

“A wise woman wishes to be no one’s enemy; a wise woman refuses to be anyone’s victim.” — Maya Angelou



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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

March 12 - 18, 2026

Civic lessons come to life at John Lewis Social Justice Academy



Photo Courtesy: Dallas ISD

DALLAS — At John Lewis Social Justice Academy at Oliver Wendell Holmes, social studies lessons don't stop at the textbook.

Twice a month, students hear directly from local judges, lawyers, and other changemakers who bring government and civic responsibility to life through their own lived experiences.

During Black History Month, that mission is especially meaningful.

Through Social Justice Fridays, social studies teacher Darryl Rudd is helping eighth graders connect what they learn in class to the real world and to the legacy of leaders like Congressman John Lewis, who believed in civic action and good trouble as a pathway to change.

“You can teach social justice all day,” Rudd said. “But when you bring in lawyers and judges, they can show students what it

really means. They can see it in action.”

This is the first year of the initiative, which Rudd said reflects the school's identity and its namesake.

“We're a social justice school,” he said. “It's not just in the name. We want to show students what social justice means.”

This year, students have heard from representatives connected to the three branches of government, giving them a firsthand look

at how laws are interpreted, defended and applied, lessons that echo the civic engagement and advocacy central to Black history.

For Zy'Jahnae G., the speakers make learning feel personal and possible.

“It's really motivational,” she said. “You can take in their stories and see how they went far.”

Thomas V. said he appreciates seeing professionals

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Photo Credit: iStockphoto / NNPA.

Women of Color Leadership Shapes the Legacy of Women's History Month

By Dr. Sharon M. Holder | Minnesota Spokesman Recorder

Women's History Month offers an opportunity to recognize the enduring impact of women of color leadership across history and in the present day. From Harriet Tubman and Shirley Chisholm to today's leaders in science, politics, and culture, women of color continue to shape movements, institutions, and communities through courage, collaboration, and vision.

Every March, Women's History Month invites us to pause and honor the women whose courage, intellect, and leadership have shaped our world. This year, that invitation feels especially urgent. We are living in a time when history is being rewritten, when DEI is being recast as a threat, and when the stories we choose to uplift matter more than ever. The stories of women of color must be centered, celebrated, and carried forward with intention.

For centuries, women of color have been architects of progress, even when history tried to confine them to the margins. They have led movements, built institutions, transformed culture, and expanded the boundaries of justice, leadership, and community. Their contributions are not postscripts; they are landmarks. Yet too often, their brilliance has been acknowledged only in hindsight. Women's History Month offers a chance to correct that imbalance, not only by remembering the past, but by recognizing their leadership unfolding before us.

This legacy lives in Harriet Tubman, whose courage and strategic brilliance transformed the Underground Railroad into one of the boldest freedom operations in American history. In Barbara Jordan, whose

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Texas oil companies stand to profit from Iran war disruptions while consumers face higher gas prices

Paul Cobler, The Texas Tribune

The U.S.-Israel war with Iran means higher profits for Texas oil companies and higher costs for its consumers, according to Texas experts who are tracking suddenly-volatile energy markets.

The average cost for a gallon of regular gasoline in Texas hit \$3.21 Tuesday morning, up from \$2.55 a month ago, according to AAA. That is lower than Tuesday's national average of \$3.54.

While Texas' position as the nation's leading oil and gas producer insulates Texans from the steepest

price hikes, drivers should expect to pay more at the pump the longer the war continues, experts said, especially during the summer travel season when gas consumption rises.

“The biggest question I've been getting is, ‘Is this going to be like the summer of 2022,’ when oil jumped to \$128 per barrel following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, said Thomas Weinand, principal research economist at retail technology platform Upside. “It could be worse ... In raw

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How Jasmine Crockett slipped from Democratic frontrunner to decisive defeat in the Senate primary

Kayla Guo, The Texas Tribune



U.S. Rep. Jasmine Crockett, D-Dallas, speaks at her election watch party on Election Day for the Texas primary in Dallas on March 3, 2026.

Photo Credit: Shelby Tauber for The Texas Tribune

When U.S. Rep. Jasmine Crockett jumped into the Democratic primary for U.S. Senate in Texas, she was the immediate frontrunner.

