at the Center of Landmark 5,200-Acre Development: Cawley Partners Launches Visionary Mixed-Use Project in Southern DFW

the site surrounds land already annexed by the City of Ferris and lies squarely within the city's long-established planning and influence zone.

“This is a generational turning point—not just for the land, but for the future of Ferris,” said Brooks Williams, City Manager. “What's unfolding here is

not luck. It's the result of deliberate decisions, relentless preparation, and an unwavering belief that Ferris is destined for more.”

Ferris isn't simply adjacent to this project, it is the launchpad. With unmatched proximity to Interstate 45 and downtown Dallas, and

Continue **Ferris** Page 3

## Historic Black Sites Under Threat, May 3 Mobilization Set

By Stacy M. Brown

BlackPressUSA.com Senior National Correspondent

Reverend Shavon Arline-Bradley, president and CEO of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), is mobilizing a national response to what she called a deliberate effort by the Trump administration to erase Black history and dismantle long-standing institutions. “Our ancestors have seen racism before,” Bradley said on Black Press USA's Let It Be Known news program. “But they haven't seen this level of foolishness in the White House that is outright anti-law. What we're seeing now is lawlessness.” NCNW has

adopted a “Three C Strategy”—consumer action, constituent engagement, and commitment aimed at protecting Black institutions and advancing economic power. That includes defending NCNW's historic headquarters, the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House in Washington, which Bradley warned could be targeted by the Department of the Interior.

Across the city, civil rights veteran Dr. Frank Smith is fighting to complete the expansion of the

Continue **Threat** Page 6



Recognizing #BLACK EXCELLENCE for 77 Years







BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Theronica Bond  
Atty. Theodora Lee,  
Co-Chair  
Atty. Gary Bond  
Mrs. Mollie Belt

STAFF

**Dr. Theronica Bond**  
President/CEO  
**Mrs. Shirley Gray**  
Publisher/Manager  
Operations,  
Billing & Collection  
**Mrs. Mattie Weatherman**  
Production  
**Atty. Gary L. Bond**  
Legal Counselor

STAFF WRITERS

Mr. Gary L. Bond III  
*(Youth Editor)*  
Rev. Johnny C. Smith  
Dr. Colleen White  
Dr. J. Ester Davis

CIRCULATION

Mr. Jermain Clemon  
Mr. Rick Weatherman

ADVERTISING

Shirley Gray

PRODUCTION

Mattie Weatherman

EDITORIAL BOARD

Vice Chairman  
Shirley Gray  
Consultant

The Dallas Post Tribune is published weekly by the Tribune Publishing Incorporated, 2726 S. Beckley, Dallas, Texas, 75224, Bulk Rate [1345]. Postage is paid to the Dallas Postmaster. Send address changes to **The Dallas Post Tribune, P.O. Box 570769, Dallas, Texas, 75357-0769.** THE DALLAS POST TRIBUNE is not responsible for unsolicited materials. Address all correspondence to **EDITOR, The Dallas Post Tribune, P.O. Box 763939, Dallas, Texas 75376-3939** or e-mail **production@dallasposttrib.net**. All articles should be addressed to the appropriate staff member. Advertisements, articles, editorials, letters to the editor and cartoons appearing in the paper do not necessarily represent the philosophy or views of The Dallas Post Tribune.

Regulations for Publication

- 1) We reserve the right to edit articles for content and proper grammar. We also reserve the right to truncate articles for space requirements.
- 2) We reserve the right to refuse any advertisement or cancel any advertisement contract.
- 3) Deadline for receipt of articles is MONDAY AT NOON WITH NO EXCEPTIONS unless authorized by the publisher.
- 4) Deadline for receipt of advertisements is MONDAY AT NOON. Advertisements will not be received after that point unless they are camera ready and have been approved by the publisher.
- 5) All articles and advertisements must be proofed by the article placer or advertiser. We will not be held responsible for any errors if the article placer or advertiser does not proof their article or advertisement.
- 6) Articles and advertisements received past the stated deadlines will be held over for the next publication if applicable.
- 7) We will not be held responsible for pictures that are not claimed after two (2) weeks. Pictures held after two (2) weeks are subject to disposal.
- 8) Advertisement positioning based on a first-come basis. Positioning can be guaranteed for 15% over total cost.

## Reverend Elmon W. Prier Was Old School And A Champion For The People

By James B Ewers Jr. Ed.D



James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D

Every day, at some point, you will hear someone use the term “old school”. It is one of those trending terms and one that has gained popularity.

