



INSIDE

QUESTION

Thoughts on Trump
downplaying
COVID-19?



EDITORIAL/NEWS

Open Season



LIFESTYLES/NEWS

Padua Center
hosts meeting in
Kwanzaa Park

EDUCATION/
A'PARENTLY

HBCU Students
for Biden



EVERYBODY IS
SOMEBODY IN
THE TOLEDO
JOURNAL



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

First to sign the mural are, from front to back, Mac Earl Roberts "Mike," DeAndre Ware, former boxing champion, and Malik Smith, organizer.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Some of the organizers of the event are from left; Arthur Henry, Devonne Fagan, and his son Devonne Fagan Jr., Gretchen DeBacker, David Ross, and Malik Smith.

Ex-gang members, city officials unite to end spike in killings

By Jury Taalib-Deen
Journal Staff Writer

Former gang members and the city of Toledo launched a collaborative effort to put an end to the recent spike in violent offenses and killings in the city. That initiative started on Saturday, September 12 at Smith Park, which exists, within the borders of Lawrence Av. and Fernwood, and Forest St., in central Toledo; an area far too familiar with crime.

Hoods Everywhere Achieving Love, (HEAL), is the name of the collaboration, which started at Smith Park, but will rotate around the city.

Former gang members, the Chief of police, and members from city government, as well as, free food for all in attendance, headlined the day's agenda.

Further, officers from the Toledo Police Department, voluntarily attended the event, and interacted with people from the community.

Malik Smith, one of the organizers, told The Toledo Journal that the event is just a start to a bigger effort, in which he and others will meet with gang members, and attempt to put an end to the killings.

"We're all feeling the pain of the killings.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

George Kral, chief of police, and Danny Martinez, a lieutenant with the Toledo fire Department, also spoke. Mr. Martinez encouraged more people to join the police and fire department. "I'm from the hood. I feel comfortable here. I grew up poor, and had ADHD and dyslexia, but I was able to succeed, and you too can succeed." David Ross, and Malik Smith.

I have young children, so I'm really feeling the pain of what's going on," he said.

Mr. Smith went on to say that there's already steps being taken to have an event that focuses on gang members, and encouraging them to stop the violence. The lofty goal of being able to bring that particular population together is something

he said will be accomplished.

"I'm from the streets, and I know how to communicate with them," he stated.

Gretchen DeBacker, legislative director for the Mayor's Office, said the event is definitely not the last one.

"We'll be going around to different neighborhoods spreading the message of peace, and hoping to end the killings," she said.

In addition to the speakers, food, and social interaction, Cassandra Rousos, a local artist, was commissioned to paint a mural that will be signed by all present, and stay in the park.

The colors of dark blue, fading into a lighter blue represent people coming out of darkness, and walking into the light, with the dove in the center, representing peace, is how she described what her mural represents.

"This is a much needed event, that will be helpful at bringing people together," said Alona Brank.

"Toledo receives a lot of negativity, and so this event is good at showing the positivity that exists, especially for people around my age of 21," said Deana Claydorne. "We really need something like this more often; like every three months."



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Cassandra Rousos described her mural as people coming out the darkness, and into the light, and embracing peace. The mural will stay in the park.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

