

“If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward.” ~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



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# The Dallas Post Tribune

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VOLUME 78 NUMBER 31

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

April 30 - May 6, 2026

## U.S. Supreme Court weakens key pillar of Voting Rights Act, opening the door for Texas to redraw political maps

While the court did not strike down the provision entirely, Justice Elena Kagan said Wednesday's ruling made Section 2 of the VRA "all but a dead letter."

By Eleanor Klibanoff/Texas Tribune



The United States Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C., on May 18, 2024.

Photo Credit: **Eli Hartman**/The Texas Tribune

The U.S. Supreme Court weakened but did not eliminate a key provision of the Voting Rights Act on Wednesday, making it harder to bring voter discrimination claims against electoral maps while stopping short of a widely anticipated full strikedown.

The ruling will likely help Texas in its yearslong litigation over the electoral maps lawmakers drew in 2021, and opens the door to the state creating even more aggressively partisan

maps going forward.

The 6-3 decision narrows how courts may interpret Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, the seminal civil rights legislation signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1965. This provision, seen as the cornerstone of the law, outlaws practices denying or abridging the right of any citizen to vote based on their race, including political maps that dilute the electoral power of voters of color.

The upshot of Wednesday's

ruling in Louisiana v. Callais is that plaintiffs will have to provide stronger proof to show that a state or county intentionally discriminated against voters of color. Justice Samuel Alito, writing for the majority, said the four-prong test used to assess whether a state has diluted the vote for people of color needed to be updated for modern times.

"Vast social change has occurred throughout the country and particularly in the South, which have made great strides in

ending entrenched racial discrimination," Alito wrote. He also noted that the court's 2019 decision to allow partisan gerrymandering "creates an incentive" for litigants to repackage partisan claims under the guise of race-based challenges.

While Wednesday's ruling did not eliminate Section 2 entirely, Justice Elena Kagan in her dissent said it "renders Section 2 all but a dead letter" that will

Continue **Voting Rights** Page 6



PhotoCredit:  
U.S. Park Service/NNPA.

## 'Slavery Was a Good Thing,' Black Leader Says MAGA Told Him

Aisha Winfrey | Los Angeles WAVE Wire Report

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Rep. James Clyburn, one of America's most influential Black political leaders, says that some MAGA Republicans told him directly that slavery was a good thing, according to a clip from a political news show that's gaining renewed attention online.

The South Carolina congressman also warned that some Make America Great Again loyalists would bring back Jim Crow-style systems in the U.S., if given the chance, according to the news clip.

Clyburn made the comments during an interview on PBS's "Firing Line with Margaret Hoover." According to Atlanta Black Star, a clip from the show that's garnered recent attention online shows Clyburn detailing interactions he's had with MAGA loyalists, some of whom want the country to return to a segregated state.

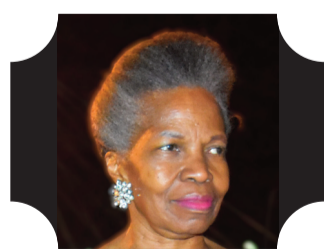
When asked whether he thought MAGA Republicans were explicitly racist, Clyburn said he doesn't liberally apply the term to the entire group.

Continue **Slavery** Page 5

~ 90 Years Old ~

## Beauty of The Month

By Dr. J. Ester Davis



Dr. J. Ester Davis

Esterdavis2000@gmail.com.

"Miss Betty" celebrated her ninety (90th) birthday last month, surrounded by family and friends.

Her children call her 'Spicy,' says she is full of life and energy.

And The Dallas Post

Tribune is celebrating these national treasures among us. This is our first story. This is a very timely message because the promise of a longer life is before us with the advances of modern medicine and the recent breakthroughs. Researchers who study aging are no longer just focused on longevity; instead, the end game is long life without many of the diseases that are associated with aging.

Older Americans are embracing independence and "redefining aging" in the 21st century.

"Miss Betty" was born Betty Joe Jennings from Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. She was the 5th of six (6) girls in her family. Growing up on a farm, these young ladies knew everything about farm life. To this day, "Miss Betty" enjoys talking about the days growing up on the farm, raising chickens, plowing the fields, planting crops, all with a mighty proud twinkle in her eyes. I think she mentioned that four of her sisters are still living, and they all delight in being together as often as possible.

"Miss Betty" was married to Robert Flagg, Sr., for about 50 years before her husband's death. She called her husband "RB". They traveled the world while he was in the United States Army. "Miss Betty" loves sharing with young ladies about love and marriage, being a good, loving wife, and being a good person. She is the mother of a daughter and a son, and she speaks fondly of her grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, with one on the way, hopefully by Mother's Day.