We all know someone who fits the old school description. They are a role model, wisdom-filled, and in a certain age category.

Old school folks usually have these great stories about the good old days. They command attention by their very presence. However, they don’t try to bring attention to themselves.

They will also tell you sometimes what you don’t want to hear, but what you need to hear. In other words, they will tell you the truth. This group is also comfortable being around everyone. They don’t play favorites.

As Rudyard Kipling says in his poem If, “If you can

talk with crowds and keep your virtue or walk with kings nor lose the common touch.”

I met Reverend Elmon W. Prier in 1995. We moved to Ohio to take a position at Miami University of Ohio.

As we got settled, I was encouraged to meet Reverend Prier, and I did. I found him to be introspective, kind-hearted and knowledgeable.

He had those traits in abundance. Elmon Prier was an ordained minister of the gospel, a public-school teacher, counselor, coach, and author. Reverend Prier used all these positions to make life better for all of those around him.

Plainly and admirably stated, he was a man for all seasons. He wanted each of us to reach our full potential.

His work ethic was undeniable. He was always doing something good in the community.

He is a graduate of Wilberforce University, a Historically Black College and University in Ohio. Over the years, he has been a staunch supporter and advocate for the university.

One of his consistent messages was that Wilber-

force University was a turning point in his life.

Reverend Elmon Prier passed away on Easter Sunday. He lived a life of service and gratitude. He is rightfully being called a hero in Middletown, Ohio. I agree with this platitude, as he was certainly one of my heroes.

We developed both a deep friendship and an educational partnership.

I suspect our love for youth and our passion for the transformative power of education brought us together.

Our Christian faith was the centerpiece for all our meetings and conversations. Because he was a minister of the gospel, he was able to bring practical application to Biblical teachings.

I will be forever grateful to him for the infusion of verses and chapters in the Bible that he gave to me. I can say without hesitation or deliberation that I am a better person because of our time together.

Reverend Prier thought that education would lead to a better life for students. He spent countless hours meeting with college admissions officers and writing letters

of recommendation.

As a result, there are untold numbers of students who are college graduates because of his intervention.

Because of his passing, there will be hurt in the hearts of his family and friends. People that he has helped with employment and simply being a person willing to listen will feel his loss.

He left us with many lessons about how to treat each other. This treatment goes beyond the walls of race, gender and economic status.

Reverend Prier lived an exemplary life. His writings, sermons, and books will be a living testimony for future generations.

I will miss his humanity and his humor; I will miss his empathy and his understanding; I will miss his integrity and his steadfast belief in what is right.

In the diagram of life, we all take different paths to find peace, contentment, and happiness. I was blessed to have met my dear friend, Reverend Elmon W. Prier.

His friendship will always be an important part of my life.

This column is dedicated to the Prier Family.

### It’s Time to Renew

Re-Subscribe to **The Dallas Post Tribune**

Mail Check or Money Order to:

**Dallas Post Tribune**  
P.O. Box 570769

Dallas, Texas 75357-0769

One year in-State \$65.00 One year out-of-State \$75.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Check Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

By: **Dr. John E. Warren**, Publisher

San Diego Voice & Viewpoint Newspaper



Dr. John E. Warren

With so much talk about President Trump’s first 100 days in office in his second term, it seemed appropriate to compare and contrast his 100 days to the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who initiated the 100-day miracle that saved a failing nation after President Herbert Hoover brought us the Great Depression.

Starting on March 4, 1933, President Roosevelt convinced the Congress for a three month session. During this time, he introduced 15 major pieces of legisla-

tion designed to counter the great depression; he signed 99 Executive Orders during this first 100 days compared to the 111 that President Trump signed in his first 77 days in office.

During Roosevelt’s first 100 days, Congress passed 77 laws creating Social Security, the Emergency Banking Act, Farm Credit Assistance, the Homeowner Refinancing Act, the Federal Emergency Relief Act, and the Civilian Conservation Corps, to name a few.

