

~ March 3 Primary Election Day~  
Early Voting ends February 27, 2026



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# The Dallas Post Tribune

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VOLUME 78 NUMBER 22

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

February 26 - March 4, 2026

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

# Old Aunt Mary Humphries died at her home in the Dirgin community on October 20, 1931 at the age of 125 years

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1931

AUNT MARY HUMPHRIES, AGED  
125 YEARS, DIED SUNDAY NIGHT;  
HAD LIVED HERE SINCE YEAR 1836

Old Negro Mammy Is Survived by 156 Des-  
cendants, Four of these Are Own Chil-  
dren, Youngest of Whom Is 78

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1931



Tatum native Billy Don Montgomery shared this picture of his great-great-grandmother, Mary Humphries, who moved to Rusk County in 1836 as a slave for the Trammel family and lived to be 125 years old before she died in 1931.

Photo Credit: **Billy Don Montgomery.**

This article was first published on February 28, 2001, 70th years after the death of Aunt Mary Humphries by **Kawanah Kohlhaas**

“Back to a time when a memory of a man runneth

not to the contrary... such a statement can be made with almost certainty when referring to the life of Old Aunt Mary Humphries, who died at her home in the Dirgin community Sunday night.”

That was the lead paragraph in an article from the

October 20, 1931, edition of the Henderson Daily News, which told about the death of an “old Negro Mammy” who lived to be 125 years old with 156 surviving family members.

Seventy years after her death, there are still a

number of families, the Pol-  
lards, Montgomerys, Hum-  
phries, Barns, Reeses, Mapps, and Menefees, living in Rusk County who are descendants of a woman who spent 60 years as a free woman.

The Dirgin community is

located on Farm-to-Market Road 2658, one mile south of Texas Highway 4.3 and about five miles from Tatum.

Billy Don Montgomery, one of Aunt Mary’s great-great-grandsons, recently found the article on micro-

film at the Rusk County Library and wanted to share her story with a new generation of Rusk Countians.

He explained that he first learned of the article when he found it in an old trunk of his mother’s after she passed away. However, it was not readable. Montgomery said one of Aunt Mary’s sons was a photographer in the ‘20’s and had taken a picture of the article when it ran in the paper.

About a year ago, Montgomery’s curiosity about the article led him to the Rusk County Library, where he found it on microfilm, copied it, had it enlarged, and finally sat down to read about his family’s heritage.

He learned that Aunt Mary was born in 1805 near Memphis, Tenn., to a slave owner named Ware, “and when she was almost grown, her master had financial difficulties and his property was sold at a sheriff’s sale.”

During the sale, she, along with a cousin, was sold to a man by the name of Trammel, who “soon migrated to Alabama and with them, of course, went Mary Ware.”

From Alabama, she moved with the Trammel family to Texas in 1836 as part of an ox wagon train, and with her came many stories of the long, tedious journey across several states to the vast wilderness that Texas once was.

In conjunction with Black History Month, Montgomery, who is originally from Tatum but currently lives in Dallas, decided to share this unique story with the younger generations so that they might have a first-hand account of what life was like for the slaves. Also, he feels very fortunate as an African American to be able to trace his family history back to the years prior to the Civil War.

The Article explained how Aunt Mary relayed, through stories, just how hard and trying the early days were, and how there “wasn’t much inducement for one to live except to serve her master.”

Although the year is unknown, Aunt Mary married

Continue **Aunt Mary** Page 5



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# EDITORIAL PAGE

## Unprofessionalism Displayed by Administration Officials Isn't a Good Look.

By James B. Ewers Jr., Ed.



Dr. James Ewers

Do you ever wonder why some people must yell and scream to get their point across? Do you counter it by returning the screams and raising your voice? You know the classic British expression, "what's good for the goose is good for the gander".

I have never been an advocate for bad behavior. Being around folks who practice it won't curry favor with me. They will never gain my respect.

Many people want to be leaders. They want to be the first to receive the information or the important telephone call. Having high expectations means acting appropriately. That is my opinion.

Being a leader also means having grace under fire. There will be times when you are hard-pressed to an-

swer tough questions. You must keep a high level of deportment when you give your response.

Keeping your cool when it is not easy to do so will go a long way to winning the public's trust. Even if it is not the answer people want to hear, they will respect the way in which you gave it.