Mrs. Betty Joe Jennings Flagg



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# EDITORIAL PAGE

## One Political Party's Best Days Are Now Turning Into Their Worst Days

By James B. Ewers Jr., Ed.



Dr. James Ewers

What started out with loud voices has morphed into quiet whispers. Crowds chanting it's a new day are now almost silent. Bluster has now turned into barely noticeable.

Sometimes talking too much and too loudly will backfire on you. Those supporters who once took front seats are now sheepishly taking back seats. Some don't even bother to show up. Maybe they have lost hope.

At one point, some elected officials were holding meetings with their constituents when they were home from Washington DC. Their central theme was that everything is fine, and the country is doing great. They signed autographs and took pictures with everyone.

It was what I would call one big political lovefest. If you were at this party, it didn't matter if you were at the

local, state, or federal level. Everything was coming up roses and aces.

I hear this expression among young people: "what had happened was." It is said in both a funny and a sarcastic way.

Well, what had happened was that the Republican Party lost its way. It is a classic case of going from fame to shame. The Grand Old Party has splintered leadership and is divided among itself.

Some are asking how that can be? It can be because philosophically, they don't know who they are. Do they want less government interference or don't they? Do they want the war in Iran or don't they?

These are just two of the many questions facing the Republican Party. For example, every poll they see is against them. More than half of the American people don't want us at war.

Let's get right down to the real nitty-gritty, lyrics made popular years ago by Shirley Ellis. Last year at this time, the price of gas was about \$2.78 per gallon. We could go to the gas station without feeling over-

whelmed by the price. Now the price is over \$4.00 per gallon and over \$5.00 per gallon in some parts of California.

Food prices at grocery stores are out of line with our pocketbooks. We are having to pinch pennies more each day. Shelia Fields, a retired nurse in Galveston, Texas, said, Like yesterday, we went to three different stores here in town. And we bought only what was on a really good sale. So we got no meat at all. Because it's just too high."

Republicans are going down a dead-end road. They are being met with pause and pessimism. Many Republicans are lukewarm about policies from 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Citizens are seeing top federal officials being fired. They are political pawns on a chessboard, and they are being swept away. Kind of like, here today and gone tomorrow.

Most recently, Attorney General Pam Bondi was fired just a few weeks ago. It didn't matter how many times she shouted out his

name. Don't forget about Susan Monarez, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who was terminated in August of last year.

Financial donors to the administration's campaign aren't immune from facing termination. Billionaire John Phelan was fired as Secretary of the Navy. The reason given was for a new class of battleships. I guess they couldn't agree.

Strangely, being fired in this administration is like wearing a badge of honor. You wear it proudly. Isn't that funny? You will never hear from these people again.

Republicans who want to see America great again are gearing up for the mid-term elections in November. They are a nervous group right now because they can see the handwriting on the wall. It's in big bold letters and it simply says, "I'm cooked. Just stick a fork in me because I'm done."

Some GOP folks spout out "Make America Great Again. It begs the question, "Make America great for whom?"

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For the latest updates on the DallasGo upgrade, scan the QR code or visit [dallas.gov/DallasGo](http://dallas.gov/DallasGo).



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### Dallas Lawyers Answer Legal Questions via E-Clinic

Volunteer attorneys will answer legal questions at no cost from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays in May, via a LegalLine E-Clinic, sponsored by the Dallas Bar Association.

To participate, complete the online form found here <https://tinyurl.com/DBALegalLine> for the upcoming LegalLine. This month's LegalLine E-Clinics are May 6, May 13, May 20, and May 27, between 4:00-8:00 p.m. A volunteer attorney will call the participant to provide up to 15 minutes of free legal advice for your legal issue. Space is limited. Registration will close at Noon on the Tuesday prior.

Please note that the volunteer attorney will remain anonymous. Participants should watch for a call from an unknown number that should be labeled "No Caller ID" or something similar. No attorney-client relationship will be established. We cannot guarantee that the attorney will speak any language other than English. Individuals may also receive referrals to local, legal, or social service agencies.

For legal assistance any time, contact the DBA's Lawyer Referral Service at [www.dallasbar.org/index.cfm?pg=LawyerReferralService](http://www.dallasbar.org/index.cfm?pg=LawyerReferralService).

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# RELIGIOUS/NEWS

## Remain Steadfast in the Truth

II John



Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

The marvelous epistle of II John emphasizes that “truth” and “love” are the prominent concerns of this letter. In relation to believers, this emphasis should provoke us to lovingly walk in cadence to the truth of God’s word. The outline of this marvelous epistle is as follows: I. Remain in God’s Commandments (vs. 1-6); II. Reject the Teaching of False Teachers (vs. 7-13).

