"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." ~ Dr. Martin Luther King

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VOLUME 79 NUMBER 9

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

November 12 - 18, 2026

Littler's Jason Branciforte, A. John Harper III, and Theodora Lee Elected Fellows of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers!



Theodora is the proud daughter of Theodore and Dorothy Lee, former owners of the Dallas Post Tribune Newspaper.

Theodora Lee was elected as a Fellow of The College of Labor and Employment Lawyers (CLEL), alongside her Littler colleagues Jason Branciforte and A. John Harper III, as a member of the 2026 Class of Fellows, and in celebration of CLEL's 30th Anniversary. Bettina Yip, Paul Garrison, and the entire CLEL Board nominated her for this tremendous honor.

Theodora is especially grateful to the family, friends, and colleagues who helped make the induction celebration so memorable: her sister, Theronica Bond; her Morehouse Brother, Wendell Alexander Mizell Bryant, who traveled from Atlanta; her Spelman Sisters, Annette Coram and Kim Bronson; her beau, Byron Williams; and her Littler colleagues Barry Hartstein, Charles Powell, Art Carter, Steve Biddle, Kerry E. Notestine, and Bruce R. Millman, among many others. She says, "Their presence, encouragement, and ongoing support made this milestone even more meaningful. I am truly grateful and look forward to continuing to contribute to our profession.

She concludes with, *"Congratulations to all my fellow 2026 newly elected Fellow."*



Courtesy Photo: **Theodora Lee**

Three Littler Attorneys Elected as College of Labor & Employment Lawyers Fellows

- Article, Page 2 -

HISTORY MADE: Keisha Lance Bottoms Becomes First Black Woman Elected Governor in American History

ATLANTA DAILY WORLD — History has been made in Georgia. Keisha Lance Bottoms, the former mayor of Atlanta, has been elected governor of Georgia, becoming the first Black woman in American history to win the highest 45GH6executive office in any state.

-By BlackPressUSA Newswire



Keisha Lance Bottoms during her 2026 Democratic gubernatorial primary victory speech.
Photo: Sikis2021 / Wikimedia Commons

History has been made in Georgia. Keisha Lance Bottoms, the former mayor of Atlanta, has been elected governor of Georgia, becoming the first Black woman in American history to win the highest executive office in any state.

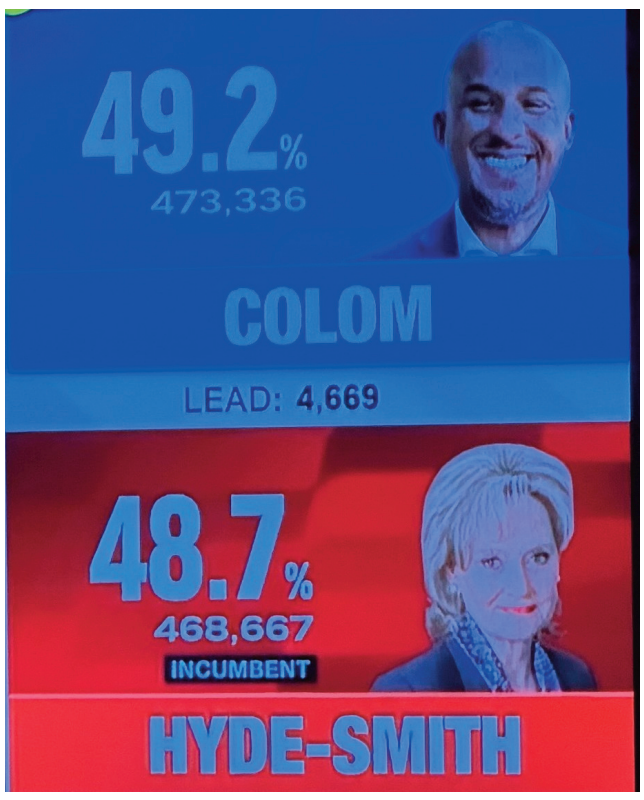
Bottoms' victory over Republican businessman Rick Jackson represents a defining moment in American politics, breaking a barrier that has stood since the nation's founding and placing Georgia at the center of a historic political transformation.

For generations, Black women have played a critical role in American democracy, organizing communities, leading movements, mobilizing voters and shaping public policy. Yet despite their contributions, no Black woman had ever been elected governor of a U.S. state.

Continue **First** Page 3

BREAKING NEWS

Scott Colom won Mississippi Senate Race in Historic Upset



Three Littler Attorneys Elected as College of Labor & Employment Lawyers Fellows

(November 9, 2026) – Jason M. Branciforte (Washington, D.C.), A. John Harper III (Houston) and Theodora R. Lee (Dallas, Walnut Creek), shareholders at Littler, the world's largest employment and labor law practice representing management, have been selected as fellows of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers (the College), joining the organization's distinguished 2026 class. The trio was formally inducted at the College's 30th Anniversary Gala and Fellows Induction Dinner in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, November 7, during the American Bar Association Labor and Employment Law Conference. The milestone celebration commemorated three decades of the College's commitment to achievement, advancement, and excellence in labor and employment law, while honoring distinguished leaders whose contributions have strengthened the profession.

