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Elects Executive
Committee



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Million Americans
Want More....!



EDUCATION
Resolve to Read:
Let the Library
help you read



EVERYBODY IS
SOMEBODY IN
THE TOLEDO
JOURNAL



Tim Evans spearheaded a much needed Christmas give-away *Event host brightens Christmas for many*



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Autumn Frankfort, right, said the event was needed and she was thankful.

By Jurry Taalib-Deen
Journal Staff Writer

Tim Evans, director of the Early Bird Basketball Camp, once lived in

Therefore, he and along with God's Best Creation, Catherine Products Inc., Designated Cares Foundation, DCF, and LMHA

lunch.

Valerie Golladay, resident services coordinator specialist, for LMHA said the event was appreciated and



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Sydney Spraw, left, and Tim Evans, and Timberland Evans, greet people who stayed in their cars, and loaded those items in their car.

Oak View Court in Holland, Ohio. No grocery stores, shopping malls, and currently, no public transportation, decorate the landscape.

Miles from the nearest grocery store, without transportation, could be a very harsh punishment for many of the people in the area.

"The inner city has a lot of help, but out here, the people seem to be forgotten about," he told The Toledo Journal on Saturday, December 19, at 352 Oak View Court.

gave away free toys, sweat suits, hats, gloves and lunches, on a cold Saturday morning. It was the second annual event hosted by the group.

People lined up to receive toys for their kids, or some type of article of clothing. Others pulled up in vehicles, while volunteers quickly placed items in the cars while wearing face coverings. Once people received their items, they were then treated to a free hot



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

People lined up to receive items and then were treated to a hot lunch.

timely. "There are a lot of families and children in the area, and this giveaway is needed."

She said the ages of the residents range from 19-65 and there are more than 100 children. Ms. Golladay also expressed the need for some type of public transportation for the residents.

"Within the last year, things have really become challenging be-

ing that TARTA no longer services the area. Transportation to stores and other crucial areas are really needed," she said.

Tiffonee Young, operations manager for Catherine Products Inc., said, "It's all about giving back. Being able to feed or clothe someone brings about joy and that's what we like to do; we like to see people smile."



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Event organizers are, from left, Tiffonee Young, Tim Evans, Sydney Spraw, Sheila Anderson, Kenny Birch, Beverly Lear, Jane and Craig Williams, Faye Koonce and Constance Green.

Congressional Black Caucus Elects Executive Committee for the 117th Congress

By Stacy M. Brown
Wire Writer

U.S. rep. Joyce Beatty (D-Ohio) will chair the Congressional Black Caucus for the 117th Congress.

The announcement came as the CBC embarks on its 50th anniversary as the voice of Black America in Congress.

Along with Congresswoman Beatty, the CBC announced a new executive committee that begins in January.

Rep. Steven Horsford, who represents Nevada's 4th district and currently serves on the House Ways and Means Committee, Budget Committee, and Natural Resources Committee, will serve as 1st Vice-Chair of the CBC.

Rep. Brenda Lawrence, who represents Michigan's 14th district and currently serves on the House Appropriations Committee and the Oversight and Reform Committee, was tapped as 2nd Vice-Chair.

Rep. Frederica Wilson of Florida's 24th district, who cur-

rently serves on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and the House Education and Labor Committee, where she chairs the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee, was elected as Secretary of the CBC.

Rep. Hank Johnson, who represents Georgia's 4th district and currently serves on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, as well as the House Judiciary Committee, where he chairs the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, will take over as Whip.

Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, who represents Texas's 18th district and currently serves on the House Judiciary Committee, Homeland Security Committee, and the Budget Committee, will serve as Parliamentarian.

Next year marks 50 years for the CBC, which outgoing Chair Rep. Karen Bass of California called 50 years as a champion



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus

for bold, progressive ideas in Congress.

"Fifty years of making a seat at the table and building a pipeline for those to come, and 50 years as the 'Conscience of the Congress,'" said Congresswoman Bass, adding, "On behalf of the entire Congressional Black Caucus, congratulations to the members of the Executive Committee for the 117th Congress."

In 1971, thirteen Black Members of Congress organized their efforts to help improve Black people's conditions in America and around the world.

Though small in numbers, the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) founders understood their responsibility for

the millions of voices they represented, Congresswoman Bass noted.

"That responsibility drove them to speak up and speak out against injustice wherever they found it – from Apartheid in South Africa to voter suppression, economic oppression, racial violence across the country," she said.

Under the leadership of Chair-elect Beatty, the Caucus will enjoy its largest membership in history, with a record 57 Members forming a body as diverse as the nation.

"After four years under one of the most racist and repressive regimes in modern history, the CBC has an enormous opportunity under the Biden-Harris Administration to restore faith in our democracy and show Black Americans the power of their vote," Bass said.

"We look forward to the work ahead on behalf of Black America."

Social Security Benefits Increase in 2021

By Erin Thompson
Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

Nearly 70 million Americans will see a 1.3 percent increase in their Social Security benefits and SSI payments in 2021. Federal benefit rates increase

when the cost-of-living rises, as measured by the Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index (CPI-W).

The CPI-W rises when inflation increases, leading to a higher cost-of-living. This change means prices for

goods and services, on average, are a little more expensive, so the COLA helps to offset these costs.

January 2021 marks other changes that will happen based on the increase in the national average wage index.

For example, the maximum amount of earnings subject to Social Security payroll tax in 2021 will be higher. The retirement earnings test exempt amount will also change in 2021. You can read our press release for more information at

www.ssa.gov/news/press/factsheets/colafacts2021.pdf.

We will mail COLA notices throughout the month of December to retirement, survivors, and disability beneficiaries, SSI recipients, and representative payees. Want

to know your new benefit amount sooner? You can securely view and save the Social Security COLA notice online via the Message Center inside mySocial Security in early December without waiting for the mailed notice.

If you don't have an account yet, you will have to create your account by November 18, 2020 to receive the COLA notice online this year. mySocial Security account holders can opt out of receiving a mailed COLA notice and other paper notices that are available online. You can choose text or email alerts when there is a notice in Message Center by updating your Preferences at www.ssa.gov/myaccount/opt-out.html so you always know when we have something important for you.

Be the first to know! Sign up for or log in to your personal account today at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Choose email or text under "Message Center Preferences" to receive courtesy notifications. This way you won't miss your online COLA notice!

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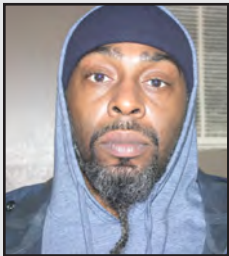
Classes start in
January
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What's your New Year's Resolution for 2021?



Bennett Johnson
Pharmaceutical Sales Rep

My New Year's Resolution is to become more financially sound, physically fit and be able to help people by doing charitable works with my fraternity, Omega Psi Phi.



Thomas Odom
Laborer

My New Year's Resolution is to surround myself with people who are about peace, love and prosperity; I'm making this a conscious effort. I don't know how many more days I have on this earth, so I want to be around people who love me and I can love them.



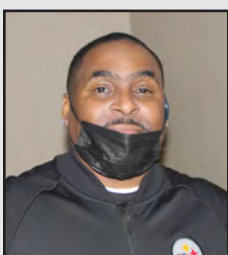
Kenny Jones
State Worker

My New Year's Resolution is to surround myself with better people. In the past, I've, unknowingly, been around people who weren't positive. So in 2021, I'll be making a deliberate effort to be around like minded people.



Tony Gilmore
Transporter

My New Year's Resolution is to push harder at making sure my son and daughter succeed in life. My son is 16 years old and attends Central Catholic High School. He plays football and basketball; so my objective is to make sure he graduates, attends college and continues his dream at a higher level. My daughter is only nine years old at Stewart Academy for Girls. She wants to be a nurse like her mom; so I'm going to make sure she fulfills her dream.