### I. Remain in God’s Commandments (vs. 1-6)

The second epistle of John in verse 1 is a personal letter coming from “the elder unto the elect lady and her children.” The Apostle John’s reference to an elder would designate a senior citizen or to an office in the church, namely a minister or a teacher. The reference to the elect lady and her children may be a figurative way of designating a local church and the spiritual children of the church.

In verses 1-2, the Apostle John is asserting his love for the elect lady (church) and for her children for walking in the truth. In

addition, the Christian community who knew the truth were called God’s elect, i.e., Christians. The love that the Apostle John and others expressed for the Christian community was based on God’s truth. The love that the Apostle John is declaring is motivated by a knowledge of the truth which has been revealed in Christ. Truth is the basis of love.

In verse 3, the Apostle John asserted that those receiving this letter will be experiencing Grace, Mercy and Peace in truth and love. Grace is referred to as God’s unmerited favor; Mercy is God’s compassion for the wretched; Peace is the resultant entirety of a believer’s eternal standing. The elect lady’s children are being commended in verse 4 for walking in obedience to the commandments from the Father. As children of God, we are to order our lives in cadence to God’s word!

In addressing the elect lady, John enjoined her with nothing other than the command that we love one another. This beginning in verse 5 refers to the beginning of the ministry of Christ in reference

to His incarnation.

As believers, we should love one another because love is the mark of our identity, for St. John 13:35 says: “By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.” As believers, we truly express love as we obey God’s commandments! (v. 6). Believers who express love for one another are walking in the truth, that is living in response to what God has revealed in His word.

### II. Reject the Teaching of False Teachers (vs. 7-13)

In verse 7, the Apostle John lays out a stern admonition against false proclaimers who rejected Christ’s incarnation. He identified these false proclaimers as deceivers and as antichrists. Because of the prevalence of these false proclaimers, or deceivers, believers should be watchful in knowing of the disastrous spiritual effects which any compromise with these deceivers may lead to (v. 8). We should not suffer receiving a full reward by compro-

ming with deceivers or a cult that denies the incarnation or Deity of Jesus Christ.

In verse 9, the Apostle John issues a firm admonishment for believers not to “overstep” the boundaries of sound doctrine; they were admonished to “remain” or “continue” in the teaching about Christ. Those who continue in the sound teaching about Christ have both the Father and the Son. Having both the Father and the Son is saying that God is with those who persist in the true doctrine about Christ.

In verses 10-11, as believers we are to exercise discrimination in our dealing with those who are purveyors of false doctrine. We are not to fellowship with those who promote the spirit of the antichrist! In verses 12-13, the Apostle John expressed that he had many things to write to these recipients to fulfill their full joy; nevertheless, he closes this epistle with a greeting to the elect sister, a reference either to another local church or another Christian woman.

*May God Bless!*

### Continued Appeals Court, Apr. 23 Edition Page 6

The families believe the law seeks to pressure students into observing and adopting Texas officials’ preferred religious principles.

They say the law will inflict harm by alienating children of those who do not follow the state’s preferred religion and that parents’ authority to direct their children’s religious education is undermined.

“Posting the Ten Commandments in public schools is un-American and un-Baptist,” Griff Martin, a

pastor, parent and plaintiff in the lawsuit, said in a statement last year. “S.B. 10 undermines the separation of church and state as a bedrock principle of my family’s Baptist heritage. Baptists have long held that the government has no role in religion — so that our faith may remain free and authentic.”

The families’ lawyers argue that because children are legally required to attend school, they have virtually no way of avoiding Texas’ required version of the Ten Commandments.

The U.S. Supreme Court found public school displays of the Ten Command-

ments unconstitutional in 1980. Civil rights attorneys argue that only the Supreme Court can overturn its previous rulings.

What the state argues: Paxton and attorneys from his office say the Ten Commandments played a significant role in the nation’s history and heritage. State leaders have said previous rulings from federal courts and the U.S. Supreme Court did not examine that historical significance.

State lawyers also note that the Supreme Court recently eliminated a test, established by a previous ruling, that determined when a government had un-

constitutionally endorsed or established a religion.

“There is no legal reason to stop Texas from honoring a core ethical foundation of our law, especially not a bogus claim about the ‘separation of church and state,’ which is a phrase found nowhere in the Constitution,” Paxton said last year.

Lawyers with the attorney general’s office see the Ten Commandments requirement as requiring only a “passive display on the wall” that does not rise to the level of coercion because students are free to ignore the posters. The law might cross the line if it sought to incorporate the

Ten Commandments into lessons or assignments, they argued.