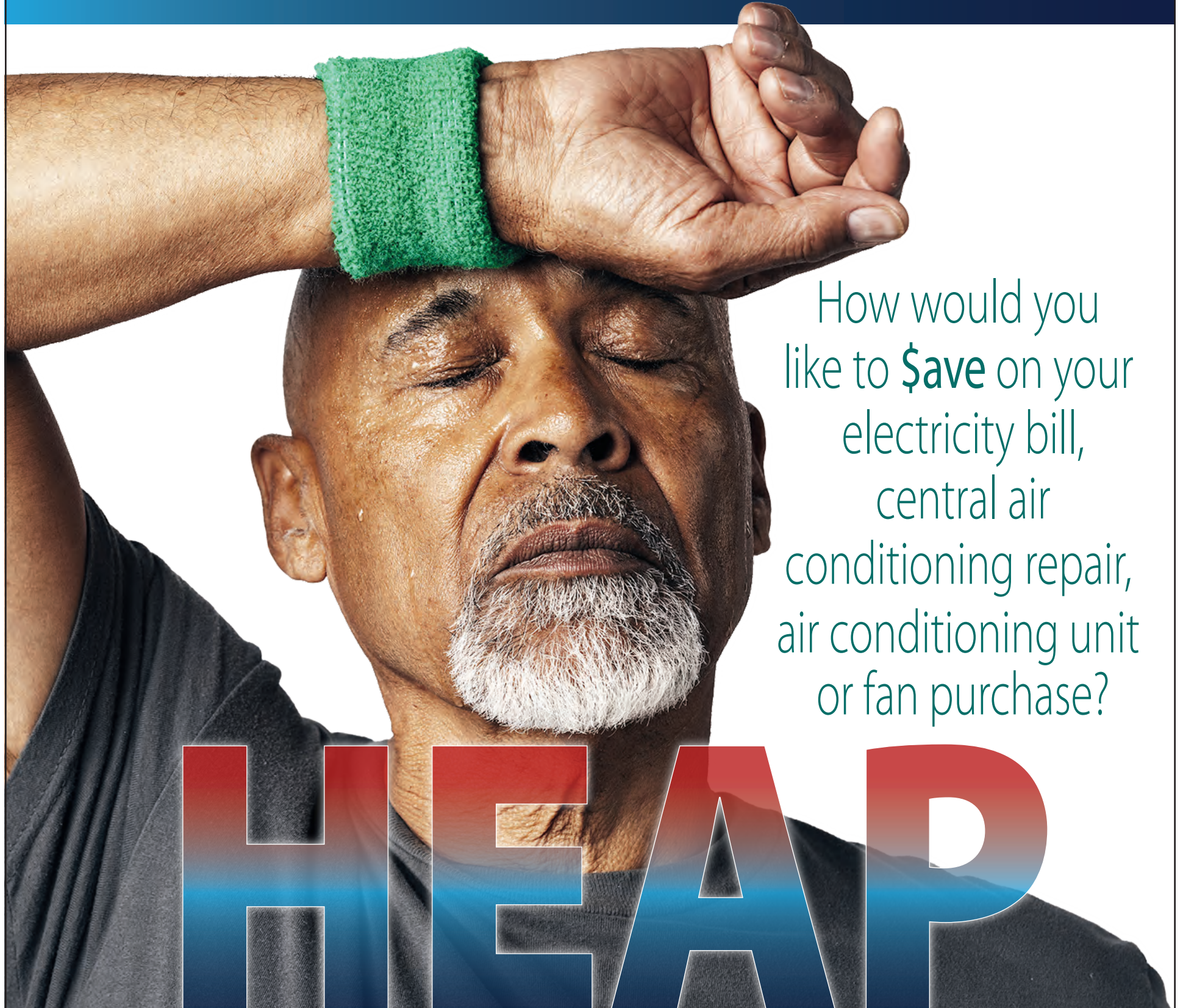
Deana Claydorne, front, and Alona Brank both said the event was very positive and needed.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Representing the Mayor's Office and grilling hot dogs is Gretchen DeBacker.

AREA OFFICE ON AGING OF NORTHWESTERN OHIO



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The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) Summer Crisis Program assists households with someone age 60 and older in the home with an income of \$1,835.34/month or less for a single-person household or \$2,479.73 or less for a two-person household. This program is going on now through September 30th. For more information, call 1-866-504-7392.



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Quality, Independent Lives

Call: 1-866-504-7392 or Click: www.AreaOfficeOnAging.com

What are your thoughts on finding out President Trump, in February, and on recording, acknowledged the seriousness of Covid-19, but choose to downplay it, and outright just lied, which subsequently, resulted in deaths, unemployment, and nationwide chaos, amongst other things?




