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EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY IN THE TOLEDO JOURNAL



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

**Despite the rain, the women stayed motivated as they danced to healthier self.**



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

**Burning calories in the rain at Copland Park.**

# Turn Up Toledo Dance Fitness encourages embracing curves

By JURRY TAALIB-DEEN  
Journal Staff Writer

The Saturday morning rain, on August 1, didn't stop 10 women from exercising in the parking lot of Copland Park, 4714 Copland Blvd.

Lead by Becca Lee, an instructor for Turn Up Toledo Dance Fitness, the women did a multitude of hip hop inspired, dance exercises.

"We do dance fitness, to maximize calorie burn," she told The Toledo Journal.

Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, and subsequently, the quarantine, Ms. Lee said they've been holding classes outside, instead of at the gym, to ensure proper social distancing can be met, to minimize the spread of the virus.

Besides gaining the physical benefit of exercising, Ms. Lee explained that it can have great benefits to the psychological makeup of

those that participate.

"Since the quarantine, and even after reopening the state of Ohio, people are still hesitant to visit many places, and that can take a toll on the psyche. When you exercise, science has proven that endorphins are released in our body, which makes us feel better," she said.

Another philosophy that Ms. Lee encourages participants to embrace is being happy with their curves. "Being skinny doesn't mean you're healthy," she said. Changing to a lifestyle that's healthier doesn't mean getting rid of a curvy body Ms. Lee emphasized.

And although classes are only available for people 16 and older, Ms. Lee recommends that parents should try to get their children, active in physical activity.

"Growing up, I was very

*Continued on page 15.*



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

**Burning calories helps both mental and physical health.**



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

**Ladies social distance, and some wear masks as they do a hip hop inspired dance workout at Turn Up Toledo.**



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The Ohio Department of Health has identified Toledo as the fourth highest ranking city in the nation for recruiting victims into human trafficking. Why do you think this is the case?



**Shawnta Thompson**  
Product Worker

With a poor economy, and drug usage on the rise, it becomes easier for traffickers to recruit people into human trafficking. People are looking for ways to get money to supply their habits, or just make it in the world.



**Tamika Kynard**  
Nurse

I think the opioid crisis has a lot to do with it, and the fact some parents are properly parenting their children. I'm a detox nurse and a lot of my clients have had to sell their bodies, or have allowed them to be sold, in order to supply their habit. Also, I don't think law enforcement has taken the issue serious.



**Skyla Livingston**  
Direct Support Professional

That fact that we have two major highways that reach most of the country plays a big part in that recruitment. And with the fact there are so many illegal activities on the street, it makes recruitment easier for the people who traffic.



**Shane Truss**  
Landscaper

Lucas County is known for its major highways, 80/90 and I-75, that connect too many of the major cities in the country, add truck stops, which many illegal activities occur at, and it's no wonder Toledo is ranked so high on the list.



**Bethany Broks**  
Residential Care Specialist

I work with people with developmental disabilities, some of which have been trafficked; this population is an easy target for traffickers. People with developmental disabilities can't always discern someone's intent. So I think people with ill intent prey on those in that community.



**Symeria Thompson**  
Factory Worker

Since so many women don't have any protection, and a lack of guidance, those factors make them more susceptible to be recruited. Also, when people experience a tragedy, many of them may become vulnerable to that lifestyle. Women need to pay more attention to human trafficking recruitment tactics.

Ongoing Events

Toledo Municipal Court To Continue Restricted Access

Toledo Municipal Court has issued an order updating restricted operations and access for the members of the public. In order to ensure the safety of court staff and citizens before the Court and in accord with JE 20-COVID-001, the Court is vacating 20-COVID-013 only as it relates to opening the Court building to all members of the public effective August 3, 2020. Access will continue to be restricted to persons with scheduled cases or appointments, or who have business with the Clerk's Office.

Grace Community Center Free Food Pantry

In an effort to continue to serve our community during these trying times.....Grace Community Center has expanded its Food Pantry operations. The hours of service are M-F, 10 am – 3 pm. Children may also receive grab & go lunches from the hours of 11 -1 M-F. Eligible Seniors in need of food assistance please call for delivery options at 419-248-2467. Elaine Page, Executive Director, Grace Community Center, 406 W. Delaware.

**Every Tuesday and Saturday**  
**Toledo Masjid Al-Islam Through**  
**Tarbiyyatul Haqq Ministries Food Pantry**  
Located at 722 E. Bancroft St., Toledo, OH 43608. Available Tues. 9-2 and Sat 11-3 every week. Free

**Senior Centers Still Closed**

- Lucas County senior centers
- Sandusky County senior centers
- Williams County senior centers
- Wood County senior centers

**Every Tuesday**  
**Monroe Street Neighborhood Center's Free Food Pantry**

Open from 11a.m. to 1p.m. Everyone is eligible to benefit from this service regardless of income or circumstance. No identification required, no appointments necessary. Protein, canned goods, fresh produce and baked goods are available. Items may vary weekly.

**Every 3rd Saturday**  
**River of Life Church hosts "The Storehouse"**  
Free food distribution from 11a.m. to 1p.m., 3611 Upton Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43613  
Ephesians 6:7 - NLT Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people

**Mask Distribution for Toledo Residents**

Toledo will begin distribution of 65,000 masks to city residents for free. Please see below for distribution locations and additional information.

Masks will be given away at the next two recycling events, in partnership with Engage Toledo and Code Enforcement. Distribution will take place on August 8 and August 22 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Each adult will be allowed to take three disposable masks free-of-charge.

- DeVeaux Elementary School  
2620 West Sylvania Ave., Toledo, 43613  
August 8, 2020 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Longfellow Elementary School  
1955 West Laskey Rd., Toledo, Ohio 43613  
August 22, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Masks will be given out at one of three drive through mask giveaways at city parks. On Wednesdays - August 5, and August 12 from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. Masks will be available for anyone who drives through. Each adult will be allowed to take three disposable masks free-of-charge.

- Smith Park - 998 Dorr St., Toledo, 43607  
August 5, 2020 from 3 to 5:30 p.m.  
Use park entrance near basketball courts, off of Fernwood Avenue
- Navarre Park - 1001 White St., Toledo, 43605  
August 12, 2020 from 3 to 5:30 p.m.  
Use park entrance on Raymer Blvd., off of Navarre Ave., near tennis court.

Please call Engage Toledo at 419-936-2020 for more information

The city of Toledo supports the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need a reasonable accommodation because of a disability to fully participate in this program or event, please contact the city of Toledo Office of Diversity and Inclusion at 419-245-1059.

**Summer Park Programs**  
The City of Toledo is proud to partner with Athletes

Global, a global organization dedicated to helping youth, families, and communities by teaching leadership skills through educational, fitness, and sports programs.

Zumba Kids classes are high energy dance parties that incorporate fitness in a natural way. Children of all shapes, sizes, and abilities are welcome! Ages 8-13. Free Registration Required: toledo.oh.gov/zumba

Savage Park: Aug. 7, and 14, 12:30-1:30 p.m. - 650 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43604

Practical self-defense combines MMA Bootcamp fitness, mental, physical stamina drawn from Boxing, Muay Thai, Grappling, BJJ, and Judo training for world-class mixed martial arts instruction. Free Registration Required: toledo.oh.gov/self-defense

- Navarre Park: Aug. 6 and 13, 11:15-12:15 p.m. - 1001 White St., Toledo, 43605
- Wilson Park: Aug. 5 and 12, 10-11 a.m., 600 E. Oakland St., Toledo, 43608
- Ottawa Park: Aug. 6 and 13, 11:15-12:15 p.m., 2200 Kenwood Blvd., Toledo, 43606

Yoga classes improve balance, flexibility, and posture while increasing students focus, discipline and concentration. Leadership development and nutritional education included. Free Registration Required: toledo.oh.gov/yoga

- Walbridge Park: Aug. 10, 1:45-2:45 p.m. - 2761 Broadway St., Toledo, 43609

**Now Thru Aug. 14th**  
**Free Summer Children Lunch Program**

Food will be provided free to children Monday through Friday, Now to Aug. 14 through a partnership with the Children's Hunger Alliance for the City of Toledo's Children Feeding Program. (While supplies last. No need to pre-register.). Children's Hunger Alliance staff will be at the following parks, Monday through Friday:

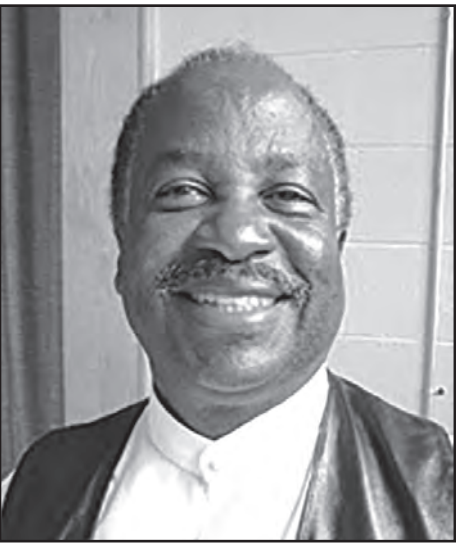
- Wilson Park, 600 East Oakland St., Toledo, Ohio 43608, underneath open air shelter, 11 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

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In our July 22, 2020 issue, we inadvertently published the Mecca Temple article as #33. The correct name is Mecca Temple #43. We apologize for any misunderstanding. Thank you.