The posters must go up in Texas classrooms only if donated by someone. The law does not specify what would happen if school leaders choose not to comply. The state views that as evidence no threat or harm is posed to families. However, Paxton threatened legal action if schools do not comply and sued three districts for alleged noncompliance.

What happened during oral arguments: Some judges questioned state officials from Texas and Louisiana about their decisions

to use a Protestant version of the Ten Commandments and how that would affect families who do not follow those religious principles.

Lawyers for the states argued that the laws do not ask children to subscribe to a particular belief and urged the judges to consider legislators’ intent to teach students about important documents in U.S. history.

The judges questioned how children would know the posters have anything to do with American history. They also asked for historical evidence showing the

Continue Appeals Court Page 5

### - THEME: TV MOMS (Solution will appear in May 7 edition)

- ACROSS**
- Ionic and Corinthian predecessor
  - Good times
  - AI fodder
  - Offer two cents
  - Doctor Dolittle, e.g.
  - Interior designer's concern
  - Not fiction, pl.
  - Big head
  - Fear-inspiring
  - \*"Good Times" mom
  - \*"The Sopranos" mom
  - Possessive pronoun
  - Gumbo pod
  - Protrude
  - Catcher's catcher
  - \*Marvelous Midge Maisel's first name
  - "Metamorphoses" poet
  - Chows down
  - Millionaire maker
  - Time for eggnog
  - Sure sign of fire
  - "Frasier" actress Gilpin
  - TSA PreCheck alternative
  - Mosque V.I.P.
  - Arabian bigwig
  - Received salary
  - At the apex
  - Masseuse's office
  - "Where the Red \_\_\_ Grows"
  - Likewise
  - \*"Arrested Development" mom
  - \*"Fresh off the Boat" mom
  - Circumvent
  - French vineyard
  - Open disrespect
  - Dewey Decimal System, e.g.
  - 252-gallon cask
  - Cause anxiety (2 words)
  - Back talk
  - Extra point
  - Vanish without this

- DOWN**
- Take of a hat, e.g.
  - Traditional October birthstone
  - Puerto follower
  - Opening, colloquially
  - #55 on periodic table
  - Part of an eye
  - \*"Married with Children" mom
  - Investor's asset
  - Hold as a conviction
  - Unit of land often featuring a home
  - Load sixteen tons, e.g.
  - Geometry calculation
  - Divert from course
  - Between washes and styles
  - Casino's pull
  - Foot rest
  - \*"Stranger Things" mom
  - Throat dangler
  - Mosaic artist
  - \*"Friday Night Lights" mom
  - Tug-of-War gear
  - List entries
  - Like anchor aweigh
  - \*"Schitt's Creek" mom
  - Martin of Rat Pack
  - 3-handed card game
  - Bring character to life
  - Response to stimulus
  - Ctrl+Alt+\_\_\_
  - Lemony cream dessert
  - Right-hand page
  - Academy Award
  - Orchid garlands
  - Forearm bone
  - Cow chow, pl.
  - "Beware the \_\_\_ of March"
  - \*"The Handmaid's Tale" mom
  - Letter before kappa
  - Nile dweller, for short
  - Writer Rice
  - \_\_\_-D.M.C.

### Statepoint Crossword Puzzle Theme: TV MOMS

CROSSWORD														
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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69						70				71				
72						73				74				

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6	7	3	4	8	2	5	9	1
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## HEALTH

# Parkland transplant coordinator helps patients reclaim their lives

Nationally recognized program driven by compassion, education, second chances

When Parkland Health was recently named one of the top-performing kidney transplant centers in the nation, it reflected more than exceptional clinical outcomes, it highlighted the people who guide patients through one of the most difficult and life-changing journeys of their lives.

For Brenda Molina, BSN, RN, that journey comes full circle.

As a transplant coordinator at Parkland, Molina helps patients navigate every step of the transplant process, from the moment they are referred to the program through evaluation, education and ultimately, the possibility of a life-saving transplant. But her connection to these patients often begins long before they arrive at Parkland.

"I've seen patients at every stage," Molina said. "From when they're first diagnosed, to dialysis, to getting on the transplant list and then finally getting transplanted. It's a complete circle."

Molina's career began working with patients with chronic kidney disease, where she saw firsthand the physical and emotional toll of the diagnosis. Many patients, she said, are overwhelmed when they learn their kidneys are failing and they must choose between

dialysis or transplant.

"It's very emotional," she said. "You're telling someone there's no going back. Now they have to decide what comes next."

Today, Molina plays a critical role in helping patients understand those next steps. As one of the first points of contact in Parkland's transplant program, she works closely with patients and their families to explain their condition, outline treatment options and prepare them for what lies ahead.

"A lot of patients don't know much about kidney disease much less transplant," she said. "Our role is to educate them, to help them understand what this means physically, emotionally, and for their families."