The College is a nonprofit professional association of more than 1,000 leading practitioners in labor and employment law. Founded to promote achievement, advancement, and excellence in the field, the College is dedicated to fostering professionalism, civility, and the highest standards of legal practice. Through its distinguished fellowship, the organization serves as a trusted resource for guidance, knowledge and thought leadership, while advancing the quality of labor and employment legal services and supporting positive developments in the profession and the workplace.

Branciforte has more than 35 years of experience advising and representing employers on a wide range of labor and employment law matters. He provides strategic counsel to companies nationwide, with a particular focus on government contractors and issues involving the McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act. Branciforte regularly represents clients before state and federal courts, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the National Labor Relations Board and the U.S. Department of Labor, and has extensive experience in labor relations, collective bargaining, union campaigns, arbitrations and workplace compliance matters. Branciforte earned his J.D. from Cornell University Law School and his A.B. from Georgetown University.

Harper represents employers in all aspects of labor relations and employment law. His practice includes collective bargaining, grievance and arbitration proceedings, labor agreement interpretation, union organizing campaigns and strategic labor relations counseling. Harper also advises clients on the labor and employment aspects of corporate transactions and bankruptcy proceedings. In addition, he defends employers against discrimination, retaliation, and other employment-related claims, while providing guidance on compliance with federal, state, and local workplace laws. Harper earned his J.D., cum laude, from Southern Methodist University, Dedman School of Law and his B.A., cum laude, from Washington and Lee University.

Lee has extensive experience advising and representing employers in complex labor and employment matters. She regularly litigates class actions, discrimination and harassment claims, wage and hour disputes, wrongful termination cases, and proceedings before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the National Labor Relations Board. As an accomplished trial lawyer, mediator and arbitrator, Lee has successfully defended employers in state and federal courts throughout California and Texas and has helped resolve numerous matters through arbitration and mediation. She also counsels employers on workplace compliance, litigation avoidance, employment policies, and a broad range of labor and employment law issues. Lee earned her J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law and her B.A. from Spelman College.

PHOTOS OF THE EVENT

















RELIGIOUS/NEWS

The Fall of Commercial Babylon

Revelation 18:1-24



Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

In chapter 17, we saw the destruction of the apostate church (mystery Babylon) by the kings of the earth. The apostate church is destroyed in the midst (at the end of the three and a half years) of the Tribulation Period. When Christ returns during His second advent, commercial Babylon will be destroyed. Commercial Babylon is ancient Babylon. It will be rebuilt (ancient Babylon) according to Isaiah 13:19-22. As this chapter opens in verses 1-3, a great announcement comes from a great angel with power, announcing the fall of commercial Babylon (v. 1).

According to verse 2, commercial Babylon represents evil, for it is the habitation of demons and the hold (prison) of very foul spirits and every unclean and hateful bird. Babylon is the headquarters of demons and has been the place of rebellion down through the years. Babylon is guilty of fornication (unfaithfulness) and has influenced many nations, her votaries (followers) to be intoxicated with luxury and great ease (v. 3). God will judge godless commercialism. Believers in the Tribulation Period are called to avoid compromising with the world system of that day (v. 4).

Because of the enormity of Babylon's sins, the judgment of Babylon is inevitable and just; thus, Babylon's destruction is total and final (vv. 5-8). Christ will judge wicked Babylon. The kings of the earth lament as they witness Babylon being judged by the smoke of fire (vv. 9-10). In verses 11-18, the merchants mourn deeply, for their great riches have come to nothing in a short time. The luxurious items they use to possess are now in ruin! In verses 17-19, the merchants of the sea weep because their business is destroyed!

Whereas the world was in total anguish because of Babylon's judgment, heaven rejoices fully over her destruction (vv. 20-24).

"May God Bless!"

Continued **First** Page 1

Until now.

Bottoms' election also makes her the first woman and first Black person elected governor of Georgia, a state whose political history has been deeply shaped by slavery, segregation, the civil rights movement and the long struggle for equal representation.

Her victory carries particular significance in a state where Black women have been among the most influential forces in voter registration, political organizing and Democratic electoral success.

A fifth-generation Georgian, Bottoms previously served as Atlanta's 60th mayor from 2018 to 2022. During her administration, she led the city through the COVID-19 pandemic, nationwide protests over racial injustice and a period of significant economic and population growth.

Following her time as mayor, Bottoms served as a senior adviser in President Joe Biden's administration before returning to Georgia politics to pursue the governorship.

Her campaign focused on expanding access to health care, strengthening public education, increasing wages and addressing the rising cost of living. She also advocated for expanding Medicaid, raising Georgia's minimum wage to $15 an hour and increasing compensation for teachers and other public employees.

Bottoms faced Jackson, a wealthy health care executive who invested heavily in his campaign and positioned himself as a political outsider. The contest drew national attention as Democrats sought to reclaim the Georgia governor's office after more than two decades of Republican control.

