

“No Kings Day on Saturday, March 28.”

~ See the Editorial Page, 6 ~



ISSN # 0746-7303

The Dallas Post Tribune

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VOLUME 78 NUMBER 26

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

March 26 - April 1, 2026

This article was originally published by Votebeat, a nonprofit news organization covering local election administration and voting access.

How many Republicans and Democrats went to the wrong polling locations in Dallas County? Here are the numbers.

By Natalia Contreras, Votebeat



Vote center signs outside of the Dallas County Records Building in Dallas on Primary election day on March 3, 2026. Photo Credit: **Shelby Tauber** for The Texas Tribune.

At least 12,674 Dallas County voters trying to cast ballots in both party primaries showed up at the wrong polling locations March 3 after the county GOP forced the elimination of county-wide polling sites on Election Day, county data shows.

Democrats had more than double the number of

primary voters in Dallas County as Republicans so, unsurprisingly, a larger number of Democratic voters had to be redirected to the correct site, according to a Votebeat analysis of data provided by Dallas County election officials. But similar percentages of voters from both parties were affected by the

change.

Out of the total voter turnout on Election Day, at least 6,641 voters, or 7.7%, seeking to cast ballots in the Democratic primary, and 2,369 voters, or 6.4%, seeking to cast ballots in the Republican primary, went to the wrong voting site. Those voters subsequently received texts from county

representatives stationed at polling sites to redirect voters to the correct places, according to the county data, which was obtained by Votebeat via a public records request.

Those numbers don't reflect the full number of affected voters, either. The

Continue **Voters** Page 2

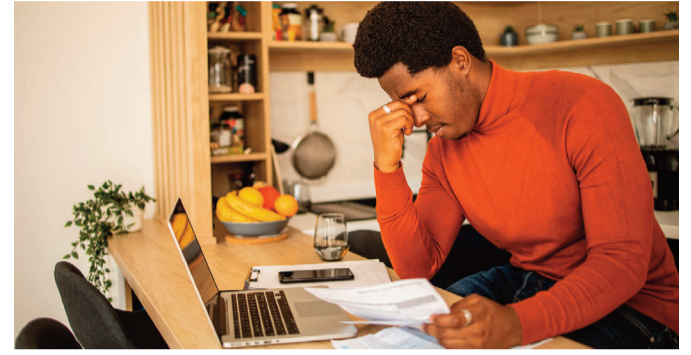


Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA

Black Student Loan Default Rate Five Times Higher than Whites

By Charlene Crowell

On behalf of the nearly 9 million people who are now in default on their student loans, a coalition of advocates from consumer, civil rights, and education organizations is appealing to the federal Education Department to halt its plans to begin garnishing borrowers' wages this month. Default status connotes borrowers are 270 days or more behind on their payments.

Citing new research from Protect Borrowers, formerly the Student Borrower Protection Center, the coalition advised Education Secretary Linda McMahon in a January 7 letter that a new student loan default occurred every nine seconds in 2025. That escalating rate is unprecedented and is nearly

three times worse than in 2019, the year prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Further, according to the advocates, the Trump administration's student loan policies are disproportionately harming Black and older borrowers. Signing the joint letter of appeal were: Protect Borrowers, American Federation of Teachers, the Debt Collective, NAACP, National Education Association, the Student Debt Crisis Center, and Young Invincibles.

“Research shows that involuntary collections only exacerbate the economic challenges faced by defaulted borrowers, who are disproportionately seniors

Continue **Loan** Page 4

Elon Musk company selects proposed mile-long Dallas tunnel

Ayden Runnels, The Texas Tribune

Elon Musk's tunneling company will begin assessing its ability to construct a mile-long underground tunnel in South Dallas after a proposed project in the area was one of three winners of a company

contest on Tuesday.

The Boring Company has built a number of underground tunnels across the United States for public and industrial use, including in Austin and Bastrop. In January, the company an-

nounced an open call for new tunnel proposals up to a mile long, with the offer to build the winning submission at the company's expense. A proposal to build a tunnel connecting the University of North

Texas at Dallas with University Hills, a billion-dollar mixed-use development currently under construction, was one of three winners out of almost 500

Continue **Tunnel** Page 5

COMMENTARY: Regime Change and The Roots Of U.S. Hostility With Iran

By Dayvon Love, | San Diego Voice and Viewpoint
Director of Public Policy, Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle

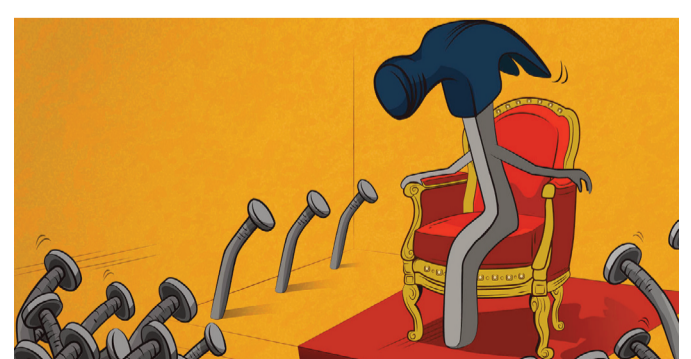
SAN DIEGO VOICE & VIEWPOINT — Those who are serious in their study of history are clear that the Cold War was a propaganda campaign to position communism and socialism as a “boogeyman” in order to justify Americans' desire for geopolitical domination of the world. Additionally, Mosaddegh's policy of nationalizing the oil wealth of the country

was disruptive to Western oil companies that wanted unfettered access to Iran's oil reserves.

In 1953, the United States and other Western forces collaborated to overthrow the democratically elected president, Mohammad Mosaddegh, of Iran.

The stated rationale for pursuing regime change

Continue **Roots** Page 7



Dayvon Love, director of public policy, Leaders a Beautiful Struggle. Photo courtesy of **K. Finch** Photography via The AFRO



Look What's Going On At The Massey Lake Gymnasium, Easter Weekend, Saturday, April 4, 2026 Starting at 10 a.m.