That education is essential not only to help patients make informed decisions, but also to ensure they are ready for the responsibility that comes with transplant. "Compliance is key," Molina explained. "We want patients to understand that what they do now, taking medications, going to dialysis, directly affects their ability to receive and keep a transplant."

Not every patient is a candidate, and those conversations can be among the most difficult.

"It is hard to tell someone they're not a candidate," she said. "But we take the time to explain

why, and if there's something they can improve, we help guide them back."

For those who are eligible, the journey can still take years. Patients often spend three to five years on the transplant waitlist, navigating appointments, testing and ongoing care. Throughout that time, Molina and her colleagues provide constant support by calling patients, coordinating care and ensuring they stay on track.

"It's a lot of handholding," she said. "We want to make sure they complete everything as quickly as possible so they can get their chance."

And when that moment finally comes, the impact is profound.

"It's an incredible feeling," Molina said. "You see everything the patient has gone through, and then they're able to do the things they always wanted to do."

She recalls one patient whose goal was simple: to teach his young daughter how to ride a bike. Before his transplant, he didn't have the strength or energy. It felt like an impossible dream. After his transplant, it became reality.

"He was able to do that," Molina said. "He had the energy to play with her and be there for those moments. Those are the things that matter."

For Molina, experiences like that reinforce the pur-

pose behind her work.

"When you see it come full circle, you realize you're changing lives," she said.

That same commitment to patients is what drives Parkland's transplant program, which recently earned the highest possible rating in key quality measures from the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients, ranking number one in Texas and among the best in the nation.

"This recognition reflects the extraordinary work happening across our entire transplant team," said Joe Lockridge, MD, Medical Director of Transplant Services at Parkland Health. "Coordinators like Brenda are essential to our success. Our goal is to meet patients where they are and guide them through every step of a complex and often overwhelming process, ensuring they are informed, supported and prepared. Their dedication is a powerful example of how we combine clinical excellence with compassionate care to truly change lives."

The recognition reflects not only clinical excellence, but a team dedicated to guiding patients from their most vulnerable moments to a renewed sense of possibility.

"It's more than a transplant," Molina said. "It's giving someone their life back."

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## Quinn Minute

# Special abilities

By Rix Quinn

I've always been jealous of people who discover their talents early.

There was this kid in my middle school class named Karen. She drew nature scenes better than anybody.

Any time the school needed pictures of flowers, vegetables, baked goods – or even background scenery for school plays – they called on Karen.

Sadly, she left school because the family moved back to their home state.

We often asked ourselves: Why did she have to leave? Did she branch out

into other types of art?

Then, there was the big question: If she specialized in painting bread only, could she make a lot of dough?

A guy named Charlie could swallow air, then burp for up to 45 seconds (we timed him). He saved his most spectacular outbursts for the cavernous auditorium. The sound echoed throughout the seats, and students broke into applause.

Charlie even bet several people that he could recite the alphabet in one burp. He

mostly won, but occasionally ran out of gas at "w."

Dan – who moved out of town in fifth grade – brought his pet parakeet Gertrude to show-and-tell. He asked the bird questions, and Gertrude replied with short answers.

Dan even entered her in the talent show, which Gertrude won by singing "Surfer Bird." But during that performance, a teacher noticed that the bird's mouth never moved.

It turned out the real Gertrude had flown away,

and this bird was a silent imposter. Dan spent so much time training the parakeet that he became a first-rate ventriloquist.

The judges disqualified the bird imposter for singing. But they awarded Dan a special recognition for Fowl Sounds.

*Why have fairy tales been so popular for so many years? Why do we remember them? Order Rix's essay on this subject:*

FAIRY TALE WRITING SECRET

# SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

## 7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Apr. 30

Friday, May 1

Saturday, May 2

Sunday, May 3

Monday, May 4

Tuesday, May 5

Wednesday, May 6



Continued Page 3

# PRESS ROOM: Southern University First HBCU to Win a National Title

By BlackPressUSA



The title was secured by Coby Robinson, a sophomore computer science major known in competition as "KIngC0by," who helped bring a national championship back to Baton Rouge and placed Southern's esports program in the national spotlight. Photo: Instagram/Black Press