Keith McCarver
Foreman for Toledo government

My New Year's Resolution is to become healthier and wealthier. My family and I are into healthy eating and exercising. But even with us being very active, we know we can do better. When you're into healthy eating, and exercising, you're already motivated, but with the onset of the coronavirus, that just made us push that much more with our lifestyle.

Beyond the Rhetoric

"Racism in medicine manifests as cumulative deprioritization over many small decisions."

By Harry Alford
Wire Writer
(Via Dr. Jessica Isom)

Are all doctors and registered nurses racist? Not overtly. "But this is one (common) way Black patients receive different care: cumulative deprioritization," writes Physician Scientist, Tamorah Lewis. Cumulative deprioritization is when implicit bias unconsciously affects decisions — It is deadly.

Bias can play a role in whose COVID-19 symptoms are taken seriously, like Dr. Susan Moore. Dr. Moore was a Black doctor who died of COVID-19 after complaining of racist treatment. "He made me feel like a drug addict," Dr. Moore said, accusing a white doctor of downplaying her complaints of pain and suggesting she should be discharged. Bias cost Dr. Moore her life. "Her medical degree did not save her from the racism that she endured while battling for her life," tweeted Dr. Omolara Uwemedimo. From my experience this year, she's absolutely right.

This year, when very little was known about COVID-19, my dad was admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU). He would be diagnosed with flu and pneumonia. After a week, the hospital released him still with fluid in his lungs. Over the course of several weeks, my mom would find my dad unresponsive three times in their bed. Three times she called 911. He would continually be

diagnosed with pneumonia again and again and again.

During the previous two hospital admissions, his blood pressure was allowed to soar, and his sugar glucose levels were high. It's important to note that although my dad had diabetes and heart trouble in the past, he had no evidence of diabetes or heart disease in the most recent years.

When the cardiologist spoke to my dad for the third admission for the very first time, he said demonstratively, "So you are here because you do not take your meds regularly." What!? We knew then that we had to advocate for dad as much as possible. My mom, twin brother, and I created a 24-hour shield, working from the hospital by day on our laptops. We wore logos of all the schools we attended to show we are an educated family. We spoke openly about our dad, so the staff knew he leads a purpose-driven life. At night, my brother and mom alternated sleeping in the chair or on the bench. I went home at night to care for my toddler and pregnant wife.

We knew that if they allowed our dad to go home that night, that he might not wake up the next morning. We demanded to speak to every leader on the floor, insisting he receives a sleep study — a medical treatment without being admitted to a hospital — while still in the hospital. With every clarifying question asked, we were met with a demeaning valuation of his life.

We don't "complain" of racist treatment. WE RECEIVE IT. Amplify her story. Then do something about it.



Black Doctor Dies of Covid-19 After Complaining of Racist Treatment
"He made me feel like a drug addict," Dr. Susan Moore said, accusing a white doctor of downplaying her complaints of pain and suggesting she should be ...
nytimes.com

In Dr. Moore's Facebook post, Moore chronicled her discharge from the hospital, her return home, and her condition's worsening. "I was home for less than 12 hours. Spiked a temperature of 103 and my blood pressure plummeted to 80/60 with a heart rate of 132. I'm back in the hospital, a different hospital Saint Vincent Carmel." (Ironically, my brother and I were born in this hospital.) Moore said that she was diagnosed with pneumonia but that she received "compassionate care" and the pain medication she needed

at her new hospital. In her last update, Moore said she was being transferred to intensive care. Moore maintained that if she were white, she wouldn't have received such poor treatment explaining, "This is how Black people get killed. When you send them home." She died on Dec. 20.

Death by COVID-19 or not, there is nothing insignificant about life, especially when taken from us. To our immense delight, we brought our dad home, and he is doing well. He's able to blow socially distant kisses to his two grand-

sons from his driveway.

We saw firsthand how deep subconscious beliefs could deprioritize Black life. As a society and in our respective professions, we must do a better job of being socially aware of our own biases. As Dr. Tamorah Lewis advised, "I unlearn it & actively fight against it in life and every patient encounter. But first, I had to admit it and look for it. If all in medicine followed suit, #Dr-SusanMoore would not be a hashtag." I am amplifying Dr. Moore's story and I'm doing something about it.

Seventy-Two Million Americans Want More....!



By Lafe Tolliver,
Attorney

Never I have ever witnessed such gluttony for the intentional infliction of mental and emotional harm and distress as I watch seventy-two million voters affirm to the world that they were more than willing to suffer another four years under the delusional and chaotic rule and reign of Herr Trump.

You would think that if a nation suffered such incomprehensible damage to their collective psyche due to the machinations and the dysfunctional administration of Herr Trump, that voters would be falling down their stairs in order to get to the polls and vote out this political rube.

But to my surprise, seventy-two million American voters went into their polling booths and pulled the lever for Donald Trump to continue his madness and verbal assault on the norms and rules of democracy.

You can only make the grim assessment that many of those voters were inculcated into the Trumpian Madness that corrupted their ability to see that they were being taken to the cleaners by an accomplished con and grifter.

Remember when people were aghast about the carnage of the Jim Jones mass cultic suicides that took place years ago in Guinea, a coastal country on the continent of South America?

In that cult, Jim Jones was able to persuade people that he was the only one that they should look to and follow and all others were, “the enemy” and they were out to persecute them.

Jim Jones went further than Herr Trump in that he was able to convince many (some by force, it is reported) that mass suicide, by swallowing a



poisonous cocktail, was honorable and the only way out of the impending persecution that was about to befall them in their jungle hideaway.

Over nine hundred people, including children, went into eternity based upon the ravings of a nutcase and his henchmen.

Herr Trump has made claims that his followers should not believe what they see and hear from “others”, but only believe him, a self-reported extremely stable genius.

Trump demonized the media, Congress, the courts and anyone else who spoke up against him or who criticized him for his lunacy.

Their fear? That any GOP figure who criticized him, he would fund an opponent against him or her in their next election, or he would send out deleterious tweets about them! Yeah, fear of a tweet caused many a GOP politico to shiver and shake in their boots and to hide under the cloak room table hoping that they would not face the wrath of Herr Trump.

Trump’s base (the ones that Hilary Clinton rightfully called, deplorables) chose Donald Trump as their alter ego and champion of their resentments and their warrior in their hidden and not so hidden cultural warfare against

“

You would think that if a nation suffered such incomprehensible damage to their collective psyche due to the machinations and the dysfunctional administration of Herr Trump, that voters would be falling down their stairs in order to get to the polls and vote out this political rube.

”

all things not white.

Trump, smelling their fear of becoming a minority grouping in the year 2040, stoked those fears with his racialized hatred and his total ineptness of the ways and means of governance and how the Constitution works.

These are the policies and pronouncements his seventy-two mil-

lion plus voter base knew of and yet still desired; and were willing to have Trump do four more years of the same if it meant keeping them in power, helped along with the acquiescence of the spineless GOP leaders in the Senate:

- *lies about President Obama
- *destroying vital foreign relationship with allies
- * building a wall and lying that Mexico would pay for it
- * allowing the appointment of hundreds of conservative judges to the federal judiciary which could have the effect of decimating Affirmative Action and voting rights, income parity, saving the environment and equal rights under the law
- *castigating Muslims
- * bashing Black women as female dogs
- *making fun of the disabled
- *using his office to enrich himself and his family members
- *covering up his “crimes” in office to the point that he was impeached.
- *eradicating the guard rails that were in place to prevent overreaches by a President
- *favoring Vladimir Putin (his puppet master!) over US intelligence regarding Russian activity in corrupting US elections
- *pardoning or granting clemency to thugs, murderers, cons and swindlers
- *giving open cover and comfort to white hate and white nationalist groups
- *repeatedly speaking disparagingly of women and mocking them
- *a daily stream of lying and half truths tweets that were designed to sow seeds

Of discontent and chaos into both the culture of America and to call into question the pillars of what constitutes, truth.