Get Ready! Let's Go! To The Massey Lake Ex-Student School Reunion, To Meet and Fellowship with Our Former Classmates, Schoolmates, and Others.

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The Many Names and Many Roles of Grandparents Today

By Kristen Amundson



Grandfather Carries Grandson on His Shoulders During a Walk in the Park. Photo Credit: The Black Press, USA

BLACKPRESSUSA NEWSWIRE — Some grandparents can rely on Social Security, pensions, and investments for support. Others may need to continue working just to make ends meet.

What did you call your grandparents? What do your grandchildren call you?

Are you Grandma and Grandpa? Nana and Papa (the current favorites in the U.S.)? Mimi and PopPop? In some families, the name for grandparents is the result of the oldest grandchild’s mispronunciation, which is why my grandparents came to be called Amah and Amak.

The many names for grandparents reflect the different roles these family elders play. In a time of de-

mographic changes, the role of a grandparent is very different from being a grandparent a generation ago.

There are still plenty of grandmothers like Mrs. Doubtfire or Grandma Walton, wearing an apron and serving freshly baked cookies. But today, you’ll also find grandparents running big corporations or running for Governor of their state. Kansas Governor Laura Kelly was elected for the first time at the age of 69.

Some grandparents are on track to visit all seven continents, while others want to run a half-marathon. The grandparents who used to live “over the river and through the woods” may have moved to a retirement community two time zones away.

There’s no one best way to be a grandparent. But there are things you can do to make sure you are the best grandparent for your grandchild. Here are some things to consider:

Your age. Grandparents who have their first grandchild in their 50s will see their role differently from grandparents whose first grandchild is not born until the mid-60s. For example, younger grandparents may still be working full-time.

If your own children expect you to become a full-time caregiver, sometimes called a “Granny Nanny,” you need to think carefully about your own health. Be honest about what you are physically able to do.

Your financial health. Some grandparents can rely on Social Security, pen-

sions, and investments for support. Others may need to continue working just to make ends meet. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, more than 6 million seniors over the age of 65 have a yearly income (\$14,040 or less) that puts them below the poverty line.

Your willingness to follow the parents’ rules. The hardest thing for grandparents to accept is often that they are no longer the stars of the parenting show. Parents get to set the rules, even if grandparents don’t agree. (“Parents have the right to be wrong” is a good motto to remember.

What your grandchildren and their families most need. A young family trying to save money to purchase a home may need to move

in with grandparents while they are saving. A child with special learning needs may need to be driven to a tutor after school when parents are in the office. Parents may need the “emergency care” grandparent to pick up a sick kid at school or keep a child with a fever home for a day.

Once you have identified the things your grandchildren most need, try to look at what needs you might be able to meet. Clear communication is the best way to make sure there are no unpleasant surprises.

It takes love, patience, organization, and clear communication to be a good grandparent. But the rewards – close family ties,

successful grandchildren, even your own health – are worth all of it.

Virginia grandmother Delores McQuinn puts it this way: “If I’d known that being a grandmother was so much fun, I’d have asked, ‘God, could you please send me the grandkids first?’”

Kristen Amundson is a nationally recognized expert on student achievement, education, and how families can become advocates for their children. This column is based on her book, *The Grandparent Effect: Helping Children Thrive Through Love, Support, and Connection*, published by Bloomsbury in 2026.

Continued **Voters** Page 1

county couldn’t determine a party for at least 3,638 additional voters who also received texts because they were redirected to voting locations used by both parties, county officials said. And for 26 other voters in the data, the county had no information. Poll workers also redirected other voters who chose not to receive texts and aren’t reflected in the data, according to Paul Adams, the Dallas County elections administrator.

Allen West, the chairman of the Dallas Republican party, had suggested in a statement on March 4 that the change had affected Democratic voters more

than Republican ones.

“Yesterday Republican voters in Dallas County evidenced their ability to adapt and overcome proving that precinct level voting can be accomplished on primary Election Day,” West said in a statement the party posted on social media. “It’s apparent that Democrats struggled with grasping basic civics.”

West, who declined to comment on Votebeat’s findings for this story, has since said Republicans will agree to use countywide voting sites for the upcoming May 26 runoff election, citing the potential for confusion. It’s not clear whether West has signed a contract with the Dallas County Elections Depart-

ment to make the move official. The department did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Kardal Coleman, the Dallas County Democratic Party Chair said the new findings were not surprising. “In every conversation we said that this type of irresponsible pursuit was going to result in disenfranchisement of all voters, not just Democratic voters, and the data speaks just to that,” Coleman said.

Change to precinct voting sites created confusion for Dallas County voters

Dallas County Republicans decided to ditch the state’s countywide polling place program, which allows voters to cast their ballot at any polling location in

the county. Because both parties have to agree to use countywide sites, this forced voters from both parties to cast ballots at assigned precincts.

Dallas County officials said they spent \$1 million to notify voters of the change, but it nevertheless created chaos and confusion on Election Day.

Republicans in Eastland County, west of Fort Worth, and Williamson County, north of Austin, made similar decisions to switch to precincts, which also led to voter confusion. Republicans in Williamson County have now also said they’ll return to countywide voting for the runoff election. Eastland County Republicans have yet to make

a decision, according to county election officials

The Dallas County Elections Department in collaboration with the county’s League of Women Voters, dispatched volunteers across the county’s polling sites on Election Day to assist voters who needed help identifying their correct polling location.

Dallas County has used the countywide program for years and the two major parties had held joint primary elections since 2022, sharing polling locations, voting equipment and poll workers.

Although West has agreed to use countywide voting sites for the runoff election in May, he said the parties still won’t share poll

workers and voting equipment — so runoff voters will likely still see separate lines for Republicans and Democrats. Coleman said that for his part, he’s ready to sign an agreement for a joint runoff election, because “that’s the best use of our resources.”