Widely known and beloved by Democratic voters, Crockett had a record of strong fundraising in the U.S. House and a knack for going viral with her brassy quips aimed at Republican foes. Her lead opponent, state Rep. James Talarico of Austin, was on the rise but lesser known among voters outside of Central Texas. Former congressman and 2024 Senate Democratic nominee Colin Allred was a

rerun, who dropped out of the race in the hours before she launched.

Early Wednesday, Crockett lost the nomination to Talarico by a decisive margin — the result of a fiercely competitive primary that overwhelmed the Dallas congresswoman's starting assets and tested the power of political celebrity among Texas Democrats. Her loss reflected both the strength of Talarico's campaign and her own team's inability to scale in time for such an expensive and hotly contested statewide race.

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EDITORIAL PAGE

Caring, helping, and leading characterized the life of Reverend Jesse Louis Jackson

By James B. Ewers Jr., Ed.



Dr. James Ewers

Our country has been known to have great leaders. It has been one of our strengths and the foundation for our democracy. Every day of life is better as it always gets us to a brighter day. Our leaders have paved the way.

We recently lost a great leader as Reverend Jesse Jackson went home to be with the Lord. His legacy is intact, and his contributions to the world will be enblazoned in its landscape forever. The scripture does say, "Well done, my good and faithful servant". That Biblical verse encapsulates the work he did over his lifetime.

He was a servant leader long before the term was coined. He was selfless, always looking to empower others. Reverend Jackson had the unique ability to comfort and encourage you.

One of his signature expressions was, "keep hope

alive". Those three words impacted millions of people, including me. It is the eternal optimism that is embodied in that phrase. No matter how dark and dismal the way looks, if you keep hope alive, it will give you a chance to get up and start anew.

Operation PUSH (People United to Serve Humanity) was founded by Reverend Jesse Jackson in 1971. Its overall goal was to provide economic, educational, and business opportunities to marginalized communities. Proudly, many years ago now, I became a member of PUSH, and I wear my lapel pin with pride.

His charisma brightened the room, and you always left better than you came. He simply had a way of making you feel good about yourself. While important, he was approachable. While highly educated, he related to everyone. With a job or without a job, he cared about you.

Whenever he spoke, America listened. He spoke about the inequalities that many Americans were experiencing in their lives. He talked about the importance of voting and that every vote

mattered. Reverend Jackson ran for the presidency on two separate occasions.

He spoke poignantly about how everybody is somebody. He said, "I may have made some mistakes, but I am somebody. My clothes are different, my face is different, my hair is different, but I am somebody".

Reverend Jesse Jackson was one of the greatest American leaders of all time. Simply put, he is a legend and that sentiment is shared by many people across this land.

Reverend Bernice King, daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "He was a gifted negotiator and a courageous bridge-builder, serving humanity by bringing calm into tense rooms and creating pathways where none existed."

Reverend Al Sharpton, founder and president of the National Action Network, said, "The Reverend Jesse Louis Jackson was not simply a Civil Rights leader; he was a movement unto himself. He carried history in his footsteps and hope in his voice. He reminded me that faith without action is just noise."

The profound yet simple message in his life was to do something that would make life better for someone else. Change for the better only comes when we do something to make it happen.

Change sometimes cannot be a team endeavor. You can't always get people to join you in doing what is right. It is better to stand alone and fight than to stand with others and be still.

Humbly, I have been in Reverend Jackson's presence and have taken some pictures with him. Meeting him and talking with him were defining moments in my life. His beacon of hope became a mantra for me and for countless others.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities will always stand tall because of men like Reverend Jesse Jackson. He is a graduate of North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, NC.

The homegoing service for Reverend Jesse Jackson was held on Friday, March 6th, at the House of Hope in Chicago, Illinois. He is gone from our everyday lives but never from our everlasting hearts.

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Continued **Holmes**
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who serve as role models.

"I like seeing how they accomplished something," he said. "It makes me want to learn the subject more."

Students say they value the honesty speakers bring about their journeys. Londyn M. said many presenters share that success didn't come easily.

"It wasn't always easy for them," she said. "They worked to get to where they are."

For Rudd, the greatest reward is watching students make meaningful connections between history and their own futures.

"I enjoy seeing the passion in their eyes," he said. "It's not just teaching it—they're applying it."

More than preparing students for a test, Rudd hopes Social Justice Fridays help shape informed, engaged citizens—a goal that aligns closely with the spirit of Black History Month.