The historic nature of Bottoms' victory extends well beyond party politics.

Georgia, once at the center of some of America's most consequential civil rights battles, has now elected a Black woman to lead its state government. It is a milestone that reflects generations of political participation, organizing and leadership by Black Georgians.

For Atlanta, the moment is especially significant. A former mayor of the city that helped shape the modern civil rights movement will now lead the entire state.

Bottoms' election opens a new chapter in Georgia's political history and establishes a milestone that will be remembered far beyond the 2026 election.

For continuing election coverage and results, visit AtlantaDailyWorld.com/election26.

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

~ THEME: THANKSGIVING
(Solution will appear in November 19 edition)

ACROSS
1. Chevy of "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation"
6. Broadcast breaks
9. Electrical current unit, pl.
13. Mineral veins
14. Neighbor of Ger.
15. Gem state
16. 1960s abstractionism
17. "I" mania
18. *The only First Lady to issue official Thanksgiving Day proclamation
19. *First department store to host Thanksgiving parade
21. *Keeping turkey juicy
23. Use one's eyes
24. Same as island
25. Chasing game
28. 4th planet from sun
30. Milk-related
35. 1952 Olympic site
37. *Brad who starred in a Friends Thanksgiving episode
39. Remus Lupin's nickname
40. Continent
41. Most common vowel in English language
43. Try
44. Ascetic holy Hindu
46. Fail to mention
47. Ditty
48. Interruptions
50. "Do ____ others..."
52. P in m.p.g.
53. Partiality
55. Pie ____ ____ mode
57. *Gizzard, heart, liver, neck
61. *Soaking turkey
65. Heart chambers
66. Polite form of address
68. Outspoken
69. Behave like a coquette
70. "But I heard him exclaim, ____ he drove out of sight..."
71. Allergic reaction to bee sting
72. Bloodsucking hopper
73. "Ideas worth spreading" talk
74. Counseled

DOWN
1. Heidi's shoe
2. Kachina doll maker
3. *"The Thanksgiving Song" performer
4. Some Slavs
5. Put on a pedestal
6. Gorillas and orangutans
7. *National ____ Show
8. Pigsty dwellers
9. Mine passage
10. Neither mini nor midi
11. What phonics and cacophony have in common
12. Playlist item
15. Trouser measurement
20. Bounds' partners
22. Opposite of nothing
24. Isthmi, sing.
25. *Charlie Brown's meal: ____, popcorn, pretzels, jelly beans
26. Allegro ____, in music
27. Move like on ice
29. Organized crime-related ____ Act, acr.
31. Selling price minus profit
32. Add (2 words)
33. Absurd
34. *____ Monday after Thanksgiving
36. Hawaiian island
38. "The Parent Trap" child
42. Rose oil
45. Cheerful
49. Dog command
51. Dickens' Twist
54. Opposite of liability
56. Positive electrode
57. Gamecock's spur
58. It will
59. French hors d'oeuvre staple
60. Turkish money
61. Raised
62. Like some cakes
63. ID info
64. Happy
67. Ill temper

Statepoint Crossword Puzzle
Theme: THANKSGIVING

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	■	■	9	10	11	12
13					■	14			■	15				
16					■	17			■	18				
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■	■	■	23			■	24				■	■	■	■
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35			36	■	37			38	■	39				
40				■	41				42	■	43			
44				45	■	46				■	47			
48					49	■	50			51	■	52		
■	■	■	■	53		54		■	55		56	■	■	■
57	58	59	60				■	61				62	63	64
65					■	66	67		■	68				
69					■	70			■	71				
72				■	■	73			■	74				



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

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Kindbody Dallas, located at 8041 Walnut Hill Lane, Unit 870, Dallas, TX 75231, will cease operations effective October 1, 2026.

Patients who wish to obtain a copy of their medical records or have their records transferred to another healthcare provider may submit a request through the Kindbody patient portal or contact our medical records team at 855-KND-BODY (855-563-2639).

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE
CASE NO.: 24D007480
TO: YOSEL RAFAEL MORENO HERNANDEZ
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 1035 E CENTER-VILLE RD APT 513 GARLAND, TX 75041

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action for Dissolution of Marriage has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Denisse Gallegos, whose address is P.O. Box 15891 Santa Ana, CA 92735, on or before 09/24/2024, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter.

If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

DATED THIS 7 OF MAY, 2026





Texans set to pay more for heating this winter

- Texans are predicted to spend more on heating bills this heating season, with the average heating bill predicted to increase by 19.3% on average from 2025-26.
- This is 20.5 percentage points above the national average, with the average American set to pay 1.2% less on heating this heating season than in 2025-26.
- Texas residents are predicted to pay an average of $71.38 per month on heating in 2026-27, up from $59.81 in 2025-26.

With energy prices still at high levels and the cold weather setting in, the Texas electricity comparison website Power Choice Texas has identified the areas of America where residents will spend more to heat their homes from October 2026 to March 2027 than they did a year ago.