# Tools Of The Trade?



By Lafe Tolliver  
Attorney

You know...the plumber has his wrenches, the baker has his pans, the gardener has his wheelbarrow and the janitor has his slop bucket and brushes.

But yet, you must wonder what does the accomplished person who purportedly receives bribes as a public official, what does she or he have in their kit bag that they utilize to pull off a successful heist?

For one, we got to establish the proper names or terms for those who engage in any such nefarious conduct. Let us for purposes of this article, label the person who gives the alleged bribe (money or goods and services or influences), the “Bribee” and the person who accepts the bribe, the “Bribor”

Simple enough, yes? And then, let us call what they do, a “scheme”.

Now, we need to label what happens when a Bribor and a Bribee meet in a scheme.

The first thing is, “what is the pitch?” That is, what is being offered in exchange for a favor, muscle, influence or, sometimes, just a diversion so that others are not wise to what is really going on.

Now, you gotta understand the makeup of a Bribor and it is usually defined in the following categories:

[1] Swagger: How a Bribor acts when he thinks that he or she can con you into giving them something of worth or value. Oh, they smile and

cajole you and let you believe that they got lightning in a bottle and for the price of \$\$\$, it can be yours!

The Bribor must convince you that he or she is an authoritative figure and that your submission to that power is critical if the Bribee is to pull off this caper. At times, tough talk is needed to convince you that no bridge is too far for them to cross if that what it takes to convince you that they can pull off the scam.

They talk in convincing tones of knowing what is what and they conflate their importance as if they were the only person that you need to speak with.



[2] Settings: The Bribor needs to impress you with his or her wealth or status, so they normally wine and dine you to create the impression that they have it all together and you too can share in part of the illusion that you are dealing with the top dog who can make things happen!

[3] Smokescreens: In his arsenal of deceit and deception, some Bribors go to great lengths to project the aura that they are the real McCoy and if that takes fake luxurious settings or fabulous meals at high class restaurants, so be it. The plan is to have you breathe in their spiel that you are able to produce or deliver the votes or the goods!

[4] Now, for the Bribee, it is important that they believe the “game” or at least lie and play the part of doing small steps to show that they are will-

ing to go all the way and consummate the deal.

Once the Bribee sees that the Bribee is gullible to take the bait and be reeled in, the Bribor knows that the “ask” or what he or she wants from the Bribee, is almost a guarantee!

[5] The Bribor must give the Bribee the feeling that his confidence in the Bribor is not mistaken and that the Bribor can deliver and deliver on time. Of course, the Bribor will convince the Bribee that all is well and what is being conducted is not illegal but rather, “this is how business is done, and no one will know”.

Now the Bribor knows that there

are rules of the trade for this scheming game and he must be a perfectionist in executing those rules or the Bribee will smell the offal and will quickly back out.

Rule One: When exchanging money, do not use napkins or magazines or newspapers! When you meet for the all-important money exchange, look bored and weary and use a box of chocolates as your cover. Laugh out loud when you make the exchange so anyone nearby will record it as a friendly cordial meeting and not a bribe happening under their nose!

Rule Two: When at a restaurant, sit in a dark corner and arrive before the Bribee so that you can control the seating arrangements which means that you sit facing the front door so you can make sure that the Bribee arrives by himself or herself.

If someone is with the Bribee that you do not recognize, cough as if you have something stuck in your throat and go to the restroom, gagging as you go...and then promptly find an exit!

Rule Three: If the Bribee offers cash, do not reach for it! Rather ask them to wire the funds to the special account you set up and look away while the Bribee places the cash back in his vest pocket. Breathe a sigh of relief and only then order the shrimp cocktail with a glass of Pinot Grigio.

Rule Four: If all else fails and you are busted by the authorities, play calm and repeatedly tell the FEDS that you had no idea that the Bribee was a corrupt person and that you are outraged that anyone would think that you would engage in such reprehensible conduct!

Rule Five: If that ploy does not work and you are indicted for conduct unbecoming your position of public trust or authority, simply call me and I can arrange for you to wire me, as attorney fees, the titles to your cars, your house, the balance in your 401k plan and what savings you have and also a signed promissory note that I will fill in!

Is this a deal or what!  
Lafe Tolliver, Attorney  
Comments to: tolliver@juno.com

“  
*Rule Three: If the Bribee offers cash, do not reach for it! Rather ask them to wire the funds to the special account you set up and look away while the Bribee places the cash back in his vest pocket. Breathe a sigh of relief and only then order the shrimp cocktail with a glass of Pinot Grigio.*  
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Brownshirts In Our Streets

By Oscar H. Blayton  
Wire Writer

The unidentified goon squads snatching people off the streets of Portland, Ore., have a chilling resemblance to a similar fascist tool of oppression that arose in Germany in the early decades of the 20th century.

The paramilitary wing of the Nazi Party, dubbed “Brownshirts”

because of the color of their uniforms, first appeared within Adolph Hitler’s political party in 1920 and facilitated his rise to power.

The turbulence that unsettled post-World War I Germany was used as a pretext for the appropriateness of, and necessity for, the Brownshirts. Their public posture was that they were needed to maintain order and to protect Nazi rallies and gatherings. But the Brownshirts were no more than thugs who often engaged in street fights. It soon became clear that their mission focused more on disrupting the work of opposing political parties. Their violent tactics also targeted Romani (Gypsies) organized labor and Jews.

These lawless thugs boosted Hitler to the heights of political power in Germany. But once he reached the pinnacle of power, Hitler distanced himself from the Brownshirts and had as many as 200 of their leaders killed in what

became known as the “Night of the Long Knives” in 1934. Once the Brownshirts were out of the way, Hitler used the SS, a vicious military unit comprised of committed Nazis, to carry out his most inhumane orders.

As we watch the violence taking place in the streets of Portland, we must keep in mind what began to unfold in Germany a century ago when a twisted, mentally and morally crippled man seized power by feeding fear and hate to a confused populace.

Donald Trump, the would-be dictator, has unleashed upon the American public some of the worst people invested with police power to do his unlawful bidding. Ostensibly, Trump claims that the presence of these jackbooted thugs is appropriate and necessary to enforce the law and maintain order. But it is crystal clear that he is setting the stage for a paramilitary

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# Is the Postal Service Slowing Mail Delivery?

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

Already frustrated with late, delayed or lost mail?