Eric Hollingsworth
Factory Worker

Since his family is protected, I believe he doesn't care about the American people. He downplayed it at the expense of the people, while protecting corporations, so they can make more money.




Byron Daniels III
Entrepreneur

I'm not surprised, especially by the way he has been leading the country. Although he has done some good things, in the matter of the Coronavirus, he shows us he doesn't care about the American people.



Willie Knighten
Re-Entry Support Specialist

President Trump has shown us that he doesn't care about the safety of the people, which shows us the need for leadership change. It really is sad that, in this day and time, a person can become President without having political experience, which is a disservice to the American taxpayer.



Braniya Wuinn
Skill Up Coach

I remember when he referred to the coronavirus as a democratic hoax; then, later, saying Covid-19 was under control. He has shown us that he lies, and is unfit for the presidency. The Obama administration had things in place to protect us from a pandemic and Trump dismantled those things.

Ongoing Events

To Assist The Family Of Justin Hughes

A donation account has been opened at Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union (TUFCU) where donation can be made "In Memory of Justin Hughes". Money collected will be given the family of Justin Hughes to assist with burial expenses.

Justin was just 15 years old when he was shot and killed while walking home from the Collingwood McDonalds on August 16, 2020. He was a sophomore at Jesup Wakeman Scott High School and was a member of the Football program.

Donations can be made through any TUFCU customer server teller at 1441 Door, Toledo Ohio 43607 or by calling the Credit Union at 419.255.8876

Now Through October
Every Tuesday "Tasty Tuesdays"

Back By Popular Demand, Grace Community Center Garden Cooperative Is Hosting "Tasty Tuesdays" Free Food Box & Produce, Chef-Prepared Delicious Food Samples. Face Mask/Social Distancing Required. Join us in the Garden 406 West Delaware, 419-248-2467, 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Voter Registration, Census, COVIC-19 Testing Information, Free Masks, & Financial Literacy Information Available.. Partnering with Ohio Coalition-Black Empowerment, Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union and Health Partners of Western Ohio.

Every Tuesday and Saturday
Toledo Masjid Al-Isalm Through Tarbiyyatul Haqq Ministries - Food Pantry

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

Senior Centers Closed

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

Every Tuesday
Monroe Street Neighborhood Center's Free Food Pantry

Open from 11:00am-1:00pm. Everyone is eligible to benefit from this service regardless of income or circumstance. No identification required, no appointments necessary. Protein, canned goods, fresh produce and baked goods are available. Items may vary weekly.

Now Through Oct. 31st
Toledo Black Artist Coalition - Art in the Age of Soidarity Exhibition

The Toledo Black Artist Coalition is proud to present

our first venture, bringing together working artists of diverse backgrounds to explore the meaning of solidarity. Launch: Art in the Age of Solidarity is asking the question; how can we maintain the building of cultural unity durig this time of social turmoil? Today, people from all walks of society are threading together to create real change. This exhibition is a symbolic offering that looks deeper at our current state and attempts to visualize a new society and the existence of an undefended space. In reality, Toledo Ohio has a rich legacy of African American artists who formed collectives to provide resources and education within the greater community. We want to thank Owens Community College for providing space and resources to continue this work of bringing new voices into the crucial conversation around race in America.

The Walter E. Turhune Gallery
30335 Oregon Rd, Perrysburg, OH 43551
Gallery hours - Monday-Friday - 10:00 - 4:30
Gallery Director - Shelby K. Stoots
shelby_stoots@owens.edu

Sept. 17th and Sept. 24th
CSRN Weekly Virtual Teach In Series
at <https://www.facebook.com/csrrtoledo>

The teach ins will be weekly reviews of areas of Toledo Policing. The event will be a history of policing and an introduction to critical race theory. Each of these teach ins will be virtual and will allow the public to view, comment and ask questions to the presenters. No cost and open to the public via our Facebook Page. Features: Ra'Shya Ghee, JD/MBA & Dr. Patrice McClellan, Associate Professor, Author
Contact: Ruth Leonard 419-329-8177
Bro. Washington Muhammad CDCA, OCPSI 419-973-0248 mobile