The above statements (and hundreds of others) were affirmed and ratified by millions of Trump voters as they are OK with them; and by their recent record turnout and vote for Trump, they wanted more of the same!

The crisis in America is not so much with Trump but with the America we know as our next-door neighbors who are willing to trash democracy if it means that white political power survives, and their economic hegemony can be sustained.

Lafe Tolliver, Attorney
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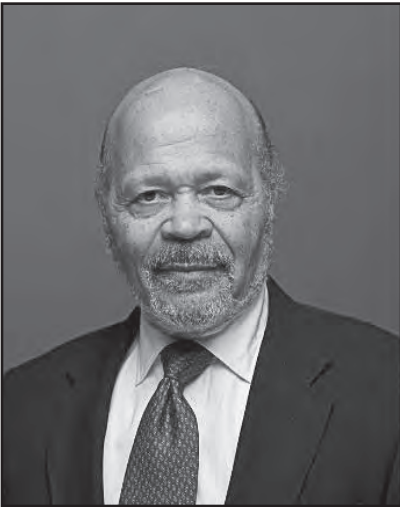
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WE WILL SIT AT THE CHILDREN'S TABLE



By Oscar Blayton
Wire Writer

table and lead the nations of the world. But this hubristic assertion makes one wonder if the soon to be 46th president of the United States has been dozing for the past 47 months.

The people who voted Donald Trump into office in 2016 and tried to give him a second term in 2020 are still running amuck in the “U.S. of A.” and they are getting more unruly by the hour. It does not take a great deal of scholarly research to realize that very few nations would be willing to follow the lead of the United States going forward.

It is too easy and too simplistic to blame Donald Trump for all the ill that befell the global community during America’s delinquency during the past four years. And no one, other than the smug self-satisfied proponents of the myth of American exceptionalism, is buy-

ing the argument that “this is not who we are.” For four years, we have made it very clear that this is exactly who we are as a country – “greedy,” “ruthless,” “unempathetic,” “uncharitable,” “hateful” and “narcissistic.” These are just a few words that come to mind when describing the American character that has been laid bare by Trumpism.

Not only is America not deserving of sitting at the head of the world table, it will have to sit at the children’s table along with the other anti-democratic republics led by autocrats. And if this country tries to use bullying tactics to bend other nations to its will, it will suffer the same humiliation that met the French government when it assumed it could return to Vietnam in 1945 and resume colonial control after abandoning the Vietnamese to

continued on page 5

Americans, Looking for Bold Leadership, Need an Aspirational Agenda from Joe Biden



By Jesse Jackson
Wire Writer

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - As we turn to a new year, the spotlight shines on the new president and the new administration. Even as he assumes center stage in Washington, profound questions remain about Joe Biden's plans. His initial appointments have been solid, diverse, experienced and capable, drawn overwhelmingly from the established center of the party. He has recognized that the nation faces crises of a scope similar to the Great Depression, calling for bold action. He has repeated his commitment to work across the aisle and seek bipartisan support, despite Republican legislators refusing even to recognize his victory. While recognizing the need for executive action, he has lectured civil rights leaders on the limits of his powers.

As he prepares for what is likely to be a virtual inaugural, it is time for the president-elect to put his cards on the table. What's needed now is an aspirational agenda — an agenda that reveals the scope of action needed to meet the challenges we face, and that provides hope and galvanizes support. There are many sources to draw on. As Bernie Sanders said, Biden ran on the most progressive platform of any Democratic nominee in memory. The Poor People's Campaign and the Congressional Progressive Caucus have put forth The People's Agenda, providing a roadmap for the administration.

Senators Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren have detailed 100-day plans for the administration. Biden ran largely by offering a return to sanity in contrast to the orange menace in the White House. Now it is time to speak to Americans about the scope of the crises he inherits and the first steps he



will take to fulfill the promise that “help is on the way.” COVID-19 and the pandemic-induced economic collapse pose the first test. The rescue package just passed by Congress is too small to provide much more than a temporary life raft that is already leaking air.

Biden should announce clearly that the vaccines will be provided free to all, and that distribution will be based on need — the most vulnerable first — not on privilege, connections or wealth. The economic rescue package will need to be bolstered and extended, but more importantly, Biden should lay out his plan to make this economy work for working people once more.

That should begin with a bold plan for rebuilding our decrepit infrastructure. This imperative, which should have bipartisan support, was Trump's greatest broken promise. A bold plan will create millions of jobs while addressing the climate crisis with a focus on energy efficiency and renewable energy. Biden should describe the program in bold strokes and summon the Congress to meet the challenge.

The promise of jobs in rebuilding America should be accompanied by a broad workers bill of rights to ensure workers share in the profits and productivity that they help to produce. Be-

gin with a call for a \$15 minimum wage, a measure already passed by a supermajority of Florida voters, even as they voted to re-elect Donald Trump. Champion the Essential Workers Bill of Rights that guarantees a living wage, paid health care and sick leave, safety protections and more to essential workers. Call for a new era of worker organizing, providing both labor law reform legislation and executive orders to require federal contractors to respect the right of workers to organize and bargain collectively, while giving priority to those without an extreme gulf between CEO and worker pay.

This should be combined with a call for bold reforms to make health care a right, not a privilege. Call on Congress to lower the eligibility age for Medicare to 50, and to cover children up to 25. Empower bulk negotiation on drug prices across the board. Use executive authority to set reasonable prices for essential drugs. To fulfill his promise to address structural racism in our society, Biden could begin by reviving and strengthening the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights to report on areas in dire need of reform. He could add to that a major initiative from the Department of Justice to negotiate reforms with police departments across the country.

He could use his pardon power early to free those held on nonviolent drug offenses, particularly as marijuana becomes legal in more and more states. He can not only revive the protections for the DACA generation, but also launch immediately a review and reform of our immigration practices, even as he puts forth legislation for comprehensive immigration reform. The election once more dramatized the need for democratic renewal. Biden should push Congress to strengthen the Voting Rights Act, end all secret money in politics, make registration automatic and roll back the various voter suppression tactics that so scar our politics. He should push to limit the role of big money in our politics, and to bolster the power of small donations.

Biden should crack down on the real swamp — the bog of lobbyists and fixers, of compromised revolving door regulators and political appointees that corrupt our government for their own profit. This list can go on, of course, but clarity of intent is more important than comprehensiveness. Biden must make it clear that he has a mandate and plans to use it. That the crises we face demand bold action. And that he will drive the change. Americans are looking for bold leadership. Biden must provide that from day one.

WE WILL SIT AT THE CHILDREN'S TABLE

continued from page 4
the cruelties of the invading Japanese in the early days of World War II.
Under Trump, America abandoned the rest of the world when it came to working to solve global warming, poverty, human rights, the worldwide refugee crisis and many more problems facing humanity. No one will willingly follow a fraud and a hypocrite. And every disgusting characteristic Donald Trump exhibited during his term in office reflects those of a large swarth of the American public that supported him with their votes. Even now, freedom-loving Americans hold their collective breath while Republicans try to lock in their hateful agenda by maintaining control of the



U.S. Senate.

Those Republicans slavishly following Trump have made it clear that they do not care about

American values to which we claim to aspire. Nor do they care about the U.S. Constitution or the American people it was

designed to protect.

The nations watching us from the far shores of the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans and our neighbors

to the north and south are keenly aware of the weakness of our character and our moral bankruptcy. We have squandered our good name on a cruel buffoon intent on bullying his way across the world stage with a huge economy and the largest military on earth to back him up. We did not denounce him soon enough when he was clearly in the wrong. We overlooked his lies and his evil ways for months on end while they were in plain view.