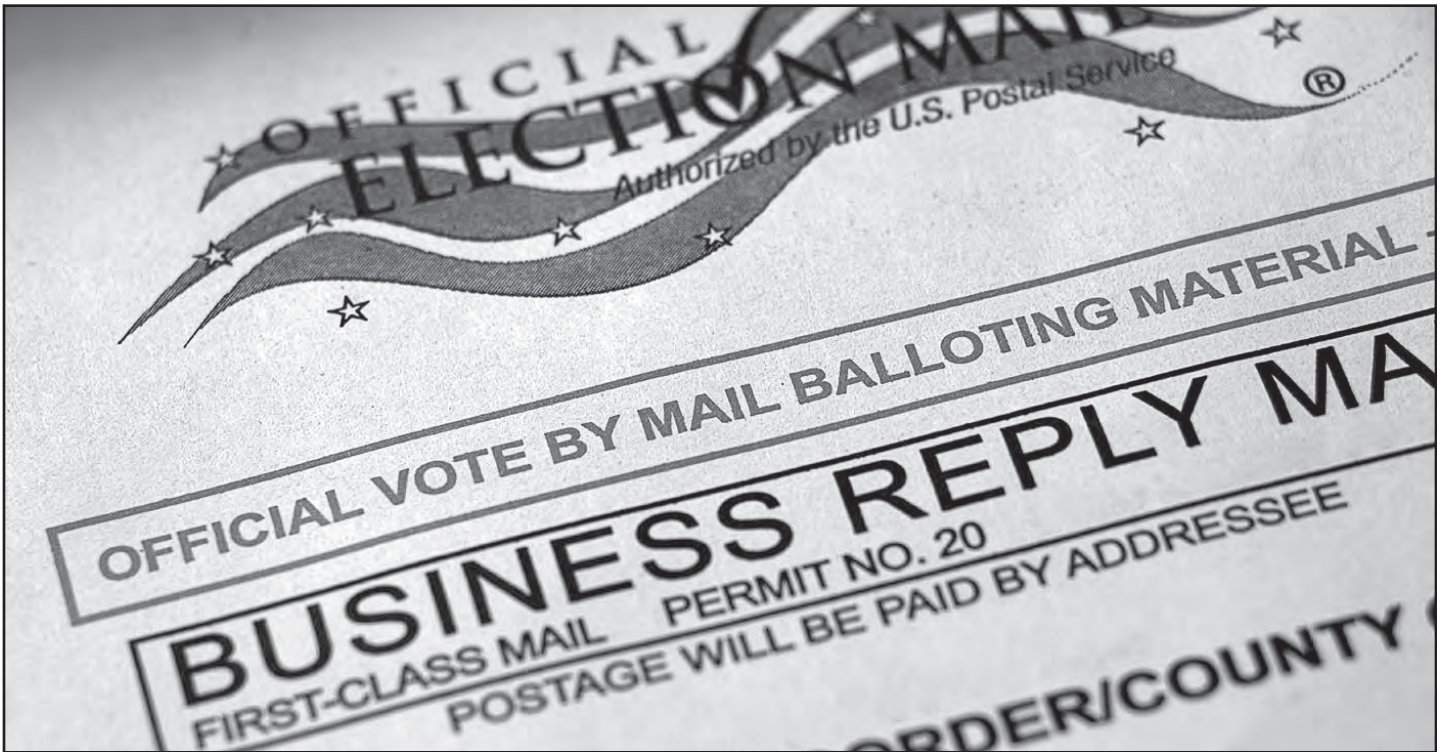
Residents who depend on the U.S. Postal Service can expect even more frustration.

As first reported by the Associated Press, mail deliveries could be delayed by a day or more under cost-cutting efforts being imposed by the new postmaster general.

"The plan eliminates overtime for hundreds of thousands of postal workers and says employees must adopt a different mindset to ensure the Postal Service's survival during the coronavirus pandemic," The Associated Press reported, citing a confidential memo circulated throughout the postal service.

Late trips will no longer be authorized. If postal distribution centers are running late, "they will keep the mail for the next day," Postal Service leaders wrote in a document.

"One aspect of these changes that may be difficult for employees is that — temporarily — we may see mail left



Congress authorized a \$10 billion loan to the postal service as part of a coronavirus relief package. Still, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin steadfastly has refused to hand over the money until the USPS turns over much of its operations to him.

Reports of significant problems at the postal service under newly appointed postmaster general, Louis DeJoy, a major Trump donor, has exacerbated claims that the slowdown is intentional.

"The Week," an online publication, called it "yet another example of how Trump's authoritarian rot is dissolving the American state — and raising the possibility of interference with the 2020 election."

Trump has voiced strong opposition to mail-in voting.

Additionally, many said the slowdown impacts minorities more than anyone else.

"As a small business owner who utilizes USPS to ship many of our products to customers, this will significantly affect us," Calvin Harris, the founder and managing director of Reveille Trading Company, a coffee importing operation that offers specialty coffee and single-origin by partnering directly with farms around the world.

"It is my opinion that it will dispropor-

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For many minority businesses, we have to compete with much larger companies, and we need every advantage that we can get. If I can at least offer free shipping, then it's one less customer objection that we have to overcome  
”

tionately harm minority businesses. Black-owned businesses often have harder times securing financing, and we generally secure financing at higher rates than white-owned companies," Harris opined.

"This means that we run on tighter margins, so many businesses will be forced to either have slower shipping or decrease our already small margins if possible, to offer faster shipping."

Harris added that USPS priority mail had enabled his company to offer free shipping on all orders. He noted that UPS and FedEx are more expensive

options and are much slower.

"For many minority businesses, we have to compete with much larger companies, and we need every advantage that we can get. If I can at least offer free shipping, then it's one less customer objection that we have to overcome," Harris said.

Elizabeth Weatherby, who works for the integrated marketing development company, Youtech, recanted a recent move across the country from Massachusetts to Arizona.

She said she sent her security deposit overnight via the post office and expected it to arrive long before her week-long journey.

"By the time I had arrived in Arizona, the check was still not delivered to my housing management company. What's even more strange is that when I called USPS, no matter what number, what office, what location, I could not get through to anyone," Weatherby stated.

"I was waiting on hold forever and couldn't even speak with a representative. In-person, I had to go to every single post office in my new town to track down my check. I am lucky my housing management still let me move in. I definitely think this could be due to the Trump Administration slowing down the ability to vote by mail."

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Reports of significant problems at the postal service under newly appointed postmaster general, Louis DeJoy, a major Trump donor, has exacerbated claims that the slowdown is intentional.  
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behind or mail on the workroom floor or docks," another document says, the AP reported.

In a livestream interview, Rep. Val Demings (D-Fla.) told BlackPressUSA that Congress had approved new funding for the U.S. Postal Service and hoped to do more.

## Brownshirts In Our Streets

continued from page 4

trashing of America's democratic safeguards. He believes that he can "cry havoc and let slip the dogs of war," and his political base will be gullible enough to support his trampling of Americans' rights as he takes our country down a path of mischief, delusion and folly to ultimate ruin.

There are those who counsel caution and advise against alarmist accusations, believing that our democratic safeguards are too strong to suffer overthrow by a thug in the White House. But Trump has been allowed to trample democratic norms right before our eyes for almost four years. He has banned entry to this country based upon religion. He has weaponized family separation and locked children in cages as a means of terrorizing asylum seekers. He has looted the public treasury by causing the government to pay his hotels and resorts for his golfing and social outings. The list of grievances against Trump grows longer each day, and still many people back away from calling him to account.

We do not have a crystal ball to predict the future with absolute certainty, but we have reasonable knowledge, granted from experience, that allows us to see what happens when vile, twisted men get their hands on great power.

In 1939, with fascism on the rise and men like Hit-



ler seeking to subjugate the entire world, George Orwell, who later wrote the award-winning novel "1984," said it best in a book review: "[W]e have now sunk to a depth at which the restatement of the obvious is the first duty of intelligent men. It is not merely that at present the rule of naked force obtains almost everywhere. Probably that has always been the case. Where this age differs from those immediately preceding it is that a liberal intelligentsia is lacking. Bully-worship, under various disguises, has become a universal religion."

Donald Trump is at war with America. He wishes to make our country into something as twisted and hateful as he is. His promise of "America First" is not meant to improve our country, but rather to disrespect all others.

There are those among us who have accepted the religion of bully-worship with its liturgical chants of hate and fear. But if we are to have hope that America has a brighter future, those of us who believe that the lives of all human beings are worthwhile must accept the duty of acting intelligently and use all of our resources to push hard towards creating a better world.

Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia.



# Super-sized racism: former McDonald's execs strike back in explosive race discrimination lawsuit



By Trevor Coleman and Trevor W. Coleman II, Wire Writers

For more than 50 years the McDonald's Corporation took pride in branding itself as a socially conscious corporation particularly interested in doing business in abandoned and long-ignored Black communities while embracing racial diversity as a critical component of its corporate ethos.

It is a philosophy that helped create a popular narrative and also focus on story that the Chicago-based company was a progressive business and a place where African Americans could grow, find mentors, promotions, and economic opportunity.

However, that image was shattered this year in an explosive lawsuit brought by two African American female executives who claim that under new leadership the company not only deliberately divested from the Black community and businesses, but hurled racist, sexist insults at them including referring to the employees at "niggers" and "angry Black women."

Adding further injury to the grotesque insults, the women also claimed when they spoke up about such treatment they were demoted and the perpetrators were promoted.

The shocking accusations have rocked the fast-food industry especially since McDonald's has long projected itself as a leader in diversity initiatives and as an aggressive recruiter and developer of African American talent and entrepreneurs.

Domineca Neal and Vicki Guster-Hines

But Domineca Neal and Vicki

Guster-Hines, former vice presidents of the fast-food chain, allege the discrimination and harassment started and progressive programs came to a screeching halt following a change in corporate leadership at McDonald's in 2015. In their suit they said the new regime engaged in systemic racist and discriminatory behavior and civil rights abuses against them and other Black executives.

Among the allegations were that one top white male executive repeatedly referred to them as "angry Black women" and another who earlier had referred to Black employees as "niggers" shockingly being promoted rather than disciplined following a complaint filed against him for such racially abusive language.