President Trump in contrast has been about revenge, efforts to dismantle Social Security, a life line to millions of Americans; the firing of critical Federal employees from CDC, the IRS, dismantling of the Department of Education, cuts in federal budgets affecting such agencies as the Federal Trade Commission and across the board cuts of Federal Agencies like the Department of Health and Human Services, respon-

sible for creating the much needed vaccine to fight the recent Covid-19 Pandemic. Trump has created Tariffs which are destabilizing the U.S. and Global Economies with no concern for rising food and utilities costs affecting all Americans. This is a far cry from the soup lines that Roosevelt spent over 500 million dollars to feed hungry Americans, as opposed to Trump’s cut and elimination of Food Assistance Programs so vital to the survival of so many Americans today.

The real issue today is how long it will take the American people to continue to wake up and rise up against the 100-day crisis that Donald Trump has created for America, while making millions of dollars for himself while in office.

President Trump’s first 100 days, full of Constitutional violations of Due Process and all aspects of the document concerning separation of powers and

our system of government, must not be a preamble to another 100 days in which people are deported without due process, judges are arrested while in their court rooms, while the President seeks to become King while ignoring our system of government. We, the American people, can correct this process by removing from elected office those persons who refuse to hold the President accountable under our separation of powers. We must do more than just march and proclaim “Hands Off”. We must act to remove those who will not uphold their Oath of Office to “Protect and Defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, Foreign and Domestic.” Today, under President Trump, our enemies are more domestic than Foreign. Let’s not just talk about the last 100 days. Let’s act to protect America in the next 100 days.

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**New FOOD PANTRY LOCATION**

**EMPOWERING THE MASSES**  
**COMMUNITY MARKET**

**EVERY SATURDAY**  
from 8-10a

**Food for All**

**FREE FOOD safely loaded into the trunk of your car!**  
- DRY GOODS - MEATS - PRODUCE -

**3220 Samuell Blvd. Dallas, TX 75223**  
NEIGHBORS FROM ALL ZIP CODES ARE WELCOME  
FOR MORE INFO, EMAIL US AT [CONTACT@EMPOWERINGTHEMASSES.ORG](mailto:CONTACT@EMPOWERINGTHEMASSES.ORG)

**The Bath or Shower You’ve Always Wanted IN AS LITTLE AS A DAY**

**\$1000 OFF**  
OR  
**\$1500 OFF** when financing with remodelingloans.com OR **0% Interest** For 18 Months

**OFFER EXPIRES 6/30/2025**

**BATH CONCEPTS INC.**

**CALL NOW (866) 615-1194**

**Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!**

**Before**  
**After**

**LIMITED TIME OFFER! SAVE!**

**UP TO 50% OFF INSTALLATION**

**FREE ESTIMATE 1.844.714.0334**

**ERIE-HOME**  
Expires 4/30/2025  
MADE IN THE U.S.A.



# RELIGIOUS/NEWS

## Living by Biblical Faith

Hebrews 11:8-19

Thus far, we have discussed a biblical description of faith: faith is the substance or the assurance of things hoped for and the evidence or proof of things not seen. Faith in God’s word gives us assurance and confidence that the unseen realities, the ultimate promises of God will be fulfilled! As believers in this age of grace, we must trust God’s word, ordering our steps solely in God’s promises. We must remember that God’s promises are just as true as His Person. We can trust the Lord’s plan because we know the Planner.

By way of review, we

have seen some Old Testament worthies who trusted God during various circumstances in their lives. In verse 4, in Abel’s life, we saw the way of faith; in verse 5, in Enoch’s life, we saw the walk of faith; in verse 7, in Noah’s life, we saw the witness faith. Now, in the life of the great father of faith, we will see the wonderment of faith. Let us follow the wonderment of Abraham’s faith.

Abraham believed God when he did not know where he was going (vv. 8-10); Abraham believed God when he did not know how God would give his wife Sarah the strength and

power to bear a son at the advanced age of ninety years old (vv. 11-12); Abraham believed God when he did not know when the promise of an inheritance will be fulfilled (vv. 13-16); Abraham believed God when he did not know why he was asked to offer his promised son, Isaac (vv. 17-19).

Brothers and Sisters, it was faith in God’s word that allowed him to leave his home in Ur of the Chaldees, not knowing his destination (vv. 8-10). We must remember that “biblical faith is not sight.” Abraham’s days were spent as a nomad as he looked for

a city of God’s providing. His faith looked beyond the temporary and transient circumstances. He patiently waited on God’s directions. Although he had tremendous lapses in his faith, Genesis 15:6 says: “And he (Abram) believed in the Lord; and He counted it to him for righteousness.”