Many of us were fortunate enough to be around people as we matured in our careers who we could emulate. They had qualities that set them apart.

Kindly and humbly, I have held leadership positions where being thoughtful in my responses prevented many would-be fires and avoided bad outcomes.

Now in my post-leadership days, I have had enough chances to observe leaders both in person and on television. In addition, I have had a chance to read some of their responses.

Today, there is a climate of meanness in the air within this administration. Sounding mean and scowling are acceptable modes of behavior for them.

For example, the current

group in Washington gives no credit to former President Barack Obama for his eight years of service to this nation. At every turn, they blame him for everything that's wrong with our country.

Much has happened since his time in office. The Affordable Care Act passed during President Obama's administration, has been critiqued to no end. The current group can't applaud the fact that Obamacare has provided millions of people with healthcare.

I believe that because it is commonly referred to as Obamacare, he wants everything named after him. Even more disturbing is that if he does not get his way, he simply withholds federal money from a project. Just ask the state of New York.

Sounding and looking mean have also affected a few loyalists in his circle. Let's call out Greg Bovino and Kristi Noem for their callousness and calculated rants. Bovino oversaw ICE as it wreaked havoc in Minneapolis. Finally, he was removed and is now in California. America, I don't

think we will ever hear his name again. His abrasiveness caught up with him.

The Department of Homeland Security has been under fire because of its leader, Secretary Kristi Noem. Most recently, her vitriol reached a new level of indignation when she appeared at a Congressional hearing. She refused to answer any questions and blamed everything on anybody not affiliated with the current administration.

Unfortunately, for Secretary Noem, her own GOP members want her to resign, retire, or be fired. Senator Thom Willis (NC) said, "If I were in her position, I can't think of any point of pride over the last year." Senator Lisa Murkowski (AK) said, "I supported her. I've supported her nomination. I had great hopes for her in the department, and I've been disappointed."

Finally, operating from a space of arrogance and insult-driven barbs will get you put in your place. This axiom will be played out with more people in this administration. Just sit back and wait. You'll see.

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## Our Black History Crisis

By: **Dr. John E. Warren**, Publisher  
San Diego Voice & Viewpoint Newspaper  
Chairman of the Board of Directors, NNPA



Dr. John E. Warren

As Black History Month draws to a close, Black Americans, in many ways, are being steered backward towards segregation and inequality similar to what followed Reconstruction after the Civil War. The attack on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is similar to

the "Jim Crow" attitudes, but without the laws that were enacted to enforce them. The efforts to wipe out books, monuments, and remove us from historical acknowledgements and recognition, while carrying the Trump label, are being met with little or no resistance by those in positions of authority to speak out and fight back.

As we enter the 2026 Primary season, now is the time to determine what our contribution to Black History will be today. Too many of us are still not registered to vote. Too many of us appear detached from the racism the Trump Administration is encouraging. Our silence

gives consent. The immigration issue should concern us. It will not be long before ICE will not care whether you are Somali or just a Black American, without your passport.

Now the question is, where do we go from here? We need to look very closely at how we are spending more than 2 trillion dollars a year as our contribution to the American economy and getting nothing back. Well, let's look at how much we are spending with companies like Target and PepsiCo, which owns Pizza Hut, KFC, Taco Bell, and many soft drinks and power drinks. Why are we still

spending with McDonald's, Popeyes, and Jack in the Box? Are any of them hiring people who look like us? If you know differently, please let us know. And what about the Blacks who have risen to positions of decision-making? Why are so many afraid to do anything for themselves when others in their positions do so all the time?

This Saturday is "No Kings Day", as millions of Americans will take to the streets to protest Donald Trump and his policies. Will we be included? It's up to each of us. We are still making Black History. Will it be as significant as our past?