Sept. 17th Through Oct. 8th
Discover Toledo's Art, Nature, & History By Walking, Wheeling, Or Riding

Walk & Roll is a month-long event, kicking off Thursday, that explores UpTown and its connected neighborhoods. Each week celebrates a weekly theme of art, culture, history, nature, and these themes intersections while practicing social distancing and promoting exercise. Each week will also have relevant prizes as well as a grand prize drawing at the end! Register at <https://bit.ly/UptownRoll>, by calling 567-585-0469, or by stopping by Up Town Green on September 17th., 1904 Madison Ave., Toledo, OH 43604. The first 100 participants to sign up will receive a packet with an activity booklet, maps, a pedometer, and art supplies to get you started! Also, please participate in a way that keeps you and others safe and follows local officials' guideline regarding COVID-19

Sept. 18th - Sept. 30th
Alzheimers Assoc. Virtual Education Programs

Alzheimer's Association to Hold Virtual Educational Program on Variety of Topics for the Community and Families Impacted by the Disease All programs are free and open to the public. Registration is required. To register for the program, call 800.272.3900

- **Sept. 18 - 1PM** *Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body - Tips From the Latest Research*
- **Sept. 21 - 6:30PM** *10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's*
- **Sept. 23 - 3:30PM** *Living with Alzheimer's - Middle Stage for Caregivers Part 3*
- **Sept. 24 - 3PM** *Effective Communication Strategies*
- **Sept. 24 - 6:30PM** *Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia*
- **Sept. 28 - 2PM** *10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's*
- **Sept. 29 - 2PM** *10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's*
- **Sept. 29 - 6:30PM** *Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia*
- **Sept. 30 - 5PM** *Understanding and Responding to Dementia-Related Behaviors*

Pamela Myers, MAOM, BSN, RN| Program Director | Alzheimer's Association Northwest and Central Ohio | cell: 567.302.3612 | pjmyers@alz.org | www.alz.org/nwohio | www.alz.org/centralohio

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 on the following dates:

- Sept. 19 10 AM-4PM at the Toledo Zoo, Anthony Wayne Trail, parking lot, 2 Hippo Way
- Sept. 26 9AM-1PM at Friendship Park, 2930 131st St.

For more information please call Engage Toledo at 419-936-2020 or visit www.toledo.oh.gov.

Sept. 19th
Fall Open Air Community Expo

Aldersgate UM Church 4030 Douglas Rd. Toledo, OH, Saturday, from 10-4pm and the U.S. Census Bureau will be in attendance. Contact Ms. Carter for more information at (419) 367-9765

Sept 19th and Sept. 26th
Democracy Days

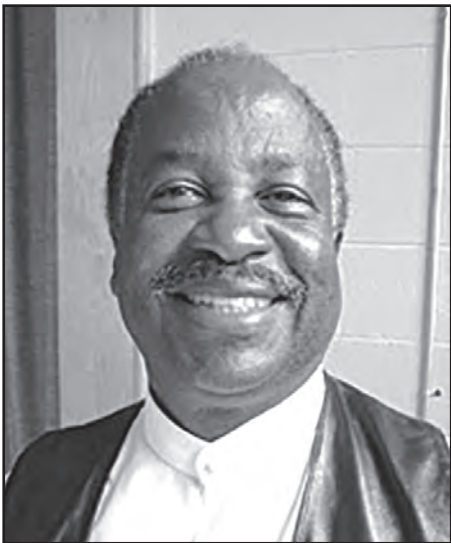
Register to vote, get an absentee ballot, and/or complete the Census at Democracy Days!

- All Library locations - 10 AM until noon

Saturday, Sept. 19 - Saturday, Sept. 26

Continued on page 12.

AND NOW...The Return of The Menacing Negro!