Brothers and Sisters, it was faith that gave Abraham and Sarah the strength and power to have a child when they were “as good as dead” (vv. 11-12). In verses 13-16, Abraham and his pilgrim descendants were living by faith and died and did not receive the things promised.

Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith



**My Heavenly Father Watches Over Me**

*I trust in God wherever I may be,  
Upon the land, or on the rolling sea,  
For come what may, from day to day,  
My heavenly Father watches over me.*

*I trust in God, I know He cares for me;  
On mountain bleak or on the stormy sea;  
Tho’ billows roll, He keeps my soul;  
My heavenly Father watches over me.*

**May God Bless!**

The hymn writer wrote:

Continued **Ferris** Page 1

a bold approach to government, education, health-care, and public safety, Ferris offers a complete ecosystem for next-generation community development:

- A Competitive Financial Climate - With one of the lowest full-service municipal tax rates in the region, Ferris makes it easier for families and businesses to thrive—stretching every dollar further

while delivering and developing high-performance public services.

- Innovation in Education – Ferris is home to a strong partnership between its Municipal Government and Ferris Independent School District, along with being home to the idea of Leaders at Heart Academy, which will be one of only a few municipal charter schools in Texas, offering students personalized pathways,

bilingual immersion, early college credit, and industry certifications—all built around preparing tomorrow’s workforce today.

- Revolutionizing Healthcare Access – Through Tap Telehealth (from MD Health Pathways), every Ferris resident can access medical care, directly with a physician, in under 60 seconds from any device, making Ferris one of the most connected cities in the region for

urgent and routine care.

- Elite Public Safety Model – Ferris fields a fully integrated Department of Public Safety with triple-certified officers trained in police, fire, and EMS—delivering response times that far exceed industry standards and providing 24/7 protection that is both agile and comprehensive.
- Quality of Life that Delivers – Investments in parks, recreation, beautification, infrastructure, and mobility

are creating a vibrant, accessible, and family-focused community—where small-town values meet big-city opportunity.

Cawley Partners, a premier DFW developer with a reputation for bold, successful projects, chose Ferris for a reason. The groundwork is laid. The community is ready. And the future is already rising.

“We are not the city next door to a development. We are the city at the center of what’s next,” said Wil-

liams. “And with the right partners, like Cawley, Ferris will shape the skyline and spirit of southern Dallas County for generations to come.” Williams went on to say, “Ferris has come a long way, but we have never mistaken progress for arrival. We refuse to accept that where we are is where we are supposed to stay. In Ferris, growth and improvement is embedded in who we are and ‘good enough for now’ is not a part of our organizational DNA. That is the spirit of being Distinct by Design.”

## LIFE IS LIKE A CAMERA, JUST FOCUS ON WHAT’S IMPORTANT!

- MOTHER'S DAY -  
(Solution, will appear on page 5, May 8)

- ACROSS**
1. T. Rockwell's "How to Eat Fried \_\_\_\_"
  6. Pro football org.
  9. Tea servings
  13. Relating to axis
  14. Gershwin or Levin
  15. Break of day
  16. Repeat, in music
  17. Red Cross bed
  18. Arm bones
  19. \*Mother \_\_\_\_, personification of physical world
  21. \*Mother \_\_\_\_, fictional dog owner
  23. Opposite of hence
  24. Sleeveless garment
  25. Money source
  28. Golfer's destination
  30. Pass, as time
  35. "Metamorphoses" poet
  37. \*The Beatles: "Mother \_\_\_\_ comes to me"
  39. "The Goldbergs" sibling
  40. Unacceptable, to a baby
  41. Alpine singing
  43. Resembling wings
  44. Fill with optimism
  46. Fill to satisfaction
  47. Orion's \_\_\_\_
  48. Like funereal atmosphere
  50. Lice eggs
  52. Morse code dash
  53. Remainder of a cigarette
  55. Before skip and a jump
  57. \*Mother of \_\_\_\_, a.k.a. Daenerys Targaryen
  61. \*Mother \_\_\_\_, Missionaries of Charity founder
  64. Pass
  65. Stir or fuss
  67. Add together
  69. Anomie, alt. sp.
  70. Decompose
  71. Very angry
  72. Puppy sounds
  73. "\_\_\_\_ no evil, hear no evil"
  74. Tennis-affected joint