Republican critics of countywide voting claim it makes elections less secure because it could allow people “to double or triple vote,” though there’s no evidence that countywide voting is less secure. In addition, Texas election officials have procedures in place to prevent double voting, including the use of technology that helps officials know in real time who has voted and where.

Texas cities, state government cancel Cesar Chavez Day in wake of report on activist

Alex Nguyen, The Texas Tribune

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott says the state will not observe Cesar Chavez Day on March 31, a move that he hopes to make permanent by working with the Legislature and removing the holiday from state law in the 2027 session.

The announcement came after a New York Times investigation revealed allegations that the late Mexican-American labor and civil rights leader had sexually assaulted and abused women and girls. The reporting has sparked widespread outrage and sorrow, prompting lawmakers and labor groups across the country — including in Texas, where he supported striking farm workers and led a rally at the state Capitol following a march from Rio Grande City to Austin in 1966 — to reckon with Chavez’s legacy.

“Reports of the horrific and widely acknowledged sexual assault allegations against Cesar Chavez rightfully dismantle the myth of

this progressive hero and undermine the narrative that elevated Chavez as a figure worthy of official state celebration,” Abbott said in a post on X.

The Mexican American Legislative Caucus, which called the allegations “deeply disturbing,” said it is ready to lead efforts to remove the Cesar Chavez holiday.

“When a leader puts himself ahead of the people and the movement he was meant to serve, that is a profound betrayal of the very values that movement was built on,” the statement said. “We stand with survivors and support a full and transparent reckoning.”

At the same time, MALC called for the holiday to be replaced with one that honors labor leaders like Dolores Huerta, who co-founded the United Farm Workers with Chavez. Others have also rallied around uplifting Huerta.

Huerta told the Times and subsequently in a pub-

lic statement that Chavez, who died in 1993, had sexually assaulted her in two incidents that led to pregnancies. The labor and women’s rights icon said she had kept them a secret for 60 years for fear of hurting the farmworker movement that she has devoted her life to.

“The farmworker movement has always been bigger and far more important than any one individual,” Huerta added in her statement. “Cesar’s actions do not diminish the permanent improvements achieved for farmworkers with the help of thousands of people. We must continue to engage and support our community, which needs advocacy and activism now more than ever.”

The allegations have also prompted Texas cities and groups to cancel or update events and celebrations. For instance, El Paso will observe March 31 as Community & Labor

Continued **SNAP** March 19, Edition

Any candy is ineligible for purchase with SNAP benefits, including low sugar options and dark chocolate, according to Feeding Texas.

According to Feeding Texas, enrollees will not lose SNAP benefits for accidentally buying a restricted food item. Retailers are responsible for coding items correctly, so mistakes are the store’s responsibility.

How are retailers supposed to enforce this change?

HHSC released a guidance document for retailers on how to comply with SB 379. The document lays out updated retailer responsibilities such as: confirming which products are restricted by the waiver definitions, updating store purchase systems and processes to stop SNAP transactions of restricted items, double-checking product packaging and labels to ensure items are categorized correctly, and training staff to understand that only sweetened beverages and candy are ineligible.

Lorna Ramage, Every

Texan’s deputy director of communications, said SB 379 burdens small businesses and retailers with the responsibility of ongoing system updates and keeping up with new/existing products from the state onto small businesses and retailers.

“Texas is home to the highest number of food insecure people in the U.S. We need all the SNAP retailers we can find, especially for Texans in remote areas with limited access to retailers,” Ramage said. “We worry that these changes will lead to more Texas families going hungry, all while adding an unsustainable bureaucratic burden on Texas’ small businesses.”

What are other changes lawmakers have made to the SNAP program recently?

Effective since November 2025, Texans who receive SNAP must work or attend a work program.

Under the federal “One Big Beautiful Bill” that went into effect July 2025, able-bodied individuals ages 18 through 65 without dependents must work or attend a work program, such as SNAP Employment and

Training, for at least 80 hours per month to receive benefits.

Parents and household members of a dependent child age 14 or older meet the additional work requirements. Previously, those with a child under 18 were exempt from the requirements. Veterans, people 24 and younger who recently aged out of foster care, and unhoused people are also not exempt from work requirements.

The bill restricts benefits to apply only to certain lawful permanent residents and U.S. citizens, and eliminates eligibility for others legally present in the United States such as those who have qualified for conditional entry under the asylum and refugee laws or based on urgent humanitarian reasons, such as survivors of domestic violence or human trafficking.

Correction, March 18, 2026, 12:01 p.m. Central: The story has been corrected to attribute information from Every Texan to its food policy analyst Amber O’Connor.

This article first appeared on The Texas Tribune.

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Continue **Chavez** Page 3

RELIGIOUS/NEWS

Abiding in Christian Fellowship – Part II

I John 2:1-29



Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

By way of review, the grand Apostle of love, John, has emphasized that he was an eyewitness of Christ's life (I John 1:1-2), that Jesus' blood cleanses sinners (v. 7) and that confession of sins is necessary for forgiveness (v. 9). Now, in this wonderful chapter, the Apostle John will discuss the essence of what abiding in Christian fellowship is all about.

Discussed in Part I of this article was - I. The Ground for Genuine Christian Fellowship – I John 2:1-17. We will now review Part II. An Acknowledgment of a Strange Heresy – I John 2:18-29.

II. An Acknowledgment of a Strange Heresy – I John 2:18-29

To sum up the last section of this instructive epistle, in I John 2:12-17, the Apostle John warned us to love not the world system, that kingdom of complete evil organized by Satan, because it is contrary to God's nature and will, and that is vastly disappearing. However, the one who does the will of God will abide forever (I John 2:15-17).