It is often said that you show people who you are by what you do, not by what you say. No matter what Joe Biden says, the world has had ample opportunity to witness the harm America is capable of inflicting on our fellow man.

We can strut and preen

in a self-congratulatory promenade celebrating the ousting of Trump, but we still will have to sit at the children's table because it is clear that Trump was merely a boil that rose and erupted when the pus of white supremacy and other evils was allowed to fester beneath the skin of America's body politic.

We have lanced the boil, but we now know that the corruption that gave rise to Trump is still in America's bloodstream and we must work diligently to find the cure. Until we find that cure, we will be relegated to the children's table.

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

TARTA Announces Winter Schedule Changes Effective Jan. 11

By Laura Koprowski
Chief Communications and Customer Experience Officer

The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) is announcing winter schedule changes to its service to take effect Jan. 11, 2021. The following

TARTA routes have been modified to meet essential transportation needs:

- #26 Miracle Mile via Berdan/Douglas, Miracle Mile via Lewis
- #34 UTMC via Western/Detroit/Byrne

TARTA fixed-routes #26 and #34 have expanded service hours of

7:30a.m. to 7:30p.m. Monday-Friday and 7:30a.m. to 1:30p.m. on Saturdays. Riders can connect to essential hospitals, employers and shopping destinations via these routes:

- #26: GM Powertrain, Jeep Parkway/DANA, Scott High School, Miracle Mile, YWCA and DeVeaux Village.

- #34: UTMC, VA Clinic, Walmart, Bowsher High School, Area Office on Aging and Southland Shopping Center.

There are no schedule changes to TARTA's paratransit service, Toledo Area Regional Paratransit Service (TARPS).

The Youth Shelter Program and Dyson discuss Race

Submitted

The Youth Shelter Program of Westchester will host its second virtual event to feature a high-profile author, Michael Eric Dyson. The Youth Shelter provides a home-like alternative to jail for young men awaiting disposition of various criminal charges. While in their care, the staff of the shelter also pro-

vides those in their charge experiences that enable them to see more of what life has to offer. At this virtual discussion, Dyson will be joined by the young men – resident scholars, who will have read his new book, Long Time Coming: Reckoning with Race in America. The event is free and takes place on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 6pm and will be held via Zoom. Registrants can purchase a signed copy of Dyson's book. Register here or on the shelter's website at www.ysow.org.

Dyson's book takes the form of letters addressed to many now-familiar names and for whom death came violently, either at the hands of mobs or law enforcement officers. How do we hold




PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED
Michael Eric Dyson

question of how to do that. In its review, The Philadelphia Inquirer wrote, "Perhaps the most crucial thing about this book, though, is that it's not so much for Black readers as it is for White ones who metaphorically started school late last May. Respectful discussion, soul-searching, urgency: if that's what you need, "Long Time Coming" delivers."

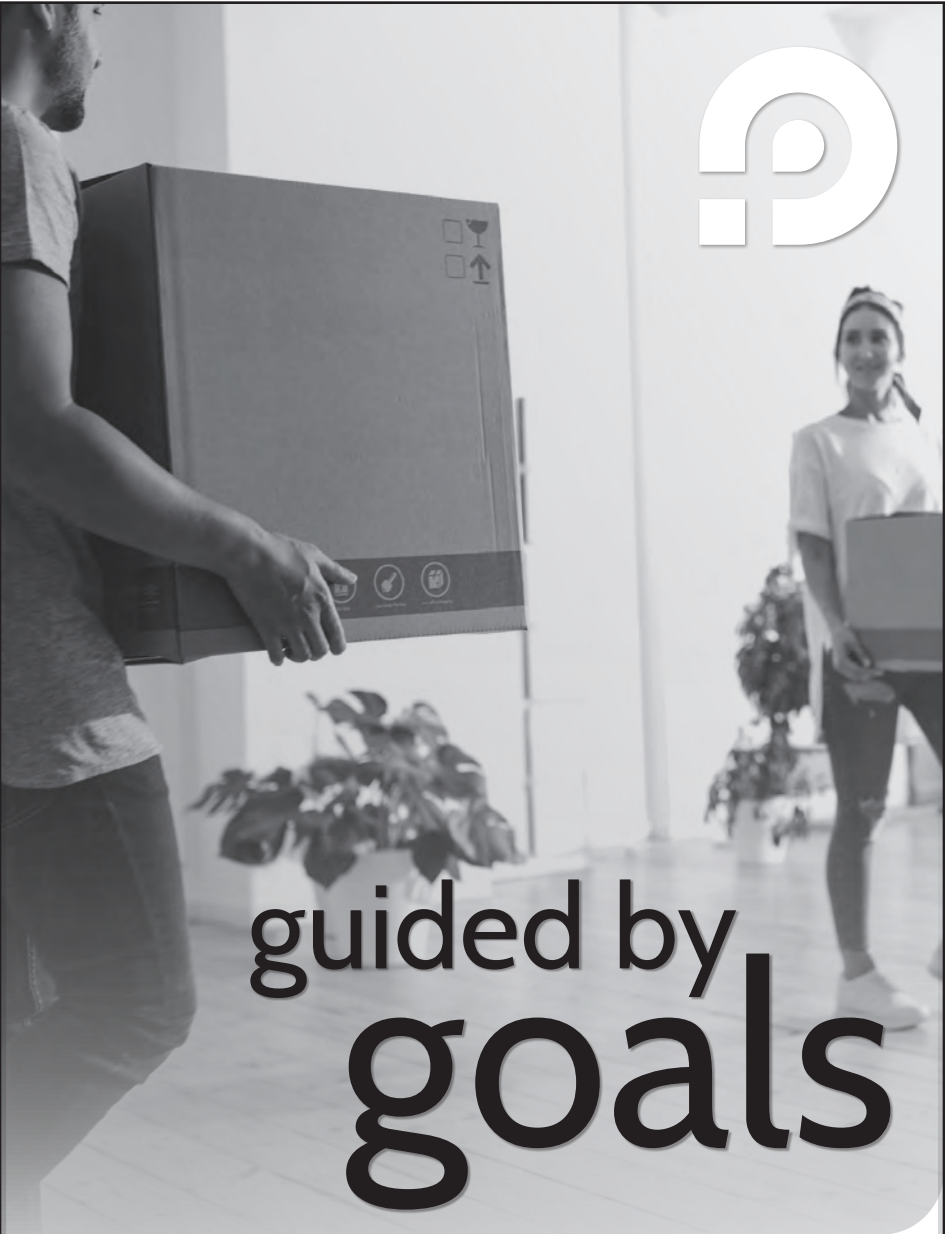

Dr. Michael Eric Dyson is a Georgetown University sociology professor, a New York Times contributing opinion writer, and a contributing editor of The New Republic, and of ESPN's The Undeclared website. In addition to being an academic and author, Dr. Dyson is sought after as a commentator on broadcast and cable news shows. He is also an ordained Baptist minister, having received his Ph. D from Princeton. He has written several books on topics ranging from Malcolm X and MLK and music (Illmatic by Nas) to Hurricane Katrina.

Dr. Tracie E. Alexander will facilitate the Q&A. Visit www.ysow.org for more information about, and to make a contribution to the Youth Shelter.

each other accountable as we continue the work to achieve racial equity? In his "I Have a Dream" speech, Dr. King wrote, "Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice." This discussion will explore the



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Jennifer Bidlingmyer, New Treasury Management Sales Director

Submitted

Premier Bank is pleased to announce the promotion of Jennifer Bidlingmyer to Senior Vice President, Treasury Management Sales Director. Bidlingmyer joined the Bank in 2012 and has served in various leadership roles in Treasury Management and Retail/Business Banking. She most recently served as Treasury Management Sales Team Leader.