This study used the latest data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) on predicted and historic heating bills in each state in the contiguous United States to determine which states will have the largest increase in heating bills over fall and winter compared to last fall and winter. Energy costs were calculated by finding the average cost for heating between October 2025 and March 2026, then multiplying this by EIA forecasts for how much energy costs and demand will change for the coming heating season.

Texans are predicted to have the eighth-largest increase in their heating bills this heating season from the last heating season. The average monthly heating bill in Texas is predicted to increase by 19.3% from $59.81 in the 2025-26 heating season to $71.38 this heating season. In total, average heating bills came to an estimated total of $358.87 from October 2025 to March 2026 in the Lone Star State, and the predicted total Texans will spend on heating from October 2026 to March 2027 is set to be $428.27.

The average increase in heating bills for this heating season in Texas is set to be 20.5 percentage points more than the national average change. The average American heating bill is predicted to fall by 1.2% from $109.07 per month in the 2025-26 heating season, to $107.80 per month in the 2026-27 heating season. The total costs for heating from October 2025 to March 2026 was $654.42 nationally, which is expected to decrease to $646.80 for period October 2026 to March 2027.

Quinn Questions

The world's greatest athlete?

By **Rix Quinn**

At lunch, several of us guys got to talking about who is the best athlete, human or animal.

Surprisingly, the world's greatest may be the spittle bug, who's jumpier than a pickpocket at a police station.

The adult spittlebug measures only one-fourth inch long. But this guy possesses remarkable leg strength, and if you loaned him a toothpick, he could probably pole vault.

This powerful dude can leap two feet. No, not jump over my shoes, but actually bound 24 inches, or 96 TIMES its size!

That's like a six-foot man clearing a 48-story building. I never saw anybody do this, but one time my friend Tom jumped to the wrong conclusion, and his girlfriend told him to take a flying leap.

Actually, the animal kingdom is filled with great athletes. A cheetah can run nearly 70 mph. A millipede can walk on 1,000 legs without stepping on anyone's toes.

And the ant can lift 50 times its weight, much more than its insect counterpart, the uncle.

When it comes to endurance, few can top those amazing birds, the Arctic terns. In a year, some migrate up to 22,000 miles.

But one flock member misjudged his altitude, collided with a dizzy eagle, and landed on a sheep.

That's how he became the first "ill eagle ewe tern."

11 Simple ways to improve biographies. Very inexpensive report: https://payhip.com/b/FE1Wu

SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Nov. 12	Friday, Nov. 13	Saturday, Nov. 14	Sunday, Nov. 15	Monday, Nov. 16	Tuesday, Nov. 17	Wednesday, Nov. 18
H -75° L -53°	H 65° L -48°	H -64° L -52°	H 55° L 50°	H 55° L 49*°	H -53° L -50°	H -62° L -54°

Penalties and other mistakes are plaguing the Cowboys even when they find ways to win

By **SCHUYLER DIXON** AP Pro Football Writer



Dallas Cowboys running back Javonte Williams (33) celebrates scoring touchdown during the second half of an NFL football game against the Philadelphia Eagles in Philadelphia, Monday, Oct. 26, 2026. (AP **Photo/Chris Szagol**a)

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — The good news for the Dallas Cowboys is they didn't bury themselves in the mostly woeful NFC East with a third inexplicable loss in a month.

The bad news is they aren't showing many signs of being playoff-worthy in coach Brian Schottenheimer's second season.

The 153 yards in penalties in a 27-23 victory over Indianapolis included a mystifying unsportsmanlike conduct call against inactive linebacker DeMarvion Overshown when he ran onto the field to celebrate a fumble recovery, costing Dallas (4-5) valuable field position while trying to protect a fourth-quarter lead.

The two turnovers included CeeDee Lamb carrying the ball so loosely in his left hand that when it came out as he was tackled, the refs couldn't even say the ground caused the fumble. The sad part was, Lamb had just made a heads-up play by getting up and running when a defender failed to touch him on the ground.

The beleaguered Dallas defense has usually been the sloppy unit for a team that leads the NFL with 667 penalty yards.

This time, the offense drew the first seven yellow flags, three of them holding calls. Lamb was flagged for offensive pass interference twice, both wiping out first down catches. He still had the second-most yards receiving of his career with 195 on 10 catches.

Ultimately, the offense bailed out the Cowboys, who play NFC West-leading San Francisco (7-1) at home Sunday. Dak Prescott's 46-yard completion to Ryan Flournoy set up Javonte Williams' go-ahead touchdown run after Indianapolis had taken a 23-20 lead with 1:53 remaining.

Yes, those same Colts that have weakened their roster in a lost season, having traded a top lineman on both sides of the ball going into a game that ended with star running back Jonathan Taylor essentially saying goodbye because he's probably next with the trade deadline looming Tuesday.

The Cowboys were a month removed from a loss to then-winless Tampa Bay when the Buccaneers were starting undrafted rookie quarterback Jalon Daniels for just the second time.