NNPA NEWSWIRE - History has been made. In a display of unmatched skill, resilience, and strategic preparation, Southern University has been crowned the ECAC EA Sports College Football National Champion. This victory is not merely a triumph of the controller; it is the culmination of a deliberate, sophisticated vision. Inside the Esports Innovation Lab, the Southern University Digital Gaming Ecosystem (EDGE) has successfully cultivated an

environment where student-athletes compete at the highest level, proving that Jaguar excellence has no ceiling. The championship series was a grueling battle, pushed to a deciding fifth game against a formidable Bellarmine University side. With the national title on the line, Coby "KingCoby" Robinson delivered a masterclass performance. Utilizing the Texas Longhorns, Robinson outdueled his opponent—who played as Oregon—in a high-stakes 38-29 victory

to clinch the series 3-2. Christopher Turner, Director and Head Coach of Southern University EDGE, reflected on the monumental achievement and the collaborative effort behind it: "This is a monumental moment for Southern University and the entire HBCU landscape. We aren't just participating in esports; we are setting the standard. I would like to thank God first for this win. This victory was a team effort that required total commitment to the

plan. I want to recognize Mahcoe Edwards, an alumnus of our program who has secured \$25,000 in prizes during his collegiate career; Jaeveon Jordan, a Graduate Student at Alabama A&M University and 3x SWAC Madden Champion; and Civ, owner of Civil.gg. This was the team that designed our game plan. By diligently watching film and following the blueprint we created, we achieved success."

This national title serves as a powerful statement on the vital importance of HBCUs embracing and investing in the esports industry. It underscores that by providing the right infrastructure, mentorship, and analytical resources, HBCU programs can stand toe-to-toe with any institution in the country, further expanding the opportunities for our students in the evolving digital and STEM-based landscapes. Southern University has proven that when preparation meets opportunity, history follows. Today, the entire nation knows that Jaguar excellence is the new benchmark for collegiate esports.

## Texas can force schools to post Ten Commandments, federal appeals court rules

use of the Ten Commandments in public schools. Lawyers for the states pointed to early textbooks that referenced the Ten Commandments but acknowledged those materials were largely used in religious settings prior to the establishment of public schools in the 1800s.

Public schools used the materials through the early 20th century. However, a prominent historian who testified in the case noted that the Ten Commandments were not significant aspects of the texts and that it is unclear how much teachers relied on those specific lessons.

"A legislature in Louisiana, a legislature in Texas, is absolutely well within its right to say: We want to actually teach our students about founding documents," said Ben Aguiñaga, the attorney representing Louisiana.

Judges asked the lawyers representing the families why they consider the Ten Commandments posters problematic when students recite the Pledge of Allegiance and learn about the Declaration of Independence and Martin Luther King Jr.'s Letter from a Birmingham Jail — all of which refer to God.

King's letter and the Declaration of Independence may reference religion, the lawyers replied, but they're about more than religion.

Some judges noted during arguments that the Supreme Court's 1980 ruling heavily relied on a test that courts no longer use. The families' lawyers countered that removing the test did not overturn Supreme Court precedent preventing the Ten Commandments from going up in public classrooms.

If students do not follow the religious principles in the state's mandated version of the Ten Commandments, judges asked, can't they ignore the posters?

"They can't just look away, your honor," said attorney Jon Youngwood, representing the families. "Not for 13 years. Not in every class. Not every minute of every day."

What the court ruled: A court majority concluded that the U.S. Supreme Court's 1980 ruling in Stone v. Graham is no longer valid. That case found a Kentucky law requiring the posting of the Ten Commandments unconstitutional.

The Supreme Court recently abandoned the test established in Stone that determined whether states had illegally endorsed or promoted a religion, the 5th U.S. Circuit judges noted. That means "there is nothing left of Stone," they noted in the ruling.

They concluded that Texas' Ten Commandments law does not establish an official state religion. Among reasons, they noted that it "levies no taxes to support any clergy. It does not co-opt churches to perform civic functions."

The judges ruled that the law is not coercive because it does not require students to learn the Ten Commandments or give teachers authority to undermine students' religious beliefs.

"Yes, Plaintiffs have sincere religious disagreements with its content," the opinion reads. "But that does not transform the poster into a summons to prayer."

An opinion written by judges who opposed the decision argued in response that it is insignificant that Texas' law does not require schools to teach the Ten Commandments.

The law poses a threat to children's religious beliefs and undermines what parents may want their kids to learn about religion, they wrote in dissenting statements.

The opposing judges agreed with the argument of families who sued that the Supreme Court has not overturned its Stone v. Graham ruling. Lower courts are bound by Stone even if the test established in it is no longer in use, they added. Taking into account the historical-based approach courts must now use, the dissenting judges said Texas' law still violates the Constitution.