In an exclusive interview with the Michigan Chronicle, Neal, a native Detroit, said the harassment began shortly after the new CEO, British-born Steve Easterbrook, came on board in 2015 and initiated a corporate restructuring plan that de-emphasized racial diversity and input from Black executives and franchisees. She and Guster-Hines were then demoted from vice-president to senior director positions in July 2018.

They are seeking compensation following those demotions, claiming that they occurred as a result of discrimination.

"When they assumed leadership, it became very clear that African Americans stakeholders were no longer a strategic priority and the environment became toxic," she said. "An example would be, you know, cutting advertising



Domineca Neal and Vicki Guster-Hines

PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

spending with African American agencies that impacted, of course, African American customers and local community organizations, and it didn't make economic sense, it didn't make good business sense."

McDonald's commitment to diversity was so widely known and promoted that it was regularly named among the Fortune 500 top corporations for diversity and inclusion and other companies would benchmark against them.

That reputation, however, is now threatened by the lawsuit scheduled to be heard in the Northern District Court of Illinois next month or early August. Besides Easterbrook; who was let go last year after it was revealed he was involved in an affair with a colleague in violation of company policy, also named in the suit are the current CEO, Chris Kempczinski, and Charles Strong, the chief field officer.

At its bare essence, the women allege in the suit the world's largest fast-food restaurant chain has "declared war against the African American community."

She noted her observation is based on its new business plan and corporate leadership's attitudes toward African American employees and owner-operators who had the majority of restaurants in African American consumer markets and would be impacted, more so than others. "And that action coincided with a significant reduction in the number of African American owner-operators."

When Neal and other executives brought these concerns to the attention of leadership, they began to retaliate against them. They defunded the company's African American Diversity Council and it subsequently became dormant. The Council provided career development and a talent pipeline for African American employees. And soon the demotions started with African Americans being targeted for elimination such as herself and Guster-Hines, leaving no African Americans at Kempczinski's leadership table during his tenure as president of McDonald's USA to advocate on behalf of Black employees, franchise operators, or customers. The suit claims the number of African American executives in the top ranks of McDonald's operations fell to seven in 2019 from 42 in 2014, the

year before the new regime came on board.

The suit also alleges:

- Before Easterbrook and Kempczinski's arrival, African American consumers generated 20% of all revenue for McDonald's US stores.
- Easterbrook and Kempczinski caused a decrease in advertising to attract African American patronage. The constant cutting in the funding of programs for building African American leadership resulted in the system-wide purchases by African Americans to decline by 6%.
- Nearly one out of three African American franchisees left the McDonald's system since Easterbrook arrived which was disproportionate to the loss of non-African American franchisees.

But among Neal's and Guster-Hines' most shocking claims was the racist, sexist taunts they had to endure from the McDonald's executives. The suit alleges that in 2005 Marty Ranft, a white vice president and general manager of the McDonald's Ohio Region told Guster-Hines "You are a nigger like all the rest—you just believe you are better cause you are a smart one."

She further alleges she reported Ranft to her supervisors and emphasized that she would not tolerate being called a nigger within McDonald's or anywhere else. She said there was no response to her complaint from the corporation and Ranft was eventually promoted to Vice President of Development for the entire U.S.

The suit also alleges in 2017 Strong, who supervised Neal and Guster-Hines and at the time responsible for 50% of the U.S. business and about 14,000 restaurants, instructed Neal not to consult with or take the advice of two African American women, Bridgette Hernandez and Barbara Calloway who had been promoted over Strong's opposition. She alleged he stated, "We don't need any of that Black woman's attitude. They are too angry and aggressive."

The next year in March 2018, Strong allegedly told Guster-Hines

Continued on page 12.

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# U.S. Postal Service to Review Stamp Honoring Supremes Florence Ballard

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

Supremes legend Mary Wilson is on a crusade that she hopes will end with the United States Postal Service commemorating her late bandmate and close friend Florence Ballard on a Forever Stamp.

"I get so emotional when I speak about Flo," said Wilson, who received a 2020 NNPA Lifetime Achievement Award during the Black Press of America's recently completed virtual convention.

"I've been working hard to get that recognition for her because she deserves it."

Wilson noted that the U.S. Postal Service has done a brilliant job of issuing commemorative postage stamps about iconic pop culture heroes who have helped shape the world.

In the past, there have been U.S. Postage Stamps to celebrate the lives and accomplishments of several music business legends, including Elvis Presley, Sarah Vaughn, Patsy Cline, Jimi Hendryx, Marvin Gaye, and Janis Joplin.

Wilson's quest to get

the U.S. Postal Service to issue a stamp to celebrate Ballard, a founding star of The Supremes, has gained momentum.

"We have received a proposal from the public, and it will be reviewed at our next Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee meeting," Roy Betts, a U.S. Postal Service spokesman, told BlackPressUSA.

The U.S. Postal Service and the members of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC) have set specific criteria used in determining the eligibility of subjects for commemoration on all U.S. stamps and stationery, Betts added.

Among them are that stamps and stationery would primarily feature American or American-related subjects. The Postal Service will honor extraordinary and enduring contributions to American society, history, culture, or environment.

U.S. stamp programs are planned and developed two to three years in advance and, consideration would occur if suggestions are submitted three or more years in advance of the proposed stamp.

In 2018, the Postal Service began considering proposals



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Wilson's quest to get the U.S. Postal Service to issue a stamp to celebrate Ballard, a founding star of The Supremes, has gained momentum. (Photo: The Supremes in Hilton Hotel, the Netherlands, 1965. [From left:] Florence Ballard, Mary Wilson and Diana Ross / Wikimedia Commons)

for deceased individuals three years following their death.

Officials noted that the stamp program commemorates positive contributions to American life, history, culture, and environment.

Born in Detroit in 1943, Ballard was the eighth of Jesse and Lurlee Ballard's thirteen children.

Almost from the start, music played an essential part in her life, according to her biography.

Her father was her first teacher, and a young Ballard displayed a keen interest in his music. Jesse Ballard

would play particular songs and teach his daughter to sing them.

Those early lessons made a deep impression, and legend has it that Florence Ballard was soon out-singing her father.

Ballard's musical gift was hard to go unnoticed. As she grew older, she found an outlet for her singing in school music classes and choirs.

While in her early teens, Ballard's career was set in motion.

Two of her neighbors, Eddie Kendricks and Paul Williams, sang in a group called the

Primes (later to become the Temptations). They introduced her to manager Milton Jenkins, who was so impressed with the 14-year-old's voice that he asked her to perform as a soloist along with the Primes. After Ballard appeared with the group for a few engagements, Jenkins knew he had found an outstanding talent, her biography read.

Since groups were popular in the late 1950s, Jenkins suggested that Ballard form a sister group to the Primes.

Immediately she asked her friend, Mary Wilson, to be a member of the group. Betty McGlown and Mary's friend, Diana Ross, were also recruited. After gaining their parent's permission, the four teenagers, in the spring of 1959, became officially known as the Primettes. They began rehearsals with Ballard as the lead singer.

McGlown departed just before the group found fame at Motown with the name, The Supremes. Ballard died in 1976 at the age of 31.

"The memories are so vivid," Wilson said. "Florence Ballard was such a wonderful person. It's my sincere hope that we can get the Postal Service to honor her now."

## Ohio Awards Certification to the Lucas County Sheriff's Office for Adopting Standards

Submitted

The Ohio Criminal Justice Services Executive Director Karhlton Moore announced today that the Lucas County Sheriff's Office adopted and implemented state standards established by the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board as part of the state's efforts to strengthen community and police relations.

There are 452 agencies employing over 28,088 officers (representing over 87 percent of all law enforcement officers in Ohio, including most of Ohio's metropolitan areas) that are certified, and 24 that are in the process of becoming certified by meeting standards for the use of force, including deadly force, and agency recruitment and hiring.

The standards are the first of their kind in Ohio and were developed and established by the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board as part of the state's efforts to strengthen community and police relations.

The state has partnered with the Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association and the Ohio Association of Chiefs



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Lucas County Sheriff John Tharp

of Police to help certify Ohio's nearly 900 law enforcement agencies on a process to ensure that they are in compliance with Ohio's new standards. The complete list of agencies who have and have not been certified can be found at: <http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/ohiocollaborative/>

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# Toledo Public Schools to Open 2020-21 School Year 100% Virtual for All PreK-12 Students

By Candice Harrison  
Toledo Public Schools External  
Communications Manger

The Toledo Public Schools Board of Education approved a recommendation from Dr. Romules Durant, CEO/ Superintendent, that the District would begin the 2020-21 school year in a virtual learning environment for all students in grades pre-K through 12. It was also recommended and approved that the school year will begin for students on Tuesday, September 8.