By Lafe Tolliver,
Attorney

Well, you know it and I know it. It had to happen, sooner or later. But it is happening sooner than later because Herr Trump is beginning to sweat bullets about recent polling showing that he is losing to Joe Biden.

President Trump, with a clear history of racial antagonisms and a mouth full of racial invectives, is going to his "trump" card.

This is the card that Trump will play until election day and his recent statements indicate a mind that is verging on the unthinkable and that is, Trump is going to go where no president since Woodrow Wilson has gone.

Trump is going to openly and blatantly use racial fear mongering as his bridge over troubled waters to reach and instill abject fear and loathing into any nervous white suburban voter.

If you noted his vile commentary on a recent Fox News interview with his ally, Laura Ingraham, Trump intentionally used the scenario that if you allow, "low income housing" (a code word for black folks) into white suburbia, that property values will plummet and crime will increase and most importantly: women (white of course) will be at the mercy of hyper sexed black men.

Now, he did not link the words, black men and white women but his commentary was clear and unmistakable that Trump is fomenting up the surf and foam of racial paranoia amongst white suburban voters and especially, the fair, gentle and pure white woman.

Trump wants suburban white men to know that if black folks move to "their" suburbs, that their wives and daughters are directly in harm's way.



In harm's way of being accosted and possibly assaulted by big black burly bucks who are unemployed and are lazily living off the taxpayer's dime in low income housing.

Now Trump knows that such fabrications are the product of his sick and demented mind but, he is aggressively employing those motifs in his attempt to install fear and loathing for minorities and to associate "those" people with Joe Biden.

Trump is shameless in his scathing attack on black people. Ever since he and his now deceased father were sued by HUD for racial discrimination in housing in the NYC area, Trump is still unrepentant of his racial hostilities.

When he railed against black football players taking a knee, he screamed to get those, "Son of B**ches" off the field! As you know a b**ch is a female dog.

Trump had no qualm in calling black women, dogs. None whatsoever and much less calling African countries, "sh**hole nations."

If you have ever seen the racist film, Birth of a Nation, you may recall the scene wherein a fair white damsel was being pursued by a black man seemingly with the intents to do her harm.

This damsel, in distress, leaps off a cliff rather than face the clutches of a black male.

This is the scene that Trump wants to resurrect in the fantasies and phobias of whites who live in white suburbia.

“ Trump is going to openly and blatantly use racial fear mongering as his bridge over troubled waters to reach and instill abject fear and loathing into any nervous white suburban voter. ”

Trump's whispered message is that if "they" come to "your" suburbs, "they", as a bonus, are coming to date and mate with your wives and daughters!

Trump knows the history of racial sexual politics in this race crazed society. He knows that

If he raises the specter of black males roaming white suburbs in their malls, bars and restaurants, that white folks will be alarmed and fearful.

Trump delights in racial chaos and if he can have ethnic groups plotting against each other and he is viewed as the only person who can save the suburbs from marauding bands of lustful black males, he will get the white suburban fear vote.

Is that shameful and despicable? Sure it is but you are dealing with an unhinged person (thanks to the book

title by the same name by the author Omarosa Manigault) who has no scruples about using racial demagoguery to win another four years in the White House.

Trump's method of campaigning is by any means necessary and if that means traducing people of color so be it. To him, ascribing negative images and character traits to black men and women is a case where the end justifies the means.

Do not think that the recent sky-high purchasing of guns and ammo is for naught.

America is turning into an armed camp and that doomsday scenario is furthered along by the divisive rhetoric of President Trump.

Sadly, the nigh eighty-one percent of white evangelicals who voted for him and the feckless GOP leadership, have taken sleeping pills and have no concern about Trump's poison tongue; and his innate ability to create out of whole cloth whopping lies, lies that have no basis in a smidgen of truth.

Trump is saying to the white suburbs, "Only I can protect you from those menacing hordes who want to trample over your white picket fences and drive through your clean streets, cars without mufflers and have BBQ picnics on the front lawn with boom boxes!"

