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EVERYBODY IS  
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JOURNAL



PHOTO: MICHAEL BROCHSTEIN /  
ECHOES WIRE/BARCROFT MEDIA VIA GETTY IMAGES

Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden.



SUBMITTED/PHOTO CREDIT/CANDIDATEKAMALAHARRIS.JPG

Joe Biden's pick for vice-president, Democratic running-mate Kamala Harris.

## Biden Makes History with Sen. Kamala Harris as Vice Presidential Running Mate *Harris is the first Black woman on a major presidential ticket*

Submitted

(*TriceEdneyWire.com*)  
- Democratic Presidential Candidate Joseph "Joe" Biden has announced his selection of U. S. Sen. Kamala D. Harris as his vice-presidential running mate, bringing an automatic sizzle to the ticket, which now becomes history-making.

A 55-year-old Black woman with Indian and Jamaican

ancestry, Harris becomes the first woman of color nominated to the top of a major ticket in a U. S. election.

"I've decided that Kamala Harris is the best person to help me take this fight to Trump and Mike Pence and then to lead this nation starting in January 2021," said Biden, 77, in an email Tuesday. The two were expected to make their first appearance together as

running mates in Wilmington, Delaware on Wednesday, August 12.

The announcement came after weeks of anticipation after Biden announced he would offer the vice presidency to a woman. The moment grew even more tense as Biden interviewed a string of women, including Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer who is white and former

Congressional Black Caucus Chair Karen Bass, also of California.

Harris responded on Twitter: "Joe Biden can unify the American people because he's spent his life fighting for us. And as president, he'll build an America that lives up to our ideals. I'm honored to join him as our party's nominee for

*Continued on page 2.*

## The River of Life Church Sponsors Monthly Drive-through Food Distribution Program

By Michael Daniels  
Journal Staff Writer

Every third Saturday of the month, The River of Life Church Sponsors The Storehouse a monthly drive-through Food

Distribution Program, at the church, located at 3611 Upton Ave. Open from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, and the program is also free for everyone.

The Storehouse was started

last year to serve those in the immediate church community. According to a team member, "Since the pandemic began, we've seen a greater need of people all over the city.

The program is now open to anyone in the city who needs this service. The Storehouse has given out as many as 100-150 food packages each

*Continued on page 2.*



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Before the food give away begins at The River of Life Church, the Storehouse Team members and volunteers (L-R) Crystal Henderson, Andrea Eaton, Joseph Chandler, Delinetta Ashe: Team Lead, David Chandler, Francine Russell, and Celeste Taylor prepare boxes and bags of food for the church's monthly drive-through food distribution program. (not pictured Jo Ann Hughes: Storehouse Team Director).



# The River of Life Church Food Distribution Program

*Continued from page 1.*

month.”

To take advantage of this community gift you simply need to drive through the church’s parking lot, stop and register, and then receive your free box of food. You can also ride a bike or walk to the site to participate. The Storehouse program was started by the church’s pastor, Bishop John Williams.

Bishop Williams’s vision for his church is to give to those in need and serve the community. The Storehouse is just one of many ways the church’s congregation fulfills the pastor’s vision.

Delinetta Ashe The Storehouse Team Lead said, “Even though we started this before the pandemic struck, now is the perfect time for us to reach out into the community and help and serve those in need. Many people have lost their

jobs, and this is the perfect opportunity to give people some hope if they don’t have anything because every little bit helps. Serving others is our ministry.”

Team member Crystal Henderson added, “Since the pandemic, we also get people who are working and people from all over town who just need some help. I’m very grateful that we can do this for them, and I find it personally very gratifying.”

The River of Life Church is still having church while following government safety guidelines. You can tune into their service on Facebook live every Sunday at 2:30 by typing [www.riveroflifetoledo.com](http://www.riveroflifetoledo.com).

The Storehouse Team members would also like to thank Mother Johnson, Bishop William’s mother for getting certified, and getting the program started in the beginning.



Team members (L-R) Celeste Taylor and Delinetta Ashe load up customer Fred Mickles truck with free food from The River of Life Church free monthly drive-through food distribution program.



Team member Francine Russell assist customer Priscilla Sydnor register at The River of Life Church free monthly drive-through food distribution program.

# Biden Makes History with Sen. Kamala Harris as VP

*Continued from page 1.*

Vice President, and do what it takes to make him our Commander-in-Chief.”

Harris, a longtime friend of Biden, was not widely speculated to be Biden’s pick; particularly given her sudden attack on him during a June 27 presidential debate concerning remarks he had previously made about having worked with two segregationist senators. Biden was making a point about civility and how he has been able to work across the aisles to pass legislation. But Harris tersely pointed out how segregationist politicians had affected her childhood. Though she made it clear that he is not a racist, she called Biden’s comments “very hurtful.”

Biden barely recovered that night but said Harris’ remarks mischaracterized “his position across the board.” The tense moment clearly stung Biden, but mostly shed a negative light on Harris whose remarks were widely criticized as harsh and misleading. But, this week, Biden proved that he does not hold grudges, placing her alongside him at the very top of the Democratic ticket.

It remains to be seen whether Harris’ historic candidacy as a Black woman and as a woman will engender enough favor from a racially and gender-diverse constituency to defeat the Donald Trump – Mike Pence re-election campaign with the traditional two White males. Trump’s Republican ticket is seen as widely supported by right wingers and White supremacists as well as traditional Republicans.

However, amidst racial tension across America which re-ignited protests after the killing of George Floyd, Trump has slipped in the political polls, several showing Biden leading him with double digits. The coronavirus pandemic, which has killed more than

160,000 people, including a disparity of African-Americans, has also illuminated questions about Trump’s political deficiencies.

America will now scrutinize the voting and policies pushed by Harris, who, since in the U. S. Senate, has become known for her sharp questioning during Senate hearings and for her criminal justice advocacy. But given that Biden is the presidential candidate, it is his record that must be scrutinized the heaviest.

Having served 36 years (1973-2009) in the U. S. Senate and eight years as vice president under President Barack Obama, the nation’s first Black president, it is believed that he has been thoroughly vetted. His judgement in choosing Harris as his running mate will now be his greatest decision under scrutiny. He is already receiving accolades.

“Joe Biden nailed this decision,” said Obama in a statement Tuesday. “By choosing Senator Kamala Harris as America’s next vice president, he’s underscored his own judgment and character. Reality shows us that these attributes are not optional in a president. They’re requirements of the job. And now Joe has an ideal partner to help him tackle the very real challenges America faces right now and in the years ahead.”

Obama continued, “I’ve known Senator Harris for a long time. She is more than prepared for the job. She’s spent her career defending our Constitution and fighting for folks who need a fair shake. Her own life story is one that I and so many others can see ourselves in: a story that says that no matter where you come from, what you look like, how you worship, or who you love, there’s a place for you here. It’s a fundamentally American perspective, one that’s led us out of the hardest

times before. And it’s a perspective we can all rally behind right now.”

Her selection is also winning praises from rank and file civil rights leaders.

“During her tenure in the Senate, Sen. Harris won praise from the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law for her work on judges, national criminal justice policies, and other racial justice issues,” said Kristen Clarke, president and executive director of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law in a statement. She said Harris’ historic selection has tremendous “relevance for Black women and women of color who have long been diminished and underrepresented in national politics.”

The following is Harris’ political biography as printed on her Senate website:

In 2017, Kamala D. Harris was sworn in as a United States Senator for California, the second African-American woman and first South Asian-American senator in history. She serves on the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, the Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee on the Budget.

Kamala has spent her life fighting injustice. It’s a passion that was first inspired by her mother, Shyamala, an Indian-American immigrant, activist, and breast cancer researcher.

Growing up in Oakland, Kamala had a stroller-eye view of the Civil Rights movement. Through the example of courageous leaders like Thurgood Marshall, Constance Baker Motley, and Charles Hamilton Houston, Kamala learned the kind of character it requires to stand up to the powerful, and resolved to spend her life advocating for those who could not defend themselves.

After earning an undergraduate degree from Howard University and

a law degree from the University of California, Hastings, she began her career in the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office.

In 2003, Kamala became the District Attorney of the City and County of San Francisco. Among her achievements as District Attorney, Harris started a program that gives first-time drug offenders the chance to earn a high school diploma and find employment.

Having completed two terms as the District Attorney of San Francisco, Kamala was elected as the first African-American and first woman to serve as California’s Attorney General. In this role, she worked tirelessly to hold corporations accountable and protect the state’s most vulnerable people.


Over the course of her nearly two terms in office, Kamala won a \$25-billion settlement for California homeowners hit by the foreclosure crisis, defended California’s landmark climate change law, protected the Affordable Care Act, helped win marriage equality for all Californians, and prosecuted transnational gangs that trafficked in guns, drugs, and human beings.

In the United States Senate, Kamala’s mission remains unchanged: fighting for the rights of all communities in California. Since taking office, she has introduced and cosponsored legislation to raise wages for working people, reform our broken criminal justice system, make healthcare a right for all Americans, address the epidemic of substance abuse, support veterans and military families, and expand access to childcare for working parents.