In her new role, with nearly 20 years of banking experience and a strong track record of building successful sales teams. Bidlingmyer will lead the Treasury Management line of business strategy and sales process to consistently meet growth and profitability objectives. She will continue to leverage her experience and relationships while increasing revenue to grow Premier Bank's presence across the market areas.

"I am looking forward to leading the Treasury Management team as we work to deliver value and customized solutions to our business customers," said Bidlingmyer. "We're looking forward to expanding our business banking capabilities and will continue to provide unprecedented service to our clients."

Bidlingmyer, who earned a bachelor's degree in Finance from the University of Akron, holds a Certified Treasury Professional (CTP) designation. She is actively involved in her community serving as Treasurer for the Barberton Community Foundation. She currently resides in Barberton, OH, with her husband, Brian and their children, Olivia and Vinny.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED
Jennifer Bidlingmyer, new Treasury Management Sales Director for Premier Bank

How High is the Cost of Prescription Drugs?

Antavia Worsham Paid with Her Life

By Hazel Trice Edney
Wire Writer

Antanique Lee-Worsham of Cincinnati, Ohio has a landmark birthday coming up on June 9, 2021. That's the day she will turn 21 years old. But her landmark birthday is unlike many 21-year-olds who often celebrate it as the legal age to buy alcohol among other symbols of adulthood.

Instead, for Lee-Worsham, turning 21 will be the day she becomes financially responsible for the insulin that keeps her alive. It is the day that her coverage from a program for children with medical handicaps will end—which has paid for her insulin since she was diagnosed at 12 years old as a Type 1 diabetic. This is also the day that she will begin



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED
Antanique Worsham, 20, will have to fight for her life once she turns 21 on June 9, 2021. That's when her insulin prescription coverage ends. It ended for her sister, Antavia, who died three years ago at the age of 22.

seeking ways to pay for the nearly \$500 a month – approximately \$6,000 a year – cost for Insulin – because she's got to have it in order to stay alive. "It doesn't really make sense to me," said the University of Toledo (Ohio) student, who is enrolled in the paralegal studies department. She's already sounding like the civil rights lawyer or juvenile defense attorney she's planning to become. "I think we shouldn't have to pay so much when it's the only thing that's keeping us alive. There really should be laws to stop companies from putting these high prices on prescription drugs."

Antanique knows well the highest price that many have paid when unable to meet the demands of profit-driven pharmaceutical companies. Only three years ago on April 26, 2017, her 22-year-old sister, Antavia, also a Type 1 diabetic, laid down after a shower and never woke up again. "Her insulin pin was in her bed, but it was empty," recalled their

mother, Antroinette Worsham, her voice quivering with grief during a telephone interview. "Oh my God I miss my baby so much. I do these interviews because they bring out awareness. But, oh my God. I miss my baby."

Twelve weeks after Antavia's death, autopsy results showed, "full blown DKA", Ms. Worsham recalls. DKA means Diabetic Ketoacidosis. In a nutshell, Ketoacidosis happens when "the body starts breaking down fat at a rate that is much too fast. The liver processes the fat into a fuel called ketones, which causes the blood to become acidic," according to the U. S. National Library of Medicine.

The American Diabetes Association reports that only 1.25 million people in the U. S. are living with Type 1 diabetes. That's only 5 percent of all diabetics, including the Type 2 variant. In short, the difference is Type 2 diabetics use med-



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED
Antroinette Worsham, founder of T1 Diabetes Journey, Inc., being sworn in before testifying before the U. S. House Committee on Oversight and Reform about the high cost of insulin that resulted in the death of her 22-year-old daughter, Antavia.

ication to help their pancreases produce insulin, but the pancreases of Type 1 diabetics make little or no insulin at all. Insulin is a hormone that helps blood sugar enter the cells in the body where it can be used for energy. Without insulin, blood sugar can't get into cells and builds up in the bloodstream.

Antavia's diabetic supplies had been fully covered by the state of Ohio program, Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh), until she went to pick up her prescription one day and learned that she had aged off of the program when she turned 21. That's the same program that 20-year-old Antanique is in now.

"Prior to that, they paid all of her diabetes care, everything, her insulin, her pins, needles, everything. Whatever my corporate employers' insurance didn't cover, BCMh covered," Ms. Worsham said. Until "One day she went to the pharmacy and she said, 'Mom my medication is \$500!' I said \$500. Why?!"

Somehow, in the midst of her busy life as a single mother of four children working two jobs, she'd missed the explanation that the BCMh coverage would end when Antavia turned 21.

Although Antavia also worked two jobs—mainly as a security officer for Delta Airlines corporate offices in Downtown Cincinnati—she was still not able to cover the cost of her insulin. Not knowing of other resources, "she would just ration," Ms.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED
Antavia Worsham died on April 26, 2017 at the age of 22. Although she worked two jobs, she had been skipping insulin doses because the cost of the prescription was unaffordable.

Worsham said. "We knew that she didn't have enough insulin because she would use her sister's and her grandpa's until she couldn't use it anymore. They couldn't afford for her to

use theirs, so, she basically would just skimp." Having missed Antavia's symptoms of DKA - the fruity breath smell, the shortness of breath, and the excessive thirst - among others, Ms. Worsham is now determined to assure that she "can save Antanique if it ever comes to that point. And here soon, we're not going to be able to afford it."

Her determination is clear. Antavia's death stirred a fire within her mother, a fire that refuses to let her Antanique die and won't allow her Antavia to have died in vain.

As a part of that battle Ms. Worsham has founded a non-profit organization, T1Diabetes Journey, Inc. to promote awareness. She was invited to speak at a 2019 Congressional hearing in Washington, DC. There, wearing a T-shirt that said, "Patients Over Profit," she made her case to lawmakers about why they must make new policies to bring down the high costs of prescription drugs.

"Antavia was diagnosed at

Continued on page 12.

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The Believer’s Five-Point New Year New Level Checklist



By: Pastor W. Eric Croomes
Wire Writer

How are believers in Christ to approach the dawning of a new year? With hope! Although there are many who deem New Year celebrations as pagan in nature, it is important to renew the mindset without necessarily engaging the in the actual spirit of the times.

To be sure, our ‘new’ is based in the salvific work of Jesus Christ. Paul writes, If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come; the old has gone, the new is here.” (I Corinthians 5:17 NRSV)

In Christ, we are renewed daily, whether the end of the year or the beginning of a new year. The point is to develop the mindset to keep evolving as believers. We have dreams. We have aspirations. We have goals. The consummation of these things requires an attitude of constant renewal.

Here is a five-point new year new level believer’s checklist for moving forward.

Develop an Individual Master Mind Approach

A master mind group is a consortium of individuals who meet to strategize for success. The world is not always a de-

cision-making committee. Become your own master mind. Make non-consensus decisions. Believers have dreams just like non-believers. Bathe your choices in prayer and then release them in faith. Just as important, know who to share your dreams with; a prayer partner with whom to bounce them off. This brings objective and loving feedback and clarity.

Face Your Facts

The three most powerful words in the human language as it relates to your life are: I own it. Once you face the music about who you are and where you are, you can conquer mountains. Why? Because when you own it, you preclude any other person(s) from assigning your life to the dumpster. Face the facts. Then own them. Not only is it

a must to know who you are and where you are – but also whose you are. You are a child of the Most High King!

Stay Away from Garbage Thinking People

You are the sum of your five closest associates. What do your friends talk about most? Are you constantly exposed to self-defeating conversations? In the New Year, it is important that you do not remain the dumpster for the garbage talk of those closest to you. Sidebar: please know that every ‘believer’ is not necessarily a positive person. Sometimes Christians can become as negative as non-believers.

You Become What You Talk About Most

What we talk about most we become. This ‘self-talk’ is not just verbal, it is non-verbal; it is the thoughts that arrest your

mind and lead to the behavior which may arrest your life and your progress. Shake off the negative self-talk from 2020. Today, begin to talk prosperity, success, well-being, and life!