*This article first appeared on The Texas Tribune.*

Statepoint Crossword Puzzle  
Solution: April 23 - THE 1970s

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

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Continued Slavery Page 1  
"I'm very circumspect about using the term. There are racists," Clyburn said. "There are white supremacists. There are people who are supporters of this president

who admit to me that they are white supremacists. I've had people who support this president tell me that they thought slavery was a good thing." Clyburn said he believes the MAGA Republicans "wish to get us back

as close to slavery as they can possibly get us" without violating the Constitution and would attempt to reinstate Jim Crow-like "separate but equal" policies with the help of the Supreme Court. "Anything that's hap-

pened before can happen again," Clyburn said. "All it takes is a rogue Supreme Court." In the same discussion, Clyburn spoke about his book "The First Eight," which looks at South Carolina's first Black

members of Congress after the Civil War and how they shaped political progress. Clyburn wrote the book following the deadly U.S. Capitol insurrection on Jan. 6, 2021, which he believes was inspired by the

Antebellum era and came to pass as a result of reactionary politics. He also referenced earlier polling of Trump supporters that showed differing views on emancipation and Civil War history.

# Explore Cute Hair Ideas Every Teen Will Adore Today

NNPA NEWSWIRE - Finding cute hair for teens that actually works for your day-to-day life comes down to choosing styles that are quick, versatile, and match your vibe. From effortless braids to playful ponytails and soft waves, the right picks can take you from school mornings to weekend plans without stress.

It's 7:42 a.m., your outfit is set, but your hair refuses to cooperate. Sound familiar? The right hairstyle doesn't just complete your look, it boosts confidence, saves time, and helps you feel put-together even on busy days, which is exactly why simple, stylish hair ideas are having a major moment right now.

## What Are The Most Popular Cute Black Hair Ideas Right Now?

Teen hair trends are moving toward styles that balance creativity with low effort upkeep. Braided looks continue to lead, especially:

- Knotless braids
- Box braids
- Fulani-inspired styles
- Stitch braids

Twists are also having a strong moment. Passion twists, Senegalese twists, and mini twists offer a fuller, more textured look while still protecting natural hair. They are lightweight, easy to style, and work well for teens who want something that lasts without feeling heavy.

Natural styles are gaining even more attention when it comes to trendy

teen hairstyles. The following highlights texture instead of hiding it:

- Wash-and-go curls
- Twist-outs
- Braid-outs
- High puffs
- Afro shapes

## Short Styles

Tapered cuts stand out for their shape and versatility. With shorter sides and more length on top, this style allows for volume where it counts while keeping the overall routine simple. It can be worn defined and structured or slightly tousled for a more relaxed finish.

Finger coils are another favorite because they bring out natural curl patterns in a defined, polished way. This style works especially well for teens who want a neat look without committing to longer styles. With the right moisturizing routine, coils can last several days and still look fresh with minimal touch-ups.

Defined curls on short hair create a soft, rounded shape that highlights texture and movement. A well-shaped cut can do most of the work, which means less time spent styling each day. Adding a side part, a subtle design, or even a slight fade can shift the entire look without adding complexity.

There is also room to experiment with shorter lengths. Frohawks, mini twist styles, sponge curls, and cropped twist-outs all offer different ways to switch things up.

## Treatment Options

Great styles start with

healthy hair, and the right treatments can make everyday styling easier while improving how hair looks and feels over time. Deep conditioning treatments are one of the most reliable options. They restore moisture and help reduce breakage, especially after wearing protective styles or dealing with dry weather.

Protein treatments can also play a role when hair feels weak or overly soft. These treatments strengthen the hair shaft and support better structure, which helps styles hold their shape longer. Balance is important, so alternating between moisture and protein treatments keeps hair from becoming too stiff or too fragile.

Gentle exfoliating treatments or lightweight oils can help keep the scalp:

- Clean
- Comfortable
- Free from buildup

A healthy scalp creates a better foundation for any hairstyle, from braids to natural curls.

For teens looking for smoother, more manageable hair, options like nano-plasty hair treatment have gained attention. This type of treatment focuses on reducing frizz and improving softness without the harsh chemicals found in some traditional straightening processes.

## What Are The Most Common Hair Care Mistakes To Avoid?

One of the most common issues is rushing through detangling. Pulling through knots with force

instead of working gently from the ends upward can lead to unnecessary shedding and breakage.

Skipping trims is another mistake that builds over time. Split ends do not fix themselves, and leaving them too long can cause damage to travel up the strand. Regular trims keep easy hairstyles for teens looking fuller and make styling easier.

Very hot water can strip natural oils and leave hair feeling dry. Lukewarm water helps cleanse without removing too much moisture. A cool rinse at the end can help smooth the hair cuticle.

Using the wrong tools can create avoidable damage to cute hairstyles for school. Brushes with hard bristles, tight elastics without coating, and rough towels can all contribute to breakage. Swap in:

- Wide-tooth combs
- Soft hair ties
- Microfiber towels
- Cotton shirts
- Satin or silk scrunchie

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How Can You Prevent Dryness When Wearing Braids or Twists?