It’s the privilege of Kamala’s life to work on behalf of the people of California. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband, Doug Emhoff, and is stepmother to Ella and Cole Emhoff.




# What are your thoughts on Joe Biden’s selection of Kamala Harris as his Vice President?




**Arnold Brooks**  
Entrepreneur

I think she’s an awesome selection and by choosing her, it’s a representation of the diversity of America. Also, with her having experience as a prosecutor, and the Attorney General of California, she actually has more experience than what Trump did when he first entered office.




**JaJuan Turner**  
Writer

At first, I had a negative opinion of her, being that she was a prosecutor, or an agent of the system, even though she’s black. But after I studied more about her, I’ve realized she is a good pick and will fight for the people. Also, she’s a positive image for black girls.




**Anna Woods**  
Entrepreneur

I know people are excited that a black woman is the pick for Vice President, but a lot of the information I’ve heard about her during her time as a prosecutor, and Attorney General was very negative. From what I understand, she really didn’t protect the rights of black people in California. And although I would’ve been happier if Bernie would’ve won the nomination, I’m still voting for Biden and Harris because Trump has to go.




**Janece Wooley**  
Educator

What I’m really excited about is the fact she attended an HBCU, and in the mecca of HBCU’s; DC. For a long time people have discredited HBCU’s, as if you can’t achieve high goals if you attended one. People, even black people, have favored predominantly white institutes over our own schools. So when it’s spoken about what school she attended, it will be said, she attended Howard, an HBCU.



**Tanya Roach**  
Administrative Assistant

I’m excited about her being selected. She brings experience from local, state, and federal government. Also, little black girls will be inspired by her.



**Anita Madison**  
Retired

I am excited about her being picked as his running mate. I think this historical event is inspirational for women, especially black women, and girls. Her appointment points to the fact that you can be whatever you want to be if you strive towards that goal.

## Ongoing Events

**Grace Community Center Free Food Pantry**

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

**Every Tuesday and Saturday  
Toledo Masjid Al-Isalm Through Tarbiyyatul Haqq MinistriesFood Pantry**

Located at 722 E. Bancroft St., Toledo, OH 43608. Available Tues. 9-2 and Sat 11-3 every week. Free

**Senior Centers Closed**

At the advice of the local health commissioners, the following senior centers are closed to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus:

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

**Every Tuesday  
Monroe Street Neighborhood Center’s FreeFood 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.

**Mask Distribution for Toledo Residents**

Masks will be given away at the next recycling event, in partnership with Engage Toledo and Code Enforcement. Distribution will take place on August 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. Each adults will be allowed to take three disposable masks free-of-charge.

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

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

Connecting Kids to Meals has been feeding hungry, at-risk kids for more than 17 years. Some of the truksted partners where meals are served include schools, libraries, churches, community centers, parks, and other locations where children gather. Last year, about 540,000 nutritious meals were provided to kids during out-of-school time. To learn more, visit ConnectingKidsTo Meals.org.

**August. 20th  
FREE Movie Night in the Park**

Space Jam at 7:30 p.m., Thursday at Woodsdale park, 1226 Woodsdale Park Dr. Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars. Physical distancing protocols will be followed. This is the last one of the summer!

**Engage Toledo Drop Off Refuse and Recycling**

Acceptable items include electronic waste, but no televisions, CRT monitors, or appliances; 10 tires, on or off the rim, but no commercial tires; documents; houseware goods; clothing; toys; bulky items, and refuse. Latex paint will be accepted for \$1 per gallon. Representatives from the U.S. Census Bureau will also

be present to inform residents about the importance of completing the census. Future Engage Toledo Drop Off Refuse and Recycling Events are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the following dates:

- Aug. 22 at Longfellow Elementary School, 1955 West Laskey Rd.
- Sept. 12 at Good Shepherd Church, 3934 West Laskey Rd.
- Sept. 19 at the Toledo Zoo, Anthony Wayne Trail, parking lot, 2 Hippo Way (this event is 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
- Sept. 26 at Friendship Park, 2930 131st St.

For more information please call Engage Toledo at 419-936-2020 or visit [www.toledo.oh.gov](http://www.toledo.oh.gov).

**Sept. 20th The Padua Center  
Peaces of Art 2020 - going on line!**

Soon you will be receiving information about The Padua Center’s Peaces of Art 2020. Yes, we are going on line! We will have a delicious to-go BBQ Chicken Dinner on Sunday, from 12:00-5:00. Pick up at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church parking lot-corner of Detroit Avenue and Bancroft Street. (No reservations needed).

Our silent auction will be available from September 20, 2020 until October 11, 2020. Details of how to enter the auction site and make your bid will be coming soon.

The Padua Center is soliciting items for our auction. If you wish to donate a basket, or an item (at least \$25.00 value), please let us know. We will take a picture of the item, note descriptions and place it on the auction site. We wish to place everything on the auction site by September 15th. (Please call The Padua Center and inform us of your donated auction item - 419-241-6465). There will be lots more information coming!

## Black Legacy

**August 22, 1843:** A National Negro convention of black men was held in Buffalo, NY., by Henry Highland Garnet in which he urged slaves to take action to gain their own freedom.

**August 25, 1886:** The first meeting of the American

National Baptist Convention was held in St. Louis, MO.

**August 23, 1900:** Booker T. Washington forms the National Negro Business League in Boston.

**August 21, 1904:** Jazz pianist and musician, William “Count” Basie, born in Red Bank, NJ

**August 24, 1950:** Edith Sampson, first Black appointed to United Nations.

**August 19, 1954:** Ralph J. Bunche named undersecretary of the United Nations.

**August 20, 1989:** The first Natinal Black Theater Festival closes in Winston-Salem, N.C.

**August 19, 2017:** Dick Gregory, comedian and civil rights activist who broke racial barriers in the 1960 with his satire, passes away at 84.



# MAKES ME WANNA HOLLA...!



By Lafe Tolliver,  
Attorney

If you need any more proof that this upcoming presidential election is going to become the proverbial, “barn burner”, look no further than recent news headlines indicating that Kanye West, yeah, THAT Kanye, is running to be president of the US of A.

Now, let that thought sink in for a moment or two. Kanye West, musical genius (?) provocateur, wants you to vote for him to have access to the nuclear codes and for him to craft deals with China and Russia.

Kanye wants to be the chief executive officer of the US of A and appoint nominees to the Supreme Court and be in a position of power to issue pardons!

If you believe that you are in an Alice in Wonderland tale, you are!

Kanye wants you to allow him to debate on national television his opponents in matters of serious import that pertain to life and death and which decisions, if he is elected, would have grave impact on the national economy.

Now, if you have been watching the news lately, you have seen this presidential aspirant, devolve into a mess of public tearings (aka: crying jags); and shoutouts to his wife regarding abortion and iffy divorce issues.

Let your fertile imagination run wild and visualize Kanye giving State of the Union addresses and traveling on Air Force One to conduct meetings with other heads of state.

Or, Kanye using the Oval Office as a staging arena for an impromptu rap concert with Taylor Swift on back-up vocals!

Yeah, you now are getting the drift of such a presidency.

And yet, you must ask, what is the sinister plot behind such an undertaking. What is going on and who is up to no good?

Well, for starters, understand that Kanye is in no mental state of mind to engineer such an undertaking because we are now finding out that it is GOP political operatives who are the malefactors behind this galling operation.

The story is that the GOP is con-



“ Well, for starters, understand that Kanye is in no mental state of mind to engineer such an undertaking because we are now finding out that it is GOP political operatives who are the malefactors behind this galling operation. ”

cerned that Herr Trump, behind in the polls, needs all the help he can get, be it from China, Putin of Russia or even exploiting a black rock star.

The gist of the story is that if the GOP can use Kanye in certain key battleground states to siphon off clueless black voters or those who do not care about electing Joe Biden, their votes for Kanye, in a tight race, could be difference in Trump winning or losing that state.

Do not be gullible in thinking that black voters will not go for the, “Okey-Doke” and would vote for Kanye.

When you understand that Herr Trump thrives on chaos and disruption, throwing a Kanye wrench into the election pool would serve that purpose.

In the 2016 elections, in some key battleground states, it was only a matter of several thousand of votes that caused Hillary Clinton to lose and for a mentally addled Herr Trump to win the White House.

The GOP has no moral scruples in a calculating exploitation of anyone or anything if that means that their candidate can win a second term as president.

Kanye, according to recent family reports, is allegedly suffering from mental health issues and is possibly

bi-polar and as such, is susceptible to being pranked, harmed, exploited, used, appropriated or conned into believing that his voice is needed on the national political stage.

What is a more pressing question is why either Kanye or his “loving” family are allowing this clownish political charade to happen with their knowledge?

It has been reported that GOP operatives are really in charge of this ruse and they are the ones making sure that Kanye gets on the ballot in certain key states to hopefully siphon off votes from Joe Biden.

Does this regrettable behavior by Kanye or his family make Kanye an, “Uncle Tom”? No...because if you read the story of Uncle Tom’s Cabin, you will realize that Uncle Tom was a hero and did acts of bravery to save his people from exploitation but rather, it was the book’s character, Sambo who did the damage.