A week before Dallas' trip to Indy, backup QB Gardner Minshew rallied Arizona from a 14-point deficit in the fourth quarter of the Cardinals' 33-30 overtime win.

"When you get in your own way, you make mistakes, you make some of these games closer than they have to be," Prescott said. "Whether it was last week, us not being able to overcome it, and this week we did. We can't do that. Simple as that. We can't have this many penalties, especially on offense."

On balance, this was probably the best defensive showing of the season for the Cowboys, who are slowly climbing from at or near the bottom of the NFL in most statistical categories. Rookie first-round pick Caleb Downs sealed the victory with his first interception.

"Shoutout to the defense for ending the game," Lamb said. "But I think I had like three penalties alone in the second half and a fumble. So like personally, I've got to take a real good look. I'm always thinking about the could have been. So, as for me as a leader on this offense, feel like I got to be better in some realms."

What's working

Dallas had 508 total yards on offense, and Prescott's throw to Flournoy after the Colts had taken the lead was perfect. It was the 28th game-winning drive of Prescott's career, fifth among quarterbacks in his 11 seasons.

What needs help

Significant cracks are showing for the first time in kicker Brandon Aubrey's four seasons. His rate is a career-low 77% after a 50-yard miss in a 20-all tie with 3 1/2 minutes remaining. That miss was one of the few times the operation has been off, with Trent Sieg's snap bouncing before holder Bryan Anger managed to get the ball in place. Aubrey seemed to hesitate slightly on the approach because of the low snap.

Stock up

DT Quinnen Williams has been shining for weeks, despite the up-and-down performances from the defense. He led Dallas with seven tackles against the Colts and tied his career high of three tackles for loss for the second time this season. Williams entered Monday leading the NFL with 14 tackles for loss.

Stock down

Overshown can't stay on the field — except to celebrate turnovers, when he's in street clothes. He has missed six of nine games this season with a hamstring injury, and a back issue surfaced last week. The Cowboys have played 60 regular-season games since drafting Overshown in the third round in 2023. He has been on the field — in uniform — for 22 of them.

Injuries

Overshown, WR George Pickens (shoulder/hamstring) and CB Joey Porter Jr. (foot/ankle) figure to be questionable again this week, just as they were before getting ruled out against Indianapolis. ... TE Jake Ferguson and backup RB Tyler Goodson will miss multiple weeks with knee injuries. ... S P.J. Locke could be looking at a lengthy absence after sustaining concussions in consecutive weeks.

Key number

641 — Lamb passed DeAndre Hopkins (632) for the most catches before turning 28 in NFL history. He has the rest of the season to add to that total. Lamb turns 28 in April.

Next steps

It's time to stop pretending the frequently downtrodden New York Giants aren't the favorite in the NFC East. The Cowboys have no choice but to start stacking wins. That's a tall task with the 49ers coming to town, but Dallas will be a big favorite in the final two games of three straight at home.

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Teddy's Creation

(Answer Key on Page 8)

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

Statepoint Crossword Puzzle
Solution: November 5 ~ HOLIDAY MOVIES

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

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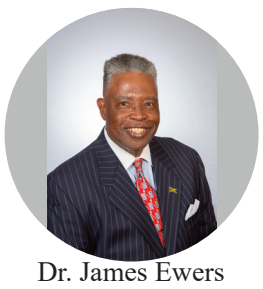
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EDITORIAL PAGE

The Magnitude of the Midterm Elections Showed the Power of the People

By **James B. Ewers Jr.**, Ed.



Dr. James Ewers

Do you remember another more important midterm election? I don't. Over the years, some midterm elections simply created a yawn.

You didn't vote with a sense of urgency. Some would say they had a ho hum attitude. Maybe they had an indifferent disposition. Yet it must be said that we went to the polls because it was our civic duty.

Our ancestors fought and died for our right to vote, so we must honor them by voting in every election. We must understand that voting in the United States of America is an honor. People in other countries would trade places with us for that opportunity.

Throughout the years those living in dictator-led countries have had their right to vote stifled so let's keep that in mind whenever we vote in this country.

There was unprecedented talk about the midterm elections held recently on November 3rd. Both political parties thought they would win. PAC money and big-time donors poured millions of dollars into these races.

Signs supporting candidates lined our yards, and television ads ran non-stop. This election was about our country's direction. Was there going to be a change? Could it really happen?

As Election Day approached, most polls showed the Democrats would win back the U.S. House of Representatives. However, winning back the U.S. Senate might be a stretch.

Well, you and I know what happened on November 3, 2026. The Democrats won the midterm elections in convincing fashion. For Republicans, it was a true wood-shedding experience. They lived a real-time nightmare. After this thrashing, the GOP is trying to figure out its next steps.

The analogy for the Democrats is like finding a long-lost cousin who has returned home. Everyone is overjoyed to see them. In fact, the cousin is going to be around for a good while.

The Democrats stampeded the Congress and will have a significant majority of the 435 seats in the 120th Congress which begins January 3rd. According to reports, the new Speaker of the House of Representatives will be Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY).