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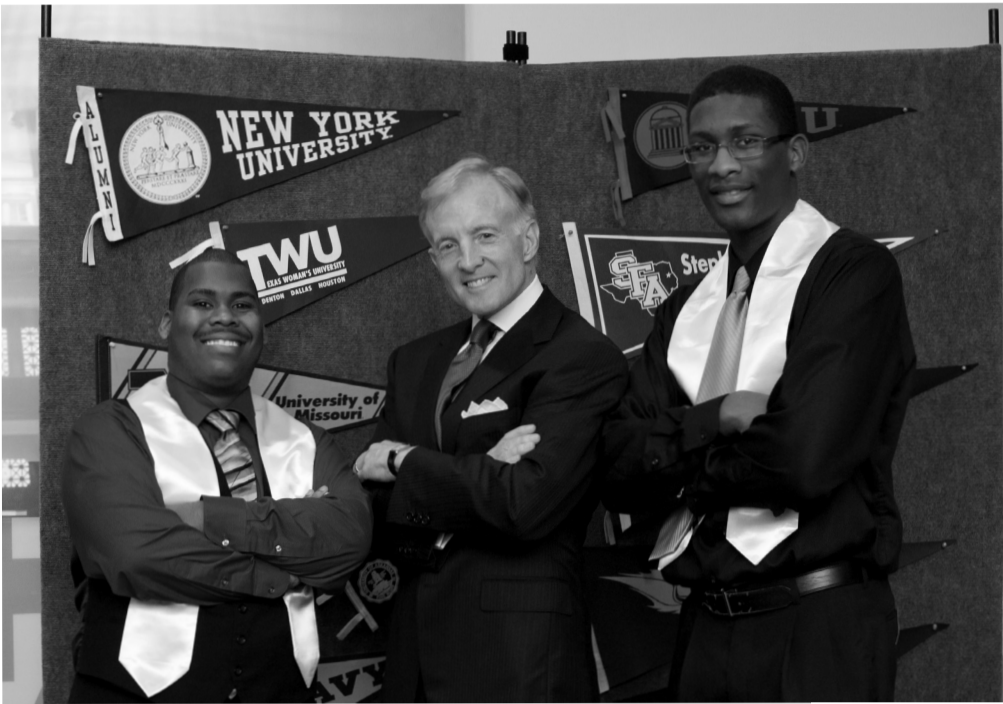
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# RELIGIOUS/NEWS

## The Brewer Foundation

*“Nonprofit a ‘lifeline’ for Students”*



### The Brewer Foundation: 30 Years Changing Students' Lives

Established in 1995, the Brewer Foundation provides educational opportunities to students who exhibit a willingness to change their futures. “The Foundation was always envisioned as a charity that would operate in the community,” said Brewer, founder and chairman of the Brewer Foundation, the Brewer Storefront, and partner of Brewer, Attorneys and Counselors. “We built the Foundation to work with the families, students, and educators we serve.

Brewer believes that exposing young people to enhanced academic opportunity cultivates future leaders as change

agents in their communities. It was this philosophy that led Brewer to launch the Foundation’s flagship programs twenty-five years ago - the Future Leaders Program (FLP) and the International Public Policy Forum (IPPF). As of today, FLP and IPPF have impacted thousands of students and seek to reach thousands more.

### The Future Leaders Program - An Innovative Community-Driven Model

FLP is a public-private partnership that brings together educators and resources from Dallas ISD and four private school partners: The Hockaday School, St. Mark’s School of Texas, The Episcopal School of Dallas, and

Greenhill School. The program pairs rigorous extracurricular academic instruction with a wide range of additional educational experiences that prepare students for college and beyond.

As a year-round academic and leadership development program, FLP serves over 200 Dallas ISD students each year. The program’s origins trace back to community leaders and educators who shared the Foundation’s vision of what students can achieve in the right environment. One of its earliest champions, Dallas ISD administrator Shirley Ison-Newsome, laid the groundwork that continues to support the program’s success today.

Twenty-five years later, Ison-Newsome understands

the lasting impact of FLP on students and educators alike. “FLP redefined what was possible when students receive thoughtful guidance,” said Ison-Newsome. “What began as an ambitious concept has become a proven framework that consistently produces graduates who are prepared, confident, and positioned to succeed.”

### FLP’s Track Record of Success

FLP has served over 2000 students since its inception. Since 2009, FLP students have earned more than \$20 million in scholarships and admission to some of the nation’s top colleges and universities. In addition to academic achievement, FLP students frequently cite confidence, mentorship, and community as defining aspects of their experience.

Among them is Efrain Vera, a graduate of FLP’s 2010 class. As a FLP graduating senior, Vera received The Gates Scholarship to attend New York University (NYU), and now he practices law at a leading international law firm.