Shame on Kanye and double shame on his family members who are not protesting this charade and triple shame on the GOP for this political outrage.

My take on this? Simple. Kanye should immediately change his name to that of Sambo West.

Lafe Tolliver, Attorney  
Comments to: tolliver@juno.com

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2145 East Scott Park Drive  
Toledo, OH 43606 : (419) 472-4521  
Scott Park Campus Faculty Annex  
P.O. Box 12559, Toledo, OH 43606  
Sandra S. Stewart Myron A. Stewart  
Publisher Editor

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From a concerned Grand/Great Grandparent  
What’s On My Mind: To the Youth Leaders of Black Lives Matter, We need changes

Yes we in the African American community agree that things must change. We as grands, greatgrands, etc., teach that to our love ones, but what is disturbing is why are we as a Black community killing each other as if we have a license to do so? Why aren't we marching in our own neighborhoods, talking to our young people, saying enough is enough ? There is no logic to these manners. It has affected my family, my cousin. Milton Robert's was killed a couple of weeks ago, my Aunt's youngest child. No one, who hasn't been through this type of tragedy can understand her his siblings and children's pain. The young lady is 24 years old who did the shooting. We can't preach Black Lives Matter to others and expect them to respect us, when on a daily basis, we're saying to the world it doesn't matter in our own communities. We must Heal from within before we can change others.

God Bless



# Harlem, The Nation's Center of African American Culture, Will Be The National Urban League's New Headquarters



By Marc H. Morial  
Wire Writer

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - "Harlem was home; was where we belonged; where we knew and were known in return; where we felt most alive; where, if need be, somebody had to take us in. Harlem defined us, claiming our consciousness and, I suspect, our unconsciousness." – Actor and activist Ossie Davis

In 1904, a few years before George Edmund Haines and Ruth Standish Baldwin founded the National Urban League, Black New Yorkers pushed out of other neighborhoods began moving into Harlem. They were soon followed by a flood of migrants escaping the violence and terrorism of the Jim Crow South. The convergence of ambitious, motivated Black people from around the country with employment opportunities created by World War I exploded into the Harlem Renaissance.

With it, came the courage "to express our individual dark-skinned selves without fear or shame," as Langston Hughes put it.

Mindful of this profound legacy and storied past, we at the National Urban League could not be prouder to announce a historic building project that will keep us in the city where we were founded, while enhancing the economic and cultural revitalization of Harlem.

The Urban League Empowerment Center, on 125th Street between Street between Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Boulevard and Lenox Avenue, will include the National Urban League's headquarters, the Urban Civil Rights Museum Experience and the National Urban League Institute for Race, Equity and Justice – along with affordable housing, office space and retail space.

The \$242 million project is one of the largest and most significant building projects in Harlem in 50 years. As a legacy civil rights and social justice organization, the National Urban League has worked for more than a century to strengthen and vitalize urban neighborhoods through community investment. I'm extremely proud that we are able to put those same guiding principles to work with our own future home.

Over the last several years, the National Urban League has turned down offers to relocate to other cities, including Phil-

adelphia, Washington, Atlanta, Chicago, and others. New York City is where we were born, and I am proud that New York City is where we will stay. I am even more excited about the neighborhood economic development the building project represents.

The National Urban League has a long history of supporting the cultural and artistic pulse of Harlem. Opportunity, for many years our official monthly publication, employed Harlem Renaissance writers, publishing their poetry and short stories and promoting African-American literature through articles, reviews, and literary prizes.

With affordable office space for non-profit organizations like One Hundred Black Men of New York, the United Negro College Fund New York, and the Harlem-based Jazzmobile, the Empowerment Center will be a hub and a catalyst for enterprise, creativity, activism and advocacy.

We have been intentional about supporting minority-owned businesses, partnering with Black-owned BRP Companies, and committing to 30% of construction contracts for minority-owned businesses. Prominent African-American professionals, including real estate attor-

ney Charles J. Hamilton, Jr., of Windels Marx and Dabar Development Partners founder and CEO Dawanna Williams have had lead roles in the project.

The project would not be possible without the wholehearted support of New York Governor Andrew Cuomo and his extraordinary effort to align state agencies and private sector partners to move the project forward. We also owe a debt of gratitude to New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, former Mayor Michael Bloomberg, State Assemblywoman Inez E. Dickens, State Senator Brian Benjamin, City Councilman Bill Perkins, and Margaret Anadu, head of the Urban Investment Group at Goldman Sachs.

The Urban Civil Rights Museum Experience will be New York's first museum dedicated to civil rights and one of the first in the nation to focus on the history of civil rights in the North. It also includes below-market office space for community groups and civic organizations, as well as 170 affordable housing units to be constructed with support from New York State Homes and Community Renewal.

We look forward to formal groundbreaking in the near future and completion by late 2023.

# Trump's Housing Announcement Seen as So Racist, "It's 'Not Even A Dog Whistle Anymore'

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

President Donald Trump has rolled back a Barack Obama-era housing rule intended to halt racial segregation and eliminate racial disparities in American suburbs.

Trump announced on Wednesday, July 29, that he officially eliminated the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) rule that Obama put in place in 2015.

The rule required local governments to identify and address racial segregation patterns outlawed under the Fair Housing Act of 1968.

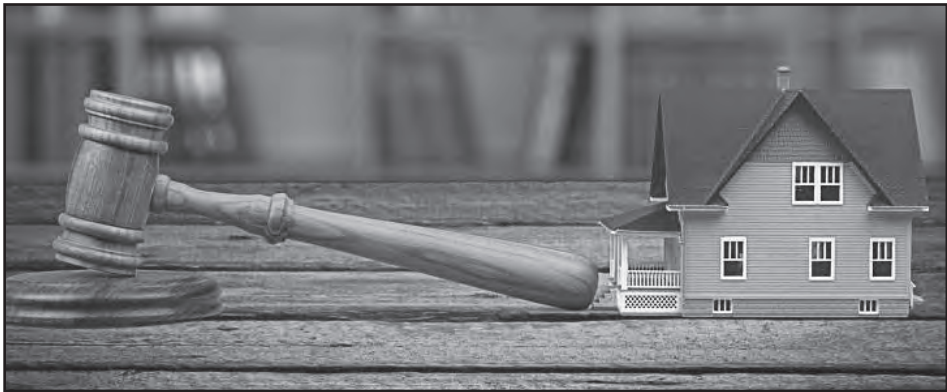
The law tied federal funding to efforts to bridge inequalities.

The AFFH helped low-income and minority households, many of whom now face housing uncertainty because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Some interpret the move as an attempt to stoke fears in Trump's base, which could drive supporters to the polls in November.

To others, the president is no longer using dog whistles. Instead, it's apparent he has issued a clarion call for white supremacists and other racists that African Americans and other non-whites represent a danger to suburbia.

That the formal announcement of the rule change came on the day before Obama eulogized Rep. John Lewis (D-



Ga.) in Atlanta, wasn't lost on many who expressed exasperation with the president.

"Oh my. I mean, it's not even a dog whistle anymore," Sen. Chris Murphy (D-Conn.) wrote on Twitter. "Our president is now a proud, vocal segregationist."

"Vile, despicable, racist," Diane Yentel, president of the National Low Income Housing Coalition, tweeted about the decision.

"Secretary [Ben] Carson has worked to undermine fair housing since the day he stepped into the HUD building, so this action is not surprising. But it is abhorrent for Trump to use a critical fair housing tool for election year race-baiting, particularly during a time of reckoning for racial injustices," Yentel said.

Trump called the rule a threat to "the suburban way of life."

"I am happy to inform all of the people

living their Suburban Lifestyle Dream that you will no longer be bothered or financially hurt by having low-income housing built in your neighborhood," the president tweeted.

Trump continued to brag about the move during a campaign stop in Midland, Texas.

"I ended it two days ago. I signed out the bill. I signed out the article, the rule," Trump declared. "And it was a bad rule, and it was causing tremendous housing prices going down and crime going up. I ended it. It had been hell for suburbia, now enjoy your life. Now we don't win the election, that's going to be reinstituted."

He continued:

"You know the suburbs; people fight all of their lives to get into the suburbs and have a beautiful home. There will be no more low-income housing forced into the suburbs."

Carson added that the AFFH rule was unworkable and "ultimately a waste of time for localities to comply with."

ABC News reported that Trump is again "counting on the suburban voters he won in 2016 - apparent by his repeated false and fear-invoking claims that Democrats want to 'abolish' suburbs – but his divisive rhetoric may not be working this time around."

The network cited a recent ABC News/Washington Post poll showing the president trailing Biden in those neighborhoods by 9 percent – the most significant margin in the suburbs that polls had recorded since the 1980s when Republicans were winning there by double digits.

ABC News further reported that a New York Times/Siena College poll from June found 38 percent of voters in the suburbs approve of Trump's job performance compared with 59 percent who disapprove.

The key demographic disapproved of Trump's handling of recent protests and race relations by an even wider margin, according to the Times.