Due to the struggle between the kingdom of God and Satan's opposing kingdom of evil, John addressed that his

readers were in the period of "the last time," the period between Jesus' two comings (v. 18; Matthew 24:23-24). He noted that his readers had heard that the antichrist would appear to lead men astray. The word "antichrist" means opposed to Christ (I John 2:22; 4:3; II John 1:7) and is used here of false teachers. Although John has reference to the antichrist in this context as being false teachers, there will be a leader who will promote ungodliness in the last days (Daniel 7:25; II Thessalonians 2:3-9); Revelation 13:1-8). John is asserting in this context that the spirit of the antichrist is visibly present (I John 2:18). When the gospel of Christ is proclaimed in this age of grace, we need to be aware that there will be anti-forces against it!

In verse 19, the Apostle John described the false teachers, whom he called antichrist, as: "They went out from us, but they were not of us." They were counterfeits who were a part of the congregation; however, they were not genuine Christians. By making their exit, they were exposed as hypocrites. John cautioned his readers that they need not be deceived by false teachers (antichrist), for "ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things" (v. 20).

"Unction" means anointing and refers to the Holy Spirit, who indwells the believer at the point of new birth. Because of the Holy Spirit's teaching, believers "know all things." We know of the things that the Holy Spirit teaches!

In verse 21, John cautioned his readers about falsehood, not because they were ignorant of truth, but because they already knew it. John also cautioned them that "no lie is of the truth" (v. 21). Falsehood will never grow out of truth! In verse 22, the Apostle John identified the lie of the antichrists as being that they denied that Jesus is the Christ. The Gnostics of John's day denied that God took on human flesh. They denied that Jesus and Christ are the same Person.

They purported that Christ, a divine emanation, came upon a man named Jesus at His baptism and left Him before His death. They really denied Christ's incarnation and the true meaning of His cross. This was a crucial error to deny that the Son of God became man! John declared that the one who denied the Son was denying the Father (vv. 22-23). One cannot claim to know the Father apart from the Son! As believers, we do acknowledge and affirm that Jesus is the God-Man who was cru-

cified, buried, but rose triumphantly for our justification!

As an antidote for doctrinal error, John urged his readers to let what they had heard from the beginning abide in them (v. 24). As believers, we need to abide (continue) in the true message. Abiding in the true message will give one assurance of eternal life (v. 25). John stated that he was writing "concerning them that seduce you" (v. 26). "Seduce" means to lead astray. As a safeguard against false teaching, John stated: "But the anointing which ye have received of Him abideth in you" (v. 27).

The Holy Spirit will help believers to discern the damnable reasoning of the false teachers (deceivers)! We can trust the Holy Spirit's teaching completely, for He "is truth, and is no lie," for He is "the Spirit of truth" (St. John 14:17; 15:26; 16:13). To combat falsehood, we need to abide in the teachings of the Holy Spirit. In verse 28, John urged his readers to abide in God's word (commandments) in light of the prospect of facing Christ unashamedly at His return (v. 28). He also urged his readers to behave righteously as evidence of being born again (v. 29).

May God Bless!

Continued Chavez Page 2

Heritage Day, while city councilmembers in San Antonio, Austin and Dallas want to rename streets that were dedicated to him or stop recognizing Cesar Chavez Day. Houston's annual march honoring him has also been canceled.

And a week later, U.S. Sen. John Cornyn said in a news release Wednesday that he has co-introduced a bill to abolish the César E. Chávez National Monument in California and re-

direct its funds toward a law providing state and local law enforcement agencies with resources to complete untested rape kits. Cornyn also worked on the bipartisan reauthorization of this law.

The United Farm Workers has also distanced itself from its co-founder.

"We have not received any direct reports, and we do not have any firsthand knowledge of these allegations. However, the allegations are serious enough that we feel compelled to

take urgent steps to learn more and provide space for people who may have been victimized to find support and to share their stories if that is what they choose," the group said in a statement the day before the Times published its investigation.

"The United Farm Workers will not be taking part in any Cesar Chavez Day activities."

This article first appeared on The Texas Tribune.

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- Smacks
 - Marketing pop-ups
 - Kindred
 - Jeopardy
 - Dog foot
 - Threefold
 - Throat dangler
 - Mogul rider
 - Right-hand page
 - *Lady Gaga: "You and me could write a bad ____"
 - *Missy Elliott: "Get Ur ____"
 - Exclamation of disgust
 - At the apex
 - Pérignon of champagne fame
 - Two-masted vessel
 - Cast out
 - Larger-than-life
 - Electrical resistance units
 - Star bursts
 - Silicate mineral
 - Alexander, for short
 - ____ of the valley
 - Sushi option
 - Alpine lift
 - Impose a tax
 - Forward and email, e.g.
 - Made in Vegas
 - Siren's domain
 - Cajole
 - *Drake: "I need a ____ dance"
 - *Adele: "We could've had it all ____ in the deep"
 - *Olivia Rodrigo: "I got my ____"
 - Earliest stage of sickness
 - Ribonucleic acid, acr.
 - Tipi, alt. sp.
 - Drugstore shampoo brand
 - Many, many moons
 - Witchy woman
 - ____ Spumante
 - Ovine mom
 - Chinese green tea

- DOWN**
- Horse prod
 - Left, Latin prefix
 - ____ lily
 - Pilaff or plov
 - Colloquially
 - Location of altar
 - ____ Prescott of Dallas Cowboys
 - Swiftie's idol
 - Geometric calculation
 - ____ the Can
 - *Ariana Grande: "'Cause I'm so ____ you"
 - Glowing gas
 - Trephination tool
 - *Maroon 5: "The ____ that controlled my mind"
 - Actor Lowe
 - Sheriff of Nottingham's collection container
 - Raise doubts
 - Suppose
 - #40 Across, pl.
 - *Pink: "So ____? I'm still a rock star"
 - Long-lasting Steelers coach
 - Brown and such
 - Topical remedy
 - *OutKast: "____!"
 - *The Killers: "Comin' out of my ____"
 - Food fish
 - Eagerness
 - Stir up violence
 - Knotts or McLean
 - Mole
 - Come to terms
 - Each and all
 - Parks of Civil Rights fame
 - Blame
 - Law school prerequisite, acr.
 - Denim innovator
 - Copenhagen native
 - "Iliad," e.g.
 - Nevada city
 - *As ____ on TV"
 - *Gotye: "____ you're just somebody that I used to know"