TPS families should plan for remote learning through the first semester. However, families are also encouraged to remain flexible as students could pivot into a hybrid or traditional school model earlier.

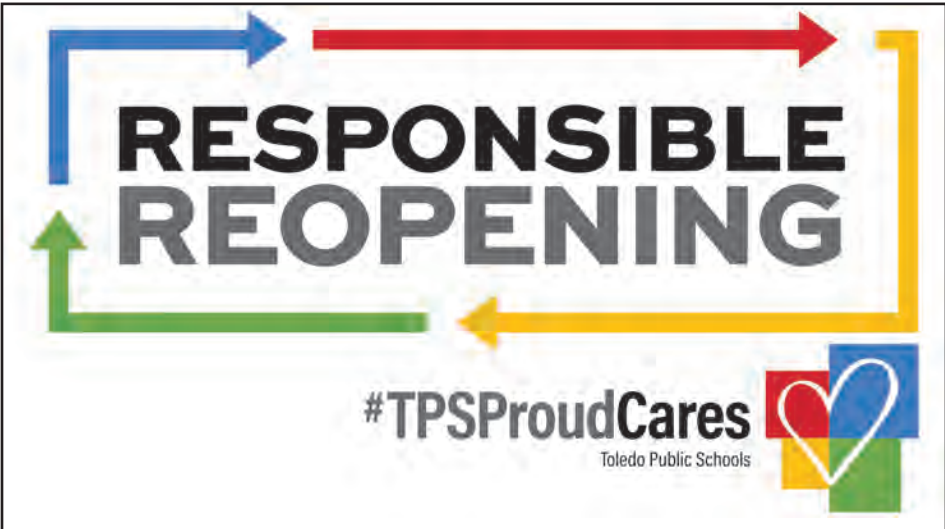
The district initially announced they would begin the school year with a hybrid-learning model for PreK-12 students. However, public health conditions have dramatically worsened in Lucas County and throughout the state since the initial announcement. Ohio's Public Health Advisory System

currently rates Lucas County at Level 3, or Red, indicating very high exposure and spread of COVID-19. The number of confirmed cases is rapidly increasing, and the level of risk is high even with strict health and safety protocols in place for our schools.

TPS will continue to monitor public health conditions before determining when it is safe and practical to have students return to the classroom. The District has developed the following color system to indicate where our district stands during the pandemic.

**GREEN:** During the green light status, school is in full session as it has been in previous years. For those wanting to still use the virtual learning option, it will be available.

**YELLOW:** A yellow light status means that the virtual option is available, but physical attendance in a school will be on an A/B schedule. Students would either attend in-person classes on Monday and Thursday (Group A), or Tuesday and Friday (Group B), with Wednesday being an at-home online learning day.



**RED:** A red light indicates the most severe conditions are present and the district is operating with only the virtual learning option. Students will have access to all TPS learning resources and be provided a device and reliable Wi-Fi, as needed. State licensed and credentialed educators will teach live each day.

Toledo Public Schools realizes that nothing can replace face-to-face

learning, but the health and safety of students, families, staff and the community remains the top priority. The District will continue to engage with families and staff and seek feedback throughout the first quarter of the year to make any necessary adjustments to learning environments.

For more information and to review the TPS official Reopening Plan, please visit [tps.org/reopen](https://tps.org/reopen).

## It Is Time.....



By June Boyd  
Guest Columnist

The murder of George Floyd and a number of African Americans recently in this new decade 2020 has caused a major uproar in the United States and Worldwide.

I can only reflect on what else must be done. Black Lives Matter, but so does the history of African Americans, it is time for educators nationwide to introduce the study of Black History as

part of the curriculum into the classroom.

As a junior at St. Ursula Academy in 1952, our class project required writing an essay; the most important person I could introduce to my class was George Washington Carver, one of two African Americans I was familiar with. The other person was Madam C.J. Walker. My parents had told me of this great man who had much success with a peanut. The travesty is that at that time, I had not heard of the hundreds of inventions

and successes having from come from African Americans.

When my eight year old granddaughter came home with a Black History quiz from St. Ann School, in 1991, I did not know the answers to the questions and had to take her to the public library. How embarrassing.

As an adult, I have made a strong effort to see that my grandchildren are familiar with our rich history and legacy. The one month that is set aside is not enough. This history must be introduced to

James; There was Arnold Palmer, then came Tiger Woods; Nadia Comaneci was outstanding gymnast, but the new kid on the block is Symone Biles; Babe Ruth was a champion home run hitter, Hank Aaron broke his record.

This column does not have enough space for the hundreds of famous African Americans who made their mark on America.

During this national protest,

“...she asked “what is a revolution?” I responded, “a rebellion and uprising, fighting for our rights to eliminate the injustices our people are faced with.”

my 11 year old Goddaughter asked me; “Granma June, are we going back to Slavery?” I responded no, but we are in a revolution; she asked “what is a revolution?” I responded, “a rebellion and uprising, fighting for our rights to eliminate the injustices our people are faced with.”

The reality is that Black Lives Do Matter, and the world needs to know it. The introduction to Black History as a part of curriculum in the school system, public and parochial, will be the beginning of something that should have been available many years ago.

Educators, take notice, we need this as part of a solution to the rich history that has been set aside.

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# Three Reasons Our Black Boys Aren't Reading and What to Do About It



By Pastor W. Eric Croomes  
Wire Writer

I recently read an article headlined with a simple yet piercing question: Why Aren't They Reading? The author of the article, Matthew Lynch, an educator, examines the glaring discrepancies of reading proficiency scores for black boys in major urban markets (including Dallas).

I am preparing to launch a reading initiative called Black Boyz Read. This issue is dear to my heart.

While we've known for quite some time of the achievement gap in education for black students and their counterparts, the statistics cited by Lynch (via the Black Star Project) point ominously to reading proficiency as ground zero in the effort to reduce the gap. Reading is obvious-

ly crucial to that task. Reading is the new wellness for our Black boys.

Here are three reasons why our Black boys aren't reading and what we can do about it.

Reason#1  
They Aren't Seeing It Modeled

By the time most black boys get to eighth-grade, according to Lynch, only a fraction are reading on a proficient level. That's 12 Years a Slave to everything but books. Why? Quite simply: they have rarely seen it modeled. According to Education.Com, "modeling, explaining and demonstrating are essential teaching activities if all children are to learn to read and write." Modeling reading in the home is an extension of modeling in the classroom.

Solution:  
Parents and caregivers must create a culture of learning in the home, and that culture begins with modeling reading. Books, encyclopedias, educational magazines, and even online sources such as Wikipedia must be recruited as accouterments of learning. Let's let our Black boys see us read!

Reason#2

They Are Too Easily Distracted

What's competing with the intellectual attention of our black boys? That's not a difficult question to answer, mainly because what they're competing with in the society is a micro of what they're competing with in the home. This generation of Black boys is the epitome of the electronic generation; everything they do is via some electronic gadget.

Solution:  
Give books supremacy in the home. Most of the competition is electronic: X-Box, Video games, and cell phone devices rule. Books, unfortunately, have become the pauper. Books should be as visible as gadgets. If there are more DVD movies in your home than books, there's a problem.

Reason#3  
They Have Not Connected Reading to Their Future

If our black boys aren't reading, what is their future? In most cases, if they arrive at eighth-grade with below adequate reading skills, the future is more likely a pipeline to juvenile detention or prison. Our prisons are filled with young, black men

who cannot read. Does anything else need to be said?

Solution:  
Our Black boys need to know that books are windows to the future;

they need to know that an investment in books is a divestment in a future filled with petty crime, joblessness and poverty. Reading is the new wellness for our com-

munity!

Pastor W. Eric Croomes can be reached at Pastor-Croomes@Outlook.com or on Facebook at Pastor W. Eric Croomes

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## Black Teens Make History With 3rd Consecutive Win at Harvard Debate Competition



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Madison Webb is the first Black female student and Christian Flournoy is the youngest Black male student to win the competition.

Nationwide — For the third year in a row, a team of African American students known as The Atlanta Great Debaters, defended and won the championship title for the international Harvard debate competition. Held virtually this year because of COVID-19, they competed against students

from more than 25 countries.

According to 11 Alive, the entire team is being recognized for doing "an awesome job," but senior Madison Webb, the first Black female student, and sophomore Christian Flournoy, the youngest Black male student, secured the

*continued on page 10*

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# “American Wisper,” the Film Hollywood Hoped Would Never Get Released, Now Streaming After 9 International Film Festival Wins



The film is based on true events, and based on withheld police reports issued at the time of the murders. According to producer Howard Nash, the ending will leave you speechless.