Meanwhile, The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law said the elimination of the Obama-era housing rule would "eviscerate all oversight of state and local government compliance with fair housing laws."

"It's a full-frontal assault on the rule of law," the group wrote. "The civil rights movement will fight this tooth and nail."



# Rollie Ford, Purple Heart recipient celebrates his 88th birthday

By JURY TALIB-DEEN  
Journal Staff Writer

At 17 years of age, Rollie Ford enlisted into the United States Army. Two weeks later he was being prepared to fight in a war on the Korean Peninsula.

He would ultimately become a part of the elite Airborne

The Toledo Journal that the celebration would consists of words of kindness from various family members, a comedy skit by Larry Glover, Mr. Fords second grandchild, and the traditional eating, and just enjoying each other's company.

"My father has a heart of gold," she said. "He's also



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Rollie Ford enjoys his 88th birthday with his bride of 65 years, Loretta.

“  
My father has a heart of gold... He's also witty, and while growing up, he could always answer our questions, and if he didn't have the answer, he'd point us I the direction in which we could get an answer.  
”

Paratroopers, who have the motto, "Death from Above."

Mr. Ford would then, not willingly, join the likes of General Douglas McArthur, and President John F. Kennedy when he received the Purple Heart; a medal that's awarded to men and women who have been injured or killed during battle.

But on Friday, August 14, his family celebrated his 88th birthday at their home in west Toledo.

With a family of eight children, one deceased, 28 grandchildren, 38 great grandchildren, five great-great grandchildren, and his bride of 65 years, Loretta, Mr. Ford had more than a loving birthday celebration.

Arlene Bond, daughter, told

witty, and while growing up, he could always answer our questions, and if he didn't have the answer, he'd point us I the direction in which we could get an answer."

Further, Ms. Bond added that education was primary in their household. An RN, she pointed to the fact that two of her father's children have their Master's Degree.

Sam Ford, son of Rollie



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

With Arlene Bond, daughter of Rollie ford in the back-ground, Sam Ford, son, holds up a birthday card that he said describes his father.

Ford, quickly pointed out that his father still embraces the fighter's spirit that he had while in the Army. Sam Ford said his father has had two open heart surgeries, five bypasses, and has survived prostate, colon, and bladder cancer.

"He's a man of integrity, and moral principal," Sam Ford proudly said about his father.

"He's special because he has put up with me," said Loretta Ford, while laughing. "It's not like I'm bad or anything; but he puts up with me, and he has been such a good father, and grandfather; so he deserves to be honored today."

"My family is really great for putting on this celebration for me," said Rollie Ford.

Mr. Ford, who looks very lively, thought about the secret to still having a vibrant life. "I

turn to God, first and foremost. Other than that, I haven't really done anything special." He then pauses to think and added, "Well, I've eaten spinach every day of my life as far back as I can remember. I don't drink alcohol, and I attend church regularly; I'm pretty sure all of those things have helped me stay alive."

“  
I don't drink alcohol, and I attend church regularly; I'm pretty sure all of those things have helped me stay alive.  
”



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Sitting center, Rollie ford enjoys the company of family on his 88th birthday.



# Monroe Street Neighborhood Center showcases emerging markets

By JURRY TAALIB-DEEN  
Journal Staff Writer

Pop-up markets, or emerging markets, continue to be the trend in Toledo. An organizer will host an event, in a parking lot, park, or any other venue which can hold a large amount of people, and then invite area businesses to sell their goods, or services.

Monroe St. United Methodist hosted their fourth emerging market event on Saturday, August 15, in the back of their building, 3613 Monroe St.

Twenty-two area businesses, as well as Lucas County Children Services, and a voter registration booth, occupied the back area of the church.

The brain child of the event was Toni Quinn, organizer. She told The Toledo Journal that they usually host two emerging market events a year, and most of the business owners are African American.

"A lot of the vendors here today are repeat vendors, which means they've attended

more than one of our events," she said.

Ms. Quinn said she would like to see the business owners network amongst themselves and continue to grow their businesses.

"What I've noticed, and what I like is the fact I've seen the business owners evolve over time," she said. "I've seen them become more professional with each event, and that's impressive."

Jessica Ross was admiring the commodities the vendors were selling. "I love these events. I always find items here that I can't purchase in stores. And I just like supporting black owned businesses."

Jeanette Martin is a business

owner. She explained why important.

she thinks events such as "I don't have a store front, the one she's so this is a good way to get attending are my business out into the

community. In fact, this is good for anyone just starting a business and who needs the exposure," she said.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Twenty-two business was a part of the emerging markets event.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

The brain child of the event, Toni Quinn, left, poses with Jeanette Martin, business owner



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Shonia Brooks, left, business owner, networks with another owner, Renee Schneider.

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# Meet the Black Architect Who Helped Design Washington, DC

Our nation's capital would not be the same if it wasn't for Benjamin Banneker, the Black architect hired by George Washington, the first President of the United States, to design the city of Washington, DC. It was actually Thomas Jefferson himself who highly recommended that Banneker be placed on the planning committee.

The former designer who walked off the job took all the plans with him, but Banneker was able to save the project by reproducing a complete layout of all the streets, parks, and major buildings. Not only was he able to do it from memory, but he was also able to do it in just two days!

How he came to be a genius architect

Banneker's grandmother was from England, but she immigrated to the Baltimore, Maryland area and married one of her slaves named Bannaky. Their daughter also married one of their slaves, and she gave birth to Benjamin Banneker in 1731. According to the law at the time, if the mother was free, the child, although bi-racial, would not have to become a slave.

So, Banneker was able to attend an elementary school run by Quakers, a religious group that broke away from the established Church of England. He later adopted many Quaker habits and ideas, and as a young man in 1753, he was inspired to create his own clock made entirely of wood. His invention was so impressive at the time that it propelled his reputation tremendously, and until today, he is known as the inventor of "America's first clock" - which kept perfect time for forty years.

His early accomplishments revealed how much of a genius he was and helped him to later become a reputable architect, mathematician, engineer, and even astronomer.

His fight against racism

During his life, Banneker was able to use his reputation to promote social



change for issues like racism, slavery, and war.

For nearly 10 years, he published an annual Farmer's Almanac, for which he did all the calculations himself. He once sent a copy of one of his Almanacs to Thomas Jefferson with a letter protesting that the man who declared that "all men are created equal" actually owned slaves himself. Jefferson reportedly responded favorably to his letter, but no political reform was ever taken.

His Almanac, however, won him fame all over the world.

# 11-Year Old Ballet Dancer Gets Scholarship Offer to Prestigious Dance School

Nigeria — Anthony Mmesoma Madu, an 11-year old boy from Nigeria whose video of him ballet dancing in the rain went viral on the Internet, has been handpicked by a prestigious dance school in New York City to receive a full scholarship.

Madu is one of 12 students mentored by Daniel Ajala Owoseni, a dance instructor and founder of the Leap of Dance Academy, a dance school in Lagos, Nigeria. Owoseni is teaching children for free and hopes to "change stereotypes around ballet dance."

Most recently, Madu posted a video of himself showing off his ballet skills outside in the rain. It eventually went viral and caught the attention of Cynthia Harvey, the artistic director of the ABT Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School of Dance.

Harvey then got in touch with Madu to offer him a full



scholarship to attend the ABT virtual Young Dancer Summer Workshop. Harvey also offered Owoseni to be a part of ABT's National Training Curriculum which helps instructors improve their skills more.

"A child who shows this much dedication, you just have to help. If there is anything the world has taught us, it's... that we all have a lot to learn from one another. Providing opportunities for Daniel and Anthony

is the right thing to do," Harvey told People.

Meanwhile, Madu hopes he can also inspire other young dancers, girls and boys alike, to try ballet dancing.

"The feeling that comes over me [when I dance] is as if I am dreaming," Madu said. "When people see ballet they think it is only for girls. How I want them to see me is when I am dancing, they know that there is a male ballet dancer."

# Tips to Help Erase Bullying This Back-to-School Season

(StatePoint) This back-to-school season may look a little different, but no matter what learning environment kids find themselves in this fall, bullying is a real cause for concern.