Statepoint Crossword Puzzle Theme: 21st CENTURY SONGS

CROSSWORD

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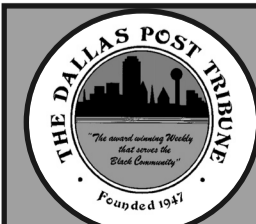
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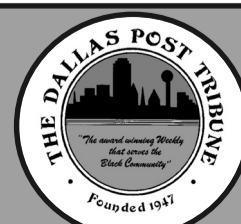
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HEALTH

What's Your Risk?

Many people can feel overwhelmed trying to stay on top of their health, but recognizing the warning signs can help prevent a life-changing illness. American Diabetes Alert Day is March 26, and Parkland Health experts encourage the community to learn about the seriousness of diabetes and understand personal risk.

According to the 2022 Dallas County Community Health Needs Assessment, diabetes is one of the leading chronic diseases among Parkland patients. Diabetes affects how your body turns blood sugar (glucose) into energy. There are two types of diabetes: type 1 and type 2.

Type 1 is an autoimmune disease. Type 2 diabetes – the most common form - develops when the body cannot use insulin properly. At first, the pancreas produces extra insulin to compensate, but over time, it cannot keep blood sugar at normal levels.

You may be at higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes if you are overweight, eating and unhealthy diet, have high blood pressure or high cholesterol, and do not exercise regularly.

Some symptoms of type 2 diabetes you should be aware of include:

- Frequent urination
- Increased thirst and hunger
- Losing weight without trying
- Fatigue
- Feeling irritable or moody
- Blurry vision
- Frequent urinary tract infections (UTIs) or yeast infections

Fortunately, type 2 diabetes can often be prevented if you are at risk or have prediabetes – a warning sign that your blood sugar levels are higher than normal but not yet in the diabetes range. Making lifestyle changes, including weight loss and regular physical activity, can reduce your risk.

If you think you may be at risk, take the 60-second risk assessment test and start on a path to a healthier future. To learn more, visit www.parklanddiabetes.com/diabetes/whats-your-risk

NEWS

Continue Loan Page 1

and Black borrowers,” wrote the coalition. “In fact, of the borrowers already in default, roughly a third of them are older borrowers. Black graduates are additionally five times more likely to default than their white peers.”

Additionally, and according to Protect Borrowers, nearly two-thirds of the borrowers who defaulted during the Trump Administration—more than 2.6 million people—live in states that President Trump won in the 2024 election. Among the states most severely affected were Florida, Georgia, Ohio, and Texas, each of which saw 100,000 or more borrowers default last year.

“The decision to resume wage garnishment against millions of borrowers amidst a growing affordability crisis crushing working families is calloused and unnecessary,” continued the coalition.

“The decision also comes at a time when struggling borrowers have been forced to wait amidst a nearly 1 million application backlog to enroll in an Income-Driven Repayment (IDR) plan, and as mass layoffs at the Department have made it

Continue Loan Page 5

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Quinn Minute

Many places to find help

By Rix Quinn

My friend Lisa says there are more self-help books than any other genre.

Lisa should know. She eats right, dresses well, and talks sweeter than a candy salesman at a dental convention.

She's been to more seminars than most caterers. And she's always looking for another body part to get fixed, tucked, expanded, or reduced.

Lisa separates her im-

provement library into five book categories:

1. “I’m in bad shape, and I need to get better fastlike by tomorrow.”

2. “I feel really bad about myself, but maybe it’s not my fault, which would make me feel really good about myself.”

3. “I need to find my ‘special calling,’ which has nothing to do with how my cell phone rings.”

4. “I honestly think I am a genius, and I would like

confirmation.”

5. “There is a success ‘secret,’ and if I find it, I can make a lot of money, which means I can buy more self-help books, which can make me even cooler.”

My neighbor Stan belongs to a self-help support group. When he gets overconfident, he calls another member who convinces him he needs more workshops.

“What worries me,”

says Stan, “is that just about the time my mind starts to succeed, my body will start to fail.”

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. 26	Friday, Mar. 27	Saturday, Mar. 28	Sunday, Mar. 29	Monday, Mar. 30	Tuesday, Mar. 31	Wednesday, Apr. 1
H -86° L -66°	H 78° L -56°	H -65° L -54°	H -82° L -64°	H -84° L -65*	H - 83° L - 65°	H -78° L -63° 40%

MARK CUBAN HEROES BASKETBALL CENTER'S SUIT UP EXPERIENCE RETURNS MARCH 28, EQUIPPING YOUNG MEN WITH SUITS, MENTORSHIP AND REAL-WORLD SKILLS

Now in its 12th year, the Suit Up Experience – a male version of the “prom dress project” – has provided more than 7,000 young men ages 15-25 with complimentary suits, haircuts, career guidance and life skills

WHAT:

More than 100 young men will get the VIP treatment at the Mark Cuban Heroes Basketball Center’s Suit Up Experience this Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Designed to prepare and empower young men ages 15–25, the initiative offers head-to-toe transformation, complete with a custom-fitted suit, grooming services and one-on-one mentorship.