Do Not Be Afraid to Question Yourself

The most tragic death in the world is the person who lived from cradle to coffin and never changed – never changed their thinking; never changed their attitude and never changed their behavior! Seek God’s direction for your life. Question your values, goals, and actions. Question your decision-making process. No person ever moves forward in success while thinking the same thing they thought a quarter-century ago.

As believers, we are to renew our mindset daily.

What Is The Most Important Promise God Ever Made?

By: Carey Kinsolving & Friends
Wire Writer

“God promised he would never flood the Earth again,” says Katie, age 7. “He put a rainbow in the sky. God told Joseph to build an ark. It was hard for Joseph, but he did it.”

Katie, you left out the part about Joseph painting the ark many colors. Actually, it was Joseph’s coat that was many colors and Noah who built the ark. You might forget who built the ark, but it’s easy to remember God’s promise when you see a beautiful rainbow.

We live in a time when promises are easily broken. That’s why attorneys do so well. A promise is no better than the character of the promise maker. God has perfect integrity and the power to carry out all his promises.

I like the way Ashlyn, 5, described God’s promise after the flood: “God promised to never let the Earth suck into water again.” Ashlyn, you probably meant “sink,” but I don’t doubt that the ark passengers heard many sucking sounds as the huge vessel lifted and began its voyage. God started afresh with one righteous man, his family and a boat full of animals.

“I think the most important promise God ever made was that when the time comes, if you are a Christian, God will come and take you to live your life in heaven with him,” says Haley, 11.

One of the most amazing promises Jesus ever made came during the Passover meal with his



receive you to myself; that where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:2-3).

Few things are more comforting than knowing a home exists where you’re loved and welcomed. Several years ago, I followed my friend Pat



PHOTO CREDIT / Pixabay

Pat assured them that even though their homes were unstable, God loved them and had already prepared a glorious, eternal home for those who believed in his son. Gradually, God’s love penetrated their fearful hearts. Pat saw God’s love and the promise of an eternal home transform these children.

“I think the most important promise God ever made was to give his son for our sins,” says Mikelle, 11. “Jesus died and shed his blood for us. Before that, people killed sheep, cows and other animals for sacrifices. But when Jesus died, his blood covered us all.”

This is the contrast between two covenant promises. Under the first covenant, the blood of bulls, sheep and goats could never remove sins permanently. The high priest’s sacrifice for the people’s sins in the holiest place of the tabernacle had to be repeated annually.

“Once” is the key word in the Book of Hebrews. “Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many” (Hebrews 9:27).

The New Testament covenant promise has been sealed with the death of the Lord Jesus as the perfect, once-for-all sacrifice.

John the Baptist called Jesus “the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

Think about this: When Jesus promised eternal life and a glorious home for all who believe in him, he fully realized that his own life would be the purchase price of his promise.

Memorize this truth: “Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many” (Hebrews 9:27). Ask this question: Do you believe in God’s promise of eternal life for those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ?

ASK YOUR FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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

Dear Mr. Brown: My mother, who’s a widow, has been admitted to a care facility. She is also receiving a certain federal medical assistance. My family is being told we have to reduce mother’s assets down to no more than \$1500.00 and her insurance policies will have to be cashed in and the money turned over for her medical care. This does not sit well with my family due to the sweat and labor her and dad went through to gain their home and raise money for their family. Is it true she has to give away everything they earned over the years?

Emma

Dear Emma: In most cases it is true that assets be reduced to no more than \$1500.00 in order to receive certain federal medical and health care benefits. However, the cashing in of her insurance policy is not necessary. You can establish a pre-need funeral contract, which is a simple task to do, with the funeral home. If there are ample cash funds, you can also reduce the cash funds in the same manner.

Thanks for your question.

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

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- Property must be located in federally designated low or moderate income census tracts where State Bank lends²

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¹As updated annually by the FFIEC (Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council).

²Property must be located in a census tract within the following counties: Allen Ohio, Allen Indiana, Defiance, Delaware, Franklin, Hancock, Lucas, Madison, Union, Williams, and Wood. Actual amount applied at closing.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH), located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for the following position(s): **Vice President of Resident Services.** For complete details, visit <https://www.lucasmha.org> and click on Careers. **Deadline: 02/05/21.** This is a Section 3 covered position. HUD recipients are encouraged to apply and are to indicate on the application if you are a LMHA Public Housing client or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. **NO PHONE CALLS.** Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, religious creed, gender, military status, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin.



January 13, 1966: Dr. Robert C. Weaver becomes first Black nominated to serve on a U.S. Presidential Cabinet (Secretary of HUD)

January 14, 1970: Dr. King's remains are re-interred at the current King Center site.

January 15, 1975: The King Center dedicates Dr. King's birth home.

Coming Events

City of Toledo Department of Neighborhoods
2021-2022 Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant

The City of Toledo announced the availability of federal funds for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) for the 2021 Program Year, which runs July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

To apply for funding, applicants must pick up application material as follows:
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) (for Non-Homeless Service Providers)
9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 22
One Government Center, 1st Floor
640 Jackson St.
Toledo, Ohio 43604
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) (for Homeless Service Providers)
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 22
One Government Center, 1st Floor
640 Jackson St.
Toledo, Ohio 43604
The deadline for submitting CDBG and ESG applications is 4:45 p.m., Friday, Feb. 19.
Completed applications must be submitted through Zoomgrants.

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.

HELP WANTED



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

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NOTICES

SPECIAL NOTICES

The **Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County (MHRSB)** seeks to fund an individual or organization to develop a visual and qualitative report and presentation based on quantitative data collected by the MHRSB. This information will be used as a baseline report to the community on the MHRSB's health equity efforts. Proposals are to be delivered no later than 5:00 p.m. ET on January 22, 2021. All questions should be submitted to crs@lcmhrsb.oh.gov Details regarding the project deliverables and submission criteria are located on the MHRSB's website:<http://www.lcmhrsb.oh.gov/publicnotice/>.

HELP WANTED

FULL-TIME GRANT MANAGER

The Full-Time Grants Manager will be responsible for fiscal and accounting matters and procedural administration, operational management, and related coordination of federal grant funds. Job duties include: working with administrators, public officials, citizens, agencies and groups, participation in community committees, administration of federal grant funds, and program monitoring and evaluation.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university is preferred. Applicants must be detail oriented; have experience in grants administration; possess effective oral and written communication skills; and be proficient in word processing and spreadsheet software. This is a full-time position with benefits.

Submit resume with cover letter and references by January 22, 2021 (the position will be open until filled) to:

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
One Government Center, Suite 1720
Toledo, Ohio 43604
grants@noris.org

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Clark Street United Methodist Church, 1131 Clark St., Toledo, Ohio 43605, will be passing out food on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. For more information call 419-280-2451, or 567-938-9816

Jan. 18th
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BLACK HISTORY

January 6, 1858:

William Wells Brown, novelist and dramatist, publishes first Black drama, "Leap to Freedom"

January 12, 1901:

Writer, Zora Neale Hurston was born.

January 10, 1943:

George Washington Carver died, agricultural chemist.

January 8, 1966:

Adam Clayton Powell the first African-American elected to Congress from New York

January 9, 1966:

Fashion designer Patrick Kelly, a 35-year old native of Vicksburg, Mississippi, died in Paris.

January 7, 1977:

Erroll Garner, pianist and composer, dies.

January 11, 1993:

John Birks "Dizzy" Gillespie", dies.

January 13, 1811:

Charles Deslandes leads

January 15, 1888:

A.B. Blackburn, patents Railway signal.

January 19, 1916:

Author John Oliver Killens is born in Macon, GA

January 15, 1929:

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. born in Atlanta, Ga.

January 14, 1946:

Death of poet Countee Cullen (42), New York City.