"At the end of the day, I want them to leave not only understanding how the government works but have an understanding of the role they play in society and becoming better citizens because of it," he said.

RELIGIOUS/NEWS

The Essence of Abiding Fellowship

I John 1:1-10



Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

What a marvelous and sublime Epistle that we are studying! First John was probably written during the last decade of the first century. The author of I John was the Apostle John, a member of the inner circle of Jesus Christ. John, the beloved, was the author of I, II, and III John, along with the Gospel of John and the book of Revelation. In the Gospel of John, the Apostle gave unto us a historical account of Jesus' signs that was intended to promote faith (St. John 20:31). However, the first epistle of John is doctrinal and personal. The mere atmosphere of I John differed from the atmosphere of earlier New Testament epistles.

The trend of severe persecution of Christians had calmed down. However, a more subtle enemy had crept within the church. False teaching about the Person of Christ had produced harm to the church's doctrinal foundations, thus producing moral laxity that undermined the church's witness. In view of the prevalence of false teaching, the Apostle John will draw a great distinction between truth and error, light and darkness, love and hate, and life and death. I John 1:1-10 may be outlined as follows: I. The Foundation of True Fellowship – I John 1:1-7; II. The Condition for True Fellowship – I John 1:8-10.

I. The Foundation of True Fellowship – I John 1:1-7

The grand Apostle John begins this epis-

tle by drawing our attention to "that which was from the beginning, the Word of life" (v. 1). John is speaking explicitly about the "Word of Life" who is Jesus Christ. He is informing us that Christ existed further back than our minds can fathom. The Word, the incarnate expression of God (St. John 1:14, 18) is the same "Word of Life" in I John 1:1. This "Word of Life" is presented in St. John 1:1 as having had a pre-existence with the Father, for St. John 1:1-2 says – "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God."

In verse 1 of I John 1, John and the other apostles had personally experienced the incarnate presence of Christ. They had "heard" His wonderful teaching and "seen" Him with clear perception and understanding. They had "looked upon" Him with an intense inspection, and had "handled" Him, that is, touched His body before and after His resurrection.

In verse 2, the Apostle John portrayed Christ as the personification of life, who had been with the Father. Christ, who had been with the Father, was manifested to mankind visibly. What a blessing – the incarnate Son became visible to mankind! (St. John 1:14). Both John and the other apostles had seen the incarnate Christ, and they were bearing witness to it as they proclaimed it to others. John spoke of the life

in Jesus as "eternal life."

In verses 3 and 4, John presented a two-fold purpose for proclaiming Jesus as the "Word of Life" – to produce fellowship in verse 3, and "that your joy may be full" (v. 4). The fellowship that we experience as children of God is based on a higher fellowship that is "with the Father, and with Jesus Christ" (v. 3). Also in verse 4, John informed us that we can experience the fullness of joy. As children of God yielded to the Holy Spirit, we can experience the fullness of joy in our earthly experience! An unbeliever may have superficial happiness, but a yielded saint of God can experience unspeakable joy!

The Apostle John, the writer of this grand epistle, had asserted that he was writing about things he had heard, seen, and touched. Now in verse 5, he conveyed unto us a message that he had heard, stating emphatically that "God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all." This statement brings to bear the truth that "God is Holy." As Light, God reveals mankind's sin and condemns it! A believer cannot truly claim communion or fellowship with Him while living in abject darkness.

In verse 6, a Christian who says that he is in fellowship with God (who is "Light") but who is walking contrary to Him (walking "in the darkness") is lying, for he is not practicing the truth! His life contradicts what he professes! Verse 7 unfolds that

there are two things said of believers who walk in the light: (a) they are in fellowship with God and (b) they are under the cleansing blood of Christ.

II. The Condition for True Fellowship – I John 1:8-10

In verse 8, because fellowship with God can be broken for a child of God, there are provisions for the continuation of fellowship. The provision for the fellowship is confession. In verse 8, there were false teachers who were asserting that they did not have an innate tendency to sin. However, the Apostle John stated – If we claim that the principle of sin was absent from our lives, the "truth is not in us."

As believers, when we confess our sins in verse 9, we have God's promise that He will "forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." The word "confess" means to agree with. When we come to God this way, He is faithful and just to forgive. God forgives when we genuinely confess our sin and cleanses us of the stain it left in our life!

In verse 10, some may scorn confession, claiming "We have not sinned." However, if some assert this claim, "we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us" (v. 10). We are implying that God lied when He told us that "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 2:23; I Kings 8:46).