You get the picture.
Lafe Tolliver, Attorney
Comments to: tolliver@juno.com

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Member of National Newspaper Publishers Association,
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Open Season



By Dr. E. Faye Williams, Esq.
Wire Writer

(TriceEdneyWire.com) — I read with interest that our neighbors directly to the south, in Virginia,

were experiencing an uptick in the numbers and presence of coyotes. Although dog-like in appearance, these predators threaten outside pets and other small wildlife. In rural areas, wild hogs destroy millions of dollars of commercial agriculture. Even normally non-threatening animals have become problems. Locally, Dulles Airport programs hunt for deer to reduce the potential for aircraft-deer collisions on runways! The expanding range of what's called "nuisance" animals has created increasing problems.

Except for programmed hunts, elimination of these nuisance animals is open to individual citizens. There're no limits or special requirements. A farmer experiencing crop damage may kill as many offending hogs as his judgement considers necessary. Unlike "game" animals, there are no closed seasons – it is ALWAYS open season for nuisance animals. Sadly, it appears as

though many in this country have come to emotionally accept the fate of the nuisance animal as comparable with the fate of African Americans and other people of color.

The recurring murders of people of color demonstrate a callous disregard for the lives and humanity of the victims. This is not new! Further back than anyone living can remember, African Americans were brutalized and murdered without regard for their circumstance or humanity.

In memory, there was no or little difference between law enforcement and the KKK. The badge you saw during the day was replaced by a hood at night. In Black communities, law enforcement's only mandate – "control the niggas!" This mandate gave complete license to law enforcement to be as brutally creative as they chose. The Black community was at the complete

continued on page 5

Is the Economy Rebounding?



By Julianne Malveaux
Wire Writer

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - On the Friday before Labor Day, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released its monthly report, The Employment Situation. It reported good news – the unemployment rate dropped to 8.4 percent, higher than in February before the pandemic hit. We added 1.4 million jobs last month, the highest gain since the corona recession began. But while this is progress, it is no cause for celebration. The Black unemployment rate remains double-digit and has not dropped as rapidly as either the overall rate or the white rate, 7.3 percent. Eleven million fewer people held jobs in August than in March. And the "rebound" is not spread evenly across populations. The top 10 percent have already recovered. The bottom 40 or 50 percent are still struggling.

Democratic Vice-Presidential nominee Senator Kamala Harris told CNN that "one in five mothers is describing her children as hungry." The lines at the food banks have not gone down, and in some communities, they are getting longer. Once thought to be relatively immune to the virus, small-town America is now being hit, and forcefully. The challenge is that there are fewer hospitals or health care facilities in rural areas. Economic recovery is dependent on the development of a COVID vaccine, which the current President says will be ready in October or November. More realistic, such as Dr. Anthony Fauci, say a vaccine might not be ready until next summer or



“

The bottom line is that the macro indicators may show some progress, but a deeper dive is far less optimistic. Hundreds of thousands of small businesses, including 40 percent of Black-owned companies, have closed, resulting in permanent job loss. Some of the hardest-hit industries include the leisure industries -- travel, dining, and more.

”

even later.

The bottom line is that the macro indicators may show some progress, but a deeper dive is far less optimistic. Hundreds of thousands of small businesses, including 40 percent of Black-owned companies, have closed, resulting in permanent job loss. Some of the hardest-hit industries -- travel, dining, and more. Women, especially women of color, heavily populate some of these industries. While COVID hit women of color harder than others, recovery will not make these women whole.

The economy will not regain its position from early March. Indeed, the slight comeback in leisure industries has been partly a function of people enjoying safer, outdoor dining. The colder it gets, the more likely it is that people will choose to pass up dining out in favor of eating at home. People bought more groceries between March and August, not wanting to risk the possibility of contagion. Many have cautiously begun to eat out again, but restaurants lose money when they reduce seating be-

cause of social distancing.