According to PBS News, current House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries said, "We hear you. We're going to work hard to deliver on the dramatic change that you deserve." He will make history as the first African American speaker of the House if his colleagues elect him.

People with views on this election have made some definitive comments. Lisa Sachs, director of the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, said, "The vote was for affordability and opportunity. Democrats now need to be clear about which policies deliver them."

There is broad agreement that economic policies need to change for the American people, as they currently have us tangled up in higher costs for everything. Prices have skyrocketed, and we have been held as financial hostages.

The Senate was also a win for the Democrats, as they now have 54 confirmed seats. The Senate races in Alaska and Mississippi are still too close to call. It has been reported that Democratic nominee Scott Colom has about a 2,500-vote lead over incumbent Cindy Hyde-Smith. Mr. Colom is African American.

In Louisiana, Democratic Senate candidate Jamie Davis received 49% of the vote and came up just short. Angie Nixon, a Democratic Senate candidate from Florida, was denied her bid as well. Both of these African American candidates have bright political futures, and we will be on the lookout for them.

Democratic victories also extended to races for governor in Georgia and Ohio. Georgia residents voted for Keisha Lance Bottoms, making her the first African American woman to become governor of the state. In Ohio, Amy Acton became the first woman elected governor.

The takeaways from this election are that our votes count and that power truly rests with the people.

Remembering African American Veterans with Honor

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



Dr. John E. Warren,

On November 11, 2026, Americans honored those brave men and women who have served in the military. As a reminder, it all started on November 11, 1918, when an Armistice between the Allied forces of World War I and Germany went into effect. In November 1919, President Woodrow Wilson declared November 11th Armistice Day, in recognition of the end of the War that was to end all Wars. In 1938, the U.S. Congress passed an Act declaring November 11, Armistice Day, a national holiday. In 1954, after World War II, President Dwight D. Eisenhower proposed and the Congress approved changing the name Armistice Day to Veterans Day, honoring all Americans who had served in all wars.

But the celebrations we have today do not do justice to the African Americans who have fought and died for America, in spite of the racism and segregated practices that have denied us full and equal treatment. Consider the following Hall of Fame of African Americans who have served and in many instances, died for this country:

Crispus Attucks, son of a slave, first American casualty of the Revolutionary War. March 5, 1770; Nurse Susie King Taylor, who in the 1800s, when it was illegal for African Americans to be educated, snuck in lessons at an underground school which she built with her passion to help others. She met and worked alongside Clara Barton, founder of the Red Cross.

During the Civil War; Lewis Martin of the 29th U.S. Colored Infantry, who lost a leg and an arm following the Battle of the Crater in July 1864; the Buffalo Soldiers, as the Colored Soldiers of the 10th Cavalry became known, who fought both in the Civil War and the Indian Wars where they got the name "Buffalo" from Native Americans; and Corporal Freddie Stowers, who led the all-Black 371st Infantry Regiment in France in a successful battle against German troops and was recommended for the Medal of Honor which was not given to him until 70 years later and awarded posthumously to his family. We also remember Corporal John T. Van Rensalier of the 350th HQ Battalion who was awarded the French Legion of Honor in WWI; Doris "Dorie" Miller, a Mess Stewart in the U.S. Navy, who became the first African American to win the Navy Cross based on service at Pearl Harbor in WWII. Let us not forget African American women like Colonel Margaret Barley serving in WWI and fighting for integrated military housing when Blacks were still fighting and living in a segregated army.

Let us remember Colonel Charles Young, the 3rd African American to graduate from West Point Military Academy and the first African American to reach the rank of "Colonel" in the U.S. Army; or the Tuskegee Airmen, Colored fighter pilots who never lost a plane they were escorting during WWII and paved the way for more than 1.2 million African Americans to enter the service during and following that war.

We have seen from history that African Americans who fought for the freedom of others on distant shores, came home to disenfranchisement, segregation, and subhuman treatment on every front where they should have received respect and equality for having served. We have seen from a historical point that a Black soldier named Charles Lewis, recently discharged from the military, was lynched in uniform in Hichman, Kentucky; in 1944, four Black soldiers after a white store owner claimed they tried to take over his place; in 1947, we repeat, how Joe Nathan Roberts, a Black Navy Veteran studying at Temple University on the G.I. Bill was abducted and shot because he wouldn't say "Sir" to white men.

We remember with pride our pioneering Black generals like General Benjamin Oliver Davis, Sr., U.S. Army, the first African American to obtain that rank in the U.S. Army, and his son Benjamin Oliver Davis, Jr., U.S. Air Force, as

Continue **Honor** Page 5

COMMUNITY CALENDAR





Bill filed to give every Texas household $1,500, a Gov.-elect Gina Hinojosa campaign promise

by **Joshua Fechter,** The Texas Tribune

As Texas Democrats firm up their agenda ahead of next year's legislative session, more details have emerged about a key campaign pledge by Gov.-elect Gina Hinojosa to tackle the state's cost of living woes: sending $1,500 checks to every Texas household.