May God Bless!

Continued Iran Page 1

numbers, there's more oil at risk."

Gas stations typically avoid immediately passing on the full amount of oil price hikes to their customers, Weinandy said, adding that gas station owners typically make their money back by lowering their prices more slowly as oil prices fall.

Ray Perryman, an economist and founder of the

Perryman Group, which conducts economic analyses across several Texas industries, added that the war's impact on Texas' oil and gas industry largely depends on how long crude oil prices remain elevated.

The price of Brent crude, the international benchmark, briefly surged to \$119.50 per barrel early Monday — its highest level since the summer after Russia invaded Uk-

raine. West Texas Intermediate, which is produced in the U.S., also soared above \$119 per barrel at one point.

But after Trump told CBS News on Monday that he thinks "the war is very complete," prices quickly fell to under \$90 by the end of the day.

Crude was selling for roughly \$70 per barrel before the U.S. and Israel launched air strikes against Iran on Feb. 28. Fear of

Iranian attacks has all but closed the Strait of Hormuz, the international shipping lane where 20% of the world's oil supply typically travels daily.

Texas' oil industry is positioned to be a big winner from the war, Weinandy said.

"If we're talking about Texas, this is very good news for the oil industry," Weinandy said. "Oil companies are certainly the beneficiaries of being able

to sell their product at higher prices."

But those additional profits for oil companies mean higher costs for consumers. Oil markets are so volatile because it is difficult and costly to increase production and global demand is typically stubborn, Weinandy added.

Higher oil prices mean higher profits for oil companies selling onto the global market, but the uncertainty caused by the

war is bad for planning new investments in the short term, said Todd Staples, president of the Texas Oil and Gas Association.

"Our goal is for certainty and stability because in order to plan investment and plan for jobs, you have to have predictability," Staples said.

This article first appeared on The Texas Tribune.

- SUPERHEROES

(Solution will appear in March 19 edition)

ACROSS

1. Abbreviation, abbr.
5. Corvine bird's sound
8. Aquarium dweller
12. Sandwich shop
13. Half human, half cobra in Hinduism
14. Blatant
15. Don't go
16. *Tony Stark, a.k.a. ___ Man
17. High-quality black tea
18. *Leader of Guardians of the Galaxy
20. Research facil.
21. Words to live by
22. Leo month
23. ___ Tree National Park
26. Period between linked activities (2 words)
30. Not safe in baseball
31. Drunk's speech?
34. Sitar music
35. Doughy snack of Jewish origin
37. Rage
38. Seize a throne
39. Common hosiery shade
40. Nom de guerre
42. "Wow!"
43. What emergency workers do
45. Choice word
47. Young newt
48. Passport stamps
50. Vomit
52. *Doctor Doom's frequent ally (2 words)
55. Deserved consequence
56. One of Great Lakes
57. Iranian money
59. Like Vitruvian Man, e.g.
60. Prima donnas' problems
61. Author Murdoch
62. Like Regina George
63. "___ My People Go"
64. *Sandman can transform his body into this

DOWN

1. Pop-ups, e.g.
2. Risky business, pl.
3. Cry plaintively
4. Capital of Saudi Arabia
5. Billiards bounce
6. Ancient Greek marketplace
7. Diagon Alley purchase
8. *Captain America's team
9. Albanian monetary units
10. Small cave
11. What Pac-Man did to strawberry
13. Largest Asian antelope
14. Poppy seed derivative
19. Just outside a fairway
22. Inflation matter
23. *Batman's arch-nemesis
24. 1/16th of a pound
25. Not shakes, as in bartender
26. *___ Titans, cyborgs' team
27. L in LOL
28. Acquiesce
29. Rubbernecker
32. Tough spot
33. *Leonardo to Michelangelo
36. *One from Krypton
38. Inuit skin boat
40. *Size-changing ___-Man
41. Yeses, alt. sp.
44. Butcher's refuse
46. Trouble, in Yiddish
48. Threshold
49. "Complete ___'s Guides"
50. Bid, past tense
51. Particular region
52. Comes on a rod
53. Turkish currency
54. Been in bed
55. *___ Possible
58. Lysergic acid derivative, acr.