Participants will rotate through interactive stations focused on:

- Wardrobe styling and tie-tying
- Grooming and professional etiquette
- Financial literacy and career readiness
- Mental health and wellness
- CPR/first aid and basic vehicle maintenance

More than 50 mentors will be on-site, creating a supportive environment that helps young men feel prepared for what’s ahead. For the second consecutive year, Suit Up extends beyond the annual event

through year-round programming, including virtual and in-person sessions focused on career exploration, financial literacy, physical fitness, AI, vehicle maintenance, mental and physical health, and more. Participants will also engage in field trips and hear directly from professionals such as doctors, firefighters, entrepreneurs, creatives and financial experts.

Since its inception in 2014 as a counterpart to the “prom dress project,” Suit Up has served more than 7,000 young men – from the college student gearing up for graduation to the high schooler attending prom or his first job interview. It also serves as a gateway into the Mark Cuban Heroes Basketball Center’s year-round youth programs.

An additional Suit Up Experience is planned for this summer.

Suit Up is made possible with support from the **Heroes Foundation, AI Mark Cuban Foundation, Lombardo Custom Apparel, NFM and Living For Zachary.**

WHEN:

Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

WHERE:

Mark Cuban Heroes Basketball Center, 1800 Bonnie View Rd., Dallas.

PARKING:

Parking is available in the lot surrounding the center.

WHY:

Suit Up meets young men at pivotal moments, whether preparing for prom, graduation, a job interview or a first professional opportunity.

It removes barriers for those who may not have access to formalwear, transportation or guidance, while creating a space where they can begin to see themselves differently.

For many, it’s not just about a suit – it’s about feeling ready, capable and taken seriously.

Continued Loan Page 4

even harder for borrowers to get help with their student loans or if they are experiencing issues with their student loan servicer.”

For Derrick Johnson, President and CEO of the NAACP, the nation’s oldest civil rights organization, the Trump administration’s policies are about financial rights.

“By garnishing wages for defaulted student loan borrowers, the Trump Administration will only deepen financial hardship for working families and disproportionately harm Black borrowers,” said Johnson. “Millions are already struggling with rising costs and economic uncertainty, and stripping wages will only push families further into financial crisis.”

Randi Weingarten, President of the American Federation of Teachers, agreed with Johnson: “This is not about borrowers’ responsibility; it’s outright hostility to the young people trying to get ahead. The Trump Administration is choosing to squeeze teachers, nurses, and others while prices are increasing and families are struggling to stay afloat, ripping away wages and tax refunds when people need them most.”

A fact sheet developed by the Center for Responsible Lending tracks key 2025 policy decisions that summarize the Education Department’s actions taken against student loan borrowers. These include:

- In March 2025, the Department cut nearly half its workforce, with the Federal Student Aid office and Office for Civil Rights among the hardest hit. With Federal Student Aid’s servicing and community outreach infrastructures dismantled,

systemic servicing errors are less likely to be caught or corrected, leaving borrowers with fewer avenues for help just as major loan policy changes are being rolled out.

- In May 2025, the Department reinstated the Treasury Offset Program, allowing the government to seize tax refunds from borrowers in default.

- On August 1, 2025, the Department of Education restarted interest accrual for borrowers with Department of Education loans in the SAVE forbearance. Since 2023, SAVE’s unpaid interest shielded borrowers from balance growth. With that protection gone, borrowers’ balances will now grow during this forbearance and may keep rising if monthly payments do not fully cover accrued interest. This shift makes repayment harder and adds long-term uncertainty for more than 7 million borrowers.

- Beginning July 1, 2026, parents who take out new Parent PLUS loans will no longer be eligible for any income-driven repayment plan. That means no access to income-contingent repayment (ICR) or repayment assistance plan (RAP) leaving the standard repayment plan as their only choice. Borrowers with existing Parent PLUS loans can preserve access to ICR if they consolidate their loans before the July 1, 2026, deadline.

“As safeguards are rolled back and oversight weakens, borrowers face growing balances and greater financial strain, making it urgent to press for stronger policies that preserve the promise of higher education as a pathway to opportunity,” concluded CRL.

Statepoint Crossword Puzzle Solution: March 19 - PLANTS

G	E	S	S	O		C	F	C		S	C	A	G		
A	L	T	H	O		L	A	O		P	I	E	C	E	
U	S	U	A	L		A	R	C		I	N	D	I	E	
R	E	D	W	O	O		O	R	C	H	I	D			
		M	G	M		P	A	I	N						
T	I	S		Y	A	R	E		D	I	G	E	S	T	
U	N	T	O		H	O	R	N		C	O	N	C	H	
L	A	I	R		A	S	T	E	R		O	D	O	R	
I	N	L	A	W		E	U	R	O		P	U	R	E	
P	E	L	L	E	T		R	O	V	E		E	N	E	
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L	E	V	E	E		S	T	Y		S	O	R	E	R	
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B	A	R	D			Y	A	H		R	E	S	T	S	

Continued Tunnel Page 1

submissions.

A spokesperson for Hoque Global, the group building the University Hills development, did not respond to an immediate request for comment about the proposal’s win.

A social media post from The Boring Company outlined next steps for the project, including communication with elected officials and initial boring. The Dallas project and the two other winners in New Orleans and Baltimore will only be built if they are found to be “feasible.” The post also said the company would try to help construct an additional tunnel project in San Antonio because it and a few other proposals were compelling. A project proposal out of Waco was also submitted but not mentioned by the company.

The Boring Company is one of several owned by billionaire Elon Musk, which have taken repeated interest in Texas as an area of operations and growth. Most of its tunnels open for public transportation use are located in Las Vegas, where the city has approved construction of roughly 68 miles of tunnels. Passengers are transported in Tesla cars through the tunnels, and the city currently has eight stations and more than 5 miles of tunnels built.

The prospect of a privately-funded transportation alternative in the region comes as North Texas’ largest public transportation agency, Dallas Area Rapid Transit, faces a potential exodus of support that may significantly affect its finances. Farmers Branch, Irving, Highland Park and

Plano currently plan to vote in May whether to withdraw from the agency, citing low ridership and funding costs. The University Hills tunnel proposal would connect with a DART station by UNT Dallas, according to a City of Dallas press release.

