



THE TOLEDO JOURNAL

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INSIDE

QUESTION

91% of black women voted for Biden, what message does this send?



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Howard Harthorne 73rd Surprise Party



LIFESTYLES/NEWS
Williams Event Rental Business launch



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EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY IN THE TOLEDO JOURNAL



The Junction Coalition and NHA Pre-Holiday COVID 19 Testing Event



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

On hand for the NHA to administer the COVID 19 Test were Medical Assistant Donniqua Parker and Certified Nurse Practitioner Michelle Wesley.

Every year the Junction Coalition sponsors their annual health fair at the Frederick Douglass Center. This year, because of the current pandemic ravaging the country and Lucas County, the group decided to focus on COVID-19 only. Especially with the Thanksgiving holiday coming up and the anticipated family gatherings that will take place. They wanted to encourage everyone to play it safe and have a peace of mind.

So they collaborated with the Neighborhood Health Association (NHA) for an all-out 'Pre-holiday Free Peace of

Mind COVID-19 Testing Event' at the Douglass Center on Saturday, November 7, again on November 14th and the last one November 21, 2020. To further encourage people to come and get tested they gave away free frozen turkeys to everyone who got tested. Customers were also able to pick up free (PPE) Personal Protection Equipment, face masks, plastic

gloves, and hand sanitizer. There were also free cases of bottled water available.

Joseph Smith of NHA said, "Today we want to make sure people have a peace of mind about their COVID-19 status going into the Thanksgiving holiday. If you're planning to be with your loved one you need to know your status. If you do have COVID-19 you need to quarantine

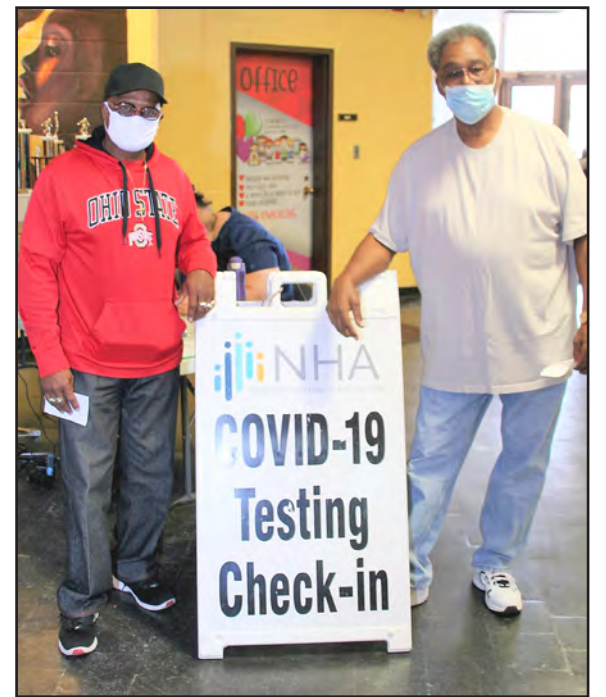


PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Waiting to get tested at Pre-Holiday COVID 19 Testing Event were Jerry Pinn and Robert Riverschildren.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Volunteer Antwan Oxner and Junction Coalition members Donald and Vanessa N. Lynn pass out (PPE) Personal Protection Equipment to customers at the Pre-Holiday COVID 19 Testing Event.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Organizers of the Pre-Holiday COVID 19 Testing Event at The Douglas Center were (L-R) Joseph Smith: Neighborhood Health Association, Robert Rivers: The Junction Coalition President, Alicia Smith: Executive Director of The Junction Coalition, Dee Washington: Prevention Education Manager from Harbor, and Charles Allen: Supervisor of Outreach at the Neighborhood Health Association.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Customer Steve Reamey receives his free Thanksgiving turkey from NHA Volunteer Denise Griffin after finishing his COVID 19 Test.

and get tested again before Thanksgiving. Testing is extremely important because we want to protect our loved ones like the children and our elderly, who are more vulnerable to this disease."

Dee Washington: the Prevention Education Manager explained, "We're here today, because we received a grant that is specifically for the 43607 and 43605 zip codes called ACE (Adverse Childhood Experience). We

are focusing on young people 1- 8 years old, and we're doing a needs assessment, so that we can provide this community with the appropriate services. Our goal today is for the people of this community to tell us what they're needs are, we have a lot of programs that can be of help to those in this residential district," she said. "We are here to help, so call us at 419-479-3233."

For more information about The Junction Coalition, You may contact them by calling 419-408-0998 or visit them on the web at www.junctioncoalition.com

Free Thanksgiving Meal Box

For Those Age 60+



Each meal box requires refrigeration and serves four people and includes turkey slices, mashed potatoes with gravy mix, stuffing mix, vegetables, dinner roll and dessert.

On a first-come, first-served basis, call 419-382-0624 to register for a Thanksgiving Meal Box for pick-up on November 23rd or 24th between 9 am - 5 pm at the Margaret Hunt Senior Center, 2121 Garden Lake, Toledo, OH 43614.

Stay Warm and Save Money

Would you like to save \$150 on your utility costs to help stay warm? If your income is \$22,330 for a single-person household or \$30,170 for a two-person household, you can apply to receive this benefit. Applied directly to the customer's utility or bulk fuel bill, the benefit can help manage heating costs.

When applying, individuals need to have copies of the following

- documents:
- Most recent utility bills.
 - A list of all household members (including birth dates and Social Security numbers).
 - Proof of income for the past 30 days for all household members (12 months for certain income types).
 - Proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members.
 - Proof of disability (if applicable).

HEAP benefits are applied to an individual's energy bill after January 1st. Applications for the HEAP program must be received by May 31, 2021.

This is not an emergency program. Low-income households that have been disconnected (or have a pending disconnection notice), need to establish new service, need to pay to transfer service, have 25% (or less) of bulk fuel

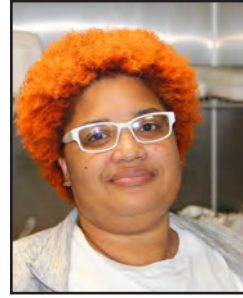
remaining, or have a household member who was diagnosed with COVID-19 may

be eligible for the Winter Crisis Program. Applications must be received by

March 31, 2021. For more information, contact 419-382-0624.



Statistics show that 12% of black men voted for Trump and 91% of black women voted for Biden. What message does this send to our community as a whole?



Chanell McCoy

Coordinator

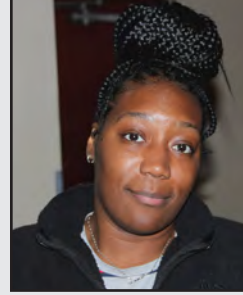
I think it shows that those men who voted for Trump made more money than most people and were concerned about their finances. Some people may say this shows conflict amongst Black men and women, but I don't think it does; we have other divisive problems than voting issues. And although 12% of Black men voted for Trump, I really think this election unified Black people like never before. There were people voting who never voted before, and that was good for our community.



Rickey Johnson

Deliverer

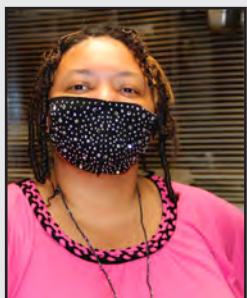
It shows that Black men were persuaded by Ice Cube's Platinum Plan, while the women saw Trump for what he really is. Trump degraded women, and Black people, and instead of Black men acknowledging that fact, they let a potential plan for financial gain cloud their perception; Black women didn't fall for the plan.



Anishia Boyd

Medical Assistant

The message being sent is divisiveness between male and female. Black men were willing to ignore Trump's obvious disrespect, while Black women didn't ignore it. Also, mixed messages are sent to young new voters; that being, do we ignore obvious attacks against us just to vote for someone who claims they support the black community.



Tiffanee Watson

Business Owner

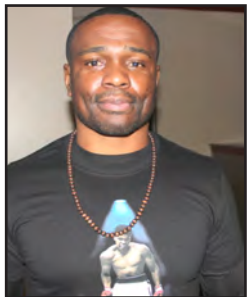
Being that only 12% of Black men voted for him, I really don't think any type of message is being sent. I do believe those who voted for Trump only did so because they made more money. I've even read that some people were voting for him because he contributed or was going to contribute to HBCU's. Obama and Tom Joyner always contribute to Black colleges, so I think people were using that as an excuse to vote for Trump.



Michael Smith

Self-Employed

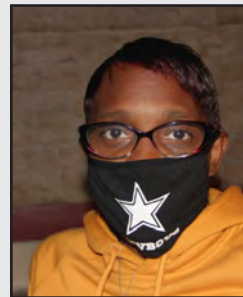
The message being sent is there's a role reversal going on within the black community. Black women are able to see the difference between Trump and Biden, while Black men lack that ability. It then shows the leadership that's supposed to exist amongst Black men, really exists within Black women and that is, having the ability to foresee any harms coming to the family.