- DOWN**
1. Took place
  2. Yoked team
  3. Capital of Latvia
  4. Kind of ray
  5. Cast-off skin
  6. French Riviera city
  7. "To" follower
  8. Wood turning device
  9. Tulip starter
  10. Leo's Karenina
  11. \_\_\_\_ gum, food additive
  12. Put metal to the pedal, p.t.
  15. Difficult to detect
  20. With ample space
  22. Employ
  24. Green and lush, as in trees
  25. \*Mother \_\_\_\_, investigative journalism nonprofit
  26. Convex molding
  27. Twofold
  29. Cambodia's neighbor
  31. A in UAE
  32. Heaped
  33. Famous Teatro alla \_\_\_\_
  34. \*Mother \_\_\_\_, personification of planet
  36. Shower with affection
  38. Abominable snowman
  42. River in Hades
  45. Personify
  49. \*Mother Superior is the head one at the convent
  51. Foray
  54. Former Russian leaders
  56. \*Mother of \_\_\_\_, a.k.a. nacre
  57. June 6, 1944
  58. Raja's wife
  59. On the surface
  60. Emeralds and rubies
  61. Carrying bag
  62. Hunk of something
  63. Lowest female singing voice
  66. Female forest ruminant
  68. Archery bow wood

### Statepoint Crossword Puzzle

Theme: MOTHER'S DAY

CROSSWORD														
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
	19				20			21	22					
			23				24							
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39				
40					41				42		43			
44				45		46					47			
48					49		50			51		52		
				53		54			55		56			
57	58	59	60					61				62	63	
64						65	66			67				68
69						70				71				
72						73				74				

SWITCH & GET

\$25

Off First Month of New Service!

USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR

888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

© StatePoint Media



*The Dallas Post Tribune Newspaper*  
the “Oldest Black-Owned Newspaper” serving North Texas













DALLAS BLACK  
DANCE THEATRE

RELENTLESS EXCELLENCE

MAY 16-17

WYLY THEATRE

7:30PM

DBDT.COM

GET TICKETS

SPRING CELEBRATION SERIES

IN BLOOM

PRESENTING SPONSOR

DRIVING TOURISM. EMBRACING VISITORS.  
**DALLAS**  
TOURISM PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

MEDIA SUPPORTER

  
The Dallas Post Tribune  
Founded 1987

PHOTO BY JIN KIM

- Continued Page 1 -  
Leaving a legacy at Dallas ISD: Delila V.  
is turning challenges into chapters



Photo courtesy: Dallas ISD

the earlier years of her life, which she mainly spent in hospitals and undergoing surgeries. She thought about all the moments she missed, like a school father-daughter dance, but she also held onto the good memories—the friendships, the laughter, and the small victories.

Those reflections inspired Delila to put her story into words—words that would become her first book, “In CHARGE of My Life.” Her book was born out of a desire to help those with disabilities navigate their own struggles, with the help of her former teacher Crystal Sapier, who transcribed Delila’s story from American Sign Language into English.

“It’s been amazing to watch her spirit and her influence on other students. She’s showing others that they can stand up, be confident, and embrace who they are,” Sapier said.

The book details her childhood, the medical challenges she endured, and the emotional toll of missing out on milestones. Through her words and advocacy, Delila is creating a space where others can feel seen, heard, and empowered to embrace who they are.

“I want others to know they’re not alone,” she said. “It’s okay to struggle, but don’t give up. You can do anything you set your mind to.”

Now, as she prepares to graduate from Woodrow with hopes of attending the University of North Texas to study journalism and business, Delila is working on publishing her second book.

Her story is more than just perseverance. It’s the beginning of a legacy rooted in courage, compassion, and the belief that every voice deserves to be heard. With every page she writes and every heart she touches, Delila continues to prove that she is not only in charge of her life—she’s empowering others to take charge of theirs, too.

# Emergency Housing Voucher Program Faces Collapse, Threatening Tens of Thousands Escaping Homelessness and Abuse

By Stacy M. Brown

A federal housing program credited with stabilizing the lives of tens of thousands of Americans fleeing homelessness, domestic violence, or human trafficking is running out of time and money. The Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program, which supports more than 60,000 households across the country, is expected to exhaust its funding by the end of 2025, according to a letter from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The potential loss of this support could drive many back into unsafe living conditions, shelters, or the streets. “To have it stop would completely upend all the progress that they’ve made,” said Sonya Acosta, a policy analyst at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. “And then you multiply that by 59,000 households.” Launched in 2021 under President Joe Biden’s American Rescue Plan Act, the program was seeded with \$5 billion to help individuals and families exit crises. From New York to Florida to Texas, the EHV program has placed thousands in safe, stable housing—many of them seniors, children, and veterans. The program was intended to last through the decade, but rising rent prices have accelerated its depletion.