Statepoint Crossword Puzzle

Theme: SUPERHEROES

CROSSWORD												
1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
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59						60				61		
62						63				64		

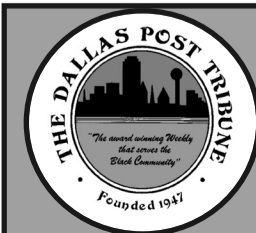
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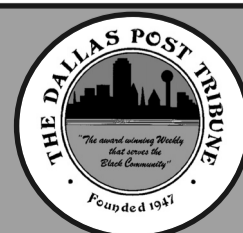
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NEWS

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moral clarity reshaped the nation's understanding of justice and constitutional responsibility. In Madam C. J. Walker, expanding both the beauty industry and the economic horizons of Black women. It dances in Josephine Baker, who challenged racism and resisted fascism. In Ida B. Wells and Dolores Huerta, who wielded truth and deter-

mination in pursuit of justice. In Chien-Shiung Wu, whose experiments altered science, and Shirley Chisholm, whose political courage expanded the very definition of leadership. These women did more than break barriers; they built new worlds.

A powerful throughline in the leadership of women of color is how they lead:

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Continued **Defeat** Page 1

From the start, four people familiar with her campaign said, Crockett's team deprioritized the primary race, confident that her name recognition and reputation as a fighter in Congress would be impossible for Talarico to catch up with, and would carry her to the general election. So she embarked on a primary battle with a makeshift operation that lacked a campaign manager, a developed fundraising strategy and comprehensive infrastructure for a ground game.

"What happened with Jasmine was that name ID can only take you so far," said Monique Alcala, the former executive director of the Texas Democratic Party. "You actually have to have a real campaign operation, and actually engage in measurable campaign tactics. I don't think that we ever saw that come together throughout the entire time that she was running."

Crockett still put up a strong showing at the ballot box, winning over a million votes — 46% of ballots cast — and gaining up enthusiasm among the Democratic base, particularly Black voters.

But she was unable to run up the score where she needed to in Texas' biggest and most diverse cities. At the same time, Talarico trounced in his political home base in Central Texas, and with voters in heavily Latino counties — a crucial, swingy voting bloc in the general electorate.

Crockett's relative lack of an apparatus made a differ-

ence, especially against a candidate who entered the race three months before she did and built up significant media, fundraising, volunteer and events operations, and whose political persona cultivated its own kind of gravitational pull.

"This was a close race, and so I don't want to sound like she ran a bad campaign," Democratic strategist Matt Angle said. "She just ran into a guy who ran a really good campaign. And it's a really good sign for Democrats that James wasn't just a personality that caught fire — he had a plan, and he carried it out."

Crockett declined an interview request. Campaign spokesperson Karrol Rimal declined to comment, citing "party unity," but he insisted that the number of votes Crockett earned per dollar spent was crucial to any post-election analysis of her campaign.

A member of Crockett's inner campaign circle, who asked not to be named so they could speak candidly, acknowledged the campaign's reliance on her popularity and relative lack of infrastructure, but pushed back on the idea that she did not run a strong campaign, noting that she invested in advertising and turnout operations at a greater level than past statewide Democratic campaigns, which were not nearly as competitive as this cycle's.

Ultimately, Talarico and his super PAC massively outspent Crockett, dropping an unprecedented amount of money in a statewide Democratic primary that she could not counter.

"That was the thing that we saw happening the whole time," Crockett's team member said, "and you just can't really overcome that." Crockett's challenges started with timing. Her decision to jump into the race so last minute — on the last day candidates could file in December — shortened her runway to build out a campaign that could face off in such a heated, expensive contest.

Competitive candidates for statewide office typically start planting the seeds of their campaign months, if not years, in advance, wooing donors, building relationships with political allies around the state, developing their email list and putting together a potential team.

But while Crockett had considered higher office — as popular politicians do — she had not been actively setting up a campaign before she launched, the member of her team said, forcing her to build up an organization in a matter of months.

"I don't fault her for her campaign," Chuck Rocha, a senior adviser on Talarico's campaign, said in an interview Tuesday before the election results rolled in. "She had the benefit of having the name ID, but ... she's building the plane while she's flying it."

Notably, Crockett did not have a campaign manager for the entirety of her run, and while she delegated components of her campaign to trusted advisers, she largely managed operations herself. Her team member described her leadership style as a hub and spokes, rather than the more tradi-

tional top-down pyramid structure of most campaigns. That stood in contrast with Talarico's campaign, which built out teams with dozens of salaried staffers in Texas, according to his most recent federal spending report.