By mid-September, we will know whether the Labor Day weekend will spark another COVID outbreak. And if there is another outbreak, count on the economy to slow again. Congress could at least prevent some of this if the Senate passed the HEROES (Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions) Act, which would extend unemployment insurance, provide relief for cities and states, and provide money for schools. The HEROES legislation has been caught in partisan drama, with a bipartisan group of Congressional representatives passing it, but with Senate Majority leader Mitch McConnell failing to even put the legislation up to a vote. Some Republicans dispute the need for the HEROES Act because of the latest unemployment rate data. But many states and local jurisdictions will lay off public servants – teachers, police officers, sanitation workers, transportation workers, health care workers, and others, pushing the unemployment rate back up.

The August Employment Situation report has more good news than bad. It indicates that for the fourth month in a row, things are improving. But this improvement is not enough, and it could be much better if our legislators would offer some assistance, especially to those at the bottom. Even though 45 has made the economy his issue, repeatedly proclaiming that he created “the best economy in the world” until COVID, his inability to grasp the many ways that COVID will continue to plague the economy raises issues about his sagacity and discernment.

Don’t celebrate the rebound yet. Don’t stop the pressure either. The Senate must pass the HEROES Act or face the consequences. If we want economic recovery AND economic justice, we must vote.

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is an economist and author. She can be reached through www.juliannemalveaux.com. For more information please visit www.juliannemalveaux.com or email booking@juliannemalveaux.com

Open Season

continued from page 4

whim, mood or mercy of any law enforcement person they might meet.

The woes of Black folks were increased by the activities of the “night riders,” the Ku Klux Klan or similar organizations. Their extra-legal activities gave a new dimension to controlling the Black community. Their activities are legendary. A Black person was fearful of looking at a white person in a manner that could be perceived as insolent or disrespectful. This was dramatically demonstrated by the fate of Emmitt Till. No wonder most Blacks cowered and looked down in the presence of a white person. The foundation of their control was fear.

Considering how far we’ve come in time, most would pray and think that we are long past those times. They would be wrong!

Michael Brown, Sandra Bland, Tamir Rice, Eric Garner, Laquan McDonald, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and now, Jacob Blake are more notable names on

a long list of victims of police violence. Neither age, gender, nor social status distinguishes one from another. Their common characteristic is their race. Whether a part of the culture of their agency or the result of an established personal bias, officers involved with those individuals have chosen “nigga control” above “serving and protecting.”

In addition to the travesties of the police, we’re now menaced by a new generation of “white supremacist vigilantes.” The most recent example is given in the person of Kyle Rittenhouse. He is 17. He’s a resident of Illinois and lived 21 miles from Kenosha, WI. His mother drove him and his AR-15 to Kenosha where he, according to an interview (with him), was there to do his “duty” to protect property and maintain order. This terrorist killed two and severely wounded a third. Right-wing analysts and #45 weigh in with the opinion Rittenhouse’s activities were appropriate and his actions were taken in self-defense.

If this trend is called “Making America



Great Again,” I want no part of it and will VOTE to do my part toward eliminating the leadership which condones and encourages this type of violence.

(Dr. E. Faye Williams is President of the National Congress of Black Women and she hosts “Wake Up and Stay Woke” on WPFW-89.3 FM.)

Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken urges Post Office to restore decommissioned mail-sorting machines

Submitted

Last month, the Board of Lucas County Commissioners unanimously approved a resolution urging Congress to provide up to \$25 billion in additional funding for the United States Postal Service.

The funding, the Commissioners said, is essential to support the Postal Service for the timely and prompt delivery of medicine, social security payments, rent checks, the exchange of goods, and mail-in absentee ballots, which will be a crucial component in November election. The ongoing coronavirus pandemic further amplifies the need for on-time mail delivery in our country, they added.