January 17, 1952:

University of Tennessee admitted first Black student

January 16, 1965:

Lorraine Hansberry, author and dramatist dies.

Resolve to Read: Let the Library help you resolve to read with Winter Read!

Submitted

Did you know a frequent New Year's resolution people make is to read more books? Reading can transport you to another world, providing escape from life's everyday stresses – which we could all use right now! Increasingly, research also shows that reading may offer some real benefits for health and well-being such as:

- reducing stress levels (which can contribute to illness and disease)
- slowing cognitive decline
- improving sleep
- increasing social skills and empathy

Let the Library help you resolve to read with Winter Read!

Make a resolution of how many books you want to read in January and February.

Track what you read online, or with a paper bookmark tracker (pick up in the lobby of any Library location or download online.)

Collect a prize for reading and logging at least two books: one-size-fits most TL-CPL touch screen gloves for adults and kids, or red mittens for little ones (while supplies last.)

Every additional book you read and log also increases your chances of winning a grand prize. You can log up to 10 books before Feb. 28.

Grand prizes include memberships to local organizations such as Imagination Station, Metroparks, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo Zoo, and a Toledo Symphony gift voucher. There are also Amazon gift cards, LEGOs 484 piece classic set, Build a Fort kit, Magna-Tiles 100 piece set, Kindle PaperWhite, Cricut Explore Air 2, and a Nintendo Switch Lite. Winter Read grand prizes generously provided by the Library Legacy Foundation.

Educators Say They Must Act During the Pandemic to Close Widening Learning Gap

By Stacy M. Brown
Wire Writer

The lack of a quiet place to work and resources like internet service often hamstrings students of color's ability to adequately learn during the pandemic, according to education experts who share their frustration about the inequities in education faced by minorities and those in underserved communities.

"There also may be familial responsibilities like caring for a younger sibling or parent," said Adrienne Oddi, the dean of admissions and financial aid at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn.

"Homes and residential dwellings are often more congested with family, making it difficult to focus. We see these demands in our own students at Trinity, too," Oddi further asserted.

"It is a problem that isn't simply at the K-12 levels but also in higher education. One of the main reasons we welcomed our students back to campus in the fall was to help combat inequity issues that may exist in a student's home. We were able to help provide our students with the resources and space they needed to focus on their education."

Oddi acknowledged that the task is not easy for every student who wants an education.

"Assuming students can prioritize themselves and their education is the admissions officer's equivalent of 'Put your mask on first before assisting others,'" he illustrated.

"It's a luxury that not every student and family can afford. "But the onus is not on the student. It is on everyone. As the dean of admissions and financial aid, the onus is on me, too."

Oddi demanded that those in higher education need to examine their practices and ask themselves – "Who is here? Who is missing?"

"We need to be able to work toward equitable education for all, leveling the playing field for those most at risk of being left behind, and close the gap that data shows are widening during the pandemic. We need to work toward helping now, and helping always," he said.

José Viana, former director of the U.S. Department of Education's office of English-language acquisition and Senior Education Advisor at Lexia Learning, told NNPA Newswire that current circumstances caused by the pandemic have resulted in English language learners – many of whom are students of color – being at a significant disadvantage.

"For example, opportunities for oral language typically developed through speaking are infrequent due to the lack of in-person instruction," Viana remarked.

"In addition, many school districts continue to modify educational plans due to ever-changing state mandates, causing emergent bilingual students to be left out – either due to missing essential discourse opportunities with peers and teachers in the classroom or lacking the assistance and technology needed to learn effectively through remote instruction."

He continued:

"It is also important to consider that home and school relationships are a cornerstone of working with emergent bilingual students, and that school districts across the nation often lack interpreters that reach the family members of students while distance learning."

Thanks to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's continued partnership, the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) has carried on a public awareness program to close the public school and the higher education achievement gap.

NNPA President and CEO, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., has conducted videotaped interviews with education experts, community activists, and college students to help determine whether students in underserved communities have their needs met during the pandemic.

During the interviews, Dr. Chavis discussed the various challenges students of color and the working-class face as the pandemic continues to grip America and place a stranglehold on education.

The NNPA also continued publishing a series of articles to draw attention to America's education gap.

"I'm a tutor, and elementary school speech-language pathologist, and I work with students of color where I see various challenges for some of my students," offered Jessica Bonner-Gomez, founder, owner, and tutor with For Other Prizes Consulting.

"The biggest challenge is the inability to get online at a set meeting time during the week," Bonner-Gomez stated.

"For the children who attend their online speech therapy sessions inconsistently, the barrier is that the parent is a night-shift worker and sleeps during the day, has to rely on



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

We need to be able to work toward equitable education for all.

WHAT WE'RE READING NOW

Cubana
by JaQuavis Coleman

How to be an Artist
by Jerry Saltz

Happiness Becomes You
by Tina Turner

The Devil They Made Me
by Shea Swain

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Continued on page 12.

Former NBA Star Junior Bridgeman Purchases EBONY Magazine

By Stacy M. Brown
Wire Writer

The legendary EBONY magazine is being revived. Former NBA star Junior Bridgeman reportedly has anted-up \$14 million for the famed Black media publication. The magazine, which was founded by John H. Johnson in 1945, was forced into bankruptcy earlier this year after an attempt to revive EBONY failed. EBONY sold its photo archive for \$30 million last year, and Willard Jackson briefly took over as CEO but left the company soon after. “EBONY kind of stood for Black excellence, showing people doing positive things that could benefit everyone,” Bridgeman said, according to Black Enterprise. “It just made you feel good.” Bridgeman has a history of



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

business success, Black Enterprise reported. As the CEO of Manna Inc., the holding company for his franchise empire of quick-service restaurants, he is a longtime member of the [Black Enterprise] 100s. According to the Michigan Chronicle, Bridgeman, who played for the Milwaukee Bucks and Los Angeles Clippers, was once featured on a 2016 Forbes top-paid athletes

list. He is the CEO of a Coca-Cola bottling company and part-owner of Coca-Cola Canada Bottling Limited. The former athlete attempted to purchase Sports Illustrated in 2018 but eventually withdrew his bid a year later. According to BlackPast.org, EBONY earned fame by honoring Black identity – portraying Black life, refuting stereotypes, and inspiring readers

to overcome racial and other barriers to success. John H. Johnson began his career with Negro Digest in 1942 and started Ebony three years later. Both magazines were so successful that in 1972 the Magazine Publishers Association selected Johnson “Magazine Publisher of the Year.” EBONY occasionally presented works by well-established literary figures such as Langston Hughes and Gwendolyn Brooks. It also frequently published special issues, such as the 1963 one hundredth year commemoration of the Emancipation Proclamation, that highlighted issues deemed particularly relevant to African Americans. EBONY first featured articles about notable African Americans such as celebrities and sports figures, and during the late 1950s ran Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s column, “Advice for Living By.” By the 1960s, articles supporting civil rights appeared as the magazine provided reliable coverage of the civil rights movement as it unfolded across the United States. EBONY also discussed the increasing opportunities for African Americans, suggested ways to overcome obstacles, and encouraged the Black community to exhibit racial pride. “When you look at EBONY, you look at the history not just for Black people, but of the United States,” Bridgeman said. “I think it’s something that a generation is missing, and we want to bring that back as much as we can.”

