



Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Elementary School opens  
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Please wear  
your mask  
and wash  
your hands!



MY  
TRUTH

By CHERYL SMITH  
PUBLISHER

## Let People Love You

Birthdays are special times, for many. Then there are those who are celebrating alone because of COVID-19.

During these times when social distancing should be practiced, some are paying heed; while others are doing their own thing like they don't have a care in the world.

Thanks to the video conferencing platform, ZOOM, birthdays and special occasions are being shared around the world.

Last week, I thought about my mother as I attended two ZOOM birthday calls.

It was especially endearing to hear special stories about Mrs. Jean Mackey, who turned 90, and Dr. Froswa Booker-Drew, who hit the 50 mark.

My mother's date of birth is September 10 and I would really love to be able to look into her eyes, hear her laughter and share precious memories.

On those ZOOM calls, there was a lot of laughter, nice stories and some tears. There was dancing, singing and praying.

Which brings me to my truth.

These are some challenging times.

As I listened to folks sharing their love for the women of the hour, it was heartwarming to hear their expressions.

In recalling other birthday parties I've attended over the years; the ones I have been attending lately have been more emotional and for some reason, it could

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# RACIST ACT

Nashville latest city to witness what some are calling intimidation tactics

By ASHLEY MOSS  
Texas Metro News

A confederate flag was left hanging from a tree on the property of a Nashville company that publishes Sunday School materials for the nation's Black churches, including many congregations in Dallas/Fort Worth and across the South.

Neighbors discovered the homemade flag - made from a square cardboard box and color-

ed on all sides with red, white and blue paper-mâché to look like a Confederate flag with brown rope tied around it and hanging from a tree at R.H. Boyd Publishing Company in Nashville late Wednesday.

R.H. Boyd, since 1896, has published Sunday School books, church hymnals, Vacation Bible School marketing materials and study guides for the nation's 8.5 million African American Baptists. Boyd Publishing is one of two in-



dependently Black-owned publishing companies that produces

see CHURCH, page 8

## Sen. Cornyn visits with community members in Dallas

Sen John Cornyn discussed his position on issues while visiting with several African Americans in Dallas on Labor Day, at the invitation of former Dallas ISD board trustee Ron Price and Elite News publisher Darryl Blair.

School choice, prison reform and economic opportunities were uppermost on his mind as he spent at least an hour answering questions.

While he fielded many questions on helping the formerly incarcerated, the senator stressed the importance of economic growth and development and he didn't flinch when told he needed to have Black people working in his office and also when questioned about



social unrest across the controversy.

Citing George Floyd, who was killed by police officers in Minneapolis, MN. Sen. Cornyn said the "original sin of the United States was to claim to treat everyone as equal but to treat Black people as less than equal and we've

been paying a terrible price for that...we are still paying the price."

He also said there was no justification for the looting and vandalism that has occurred in several cities.

State Rep. candidate Will Douglas was in attendance and received the senator's endorsement.

Abilene (Tex) Mayor Anthony Williams, who is doing well after battling COVID-19, spoke during the gathering and shared information about the Senator's contributions to the growth of Abilene.

Senator Cornyn was accompanied by his wife, Sandy.

## Blacks urged to participate in COVID-19 clinical trial

By ALLANA J. BAREFIELD and ASHLEY MOSS  
Texas Metro News



Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough Dr. C. Reynold Verret

Presidents of two leading historically Black colleges in Louisiana have begun participating in COVID-19 vaccine trials - and are encouraging their students, faculty and alumni to join them.

Xavier University of Louisiana's president, C. Reynold Verret, and Dillard University President Walter M. Kimbrough, recently became participants in a Phase 3 trial of the new COVID-19 vaccine, BNT162b2.

## Xavier and Dillard University presidents join study

see COVID-19, page 2

## Dr. King's only grandchild picks up torch

I WAS JUST  
THINKING

By NORMA  
ADAMS-WADE



The weight of legacy can crush. But that weight also can inspire.

I was just thinking of 12-year-old Yolanda Renee King, only

grandchild of the monumental civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Already the child is under the microscope and it's a bit overbearing to speculate about the weight she faces in the future.

The youth, Yolanda Renee King, bears the name of her late aunt, Yolanda Denise King - the eldest of Dr. King Jr. and Coretta Scott



Yolanda Renee King,  
Dr. King Jr.'s granddaughter

Photo courtesy: Twitter

King's four children. The elder Yolanda was an actress, motiva-

tional speaker, and theater producer. Relatives said she appeared to be in good health but died suddenly, reportedly of a heart ailment, in 2007 at age 51.

The younger Yolanda already is drawing much media coverage, usually appearing at public events with her dad, Martin Luther King

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**continued  
Church,  
from page 8...**

the oldest, continuously operating, minority-owned bank in the United States.

Ms. Boyd, who is just the organization's fifth President and CEO, sprang into action and immediately called the police, also getting the word out on social media.

At the federal level, hate crimes are defined as crimes committed on the basis of the victim's perceived or actual race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability. In most states hate crime laws include crimes committed on the basis of race, color, and religion; many also include crimes committed on the basis of sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and disability.

Experts with the U.S. Department of Justice estimated that an average of 250,000 hate crimes were committed each year between 2004 and 2015 in the United States. The Department reports incidents each week on its website but says the majority of cases are not reported to law enforcement.

"I do not play about my family's businesses, our heritage, our safety, the safety of our staff and the entire team, certainly the safety of the community," Boyd said. "We are hopeful that these perpetrators will be caught and we want to make sure that they get the due penalty for all of these crimes that they committed and we will certainly be on the lookout for any other things that may pop up."

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Stoppers at 615-742-7463.

**Do you know this man?**



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