State Sen. Roland Gutierrez, a San Antonio Democrat, laid out a proposal this week to implement that pledge, spelling out some of the potential mechanics of how Texas — not in the business of sending cash payments to its residents — would send $1,500 to 11.6 million households.

The state would have to build a way to distribute the cash payments from the ground up, with the idea of putting money in Texans' bank accounts by the end of next year.

The idea, which Hinojosa pitched as one-time financial relief to help Texans ease their affordability woes, faces a tough climb out of both chambers. To pay for the $17 billion proposal, lawmakers would draw from the state's "rainy day fund" — essentially Texas' savings account, which sits north of $27 billion. Doing so requires a two-thirds vote of the members present in each house.

Though Democrats control the Texas House of Representatives, they would still need significant Republican support to get it over the line. In the GOP-dominated Senate, Democrats would need to peel off nine Republicans.

Getting Republicans on board will prove difficult if not impossible. Though GOP state lawmakers have sought to provide financial relief to Texans, including via property tax cuts, they've criticized efforts to send cash directly to Texans in the past — although President Donald Trump said in September he'd give $5,000 to every adult if Republicans held both chambers of Congress following last week's midterm elections. Texas prohibits sending direct cash payments to residents, but Democrats appear to have found a workaround.

There's one aspect of the proposal likely to stir a fight. The bill doesn't specify whether residents have to be U.S. citizens in order to receive payment, according to a Tribune analysis.

It's possible the bill already comes up short. Gutierrez's bill calls for using $17 billion to fund the idea, and allows up to 1% of those funds to be used to pay for administrative costs. That's not enough to cover every Texas household, leaving a shortfall of at least $400 million.

If the proposal dies over the lack of GOP support, it could give Democrats fodder to cast Republicans as insufficiently attentive to the pressures put on Texans by the state's cost of living.

How it might work

Under Gutierrez's bill filed Monday, Texas households would get $1,500 each. For example, that's enough to cover all of, if not a good

Continue **Bill** Page 8

A new chapter for W.W. Samuell High School

By **Sarai Lopez Castillo**



Photo Credit: **Dallas ISD**

As part of Dallas ISD's 2026 Bond program, a new W.W. Samuell High School is being planned to serve generations of students in the southeast Dallas community.

With the release of the new campus renderings, students, families, alumni, and community members will get their first look at what the future Samuell could look like.

The project is currently in the design phase, which is expected to be completed by April 2027. Construction is planned to begin in April 2027 and continue through November 2028, with the new campus scheduled to open in Fall 2030.

For Samuell alumni, the project represents more than a new building, it is the next chapter in a school with a long standing place in the community.

"W.W. Samuell High School will always hold a special place in my heart. It's not just where I went to school; it's a foundational part of who I am," said Pamela Smith, president of the W.W. Samuell High School Alumni Association and a 1992 graduate. "Seeing a brand new campus being planned is nothing short of thrilling. It's a powerful passing of the torch, honoring our rich traditions while building a bright new legacy for the generations to come."

"Investing in a new campus means investing in future generations of students," said Trustee Prisma Garcia, who represents District 4, where Samuell is located.

"This new campus will provide generations of students with a place where they can learn, grow and build their futures, while honoring the legacy of those who have come before them," she said.