The producers want it known that they are seeking to have the original case re-opened, and feel that a film in wide release is the only way to make that happen. Nash raised his funding independently, and today remains gratified that he ignored Hollywood’s “professional” advice while he was developing the project.

Indeed, Nash says American Wisper is the movie that Hollywood hoped would never get made. When presenting the project to major studios, he was repeatedly told that “no one will ever come and see it”... and one of the most powerful producers in Hollywood once told Nash to “make the family white”, as doing so would make the project “a lot more marketable”. It has now played at festivals all over the world, won nine International Film Festival awards, and is currently nominated for seven more.

“Wisper... a very tight thriller without clear heroes or victims – thanks to a tight directorial effort, a tense script and strong performances by all involved.. it’s a genre movie that shouldn’t be missed.” — Mike Habermelner / SMT News & Reviews

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## Five reasons to use my Social Security

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

There are countless reasons why you can benefit from using your personal my Social Security account. Here are five that highlight why opening an account today can help you and the people you love.

**Saving you time**

There’s no need to leave your home when using the features of my Social Security. You may think you need to speak with a Social Security representative to check your application status, set up or change direct deposit, or request a replacement Social Security card. All you have to do is log in or create an account at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount).

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**Reassurance**

Did you know you can see your

entire work history with your personal my Social Security account? This allows you to verify if your employers reported your earnings to us correctly. This is very important. Accurate wage reporting will ensure you get the benefits you earned when you begin receiving benefits.

**Planning for your Future**

Retirement planning is essential for a secure future. The Retirement Calculator lets you enter the age or date when you expect to begin receiving benefits to generate an estimated benefit amount. If you enter your estimated future salary amount, that will be included when calculating the estimated benefit amount. You can also view your estimated disability benefit on the Estimate Benefits page.

**Control**

A personal my Social Security account gives you the control to conduct your Social Security business wherever and whenever you want without needing to speak with a representative. You can check the status of your claim, get an instant proof of benefits letter or copy of your SSA-1099, and more. And people in most states can request a replacement Social Security card. Check out [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount) and put yourself in control.

## Black Teens Make History With 3rd Consecutive Win at Harvard Debate Competition

continued from page 9

iversity Project recruits a cohort of talented Black youth out of an applicant pool of hundreds throughout Metro Atlanta. The program seeks students that have never been exposed to academic debate.

On Saturdays, students undergo a rigorous 10-month training regimen, where they are introduced to debate through the exploration of academic disciplines that foster critical thinking, public speaking, and argumentation.

The program normally culminates with a summer residency at Harvard College, where students study academic debate alongside and compete against hundreds of gifted scholars from around the world. However, this year, it was all done online because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The end goal of the Harvard Diversity Project ([HarvardDCDP.org](http://HarvardDCDP.org)) is to promote educational equity by creating opportunities for underserved youth to gain exposure and access to academic training that will distinguish them as top candidates in the college admissions process.

## From the Desk of Felicia

### 5 Ways to Face Your Fears About Love

Are you afraid to fall in love, again? There are many people in the world who feel the same way as you for reasons that are personal to them. However, that fear of falling in love again is actually the main reason for love not being able to find you. There are some simple and practical ways that you can face your fears about love below:



1. To face any fear, you have to go back to the root of the fear. Ask yourself, why or how did become afraid of love? Is it because of someone’s actions or lack thereof? Find out why you believe whatever you believe and get to the bottom of it. If you’ve experienced a traumatic experience in a past relationship, you may want to seek professional help first.
2. Remove the negative words that you speak about love. Your words attract what you say. If you’re constantly saying negative things about love than you won’t have a positive outcome with giving and receiving love. Replace the negative thoughts and words with positive thoughts and words of affirmation instead. You can google, words of affirmation for finding love, and recite them every day until you believe them for yourself.
3. Remove the negative people who speak against love. If you are friends with people or have family members who are always saying negative comments about love, remove yourself from them. They are only passing their fears on to you and it is not healthy to be around so much negativity in your life.
4. Rejection is never easy to accept but it is usually worth it in the end. If you’ve ever been rejected by a potential partner, be grateful! Maybe there was something about them that you couldn’t see and their rejection actually saved you from another heartbreak down the line. Don’t force anyone to want to be with the amazing person that you are. Their rejection is making space for you to continue to get out there and be open to receiving love again.
5. You must be open to the thought of finding love again. Love can’t come into your life if you are closed minded to it. To face any fear, you eventually have to do the very thing that you are afraid of. You’re going to have to start dating again and be opened to know that everyone you date won’t be Mr./Mrs. Right for you. Date them anyway!







# Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority is Recognized by NAHRO with Agency Award of Merit

Submitted

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) was recently honored by the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment (NAHRO) with a 2020 Award of Merit for their Cooking with Commodities program. The NAHRO Awards program was created to recognize agencies who found innovative ways of making a difference in their communities by creating affordable housing, revitalizing their neighborhoods and developing initiatives such as job readiness programs, public-private partnerships, disaster prevention projects and more. LMHA partners with SeaGate Food Bank of Northwest Ohio to provide monthly commodities (free food pantry items) onsite for its public housing residents. Cooking with Commodities is a teaching program that utilizes these pantry items and shows residents how to prepare leftover items and other foods they might not have previously prepared. As a result, there is a decrease in food waste, increase in usage of food items, and a desire to replicate the samplings. Coleena Ali, VP of Resident Services, stated, "This program has helped our residents not only stretch their food budget but also enhance their nutrition. We are grateful to SeaGate Food Bank for their partnership on this project." More than 30 years ago, NAHRO created the Awards of Merit program to honor their members' successes and amplify the innovative ways in which they've improved their agencies, their communities and the lives of the people they serve.



# Relief for the littlest entrepreneurs

Submitted

Efforts to support America's entrepreneurs during the COVID-19 crisis have increased to include the nation's littlest tycoons, according to the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC]. The Country Time company has announced that it will be sending out \$100 "bailout" checks to youngsters who operate lemonade stands in summer. Its "Littlest Bailout" initiative focuses on kids under the age of 14 whose businesses have suffered due to safe-distancing and face mask regulations. Says the company: "We know this will be a rough summer for lemonade stands. And if the big guys are getting bailed out, why shouldn't we help the littlest entrepreneurs get the same treatment?" The boys and girls can apply at <https://www.countrytimebailout.com/> by sending in an essay describing how they will spend the money and photos of their stands.




PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

# Former McDonald's execs strike back

Continued from page 6.