“FLP gave me direction at a critical moment in my life,” Vera said. “FLP’s team did more than describe what was possible. They showed me how to reach it, and that guidance changed everything.”

### The International Public Policy Forum - Elevating Student Debate Worldwide

While FLP focuses on expanding access to educational opportunities, the International Public Policy Forum (IPPF) seeks to promote civil discourse among high school students around the world in a unique public policy debate tournament. Now in its twenty-fifth year, IPPF remains the only international debate competition that begins with written advocacy and culminates in a live oral debate.

Each year, students from around the globe submit essays addressing a critically important public policy issue. After students submit their essays, a panel of judges selects sixty-four teams from these initial essays to compete in a single-elimination tournament that unfolds over several months. The competition ultimately narrows to eight teams who receive an all-expense paid trip to New York City from the Foundation to compete in live debates for cash prizes and the Brewer Cup.

“When students are challenged to research deeply, argue thoughtfully, and listen with intention, they develop skills that extend far beyond the competition,” Brewer said. “Those experiences shape citizens and our society.” More than 500 teams

from 48 countries registered to compete in the 25-26 competition, which is the largest number of registrants in IPPF history. This April, the Foundation will host its inaugural IPPF Symposium at New York University, convening students, educators, and policy leaders to examine this year’s IPPF topic: the global education crisis.

### A New Chapter and a Continued Commitment

In 2025, The Brewer Foundation enters a new chapter guided by its enduring mission: expanding access to educational opportunity while developing young leaders equipped to shape their communities. New partnerships with JPMorgan Chase, Capital One, and Texas Southern University will ensure the program’s broader reach and growing impact. Foundation President Ian Shaw sees this moment as both an opportunity and a responsibility, marking a clear path forward. “The Foundation’s future will depend on building relationships with mission-aligned partners that believe in providing opportunities to students who are willing to change their future,” Shaw said. “Our responsibility is to expand access, evolve our programs, and ensure that students feel supported at every stage of their journey.

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

~ THE OSCARS ~  
(Solution will appear in March 5 edition)

- ACROSS**
- Traction aid
  - Freddy’s street
  - Reach a high
  - Italian bowling
  - Entrepreneur Gary Vaynerchuk’s alias, Gary
  - Jolly good one
  - Parallel grooves
  - Many, many moons
  - “Take it back!”
  - \*“Song Sung Blue” Best Actress nominee
  - \*Movie with most 2026 Oscar nominations
  - Make a seam
  - Vampire’s tooth
  - Tai’s partner
  - South American monkey
  - Naphthenic acid + palmitic acid
  - Pilot’s stunt
  - Forbidden, to a baby
  - Vampire of Greek mythology
  - Italian wine region
  - Not Astroturf
  - Alpine lift
  - Sports figures, e.g.
  - Cantina pot
  - Email folder
  - Not vivid and bright
  - Nessie’s abode
  - \*Jamie Foxx won for his role in this 2004 biopic
  - Eagle’s nest
  - Unreliable newspaper
  - \*2026 nominated film with Stone and Plemons
  - \*Chlo Zhao’s nominee
  - Newton or Stern
  - Romanian money
  - Star-crossed one
  - To the point
  - a.k.a sodium hydroxide
  - Novelist Zola
  - Formerly, formerly
  - Aye-aye
  - “He \_\_\_\_\_ it like it is”

- DOWN**
- Not NBC or ABC
  - Reluctant
  - Pantyhose hue
  - DNA and RNA, e.g.
  - Cups and saucers
  - 20-20, e.g.
  - \*“One Battle After Another” Best Actor nominee
  - High IQ society
  - \*#7’s nominated co-star
  - “Anything \_\_\_\_\_?”
  - Wing-shaped
  - K to Romans, pl.
  - Like athlete’s foot
  - Behind on rent, e.g.
  - Night spot
  - At last
  - Necklace fastener
  - Popular garden perennial
  - I to Greeks, pl.
  - \*2026 nominated Benicio del \_\_\_\_\_
  - Benatar and Morita
  - Fly in \_\_\_\_\_, or a reminder of the past
  - Tarzan’s swing rope
  - \*Fictional table tennis champ
  - \*Nominated “F1” star
  - Nobel Peace Prize capital
  - Sacrum, pl.
  - Communicating with spirits event
  - Hawaiian flower garland
  - \*Inspiration for #61 Across
  - Pep gathering
  - Lawn ornament
  - Angler’s hope
  - \_\_\_\_-friendly
  - Needlefish, pl.
  - Brewer’s kiln
  - Color wheel elements
  - Like fairytale stepmothers?
  - Be a snitch
  - Payment for an eye
  - Hi-\_\_\_\_\_ graphics