Last month, HUD for-



Housing certificate notebook. Obtaining new housing in exchange for one's own house or apartment destroyed due to war. Subsidies used to help with rent and homeowners expenses to purchase a home.  
(Photo by Andrii Yalanskyi)

mally advised public housing agencies to prepare for the worst. “Manage your EHV program with the expectation that no additional funding from HUD will be forthcoming,” HUD officials wrote. The message is clear: without Congressional intervention, the program will end. Representative Maxine Waters (D-Calif.), who championed the initiative in Congress, is calling for an \$8 billion funding boost. But advocates are warning that the request faces strong headwinds in a Republican-led Congress focused on cutting spending. GOP lawmakers steering budget talks have so far declined to comment. “We’ve been told it’s very much going to be an uphill fight,” said Kim Johnson of the National Low Income Housing Coalition. For people like Daniris Espinal, the end of the program could be devastating.

Espinal and her daugh-

ters, aged 4 and 19, live in a three-bedroom apartment in Brooklyn, paying over \$3,000 a month—a cost made possible only through the voucher. Her journey to that home began with an escape from an abusive marriage in which she was isolated, manipulated, and financially controlled. She quit her job at her husband’s urging. He stopped paying the rent. When eviction notices arrived in early 2021, she owed \$12,000 with no way to pay. It was the Emergency Housing Voucher program that gave her and her daughters a second chance. “I gained my worth, my sense of peace, and I was able to rebuild my identity,” Espinal told the Associated Press. She now works and sets aside what she can. But if the funding disappears, she fears losing everything she fought to reclaim. “That’s my fear,” she said, “losing control of everything that I’ve worked so hard for.”

- Continued Page 1 -

## Historic Black Sites Under Threat, May 3 Mobilization Set



Portrait of a person holding hand-made sign on cardboard about equal rights for every person. (Photo by Leo Patrizi)

African American Civil War Memorial Museum. Budget freezes have stalled progress. “We survived slavery, Jim Crow, and the Ku Klux Klan. We’ll survive this,” Smith said. “African-American soldiers helped Lincoln save this union. Now, we need to finish what we started.” Meanwhile, Black Press USA has confirmed that the Trump administration has begun dismantling exhibits at the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Journalist April Ryan reported the removal of the iconic Woolworth’s lunch counter sit-in exhibit. The display honors four North Carolina A&T students who sparked a national wave of protests in 1960. “This president is a master of distraction and is destroying what it took

250 years to build,” said Rep. Alma Adams of North Carolina. “You can take down exhibits, close buildings, ban books, and try to change history, but we will never forget.” Officials also notified Rev. Dr. Amos Brown, pastor of San Francisco’s Third Baptist Church, that his loaned Bible and a historic volume by George W. Williams would be returned. Emails dated April 10 and 15 confirmed the transfer. Bradley said a national mobilization is set for May 3 in Washington, D.C., urging people to join the Smithsonian and support endangered cultural institutions. “This is not random,” she said. “This is consistent. This is deliberate.” NCNW is also countering recent executive orders eliminating civil rights protections and

gutting diversity programs. “We’re issuing a newsletter to respond to every executive order so that Black women understand what this water hose is all about,” Bradley said. She also called out Target’s retreat from its 2020 diversity pledges. “They were the leaders in DEI. But now they’re scared. We need to push them to do the right thing anyway, even if the words change.” With \$1.7 trillion in annual Black consumer spending—half from Black women—Bradley said economic power must be leveraged. “That kind of economic power should never be underestimated.” She concluded, “The Black Press is our Underground Railroad. If we don’t invest in the Black Press, we lose our Underground Railroad—period.”

Make the smart and **ONLY CHOICE** when tackling your roof!

Before

After

LIMITED  
TIME  
OFFER!  
SAVE!

UP TO

50%

OFF  
INSTALLATION

  
Expires 4/30/2025

FREE ESTIMATE  
1.844.714.0334

MADE IN THE U.S.A.  

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates, and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on [homeservicescompliance.com](https://homeservicescompliance.com). All rights reserved. License numbers available at [eriehome.com/erie-licenses/](https://eriehome.com/erie-licenses/)