



The First Saint John Cathedral

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Bishop Kenneth B Spears, Pastor

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To God Be the Glory!

On Friday February 21, 2020, Chloe Marie Cousette, the granddaughter of Ms. Dorothy Davis, won 1ST place in the Association of Christian Schools International (ASCI) Mathematics Olympus District Event. Chloe is 8 years old, and a third grade student, at Bethesda Christian School in Fort Worth. She has consistently been on the Honor Roll and/or Principal's list since kindergarden. One of the objectives of the ASCI is to give students the opportunity to showcase their mathematical skills beyond the classroom setting.

The Association was founded in 1978 and is an organization of Evangelical Protestant Christian Schools. It supports the belief that Scripture is the revealed Word of God and should be taught as truth. ASCI's mission is to strengthen Christian schools and equip Christian educators worldwide as they prepare students academically.

Chloe competed against the best of the best among third graders from 20 schools. She finished **#1** over 700 other students that began the competition in Third Grade Math Reasoning. The competition began in October but only 22 students made it to the finals in Math Reasoning.



Math Reasoning problems are more difficult than standard math assignments. The problems involve several operations and/or concepts, with a high level of reasoning, such as, story problems, patterns and puzzles.

As Chloe walked away with that 1st place honor; her grandmother proudly proclaimed; "To God be the Glory."

by *Jean Coleman*

I Am Black History.....The Power of a Dream

First Saint John's 9th Annual Black History Art and Essay Competition, under the leadership of Ms. Clara Williams, produced another outstanding performance. The evening of music, dance, art and essays was a great display of Black history and culture. It was a reminder for us to be proud of who we are and what we have accomplished despite all obstacles. It was an evening that exemplified this year's theme: "We Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Us." A special thanks to the Wiley College Historical



Choir and Dance Ministry.

Now on to the awesome students who participated in the Black History Art and Essay competition!

Pre-Kinder/Kinder (Art)

First Place: Ethan Dees – Kinder

First/Second Grades (Art)

First Place: Kamarion Taylor – 2nd Grade

Upper Elementary – 3rd,4th,5th Grades (Essay)

First Place: Joshua Dees – 5th Grade

Second Place: Jakob Young – 3rd Grade

Third Place: Aliyah Price – 5th Grade

Middle School – 6th,7th,8th Grades (Essay)

First Place: Raynechia Young – 8th Grade

Second Place: Jasmine Murry – 8th Grade

Third Place: Sariah Murry – 7th Grade

High School – 9th,10th,11th,12th Grades (Essay)

First Place: Gregory Washington – 12th Grade

Second Place: Brayden Hodgest – 12th Grade

Third Place: Alexis Ferguson – 12th Grade

Congratulations to all the Winners and Participants in this year's awesome Competition!



by Jean Coleman



Meet Felita Watson Robinson, one of First Saint John Cathedral's business owners. She is the owner of RE/MAX 8, a new real estate company located at the heart of Downtown Fort Worth. RE/MAX 8 is a company whose goal is to help the community with any and all real estate buying and selling needs. Felita combined her love for the industry with her passion to help everyone achieve the American Dream of home ownership. Her Franchise helps Real Estate Agents achieve their goals of being successful Entrepreneurs' in their own right. While discussing her work ethics; Felita credits her Father, Deacon Melvin Watson, whom is also a member of First Saint John Cathedral. She is married has 3 children and 5 grandchildren and along with her parents, has been a member of First Saint John Cathedral for a number of years. She is a graduate of Texas Wesleyan University where she earned a Master's Degree (2002) in Business.

Felita said the reason her Company was named RE/MAX 8 is because, the number "8" represents new beginnings in the Bible. By faith, she believes God commanded her to start this new chapter in life. She said, God put it on her heart to open up her own Franchise and she did just that in May 2019. Felita has a small office now, which include 9 Agents but looking to grow to no more than 20-25 Agents. She wants to keep her office with an intimate, caring, family atmosphere. Being blessed to do what she does for more than 14 years; Felita believes her role now is to inspire, uplift, motivate and support her Broker and Agents to achieve their goals which will help their clients achieve success in Real Estate Ownership. Felita has the ability to cater and adapt to all of her clients Real Estate needs. She said, "Just as the Real Estate industry evolves to become more innovative and efficient, so do I."

Felita can assist with all of your Real Estate endeavors whether it's buying a new home with her Builder or connecting you with one of her outstanding and exceptional RE/MAX 8, real estate Agents. At RE/MAX 8, even if you are in the market to buy a new or existing home, be assured Felita, her Broker, or one of her Agents will listen to you. They want to know what your needs and wants are and then do their very best to deliver.