### Statepoint Crossword Puzzle Theme: THE OSCARS

**CROSSWORD**

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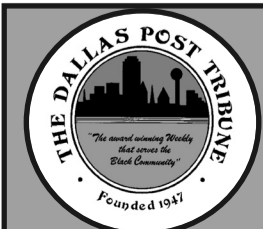
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## Quinn Minute

# Wild animals as pets

By Rix Quinn

Many towns now prohibit citizens from housing jungle animals.

What, exactly, is a "wild pet?" I once had a very friendly dog who could imitate other animals, like a cat and a rooster. Does that qualify?

For instance, some communities term boa constrictors "wild." In others, they're considered "non-poisonous reptiles with a lethal hug." That reminds me of my great

aunt, who visited us on holidays.

Coyotes, wolves and hyenas are also wild, even though they disguise themselves as loveable, giant-fanged dogs. My neighbor Charlie once owned a wolf, and it ate four parakeets and two of Charlie's toes before he wised up and sold it to the sister he never liked.

Extremely large animals, like elephants or rhinos, don't fit well in back

yards. Also, walking an elephant is awkward, and cleaning up after it might require that pet owner to pull a wagon, too.

How about chickens? One community outlawed them, even though few are aggressive, and most are toothless.

They were banned not for aggression, but for crowing. No city person wants to hear anybody mouth-off at dawn, especially a birdbrain. (Maybe

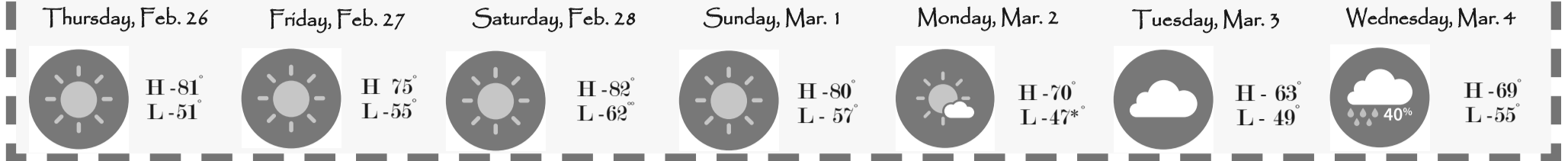
that's why they forced my friend Dave out of town, too.)

Bottom line: If you want to view carnivorous animals, visit the zoo. If you want to hear a loud animal, invite my friend Dave to a dinner party.

Rix thinks 300 words are the ideal story length. He'll tell you why in this inexpensive report. For more details, go to this link: <https://payhip.com/b/dGTFf>

# SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

## 7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW



### PRESS ROOM: Civil Rights TV Launches in Selma as the World's First 24/7 Civil Rights Television Network

Arizona Informant



Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA.

SELMA, Ala. — Civil Rights TV, the world's first 24-hour television network dedicated exclusively to civil rights history, education, and future equity, has officially launched on the Connect To Your City OTT platform powered by Connect2OTT.

The network debuts from Selma, Alabama — one of the most historically significant cities in the American civil rights movement —

marking a new chapter in how civil rights stories are preserved, amplified, and carried forward for future generations.

Civil Rights TV operates continuously on the Connect To Your City OTT platform powered by Connect2OTT, offering documentaries, news analysis, live discussions, educational programming, global civil rights coverage, and cultural storytelling. The

channel functions as both a historical archive and a living platform addressing contemporary civil rights challenges.

*Civil Rights, Technology, and the AI Era*

As technology and artificial intelligence increasingly shape access to information, media, and opportunity, Civil Rights TV launches at a moment when access to digital infrastructure itself is emerging as a civil rights issue.

Media fragmentation, misinformation, and uneven access to technology continue to reshape public discourse. While on-demand platforms have expanded individual content access, large-scale live broadcasting still faces challenges related to congestion, latency, and energy consumption.