Michael Garnett

Education

I think it shows the basic structure of how home life is supposed to exist. Traditionally, women are more concerned with how home life is supposed to function, while men are concerned about financial gains. Those men who voted for Trump may have seen the opportunity for them to progress financially, thereby being able to help their family.



Nicky Hardiman

Factory Worker

I think it sends a bad message. It shows that the Black men, who voted for Trump, condone his abusive behavior towards women; that's a very bad message to young people. Many of us felt and connected with the message of Biden and Harris.

Ongoing Events

Lucas county to host virtual community engagement meetings for projects to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in county jails

Sessions began in November and will continue through December. The ninety-minute sessions will focus on getting input from residents, advocates, community stakeholders, and others who live, work, or have interests in the Toledo Zip codes of 43604, 43607, 43608, and 43610. The sessions will be held on the following dates and times:

November 18, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 2, December 9, and December 16, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in participating in a community engagement session can sign up to join the email list on the Safety + Justice Challenge website at: <https://lucascountycjcc.org/SJC>

Lucas County Probate Court, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County Seek Applicants for Vacancies on the newly formed Lucas County Guardianship Services Board

The Lucas County Probate Court, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County are seeking applicants to fill vacancies on the newly formed Lucas County Guardianship Services Board. Any person interested in being considered for appointment must fill out the "Application for Guardianship Services Board" form. A detailed resume must be enclosed with the completed application form. Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 25, 2020. If desired, hardcopies can be mailed to the care of Acting Court Administrator Sue Braithwaite Lucas County Probate

Court, 700 Adams St. Suite 200, Toledo, Ohio, 43604.

Senior Centers 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 11:00am-1:00pm. 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 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

Toledo Leaf Collection Program

Sign up for Toledo Text Alerts to be alerted when leaf collection crews will be in your neighborhood, and of any change in plans. Toledo Texts Alerts will notify residents two weeks prior, again one week prior to pick-up, and again when the collection is complete. The link to sign up is: http://entry.inspironlogistics.com/toledo_oh/wens.cfm?ep_id=. Residents can refer to the map on the city website for information on their specific addresses. The map will be posted at this link: toledo.oh.gov/leafpickup.

Call Engage Toledo at 419-936-2020. Check the city Facebook and Twitter accounts on Fridays. Watch for signs to be posted on your street.

Nov. 19th

City of Toledo 23rd Annual Homeless Luncheon

The City of Toledo Department of Neighborhoods

will hold its annual Thanksgiving luncheon for the homeless and underhoused, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 19 at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral Banquet Hall, 740 North Superior St.

The luncheon is an annual event that provides a traditional Thanksgiving-style dinner for individuals who are homeless and less fortunate throughout the city. It is provided jointly by the City of Toledo Department of Neighborhoods, local retail stores, the business sector, homeless service providers, food banks, and food kitchens. Additionally, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral has donated use of the space and provided volunteers to assist with the luncheon. The meal will be presented as a "Grab and Go" for the participants to enjoy because of the pandemic. Care packs will be distributed to the participants. There will be no on-site social services, free haircuts, or manicures that were offered last year.

"All participants will be required to wear a mask to enter the banquet hall."

Nov. 21st

Neighborhood Health Association (NHA) Pre-Holiday COVID-19 Tests

Saturday, Nov. 21, from 1 to 5 .m., at Mosaic Ministries, 1842 Broadway. NHA will be giving away PPE and safety and health information. These testing events are presented by HHA in collaboration with the Frederick Douglass Center/Junction Coalition, Greater Grace Christian Church/No one Goes Hungry Food Pantry and Mosaic Ministries.

Dec. 12th

"The Social Butterfly - Donnetta Carter" 9th Annual Christmas Bazaar

St. Clements Hall 2990 Tremainsville Road, Toledo, OH 43613, Saturday, at 10:00 am, Admission is Free to the Public! Face Masks and Social Distancing Required. Enjoy exclusive shopping from local Midwest vendors, waiting to fulfill all your holiday shopping needs!

'How Did 12 Percent of Black Men vote for Trump?'

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire
Senior National Correspondent
@StacyBrownMediaNNPA

NEWSWIRE — In Barack Obama's first presidential campaign, 95 percent of Black male voters and 96 percent of Black women chose him, NBC News reported. Four years later, Black women's support remained at 96 percent for Obama's 2012 re-election, while Black men slid to 87 percent. In 2016, when the nominee was Hillary Clinton, Black men dropped further to 82 percent while Black women's support for Clinton remained high at 94 percent. Biden came close to matching that this year, garnering the support of 91 percent of Black women. But 12 percent of Black men voted for Trump, according to exit polls.

Juan Williams posited that he's a Black man born in a Latin country and grew up in a Spanish-speaking family.

The author and Fox News political analyst then stated a head-scratching fact that many still find difficult to rationalize.

"It stuns me to see that President Trump set a record last week by attracting the highest percentage of the non-white vote of any Republican presidential candidate in the last 60 years," Williams wrote in an editorial for The Hill.

Perhaps most stunning, lamented Williams, "How did 12 percent of Black men vote for Trump?"

Although an overwhelming majority of Black men, 80%, voted for President-elect Joe Biden, support for the Democratic presidential ticket reached a new low among Black men in 2020, according to the NBC News poll of early and Election Day voters.

In the same poll, 8% of Black male voters were reported to have cast their ballots for alternative candidates.

In Barack Obama's first presidential campaign, of all Blacks casting ballots, 95 percent of Black men and 96 percent of Black women chose him, NBC News reported.

Four years later, Black women's support remained at 96 percent for Obama's 2012 re-election. However, the black male vote decreased to 87



percent.

In 2016, when the nominee was Hillary Clinton, Black men dropped even further to 82 percent, while Black women's support for Clinton remained high at 94 percent. Biden came close to matching that this year, garnering the support of 91 percent of Black women.

"It's a trust issue. I view the Black community's relationship with the Democratic Party, for example, as sort of like a domestic violence relationship," Demetre Coles, a 25-year-old African American who lives in Waterbury, Conn., told NPR.

Coles told the outlet he voted for Green Party candidate Howie Hawkins because Coles couldn't connect with Democrats or Republicans.

"We've been giving our vote to them loyally for 55, 60 years, and we have got nothing in return," Coles remarked. And as for the Republican Party, I don't feel as if they care about me at all. It's just more blatant."

While Coles expressed a reason for casting his ballot for an alternative candidate who had virtually no chance to win, his declaration didn't explain why so many other Black men voted for Trump.

"Black men are hurting. Political

parties mostly forget them, and then there's this anger — whether it's right or misguided — towards Biden for the 1994 Crime Bill," said Unique Tolliver, a New York-based mathematician.

The 1994 Crime Bill, which was authored by then Senator Biden, and signed by President Bill Clinton, was crafted to address rising crime in the United States. The law contained numerous crime prevention provisions, including the controversial "three strikes" mandatory life sentences for repeat violent offenders.

The law, which also called for funding community policing and prisons, disproportionately punished African American men, and most observers said it caused mass incarceration.

"But, what Black people [today] fail to understand is that, at the time, there were all of these Black people, including the clergy, who supported the bill," said Lenora Turner, a California-based psychologist.

"So, with Black men still smarting over that bill and holding it against Biden, and Trump repeatedly spreading the falsehood of how much he's done for the Black community, you had quite the storm brewing among Black male voters," Turner offered.

"You also had respected strong Black men like Ice Cube — even though he said he didn't endorse Trump — swaying Black men. I know that makes it sound like Black men don't have a mind of their own, but think about what Ice Cube came out and said. He said the Democrats told him we'd talk later while Trump 'listened' and agreed to institute some of Cube's initiatives in the President's overall plan."

Still, as Juan Williams noted in his editorial, Trump's racism toward Blacks and Latinos is so well-established. "It's sad to say, but a lot of Black and Latino voters, especially the men, got distracted by Trump's boasts and bling," said Williams.

Half of all Americans in a June 2020 YouGov/Yahoo News poll said outright that he is a racist, and another 13 percent could only say they are "not sure" whether he is a racist or not.

A Quinnipiac University poll in July 2019, found that 80 percent of Black people and 55 percent of Latinos said Trump is a racist.

A Fox News poll in July 2019 found 57 percent of Americans agreed that Trump has no respect for racial minorities.

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Typical Trump— 'This is far from over'



By Kevin Seraaj, Publisher,
The Orlando Advocate

Philadelphia mayor Jim Kenney told former president Donald Trump on Friday to put his 'big boy pants on' and accept election defeat. In Trump World

big boy pants are hard to find. Trump won't accept the fact that his 4-year toxic reign has come to an end, and neither will Ivanka, Donald Jr., Tiffany or Eric. All of them are still parroting the senior Trump's claims that the election was stolen. None of them have any evidence of voter fraud.

Once again the majority of Americans have rejected him (he lost the popular vote to Hillary Clinton even though he won the electoral college vote). This time the right combination of votes have unseated him, and he is not going to go away gracefully.

First, there is the matter of his pride. His feelings have been

hurt, and now like a petulant child he refuses to do what's best for the nation and walk away. He fully understands the sway he has with his followers and he has already riled them up with the stolen election nonsense. But even further, when a group of his followers encircled some Biden campaign buses, Trump defended them, saying, "In my opinion, these patriots did nothing wrong." That statement was a clear message that he looked favorably on potentially violent behavior undertaken on his behalf. He continues to put his own interests above those of the nation.

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COVID-19 worsens debt collector harassment New CFPB rule leaves room for state actions

By Charlene Crowell
Wire Writer

As the final days of the 2020 election season drew to a close, major media across the nation focused on polls and prospects for the presidential candidates. At the same time, scant news coverage reported on a development affecting 68 million consumers: debt collection regulation.

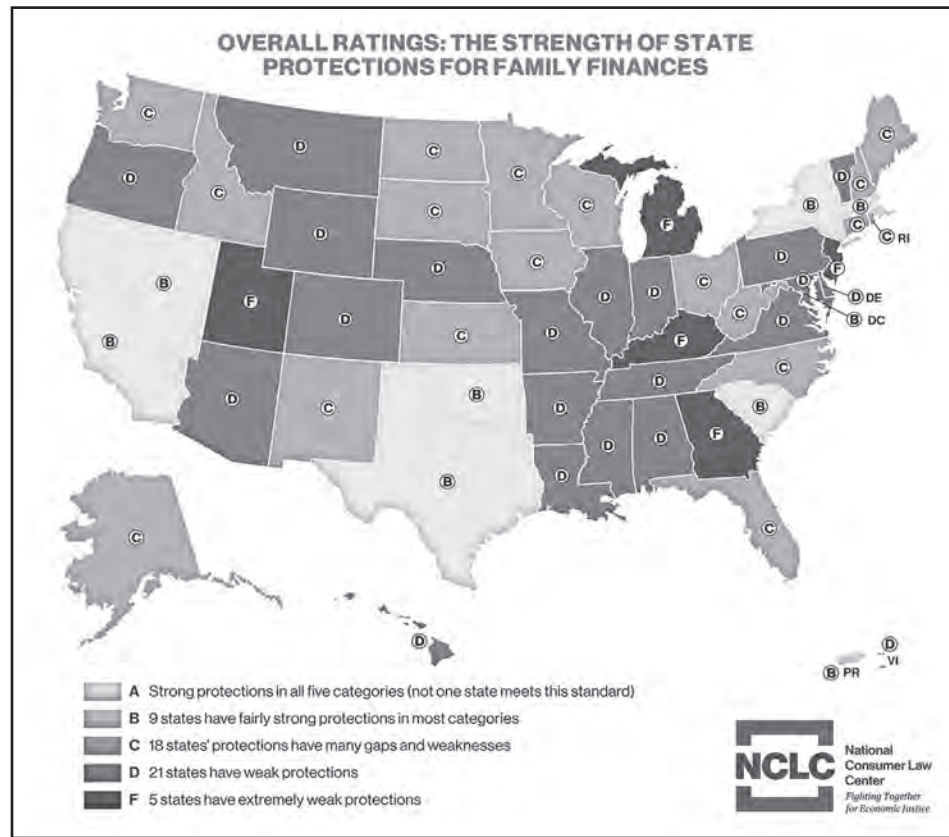
On October 30, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) released its 653-page regulatory revision for enforcement of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), originally enacted in 1977. Since that time, the debt collection industry has grown into a multi-billion industry with over 8,000 firms throughout the country.

For Black America, debt collection was troublesome even before the COVID-19 pandemic. One investigation revealed that in three major cities – Chicago, Newark, and St. Louis – the rate of judgments for debt collection lawsuits was twice as high in mostly Black neighborhoods than in mostly white areas. Nearly a year ago, Urban Institute research found that debt collection disproportionately affects 42% of communities of color. By contrast, the national average of all consumers was lower in double-digits at 31%, and a wider racial gap among whites at 26%.

The largest portion of debt for communities of color are medical services and student loans. Given the decades of discriminatory policies and practices that perpetuated the nation's racial wealth gap, these disparities extend to a lack of access to health care as well as a greater dependence on debt to finance higher education. For-profit colleges and institutions are among the latest and most visible financial predators.

In addition, the CFPB's own 2017 survey found that 44% of borrowers of color reported having been contacted about a debt, compared to 29% of white respondents. Even when accounting for differences in income, communities of color are disproportionately sued by debt collectors. In fact, 45% of borrowers living in communities of color faced litigation, while only 27% of similarly situated consumers in white areas were sued.

CFPB's revised rule will allow debt collectors to contact affected consumers up to seven times within seven days – or – within seven consecutive days of



a prior telephone conversation about a debt. It is important to note that this allowed communication is for each debt owed. Multiple numbers and types of debt collection can legally multiply the number of allowed contacts and result in harassment for already struggling borrowers.

Secondly, debt collectors who opt to contact consumers by electronic media, must also offer consumers a “reasonable and simple method” to opt out of these communications that include social media, emails and text messages.

Commenting on the new rule, CFPB's Director, Kathleen Kraninger, said, “Our rule applies these protections to modern technologies. ... And our rule will allow consumers, if they prefer, to limit the ability of debt collectors to communicate with them through these newer communications methods.”

But for the 233 consumer, civil rights and legal advocates who filed public comments on the proposed rule, the announcement sent mixed messages for what it proposed as well as what it delayed.

“The devil is in the details, and we will have to scour this complicated rule to make sure that it does not open up new fronts for debt collectors' pervasive

and abusive treatment of consumers,” said Christine Hines, legislative director at National Association of Consumer Advocates. “Through the guise of modernization, the debt collection rule could open the gate for collectors to aggravate vulnerable consumers with even more harassment and a flood of electronic communications.”

Although the October 30 announcement does address the emerging modes of communications, it also delayed action on three specific areas of concern in debt collection.

Guidelines on “zombie” debt, the term used to describe debts that outlived statutory limitations for collection, are expected to be announced this December. Similarly, debt collectors' practices of leaving messages with third parties or on postcards was not addressed, nor was negative information on consumers' credit reports.

“As we face a dire and worsening economic crisis, we will be keeping a close eye on the ‘zombie debt’ rule, coming in December, which could leave consumers more vulnerable to deception and harassment,” said Linda Jun, senior policy counsel at Americans for Financial Reform Education Fund. “Collectors should not be allowed to bring expired debt back to life by luring people into making a small payment that revives a debt that would otherwise be past the timeline for a lawsuit.”

Although consumers have a right to expect more and better financial regulation at the federal level, many advocates are calling for states to do their fair share on protecting consumer rights.

A new survey from the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) analyzed how the 50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands currently protect wages, bank account assets, and personal property from seizure by debt collectors.

Entitled, No Fresh Start 2020: Will States Let Debt Collectors Push Families into Poverty in the Wake of a Pandemic?, warns that once the pandemic recedes, families struggling to get back on their feet are likely to face a wave of debt collector lawsuits for medical bills, back rent, credit card debt, the balance due on repossessed cars, and even utility bills. It recommends that states “protect a living wage for working debtors – a wage that can meet basic needs and maintain a safe, decent standard of living within the community”. The report also recommends that states allow debtors to keep “a reasonable amount

of money” to enable debtors to pay daily living costs such as rent, utilities, day care, and transportation.

This gap in state regulation became evident when federal stimulus checks were deposited in families' bank accounts and then garnished by debt collectors. Further, and according to NCLC,

not one state currently meets five basic standards of debt regulation:

- Preventing debt collectors from seizing so much of the debtor's wages that the debtor is pushed below a living wage;
- Allowing the debtor to keep a used car of at least average value;
- Preserving the family's home—at least a median-value home;
- Preserving a basic amount in a bank account so that the debtor has minimal funds to pay such essential costs as rent, utilities, and commuting expenses, and
- Preventing seizure and sale of the debtor's necessary household goods.

NCLC identified the worst states that allow debt collectors to seize nearly everything a debtor owns, even the minimal items necessary for the debtor to continue working and providing for a family. States receiving an F grade included: Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, and New Jersey. States rated with a low D grade include: Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, and Pennsylvania.

“By reforming their exemption laws, states will not only protect families from destitution but will promote economic recovery by enabling families to spend their money in state and local communities,” said Carolyn Carter, NCLC deputy director and author of the report.

Recalling its earlier research on the family wealth lost as a result of the Great Recession, the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL), holds that the effects of families of color losing \$1 trillion of wealth, still hinders these same families a decade later. Until or unless regulators recognize that race and income are inextricably linked, harmful rules will only perpetuate the nation's wealth gap.

“We applaud the CFPB for dropping the safe harbor that would have widened the door for collectors to use state courts to sue consumers on wrong or incomplete information,” said Center for Responsible Lending policy counsel Kiran Sidhu. “But, the CFPB's final rule does not do enough to protect communities of color, especially during COVID-19, who are still struggling to recover from the Great Recession because of discriminatory exclusion from the financial mainstream and predatory inclusion into high-cost loan products.”

Sidhu also emphasized how the right kind of policy reform was important to stop debt collection law firms and attorneys from filing thousands of collection lawsuits each year that harass consumers on debts that may not even be owed.

To phrase it another way – It's hard to build family wealth when you're burdened with heavy debts and harassed by abusive debt collection practices. No amount of collector harassment will result in payments when no funds are available to pay past due bills. Further, any policy that denies indebted consumers the ability to preserve essential services like housing or utilities is unsustainable. The financial disparities that Black America strives to endure would significantly diminish if an inclusive financial marketplace became a reality. The crux of many burdensome debts is the lack of affordable and accessible financial services.

It is time to stop seizing our hard-earned monies.

Typical Trump— ‘This is far from over’

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Second, he's personally vulnerable without the protection of the Oval Office. A “former-president Trump” will be looking at millions of dollars in debts, lawsuits, and multiple prosecutions. More than a dozen investigations are already in the works against him, including a growing criminal investigation in New York. If only one or two of them end up in formal criminal charges, as the Intelligencer noted, “the court proceedings that follow will make the O. J. Simpson trial look like an afternoon in traffic court.”

If he somehow miraculously escapes criminal charges, odds are that Trump will spend the next four years attacking Biden's presiden-

cy. What he should do is pack up and head for Russia or Nicaragua, like he said:

“Could you imagine if I lose? My whole life—what am I going to do? I'm going to say, I lost to the worst candidate in the history of politics! . . . Maybe I'll have to leave the country, I don't know.”

It's time to put a band-aid on the open sore that is the Red vs Blue divide. The proverbial band-aid trope is obvious, but it's where we have to start. The lawsuits Trump has promised will drag on for months and plunge the nation deeper into tension and hostility. Six or seven months without Trump histrionics just might allow calm to overtake us and America's healing to begin.

Howard Harthorne war vet, boxer, surprised at 73rd party

By: Jurry Taalib-Deen
Journal Staff Writer

From his early days of boxing, to the jungles of Vietnam, Howard Harthorne was rarely caught off guard. But on the night of Friday, November 13, he was finally delivered the blow, that totally surprised him, when his family gave him a surprise 73rd birthday.

Held at Lontae's Occasion Hall, 1036 Holland Sylvania, the family hoped they could really surprise him, being that his birthday was the day before, on November 12.

Elaine Harthorne, wife of 18 years, told The Toledo Jour-

put on a nice shirt and a nice pair of shoes, he responded by saying, "Why, we're just going to a kid's party?"

When they finally arrived at the hall, Mrs. Harthorne did something that was totally out of character; she held the door open for her husband, and encouraged him to enter the building first. "He always holds the door open for me, and lets me walk in first; so we we're kind of going back and forth in the doorway, as to who would enter first," she said, while laughing.

Unfortunately, Mrs. Harthorne wasn't able to convince

entered, and was greeted by the loud words of surprise.

Haley Hart-horne, daughter, explained why her father was worthy of the celebration. "I was five years old when my mom died, and my father raised us on his own, before marrying my step-mother, who was there for us too. Words can't describe how I feel for him."

"He's always been strong for our family, and always made sure we had what we needed," said Bianca Harthorne, daughter.

"Whenever I felt like slowing down in life, I could always hear my dad's voice telling me not to give up," said Marilyn Richardson, daughter.

"He would tell me to never give up son; the underdog can win too," said his son, Howard Harthorne IV.

"He's as cool as they come," said Jerrie Conner, stepdaughter. "I really appreciate the things he has done for my mom, me, and my kids."

"I was really surprised," said Howard Harthorne. "I really wasn't expecting a party."

He shared that, at the instant everyone yelled surprise, his mind went blank, and he was trying to grasp what exactly was happening.

"I really appreciate everything my family has done this evening. We always stick together, and try to help one another," he said.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Howard Harthorne enjoyed his birthday with his wife, and some of his children.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Judging by the look in Howard Harthorne's eyes, he was totally surprised as his wife, Elaine looks on, and he is greeted by his grandson, Tristian.

nal that her husband doesn't like surprises and really didn't want to get out of the house that night.

"I had my girlfriend call him and invite him to her god-daughter's birthday party," Mrs. Harthorne said. "He really likes her and said he would attend."

She shared that, when she tried to get her husband to

her husband to enter first, but that small detail didn't dampen the surprise; Mr. Harthorne

"Whenever I felt like slowing down in life, I could always hear my dad's voice telling me not to give up."



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Happy Birthday Hawk

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Williams Event Rental holds official business launch

By: Journal Staff Writer

The mother and daughter team of Shirley Williams, and Shannon Crump, officially launched their business, Williams Event Rental, on Saturday night, November 14. Held at Second Baptist Church, 9300 Maumee Western Rd, in Monclova, Ohio, the event was attended by family, friends, and members of the general public.

Williams Event Rental spe-

cializes in renting out tables, chairs, and various types of decorations for all occasions.

The mother daughter dual, hosts events such as gender reveal parties, graduations, anniversaries, birthday parties, weddings and much more.

Ms. Crump told The Toledo Journal that after her and her mother held a Valentine's Day event at the church, last February, they began receiving calls regarding their services. Two weeks later, they started

their business.

"I've worked for businesses over the years, and I've learned what to do, and what not to do to please the customer," she said.

Ms. Crump explained that they also specialize in setting up, and breaking down after the event, thereby leaving the

stress to them.

"We love making the event go smoothly for our customers," she said. "We want to make our customers vision come true."

"I'm nervous, and anxious, but prayerful," Ms. Williams said. Although this is their first business venture, both women

said their mission statement is what drives them to do excellent work, and separate them from the competition.

Your vision is our mission, is our mission statement she said. As long as we stick to our mission statement, we'll be able to bring other people's dreams to life."



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Shannon Crump left, and Shirley Williams said the uniqueness of their items, as well as their passion is what drives them to make their customers' vision, their mission.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Shannon Crump, left and Shirley Williams specialize in all type of events. The throne chairs have proven to be very popular for gender reveal parties, as well as baby showers.

Black History Facts

November 16, 2001: Representing Nigeria, Agbani Darego was crowned Miss World on November 16, 2001. She is the first Black African to win the title.

November 17, 1972: Sixteen Blacks were elected to Congress. Andrew Young of Atlanta was the first Black elected to Congress from the Deep South since the Reconstruction era. Also elected for the first time were Barbara Jordan (Tex.) and Yvonne Brathwaite Burke (Calif.). Republican Senator Edward W. Brooke of Massachusetts was overwhelmingly endorsed for a second term.

November 17, 1911: Fraternity, Omega Psi Phi, founded on the campus of

Howard Univesity, 1911. Omega Psi Phi is an international fraternity with over 700 undergraduate and graduate chapters. The fraternity was founded on November 17, 1911 by three Howard University juniors, Edgar Amos Love, Oscar James Cooper and Frank Coleman, and their faculty adviser, Dr. Ernest Everett Just. Omega Psi Phi is the first predominantly African-American fraternity to be founded at a historically black university.

November 18, 1787: Abolitionist and orator, Sojourner Truth was born, 1787.

November 19, 1953: Roy Campanella was named most valuable player of the National Baseball League for the second time, 1953.

November 20, 1865: Howard University was founded, 1865. Howard University is a federally chartered, private, coeducational, nonsectarian, historically black university located in Washington, D.C.

November 20, 1938: Morgan State College is established in Baltimore, Md. Morgan State University (commonly referred to as MSU, Morgan State, or Morgan) is a historically black college (HBCU) in Baltimore, Maryland, United States. Morgan is Maryland's designated public urban university and the largest HBCU in Maryland.

November 21, 1865: Shaw University was founded, 1865. Shaw University, founded as Raleigh Institute, is a private liberal arts institution and historically black university (HBCU) in Raleigh, North Carolina, United States. Founded in 1865, it is the oldest HBCU in the Southern United States.

November 22, 1930: Colonel Frederick D Gregory becomes the first African American to lead a space mission.

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12-Year Old to Become Youngest Composer of New York City Orchestra



Black News -New York, NY — Grace Moore, a 12-year old girl from New York, has made history as one of the youngest composers to join the New York City Philharmonic Orchestra.

Moore, who is a seventh-grade student at Poly Prep in Dyker Heights, is also enrolled in the organization's Very Young Composers program. There, participants from the age of 8 are taught to create music.

The composition that Moore created for the pro-

gram made a world premiere in a live performance by the NY Philharmonic in October.

Moore, who started showing her passion for music at the age of 2 when her mother gave her a piano, has showcased extraordinary talent.

Moreover, Moore hopes that as a woman of color, she can inspire others to create and appreciate music.

"I hope everyone follows their hobbies and do what they love," Moore told PIX11.

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High School Twins From Louisiana Earn \$1.3 Million Each in Academic Scholarships



Black News - Shreveport, LA — Twin brothers Brin and Nial Wilson, senior students at Captain Shreve High School in Shreveport, Louisiana, have received a total of over \$1.3 million each in academic scholarships. They are enrolled to attend college this fall, and they both plan to major in civil engineering.

The Wilsons have amassed a total of \$2,728,000 with Brin accumulating \$1,393,012 and Nial accumulating \$1,335,788.

Brin and Nial applied to and have been recruited from numerous colleges throughout the United States such as Morehouse College in Atlanta, St. John University in New York City, Lasalle University in Philadelphia, Loyola University in New Orleans, Louisiana Tech

and Barry University in Miami, Florida, just to name a few.

Aside from their academic success, they also received athletic scholarship offers to play football. Brin has an offer from Knox College in Illinois, and Nial has offers from Culver-Stockton in Missouri, Sterling College and McPherson in Kansas, Judson University in Illinois.

The twins have also been acknowledged as Top 2019 Prospects by Louisiana Football Magazine & TV, Offense-Defense All-American Bowl selections in Daytona, Florida and Blue-Grey All-American Bowl selections in Houston, Texas. They were also recognized by LHSAA 2019 Bowling All-District 2nd Team and with the Captain Shreve Distinguished Scholar Award.

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TARTA Selects Charles Odimgbe as Authority's First Chief Operating Officer

Submitted

The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) announces the selection of Charles Odimgbe as the Authority's first chief operating officer. Odimgbe was selected from a national search to fill a new key position as TARTA continues to rebuild its organizational leadership team to better meet the transportation needs of the Northwest Ohio region.

"We welcome Charles Odimgbe to Team TARTA as we continue to draw top transit talent to the Toledo metro area from across the nation," said TARTA Chief Executive Officer Kimberly Dunham. "Charles has an incredible amount of energy and enthusiasm, coupled with broad experience in operations, maintenance, safety and security. He is sure to add exponentially to the positive momentum we have been generating over the past year."

In his role as chief operating officer, Odimgbe will lead the management of TARTA's transit operations including the fixed route bus system and Toledo Area Regional Paratransit Service (TARPS) which provide their services in the seven communities in Lucas and Wood Counties.



PHOTO CREDIT /SUBMITTED

Charles Odimgbe

"I am excited to join the transformation taking place at TARTA and work with this committed team to deliver exceptional transit service to the Toledo Metro Area taxpayers," said new TARTA Chief Operating Officer Odimgbe.

Odimgbe, who began his transit career as a bus operator, possesses more than 30 years of public transportation industry experience. Most recently, Odimgbe was the General Manager of the Greensboro Transit Authority (GTA), where a major focus and accomplishment was to upgrade GTA's aging fleet to ensure productive and safe ser-

vice for the community. His other leadership roles include working with transit systems in Texas, Florida, Georgia, Rhode Island, Ohio and Washington. Throughout his professional career, Odimgbe has focused on developing viable, innovative and cost-effective solutions so that transit systems can better meet the opportunities and objectives of their communities.

Over the years, Odimgbe has been active in a variety of professional and community organizations including the American Public Transportation Association, Boy Scouts of America, Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO), Ohio Public Transit Association, Ohio Transit Risk Pool and United Way.

Odimgbe holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Management from Concordia University in Portland, Oregon and a Master of Business Administration from George Fox University, Newberry, Oregon.

TARTA Virtual Customer Forum on November 19

Submitted

The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) will host its first virtual Customer Forum on November 19, 2020 from 6p.m. - 7p.m. The forum is open the public and all TARTA riders including those who use the Toledo Area Regional Paratransit Service (TARPS) and Call-A-Ride. The webinar-style public meeting will explore topics related to customer experience, proposed new service changes and results from a TARPS customer survey. In addition, the forum will include a question and answer session with TARTA staff members.

"To build a public transportation system that is viable for our region, we must gain a greater understanding of how satisfied our customers are with our current ser-

vice," said Kimberly A. Dunham, TARTA CEO. "The Customer Forum will facilitate a safe way for customers to engage and submit feedback that will be critical to TARTA's future transformation."

Registration and additional details about the Customer Forum are available at www.tarta.com or calling 419-243-7433. Customers and the public should submit their questions ahead of time by sending them to customer-relations@tarta.com.

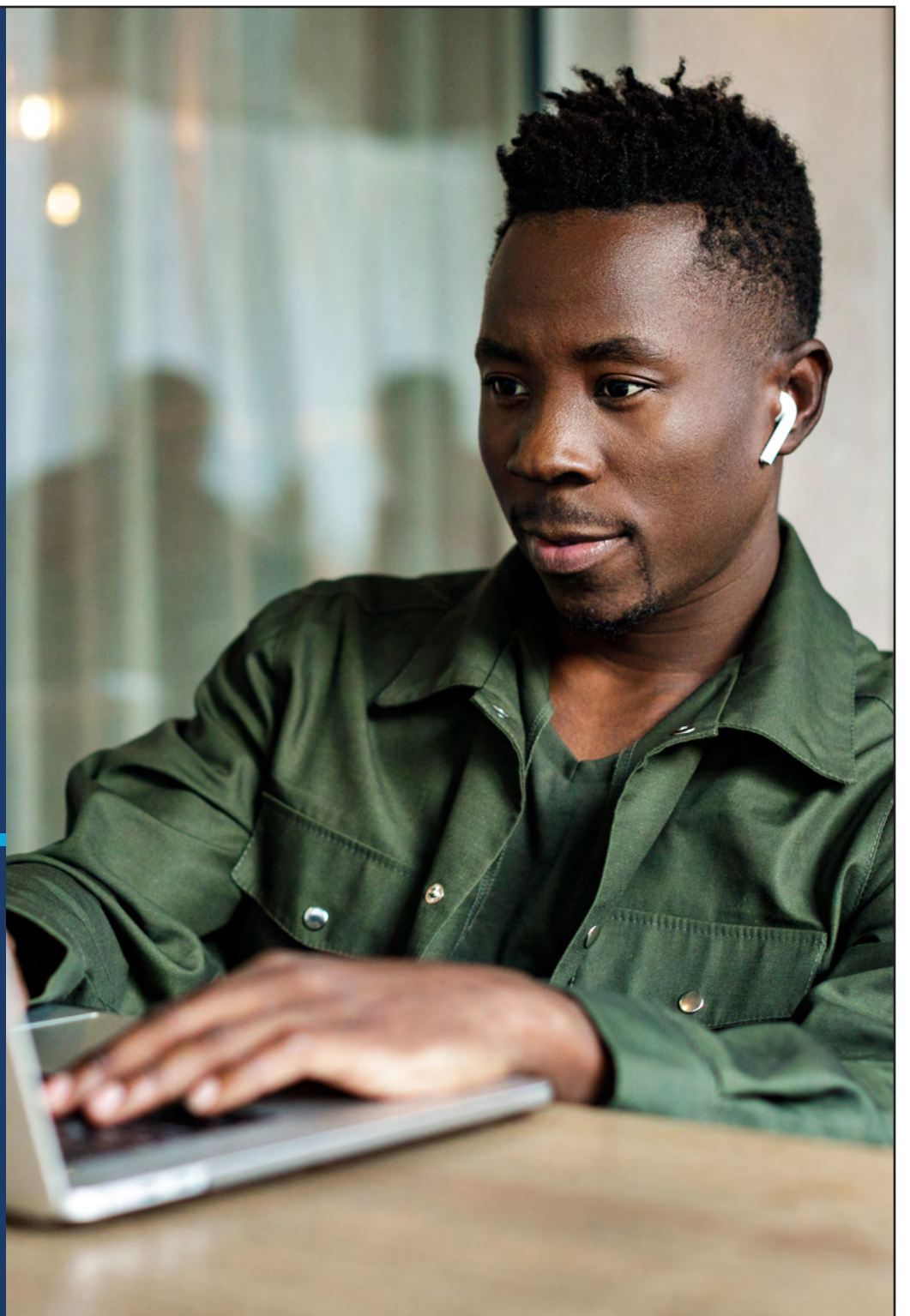
TARTA's Customer Satisfaction Survey about the fixed bus route system and Call-A-Ride service is still open for public participation. Customers can complete the survey online at www.tarta.com or by calling 567-343-5767.



YOUR EXPERIENCE MATTERS.

Join TARTA's online Customer Forum, Nov. 19, 2020 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Forum Registration at www.tarta.com or 419-243-7433.



Toledo Bowling Senate Juniors continue to make history



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

“Many Thanks to Anna Lowery as our Secretary-Treasurer and her daughter Sherese Williamson as the Assistant Junior Coordinator.”

By: Jurry Taalib-Deen
Journal Staff Writer

During the 1930s and 40s, African Americans weren't allowed to participate in bowling leagues because of their color. So in 1939, The National Bowling Association, TNBA, was formed, in order to give Blacks an opportunity to play the sport they love.

TNBA has roots in Toledo, with the city being one of five founding cities of the organization.

Fourteen years later, in 1953 a children's component, the Toledo Bowling Senate

Juniors, TBSJ, was established. Over 60 years later, they continue to make strides.

George W. Hayes, coordinator and coach, told The Toledo Journal, the TBSJ has 20 children on the team ranging from four to 18 years of age. They compete against teams or as individuals.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

The Toledo Bowling Senate Juniors practice weekly to fine tune their skills. They always wear face coverings and social distance.



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When a bowler wins a tournament, they win scholarship money for college, from the national organization.

“They can start winning tournaments as early as four years old. Scholarship money can range from \$250-\$300, or even more,” he said. “They can't access the money until they've graduated from high school and go to college. I've seen other children accumulate thousands of dollars.”

Bessie Mac, president of Toledo Bowling Senate of TNBA said there are other components that help make the team and children successful.

“The Youth Leadership Council is composed of young people who not only help get other chil-

dren's interest in bowling up, they teach sportsmanship, fellowship, and friendship. They also get involved in community service, food drives, and fundraisers that help various organizations in the city, such as 'Kids to Meals.' It's really good to see the children get involved in bowling at such a young age; it means the future of the TBSJ looks good,” she said.

Amongst those practicing that morning, while wearing a face covering, was 12 year Robert Williamson; a veteran on the team.

“I've been bowling since I was four years old and I really like it,” he said. “I like getting high scores and I do plan on going to college.”

Dana Bethany, 12, has been bowling since she was six. “This is such a fun sport. I've learned to use the arrows on the floor to help me get strikes, and I've learned proper wrist support.”

Dana has accumulated scholarship money over the years which she plans on using for college, and ultimately, becoming a professional bowler.

Amid COVID-19 Pandemic, Stop the Spread of Flu



(StatePoint) Amid the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, with hospitals and health care workers already overburdened, medical experts say it's more important than ever to slow the spread of the flu. In a typical year, the flu causes tens of millions of illnesses, hundreds of thousands of hospitalizations, and tens of thousands of deaths in the U.S.

That is why the Ad Council, the American Medical Association (AMA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the CDC Foundation have launched a new campaign, "No One Has Time for Flu." As part of the campaign, Dr. Susan R. Bailey, M.D., president of the AMA, is sharing important insights about flu vaccination:

- Flu vaccines are safe: The flu vaccine is a safe, effective step that physicians and public health experts recommend to protect patients and their loved ones from getting sick with influenza. This year, doctor's offices and pharmacies are taking steps to ensure vaccines can be provided safely during the COVID-19 pandemic. The CDC recommends that each year everyone 6 months and older (with rare exceptions) get a flu vaccine early in the season, preferably by the end of October, before flu is spreading widely.

- Getting one is important this year: Because you can get flu and COVID-19 at the same time, it's especially important for people with underlying health conditions that put them at higher risk of serious complications -- and their caregivers -- to get their flu shot.

At the community level, the potential impact of a bad flu season during the COVID-19 pandemic could be devastating. Getting a flu shot will help keep others healthy and help make sure health care workers and hospitals have the resources to con-

Black and LatinX/Hispanic communities are also less likely to get vaccinated due to a range of barriers. CDC data shows that in the 2019-20 flu season, LatinX/Hispanic adults had the lowest flu vaccination coverage (38.3 percent), with non-Hispanic

“*Flu vaccines are safe: The flu vaccine is a safe, effective step that physicians and public health experts recommend to protect patients and their loved ones from getting sick with influenza.*”

tinue to treat COVID-19 patients.

- Flu protection is especially urgent for people of color: Due to longstanding health care inequities, Black and LatinX/Hispanic people are disproportionately affected by underlying conditions which can cause both COVID-19 and flu complications. This results in much greater rates of flu-related hospitalizations. Indeed, a new CDC analysis of 10 flu seasons showed that Black people were hospitalized at a rate twice as high as White people.

Black adults next lowest (41.2 percent).

- Getting vaccinated is easy: Vaccines are often free or offered at very low cost. To learn more about safe, affordable flu vaccination, including where to get one in your area, visit GetMyFluShot.org. You can also view a short video on flu vaccination by visiting, youtu.be/cl7wNuU51IU.

“No one has time to get sick from flu -- especially this year,” says Dr. Bailey. “Getting a flu shot is one thing we all can do to help protect ourselves, our families and our communities.”

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UTMC Campaign Focuses on Serving Community

Submitted By: Meghan Cunningham

A new campaign to promote The University of Toledo Medical Center focuses on the hospital's commitment to providing excellent care to the community.

With the tagline "Open for You," the community-focused teaching hospital that has served northwest Ohio since 1964 is promoting its mission of service and excellence in healthcare through a new 30-second television spot, billboards, and print and digital advertising in local media.

"We want to be clear that we are open and ready to serve members of our community," UTMC CEO Rick Swaine said. "As Toledo's only independent hospital, we need the support of our neighbors to trust us with their healthcare needs and those of their family."

If you need a specialist in cardiology, orthopaedics or urology, we're open for you. If you or your family need medical care, our outstanding primary care physicians at the Comprehensive Care Clinic are open to care for you. And while I hope you don't need it, we're open for you in the event of an emergency."

The marketing campaign refreshes the UTMC brand and sets the hos-

pital apart in the competitive local healthcare landscape by embracing the bold yellow of the University's midnight blue and gold colors, strategically aligning it with The University of Toledo brand. Real UTMC patients, learners and caregivers at the medical center are featured throughout the campaign, including on the UTMC website and social media channels.

"The new marketing campaign showcases the cheerful and helpful care patients receive at our hospital," said Dr. Adrienne King, associate vice president of marketing and communications. "The campaign also highlights the stories of our learners from the university's Colleges of Health and Human Services, Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy."

For nearly 60 years, UTMC has been a leader in providing access to high-quality healthcare for the Toledo region. Facing the global coronavirus pandemic, in collaboration with UTledo's College of Medicine and Life Sciences, UTMC developed the first COVID-19 testing in northwest Ohio and continues to be the region's only COVID-19 test processing site.

UTMC is proud to serve our Toledo community. We are open for healing. We are open for you.

Open for healing

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From preventative care to treatment of complex orthopaedic and rehabilitation needs, we are open to serve our community.

utmc.utoledo.edu

Laborers and Contractors offer Hope and Relief for Hundreds



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Laborers Local 500 and AGC (Associated General Contractors) Labor Management Cooperation Committee donated two \$40,000 checks to help local families and foster children during the holiday season. Those who participated in the Tuesday, November 17, award ceremony were (L-R) Teresa Quinn: Asst Transformational Leader, Toledo Public Schools, Martha Willis: Principal Pickette Academy, Dr. James Jones: Principal Robinson Elementary, Mrs. Christine Sweeney, and Pastor Dr. Calvin Sweeney: Tabernacle Church, Julie Malkin: Children's Services, David Fleetwood: Business Manager Laborers Local 500, Joshua Hughes: CEO Associated General Contractors (AGC), Peter Millon: President Order of the Elves, and Dayna Stewart: Order of the Elves Board Member.

Submitted

Laborers work with their contractors daily to build structures in our communities to improve our quality of life. Laborers Local 500 and AGC (Associated General Contractors) Labor-Management Cooperation Committee will join together on Tuesday, November 17 at 11:00 a.m. to offer temporary relief and a little hope to hundreds of families and children during this holiday season.

Tabernacle Church, Pastor Calvin Sweeney, will receive \$40,000.00 to ensure that complete Thanksgiving meals (Turkey, Sides, Fixings) will be provided to every family at Pickett Academy, Robinson Elementary, and Robinson Achievement Schools. Additionally, this donation will allow the church to provide toiletries and hygiene products.

The Order of the Elves, Inc., a non-profit group that buys, wraps, and donates Christmas presents to foster children in Lucas County, will receive

\$40,000.00 to ensure that every foster child in Lucas County will receive Christmas gifts this year.

Joshua Hughes, CEO of AGC states "This year has been a year like none that I can remember. Thankfully, we can step up and help. Perhaps these actions will motivate a young person or their parent to explore a career in our industry, or it might just make the holiday season a little easier and happier for them."

David Fleetwood, Business Manager of Laborers Local 500 states "We work in this community and it's our

responsibility to give back to this community. Our prayer is that these families will be able to take a

moment and not worry about the tangibles but are able to enjoy one another during the holiday. Hopefully, one day

soon, they too will be positioned to give back to their community."



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

James M. Jones: Principal Robinson Elementary, Teresa Quinn: Transformational Leader TPS, and Martha Willis: Principal Pickett Academy hold check for \$40,000 awarded to The Tabernacle Church by Local500 to be used for Thanksgiving food basket, toiletries, and hygiene products for every family at Pickett and Robinson schools.

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A word from C. BROWN and C. BRIAN BROWN DIRECTORS

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Ohio MLK Commission award deadline extended to Nov 30

Submitted

Nominations are still being accepted for the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission awards that honor Ohioans who carry on the legacy of the civil rights leader.

The Commission, which operates with administrative support from the Ohio Department of Adminis-


trative Services' (DAS) Equal Opportunity Division, will announce award winners at the annual Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Celebration. The virtual event will be held on Jan. 14, 2021.

Nominations for each of the eight awards can be submitted electronically at das.ohio.gov/mlk. There is no limit on the number of nominations one can submit.

The awards and criteria are as follows:

- Governor's Humanitarian Award
- Community Building Award
- Cultural Awareness Award
- Economic Opportunity Award
- Educational Excellence Award
- Health Equity and Awareness Award
- Social Justice Award
- Youth: Capturing the Vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award

For more information contact the DAS Equal Opportunity Division at 614-466-8380 or mlk@das.ohio.gov.



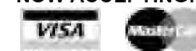
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NOTICE FOR VACANCIES

SPECIAL NOTICE

Lucas County Probate Court, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County Seek Applicants for Vacancies on the newly formed Lucas County Guardianship Services Board

The Lucas County Probate Court, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities, and the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County are seeking applicants to fill vacancies on the newly formed Lucas County Guardianship Services Board. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 2111.52 (F) (1) the Lucas County Guardianship Services Board was recently formed by Lucas County Probate Court to provide guardianship services to qualified individuals. Applicants with knowledge of guardianship services, developmental disability and/or mental health fields, and individuals with lived experience and/or their family members are encouraged to apply.

Applicants appointed by Lucas County Probate Court, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County will serve a 4 year term on a voluntary basis. The Guardianship Services Board is expected to meet monthly once operational, but may require more frequent meetings during its start-up phase, expected to be through April 1, 2021.

The Lucas County Probate Court, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County will each appoint a single representative to the Lucas County Guardianship Services Board. It is the desire of the appointing authorities to appoint volunteers that reflect the diversity of our community. Any person interested in being considered for appointment must fill out the "Application for Guardianship Services Board" form. A detailed resume must be enclosed with the completed application form. Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 25, 2020.

Information on the Lucas County Guardianship Services Board and an application for Volunteer Trustee is available on the Lucas County Probate Court website at www.lucas-co-probate-ct.org/web/guest/guardianships. Completed applications and resumes can be returned via email to info@lucas-co-probate-ct.org. If desired, hard copies can be mailed to the care of Acting Court Administrator Sue Braithwaite Lucas County Probate Court, 700 Adams St. Suite 200, Toledo, Ohio, 43604.

HELP WANTED



For current openings and to apply, visit <https://www.utoledo.edu/jobs/>

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GENERAL STAFF ACCOUNTANT JOB POSTING

Based in Toledo, Ohio since 1982, GEM Inc. is a singular resource for customer facility and process construction needs. GEM Inc. is seeking a General Staff Accountant. The General Staff Accountant position is responsible for managing fixed assets, reconciling bank statements, maintaining general ledger accounts, and preparing and maintaining accounting documents and records. This will include analytical work and thorough review of financial records. This position will also function as an entry level job cost accountant.

Job responsibilities include assisting in the month end closing and financial reporting process, including journal entries and general ledger reporting to management, managing fixed assets for Companies, and performing general account analysis and reconciliations. Skills required include knowledge of current accounting pronouncements, advanced computer skills and proficient in Microsoft Excel and Word, and a self-starter with a good attitude. Two to four years of accounting experience required. Bachelor's degree in accounting preferred and job cost experience and construction knowledge a plus.

Interested candidates should apply online at www.rlgbuilds.com

GEM Inc. is an EEO Employer.

HELP WANTED

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Lucas County Children Services is seeking an Administrative Secretary. If interested review requirements and apply at www.lucaskids.net. EOE Valuing Diversity

BIDS ACCEPTED FOR LMH

INVITATION FOR BIDS

IFB20-B019 Boiler Replacements at Dorrell Manor, Oak Grove Estates and Harry Hansen

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMH) will receive sealed bids for the replacement of the boilers at Dorrell, Oak Grove and Harry Hansen (Phase 1). Received in accordance with law until **December 4, 2020, 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 Concerns are encouraged to apply.



METROPARKS PROPOSAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on **Metroparks Toledo, Howard Marsh Phase 2, 611 Howard Road, Curtice, OH 43412** will be received; opened; and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537 **Friday, December 11, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.** local time.

COVID-19 UPDATE: In the event the office is not staffed to receive early, hand-delivered bids, bidders may drop off sealed bids to the aforementioned office address through the front door slot. Staff will be present at the Fallen Timbers Field Office for one hour prior to bid opening. If social distancing becomes problematic due to bid-opening turnout, the opening will be held outside or in an adjacent larger facility. Masks are required.

THE SCOPE OF WORK consists of **diked wetland construction**: including tile search/removal, erosion control measures, mass excavation and embankment for dikes and channels, riprap/fabric, pumps/pump unit structures & electric, seed & mulch and **park amenity construction**: including aggregate path & kayak channel. Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents and plan-holder's list through Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, Ohio 43604 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (check made payable to Newfax Corporation) or via the Newfax Digital Plan Room at www.newfaxcorp.com. Newfax can be contacted at 419-241-5157 or 800-877-5157. A non-refundable fee of \$15 is required for each set of full-size documents obtained. For additional information, please contact Jon Zvanovec @ 419-360-9184, jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com.

EACH BIDDER MUST FURNISH either (1) a bond for the full amount of the bid or (2) a certified check, cashier's check or irrevocable letter of credit in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid with its bid. The successful bidder must furnish a 100 percent (100%) Performance Bond and a 100 percent (100%) Labor and Materials Bond.

No bidder may withdraw its bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in bidding.

By order of the Board of Park Commissioners
METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA

David D. Zenk, Director

Winter Safety Awareness Week is November 15-21

Submitted

This winter, while Ohioans focus on protecting themselves from COVID-19 and other contagious illnesses such as colds and the flu, the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness is also reminding citizens about the importance of preparing for winter weather and winter emergencies.

"Take the time during Winter Safety Awareness Week to ensure that your emergency supply kits are well-stocked, and your homes and vehicles are prepped and conditioned for the upcoming winter months," said Ohio Emergency Management Agency Executive Director Sima Merick. "It's also a good time to update your safety plans, practice those plans, and prepare for winter-related incidents."

Governor Mike DeWine

and Lt. Governor Jon Husted have declared November 15 through 21 as Winter Safety Awareness Week, which encourages Ohioans to take simple steps to help minimize risks associated with winter weather.

According to the annual National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) U.S. Winter Outlook, the 2020-2021 temperature map shows that below-average temperatures are likely in parts the North and above-average temperatures likely in the South. The U.S. Precipitation Outlook shows wetter-than-average conditions most likely across the northern tier of the country, extending from the Pacific Northwest, across the Northern Plains and Great Lakes, and into the Ohio Valley.

Already this month, Ohio

has seen changes in weather. On Nov.1, the National Weather Service (NWS) issued wind and winter weather advisories for northeast Ohio. Strong winds caused power outages for thousands of residents in Ashtabula, Lake, and Cuyahoga counties. Many areas in Ohio also saw light snow on Nov. 1. Temperatures have also fluctuated this month, from highs in the 70s, to lows in the 20s.

"Keep in mind, Ohio sees more than snow and ice during the winter," said Merick. "On January 11, this year, the NWS confirmed two EF0 tornadoes in Miami County. This shows that no matter what season we're in, it's important to be prepared for all risks and emergencies."

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness recommends the following winter

travel, safety, and preparedness tips:

Holiday safety in a COVID-19 environment. Celebrating the holidays virtually or with members of your own household poses the lowest risk for COVID-19 spread.

If you are planning to host or attend a social gathering during the holidays, there are a few important factors to consider:

Information on the number of positive COVID-19 cases in Ohio, including breakdown by county, is available on the Ohio Department of Health's website.

Gatherings with people outside of your household pose a higher risk of COVID-19 spread.

Indoor gatherings pose more risk than outdoor gatherings.

If you are planning to travel this year for an upcoming holiday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer some factors to consider:

Know your travel destination's COVID-19 positivity rate. The more positive cases of COVID-19 there are at your destination, the more likely you are to become infected during travel and spread the virus to others when you return. Check each state's positivity rate.

Wear a mask to keep your nose and mouth covered while in public settings, including on public transportation and in transportation hubs, such as airports and bus or train stations.

Avoid close contact by staying at least six feet apart from anyone not from your household.

Do not travel if you are sick or if you have been around someone with COVID-19

within the past 14 days. Do not travel with someone who is sick.

Practice fire safety and prevention. With the winter months, holiday season, and a continuing pandemic, people will be indoors more, and will cook, decorate, and possibly entertain more, which can lead to more home fires. The best protection is to have working smoke detectors in the home. Test your detectors monthly. Conduct fire drills. Change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors twice a year – when you change your clocks, change your batteries. Have auxiliary heaters, furnaces, and fireplaces checked or serviced before using. Cooking-related fires are the number one cause of home fires. Never leave cooking food unattended. Keep towels, potholders, and paper products away from the stove's heat sources.

Prepare your home for winter. Remove and cut away low-hanging and dead tree branches. Strong winds, ice, and snow can cause tree limbs to break and could cause damage to your home. Have your gutters cleaned. Snow and ice can build up quickly if clogged with debris.

Prepare winter emergency supplies kits for the home and vehicle. Check the expiration dates on nonperishable food items, bottled water/beverages, and medications. Winter emergency kits should include flashlights, extra batteries, blankets, coats, hats, gloves, a battery-operated radio/weather radio, first aid kit, cell phone and charger, and enough nonperishable food and water (one gallon per person, per day) to sustain every household member for several days. Store food, bottled water, and supplies for your pets, as well.

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness (OCSWA) is comprised of 17 local, state, and federal agencies and organizations. For additional information on winter weather safety and severe weather preparedness, visit OCSWA's website.

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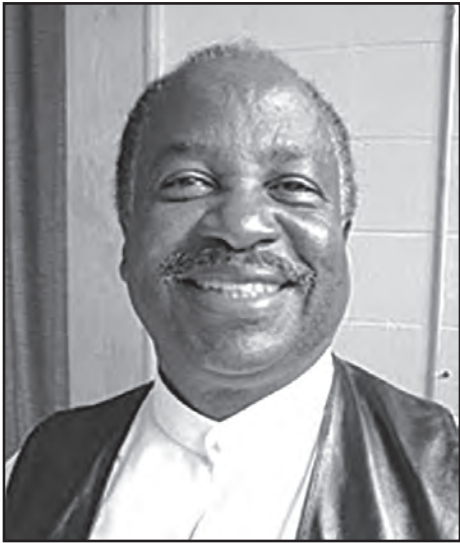
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"It isn't where you come from; it's where you're going that counts."

-Ella Fitzgerald

THE SWAMI SEZ:



By Lafe Tolliver,
Attorney

As many of you know, in past columns I have taken on the serious task of being a political swami and predicting the possible scenarios of politicians and their shenanigans.

Being a swami is a thankless task because some people will laud you and some will vilify you because what you predict either furthers their pet agendas or it leaves them to open public ridicule.

Not known to the general public is that being a swami is a task of tremendous stress and emotional angst. I do not wear the swami turban on a whim but when I do, I realize that people expect me to be nigh one hundred percent right in my calls.

I can not tell you the dozens of times that after I have worn the swami hat that my outpourings of predictions were so psychological consuming that

I have had to retreat to the comfort of my bed in order to maintain my physical strength.

During those draining times, my only sustenance was beef broth, rye bread and weak decaf green tea. But, I soldiered on knowing that my readers were desperately counting on me to provide them with some succor during perilous times; and I will continue to do so even if it means risking my very health!

Considering the recent political slap that the voters gave to Herr Trump and his minions and the furor that he is causing by his infantile refusal to concede the election and allow Joe Biden to proceed to a smooth transition, I now make the following predictions!

ONE: Herr Trump, knowing that he has strangled the very life out of the now feckless GOP party and has turned it into a self-serving cult of cowering sheep and moon howling Fox News commentators, will plunder his base for millions of dollars so he can pay off mounting legal fees and put some bucks aside to do battle with the New York Attorney General over a myriad of civil and criminal charges.

TWO: Herr Trump will assess a list of people that he plans to pardon including names of political hacks and grifters that will simply outrage the American public but will inure him to his base because, "He stuck it to the man!"

Of course, Herr Trump will pardon himself, his family, loyal in-laws and will throw out pardons, like confetti, at Flynn, Stone, Giuliani, Dennis the Menace, Betty Boop (for breaking so many hearts) and the Wizard of Oz (for faking out the scarecrow, the lion and

“

Considering the recent political slap that the voters gave to Herr Trump and his minions and the furor that he is causing by his infantile refusal to concede the election and allow Joe Biden to proceed to a smooth transition, I now make the following predictions!

”

the Tin Man with his power con).

THREE: Herr Trump will finish gutting so many federal agencies and departments on his way out of the White House, so that when Joe Biden comes into power, he will have a nigh Herculean job of restoring the federal government from such a spiteful blight.

FOUR: Herr Trump will continue to run the mind bending con that he will run for the White House in 2024 but nothing can be further from the truth other than panicking

Mike Pence and other 2024 contenders because they know that if he so declares, his vapid base will flood him with cash to make it happen.

News Flash!: One can not run for the presidency from a jail cell, so that threat is dead on arrival. Once Trump leaves office, he will face a slurry of

lawsuits, some criminal, that hopefully will eventually land him a prison cell next to a smiling, "Bubba."

FIVE: After Trump comes out of his self-imposed fog that he is now a certified loser and Joe Biden mopped the floor with him, Trump will stage a Revenge Tour where he will sponsor rallies simply for the sake of lashing out at his enemies, real or concocted. He needs a punching bag and whoever he thinks did not throw themselves on his sword, will be fair game.

SIX: When the hundreds of millions of dollars in personal loans become due and payable in 2021, Trump will have to have a fire sale of his assets in the hopes of keeping his beloved Mar-A-Lago mansion safe as his eventual hideaway from public scrutiny.

SEVEN: Trump will audition for Dancing With The Stars but will be rejected because he is unable to smile for the cameras but will blame that problem on the ever present, Deep State.

EIGHT: Donald Trump, with the help of Sean Hannity, will try to buy space on Mount Rushmore so he can have his likeness chiseled into the mountain side as a lasting idol to his cult followers.

Well, there you have it. The enormity of my predictions has left me totally exhausted and on the verge of my asking for donations so that I can fly to Thailand for rest and recovery.

So, if you can do so, please send to me in a non-traceable money order, the amount of \$43.22 (includes shipping and handling) so I can recover and return to you both refreshed and invigorated!

Lafe Tolliver, Attorney

Black Woman Millionaire Turned Down by Amazon Prime After 2 Million Streams

Submitted

Black News -Nationwide — The pilot of Dr. Venus Opal Reese's docu-series, Hot Mess Millionaire, has accumulated over two million streams and counting in less than six months with tons of five-star reviews on Amazon Prime. However, when Dr. Venus submitted the entire series to Amazon, it was turned down.

The Hot Mess Millionaire series is based on the life of Dr. Venus Opal Reese. She reveals the "raw and uncut" reality of what it truly takes to be "self-made" — from being homeless on the "mean streets" of Baltimore, MD, to graduating from Stanford University with a Ph.D., to becoming a Black woman millionaire.

A mansion. Luxury cars. World travel. Multimillion-dollar home-based business. Happy marriage. Bestselling author. Dr. Venus had made it "out" and was living the American Dream. But when the trauma from living on the streets finally caught up with her, the Cinderella life she had created became a soul-crushing nightmare.

The pain of being rejected by Amazon "I was devastated," says Dr. Venus. "For all their talk about making room at the table for women and people of color, it appears those seats are reserved for superstars, not up and coming writers/producers. Make no mistake: I'm extremely grateful they streamed my pilot. They didn't have to."



She continues, "It has exposed me to people who would never have known of my work. I had awesome reviews and there was a hunger for a Black woman speaking truth on their platform. I was so certain they would want the rest of the series since they had greenlit the pilot."

But when Amazon said no, Dr. Venus said yes!

Instead of giving up, Dr. Venus has

decided to self-produce the series on her YouTube channel and share it with her tribe on social media. She comments, "We as Black women often can't wait for a seat at the table. Most times, we must build our own table."

The eight-episode series began airing on Thursday, Oct 22, 2020, at 4pm PST on YouTube. For exclusive access, "1st Look Screening" of each

episode and business Q&A with Dr. Venus, be sure to join the Hot Mess Millionaire Facebook Community.

"I'm committed to empowering Black Women to have our own, so we don't have to wait to be chosen," Dr. Venus says.

Stream the Series Here:

[YouTube.com/channel/UCR-cl-sykhIDm5MZ8ckycVuQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR-cl-sykhIDm5MZ8ckycVuQ)



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