One in five kids aged 12 to 18 has encountered bullying, according to Stop-Bullying.gov. It can happen in person, online or even by text. In an effort to combat the problem, Pilot Pen launched the Erase Bullying for Good campaign in 2015 to help support bullying prevention programs in schools nationwide. For a smooth start to the school year, they are offering parents these back-to-school tips for facing the issue:

- Sometimes kids hesitate to share negative situations they're encountering. That doesn't mean they aren't showing signs that something is wrong. Pay attention to sudden changes in mood, sleep patterns, study habits or other signs of stress. Let kids know that if they're bullied or witness bullying, it's okay to come to you or another trusted adult, like a teacher, counselor or coach. A strong trust network helps kids feel safe and empowered.
- If your child is being bullied, reassure them that they're not alone and have done nothing wrong. Let them know you'll work through this together. Follow up with school officials to ensure the negative behavior is being addressed, especially if your child is being physically bullied or feels like they're in danger.
- The presence of digital devices and broad reach of social media means more avenues for bullies to reach their targets. Maintain an open dialogue with your child regarding online activity, and don't be shy about keeping an eye on profiles and posts.
- Being the target of bullying can feel isolating and overwhelming. If your child witnesses bullying, encourage them to be an "upstander," not just a bystander. This involves being an ally who stands up to bullies, and it can be as simple as seeking help from an adult, or as ambitious as starting an anti-bullying program at school.
- It can be disheartening to learn that your own child has engaged in bullying. Remember, bullying is a behavior, and behaviors can be changed. Help your child identify underlying feelings that may be causing them to act out in this way and encourage them to find positive outlets such as sports, art or journaling.
- It's important for kids to understand that the goal of bullying is to make the victim feel scared or powerless. Parents can equip children with the knowledge, resources and confidence they need to feel empowered in the face of bullying, as well as with tools that align with this cause. By the end of 2020, the Erase Bullying for Good campaign, through purchases of Pilot's FriXion Erasable pens, will have contributed more than \$450,000 to organizations committed to bringing bullying prevention and education programs to US schools. FriXion's unique, thermo-sensitive erasable ink writes smoothly and erases cleanly, so students, teachers and parents can write, create and express themselves fearlessly without the stress of written mistakes, empowering them to be upstanders through the written word. To learn more, visit [HelpEraseBullying.com](http://HelpEraseBullying.com).

Bullying is all too common. However, parents can play an active role in helping put a stop to it this back-to-school season and beyond.

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# RESPONSIBLE REOPENING

Dear TPS Families:

I hope you are safely enjoying your summer as best you can. It's hard to believe that the first day of school is just around the corner. While we are beginning the year in new ways, I have full confidence that together we will successfully achieve great things this school year.

I would like to thank you for entrusting your child's education to Toledo Public Schools. I especially want to say thank you for your continued patience as we navigate together the unprecedented circumstances our nation is facing. Please contact the principal at your child's school with any questions.

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Romules Durant  
CEO/Superintendent  
Toledo Public Schools

## 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

- ▶ The 2020-21 school year will begin in a **RED LIGHT STATUS**, which means all students in PreK through 12th grade will start the year entirely online. The first day of school for students in grades 1st through 12th is **Tuesday, September 8**.
- ▶ Electronic devices will be distributed the week of August 31st.
- ▶ The district will continue to monitor public health conditions before determining when it is safe and practical to have students return to school. The goal is to move to a yellow light scenario as quickly as possible.
- ▶ We realize that nothing can replace face-to-face learning. District leaders will continue to engage with families and staff members and make necessary adjustments to learning environments.



## EXPLANATION OF TPS LIGHT SYSTEM

Because of COVID-19, the district has developed the following color system to make it easier for students and families to understand the status of schools and district operations during the pandemic:



**RED LIGHT:** This indicates the most severe conditions are present and the district is presenting classes entirely online. Students will have access to all TPS learning resources and be provided a device and reliable Wi-Fi, as needed.

**FOOD DISTRIBUTION:**  
During a red light status, grab and go meals will be available for students. Breakfasts and lunches will be distributed on Mondays and Wednesdays, beginning on September 9th. More details, including locations and times, will be available soon.

**ATTENDANCE WILL BE TAKEN EACH DAY** - students are required to login for classes for their attendance to count.



**YELLOW LIGHT:** This means the district will follow a hybrid format, meaning students will attend school two days per week along with three days of online learning. Students will follow an A/B schedule either attending in-person classes on Monday and Thursday (Group A) or Tuesday and Friday (Group B). All students will have online classes on Wednesday to allow for a deep cleaning in all schools.

**Students and staff will be required to wear face coverings when we move to a yellow light status.**

**When students return to school in a yellow status, their vaccinations and immunizations must be current.**



**GREEN LIGHT:**  
School is in full session and there is no interruption or changes to daily operations.

**When students return to school in a green status, their vaccinations and immunizations must be current.**

### KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten students will begin a phase-in to school during the week of September 8th. Families will have a set appointment with their student's teacher.

**The first full day of virtual learning for all kindergarten students will be September 14th.**

### SCHOOL VISITATION

We are asking parents who have questions about the 2020-21 school year to call your child's school. At this time, we are limiting the access of visitors to our buildings – a virtual meeting is an option. All visitors will be required to wear a face covering and practice social distancing.

### VACCINATIONS

- Kindergarteners need their shots updated
- Seventh graders need a Tdap and meningitis vaccine
- Written documentation from a child's health care provider is required for school
- Parents or guardians should make an appointment with their children's doctor or they should plan to visit a Shots 4 Tots and Teens clinic.

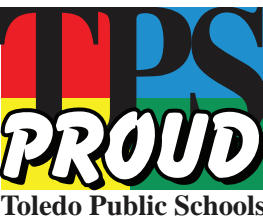
Call **419-213-4121** or visit [www.lucascountyhealth.com](https://www.lucascountyhealth.com) for details.

### CONTINUED UPDATES TO FAMILIES

Because of the fluid situation being caused by COVID-19, the district plans to share updates on a regular basis through its website ([tps.org](https://tps.org)), social media, the news media and phone notifications to families.

Please email principals or call the school directly with any questions.

It is extremely important that schools have up-to-date contact information for all families so they receive information in a timely manner. Please keep your information updated with your school directly to ensure you can access information as it is provided.



Facebook.com/TPSProud  
 Twitter.com/TPSProud

[tps.org/reopen](https://tps.org/reopen)



# Woodberry Park Playhouse to now host Celebration of Life Events

By: Leah Williams  
Journal Staff Writer

Woodberry Park Playhouse located at 5223 Hill Avenue is now hosting Celebration of Life Events for area families. Owner Warren Woodberry says the concept is a new segment of his facility. "Originally, the facility was to be open for meetings for women's issues, domestic violence, etc. But since the coronavirus and meetings are being limited to a smaller group with social distancing, I decided to activate a program for the celebration of life," Mr. Woodberry said.

While many have become accustomed to funerals

sometimes being referred to as "celebrations of life," Mr. Woodberry said the events his facility will host are very different from a funeral. "Normally, when a person passes, there's a funeral. It's usually a very somber event led by a pastor. People sit around and talk in very low voices. But a Celebration of Life is when the people get together and remember the good things about the person, the fun they had, what they said, music they liked, the food that they liked, [and] they bring videos and pictures."

Mr. Woodberry said this concept of a Celebration of Life are held in different parts

of the country and across the world including in aborigine countries like Australia, Madagascar, and China. After living in New Orleans for several years, Mr. Woodberry said he learned of and witnessed the long-held custom there. "In New Orleans, the

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Warren Woodberry 1-419-329-0361  
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PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Contact Warren Woodberry by email at [forwearestrangers@yahoo.com](mailto:forwearestrangers@yahoo.com) or by phone at (419) 329-0361 to book the space.

Celebration of Life is bigger than the funeral. They have a parade, and they party. Afterwards, they go to somebody's house to have food and share memories back and forth of what they knew about the person. What better way to honor a deceased than to come and enjoy the life they lived?"

Here in Toledo, Mr. Woodberry said his facility offers a warm afro-centric environment for families to celebrate their loved one in a joyous, non-traditional way. There is an outdoor area in addition to the indoor area, a food staging buffet, and audio visual equipment for sharing music and

video. The facility has also been set up in accordance with CDC guidelines for social distancing and safety during the coronavirus pandemic.

"Currently, we have to keep it down to under 16 people. It's up to the family to invite the 16 people they want there at the celebration. We also placed plastic partitions so that when you sit at the table to eat, you're divided by a plastic partition. You can see the people all around the table, but you cannot breathe on them," Mr. Woodberry said. "We are more compliant than almost any place that I have heard about. We also have manufactured clear plastic facemasks and have sanitizer available for our guests. We're trying to set it up to be as safe as possible."

Families interested in viewing the facility and/or booking a Celebration of Life event for their loved one should contact Warren Woodberry by email at [forwearestrangers@yahoo.com](mailto:forwearestrangers@yahoo.com) or by phone at (419) 329-0361.

# Girl Scouts Announces First Black CEO in the Organization's 108-Year History

Submitted

Judith Batty, a lifelong Girl Scout and board member, has made history as the first Black CEO of the Girl Scouts of the United States since the organization was established 108 years ago.

"When I was young, the Girl Scouts instilled in me the courage, confidence, and character that have guided me through my life and career. It is an incredible honor to bring those lessons back full circle to help the Girl Scouts navigate this transition," Batty said in a statement released to the press.

For so long, Batty was a Brownie in the Girl Scouts and eventually served two terms

on the National Board. She also served as senior legal counsel and an executive for a Fortune 100 corporation, where she became the first woman and first Black general counsel to one of the company's overseas affiliates.

Batty was handpicked by the GSUSA to take over the position after the previous CEO, Sylvia Acevedo, announced her resignation.



She will be the one responsible for leading the staff and council leadership in laying plans to for the organization's further improvement.

"As families across the country contend with so much uncertainty and upheaval, I am committed to ensuring that the Girl Scouts continues to offer a shelter in the storm – a place where all our girls feel welcome, can find community, solidarity, leadership opportunities and fun, despite the challenging moment we are all collectively living through," she said.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Judith Batty was handpicked to take over as CEO.