A Democratic strategist briefed directly by Crockett said she indicated shortly after her campaign launch that Jason Lee, a senior adviser to Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson and son of the late U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, was on deck to run the campaign, but he never came through. In January, the strategist learned that Crockett was expecting Lee to come for the general election. Lee did not respond to an interview request.

"I was told they would not hire some consultants until after the primary," said Dallas Jones, a Democratic strategist. "It was my understanding that all these things would happen after the primary, and now it appears that it's not going to happen at all."

With less time and fundraising to power her run, the campaign focused its energy on TV and digital advertising — instead of staffing up or building out a massive field operation.

Though she barnstormed the state and met voters at the polls during the 11-day early voting period, her campaign up until that point had largely been made up of appearances at churches, local businesses and events hosted by other groups, like unions and Black sororities.

The Crockett team

Continue **Defeat** Page 5

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 Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

The Dallas Post Tribune
 Premise to Live By

- Love of God
- Love of Country
- Love of Self
- Love of Humanity
- and
- The Will to Serve



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The phone rings several times a day at my "office," a place under the stairs where we used to store cleaning supplies. I equipped it with a TV tray to hold my computer, and a cardboard box to house my "research materials."

My hope was to attract customer calls for writing assignments. But each time the phone rings, the caller starts by saying, "This conversation may be recorded for training purposes."

A couple of weeks ago,

I started writing down what each caller discussed. Here's a recent sampling:

A lady with a strong southern drawl said that her company would like to buy our house for cash. I asked her how soon she could get here, and if she could pay in small bills. She hung up.

A guy with a deep baritone asked me if I felt my yard needed mood lighting. I told him I was in no mood to continue our conversation.

Another male voice

asked me if our air conditioners were prepared for summer. I told him they were hibernating now, and I would call him when we woke them up in May.

A lady greeted me by asking about the condition of our bathroom. She said she could modernize it in one day.

I said if she could do it really cheap, I would be flushed with excitement. She also hung up.

Finally, one day ended with a man offering ventriloquist lessons. "How do

I know they work?" I asked.

"Because right now I am drinking water," he said, "and the dummy is talking to you."

In 30-plus years as an editor, I've found that a story's setting can be critical to better readership. So, here's a place to see a preview of "Setting Secrets: How to improve (nearly) every story."

Here's the link: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0GPP1P8QF>

SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Mar. 12	Friday, Mar. 13	Saturday, Mar. 14	Sunday, Mar. 15	Monday, Mar. 16	Tuesday, Mar. 17	Wednesday, Mar. 18
H -65° L -50°	H 78° L -56°	H -81° L -64°	H -84° L -48°	H -52° L -43*	H - 65° L - 52°	H -71° L -59°

PRESS ROOM: NBA Hall of Fame Nominee Terry Cummings Joins 100 Black Men of DeKalb County to Launch Victory & Values Initiative



NBA Hall of Fame nominee and Basketball Legend Terry Cummings (left). Courtesy image/NNPA.

NBA Hall of Fame nominee and Basketball Legend Terry Cummings has officially become an honorary member of the 100 Black Men of DeKalb County, marking a powerful new chapter for the 100 Black Men and youth development across the region.

Cummings was administered the official member's oath and ceremonially pinned during a special induction ceremony held on Friday, February 20th. The moment signified more than membership — it marked the launch of the organization's transformative new platform, the Victory & Values Initiative.

The Victory & Values Initiative is a groundbreaking youth development program designed to empower elementary and middle school students through a dynamic blend of sports, mentorship, and STEM exposure. The initiative focuses on building health, discipline, character, leadership, and access to opportunity — creating pathways for long-term academic and personal success.

"This is about more than sports," said Cummings during the ceremony. "It's about using the platform of athletics to teach life lessons, create access, and build the next generation of leaders."

The induction ceremony

also featured notable guests including NASCAR's newest Star Driver, Lavar Scott and NASCAR Director of Athletic Performance, Phil Horton, who joined Cummings for a powerful Victory & Values Town Hall discussion. The Town Hall was moderated by renowned Sports Emcee John Hollins and focused on leadership, resilience, discipline, and the importance of mentorship in shaping young lives.