that five African American women, Chioke Elmore, Regina Johnson, Hernandez, Calloway and Neal, were "angry Black women" that "always seemed to be mad about something." He then allegedly asked Guster-Hines to explain the source of their anger. The five women constituted 40% of female African American vice presidents as of March 2018. And were three out of five vice presidents reporting to Strong when he allegedly made these statements. "So that was shocking that he was so openly discussing that with various stakeholders that we were angry Black women," Neal said. But what she, Guster-Hines, and others found even more jarring and demoralizing was after they shared Strong's racist, sexist, and demeaning remarks to his superiors, he, too, was promoted and they were demoted. "In shocking ways difficult to overstate, McDonald's under Easterbrook and Kempczinski declared a war against the African American community," the lawsuit alleges. Neither the McDonald's Corporation Media Relations Department or the lawyer representing them, Nigel F. Telman of Chicago, returned calls from the Chronicle by publication deadline. However, in a statement to the media in January, issued at the filing of the suit, McDonald's said it disagreed with the characterization of the company's behavior. It said 45% of its corporate officers and all of its field vice-presidents are people of color. "At McDonald's, our actions are rooted in our belief that a diverse, vibrant, inclusive, and respectful company makes us stronger," the company said. "While we disagree with characterizations in the complaint, we are currently reviewing it and will respond to the complaint accordingly." Carmen D. Caruso and Linda C. Chatman, the Chicago-based trial lawyers representing Neal and Guster-Hines said the behavior by McDonald's executives constituted some of the most egregious acts of racial discrimination they have ever been confronted with in their careers. "Under the guise of reorganizing the way they manage the franchise system, the restaurant system across the country, they basically decimated the ranks of the African American leadership and employees," Caruso said. "That to me is one of the most glaring act of intentional discrimination that we saw in the case. And we lay those numbers out in greater detail in the complaint itself. But that was very, very, serious discrimination in employment, and it's over and above a lot of other things that came before and other things that have come after, but that's kind of a centerpiece of the discrimination against the executive employees, including Domineca and Vicki." Chatman agreed and said that they are also arguing that McDonald's will try to argue that their promotion and demotion policies are neutral because they are based on data, not race. The racially hostile work environment had a particularly destructive impact upon Black employees, including Domineca and Vicki. "The crux of it is that, under Easterbrook and now Kempczinski, McDonald's is not interested in, or focused upon, Black customers, Black franchisees or Black executives, as evidenced by how they decimated their ranks at the corporate level," she said. "Domineca and Vicki were forced to witness McDonald's blatantly deemphasize Black people and the effect upon them was terrible," Chatman said. "I mean, how are they supposed to work in an environment that is openly hostile to people who look like them." Neal said when Kempczinski was told about concerns that there weren't any Blacks on his U.S. President executive team, he said he can the ask questions "the numbers don't matter." "But, the numbers do matter," Chatman said. Caruso said the bottom line is that they are alleging their clients were victims of intentional discrimination and it came from the very top of the McDonald's organization in the person of Steve Easterbrook and Christopher Kempczinski. "It was not an accident that all this happened to Domineca and Vicki, and other African Americans in the company," he said. Neal, reflecting on her time at McDonald's recalled how happy she was to join the organization in 2011 precisely because of its reputation for embracing the African American community. "And we embraced them, and that was shown through the loyalty to the brand, the representation of African American talent at all levels throughout the organization and the opportunities to create wealth for the African American owner-operators which was also very inspiring and a representation of their diversity and inclusion values," she said. Now, after leaving the corporation in March, Neal still finds the swift turnabout in the company's attitude and values – after nearly 50 years of progress – disconcerting. She said the whole "angry Black woman" incident felt as if she was living in an episode of Mad Men. She is left to wonder how sincere the corporation was about diversity and inclusion in the first place. She noted things would never have had gotten out of hand as it did if the Board of Directors had come down on the executives. But they didn't. "It was very disheartening, heartbreaking, and shocking because I think that we're at a stage in society, where we know that's language that is racial in nature and stereotypical and used in a manner to quiet African American women from being able to comfortably bring their authentic selves to the workplace," Neal said. This story is developing. Stay tuned for Super-sized Racism Part 2, next week.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED



# In Memoriam: NNPA Salutes the Memory and Legacy of Publisher Imogene McDaniel Harris

*Submitted*

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) expresses sincere condolences to the family of Mrs. Imogene McDaniel Harris (R.I.P.), the distinguished publisher of the Gary INFO Newspaper (founded in 1963) who passed on July 22, 2020.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., President and CEO of the NNPA stated, "I have personally known the Harris family in Gary, Indiana for decades. Today, our extended NNPA families of Black-owned newspapers across the nation pause to salute the outstanding memory and legacy of NNPA publisher Imogene Harris. We pledge to keep her spirit alive as we rededicate to continue to sustain the Black Press of America during these challenging times.

Newspaper publisher, educator, community activist, matriarch Imogene Harris, 88, of Gary, Indiana, completed her earthly assignment Wednesday, July 22, 2020 after a lingering illness.

Imogene was born in the city she devoted a lifetime of love to: Gary, Indiana, on November 20, 1931, the child of Lohney L. and Geneva Scott McDaniel. She graduated from Gary Roosevelt High School and briefly attended Hampton Institute (University) in Hampton, Virginia. Imogene continued on to receive a Bachelor of Science degree from Indiana University, in Bloomington, Indiana.

Imogene joined in nuptial bliss with her soulmate James Templeton (J.T.) Harris, Jr. on September 1, 1951. Their blessed union lasted 51-years until J.T.'s transition to glory in 2001.

Imogene taught in the Gary Public School System for many years, first, at Froebel School, followed by Norton

commitment to eliminate inequality, prejudice, and racism. They also proudly received a Congressional Record from the Hon. Indiana State Representative Peter J. Visclosky in 1994 for their commitment to instill equality and justice throughout the City of Gary.

Imogene will be fondly remembered by all for her dedication to excellence, her deep compassion, unswerving principles, thoughtful leadership, devotion to family and community, and loyal friendship.

Imogene is survived by two loving and devoted daughters Temple-Jene Harris Fleming (Joseph) and Gaylyn Harris. The pride of her heart, her five grandchildren, Lavon Robin Fleming, Lateefah Shariene Fleming, Joseph Harris Fleming, and Terilyn Marshelle Fleming; great-grandson Nathaniel Joseph Williams; sister-in-law Emma Harris (Lorenzo), godchildren Calvin, Daresia and Cheryl Pruitt, committed goddaughter Djuana Anderson, and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends. Imogene is preceded in death by her parents and her sister Levevian McDaniel Benton (Norman).



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

**Imogene McDaniel Harris, November 20, 1931 – July 22, 2020**

Elementary School as a third-grade teacher, and then she served as Head Librarian at Lincoln Elementary School.

Imogene's calling in life was partnering with J.T. to run the family businesses – Harris Printing Company (established in the 1950s) and Gary INFO Newspaper (founded in 1963). They diligently produced a publication that became the voice of African Americans throughout Northwest Indiana for more than four decades.

Imogene was a compassionate mentor, sage, and friend to people of all ages. Harris Printing Company and Gary INFO generated opportunities that contributed to the growth of existing Black businesses as well as the aspirations of budding entrepreneurs, writers, photographers, and printers.

From newspaper boys and girls trying to earn pocket change, to eventual affluent and successful individuals around the nation, "The Shop," as Info's midtown location was affectionately known, was more than a place for workers to hone their craft, it was a launching pad for life.

A lifelong resident of Gary, Imogene was a member of Delaney Memorial United Methodist Church which is now Christ Memorial Methodist Church. Memberships included the Gary branch NAACP, the Gary Urban League Guild, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Betu Nu Chapter (1962). Imogene was recognized by the NNPA and maintained a collegial relationship with the founding members of the (NNPA) that was founded in 1940. Harris was also a founding member of the Lake County Association of Black Communicators.

Her many lifetime accolades included the Drum Major Award presented to her and J.T. by the Gary Frontiers Service Club, for their

The family will hold a Memorial Service to remember the life of Imogene at a future date where her transition will truly be celebrated.

## Black Milwaukee Man Killed Execution Style for Supporting Trump



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

**Mr. Trammell was 60 when he was shot and killed for his passionate following of President Donald Trump.**

*Submitted*

(Black News) - Bernell Trammell, a 60-year old Black man who was known in his community for his support of President Trump, was reportedly shot and killed in front of his store. The police are still searching for the unknown shooter.

According to authorities, the incident

happened while Trammell was sitting on the sidewalk of his publishing company. An unknown shooter then gunned him down execution-style.

Trammell, who owned a publication called eXpressions Journal, was a known political activist and Trump supporter. He also advocated for the Black Lives Matter movement.

"Because of Trammell's well-known political activism and the possibility that his murder could be politically motivated, I respectfully request that United States Attorney Matthew Krueger open an investigation," Andrew Hitt, chairman of the Republican Party of Wisconsin, told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

Meanwhile, no suspect has been in police custody since the shooting incident.

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Locke Library  
703 Miami St  
M-F/11am-12:30pm  
Mareda Ctr.  
233 Page St.  
M-F/11am-12:30pm  
Marshall Elem.  
415 Colburn St.  
M-F/1:00-2:00pm  
McClinton Nunn  
425 Nebraska  
1:00-2:00pm  
Mott Library  
1010 Dorr St.  
M-F/11am-12:30pm  
Northern Heights  
3300 N. Erie St.  
M-F/1:00pm-2:00pm  
Oregon Library  
3340 Dustin Rd,  
M-F/11am-12:30pm  
Padua Ctr.  
1416 Nebraska Ave.  
M-F/11am-2:00pm  
Port Lawrence  
131 Indiana Ave.  
M-F/1:00pm-2:00pm

Ravine  
55 Poplar St.  
1:00-2:00pm  
Raymer Elem.  
550 Raymer  
M-F/1:00-2:00pm  
Reynolds Corners  
Library  
4833 Dorr St.  
M-F/1:00pm-2:00pm  
Rogers HS  
222 McTigue  
M-F/11am-12:30pm  
Scott HS  
2400 Collingwood  
M-F/11am-12:30pm  
Sherman Elem.  
817 Sherman  
M-F/1:00-2:00pm  
South Toledo Library  
1736 Broadway St.  
M-F/11am-12:30pm  
Washington Library  
5560 Harvest Ln.  
M-F/11am-12:30pm  
Weiler  
601 Fassett  
1:00-2:00 pm  
West Toledo Library  
1320 Sylvania Ave.  
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**THE CITY OF PERRYSBURG IS TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF LAW DIRECTOR**

Located along the Maumee River, the City of Perrysburg, Ohio is a fast-growing community rich in history and strong on character. Perrysburg is a place where Midwestern work ethic still prevails and the preservation of history is as important as the desire for planned growth. It is a hometown where education is emphasized, and athletics and the arts are valued. Take time to learn about the community voted by Ohio Magazine as one of Ohio's Best Hometown's for 2009.