# The COVID Vaccine Decision Awaiting Us



By Glenn Ellis  
Wire Writer

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - COVID-19 has turned the lives of every man, woman, and child on the planet upside down, and continues to sweep around the world with a vengeance. Here in the United States the virus particularly vicious, as we watch in horror as it becomes crystal clear it's not going anywhere for the foreseeable future.

To date, the best understanding in the medical and scientific field is that transmission and spread of COVID-19 will not slow down until 50% to 70% of the population is infected. One prominent epidemiologist sums it up by saying, "We will be dealing with this forever".

The U.S. declared a national emergency in mid-March, and here we are almost six months later; the death toll continues climbing and the human toll of the virus in America has just passed 150,000 lives lost, with all indications that we will most likely exceed 200,000 deaths by the end of this year.

I know, some of you are reading and saying, "Doesn't this guy know that we are of brink of a COVID vaccine?" Sure, we might have a vaccine soon, but many experts are already stating with confidence, "some communities are not ready to accept it." Well, I belong to one of those communities, and let me tell why I believe they are right.

The majority of people with little, or no, experience nor insight to the lives of members of these communities, automatically default to the U.S. Public Health Syphilis Study at Tuskegee! Well, the issue is much deeper than that.

We make a huge mistake of resting all of our attention and focus on attributing the mistrust and suspicion on vaccines and Blacks on that one atrocity; there are a plethora of factors!

Perhaps (in the interest of time and space), these "factors" can best be summed up by an article in the Journal of Healthcare for the Underserved, "Several factors that affect the participation of African Americans in studies have been identified including elements of study design, logistical problems, low levels of health literacy, sociocultural factors, and specific attitudes that hinder research participation. Mistrust of academic and research institutions and investigators is the most significant attitudinal barrier to research participation reported by African Americans".

All of the issues and conditions that have disadvantaged poor and communities of color in this country, are the very things resulting in the disproportionate burden that Black people all over this country are experiencing with COVID. Discrimination; healthcare access and utilization; occupation; education, income, and wealth gaps; and housing: All, according to the CDC are associated with

more COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths in areas where racial and ethnic minority groups live, learn, work, play, and worship. Researchers at the CDC found that 47% of US adults have an underlying condition strongly tied to severe COVID-19 illness. By middle age, 50% of Blacks have hypertension, and 70 percent of retirement-age Blacks.

FDA data shows that Blacks, Latinos, Asians, and others are underrepresented in clinical research in the U.S. According to U.S. Census data, Black or African Americans represent 13.4% of the U.S. population, yet make up only 5% of clinical trial participants. The disparity is even greater for those of Hispanic or Latino origin. They represent only 1% of clinical trial participants.

If FDA approves the any drug or treatment, it will be prescribed for people of all different ages, genders, races, and ethnicities; so, it is essential that data reflects the effectiveness and potential side effects for all groups. So, if we are not included in the clinical trial, how in the world are we supposed to know that it's safe and effective for us? How do we make an informed decision?

Lastly, I have to address the issue of rationing. Who will even be offered the opportunity to get the vaccine first? How will we give priority to different groups or communities whose case load and death rate indicate that they are most vulnerable and deserve to be vaccinated first? In an ideal world, the elderly, Black and Brown communities, and essential workers. The overwhelming majority of the "essential workers" in this country are members of Black and Brown communities. Going to work, therefore, could mean being exposed to a virus that disproportionately targets those "essential workers" with underlying health conditions.

The social and structural factors that make Black and Brown people, in this country, especially vulnerable are long-standing and historical. What makes it all so frustrating and tragic is that some of the things that could have fixed them were not done...ever!

Let's do what's necessary, and for once focus on health literacy, equitable distribution of healthcare; and full inclusion and retention in the clinical research for COVID-19 vaccines.

I'll end with this. Health spending totaled \$74.6 billion in 1970. By 2000, health expenditures had reached about \$1.4 trillion, and in 2018 the amount spent on health had more than doubled to \$3.6 trillion. Yet, only one in 10 adults in the United States are health literate. Only about half of Americans say they would get a COVID-19 vaccine; 40 percent of Blacks say they won't, and 32 percent of Blacks say they are unsure. That represents 70 percent of all Black people! We deserve to be able to make informed decisions about our healthcare, just like everyone else.

Remember, I'm not a doctor. I just sound like one! Take good care of yourself and live the best life possible!

The information included in this column is for educational purposes only. I do not dispense medical advice or prescribe the use of any technique as a replacement form of treatment for physical, mental or medical problems by your doctor either directly or indirectly. Glenn Ellis, MPH is a Visiting Scholar at The National Bioethics Center at Tuskegee University and a Harvard Medical School Research Bioethics Fellow. He is author of Which Doctor? and Information is the Best Medicine. Ellis is an active media contributor on Health Equity and Medical Ethics. For more good health information visit: [www.glennellis.com](http://www.glennellis.com)

## Are You Eligible for This COVID-19 Study?

Submitted

(StatePoint) A new COVID-19 study is currently enrolling patients, and researchers believe it has the potential to change the course of the virus around the world.

The study is examining the effects of Colchicine, a widely available and inexpensive anti-inflammatory drug on one of the most common, and most debilitating side effects of SARS-CoV-2—acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).

ARDS is caused by an intense inflammatory response that results in what's called a cytokine storm. Cytokines are molecules that signal to inflammatory cells that there's a problem within the body that needs their attention. Any normal immune response involves cytokines. In a cytokine storm however, they're released in larger numbers than necessary, resulting in an immune response out of proportion to the threat at hand, whereby immune cells attack healthy tissues.

Cytokine storms in COVID-19 are common and potentially do more damage than the virus itself, causing some patients to develop pneumonia or ARDS, which are life-threatening lung conditions. Many such patients require admission to ICU wards to be provided with respiratory support via mechanical ventilation.

One research team believes they may have the solution, however. Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif, director of the Research Centre at Montreal Heart Institute, professor of medicine at the University of Montreal, and primary investigator of the study, believes that these cytokine storms seen in COVID-19 patients are manufactured by a tiny inflammatory cell part, or organelle, called inflammasome. Colchicine, targets that one tiny organelle.

"More than 10 years ago, it was shown that the most closely related virus to SARS-CoV-2, which causes COVID-19, is Sars-CoV-1. That's the virus that caused SARS caused 15 years ago," says Dr. Tardif. "It's very close to SARS CoV-2 and it was shown in this very elegant paper that SARS CoV-1 directly activates inflammasome."

Dr. Tardif and his team are currently enrolling

patients with a positive COVID-19 diagnosis for a Colchicine study. If his hypothesis is correct, it could change the way COVID-19 is treated globally. Colchicine is a widely available, inexpensive drug that has already been in use for years in the treatment of conditions like gout, familial Mediterranean fever (FMF) and viral pericarditis. The side effect profile is well-known and side effects are rare.

The groundbreaking study is called COLCORONA. Like most studies, patients are assigned either a course of the study medication or a placebo for 30 days. However, this study is unique as it is contact-less, helping protect health care workers and the population at-large from unnecessary risk of virus exposure.

To enroll, patients can call the hotline to speak with a dedicated healthcare professional who will explain the study and verify their eligibility, as well as to receive and sign the informed consent document. The study medication is then delivered to the patient's door within four hours and the patient is remotely followed for 30 days.

To enroll or learn more, visit <https://en.colcorona.net> or call the 24-hour Hotline at 1(877) 536-6837, which is available in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French.

The COLCORONA trial is currently available in a number of countries as well as the New York Tri-State area, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Miami, Dallas, and Houston, with plans to open in Jacksonville, Gainesville as well as throughout Arizona, Mississippi, and Alabama. The team also plans on expanding the study into Georgia and the Carolinas. The trial is funded by the Government of Quebec (Canada), the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, part of the US National Institutes of Health and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and Sophie Desmarais, Montréal philanthropist, daughter of the late business mogul, Paul Desmarais Sr.

Interested patients should consult their health care providers for more information and to find out if study materials are available in their area.

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**Job Ad: Care Coordinator – Community Based**

Neighborhood Health Association (NHA), a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), is the largest community health center system in Northwest Ohio with partnerships that include ProMedica, Mercy Health, and University of Toledo Medical Center. NHA has grown from a single location in 1969 to 12 medical and dental clinics throughout Lucas County. Today we operate multiple health centers including pediatrics, adult medicine, dental services, and health care for the homeless, women's health center, senior centers and a full service pharmacy with lab services on site.

For more than 50 years, NHA has placed a strong focus on prevention and empowering individual responsibility in managing their health care and overall well-being. Our services are acutely responsive to the needs of everyone throughout the communities we serve, providing excellent care and the best health practices. The Care Coordinator – Community Based Outreach staff primarily work in the neighborhood settings in which marginalized and populations vulnerable to poor health outcomes reside.