A "Day at NASCAR" for 75+ Youth

Cummings wasted no time getting to work. On his first full day as an honorary member, he joined his new brothers of the 100

Black Men of DeKalb County to host a "Day at NASCAR," escorting more than 75 youth to a once-in-a-lifetime experience at EchoPark Motor Speedway (formerly Atlanta Motor Speedway).

The youth participants received behind-the-scenes access including: an exclusive tour of Pit Row, access to the Garage Area and exploration of the interactive Fan Zone.

The experience culminated with a surprise meet-and-greet and Q&A session with NASCAR Superstar Bubba Wallace, who shared insights on perseverance, preparation, and breaking barriers in professional sports.

The day served as a living example of the 'Victory & Values' Initiative in action — exposing youth to new industries, expanding their vision for the future, and connecting them directly with high-level mentors and role models.

Building Leaders Through Access and Mentorship

The 100 Black Men of DeKalb County — a chapter of the largest, national mentoring organization in the county — continues to expand its footprint with

programs focused on academic excellence, economic empowerment, leadership development, and health & wellness.

The launch of 'Victory & Values' represents a strategic expansion of the organization's impact — intentionally integrating athletics and STEM to engage youth at an early age while reinforcing core principles such as integrity, accountability, teamwork, and perseverance.

"Our mission has always been to mentor the next generation," said Vaughn Irons, President-Elect of the 100 Black Men of DeKalb County. "With Terry Cummings joining the brotherhood, along with partners in NASCAR and professional sports, we are creating unprecedented access and exposure for our youth. Victory & Values is about turning inspiration into structured opportunity."

By connecting elementary and middle school students to professional athletes, executives, STEM professionals, and community leaders, the initiative aims to:

- Increase youth exposure to careers in sports business, engineering, and per-

- Strengthen mentorship pipelines
- Promote physical wellness and mental resilience
- Build character-driven leadership at an early age

Open Invitation to Youth and Families

All youth are invited to participate in the Victory & Values Initiative, along with the other countless, impactful programs offered by the 100 Black Men of DeKalb County.

Parents and guardians seeking mentorship, leadership development, academic enrichment, and transformative exposure opportunities for their children are encouraged to connect with the organization.

As NBA Legend Terry Cummings' induction demonstrates, Victory & Values is more than a program — it is a movement designed to build champions in life, not just in sports.

For more information about the Victory & Values Initiative or to enroll a student, contact: 100 Black Men of DeKalb County at Phone at 404.241.1338, info@100bmod.org or Tee Foxx at 404.791.6525,

Continued Defeat Page 4

member said the congresswoman wanted to meet Texans where they were outside of political settings, instead of bringing them to her events.

Crockett planned to get around the state more after she secured the nomination and while Republicans

were duking it out in a runoff election, said a Democratic strategist who spoke to her directly about the matter.

"To her own admission, Congresswoman Crockett wanted to launch and run a campaign that was different," said Jones, noting her emphasis on in-person politicking at

smaller venues like bars and churches over standard campaign rallies and events. "It was a very untraditional campaign in how it was ran and in many ways experimental."

"If that is the case," he added, "then we would now say the experiment did not work."

Crockett's ground game

also paled in comparison to Talarico's, who has said he saw his bid as the "underdog" campaign.

Crockett largely relied on organizations that endorsed her, such as Jolt Action and Texas Organizing Project, for get-out-the-vote tactics like door-to-door canvassing, in place of a robust in-house opera-

tion to turn out her voters.

The Crockett team member said that her campaign invested in Black voter turnout through blockwalking, virtual town halls, robocalls, Black radio stations and efforts on digital platforms to target infrequent Black Democratic voters.

In contrast, Talarico

brought tens of thousands of Texans out to rallies and events his campaign put on around the state after he launched his bid in September. His campaign recruited 28,000 volunteers, contacted voters in all 254 counties in Texas.

Continue Defeat in our next edition, March 19.

Statepoint Crossword Puzzle

Solution: March 5 - SINGERS & SONGWRITERS

G	R	A	S	P	F	A	D	P	A	R	T	
O	U	N	C	E	I	R	E	A	L	T	H	O
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E	I	L	I	S	H	C	H	A	P	M	A	N
D	O	T	P	E	E	K						
D	E	W	D	E	C	O	D	E	R	A	T	E
Y	L	E	M	L	A	S	S	N	E	X	U	S
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A	T	T	A	R	H	E	R	A	D	E	L	E
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HEALTH

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More CHOICE EXPO

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Join us at the More Choice Expo! See why families choose Dallas ISD's neighborhood Legacy Schools. Register onsite for the 2026-2027 school year.