Dryness often shows up when moisture stops reaching your natural hair underneath teen girl hair ideas. Keep a light, consistent routine. Use a water-based spray or leave-in a few times a week, then seal it in with a light oil to help strands stay soft instead of brittle.



Photo Credit: NNPA

Applying a small amount of oil to the scalp keeps it from feeling tight or itchy, especially as the style ages.

It also helps to avoid heavy product buildup. Too much product can block moisture from getting in, which defeats the purpose.

### How Can You Safely Add Color to Braids or Twists for a Bold Style?

Color can stand out without putting your natural hair at risk. The easiest approach is to use pre-colored extensions, which give you vibrant shades without any chemical processing on your own strands.

Temporary options also work well. Hair wax, sprays, or clip-in colored pieces let you switch things up, then wash or remove them without damage. If you want something that lasts longer, a professional colorist can help you choose a technique that

keeps your hair healthy and avoids overprocessing.

### How Do You Keep Your Hair Soft and Manageable During Colder Months?

Cold air dries hair out fast, so moisture has to stay front and center. Start with a leave-in conditioner and seal it with a light oil to keep strands soft and flexible. Protective styles like braids or twists help limit daily stress and keep hair from drying out.

A satin bonnet or scarf at night helps lock in that moisture, while a quick weekly deep condition brings softness back when hair starts to feel rough.

### Cute Hair for Teens: Experiment Today

There are so many options to explore when it comes to cute hair for teens. Try a few of these, and figure out what's right for you.

## Continued Voting Rights Page 1

"eliminate the lion's share" of claims brought under that part of the Voting Rights Act.

"The Callais requirements have thus laid the groundwork for the largest reduction in minority representation since the era following Reconstruction," Kagan wrote. "Under cover of 'updat[ing]' and 're-align[ing]' this greatest of statutes, the majority makes a nullity of Section 2 and threatens a half-century's worth of gains in voting equality."

Texas has had at least one of its political maps blocked under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act every decade since it went into effect. With this limitation narrowed significantly by the court, the state could push to reconsider its current congressional, state House and Senate, and State Board of Education maps, a possibility some Republicans have already

teased. The maps have been under litigation since they went into effect in 2021.

The governor of Mississippi has said he would call a special session to rapidly redraw the state's voting maps if the court struck down Section 2. Other states are expected to follow suit, especially amid the redistricting arms race Texas kicked off last summer. But with Texas' unusually early primaries already in the rearview mirror, Lone Star lawmakers may wait until the next regular session begins in January to embark on any redraws.

The high court's decision set off a wave of outrage from Democrats. Texas House Democratic Caucus chair Gene Wu, D-Houston, said the ruling gave state legislatures a "permission slip" to crack and pack Black and Latino voters into districts "where their voices won't matter."

"According to this Court, a century of voter suppression in places like Texas

and Louisiana is ancient history, no longer relevant to lawmaking and redistricting today," Wu said.

Mike Smith, the president of House Majority PAC — House Democrats' top super PAC — said the ruling was a "green light to rig House elections."

"With Democrats on track to retake the majority in November, Republicans and their allies on the Court are scrambling to protect the rich and powerful instead of lowering costs and making life more affordable for American families," Smith said.

Brandon Herrera, the Republican nominee for Texas' 23rd Congressional District, echoed the sentiment that the ruling will "likely have MAJOR implications for the midterms," as he wrote on social media.

"Democrats are going to have to scramble to protect seats they thought were safe, kneecapping the momentum they thought they had to take the House," Herrera said.

Come celebrate Men's health and wellness with us in Dallas! It's the most fun you'll ever have at a doctor's appointment!

Men's Wellness Day isn't just an event — it's a movement. It's about understanding the health disparities that exist, taking actionable steps towards better health, and celebrating the strength and resilience of our community. Whether you've been a part of our journey from the start or are just getting to know us, this day is for you.

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blood pressure checks to more comprehensive screenings, our team of healthcare professionals are here to make sure that this is the most fun that you will ever have at a doctor's appointment.

**Kids Zone:** A day for the entire family! There's something for everyone at the walk! Let your little ones engage in fun, interactive, and educational activities centered around health and wellness.

**Senior Pavilion:** It's critical to the mission of Black Men's Wellness Day to promote wellness for the entire Black community. That's why we have a special pa-

vilion with activities just for our Golden citizens.

**Entertainment:** Celebrate with us! From live music to performances, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Come, be a part of a day filled with knowledge, celebration, and unity. Let's champion the cause of health equity and ensure a brighter, healthier future for all!

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<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2026-mens-wellness-day-dallas-tickets-1834880469879>

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