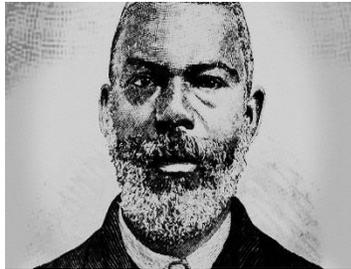
Felita's experience with first time buyers, empty nesters, new and existing homes, gives her a competitive advantage in the area. She is well-connected and her many contacts throughout the Metroplex. Above all else, Felita always has the best interest of the client in mind. With her genuine, sincere, enthusiastic, cheerful and professional attitude, RE/MAX 8 will be there for you.

Contact Felita at: RE/MAX 8; 2601 Airport FWY; Suite 500; Fort Worth, TX; 682.250.6884



by Debra Hudson

Did You Know.....



The First African Baptist Church of Savannah, GA., one of the oldest Black churches in North America, began in 1777. Originally called the First Colored Church, the Reverend George Leile as pastor, is tied to its beginning. He began leading this congregation on the second Sunday in December that year, marking the beginning of this house of worship. The First African Baptist Church has survived the birth of America, the repressive hand of a hostile British, the Civil War, Reconstruction, Black Codes and the Revolutionary changes of the 1960s upon their community. For over 200 years the First African Baptist Church has served on behalf of all people and is a standing

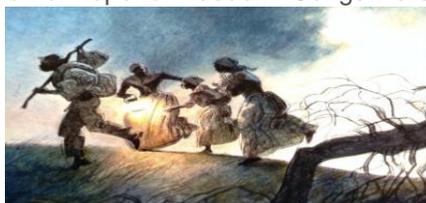


monument for black America in the eyes of God.

actually organized in 1773, which is older than the United States (1776). Therefore, First African Baptist Church is a National Historic Landmark and as such is registered with the National Register of Historic Places.

The church was

When did Negro spirituals begin? Negro songs originated among enslaved Africans in the United States. However, these songs were influenced by both African and religious traditions and would be the basis for what is known as “Negro Spirituals”. Music was a way for slaves to express their feelings whether it was sorrow, joy, inspiration or hope for freedom. Songs were passed down from generation to generation



throughout slavery.

- It has been said that 1930 was the year when modern gospel music began, because the National Baptist Convention first publicly endorsed the music at its 1930 meeting.
- Dorsey wrote about eight hundred songs and in 1931 he organized the world's first Gospel chorus at the Ebenezer Baptist church (Chicago, Illinois). Dorsey was responsible for developing the musical careers of many African American artists, such as Mahalia Jackson who performed one of his famous creations, *Take My Hand Precious Lord*.

We Should always celebrate Black History to recognize the sacrifices, contributions, and achievements of African Americans to the United States and the world. But it is also a time to consider how we can create more justice in our daily lives and institutions. Black history matters to everyone – it's a crucial part of our nations' story.

by **Paula Conner**

SPORTS CORNER



By William Conner

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS WIN THE 2020



SUPER BOWL

The Kansas City Chiefs won their second Vince Lombardi Trophy on Sunday February 2, 2020 in Miami,

beating the San Francisco 49ers 31-20 to win Super Bowl LIV. The 49ers held a 20 – 10 lead mid-way through the 4th quarter. The Chiefs rebound and came back to score 3 touchdowns in the final 6 minutes 13 seconds to win the game! Quarterback Patrick Mahomes completed 26 of 42 passes, for 286 yards and scored two touchdowns. At the age of 24, he became the youngest quarterback to win the Super Bowl MVP. The win also gave Chiefs coach Andy Reid his first Super Bowl victory as a head coach.

DALLAS COWBOYS HAS A NEW HEAD COACH



After 9 plus years as Dallas Cowboys Head Coach, Jason Garrett was fired after a week of uncertainty. The Cowboys were 85-67 under Garrett. They only made the playoff 3 times; (2014, 2016, 2018). Garrett was named Coach of the year in 2016. Jones hired Mike McCarthy as the new Head Coach one day after Garrett was fired. McCarthy was the Green Bay Packers coach from 2005-2018 and compiled a 127-77 record with 8 of consecutive playoff appearances. Jones believes McCarthy can help the Cowboys hoist the Lombardi trophy for the first since 1995.

HIGH SCHOOL

Future college football took shape as elite high school prospects turn verbal commitments into signing a **National Letter of Intent**. The beginning of that



signing period, the first Jones Wednesday of every February, stands alone as **National Signing Day**. This year our own **Brayden Hodgest** signed a

National Letter of Intent with the Arkansas Razorbacks. Brayden is an outstanding Shot Putter, he has attended the Texas A&M High School Classis since his freshman year, and is the **2020 SHOT PUT CHAMPION!!!** His throw of 58-11.25 places him number 1 in the State of Texas, and number 5 in the Nation. He is the son of Monique and Kelvin Hodgest and the grandson of Ruthie Thomas.



Duncanville

Pantherettes WINS! Duncanville Girls Basketball team beat Cypress Creek 63-47 to win the Class 6A State title. Duncanville was led by McDonald All-American and Gatorade Texas player of the year, Deja Kelly, who contributed 23 points to win the game.

Mansfield Timberview Girls Basketball team.

Another great team with an impressive season 31-9. They made it to the State semi-final but lost to San Antonio Veterans Memorial 45-44 in the Class 5A semi-finals.

Sports Corner cont'd

CORONAVIRUS -19 SHUTS DOWN SPORTS



Coronavirus is forcing the biggest global sports shutdown since World War II. The last time sporting events were disrupted this widely, the world was at war. Covid-19, now responsible for 4,373 deaths and more than 120,000 cases worldwide as of March 11, is forcing professional and amateur sports leagues around the world to reevaluate their priorities.

The **NBA** was the first to shut down after 2 in the Utah Jazz players tested positive for the virus. Rudy Gobert tested positive for coronavirus, and hours later his teammate Donovan Mitchell tested positive for the same disease.

The **National Hockey League** suspended its season given the spread of coronavirus across the United States and Canada. In a statement, the league acknowledged that its players share facilities with many NBA players and after the Utah Jazz player tested positive, it was appropriate to stop playing games. The league may shorten

its season, or it could discontinue the regular season altogether.

Major League Baseball suspended spring training in Arizona and Florida and pushed back its opening day by two weeks due to the spread of coronavirus.

Texas High School Basketball canceled the remainder of the boy's state tournament, the girls did finish their tournament. The University Interscholastic League, the governing body of Texas high school sports, suspend all UIL-sanctioned contests and competition throughout the state due to concerns regarding the spread of the virus. The suspension of UIL sanctioned activities took effect March 16.

The last domino to fall was the **NCAA March Madness** men and women basketball tournaments. NCAA President Mark Emmert and the Board of Governors canceled the Division I men and women 2020 basketball tournament, as well as all remaining winter and spring NCAA championships. This decision was based on the evolving COVID-19 public health threat, the inability to ensure the events did not contribute to the spread of the pandemic, and the impracticality of hosting such events at any time during this academic year given ongoing decisions by other entities.

CORVID-19 UPDATE @ 3/25/20

The City of Fort Worth is working with its partners at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Texas Department of Health and Human Services, and Tarrant County Public Health to closely monitor the COVID-19 outbreak.

Fort Worth extends Stay at Home Declaration in response to COVID-19

The Fort Worth City Council extended the emergency declaration that was signed by Mayor Betsy Price on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 to implement stay home, work safe restrictions to help combat the spread and impact of COVID-19 on the City of Fort Worth.

- **This action extends the declaration through April 7, 2020.**
- Individuals are to stay at home. However, individuals may leave their residences for essential travel, essential activities, or to provide or perform essential governmental functions, or to operate essential businesses. This includes traveling to work at an essential business, traveling for the health of yourself or another person, leaving to get food and supplies, or getting outside to exercise.
- To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet from any other person. This does not require a household or living unit to social distance when at home.
- **Essential businesses such as grocery stores, pharmacies and other establishments that sell household goods will remain open but must enforce social distancing.**
- In-house dining at restaurants is prohibited. Restaurants with or without drive-in or drive-through services; drive-in restaurants;
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- drive-through restaurants; liquor stores; and microbreweries, micro-distilleries, or wineries **may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-in or drive-through services**, as allowed by law.
- **All businesses operating within the City of Fort Worth, except essential businesses, are required to close to the public.**
 - Businesses that are closed to the public may continue operations consisting exclusively of the following, as long as social distancing of a least 6 feet is maintained between all employees and contractors during the activities:
Performing activities at their own residences (i.e. working from home);
 - Operations necessary to process payroll, maintain security, upkeep, and maintenance of premises, equipment or inventory, including but not limited to the care and maintenance of livestock or animals;
 - IT or other operations that facilitate employees working from home;
 - Facilitate online or call-in sales performed by employees in a store or facility closed to the public;
 - In-store repair services performed by employees in a store or facility closed to the public.
- **All public or private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited. This declaration does not prohibit the gathering of members of a household or living unit.**
- **All elective medical procedures are prohibited.**
- If someone in a household has tested positive for COVID-19, the household is ordered to isolate at home.
- Nursing homes, retirement, and long-term care facilities are to prohibit non-essential visitors from accessing their facilities unless to provide critical assistance or for end-of-life visitation.
- All in-person worship services remain prohibited, with the exception of worship support staff to facilitate online services.