Key Highlights:

- B-rated district
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- A leader in college credit & career certifications
- Dual language program offerings
- Enhanced TAG model
- Award-winning STEM/STEAM programs



Learn more: DallasISD.org/MoreChoice

Dallas ISD students build their medical legacy



Photo Credit: Dallas ISD

At just 9- and 10-years old, students at Otto M. Fridia Elementary School are exploring careers in healthcare. Inside the school's innovation lab, they are diagnosing patients, examining x-rays, and fitting casts.

Equipped with anatomy models, exam tables, and medical supplies, the lab gives students real-world experiences. From dia-

gnosing diseases, examining x-rays, and fitting casts, students are gaining confidence and getting insight of what to expect if they choose to enter a P-TECH program in high school.

"We want them to build confidence, see themselves as problem-solvers, and understand that careers in health and science are not distant dreams;

they're real possibilities for their future," said Principal Christopher Stephens. "This is the legacy of learning that we want our Longhorns to experience."

This is just one example of how Dallas ISD is helping students build their legacy. With college credit and career readiness programs, and 163 A-and-B-rated campuses, more families are choosing Dallas ISD.

Learn why by visiting the More Choice Expo, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 11 at the Automobile Building in Fair Park. Families can explore nearly 200 schools that are leading the way in excellence, innovation, and tradition. Students can also enroll early for the 2026-2027 school year.

To learn more, visit: DallasISD.org/MoreChoice.

The Black Press: Our History, Our Crisis

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



Dr. John Warren

This month, the Black Press celebrates 199 years of existence. It has been a time of advocacy for people who have otherwise been erased from the growth and history of this country. We have been the ones to "Lift Every Voice" as the trusted messengers and storytellers of our struggle. We have shed tears for and with each other; we have been the ones to carry hope in the midst of a struggle that so often seemed hopeless. We have survived not "Not Because of," but "In Spite of"

every effort to dehumanize and deny us the equality of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, the founding fathers swore to as a right to all people.

James Weldon Johnson really stated our history in his song, Lift Every Voice & Sing, when he wrote: "We have come, over a way that with tears have been watered." The stories we have reported, often at great personal cost, have made a difference in the quality of life so many take for granted today. But today, we, as a people, are in much greater danger than the physical slavery that held us for too many years. Many of the very brothers and sisters we have sacrificed and struggled to save have forgotten our past. Too many have allowed social media and the illusion of progress, through personal achievements, to take us away from

the national sense of pride and unity we once held so dear

Today, we, the Black Press, are once again confronted with survival. The reality is that neither President Trump nor his social policies seeking to eliminate us is the real problem. "We" are the problem ourselves. We, the Black Press, in our efforts to survive, have lost much of our ability to engage our communities in a changing environment, so they remember who we are and how important we remain to our collective survival.

Likewise, our communities of churches, social organizations, and the very businesses we do business with, must be engaged again in support of the Black Press. Now is the time to re-tell our own story, lest we be forgotten. The future of the Black Press belongs to all of us.

Continued **Color** Page 4 collaboratively, creatively, relationally, and with deep responsibility to community. Their leadership is grounded not in hierarchy but in connection, in the belief that progress is something we build together. We see this in Kamala Harris, whose presence ex-

pands the boundaries of possibility; in Ketanji Brown Jackson; in Oprah Winfrey; and in Toni Morrison, who insisted that the interior lives of Black women are essential to the human story. It resonates in Simone Biles and Serena Williams, redefining strength through excellence and self-belief. Today, women of color

continue to drive breakthroughs in medicine, technology, the arts, politics, and environmental justice. Their leadership appears not only in boardrooms or public office, but in mentorship, advocacy, and the daily navigation of systems never designed for them. The spirit shines in Mae Jemison and Ellen Ochoa; in Michelle Obama; and in

the brilliance of Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, and Christine Darden, whose work helped launch a nation into space. Celebration is important, but it is not enough. Honoring women of color requires intentional action rooted in equity. It means creating environments where their voices are

valued, challenging the biases that shape who is recognized, and ensuring progress is shared. As we celebrate Women's History Month, let us honor women of color not as symbols, but as leaders whose work continues to guide us. When we uplift women of color, we honor history and shape the future.

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