Other proposed transportation projects providing alternatives to cars have also faced setbacks in Texas. Long-embattled plans for high speed rail connecting Dallas and Houston also faced another roadblock last April when the Trump Administration cut a \$63.9 million planning grant for the project. Almost all of The Boring Company’s current projects, however, have been for small distance, inter-city transportation.

This article first appeared on The Texas Tribune.



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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.

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EDITORIAL PAGE

What is the cost of war for people in the United States of America?

By James B. Ewers Jr., Ed.



Dr. James Ewers

There have been several positions taken regarding war. Obviously, it depends upon the perspective that you have. If you are a senior citizen, you have observed a lot of them. Some have served this country with honor, and we thank them for their service.

When I was coming of age and maturity, I didn't really understand war and the effect that it had on the country. However, I did hear men and women talking about it, so I did know that it was an important topic.

We have had family and friends who have served in the war efforts over the years. We know families whose members have paid the ultimate price for battles that have made us safer. We know that freedom is not free.

America is now at war.

The opponent is the country of Iran. Israel is a co-partner with us against Iran. This engagement is almost a month old, and the number of casualties is staggering.

Reports say there have been over 3,230 deaths in total. Lives have been lost and families are in mourning. Currently, there is no end date to this conflict.

While the lives lost is the most important factor, there is also some collateral damage that has occurred.

Prior to this war, the prices for goods and services were high. Now they are higher. Going to stores with these higher prices brings on a new shopping experience. We must be more cautious about what to buy and how much to spend.

The war is also affecting the price of gasoline. The national cost for a gallon of gas has reached \$3.94. If you live in California, you are paying over \$5.00 a gallon. Plainly stated, there are pitfalls and problems associated with being in a war. We must accept them as a condition for our freedom.

However, the American

people are also troubled by this war. First off, Congress didn't formally declare war, yet that is another matter. According to a recent Reuters poll conducted this month, only 27% of Americans are in support of this war.

The war with Iran is a political challenge for those in elective office. Now, 77% of Republicans support the war effort while only 6% of Democrats support it. Politicians on both sides are wondering about the fallouts of it.

The U.S. President has ordered thousands of troops deployed to the Middle East. We will have to see where they are going and how long they will stay. Boots on the ground, once talked about is now being actualized.

The Strait of Hormuz is the central area where oil ships come and go. At this time, the area is not functioning as it should because of this war. The U.S. President has made threats to deactivate this body of water. We will see if his threats turn into action.

What is happening now

in the Middle East will affect this country for months after the war is over. For example, gas prices will not immediately drop to pre-war prices. The stock market will also suffer some losses as well.

This is what some Americans don't realize. The aftermath of this encounter will be with us for the foreseeable future. There will not be much that we can do about it except just take a wait-and-see posture.

What we purchase will remain at a high cost. Interest rates will continue to be problematic. The economy will be stagnant for working Americans. Unemployment will remain between 4% and 5%, according to some reports. Healthcare costs will be comprised. Seniors will feel the pinch in their prescription medications. The Democrats and the Republicans will continue to tussle with one another, and the American people will be the victims.

It is abundantly clear that all these circumstances, both at home and abroad, will be deleterious to Americans.

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“NO KINGS DAY!”

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026

No Kings Day and Black Participation

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



Dr. John E. Warren

This Saturday, March 28, 2026, millions of Americans will come out to participate in the third major No Kings Day Protest against the Presidency of Donald Trump. The last event drew more than 7 million people across this great

land, exceeding more than 3,000 separate demonstrations.

As important as these events are in making the statement that we are still a nation of democracy and are not willing to abandon our government of checks and balances for an authoritarian king, none of this matters if our protest is not matched with our voter participation in the upcoming primary and general elections across the country. There are two key points to be made here: One is that Blacks, who have not participated in great numbers, come out and be counted among those demonstrating. We are the victims of

the “No Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion” (DEI) campaign the President has launched against our programs and culture. We must remember that the protest we now see started with “us” during the civil rights movement; we are responsible for the Voting Rights Act; we have been the leading force for all protest movements since 1965, as others have sought to follow our example with their causes seeking government changes and inclusion.

We must make our presence known and reclaim our political significance. We can not wait until November. For those of us in California and a number of

other states, Primary Elections are coming within the next 90 days. If we are not registered, we can not vote. How we register is not the issue, whether Democrat, Republican, or Independent. Only our voting participation can stop Donald Trump and his efforts to make America like Russia and Hungary with authoritarian leadership instead of a democracy.

We must let our neighbors and opponents know that we still count. We still vote, and we can still make a difference in any election. No more excuses, just participation, starting this weekend with the “No Kings Day”.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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KING DREAM

MARCH 28
11 A.M. - 2 P.M.

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 -TeX
 -Ollimpaxqui Ballet Company

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Spring Festival is supported in part by the City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture.

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Dallas Public LIBRARY **Arts & Culture**

Continued Roots Page 1

was based on the Cold War logic that Mosaddegh was aligning with an evil communist sphere of influence anchored by the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR/Russia). Those who are serious in their study of history are clear that the Cold War was a propaganda campaign to position communism and socialism as a “boogeyman” in order to justify Americans’ desire for geopolitical domination of the world. Additionally, Mosaddegh’s policy of nationalizing the oil wealth of the country was disruptive to Western oil companies that wanted unfettered access to Iran’s oil reserves.

After the overthrow of Mosaddegh, the United States installed the Shah of Iran to lead the country, which was a brutal, autocratic regime that lasted for a couple of decades. The 1979 revolution in Iran that resulted in the overthrow of the Shah and the taking of American hostages is often narrated as an act of anti-American aggression instead of a response to the U.S. imposition of a brutal regime on the people of Iran. In other words, the 1979 Iranian revolution and the anti-American sentiments expressed over the years by Iranian leadership is a response to U.S. imperialist aggression toward the sovereignty of the Iranian people and the larger Muslim world.