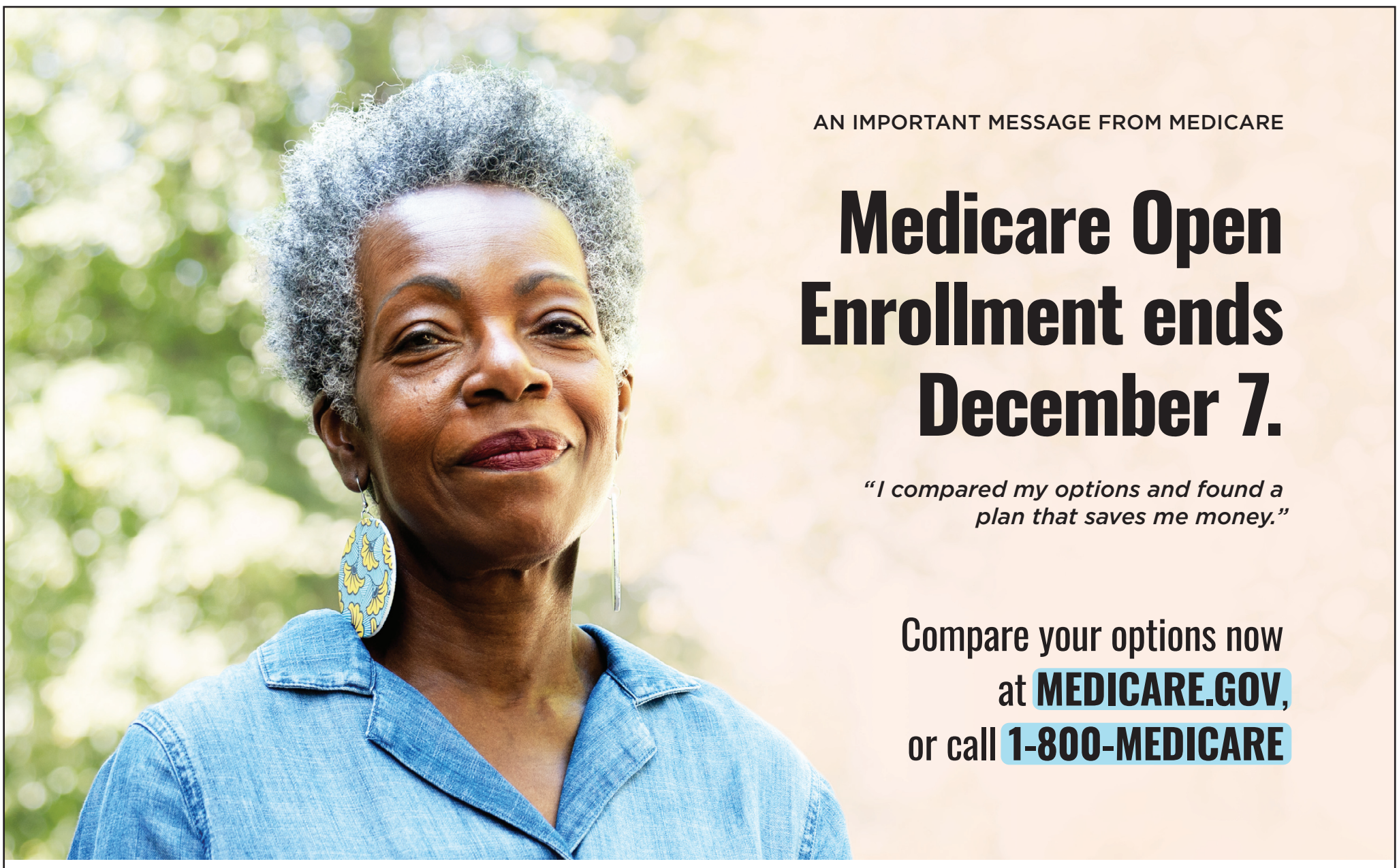
With design underway, the vision for the new W.W. Samuell High School is beginning to take shape. The new renderings offer students, families, alumni and the community a glimpse at what's ahead.

Continued **Honor** Page 6

as well as General Daniel "Chappy" James, fighter pilot, U.S. Air Force and General Colin Powell, City College of New York ROTC graduate who rose to become a four-star general and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, twice, as well as the first African American Secretary of State under President George Bush.Of the 3547 Medals of Honor given out since the beginning of this award, 96 have been given to African Americans, according to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. The first African American to receive the medal was William Carney on July 18, 1863.

So, this Veterans Day, all African Americans have a very special and proud history to celebrate, recognizing that among those we honor and remember are our own countless "Band of Brothers and Sisters" that must not be forgotten in the first of parades and holiday sales.

"And still we rise."



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Continue **Bill** Page 7

chunk of, the typical monthly rent in many Texas metro areas, according to Zillow data. Households would have to live in Texas as of Jan. 1, 2027.

The comptroller's office would have to set up a process for determining whether households are eligible for the payments — and then figure out how to send those payments. Texas doesn't have an income tax, so it doesn't have a ready-made statewide list of households and ways to send them money.

The bill would allow the agency to use information "lawfully available to the comptroller or another state agency" to verify whether a household is eligible. Residents would also be able to apply, and could prove their eligibility by providing documents like a lease or utility bill. It's not clear whether households deemed eligible by the comptroller's office would automatically receive payments.

For Texans experiencing homelessness or other households without a permanent address, the comptroller would have to figure out a way to get payments in their hands.

State law generally bars lawmakers from granting public money directly to individuals, but an exception allows legislators to do so in cases of "public calamity."

The bill attempts to take advantage of that exception by declaring the affordability crisis a "public calamity." It's unclear whether that's legal.

The proposal aims for the state to issue payments by the end of 2027, though they would accept applications for that money through the end of 2028.

There are some concerns the bill could backfire.

Issuing $1,500 checks to every Texas household carries the possibility of driving inflation by fueling demand and driving up prices, said John Diamond, senior director of the Center for Public Finance at the Baker Institute for Public Policy at Rice University.

Some research suggests that $1,400 checks the federal government sent to U.S. citizens in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, aimed at providing financial relief and stimulating the economy, contributed to inflation. Those checks helped create demand while the global economy was still dealing with supply chain problems.

Diamond said $17 billion is "not a massive amount," given the state's approximately $2.9 trillion gross domestic product, "but it's still enough to create some pricing pressures."

"You really don't want to add any fuel to the fire," Diamond said.

In an August interview, Hinojosa disputed the idea that the plan would drive inflation. Economists who vetted the idea, she said, believe a state-level payment wouldn't have the same effects as the federal stimulus checks given its smaller scale.

This article first appeared on The Texas Tribune.



Teddy's Answer Key

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