NFL Execuives on Diversity: ‘We’ve Got to Do Better’

By Stacy M. Brown
Wire Writer

Ron Rivera of the Washington Football Team was the only minority head coach hired in the NFL heading into the season and, to the highest-ranking African American in the sport, that’s unacceptable. “When you look at mobility of Black men and Black women in professional sports, it’s poor,” said Troy Vincent, the league’s executive vice pres-

ident of football operations. The only person in a higher post in the NFL is Commissioner Roger Goodell. “The facts are the facts, none of the sports leagues are doing well,” Vincent noted on a conference call with journalists, including the Black Press. “We have done a thorough examination of what we’re do-



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

ing wrong, what doesn’t work. But there are no best practices in sports,” Vincent declared. “Let’s be straight. Let’s be honest. We can go to every

sport from basketball, hockey, baseball, here: Diversity, we do not see what we all hope for. We do not see true inclusion.” The league announced earlier this year that it had enhanced its Rooney Rule. This policy requires teams to interview ethnic-minority candidates for head coaching and

senior football operation jobs. The expanded rule requires teams to interview at least two external minority candidates for head coaching openings and at least one minority candidate for any coordinator job. Additionally, teams must interview one external minority candidate for senior football operations and general manager jobs. Clubs and the NFL league

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Len Bias is Posthumously Going into the Hall of Fame



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Len Bias
By Nsenga K. Burton
Ph.D, Wire Writer
The internet is celebrating news that late basketball legend Len Bias will be inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame. Bias leads a group of six players and two coaches that will be enshrined in Kansas City in November 2021. In addition to Bias, Hershey Hawkins, Jim Jack-

son, Paul Pierce, Antawn Jamison and David Greenwood are the other players who will be inducted. In a tragic set of circumstances, University of Maryland basketball star Len Bias, who was chosen No. 2 by the Boston Celtics in the 1986 NBA draft, died days later of an accidental drug overdose.

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UTMC Among First Hospitals Participating in National COVID-19 Drug Study

Submitted

The University of Toledo Medical Center is one of the first sites in the country to enroll patients in a National Institutes of Health study aimed at identifying promising COVID-19 treatments worthy of larger, more in-depth clinical trials.

The proof-of-concept study is intended to quickly screen out ineffective experimental treatments while rapidly advancing deployment of therapeutics that show significant benefit to hospitalized COVID-19 patients.

“This is a very important project,” said Dr. Michael Ellis, an infectious disease specialist and chief medical officer at UTMC. “Right now, we have two primary treatments for COVID-19, the antiviral drug remdesivir and the steroid dexamethasone, but we critically need additional therapeutics. The purpose of this study is to quickly identify agents that could have a big impact in keeping patients off a ventilator, getting them out of the hospital sooner and reducing fatal infections.”

The trial will enroll patients hospitalized with COVID-19 who require oxygen or mechanical ventilation who consent to participate. In the initial portion of the trial, UTMC will be treating patients selected for the clinical trial with either risankizumab or lenzilumab, which are monoclonal antibodies directed paired with remdesivir, which has shown benefit to patients with severe COVID-19 infections.

Monoclonal antibodies are lab-made proteins based on the natural antibodies our immune system produces to fight off disease. Risankizumab was approved in 2019 for the treatment of severe plaque psoriasis. Lenzilumab is in late-stage development as a treatment for leukemia.

“As we treat COVID, our objectives are to stay safe, provide state-of-the-art care and participate in the public health response,” Ellis said. “In this study, we’re participating in a way beyond just Toledo.”

The Phase 2, adaptive, randomized, double-blind placebo-controlled trial will examine both the safety and efficacy of the monoclonal antibodies compared to remdesivir alone.

Up to 40 U.S. sites will be involved in the study. Currently, UTMC is one of nine facilities recruiting participants.



High cost of Prescription Drugs

Continued from page 7.

the age of 16 and only lived six years with this disease due to the high cost of insulin,” she said in her videotaped speech before the U. S. House Committee on Oversight and Reform on Jan. 29, 2019. “I’m crying out and asking Congress to review the pharmaceutical price gouging...I know there’s rules and there’s regulations and there are policies. But we want to save more lives. It can be done. And you are the people to make it happen.”

The high cost of prescription drugs as an affordable health care issue is quickly growing in prominence as lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have begun to delve into the issue. Insulin has risen as a specific example, probably because of the high use of it across the U. S. for both Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes. But it’s also because of the extreme prices. According to the Mayo Clinic, “The most commonly used forms of analog insulin

jah Cummings, who chaired the Committee that invited Ms. Worsham to speak, agreed in a strong appeal to his colleagues as he introduced her. He said passionately, “The ongoing escalation of drug prices by drug companies is simply unsustainable. This is a matter, literally, of life and death and we have a duty to act now.”

Despite passion about the issue, no bills have passed both houses of Congress during the two years of the 116th Congress, according to Congressional Bill Status. Meanwhile Ms. Worsham says she will not give up. “Where are we going with this?” she asks. “People still can’t afford this life-sustaining medication and they’re dying so young. My baby was 22.”

cost 10 times more in the United States than in any other developed country.”

The now late Congressman Eli-



PHOTO CREDIT / PIXABAY

Educators Must Act

Continued from page 10.

daycare staff to get the child online if the parent works throughout the day, or cannot remember to get the child online

dure to already tending to other children and responsibilities.”

Bonner-Gomez said children who perform noticeably better at school and around their peers are more likely to turn off when they are only learning virtually.

“As some of these children are already behind and may be aware of it, they tend to be the least attentive,” Bonner-Gomez noted.

“Consequently, this lack of attention puts them ever further behind their peers. This reality is exacerbated when some parents are too exhausted to provide one-to-one assistance to their child or find they cannot grasp the school content to be of help. Further, parents may not have the funds to hire a tutor even if they know their child is noticeably behind.”

NFL Execuives on Diversity

Continued from page 11.

office must also include minorities and female applicants for senior-level positions, including club president jobs.

“It goes without saying that we have to do things differently,” said Dasha Smith, the NFL’s Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer. “We are hopeful we will see different outcomes at the end of this GM and coach hiring season.”

There currently are four minority head coaches in the NFL, including Rivera, Mike Tomlin of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Brian Flores of the Miami Dolphins, and Anthony Lynn of the Los Angeles Chargers.

Just two of the 32 teams have African American general managers – Chris Grier of the Dolphins and Andrew Berry of the Cleveland Browns.

“We’re a month away from 2021. And we’re still talking about women in senior-level positions? In coaching positions? Come on. Gimme a break,” Vincent demanded.

“These young men and women today in high school and college, they’re used to seeing women in leadership positions. And they pause because they get to this level? The closer you get to the playing field, the least opportunities there are for women? Come on.

“We’ve got to look at ourselves and be frank and call truth. Facts and data do not support where we are across the entire sports industry. So, we’ve got a lot of work to do.”

Your Rights under
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Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) requires that no person in the United States, on the grounds of race, color or national origin be excluded from, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. Presidential Executive Order 12898 addresses environmental justice in minority and low-income populations. Presidential Executive Order 13166 addresses services to those individuals with limited English proficiency.

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To request additional information on TARTA's nondiscrimination obligations or to file a Title VI Complaint, please submit your request to:

**Chief Executive Officer
TARTA
1127 W Central Ave
Toledo OH 43610**

office 419-245-5222
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PUBLIC NOTICE
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
FY 2020 through 2023 Goals

It is the policy of the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority to provide Disadvantaged Business Enterprises the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts financed in whole or part with federal funds.

In accordance with the requirements of Title 49 CFR 26.45, the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority is publishing its DBE goal for Fiscal Years 2020 – 2023 of 6.27%. The Authority's proposed goal and its rationale are available for inspection at www.tarta.com.

To request a paper copy of this information, please call 419-245-5219 or email info@tarta.com.

The U. S. Department of Transportation and the Authority will accept comments on the goal for 45 days from the date of this notice. Comments may be addressed to:

Federal Transit Administration Authority Civil Rights Officer Region 5 Office 200 W. Adams, Suite 320 Chicago, IL 60606	Toledo Area Regional Transit Chief Executive Officer 1127 West Central Avenue Toledo, OH 43610
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Any firm wishing to obtain further information about the DBE program should contact Chief Financial Officer David Robinson at drobinson@tarta.com or 419-245-5200.

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