Civil Rights TV leverages broadcast-efficient OTT architecture designed to reduce bandwidth usage

and energy requirements, enabling continuous global distribution without placing added strain on network infrastructure.

*Why Civil Rights TV Matters Now*

Civil Rights TV is not only a media launch—it is a signal.

The network underscores the importance of preserving civil rights history using the most accurate and comprehensive sources available. For generations, the Black press has maintained some of the deepest and most reliable documentation of the civil rights movement, current events, news and critical Black history, much of which remains underrepresented in modern digital media archives and inaccessible to artificial intelligence (AI) systems.

As a result, Civil Rights TV will rely heavily on national Black press for news.

### Speaker denies request for Rev. Jesse Jackson to lie in honor at Capitol, citing precedent

By MATT BROWN and LISA MASCARO  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The late Rev. Jesse Jackson will not lie in honor in the United States Capitol Rotunda after a request for the commemoration was denied by the House Speaker Mike Johnson's office due to past precedent.

Johnson's office said it received a request from the family to have Jackson's remains lie in honor at the Capitol, but the request was denied, because of the precedent that the space is typically reserved for former presidents, the military and select officials.

The civil rights leader died this week at the age of 84. The family and some House Democrats had filed a request for Jackson to be honored at the U.S. Capitol.

Amid the country's political divisions, there have been flare ups over who is memorialized at the Capitol with a service to lie in state, or honor, in the Rotunda. During such events, the public is generally allowed to visit the Capitol and pay their respects.

Recent requests had similarly been made, and denied, to honor Charlie Kirk, the slain conservative activist, and former Vice President Dick Cheney.

There is no specific rule about who qualifies for the honor, a decision that is controlled by concurrence from both the House and Senate.

The Jackson family has announced scheduled dates for memorial services beginning next week that will honor the late reverend's life

in Chicago, Washington, D.C. and South Carolina. In a statement, the Jackson family said it had heard from leaders in both South Carolina, Jackson's native state, and Washington offering for Jackson to be celebrated in both locations.

Talks are ongoing with lawmakers about where those proceedings will take place. His final memorial services will be held in Chicago on March 6 and 7.

Typically, the Capitol and its Rotunda have been reserved for the "most eminent citizens," according to the Architect of the Capitol's website. It said government and military officials lay in state, while private citizens in honor.

In 2020, Congressman John Lewis, another veteran of the Civil Rights movement, was the first Black lawmaker to lie in state in the Capitol Rotunda after a ceremony honoring his legacy was held outside on the Capitol steps due to pandemic restrictions at the time.

Later that year, then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi allowed services for Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg at the Capitol's Statuary Hall after agreement could not be reached for services in the Capitol's Rotunda.

It is rare for private citizens to be honored at the Capitol, but there is precedent — most notably Civil Rights icon Rosa Parks, in 2005, and the Reverend Billy Graham, in 2018.

#### Continued Aunt Mary Page 1

Peter Humphries and had six children. At her death in 1931, the youngest of the six was 78 years old, and four were still living. All were born into slavery.

When slavery was abolished in 1865, and word finally reached Texas, Aunt Mary had become so much a part of her white master's family that she refused to leave. According to the article, "It was then that she was told to go to the saw mill and get lumber to build her a house where she could live in peace the rest of her days."

While reading the article, Montgomery learned that

his great-great-grandmother had worked her whole life — that it was the only thing she knew.

"As some of the white folks said of her, she did but two things: one was work and the other serve her God. She was very religious, as was attested by the faith she expressed way back before the Civil War when she was responsible for the establishment of the first Negro church so far as is known in this section of the state," he read.

Surviving Aunt Mary were four of her six children, 31 grandchildren, 87 great-great-grandchildren, 34 great-great-grandchildren, for a total of 156. By 1931, the entire family line

had numbered 167 descendants, 11 of which she outlived.

Her mind remained clear until a short while before her death, allowing her to tell of incidents all through her life in the later years as well as in earlier years.

She could remember Henderson before it was a town — when there was no church, no school, no courthouse. She was alive when A.J. Smith gave the land on which the town is built, and she recalled the building of the first courthouse following the organization of the county.