**Skills/Qualifications**

- High school diploma or GED.
- Community Health Worker or Associates degree in social work or related field is desirable but not necessary.
- Must have a sense of urgency in getting things done, be able to multi-task, enjoy a fast paced environment, be results focused, be innovative, creative especially in solving problems, enjoy relationship building and engagement with others, must be extroverted, confident, enthusiastic, persuasive and politically savvy.
- A valid Ohio driver's license and auto insurance with an acceptable driving record and reliable transportation and willingness to travel extensively throughout Lucas County.

Send resume to [resume@nhainc.org](mailto:resume@nhainc.org)



SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING...

Don't Throw Your Own Pity Party and Then Attend

By James A. Washington Jr.  
Co-Publisher of the Dallas Weekly News,  
NNPA Newswire Contributor

While I was trying to remember where I heard or read about the concept of letting your hate for someone else control your life, I realized that maybe someone needed to read about it. So, here it is. Now I am not talking about just not liking someone. I am talking about not being able to control your emotions when it comes to a particular person.

I mean having complete and utter disdain for another human being, so much so, that even when you don't want to think about them, you can't help yourself. That person occupies too much of your mental space and saps your waking time and energy.

Look here. If you can't stand someone, can't get along with someone, are still hurt after someone left you long ago, you really need to let it go. I guess it

exemplifies a very practical approach to "Let go and let God." The premise is simple enough.

Without forgiveness in your heart, you are forever bound and chained to that which you despise most, are fearful of and have been seriously hurt by.


Have you ever been around someone who continues to relive a past relationship, a broken heart, wrongful termination, missed opportunity or a personal slight, over and over and over again? That's all they talk about.

When they see something or hear



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED/ ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA

It's a mind game and it's your mind. Paul says, "Be transformed by the renewal of your mind." Romans 12:2. Let God reshape your thinking into what you can be instead of what they you say are not.



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something that reminds them of that someone or that thing, you know what's coming. And they expect you to join them in the pity party they've thrown for themselves. In fact, it's the same one they threw yesterday and the day before and you know it's the one they'll throw tomorrow. Maybe

you've attended a pity party or two, even thrown on for yourself.

Without forgiveness in your heart and mind and your spirit, you're essentially doomed to be shackled to what scarred you in the first place. My bible says the truth shall set you free. And the truth is, you better let that madness go, so you can live a life of freedom.

You can never be the person God wants you to be, if you continue to let these people and events and circumstances have that kind of power over you. That's right, power! Whether you want to acknowledge it or not, you are letting your thoughts rule your behavior, your attitude and your outlook. That's too much power to give to anyone or anything who is so negative to who you are in the eyes of

“Without forgiveness in your heart, you are forever bound and chained to that which you despise most, are fearful of and have been seriously hurt by.”

God.

It's a mind game and it's your mind. Paul says, "Be transformed by the renewal of your mind." Romans 12:2. Let God reshape your thinking into what you can be instead of what they you say are not.

The truth is God can't or won't even deal with you until you comply with the rule of forgiveness. He says, "If you come to the altar with your gift and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift and go be reconciled with your brother; then come and offer your gift." Matthew 5:23. You got to let it go. You have to in order to claim your freedom, your peace.

Until you do, you can't receive all that God has for you. My point is that the process begins from within. It takes intestinal fortitude to forgive one's enemies in the face of their attacks, old and new. But you must. I know you can. Just remember this. When you do let go and let God, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." He knows it's in you because He put it there. May God bless and keep you always.

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**ASK YOUR FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

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

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

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**SUBSCRIBER SERVICES MANAGER LUCAS COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE**  
  
Lucas County Sheriff’s Office is accepting applications to fill the position of the Subscriber Services Manager. Applications accepted until August 28, 2020. Additional information regarding the duties are available on the Lucas County web site [www.co.lucas.oh.us](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us)). Click on “Apply for a Job” and then select “Subscriber Services Manager” from the list to read more or apply.  
  
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BLACK HISTORY FACTS

**Satchel Paige** was the first African-American pitcher to pitch in the World Series. He was selected to the Hall of Fame in 1971.  
  
**Usain Bolt** is the first man in history to set 3 Olympic records at the same games. He still holds the title as the fastest man in the world.  
  
**John Arthur "Jack" Johnson** was the first African-American world heavy weight boxing champion. During his career, he had 104 wins and 13 losses.  
  
The Boston Celtics were the first team to draft an African-American player. **Charley "Chuck" Cooper** from Duquesne University was the first African American to be drafted in the NBA.  
  
**Wendell Scott** was the first African American to compete full time in a NASCAR series. He was also the first to win at NASCAR's highest level.  
  
~~The first African-American~~ to coach an NBA team was **Bill Russell**. He coached the Boston Celtics in 1966.  
  
“I know I am black. Beautiful with meaning.” Sonia Sanchez  
  
“I find, in being black, a thing of beauty: a joy; a strength; a secret cup of gladness.” Ossie Davis  
  
“I am dripping melanin and honey. I am Black with-out apology.” Upile Chisalapic

INVITATION FOR BIDS

INVITATION FOR BIDS  
REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICES  
IFB20 - B016

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive bids for Refuse Collection Services. Received in accordance with law until August 27, 2020, 3:00 PM ET. see documents: [www.lucasmha.org](http://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.  


HELP WANTED

LUCAS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities is now hiring, and offers competitive compensation and a comprehensive benefits package. We are currently recruiting for the following positions:

- Speech/Language Pathologist
- Service & Support Specialist
- Recreation Specialist

Please visit our website at [www.lucasdd.org](http://www.lucasdd.org) for additional details and to apply. All candidates must submit a resume and cover letter along with an employment application via the online application process. We are an equal opportunity employer. If in need of ADA accommodations, contact us directly at 419-380-4033.

PUBLIC NOTICE  
CITY OF TOLEDO  
DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS  
CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT  
for  
2019 Program Year – July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

The City of Toledo (COT) is directed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to notify the general public of the undertakings, activities, and accomplishments completed in and at the close of each Program Year through a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The CAPER provides an assessment of the federally funded programs monitored by the COT’s Department of Neighborhoods: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Neighborhood Stabilization Programs (NSP), and Lead Hazard Control & Healthy Homes Grant.  
  
The Draft CAPER will be available for review beginning Monday, August 31, 2020, on the website of the following entities:  

Department of Neighborhoods One Government Center, 18th Floor Downtown Toledo, Jackson & Erie Streets website: <a href="https://toledo.oh.gov/services/neighborhood-and-business-development/">https://toledo.oh.gov/services/neighborhood-and-business-development/</a>	Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority 435 Nebraska Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43604 website: <a href="http://www.lucasmha.org">www.lucasmha.org</a>
Office of the Mayor One Government Center, 22nd Floor Downtown Toledo, Jackson & Erie Streets website: <a href="https://toledo.oh.gov/government/mayors-office/">https://toledo.oh.gov/government/mayors-office/</a>	Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board 1946 N. 13th Street, Suite 437 Toledo, Ohio 43604 website: <a href="http://www.endinghomelessness.toledo.org">www.endinghomelessness.toledo.org</a>
Clerk of Council One Government Center, 21st Floor Downtown Toledo, Jackson & Erie Streets website: <a href="https://toledo.oh.gov/government/city-council/">https://toledo.oh.gov/government/city-council/</a>	Toledo-Lucas County Public Library 325 Michigan Street Toledo, Ohio 43604 website: <a href="http://www.toledolibrary.org">www.toledolibrary.org</a>
The Fair Housing Center 432 N. Superior Street Toledo, Ohio 43604 website: <a href="http://www.toledofhc.org">www.toledofhc.org</a>	Lucas Co. Board of Developmental Disabilities 1154 Larc Lane Toledo, Ohio 43614 website: <a href="http://www.lucasdd.info">www.lucasdd.info</a>

  
A public hearing on the CAPER is scheduled as follows:  
**Thursday, September 3, 2020, 5:30 p.m. by Virtual Hearing**  
**Virtual Link:** <https://toledo-oh-gov.zoom.us/j/97282277221>  
  
The City of Toledo will also receive comments from the public in writing beginning Tuesday, September 1, 2020, through Tuesday, September 15, 2020, at the following address:  

CITY OF TOLEDO  
DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS  
2019-2020 CAPER  
ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER, SUITE 1800  
TOLEDO, OHIO 43604

  
For reasonable accommodations or additional information, please contact Monica Brown, Administrative Analyst IV, Department of Neighborhoods at (419) 245-1400.



# Three Powerful Mind-Sets for Embracing the Moment



By Pastor W. Eric Croomes  
Wire Writer

Embracing change and challenge is a struggle for most of us. Why? Because, as humans, we are wired to secure the path of least resistance. Given the choice between easy and hard, we invariably choose easy. The Psalmist prays, Teach us to number our days, so that we may gain a heart of wisdom. (Psalms 90:12)

There are benefits to embracing our challenges, to learning from our greatest change. Here are three powerful mind-sets for getting the most of your life – right now, right where you are, in your present season.