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio gave a speech a few weeks ago in Munich, Germany, which provides a clear underlying logic for U.S. military strikes against Iran. He said:

“...For five centuries, before the end of the Second World War, the West had been expanding – its

missionaries, its pilgrims, its soldiers, its explorers pouring out from its shores to cross oceans, settle new continents, build vast empires extending out across the globe,” Rubio said. “But in 1945, for the first time since the age of Columbus, it was contracting. Europe was in ruins. Half of it lived behind an Iron Curtain and the rest looked like it would soon follow. The great Western empires had entered into terminal decline, accelerated by godless communist revolutions and by anti-colonial uprisings that would transform the world and drape the red hammer and sickle across vast swaths of the map in the years to come ...”

The luxuries and quality of life that Western civilization enjoys are based on the colonial relationship it has with the so-called Third World, which is largely non-White and poor. People who are self-respecting will rise up to challenge the social order that causes its own degradation.

Additionally, in a November 1979 interview with journalist Mike Wallace, the Ayatollah Khomeini (leader of Iran) committed to (and delivered on this commitment) releasing Black and women hostages. His rationale for releasing Black hostages was that we are an oppressed group in America and not responsible for the aggression toward their people. This is a recognition of the global system of domination that bolsters White political and economic domination of the world.

It is also important to acknowledge the role that Israel has played in encouraging U.S. military

aggression toward Iran.

Israel considers itself to be a cultural descendant of Western civilization. The state of Israel serves as a proxy for maintaining U.S. geopolitical domination of the muslim world and the Palestinian people have been casualties of U.S. maintenance and support of the settler colonial project of the state of Israel. Israel has been urging the U.S. to take a more aggressive stance toward Iran to advance its own military domination of the region.

The current administration’s capitulation to Israeli political leadership’s urging to enact regime change in Iran is a further acknowledgement of how important Israel is as an instrument of American imperialism. This current military strikes against Iran by the Trump administration is another example of the White nationalist political agenda of the Republican Party.

What must be acknowledged is that the military-industrial complex that funds both political parties must be directly confronted and ultimately dismantled. America currently invests \$1 trillion a year of our tax dollars to maintain America’s role as the policeman of the world.

Democrats in the upcoming midterms need to be forced to engage in a radical change in American foreign policy that does not legitimize military aggression toward people defending their sovereignty. Democrats need to be forced to pursue a policy that divests from the \$1 trillion military budget and puts those resources in the hands of the masses of people in this society who have been victimized by the global system of White supremacy.

One Dallas ISD student is building her legacy thanks to a choice



Photo Credit: Dallas ISD

After moving to another city, Sunny E. returned to Dallas ISD to build her legacy. She transferred to Moisés E. Molina High School in her sophomore year to make her family proud and to inspire others. “It was hard moving from one whole city to another,” Sunny said. “But I made a promise to myself and my mom that if I move back to Dallas, I’m going to leave some sort of legacy and bring new opportunities for the students and myself.”

She now serves as senior

class president, captain of the speech and debate team, and a member of the National Honor Society.

As a first-generation college student, Sunny plans to study political science at the University of Texas at Austin before pursuing law at Southern Methodist University, choosing this career after being inspired by speech and debate.

Sunny’s success is one of the reasons why families are taking a closer look at Dallas ISD and exploring more choices close to home at neighborhood Legacy

schools.

At the Dallas ISD More Choice Expo Saturday, April 11, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Automobile Building at Fair Park, families can explore nearly 200 schools with college and career opportunities and dual-language offerings. Meet school leaders and enroll early for the 2026–2027 school year.

For more information about the expo and Dallas ISD, visit DallasISD.org/more-choice.

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New Parkland Health facility to make its home in Wilmer

WILMER, TX – Parkland Health announced last week it will be bringing a new public health clinic to the Inland Port and it will be located in the City of Wilmer.

The clinic’s size is expected to be roughly 10,000 square feet and will be located off Interstate 45 where open land and warehouses currently dot the landscape.

Offering not only primary health care, the new clinic will also bring pediatric care, a pharmacy, a location for necessary lab work and dental care to the area.

“This is an opportunity that will offer health services to not only my residents in Wilmer, but it will benefit the entire Inland Port,” said Wilmer Mayor Sheila Petta. “There are few health care options in the southern part of Dallas County making this Parkland Health Care

Clinic a much needed addition to the area overall.”

The Parkland Health Care clinic will be part of a larger mixed-use development that longtime Prime 45 Development’s Mike Rader has been creating in the southeastern part of Dallas.

Rader said he could not be happier that it was finally coming to fruition.

Edmundo Castañeda, Parkland’s chief operating officer who worked with Radar and the City of Wilmer said, “When you look at the community, it is a health care desert.”

And, with the Inland Port area along I45 being one of the fastest-growing locations in Dallas County with its strong industrial base home to more than 45,000 jobs, the clinic will certainly be an important answer to an ever-growing need.

Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price also pointed out that due to the extreme business growth in the Inland Port, it will also lead to additional residential growth being able to benefit from the addition of the Parkland Health Care Clinic.

“Wilmer might be a small city,” Petta said “but Parkland’s Health Care Clinic will be convenient and beneficial to everyone in the area.”

Construction is expected to cost roughly \$11 million with a targeted completion date by May 2028.

The City of Wilmer invites you to “like” the City on Facebook.com/cityof-wilmer and follow us at twitter.com/welcometowilme1 and Instagram.com/cityof-wilmer.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 11 | 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.
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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 offerings
- Enhanced TAG model
- Award-winning STEM/STEAM programs

Explore your options, meet our teachers, and register for the 2026-2027 school year.



Learn more: DallasISD.org/MoreChoice