**The article ended in this manner:**

"A good old Black

Mammy is dead, that she had lived out her life none can dispute, that she was ready to go was evident by the smile on her face Sunday evening when she asked for the old Negro hymn; but with all that was sadness, not only within the ranks of her own Black connection but hundreds of white folks wh had known and loved old Aunt Mary could but shed a tear of heartache tinged though it was with a gladness and assurance that Aunt Mary was at peace now. No more slavery and hardship for this old saint of her race. The last chapter is written in that life on the grave of whom can be written this most unusual statement — 1805-1931."

#### Statepoint Crossword Puzzle Solution: February 19 - WORLD EXPLORERS

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## HEALTH

### Stressed Out? Here's What Helps

Stress is a normal part of life. It can come from school, work, family, money, or busy schedules. Short-term stress is normal, but when stress lasts a long time, called chronic stress, it can also affect your body in serious ways.

Parkland Health experts say stress often leads to poor sleep, unhealthy eating, and habits like smoking and alcohol abuse. These behaviors can raise the risk for high blood pressure, heart disease, and stroke.

When you feel stressed, your body releases hormones like adrenaline and cortisol. This "fight or flight" response makes your heart beat faster and raises your blood pressure.

Mental and emotional stress may also make you feel tired, cranky, or out of control. People with negative feelings, like anxiety or pessimism, are more likely to have harmful physical responses, such as high blood pressure and inflammation. Positive feelings like gratitude and optimism are linked to lower blood pressure and better cholesterol, which help protect the heart.

#### Here are some ways to reduce stress and protect your heart:

- Build healthy lifestyle habits with regular physical activity
- Spend time with friends or family for support
- Focus on what you can control and break tasks into steps
- Practice deep breathing or quiet time daily
- Use positive self-talk to stay calm
- Practice gratitude and joyful moments

Managing stress isn't just about feeling better, it's an important part of protecting your heart. For more information on how to manage high blood pressure and heart health, visit [www.parklandhealth.org/hypertension](http://www.parklandhealth.org/hypertension)

My Day

# Rev. Jesse Jackson in “Good Street Territory”

By Dr. J. Ester Davis



Dr. Ester J. Davis and Rev. Jesse Jackson  
Photo Credit: Dr. J. Ester Davis

With the death of Rev. Jesse Jackson, are we looking into a re-run of the same obstacles with different dates? Do we need Operation Breadbasket again, which was the subject of a meeting between Jesse Jackson and Dr. Ed Mason at Forest Avenue Hospital in the early days of his

youth? JUST think... about the Civil Rights Rollbacks. Let me pick one. Under the new administration's equity purge, federal diversity, equity, and inclusion programs are now eliminated.

Just think. How many years, hours, days, and weeks did our civil rights

attorneys and community advocates spend on strategy, information, data, and testimonies? How many man-hours, weekends spent by secretaries, paralegals, and childcare workers preparing for meetings and court appearances? One of the biggest showdowns in Dallas that was allowed to linger for years was a dangerous plant in West Dallas that was the acknowledged cause of sick and deformed children. Out of this struggle was born environmental racism. The Office of Environmental Justice addressed hazardous conditions that disproportionately affected black, brown, low income communities. This office was shut down in 2025, removing federal oversight of pollution and hazardous conditions in America's communities.

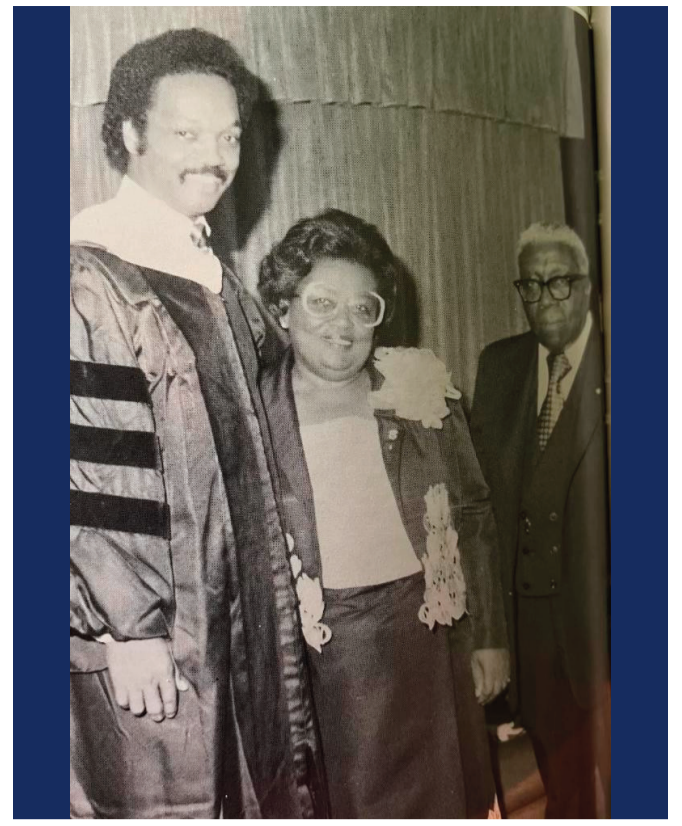
I have to mention educational censorship. Multiple states and federal directives want to restrict the teaching of black history and critical race theory, and we are witnessing it happening. Some leaders describe it as an at-