**Summary of Duties:** This is a sophisticated professional and managerial position which requires a high level of municipal legal experience in order to provide and direct a wide range of legal support and services as chief legal officer for the City of Perrysburg. Under administrative direction, serves as the head of the Department of Law; provides legal counsel in connection with municipal affairs of the City; performs duties imposed on law directors under the laws of the State of Ohio unless otherwise provided by City Ordinance; supervises personnel; performs legal research, investigates and renders opinions; attends regular, special and/or committee meetings; drafts and prepares ordinances and resolutions; provides representation in Local, State, and Federal Court and administrative agencies on behalf of the City; prepares and administers the Department of Law budget.

**Qualifications:** An example of acceptable qualifications: Attainment of J.D. degree from an American Bar Association accredited school of law and licensed by the Ohio Supreme Court to practice in the State of Ohio and a minimum of ten (10) years of relevant experience the practice of law and/or public sector administration. Working knowledge of labor and employment law a plus.

Must be licensed to practice law in the State of Ohio and be in good standing.

The salary range for this position is \$82,411 to \$103,198 depending on qualifications and experience, and includes a comprehensive benefits package. Note: this is a full-time position and no private practices are permitted.

To apply for this position please see our posting <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/perrysburg>

Applications must be received by August 12.

Due to the public records laws of Ohio, application materials cannot be considered confidential. Perrysburg is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Coming Events

Continued from page 3

Navarre Park, 1001 White St., Toledo, Ohio 43605, pool house/parking lot, 12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m.  
Savage Park, 650 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43604, underneath open air shelter, 1:30p.m. to 2:15 p.m.  
Walbridge Park, 2761 Broadway, Toledo 43609, underneath open air shelter, 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.  
Ottawa Park, 2200 Kenwood Blvd., Toledo 43606, underneath open air shelter, 12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Aug. 8th

**River of Life Church Book Bags Give-Away**  
Back to school event on Saturday at 3611 Upton Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43613, from 9am - 11am. Book bags will be given on a first come first serve basis. The event will be a drive-through event. You will be entering on Loxley Street. There will be signs and staff that will lead to the entrance.

**Connecting Kids To Meals Continues To Feed Kids This Summer**

Agape	1001 Indiana Ave.,
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203 Paine Ave.,	Heatherdowns Library
M-F/11am-12:30pm	3265 Glanzman
Birmingham Terr.	1:00-2:00pm
2100 Consaul St	Holland Library
M-F/1:00-2:00pm	1032 McCord Rd.
Dorr Elementary	M-F/11am-12:30pm
1205 King Rd.	Homer Hanham
M-F/1:00-2:00pm	2250 N. Detroit
East Broadway Elementary	M-F/1:00-2:00pm
1755 E. Broadway	Jones Leadership
M-F/1:00-2:00pm	Academy
Elmdale Courts	430 Nebraska
463 Elmdale Ct	M-F/11am-12:30pm
1:00-2:00pm	Kent Library
Frederick Douglass Ctr.	3101 Collingwood

BLACK HISTORY

**August 8, 1805:** The African Baptist Church is organized in Boston, Mass.

**August 10, 1880:** Clarence C. White, composer and violinist, dies.

**August 5, 1892:** Harriet Tubman receives a pension from Congress for her work as a nurse, spy, and scout during the Civil War.

**August 7, 1904:** Ralph J. Bunche, diplomat, born, first Black winner of Nobel Peace Prize.

**August 11, 1921:** Author of "Roots", Alex Haley was born.

**August 10, 1956:** Dr. King is a speaker before the platform committee of the Democratic Party in Chicago, Ill.

**August 9, 1961:** James B. Parsons became first Black appointed to Federal District Court in the United States.

**August 6, 1965:** President Lyndon Johnson signs Voting Rights Bill.

**August 5, 1966:** Dr. King is hit by rocks in Chicago as he leads a march against discrimination.



# NFL Chief Doctor Says Teams, Players Must Be Educated About Risks of COVID

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior  
Correspondent

Following a disastrous re-opening by Major League Baseball, where as many as 17 Miami Marlins players and personnel have tested positive for COVID-19 forcing the postponement of several games, the National Football League remains cautiously optimistic as training camps open.

"It's about education and understanding," NFL Chief Medical Officer Dr. Allen Sills told BlackPressUSA.

"I think people are trying to be really thoughtful about this, and I think people do look at risk and risk mitigation in different ways. But I feel like it's the right thing to do, to try to learn to live with this virus."

A big part of the challenge remains findings ways to carry on safely, Sills agreed.

This week the heavy contact sport re-opened camps,

but officials have decided not to hold traditional pre-season games to help keep risks at a minimum. All players are scheduled to report by August 4, but as many as 22 already have opted out of the 2020 season.

The season is scheduled to kick-off on Thursday, September 10.

"Players and coaches [and other personnel] have to make the best decisions for them," Sills stated. The league announced that it has put in place safety measures that include increased sanitizing. Social distancing would be enforcement, including in player treatment rooms, weight rooms,



PHOTO CREDIT / iStockphoto / NNPA

**Reportedly, training camps are equipped with proximity tracking devices that will alert players or staff when they are too close to one other. The device also collects data, making contact tracing easier if someone does become infected with the coronavirus.**

mealtime, and on the playing field.

Reportedly, training camps are equipped with proximity

making contact tracing easier if someone does become infected with the coronavirus.

NFL players will live in and travel from their own homes, a contrast to the National Basketball Association, which has isolated all teams and personnel at one location in Orlando, Florida.

"If they're around each other each day, they're going to share risk. They also share a responsibility to each other, which means that they're each making good choices when they're away from the facility," Dr. Sills said.

"We've tracked the CDC risk guidelines, made decisions on which ones put our players at high risk, and players can rely on those risk factors to make decisions about whether they're going to play or not," he added.

Dr. Sills conceded that much is still unknown about the basics of COVID-19, so everyone has "to make the best decision for themselves."

# HBCU North Carolina Central Now The Favorite to Land Lebron James Jr. Son of Superstar Lebron James



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

**Lebron James Jr. is headed to Washington, D.C.**

By: Will Moss  
Wire Writer

Duke has long been considered a favorite to land LeBron James Jr., son of the Los Angeles Lakers superstar and living NBA legend. In the wake of today's monumental Makur Maker news, oddsmakers think that Bronny James may continue the trend of superstar recruits heading to HBCU schools.

Maker, the top uncommitted 2020 recruit entering the day, turned down Kentucky, Memphis, and UCLA. Instead, he committed

to Howard University, a prominent HBCU located in Washington, D.C.

In his announcement, Maker, cousin of NBA forward Thon Maker, called on other star recruits to follow in his footsteps. He named 2023 superstar recruit Mikey Williams, ESPN's No. 3 recruit in the class, in particular. A few months ago, Williams floated the idea of going to an HBCU, and seems to be seriously considering it.

Williams and Bronny James are close, and there is some speculation that they could look to play together at the next level. Bronny

has also drawn the attention of some HBCU programs, which have started getting more aggressive in recruiting top athletes. One of the most highly-respected and successful HBCU coaches, North Carolina Central's LeVelle Moton, made headlines in January when he offered James. Now, the school has been installed as the favorite to land him by Bovada's oddsmakers.

Moton shared some serious insight into the shifting recruiting strategy, after he offered James. He obviously couldn't mention any recruit by name, but he said that his program

and other HBCUs need to be aggressive and make top players say "no" to them.

In the process, he took a big shot at one college hoops recruiting power in particular: Kentucky.

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# Fitness encourages embracing curves



Becca Lee, instructor, left, leads her students in a hip hop inspired workout. “Dance motivates me, and a lot of people; so what better way to get in shape while enjoying what you do.”

Continued from page 1.

active in a lot of activities; which carried over into my adulthood. So if parents first, get their children physically involved in activities that interest them, those habits will hopefully carry over into those adult years, and they stay active,” she explained.

“Dance motivates me, and a lot of people; so what better way to get in shape, while enjoying what you do,” Ms. Lee said.

Turn Up Toledo Dance Fitness meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. and

Saturday at 9:30 a.m. For pricing and additional information, visit [turnuptoledodancefit.com](http://turnuptoledodancefit.com).

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