**Mindset#1**  
**Do Not Trust Appearances**  
Most people lose hope for the future because they are held hostage to the appearances of the present. Our brains are wired to fix attention on what's immediately in front of us. It's part of our 'flight or fight' instinct. Debt, relationship conflict and bills are the usual suspects. Do not trust appearances. Believe that you are in your season, although there is evidence to the contrary. It requires hard mental labor to do this. This does not mean that you bury your head in the sand.

Rather, it means that you do not allow what's in front of you to impede your momentum.  
**Mindset#2**  
**Focus on the small things**  
I've always been a 'big picture' guy. I'd work on creating the panoramic view and would allow the details to fall where they may. I soon learned, though, the value of small things and how they lend so much promise to my present season. When was the last time you smelled a rose? Held a newborn baby in your arms? Engaged a stranger?

Appreciate the small things. Go for walks in the park. Feed the ducks. Have lunch with a kindergartner. Write a letter to a long-lost friend. The value of small things is therapeutic; it acts to relieve us of the constant craving for the spotlight.

**Mindset#3**  
**Grow Don't Just Go Through**  
A client recently said to me "I'm going through" when I asked how she was faring of late. Her words struck a chord in me because so many people do just that when faced with their most difficult challenges: they go through but they don't grow through. There's a profound difference between the two.

Engage your struggle. Make it your determination to gain and glean as much self-knowledge as you can from your challenges. Merely 'going through' means you are reduced to being a spectator to the game of life – your life! Become a participator. Learn new things about yourself. Most of our growth as humans comes during our time of lack, not plenty, our season of change, not normality.

There are benefits to embracing the moment!  
Pastor W. Eric Croomes can be reached at [PastorCroomes@Outlook.com](mailto:PastorCroomes@Outlook.com)

# ASK-Y LLC Begins Production on Cutting Edge TV Series "Smokin' Good"



Detroit, MI, August 14, 2020 – ASK-Y LLC, a TV/Film production company based in Detroit, has begun production on their highly anticipated show, "Smokin' Good," a scripted drama series that is based in the world of cannabis.

The series chronicles the journey of August Good, who turns his life around from an illegal past, to a legal present; in hopes of achieving a prosperous and wealthy future for himself and his family. August believes that cannabis is the golden ticket to the prosperity he seeks, but the path is full of many hurdles to overcome. Enemies from the street, jealous family members, bitter ex-girlfriends, backstabbing partners and unscrupulous political forces, just to name a few.

"What's so enamoring about this show is that it's semi-autobiographical," says Andre Watson, co-executive producer. "It details my successes, my failures, and everything in between as a cannabis entrepreneur. The average person has no idea what this industry is really about. They primarily feed into the stigmas attached to cannabis, and that in turn affects their perception. This show will give them a taste of what the industry is, and from a very unique per-

spective. You rarely see a black man's point of view with cannabis, outside of being arrested and locked up from it."  
Shiek Mahmud-Bey, actor/director/producer, who credits include The Inner Circle, The Martyr Maker, Chasing After You, and many others, portrays the main role of August Good. "What intrigued me about this project was the subject of cannabis, and the main character's determination to make it in this business," says Mahmud-Bey. "It's also a classic, from-the-streets-to-the-boardroom tale. Those type of stories never get old, and the writing for this one is incredible."  
Ken Williams (pen name Octavis Gray), writer of "Smokin' Good," believed it was a hit when he first pitched the concept to Andre and Shiek. "I've known Andre for a long time, and the stories he shared about his experiences in cannabis were so amazing and detailed. I was so intrigued that I told him we should turn his stories into a TV show. Then I told him I knew Shiek, and he could play the title role. So, the three of us crafted this masterpiece to portray to the masses."  
Shooting begins in October. Smokin' Good will be filmed in Detroit and surrounding areas.

## Ask Rusty

# About Special Extra Earnings for Military Service

Dear Rusty: How do I find out if I get any extra earnings for my military service of 28 years (Navy, 1982-2011), when I begin collecting my full Social Security retirement benefit next year (in July 2021)? Signed: Retired Veteran

Dear Retired Veteran: First, as a fellow veteran, I want to thank you for your 28 years of military service, but I need to clarify what those "special extra earnings" are. That's not an additional amount which will be added to your monthly Social Security benefit as a bonus for serving. Rather it is an additional dollar amount which has already been added to your earnings record for the years you served in the military.

Those receiving active duty military pay have contributed to Social Security since 1957, and that record of your military pay is already on file with Social Security. But a long time ago Congress decided to bump up the recorded earn-

ings of those with earlier military service to make it easier for them to qualify for Social Security, and to possibly provide a slightly higher benefit when the earnings from those years in the military are included in the computation of SS benefits.

To compute your benefit, Social Security uses the 35 highest earning years from your lifetime earnings record (adjusted for inflation). So, if your earnings during the years you were in the military are among the 35 years used to calculate your SS benefit, those military earnings were supplemented with an additional amount to make them up to \$1200 per year higher than you were actually paid. And that higher earnings amount possibly means a higher Social Security benefit because it could make your lifetime Average Indexed Monthly Earnings (AIME) higher (a higher AIME translates to a higher benefit amount).

In your case, an extra \$100 for every \$300 in your actual military pay should

have been added to your earnings record for each year you served between 1982 and 2001 (maximum of \$1200 for each year).

For service years after 2001, no additional "special credits" are awarded. To verify this, you may wish to obtain a copy of your lifetime Earnings Statement from Social Security and verify that your recorded earnings for 1982 – 2001 are \$1200 more than you were actually paid while serving. And if not, you should supply a copy of your DD-214 when applying for your Social Security benefits. You can obtain a copy of your lifetime Earnings Statement online if you have a personal "my Social Security" account at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount); otherwise you'll need to request a copy directly from Social Security.

For general information applicable to those who served prior to 1978, computation of their "special extra earnings" were computed a little differently. For those veterans, the maximum an-

nual "special extra earnings" supplement was still \$1,200, but the method for computing their extra earnings was to give an extra \$300 for each calendar quarter of active duty military service. But in any case, the special extra earnings are an addition to your military pay record on file with Social Security, not an additional dollar amount added to your Social Security benefit.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website ([amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadviser@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadviser@amacfoundation.org).



# TARTA Welcomes University of Toledo and Local High School Students Back to School by Meeting Their Mobility Needs

## Rocket Lift and Additional Bus Services Also Resumed

Submitted

Although it will be an unusual school year for University of Toledo and local high school students due to COVID-19, one thing is remaining the same.

The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) will provide students with bus service beginning Aug. 17.

TARTA operates the Rocket Lift service with the Blue and Gold routes on the University's main campus. Service runs Monday through Friday on school days only. Real-time bus tracking for Rocket Lift is available through the mobile PassioGO app and can be downloaded for free at the App Store and Google Play.

For charter and parochial high schools located within the Toledo Public School District, students may

use TARTA's fixed-route bus lines or Call-A-Ride service depending upon the school's location. A complete list of routes and time schedules serving area schools are available at <http://tarta.com/services/school-services/>. Students and parents are also encouraged to register for TARTA's text alerts to receive the latest updates about detours and service updates at <http://tarta.com/sign-up-for-alerts/>.

There are currently no fares for riding TARTA's services as part of the Authority's safety protocols to reduce the spread of COVID-19. TARTA has also installed plastic

barriers around drivers; instituted a 10-passenger limit per bus for social distancing inside the vehicles; and requires all riders to wear a facial covering. Complimentary facial coverings are provided by TARTA drivers to riders if needed.



PHOTO CREDIT / WWW.TARTA.COM/

# Speeding Fines Doubled on 25 MPH Residential Streets in the city of Toledo

## Safety over speed.

Slow down on residential roads to protect your neighbors. Double fines are now in effect for roads where the speed limit is 25 mph.

**TOL**  
City of Toledo

Excess revenue will fund parks improvements and speed reducing measures.

Submitted

Toledo city council voted this week to double speeding fines on the city's residential streets where the posted limit is 25 miles per hour.

Excess revenue generated will

be used for parks improvements and speed-reducing measures.

The plan includes goals to curb speeding throughout Toledo, including a citywide analysis of speed limits, improving signs, and building safety features and speed reductions into street design.

A neighborhood with less speeding is a more kid-friendly, bike-friendly, disability-friendly, and pedestrian-friendly neighborhood.

More information at [toledo.oh.gov/safe-streets](http://toledo.oh.gov/safe-streets).

## New revenue generated goes back into your neighborhood through a new, dedicated fund with limited approved uses.

Ordinance O-271-20, City of Toledo 2020.

Money can be used for

Speed infrastructure  
Including additional funding for enforcement, traffic studies, signage, and traffic calming measures.

Park improvements  
Including additional funding for equipment, cleanup and maintenance, beautification, and preservation.

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# Don't let an undercount erase the ones you love.

Communities are as rich and diverse as their needs. That's why completing the 2020 Census matters. Every household counted contributes to their community's funding for critical public services like healthcare, special needs, and public transportation. Census takers are now visiting homes to help households respond to the 2020 Census. All census takers will be wearing masks and following local safety guidelines. This is your chance to make a change, don't miss it! **It's not too late.**

Complete the census at:  
**2020CENSUS.GOV**

Paid for by U.S. Census Bureau.

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