tempt to 'whitewash' the African American experience.

Men and women during the civil rights era fought for change. It was not given. It was a fight!

It was Jesse Jackson who walked into corporate boardrooms and announced their intentions.

It is very difficult to say goodbye to our devoted Civil Rights Leaders, because we had so few of them. They were indeed priceless golden nuggets among us. Rev. Jackson was a frequent visitor to Dallas, Texas, on 'Operation Breadbasket' business, back in the 60's and 70's, meeting with Rev. Peter Johnson, the black doctors, black attorneys, business owners, educators, and others... onward to his candidacy for President in the 80's. I remember being a delegate both times of his historic Presidential Run in 1984 and 1988. "Run-Jesse-Run" was the international chant, but Rev. Jackson's longest tenure of visits to Texas was his once-a-year October visit to Good Street Baptist



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Dr. Yvonne A. Ewell, and Dr. Dr. Clarke, Former Pastor, Good Street Baptist Church. Photo Credit: Dr. J. Ester Davis

Church with the legendary Pastor Dr. C.A.W. Clarke. This relationship spanned more than two decades.

Moving to Dallas in the late 60's, we lived in South Dallas until the busing issue surfaced in the 70's. We did not want our sons bused, so we moved to Richardson for ten(20)years. After my youngest son graduated from Richardson ISD, we moved back South to Oak Cliff in what Mrs. Georgia McGowan, McGowan's Funeral Home, is called "Good Street Territory". And she was right. My first year in 'Good Street Territory,' we came face-to-face with the "Jesse Jackson Sunday" frenzy.

Dr. Yvonne Ewell (1926-1998) is the namesake of Dallas' Yvonne A. Ewell Townview Magnet Center on 8th Street in Dallas, Texas, and an outspoken advocate for education. Dr. Ewell had what I called 'The Untouchables,' a posse of distinguished, capable black women with grit, starting with Mrs. Barbara Record, of Record's BBQ. Another famous story for another time.

With the death of Rev. Jesse Jackson, there is now a "time of reflection" looking back at what we fought for back then and what is confronting the nation and black people again, without certain leaders on the front-line.

## BLACK HISTORY POEM

### My Ancestors

My ancestors suffered the degradation of slavery,  
Yet, history must paint them in multiple hues of bravery!  
My ancestors were ingenious inventors numerous times,  
Yet, for their inventions, many of them never got a dime!

My ancestors picked others' cotton and shucked others' corn,  
Yet justice recognized that for this they were not born!  
My ancestors were forbidden to learn to read and write,  
Still, many of them covertly studied late into the night.

My ancestors refused to belittle and hate themselves,  
Though it seems they were belittled and hated by everybody else!  
My ancestors persevered and remained strong.  
To survive they had to; slavery was brutal and long!

My ancestors were astoundingly resourceful women and men,  
Yes, my courageous ancestors triumphed in the end.  
"HOW?"  
I'm pleased you've asked.

Today my ancestors' offspring sit on the Supreme Court.  
Many of them write current local and world news reports.  
Today my ancestors' offspring are Heads of State.  
Many of them can quote New York Stock Exchange rates.  
Today my ancestors' offspring master high level math.  
With their **BL** **LD**, my ancestors forged for me a path!

**To the youth:**  
Honor your ancestors by making the most of opportunities  
for which they paved the way;  
Doing so will send a message that mere words could never convey!

Dr. Joyce Willard Teal

©

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE**