



INSIDE BUSINESS

**It's Raining
Legal Freebies!**



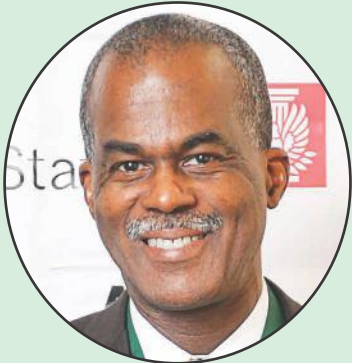
LIFESTYLES

**2018 Kwanzaa
Celebration**



RELIGION

**Terrence E.
O'Neal receives
Gold Medal**



SPORTS

**Five African Amer-
ican NFL Head
Coaches Fired**



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**EVERYBODY IS
SOMEBODY IN
THE TOLEDO
JOURNAL**



Center of Hope Family Services hosts 2nd Annual Peace on Earth Community



Center of Hope ELEVATE students observe the Central Catholic Glee Club Performance.



Guests congregate as they await the Peace on Earth Community Dinner.



Center of Hope ELEVATE students are served the Community Meal.



A girl makes a craft using string.



Children complete crafts sponsored by Lucas County Juvenile Court.

Special to The Toledo Journal

On Thursday, December 20th, 2018, Center of Hope Family Services hosted its 2nd Annual Peace on Earth Holiday event. Sponsors included the William Vaughan Company, Apple Inc., and State Bank. "Peace on Earth is our way of letting families and the community know that we are thinking of them during the holidays," states Dr. Tracee Perryman, CEO. al "Our event is welcoming of diverse cultural holiday traditions, hoping that Peace on Earth is of value to all of us. The holiday season

can be a joyous time, but it isn't necessarily joyous for everyone. Each year, we at Center of Hope strive to bring the community together in unity and solidarity. We create a safe, supportive, warm, welcoming space to let our families and community know that we care about them."

It seems that message is resonating with the community. The 2018 Peace on Earth attendance doubled from the year before, with about 300 guests partying to festive music. The Lucas County Juvenile Court Lobby was transformed into a "Winter

Continued on page 7

All above photos are submitted.

Public Notice

ATTENTION LUCAS COUNTY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OWNERS:

Please read below: On Page 1 & 2 is the ORIGINAL ORDER FROM THE STATE OF OHIO UNDER GOVERNOR KASICH AND TAX COMMISSIONER JOSEPH TESTA. On page 3, column one represents the overall original state proposed values, column two represents the Lucas County Auditor's proposed values and column three represents the final values the state ACCEPTED to avoid litigation.

Page 4 the Board of Revision form to appeal these values. You can cut out and submit, but this paper form must be NOTARIZED or use the link below to file electronically. ALL PROPERTY OWNERS, CAN IMMEDIATELY CHALLENGE THEIR VALUE AFTER JANUARY 1ST, 2019, SUBMIT AN APPEAL WITH PHOTOS, SALES, & ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE.

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JOURNAL ENTRY

Date: Nov. 27, 2018

The Honorable Anita Lopez
Lucas County Auditor
One Government Center, Suite 600
Toledo, Ohio 43604-2255

Entry Number: 18-11-0440

RE: Lucas County 2018 Reappraisal

On June 4, 2018 the Lucas County Auditor filed a tentative abstract of the values produced by its 2018 sexennial reappraisal. Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code section 5703-25-16, the Tax Commissioner reviewed those values and found that residential property has not been assessed at its true value in money. The Commissioner informed the County of the specific areas that were underassessed and made recommendations for the necessary adjustments in each of those areas.

The County responded to the Commissioner's notice by filing a second and then a third correcting tentative abstract, neither of which brought the values into the minimum compliance range according to the Commissioner's sales ratio studies. On June 26, 2018 the County filed a fourth tentative abstract that incorporated the changes requested by the Commissioner. In response, the Commissioner issued Journal Entry Number 18-05-0111 on June 28, 2018 accepting the proposed total market value of \$21,370,286,900 and instructing the Auditor to prepare a final abstract of taxable values that would show 35% of the approved amount (approximately \$7,480 Million) plus the taxable value of minerals and new construction and less the reduction in taxable value for property on the CAUV program.

By email dated October 31, 2018, the County notified the Commissioner that due to input from taxpayers the county had decided to abandon the values approved by the Commissioner in June and instead file a final abstract of values based on its initial tentative abstract filed on June 4, 2018. That final abstract is now properly before the Commissioner for review pursuant to RC 5715.24.

The Commissioner finds that the final abstract is not in compliance with the requirement that real property be valued at its true value in money and as ordered by the Journal Entry 18-05-0111. Therefore, the following changes in residential value are hereby ordered:

Harding Township	8%
Jerusalem Township	8%
Monclova Township	12%
Providence Township	3%
Spencer Township	10%
Springfield Township	13%
Swanton Township	8%
Sylvania Township	13%
Washington Township	8%
Holland Village	6%
Ottawa Hills Village	7%
Swanton Village	13%
Maumee City	12%
Oregon City	10%
Sylvania City	14%
Toledo City	7%
Waterville City	12%

These are to be aggregate increases from the values reported on the final real property abstract for tax year 2017 and are increases in the value of existing property only, exclusive of new construction. They are equal to the increases that were approved by Journal Entry 18-05-0111.

The Auditor has ninety days from the date of this entry to file an adjusted abstract giving effect to this order to avoid imposition of the mandatory penalties prescribed by Revised Code section 5715.26(A)(3).

I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND ACCURATE COPY OF THE ENTRY RECORDED IN THE TAX COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL

JOSEPH W. TESTA
TAX COMMISSIONER

/s/ Joseph W. Testa

Joseph W. Testa
Tax Commissioner

SW/cmz

CC: The Honorable Dave Yost, State Auditor

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VALUATION CHANGES ORDERED BY THE STATE OF OHIO

	1. JOE TESTA & GOVERNOR KASICH'S ORDERED INCREASES	2. LUCAS COUNTY AUDITOR'S PROPOSED INCREASES	3. FINAL VALUES TO AVOID LITIGATION
Harding Township	8%	6%	8%
Jerusalem Township	8%	5%	8%
Monclova Township	12%	6%	11%
Providence Township	2%	1%	3%
Richfield Township	-1%	-2%	0%
Spencer Township	10%	9%	11%
Springfield Township	13%	8%	12%
Swanton Township	8%	6%	8%
Sylvania Township	13%	6%	12%
Washington Township	8%	6%	8%
Waterville Township	9%	7%	9%
Village of Berkey	0%	0%	2%
Village of Harbor View	-3%	-3%	-1%
Village of Holland	6%	5%	7%
Village of Ottawa Hills	7%	6%	8%
Village of Swanton	13%	9%	12%
Village of Whitehouse	11%	10%	12%
City of Maumee	12%	9%	11%
City of Oregon	10%	7%	9%
City of Sylvania	14%	10%	13%
City of Toledo	7%	6%	7%
City of Waterville	12%	10%	12%
Overall	10%	7%	9%

Contact information for Governor John Kasich: Riffe Center, 30th Floor, 77 South High Street, Columbus, OH 43215-6117, Phone: (614) 466-3555
Contact information for Commissioner Joseph Testa: Division of Tax Equalization, P.O. Box 530, Columbus, OH, 43216-0530, Phone: (614) 466-5744

Contact the Lucas County Auditor's Office for assistance filing a Board of Revision Complaint:

Address: One Government Center Suite 600, Toledo, Ohio 43614
Phone: 419-213-4406

Email Address: outreach@co.lucas.oh.us

Website: https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/3116/Challenge-Your-Property-Value
Note if you do not file online, then form must be signed and notarized and returned to the office between January 1, 2019 and March 31, 2019

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DTE FORM 1 (Revised 01/02)
R.C. 5715.13, 5715.19

BOR NO. _____

DATE RECEIVED

COMPLAINT AGAINST THE VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS AND TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION
READ INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK BEFORE COMPLETING FORM
ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY

TAX YEAR 2018 ☐ ORIGINAL COMPLAINT
COUNTY LUCAS ☐ COUNTER-COMPLAINT

NOTICES WILL BE SENT ONLY TO THOSE NAMED BELOW				
Name		Street Address, City, State, Zip Code		
1) Owner of property				
2) Complainant if not owner				
3) Complainant's agent				
4) Telephone number of contact person ()				
5) Complainant's relationship to property if not owner				
If more than one parcel is included, see "Multiple Parcels" on back.				
6) Parcel number from tax bill		Address of Property		
7) Principal use of property:				
8) The increase or decrease in taxable value sought. Counter-complaints supporting auditor's value may have zero in Column D.				
Complainant's Opinion of Value				
	Column A	Column B	Column C	Column D
	True Value	Taxable Value	Current Taxable Value	Change in Taxable Value (+ or -)
Parcel Number	(Fair Market Value)	(35% of Column A)	(From Tax Bill)	(Col. B minus Col. C)
9) The requested change in value is justified for the following reasons:				

10) Was property sold within the last 3 years? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown. If yes, show date of sale _____ and sale price \$ _____; and attach information explained in "Instructions for Question 10" on back.

11) If property was not sold but was listed for sale in the last 3 years, attach a copy of listing agreement or other available evidence.

12) If any improvements were completed in the last 3 years, show date _____ and total cost \$ _____

13) Do you intend to present the testimony or report of a professional appraiser? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown.

14) If you have filed a prior complaint on this parcel since the last reappraisal or update of property values in the county, the reason for the valuation change requested must be one of those below. Please check all that apply and explain on attached sheet.

See R.C. 5715.19(A)(2) for a complete explanation.
☐ The property was sold in an arm's length transaction; ☐ The property lost value due to a casualty;
☐ A substantial improvement was added to the property; ☐ Occupancy change of at least 15% had a substantial economic impact on the property.

I declare under penalties of perjury that this complaint (including any attachments) has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge and belief is true, correct and complete.

Date _____ Complainant or Agent _____ Title (if Agent) _____
Signature

Sworn to and signed in my presence, this _____ day of _____ year _____.

Notary Public

Ongoing Events

Ohio Department of Aging seeks nominations for state Senior Citizens Hall of Fame

Annual recognition highlights important roles older Ohioans play in their communities

Since its inception, more than 450 older Ohioans have been inducted into the Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame. If you know someone who belongs among those ranks, the Ohio Department of Aging wants to hear from you. The hall honors current or long-time Ohio residents age 60 and older who have made and continue to make a lasting impact on their professions, their vocations or their communities.

Visit www.aging.ohio.gov/halloffame to nominate someone you know.

Inductees are selected from public nominations. Past inductees have included business and industry leaders, advocates, community planners, educators, scientists, health care professionals, volunteers, artists, entertainers, athletes and more. Nominees are evaluated on the scope and impact of their contributions begun or continued after age 60. Nominees must be native-born Ohioans or have been residents of the state for at least 10 years. Posthumous nominations are accepted.

Induction is held each May as the state and nation celebrate Older Americans Month. Nominations must be received by Feb. 11, 2019, to be considered for induction this year.

Toledo Library goes Fine Free

Fines for late items/materials have always been part of the Library experience. But should they be? Charging overdue fines is not a strong motivator to return Library materials on time. For many families in the Lucas County community, overdue fines serve as a real barrier to access. And for those who can afford to pay them, the small fee is not a very effective incentive to return materials on time.

To improve access and opportunity in our community, the Toledo Lucas County Public Library (TL-CPL) eliminated overdue fines that went into effective Jan. 1, 2019.

Now Thru March, 2019 Ohio Development Services Agency and Pathway Help Ohioans Stay Warm this Winter

Pathway Inc. and Ohio Development Services Agency will help Ohioans stay warm during the cold winter months. The Home Energy Assistance Winter Crisis Program provides

eligible Ohioans heating assistance if they are disconnected from their heating source, threatened with disconnection or if they have less than 25 percent supply of bulk fuel. More information call: Pathway at 419-242-7304.

Now Thru March 1st Toledo Zoo Discounts and Coupons

Need an inexpensive yet entertaining activity to drive away the winter blahs? Your Toledo Zoo is here to help with a half-off admission coupon! The coupon is available online at toledo-zoo.org and is redeemable on visits within the same time period. Guests must present the coupon (printed or digital) at the entry gate to receive the discount. The coupon is not valid with any other offers and does not apply to groups of 20 or more. Additionally, in appreciation of Lucas County voters' continuing levy support, Lucas County residents receive free admission to the Toledo Zoo Saturday, January 19 - Monday, January 21, Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Day. Valid proof of residency is required. To make the holiday weekend even more affordable, Lucas County visitors receive two sets of Zoo coupons. The first includes coupons for concessions and merchandise and is valid throughout the MLK holiday weekend. The second contains coupons for a return Zoo visit during the month of March.

ditionally, in appreciation of Lucas County voters' continuing levy support, Lucas County residents receive free admission to the Toledo Zoo Saturday, January 19 - Monday, January 21, Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Day. Valid proof of residency is required. To make the holiday weekend even more affordable, Lucas County visitors receive two sets of Zoo coupons. The first includes coupons for concessions and merchandise and is valid throughout the MLK holiday weekend. The second contains coupons for a return Zoo visit during the month of March.

Every Tuesday The Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir

Will begin its 2018-2019 season @ 7:00 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church, 702 Collingwood. Brothers and Sisters you are invited to come out and be a part of this music ministry. For more information, please call 419-241-3330, or 419-

Every 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the Month The Redeemed Christian Church Food Pantry

662 Philips Avenue in Toledo from 10 AM - 12PM.

January 17th TOLEDO KWANZAA HOUSE

Is hosting a Community Meeting on Thursday, at the Frederick Douglass Center, 1001 Indiana Ave., Toledo, OH 43607. The meeting will start @ 6:00 P.M., and we will be discussing evaluation of the 2018 Celebration and recruitment of new committee members. Any questions, please call Mrs. Diane Gordon at 419 410 8022. THE MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

January 21st 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Celebration

We Will Not Be Silent! "Our lives begin to end the day that we become silent about things that matter." - MLK, Jr. Monday 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. The University of Toledo, John F. Savage Arena.

January 21st LoSalem Missionary Baptist Church Celebrate MLK Day

Our guest speaker will be Bishop Randall Parker, Pastor of Canaan Manifested Word Church, Toledo Ohio, along with Lo-Salem Praise Team. Our traditional walk will take place immediately after the message, and then dinner will be served. 660 Vance St., Toledo, Ohio 43604 @ 10:00 AM. Questions: 419-241-2596.

February 2nd 2019 Annual Youth Skate Day - Winter Wonderland

Councilman Riley cordially invites the community to attend, this free event. It will be held on Saturday,

at Ottawa Park Ice Rink, 2015 Parkside Drive, Toledo, OH. The event will run from 10:00 am through 1:00 pm with a special appearance by the Walleye's very own Spike!

"As a youth, I wanted to visit the Ottawa Park Ice Rink, but for no particular reason the opportunity never presented itself. I am providing an opportunity for youth and family members to experience the fun and excitement of ice skating. This event is to encourage youth to learn and experience a new sport, while having a fun and enjoyable time with others in the community," Councilman Riley explained.

The event will include FREE admission, skate rental and hot chocolate.

For more details, call 419-245-1611. Councilman Tyrone Riley.

Continued on page 15

TOLEDO EXCEL PRESENTS

35th Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth

Onward and Upward: Persisting through Barriers and Obstacles

Join us at The University of Toledo!

Saturday, January 26, 2019

8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

All students in grades 7-12, parents/guardians, and community members are welcome.

Admission is free. Lunch is included.

Register

online: utoledo.edu/success/excel
call: 419.530.3820



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A More Diverse Congress, a More Perfect Union?



By Julianne Malveaux
Wire Columnist

The 116th Congress, sworn in on January 3, is the most diverse our nation has ever seen. There are more women – 102 – than ever before. More members of the Congressional Black Caucus – 55 – than ever before. Indeed, a former Congressional Black Caucus intern, Lauren Underwood (D-IL) is part of the incoming first-year class. At 32, she is the youngest Black woman to serve.

This Congress includes the first Native American woman, two Muslim women, openly gay representatives, and others. Much of this diversity was displayed at the ceremonial swearing-in of the Congressional Black Caucus, an inspirational event that preceded the official swearing-in on Capitol Hill. There, as I listened to speeches by the top Congressional Democrats – incoming speaker Nancy Pelosi (CA), incoming Majority leader Steny Hoyer (MD), and incoming Whip James Clyburn (SC), I was awash in hope and optimism. These leaders, along with outgoing Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Cedric Richmond (LA) and incoming Chair Karen Bass (CA) spoke of challenge, struggle, and optimism and focused on possibilities.

As I listened to them I could not help but think of the poet Langston Hughes, and his poem Let America Be America Again. Written in 1935, the poem was first published in Esquire Magazine in 1936. Though Hughes did not consider it one of his favorites, it captures the duality of our nation, the marked difference between our nation's soaring establishing rhetoric and the stark reality that many experience. In the words of Malcolm X, it is the difference between the American dream and the American nightmare. Here is what Langston Hughes writes in his poem:

"Let America be America again. Let it be the dream it used to be. Let it be the pioneer on the plain Seeking a home where he himself is free. (America never



PHOTO CREDIT / VANITY FAIR

Incoming Congresswomen from left to right: Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), Ilhan Omar (D-MI), Deb Haaland (D-NM), Veronica Escobar (D-TX) and Sharice Davids (D-KS).

was America to me.) Let America be the dream the dreamers dreamed— Let it be that great strong land of love Where never kings connive nor tyrants scheme That any man be crushed by one above. (It never was America to me.) O, let my land be a land where Liberty Is crowned with no false patriotic wreath, But opportunity is real, and life is free, Equality is in the air we breathe."

(There's never been equality for me, Nor freedom in this "homeland of the free.")

No freedom in this homeland of the free, but this Congress offers freedom possibilities. It offers the possibility of fixing the Voting Rights Act, even as the Supreme Court has attempted to erode voting rights, even as at least two elections were stolen in 2018, those of Stacey Abrams in Georgia and Andrew Gillum in Florida.

This Congress offers freedom possibilities in resisting the insanity of a "wall" that the Great Negotiator (and purported author of The Art of the Deal) swore that Mexico was paying for. Not. This Con-

gress offers freedom possibilities in its efforts to preserve the Affordable Health Care Act and to move us to Medicare for all. This colorful Congress (the pictures tell it all) offers a sharp contrast to the dismal (as in grey and navy suits) set of Republicans, overwhelmingly white and male, and overwhelmingly staid.

It's not about MAGA (Make America Great Again), it's about MAF, or Make America Fair. This is what Congressman James Clyburn shared when he spoke at the ceremonial swearing-in. He opened with the words of French historian Alexis Tocqueville, who observed when visiting this country: "the greatness of America lies not in being more enlightened than any other nation, but rather in her ability to repair her faults."

Clyburn went on to list the many ways our nation has attempted to self-correct, from the passage of the Emancipation Proclamation to the Supreme Court Brown v. Board of Education decision declaring "separate but equal" to be "inherently unequal." Clyburn talked about the

Great Society legislation, another of our nation's attempts at self-repair, and he concluded by saying that, "America does not need to be made great again, she is already great. Our challenge is to make that greatness apply fairly and equitably to all of our citizens."

Can this diverse new Congress make our nation fair for many who have never experienced our nation in the way it is supposed to be? In the words of Langston Hughes, "It never was America to me." We've come a long way since he wrote his 1935 poem, but we still have so much to do. After these last two dystopian years under the leadership of President Genital Grabber (let's just call him GG), this new Congress offers us many possibilities. May they manifest!

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available via www.amazon.com for booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.juliannealveaux.com

The Toledo Journal

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The beliefs, opinions and viewpoints expressed by the various authors and participants do not necessarily reflect the beliefs, opinions and viewpoints of The Toledo Journal or official policies of this newspaper.

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When Hitler's generals turned on him

By Bill Fletcher, Jr.,
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Recent events with the Trump administration, including the Bob Woodward book—Fear—and the anonymous op-ed in the New York Times from an alleged member of the Trump administration had me thinking about the July 1944 plot by some of the German military to overthrow Adolph Hitler. My reference to Hitler, just before you jump out of your seat, is not a direct comparison. Rather it is to make a different point.

Germany began an active military buildup shortly after Hitler assumed power. He made an agreement with the Reichswehr (the name for the Germany military)

that he would curtail the more radical elements of the Nazi movement—specifically the S.A. or Stormtroopers—and, as a result, the Reichswehr would lend its support to Hitler's political and military ambitions. While there were probably some in the German military who questioned Hitler's approach, there was little opposition. Instead, the Reichswehr, which later became the Wehrmacht, went forward with naked aggression. Additionally, it abetted the Holocaust carried out against Jews, other minorities and political dissidents.

It was only in 1943/1944 when the tide of the war had turned with the German defeat at the hands of Soviet troops in the



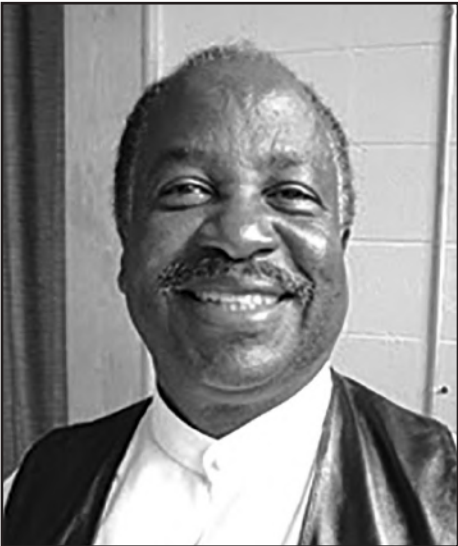
battle of Stalingrad, and the later collapse of Mussolini in Italy, that there was a rethinking. It was a rethinking not based on a moral reawakening among these generals but a recognition that Hitler was in the process of taking Germany down

rather than leading it to victory.

The lesson here is important in looking at this moment. There appear to be an increasing number of Republicans who are, quietly and sheepishly, beginning to question the

continued on page 5

It's Raining Legal Freebies...!



By Lafe Tolliver,
Attorney

As it my wont, at the beginning of a new year, I like to shower on my dear readers, legal freebies that may be of SOME utility or value as they navigate that minefield known as the legal system.

It can be full of pits, snares and surprises for the novice, so, in my small way, I like to be a legal cornucopia and spread a little new year's cheer to everyone.

Now mind you, the following legal freebies should only be used in conjunction with an attorney who is knowledgeable of your particular concerns or dilemma.

So, just as you would not go to a dentist to install your home security system, make sure that the attorney you employ is a seasoned hand so you can avoid or minimize any hard lumps.

FREEBIE ONE: If you choose (and you shouldn't) to have a baby outside of

marital wedlock and you want to make sure that you are in the baby's future (even if the birth mother wants to "lock you out"), you can place your name on a putative registry so that your rights as a birth parent are protected.

This needs to be done within fifteen days of the birth of the child. So, before you buy that first box of "Pampers", get on the registry!

FREEBIE TWO: If you are expecting a "fat" tax refund but still need to file a chapter 7 bankruptcy but have urgent expenses, make sure that you keep a detailed list of whatever you spend out of that tax refund, including all receipts. Why? In the event that you file a bankruptcy and the trustee over your case asks about that X grand return, you can present evidence that you did not fritter it away on loose living and buying the latest Jordan's.

But rather you spent it on necessities including back rent, utilities, food, clothing, attorney fees and costs to file the bankruptcy, etc...etc. Do not pay back friends or family members for any "loans" that they gave you. That won't fly with the bankruptcy trustee.

FREEBIE THREE: Danger! Danger! If you sign a consumer contract for goods and services, you normally have a three day rescission period by which you can reject the contract and not be liable to pay any contractual balance. However, this three days of grace does not apply to buying a car. So, be very sure that you want the car and the car checks out as not being a lemon or it will become your "bank" (in other words, you are always putting money into it!).

FREEBIE FOUR: In the unfortunate event that you are a passenger in a car that is stopped by the police, the police can ask each of the occupants of the car to identify themselves and also to step out of car (safety of the officers).

If that happens to you, please refrain from loud mouthing the police or trying to play tough guy and not cooperate. The owner/driver of the vehicle can protest a search of the car but you can't. So, please cooperate so that you can get home safely and not be a victim of police misconduct.

FREEBIE FIVE: Being evicted? If so,

make sure that the landlord files the proper paperwork in court and be very careful to make note if the landlord or his agents try to do what is called, "self-help" by which they put out your belongings on the curb before the court process has finished. If they try that tactic, they can be sued for damages. Take pictures and have witnesses if at all possible about the damages done to your household goods and furniture.

FREEBIE SIX: If you are facing a foreclosure but want to save the house but the creditor says no, you may file for what is called a Chapter 13 Plan by which, if you qualify, you can save the house from foreclosure and also you can catch up on any past due and owing house payments and property taxes. You must act quickly so that your rights are protected since after the foreclosure is done, your rights are extinguished unless you can pay the due amount in full which may include substantial attorney fees and costs.

FREEBIE SEVEN: If someone dies and they made out a will but you can not find it but you do have a copy of it, you can still ask the local probate court to admit the will and there will be a legal proceeding to validate the copy as if it was the original will. If no original can be found and neither can a copy be found, you can still probate the estate assets of the deceased that are not included in a trust document (trust documents are not admitted to probate court).

FREEBIE EIGHT: In the event that you want to deed property to someone but with conditions, you can do so and thus give a person a "life estate" in the property and when they pass on, you can (in the same document) determine who then gets the property or whether it should revert back to you or your heirs.

FREEBIE NINE: To save money as regards probating one's estate, consider having a possible heir, or two,

placed on your checking or savings account so that in the event that you pass away, those remaining funds are now considered to be owned by those name heirs. This is called a "POD" (payable on death account) and can be set up by going to your bank and adding a name, or more, to the paperwork and thus it is a contract and as such will not be considered a probate asset and thus avoids going through probate.

FREEBIE TEN: In the event that you need to file a bankruptcy or a Chapter 13 Plan, the federal law allows you to include into your monthly budget an amount for tithing to your church (Note: there is no New Testament requirement for tithing, only for joyful giving) and which amount can be up to fifteen percent of your annual gross income. Such giving could make a favorable result in you being able to file either a bankruptcy or a Chapter 13 Plan since that amount lessens what is available to pay to creditors!

FREEBIE ELEVEN: In the event that you are sent an unsolicited gift in the mail (in other words you did not ask for it or order it), it is yours to keep and the sender is out of luck. So, if a package comes to you and you keep it and then you get letters demanding payment or its return, throw the letters away and enjoy the freebie.

FREEBIE TWELVE: If you and your spouse have to separate and you both agree upon a dissolution as opposed to a divorce (dissolution requires no grounds to be proven), make sure that each spouse will be present at the final hearing because if not, and one spouse does not appear, the court will/can dismiss it and you will have to start over and file a more costly divorce action.

Well, there you have it. Freebies for all! Use them wisely and when you are in a contentious situation, do not get angry...get smart. Angry people lose while smart people win.

Lafe Tolliver, Attorney

When followers turn on their leaders

continued from page 4

wisdom of the great leader, excuse me, of President Trump. This has been captured through the interviews in Bob Woodward's book, Fear, and equally illuminated by the anonymous op-ed.

To be clear, the covert opponents of Trump are NOT questioning the basic objectives of the administration. Rather, they are questioning the methods being undertaken and the instability brought about by the fact that Trump is, apparently, quite prepared to discard the rule of law. They are not questioning the disemboweling of the Environmental Protection Agency; they are not questioning Trump's picks for the judiciary; they are not questioning

the revoking of the Iran nuclear deal...the list goes on. But what they do realize is that Trump is bringing the temple down on everyone.

None of this is to suggest that the covert opponents of Trump should be ignored or even ridiculed. Opposition to Trump's authoritarianism is always welcomed. But the rest of us must always keep in mind that there are those who resist the demon and the demonic agenda, while there are those who resist the demon because the agenda is under threat.

Bill Fletcher, Jr. is the former president of TransAfrica Forum. Follow him on Twitter, Facebook and at www.billfletcherjr.com.



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2018 Kwanzaa Celebration held at the Fredrick Douglass Community Center

Special to the Journal by Michael Daniels

After the traditional Christmas holiday ends, many African Americans observe another celebration known as Kwanzaa. A Swahili phrase which means 'first' and signifies the first fruit of the harvest. Kwanzaa begins on December 26 and last for seven days ending on January 1, and is based on seven core principals.

These principals are Umoja (Unity), Kujichagulia (Self Determination), Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility) Ujmaa (Co-operative Economics), Nia (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity) and Imani (Faith). These ideals are observed one at a time on each day of the Kwanzaa season in the order listed by the lighting of a candle each day in

the Kinara, a stand which holds the seven candles. This is followed by other Kwanzaa related traditions.

Here in Toledo on the first day of the celebration, December 26, 2018. The Fredrick Douglass Center hosted this yearly activity with a community Kwanzaa event. Organized by the Toledo Kwanzaa House Committee, the event lasted for four day instead of seven do to the venue's availability. Despite its condensed form the program still offered Toledo's African American community as well as others the opportunity to celebrate Kwanzaa in grand style.

Squeezed into a shorter

Continued on page 14



Members of The Toledo Kwanzaa House Committee standing behind the Kinara holding the Kwanzaa candles are (L-R) Donald Lynn, Kewate, Diane Gordon:Coordinator of the Kwanzaa House Committee and Master of Ceremony Mr. Rodney Gordon Jr. with (Front L) Janece Wooley: The Interim Executive Director of the Fredrick Douglass Community



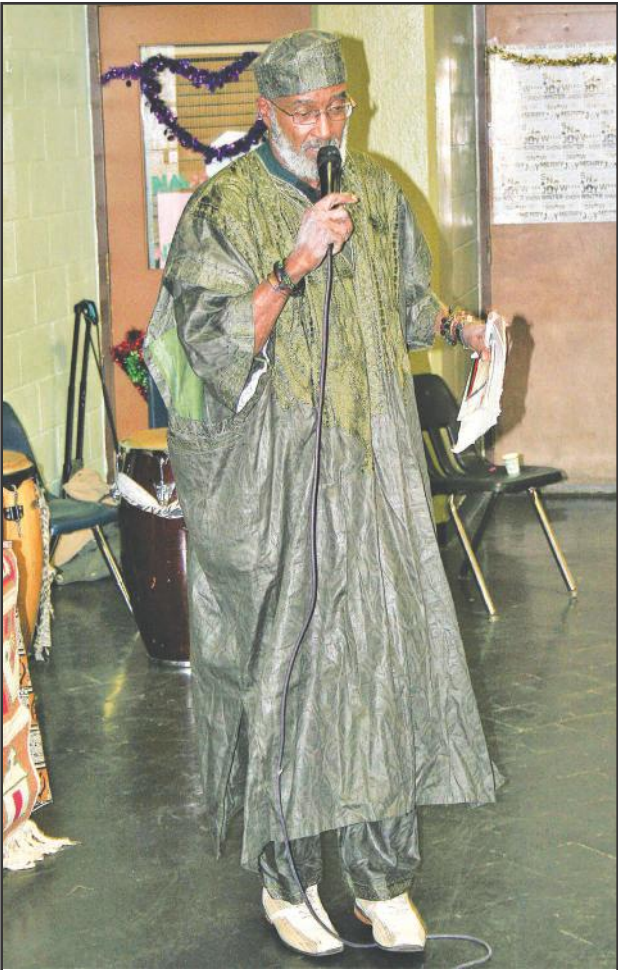
Master of Ceremony Rodney Gordon Jr. welcomes the Audience to the 2018 Kwanzaa program.



Royal Dance Troupe from The Fredrick Douglass Center performed at the 2018 Kwanzaa event.



Kuumba Dance Troupe performs an African dance during 2018 Kwanzaa program.



Kewate, of the Kwanzaa House Committee, urge be able to discern what is true.

All above photos courtesy of Michael Daniels.

Center of Hope Family Services Hosts 2nd Annual Peace on Earth Community Event

Continued from page 1

Wonderland” to foster joy, hope, and holiday cheer. Children and families were able to participate in an array of activities. Lucas County Juvenile Court provided craft stations, cookie decorating, and an opportunity for each child to take pictures with Santa Claus. Center of Hope hosted a gift giveaway for all children ages 0-14.

Midway through the program, the crowd paused to honor seven of its Parent Support Program participants. These individuals were recognized for graduating from Center of Hope’s Parent Education Program during the month of December. Others were honored for maintaining employment for 90 days or more through Center of

Hope’s workforce development program.

The Central Catholic High School Glee club provided live entertainment, followed by Dr. Tracee Perryman. The Center of Hope ELEVATE program, winners of both the 2018 Ohio Department of Education 21st Century Literacy Achievement, and Excellence and Innovation Awards, performed the finale. The ELEVATE students performed their signature song, “ELEVATE,” which they recorded this summer, and is now available on Soundcloud. Center of Hope concluded the program by sponsored a sit-down community dinner for all guests. For more information about Center of Hope Family Services or its programs, visit www.cohfs.org.



Dr. Tracee Perryman performs her latest single, “Break Through,” to be released in 2019.

All photos shown here are submitted.



Guests support graduates of the Center of Hope Parent Support and Workforce Development programs



Parent and child line up for a photo with Santa Claus.

Terrence E. O’Neal, Receives Gold Medal Award



Ohio native son Terrence E. O’Neal, left, holding his award presented by AIANYS President, Kirk Narburg
See Page 10 Photo by Sean Russell

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Michelle Obama’s “Becoming” Will Soon be a Classroom Curriculum For Young Black Girls

Submitted by
Nationwide

Nationwide — Former First Lady Michelle Obama’s book *Becoming*, which sold over 1.4 million copies in its first week of release, has inspired many Black women all over the world. Having been inspired by the book herself, Lauren Christine Mims, a former assistant director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans, chose *Becoming* to be a curriculum for Black girls to enhance their learning and development.

Lauren Christine Mims, who will soon earn her Ph.D. of Educational Psychology from the University of Virginia, is just one of the many who have been captivated by Obama’s best-selling memoir.

“Reading *Becoming* was like sitting on the couch with your best friend and having one of those soulful conversations about life,” Mims told *Black Enterprise*. “Reading about how Michelle Obama felt unchallenged in elementary school, teased for the way

she spoke, and noticed a difference in how she was perceived during adolescence was affirming.”

Upon reading it, Mims realized the impact the book could be able to give on black girls who were striving to find their place in the challenging world. Along with her doctoral research about young, black girls in school, she decided to turn *Becoming* into a curriculum to further black girls’ learning and development.

“I disrupt the traditional practice of talking about black girls in pejorative ways and center them and their unique experiences to study how we can support them. For example, my research highlights what ‘Black Girl Magic’ means to black girls; the role teachers play in supporting or stopping the success of black girls; and more about what they are learning and how it makes them feel,” she said.

The curriculum would include reading *Becoming*, watching films with black girls as the lead role, and participating in “important conversations, like about what it means to feel like your



presence is a threat or that you do not belong. We will discuss Maddie Whitsett and McKenzie Nicole Adams; two 9-year old black girls who died by suicide after being subjected to bullying. At the end of the course, students will apply their knowledge to draft new research proposals, policies, and practices,” Mims said.

Additionally, Mims stated four ways on how we can all support the devel-

opment of Black girls:

- * Create supportive, affirming, and loving environments by listening to their needs and centering their unique experiences of *Becoming*;

- * Advocate for, adopt, and enforce school policies and accountability practices that recognize the brilliance of black girls and ensure they are not being pushed out of school.

- * Address the bullying,

harassment, and discrimination of black girls and ensure that all students have access to mental healthcare;

- * Care for your own mental health and well-being.

Moreover, Mims believes and she wants young black girls to believe that they are enough and they can flourish in a world despite its attempts to deny their humanity.

As told by Michelle

Obama herself, “*Becoming* isn’t about arriving somewhere or achieving a certain aim,” yet there is so much pressure in college to define your identity and pick a career path. It can take a toll on you. Know that you are brilliant and never “underestimate the importance you can have because history has shown us that courage can be contagious and hope can take on a life of its own.”

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BEYOND THE DREAM



OPAL TOMETI
SOCIAL ACTIVIST & CO-CREATOR OF #BLACKLIVESMATTER
Beyond The Dream keynote speaker
Wednesday, February 20, 2019 | 7 – 9 p.m.
Bowen-Thompson Student Union
Lenhart Grand Ballroom

Opal Tometi is a Nigerian-American strategist, writer and community organizer committed to advancing social justice and human rights. As a co-founder of Black Lives Matter and the Executive Director of the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI), Opal works to amplify Black voices to defeat structural racism and discrimination.

“CIVILITY IS THE RECOGNITION THAT ALL PEOPLE HAVE DIGNITY THAT’S INHERENT TO THEIR PERSON, NO MATTER THEIR RELIGION, RACE, GENDER, SEXUALITY, OR ABILITY.”

—OPAL TOMETI

SHAUNKING
JOURNALIST, HUMANITARIAN & ACTIVIST
Black issues Conference keynote speaker
Friday, February 22, 2019 | 12:30 p.m.
Bowen-Thompson Student Union
Lenhart Grand Ballroom

Shaun King is a columnist for *The Intercept* and the Writer-In-Residence at Harvard Law School’s Fair Punishment Project, and is amongst the most compelling voices: a humane and passionate advocate for justice and families, and an extremely visible fundraiser for victims of brutality and discrimination.



“WE ARE IN A PAINFUL AND PECULIAR POINT IN AMERICAN HISTORY. SO MUCH IS WRONG THAT IT’S HARD TO KEEP UP, BUT WE MUST.”

—SHAUN KING

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United for Libraries to partner on ‘Summer Scares’ reading program

Submitted by
Martice Bishop

BRYN MAWR, Pennsylvania — The Horror Writers Association (HWA) is developing a “Summer Scares” reading program that will provide libraries and schools with an annual list of recommended horror titles for adult, young adult (teen), and middle grade readers. The goal is to introduce new authors and help librarians start conversations with readers that will extend beyond the books from each list and promote reading for years to come.

HWA is partnering with United for Libraries, Book Riot, and Library Journal/School Library Journal on “Summer Scares.”

Award-winning author Grady Hendrix and a committee of four librarians will be selecting three recommended fiction titles in each of three reading levels— Middle Grade, Teen, and Adult— for a total of nine “Summer Scares” selections. The goal of the program is to encourage a national conversation about the entire horror genre, across all age levels, at libraries all over the country and ultimately get more adults, teens, and children interested in reading. Official “Summer Scares” designated authors will also be making themselves available to appear, either virtually or in person,



at public and school libraries all over the country, for free.

“Horror is one of those genres that is incredibly popular,” Grady Hendrix says. “But people look at you funny when you say you like reading horror. We want to use this opportunity

to showcase the best of what’s out there today. These stories won’t just scare readers, but they’ll make them laugh, make them cry, and make them cringe. There’s more to horror than just saying ‘boo’.”

The committee’s final selections

will be announced on February 14, 2019— National Library Lover’s Day. Some or all of the authors of those titles will appear on a panel to kick off “Summer Scares” at Librarian’s Day during StokerCon 2019 on May 10, 2019, in Grand Rapids, Mich.



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Ohio Native Son Terrence E. O’Neal, FAIA, architect, receives Gold Medal Award in New York- Highest Honor Granted by AIANYs

Submitted By: Evelyn Mertens

New York, New York – Terrence E. O’Neal FAIA, LEED AP, an Ohio native born in Cleveland and raised in Toledo, has received the highest award granted by AIA New York State (AIANYs), the James William Kideney Gold Medal Award, at the November AIANYs 2018 Design Awards ceremony. O’Neal is the managing principal of New York City-based TONA (Terrence O’Neal Architect LLC). In 2006, O’Neal was honored in Toledo during a special day of tributes paid by the AIA (American Institute of Architects), numerous City officials, and representatives from his alma ma-

ter, Kent State University School of Architecture. In 2013, O’Neal, a graduate of Ottawa Hills High School, was inducted into the Ottawa Hills Foundation Hall of Fame. O’Neal’s mother, Brunetta M. O’Neal of Ottawa Hills, attended the November awards ceremony in New York as did his wife, Heather Phillip-O’Neal, AIA, and his son, Alexander. In accepting the award, O’Neal thanked his mother “for making me the person I am today.” He thanked the many AIA and community stakeholders he has worked with over several years of community and AIA leadership. In presenting the Kideney medallion, current AIANYs president

Kirk Narburgh, AIA, noted that the honor is bestowed in recognition of “a lifetime of notable contributions by an architect to the profession, the professional society, and the community.” O’Neal received the Matthew W. Del Gaudio Service Award from AIANYs in 2008, giving him the rare distinction of having received two of AIANYs’s highest honors. Kideney Gold Medal recipients demonstrate a lifetime commitment to making the community a better place in which to live and take a leadership role in the profession and the professional society at the local, state or national level. The awards ceremony was held at the Crown



PHOTO CREDIT / SEAN RUSSELL
Terrence O’Neal is flanked by family members from left, wife, Heather Phillip-O’Neal, AIA; Alexander O’Neal, son and mom, Brunetta M. O’Neal.

In Loving Memory of Willie Mae Gant Happy 94th Birthday

January 11, 1925 - April 12, 2012



Happy Birthday mother, we miss you and will forever love and cherish your memory. Karen your first grandchild has now joined you and James to celebrate your birthday.

Your Children, Helen, Leroy, Roosevelt (Gail), Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

Cyntoia Brown granted clemency and said she serves a God of second chances

Submitted By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Correspondent @StacyBrownMedia

At long last, one of the greatest injustices in recent history has been corrected. The Associated Press reports that Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam granted clemency on Monday to a woman serving a life sentence for murder who

says she was a victim of sex trafficking. The outgoing Republican governor, whose term ends in just two weeks, chose to show mercy to the now 30-year-old Cyntoia Brown by releasing her Aug. 7. Brown was sentenced to life in prison for killing a man when she was 16. She will remain on parole supervision for 10 years on the condition



she does not violate any state or federal laws, as well as holds a job and participates in regular counseling sessions, the AP reported. “Cyntoia Brown committed, by her own admission, a horrific crime at the age of 16. Yet, imposing a life sentence on a juvenile that would require her to serve at least 51 years before even being eligible for parole consideration is too harsh, especially in light of the extraordinary steps Ms. Brown has taken to rebuild her life,” Haslam said in his statement. Brown’s case has attracted national attention from criminal justice reform advocates, and attention has amped up as Haslam’s second and final term entered its final weeks. Celebrities like Kim Kardashian West and singer Rihanna threw their support behind the fight for her release. The governor’s office was inundated with thousands of phone calls and emails from supporters. “Thank you Governor Haslam,” West tweeted soon after news of the

clemency decision broke. Brown was convicted in 2006 of murdering 43-year-old Nashville real estate agent Johnny Allen two years before. Police said she shot Allen in the back of the head at close range with a loaded gun she brought to rob him after he picked her up at a drive-in in Nashville. However, according to her lawyers, Brown was a victim of sex trafficking who not only feared for her life but also lacked the mental state to be culpable in the slaying because she was impaired by her mother’s alcohol use while she was in the womb. Brown expressed thanks in a statement released Monday by her legal team. “I am thankful for all the support, prayers, and encouragement I have received. We truly serve a God of second chances and new beginnings. The Lord has held my hand this whole time and I would have never made it without him,” Brown said. “Let today be a testament to his saving grace.”



ASK YOUR FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Send your question to: The Toledo Journal P.O. Box 12559, Toledo, Ohio 43606 c/o Ask Your Funeral Directors

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When Toddlers Will Eat Dirt, But Not Vegetables

By Defender News Service
Submitted

It's common for toddlers to switch up their eating habits, so don't be shocked if they refuse a particular food one day and accept it the next.

If you're trying to get your toddler to accept particular foods, form good eating habits and avoid carrying picky eating into adolescence, consider the tips below:

Serve meals regularly and limit grazing or excessive snacking throughout the day. Meals should be served at the table with other family members, promoting routine and predictability.

Don't let toddlers drink their calories. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends approximately 2.5 servings of dairy per day if your toddler can drink milk, and also discourages juice and soda consumption due to their lack of nutritional value and relationship with childhood obesity.

Offer new foods alongside familiar food your toddler favors. Promoting food diversity and introducing new foods can open up a range of options for your picky eater.

Let toddlers explore their foods, even if they make a mess. Encourage playing, touching, smelling, licking and even taking small bites.

Don't bribe your child to eat healthy food using unhealthy food. The goal is to get your child to enjoy and crave healthy foods instead of simply tolerating them.



Their meals should be well-balanced, offering plenty of fruits and vegetables. You decide what your toddler eats, but let them decide how much they want to eat. Your pediatrician will review growth charts to ensure your toddler is getting the right amount of calories.

Set a good example by eating a nutritious, diverse diet. You are your toddler's most important influence.

Don't stock junk food in your home. If this isn't an option, make sure this

food is hard to access for your toddler. Discuss benefits of healthy, nutritious eating. Talk about making healthy choices and eating fresh food instead of processed snacks.

Use toddler-sized portions. A serving size for a toddler is about ¼ of a single adult portion. It's normal for your toddler to take a few bites and feel full. Set a timer for five minutes and slowly extend meal time up to 15 minutes.

Minimize distractions at the table

while eating. There are many negative effects that can come from eating while watching television.

Despite negative initial reactions, your child will likely learn to accept the food with time and repeated exposure. Getting a toddler to eat a balanced diet is a long process requiring patience and perseverance. When your children mature into healthy adults, they will learn to appreciate your efforts.

This article originally appeared in the Defender News Network.

Who to contact: Social Security or Medicare?

By Erin Thompson
Social Security Public Affairs
Specialist in Toledo, OH

Sometimes it's confusing to know who to contact and for what. Social Security and Medicare offer related services, so people aren't always certain who does what. This "cheat sheet" can help.

Contact Social Security to:

See if you're eligible for Medicare;

Create a my Social Security account to do things like request a replacement Medicare card and report a change of address, name, or phone number;

Sign up for Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance);

Apply for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug coverage (Part D) costs; Report a death; and

Appeal an Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA) decision (for people who pay a higher Part B and/or Part D premium if their income is over a certain amount).

Find information on how to do all of this and more at www.socialsecurity.gov and www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/medicare.

Contact Medicare to:

See what services Medicare covers;

Get detailed information about Medicare health and prescription drug plans in your area, including costs and services;

Choose and enroll in a Medicare health or prescription drug plan that meets your



needs;

Find a Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) policy in your area;

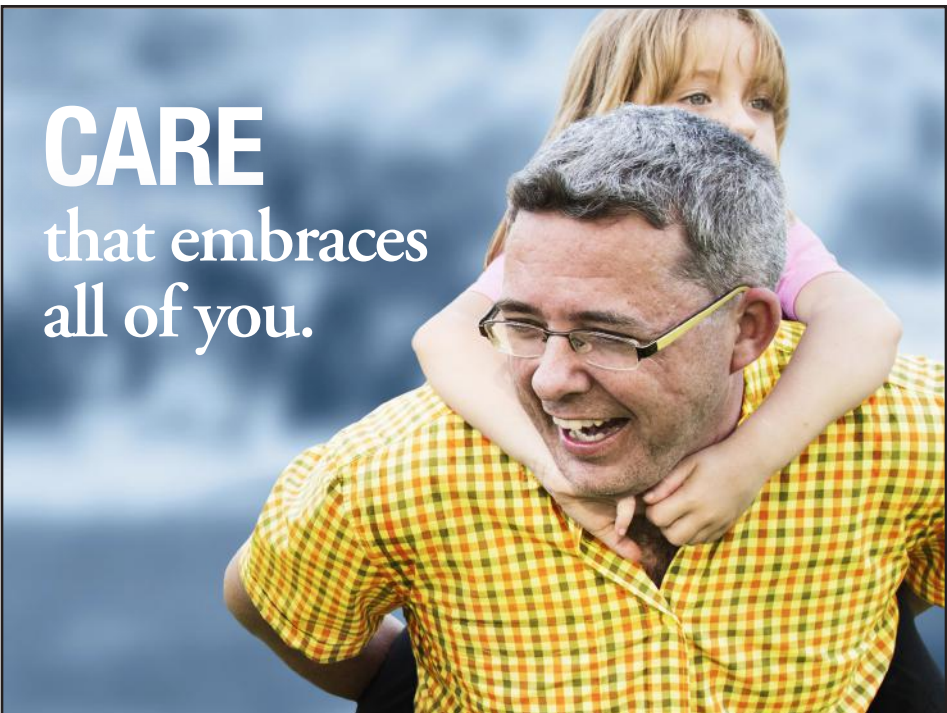
Find doctors, health care providers, and suppliers who participate in Medicare;

Get information and forms for filing a Medicare appeal or for letting someone speak with Medicare on your behalf;

Compare the quality of care provided by plans, nursing homes, hospitals, home health agencies, and dialysis facilities; and

View Medicare publications.

Visit www.medicare.gov for these services. If you need to find out your claim status, find out deductibles, or get answers to premium payment questions, you can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY: 1-877-486-2048). Determining who to contact is the first step in getting the answers you need. Please share these lists with family and friends who need to know more about Social Security and Medicare.



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If you have any comments or questions for my column, radio, or television show feel free to call and leave a message or text at 419-972-1SAM.

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Commentary:

Sex and sexual innuendo are at the forefront of everything we see and hear in America from television, the internet, music, marriages, schools, magazines, department stores and everywhere else for that matter. Sexuality, physicality, and human nature are being exploited and even perverted because of the basic need in each of us to be touched or held by another human being.

What our eyes see contribute greatly to our desire to get physically close to another human being. In the wrong hands this can be dangerous. Being sexually stimulated without an emotional connection can cause men and women to want sex for entirely different reasons.

For example, if a woman is not emotionally connected it's like she is not into having sex at all; but when you can tap into a woman physically, mentally, spiritually, and emotionally at the same time the experience can be like no other. Men, have sex to relieve tension and to feel empowerment. The right kind of sex with a spouse the kind he wants can enhance the marriage relationship taking it to new



Dr. Samuel L. Mallette, III
www.sammallette.com 419.972.1SAM

heights. These are examples of the power of sex and love. The reason I am saying this is because sex and love are both beautiful and even though stimulation and motivation may come from an outside source, the art of sex and love comes from you being totally unselfish.

So this week I want you to find out what in the sex do you want?

I am a freak I admit it. I like a man who is aggressive and romantic. I want a man who knows how to kiss and hold me. I love the smell of his cologne and the emotional connection. These things put me in the mood to have sex and love. —Candy, 24

When a woman looks and smells good it's all good. A confident woman with sex appeal really turns me on. That's what I want in the sex. —Jesse, 36

My wife and I have been together for 40 years. I get more excited thinking about it than actually doing it. Sex for my wife and I is much more meaningful because we actually take our time and bask in the love. For those of you who don't know what that means, that means making love to her mind, body and spirit. Making her sexual desires come true. —Name, age

Question of the Day:
Who produced the album “Off the Wall” for Michael Jackson in 1979?

A) Babyface B) David Foster C) Quincy Jones D) Michael Jackson

For answers to “Ask Dr. Sam,” speaking engagements, or questions and responses go to drsammallette@gmail.com or call 419-972-1726. Check out my site for everything from new updates, consulting, relationships, business, sex, manhood, empowering women, and health/wellness just to name a few. Check out my new website www.thedrsamshow.us.

Ask Alma

Dear Alma,

I joined the Air Force after graduating from high school. It seemed like the best decision for me and my boyfriend at the time. We wanted to be on our own and start a new life together. We promised to remain faithful to each other, until we could get married once I was settled and sent to my duty station. Well, all that came to a halt when I found out another woman was pregnant by him. He tried to apologize and tell me that he still wanted to get married, but I couldn't. I was heartbroken and just couldn't bear the thought of co-parenting this child that would be a constant reminder of his betrayal.

We found each other on Facebook last year, so we started communicating again. We both apologized and had a long conversation about how we could have better handled the situation. I forgave him. I mean after all, life carried on. We've both been married and are both currently divorced. I don't have any children. He has four. We met a few months ago and although there weren't any heavy flames, we decided we will remain the best of friends. He's now seeing someone else, so we agreed to stay in touch and talk often.

His oldest, the one that broke up our relationship, will start college next year in what's currently my hometown. He says he's excited that we're talking again, because she doesn't know anyone in the area. He has mentioned on more than one occasion that I can become her family away from family.

I've got to be honest, Alma, I don't think that's something I want to do. I can honestly say I'm over what happened many years ago, but I don't want to meet his daughter. How can I let him know, “No thanks,” without coming off childish about the situation?

Signed,

Cheating Ex Needs My Help Now

Dear Cheating Ex Needs My Help Now,

You're coming off childish and immature, because that's still where your heart is. TBT, you're stuck in that summer after high school graduation, and that's a long, long way away from forgiving. You're still so deep in this yearbook of a broken heart, you can't even turn the page. Let me help you let this go, because honestly, enough time has passed for your heart to have healed.

Take my hand and let's face your truth. Here's where we take a minute to grieve the perfect relationship you



thought would last forever. Over the years, you've been able to fantasize and worship this extraordinary courtship that never was. You said you've forgiven him, but ahh raah, my sista, I'm not seeing that. Not in your words or actions.

Entertaining forgiveness alone hurts and constantly reminds you of the pain unless you forget. What you've gotta do is, erase, delete, zap, remove, shazam, be gone — Umhm, get it alllll oooooout! Yes, yes, that's right, remove it completely from your recollection. I know this takes determination, practice and prayer, but that's okay, you can do it.

Before you make your decision based on a twenty year-old emotion, lace up your big girl sneakers and invite her to meet for lunch. The encounter will update your gut, give clarity to your heart and make room for the forgiveness you speak of.

Step out in maturity and faith. You aren't that teenage girl whose heart was broken by her daddy anymore.

The circumstances of her birth, in relation to you, are not her fault. That baby girl doesn't know details I'm sure, or at least I hope. He most likely speaks highly of you and your friendship since high school. No dirty details were necessary in the discussion. I think you may find that she's a lovely young lady. One who happens to be in your city all alone.

The way you handle a situation at 20 should be vastly different from the way you handle it at 40. Flip the script and be the blessing she needs at this time. You never know, this acquaintance might only last a season or a semester, open up to it. I've got a feeling meeting her will warm your heart, allow for forgiveness, and bring about a positive resolution to what was once a painful memory.

Email questions to: alwaysaskalma@gmail.com, follow her on Facebook at “Ask Alma” and Twitter @ [almaaskalma](https://twitter.com/almaaskalma).

Why Idris Elba's daughter thinks he's a cool dad

Submitted by
Rolling Out

Idris Elba is finally a “cool dad” after booking a slot at Coachella.

The “Luther” star — who is also a DJ — has impressed his daughter Isan, 17, by being given the green light to perform a set at Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in April.

She said: “It was a cool dad moment. I was looking at the list and saw Virgil Abloh, because I love Off-White, and right under him I saw Idris Elba. I was in my bed and he was sleeping, so I couldn't even say congratulations. I was like, ‘What?!’ I had no idea.”

And now Isan is hoping this will be a great excuse for her to go to the annual festival.

She added to “Entertainment Tonight”: “Coachella is so huge. I've never been and

I want to go. Hopefully, he lets me come because I have to miss school, but [we'll see].”

It comes after Isan admitted she was left feeling “awkward” after her father was named People's Sexiest Man Alive earlier this month.

She said: “Actually, I was on Instagram. PEOPLE said, ‘Oh, we're announcing the Sexiest Man Alive,’ and I was like, ‘Oh yes, can't wait.’ I wake up in the morning and it's my dad. I was like, ‘This is not what I was expecting. This is not very fun.’ ... When I called him the day after, not even about it, he was like, ‘Do you have anything to say to me?’ And I said, ‘No, I don't think so.’ Then he said, ‘I'm the Sexiest Man Alive.’ I was like, ‘Oh, yeah. That. That thing. Uh, okay, cool. You're welcome.’”

This article originally appeared in the rollingout.com.



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the Program Department at Wildwood Metropark.
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plete job requirements and descriptions; must sub-
mit online application and resume online by Janu-
ary 21. EOE

PROPOSALS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Property and Casualty Insurance for
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RFP#19-WADC001

Westridge Apartments Development Corporation
(WADC) will receive proposals for **Property and
Casualty insurance**.Received in accordance with
law until **January 25, 2019 at 3:00 PM ET**.See
documents: www.lucasmha.org; 201 Belmont Ave.,
Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial
711).Affirmative Action and Equal Employment
Opportunity requirements (Executive Order
#11246). This contract opportunity is a Section 3
Covered Contract and any Section 3 Business Con-
cerns are encouraged to apply.

HELP WANTED

PLANNING & ZONING MANAGER,
Sylvania Township, Sylvania, OH
Sylvania Township is seeking candidates for the
position of **Planning & Zoning Manager**. Sylvania
Township has a population of approximately 48,000
and covers 21 square miles. The Planning & Zon-
ing Manager oversees the Township’s planning and
zoning operations and is responsible for the over-
all functions of the department. The essential func-
tions of the position include reviewing zoning per-
mits, coordinating site plan reviews, preparing staff
reports, serving as subject matter expert to the
Township Boards, administering the township’s zon-
ing resolutions and supervising support staff. The
minimum qualifications include a Bachelor’s degree
in Urban Planning, Geography, Public Administra-
tion or closely related field; public speaking includ-
ing experience presenting zoning reports and rec-
ommendations to various Boards and the public,
and public service experience. Four years of zon-
ing management experience is preferred, with
knowledge of local government/township experi-
ence. A full copy of the Planning & Zoning Man-
ager position description is available on Sylvania
Township’s website at: www.sylvaniatownship.com.
Applicants must submit a resume and cover letter
describing their experience and qualifications for
this position. Applicants must also provide their
salary expectations and three work-related refer-
ences with contact information. Sylvania Township
offers a competitive salary commensurate with
qualifications and experience.

Send resume, cover letter, references and salary
requirements to: Sylvania Township, Attn: Human
Resources, 4927 N. Holland-Sylvania Road,
Sylvania, Ohio 43560. You may also forward your
resume to: "HR@sylvaniatownship.com. All mate-
rial must be received by 4:00 pm Friday, January
25, 2019.

Faxes will not be accepted. Sylvania Township is
an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to di-
versity and a drug-free, tobacco-free workplace.

HELP WANTED

ACCOUNTING MANAGER

Metroparks Toledo has an opening for an Account-
ing Manager. Three years of general accounting ex-
perience including accounts payable and payroll is
required. Moderate level of experience with grants,
financial management of capital projects and gov-
ernmental accounting preferred. Supervisory and
leadership experience required. Bachelor’s Degree
in accounting, finance, public administration or re-
lated field, or equivalent work experience. FT po-
sition with benefits. Go to
www.MetroparksToledo.com to view the job descrip-
tion, position requirements and apply online by
January 20. EOE

HELP WANTED

PARK SERVICES CREW LEADER

Metroparks Toledo is looking for a Park Services
Crew Leader position at Pearson Metropark. Asso-
ciate Degree in Parks and Recreation services,
Natural Resources, Grounds Management, or re-
lated field, or combination of education and work
experience. Supervisory experience preferred. Park
or outdoor operations experience including leader-
ship responsibilities. \$20.28/hr. Full time. Go to
www.metroparkstoledo.com for complete list of po-
sition requirements and duties; must submit online
application and resume by January 24. EOE

BLACK HISTORY FACTS

Cathay Williams was the one and only female Buf-
falo Soldier, posing as a man named William Cathay
to enlist in the 38th infantry in 1866. She served for
two years before a doctor discovered that she was a
woman, leading to her discharge.

Both Condoleezza Rice and Martin Luther King,
Jr., started college when the were just 15 years old.
She studied political science at the University of Den-
ver; he majored in sociology at Morehouse College
in Atlanta.

Journalist Ida Wells-Barnett refused to give up her
railcar seat for a white man in 1884, and bit a con-
ductor on the hand when he tried to force her. She
was dragged off the train. She sued the railroad and
initially won, but the decision was overturned.

In 2008, Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt became the
first man to ever set three world records in a single
Olympic games.

Black ingenuity helped devise creative - and effec-
tive - plans to escape enslavement. In 1848, hus-
band-and wife team William and Ellen Craft made
it to the North, and eventually England, when she
dressed as a white man and he posed as one of her
slaves. A year later, Henry “Box “ Brown literally
mailed himself to freedom in a shipping box during a
27-hour trip from Richmond to Philadelphia.

2018 Kwanzaa Celebration held at the Fredrick Douglass Community Center

Continued from page 6

time period than normal, the four programs covered two core principals with the lighting of two Kwanzaa candles each day. Ending with the last principal and last candle on the final day.

Day one's opening ceremony was hosted by Master of Ceremony Rodney Gordon Jr. of the Toledo Kwanzaa House Committee, and featured inspirational speakers, traditional African dance performances, audience participation events, community vendors, and food samples.

One of the highlights of the was guest speaker Mrs. Joyce Stubblefield, who educated and amused everyone as she explained the history of collard greens, an African American food staple. 'Slaves were not given meats very often so they ate vegetables instead', she said, 'and they invented different and creative ways to prepare these items'. She introduced the audience to such ideas as the collard greens sandwich, Egg rolls and even brownies, along with many other ways to prepare this favorite vegetable. She

also brought along samples of her collard greens specialties for everyone to taste.

Another outstanding speaker was from The Toledo Kwanzaa House Committee and went by the self-proclaimed name of 'Kewate', he spoke on the second principal of Kwanzaa urging the audience to, 'figure out who you are and be able to discern what is true and what is not true. You are not who society says you are and everything you see, hear or read is not true. If you want to know the truth read the Bible', he said 'there you will find the real truth and discover who you are'.

The program also included the singing of the Black National Anthem, a Recognition of the Elders, an Ancestral Roll Call, as well as several other traditional Kwanzaa customs.

Today's local Kwanzaa celebration evolved from a small and humble beginning back in 1967 in the house of Diane Gordon: Coordinator of the Kwanzaa House Committee. 'I started celebrating Kwanzaa with my family first,' she said, 'and then others soon joined in with us and

it has grown from there to what it is today. Eventually the celebration got too big for my house so we moved it to the Grace Community Center'.

This move however would not be the last. Over and over again as the crowds continued to swell the committee was forced to find larger and larger spaces for the growing audience. Finally, the group ended up at The Douglass Center in the heart of the African American community. A place that has enough room to accommodate the ever-growing audience and all the other activities associated with a true Kwanzaa celebration.

When asked, why is Kwanzaa important and what is the attraction, Diane Gordon said, 'Kwanzaa teaches us about our true culture and the importance of our culture. We are a family oriented people of faith and we need to learn our true history. If you know your history you won't make the same mistake in life. It also instills in us the importance of self-respect and respect for our others. If you understand the principals of Kwanzaa you can

utilize them every day and throughout the rest of our life. Kwanzaa inspires us to unite and come together as a people and build a better community. If we adhere to the principals of Kwanzaa, we will have a better way of life because these principals teach us how we should live'.

Kwanzaa was originally conceived during the African American re-identifi-

cation period of the racially turbulent sixties in 1966. This unique African Americans festival of life and spirit realized it's 52 year of existence in 2018, and has established its place in the world as a legitimate cultural tradition.

Janece Wooley, the Interim Executive Director of the Fredrick Douglass Community Associations said of the events, 'we are

excited to embark on 100 years of service to this community, and we want to continue to be the epicenter for hope and encouragement. We are very happy and proud that The Toledo Kwanzaa House has chosen us to be blessed with this wonderful Kwanzaa celebration for the past three years.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL DANIELS

Guest Speaker Joyce Stubblefield. passes out samples of her collard green specialties at the 2018 Kwanzaa program.

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Five African American NFL Head Coaches Fired

By Lauren Victoria Burke,
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

Five of the NFL's seven African American head coaches were fired on December 31st. Arizona Cardinals head coach Steve Wilks was fired after just one season. The Cardinals' record was 3-13 — the worst record in the league — but over the last 18 years, there have only been ten head coaches who were fired after only one year. Three of them were African American.

This NFL season the following Black head coaches were fired: Marvin Lewis (Bengals, 6-19), Vance Joseph (Broncos, 6-10), Todd Bowles (Jets, 4-12), Hue Jackson (Browns, 7-8) and Steve Wilks (Cardinals, 3-13).

The firings mean there are now only two Black head coaches in the NFL: Chargers head coach Anthony Lynn and Steelers longtime head coach Mike Tomlin.

The firing of Wilks in Arizona after only one season won particular attention. In the NFL, many coaches fail in their first year yet remain employed. Though the NFL has made great improvements in hiring Black head coaches over the last twenty years as the result the Rooney Rule, the recent firings were sobering. The Rooney Rule mandates that NFL teams interview at last one minority candidate before making their final hiring decision.

Professional football is dominated by African American players, as over 70 percent of them are African American. Typically, players go on to become coaches but the overwhelming numbers on the field have yet to surface among the coaching ranks in the NFL. Many see the recent firings as ironic progress: There was a time when the firing of five African American coaches would have been inconceivable because there were none on the sidelines. However, thirty percent of NFL coaches were Black before the firings this season.

Though one of the coaches fired, Hue Jackson, has one of the worst win/loss records in the modern NFL, many point to the fact that there haven't

been enough hired over a long enough time to conclude that the hiring and firing pattern is biased one way or the other. Still others say that management above the head coaching position is actually often to blame for failing results and losing records.

From 2007-2008, Lane Kiffin went 5-15 with the Oakland Raiders. From 2000-2002, Dave Campo went 15-33 over two seasons. From 2006-2008, Rod Marinelli went 10-38, which included a 0-16 season, with the Detroit Lions.

"Despite owning one of the league's worst rosters, the Cardinals fired their coach anyway, as Bidwill scapegoated Wilks — who became only the 10th coach to be fired after only one season since 2000 — for the franchise's failures," wrote NFL writer for Yahoo News, Terez Paylor, regarding Wilks' firing.

Writer Dave Zirin, who writes about race and sports often, wrote, "In a league 70% African American, there are now two (!) Black head coaches after today's (firings). Shameful numbers. Failure of a Rooney Rule without teeth and owners who will nearly always bend towards whiteness."

"Not a good look for diversity today in the NFL. In 2006, when Commissioner Goodell was hired, there were seven minority coaches and four minority general managers. Today there are three minority HCs and 1 minority GM after Ozzie retires," wrote Jim Trotter.

The regular season in the NFL ended on December 30. As more changes are made over the off season there is likely to be more Black head coaches added. But for now, the debate on the numbers will focus on the recent firing and whether those dismissed will find employment elsewhere for 2019.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist and writer for NNPA as well as a political analyst and strategist as Principal of Win Digital Media LLC. She may be contacted at LBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

This NFL season the following Black head coaches were fired: Marvin Lewis (Bengals, 6-19) (ABOVE), Vance Joseph (Broncos, 6-10), Todd Bowles (Jets, 4-12), Hue Jackson (Browns, 7-8) and Steve Wilks (Cardinals, 3-13).

Coming Events

Continued from page 3

February 3rd Pilgrim Church "Souper Bowl" Play-Off And Silent Auction

Sunday, 11:30a-1:00p, Pilgrim Church, 1375 W. Sylvania Ave. in Toledo. Questions? Call us at 419-478-6012. Who: Anyone who loves soup. \$5.00 donation (\$3.00 for kids 12 and under) Unlimited samples! 10-15 different kinds of soup! Vote for

your favorite! Side, beverages and desserts included so Come hungry! Silent Auction benefiting Pilgrim's Outreach Missions Ministry.

February 23rd Warren AME Church Gospel Extravaganza

Calling All Youth And Young Adult, Choirs & Praise Teams, Dance & Step Ministries, Soloists & Musicians, Poets & Spoken Word, Gospel Rap Artists, we in-

vite YOU to come and Share your Ministry Gifts. Changing Minds, Changing Lives, Ecclesiastes 11:9. Saturday @ 915 Collingwood Boulevard, Toledo, OH 43604 4:00 to 7:00 PM. To participate in the program, contact: Ms. Sawyer at 419-324-4189. Vendor Tables - A limited amount are available to display artwork, jewelry, purses, baked goods or educational information. Contact Ms. Palmer at 419-450-0165.

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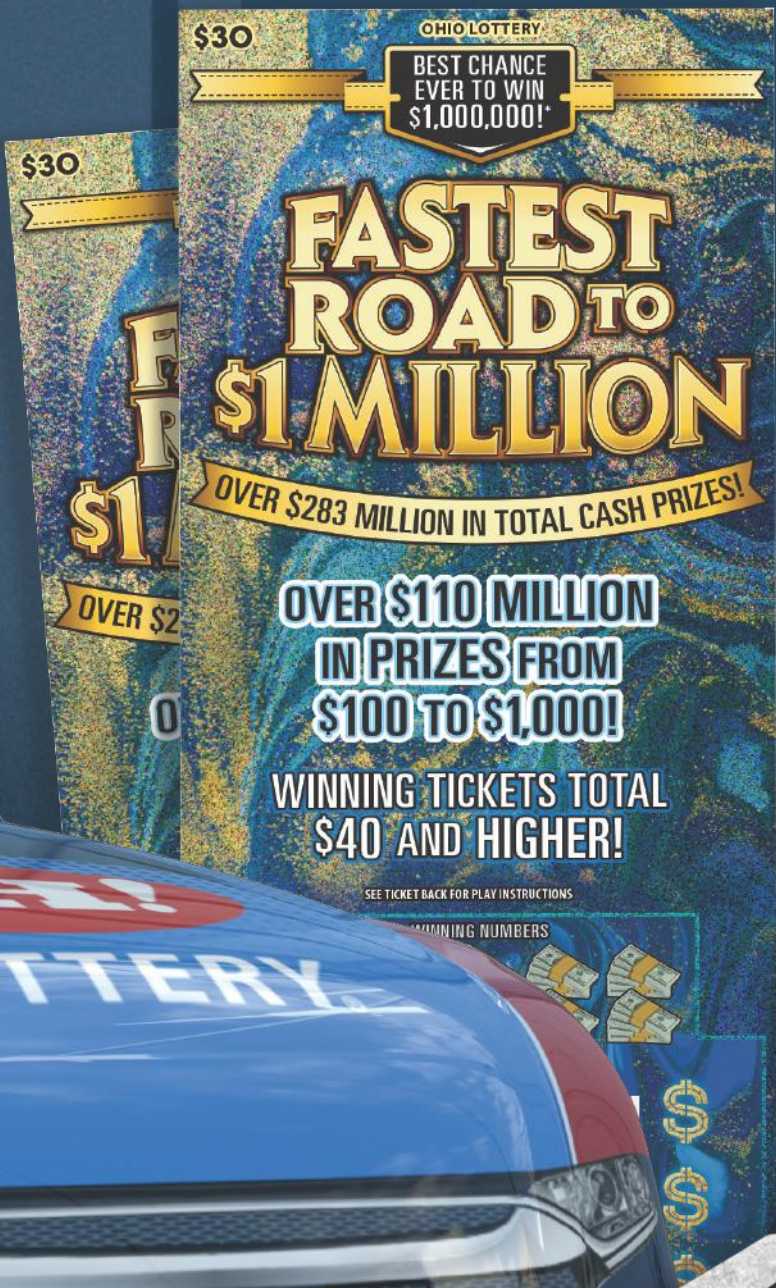
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