"The defunding, the deactivation of sorting and processing equipment, and the delay in the delivery of incoming and outgoing mail is a concern for everyone in this country," said Commissioner Pete Gerken, who personally learned about the roadblocks in mail delivery from his letter carrier. The employee told the commissioner that restrictions on overtime had forced him to leave mail at the post office that needed to be delivered on his route.

As part of a nationwide protest to support funds and full functioning of the Postal Service, Commissioner Gerken joined representatives of three local U.S. Postal Worker unions on Saturday, August 22, for the #SaveThe Post Office Rally outside the Main Toledo Post Office on St. Clair St.

During the rally, Commissioner Gerken asked rally attendees to participate in an experiment to test how long it takes to receive a letter that was mailed from the collection box outside the Main Toledo Post Office. Rallygoers deposited self-addressed envelopes at the collection box outside the post office. They were asked to return the postcard inside the envelope after they received the letter in the mail.

The results of the tabulation show that it now takes, on average, up to nine days for the post card to reach its destination (4.5 days one way) - a turnaround in delivery time that only took two to three days several years ago when employees at the Main Toledo Post Office were at full staffed operationally, which operated equipment that sorted mail based on the first three numbers of the five-digit ZIPCODE.

"What if that was your absentee ballot and you wanted to make sure your vote counted in the election," Commissioner Gerken said. "Why does it take seven to nine days to get a letter delivered and sent back (when mailed out the next day for delivery) when it use to take only three days."

Commissioner Gerken continued: "If we can get the Post Office to reinstate the three-digit operation back in Toledo using the sorting machines currently available but decommissioned, then the mail will get delivered on time and to the correct location. One of those machines are the machines that will process your ballots. Getting the sorting machines back into operation will cut mail delivery time in half."

Martin Ramirez, President of the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) Local 170, said: "Returning 'three-digit' operations in both flats and letters here in our beloved Toledo P&DC (Processing and Distribution Center) on 435 S. Saint Clair St. is the vital link in returning the premium mail standards of one to two day mail service that all of Northwest Ohio had relied on before all the changes past and present have been implemented."

PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Woman Who Called Michelle Obama an Ape is Going to Prison for FEMA Fraud

Submitted

(Black News) - Pamela Taylor, the 57-year old white woman who made a racist comment about former first lady Michelle Obama on Facebook two years ago, is now going to prison for embezzling more than \$18,000 in FEMA disaster benefits.

Taylor, the former Clay County development director, has recently been sentenced to 10 months in federal prison and to pay \$10,000 fine. After serving her sentence in jail, she also has to undergo home confinement for the first 2 months and supervised release for 3 years.

In 2016, Taylor also made national headlines after comparing then-first lady Michelle Obama to an ape. In a Facebook post after Trump's election, she said, "It will be refreshing to have a classy, beautiful, dignified First Lady in the White House. I'm tired of seeing a Ape in heels."

She was then suspended from her position as Clay County development director but returned to work about a month after.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Former first lady, Michelle Obama



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Pamela Taylor

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In the FEMA embezzlement case, Taylor reportedly claimed her primary residence was damaged by the flooding in West Virginia that damaged other homes and buildings and killed at least 23 people in June 2016. She also said that she stayed in a rental unit after that.

However, it turned out that her home was not damaged and that she was still living there, not in any rental unit as she have initially claimed to receive more than \$18,000 in FEMA disaster benefits.

"The flood was a natural disaster. Stealing from FEMA is a man-made disaster," U.S. Attorney Mike Stuart said in a news release. "The floods of June 2016 were historic and devastating to thousands of West Virginians. Lives were lost. Too many of our brothers and sisters lost everything. FEMA dollars are critical but limited. Stealing critical FEMA dollars is a crime — literally and figuratively. Taylor's fraud scheme diverted disaster benefits from our most desperate and vulnerable, those most in need of help."

Padua Center hosts meeting in Kwanzaa Park

By Journal Staff Writer

Last month, the Board of Lucas County Commissioners unanimously approved a resolution urging Congress to provide up to \$25 billion in additional funding for the United State Postal Service.

The funding, the Commissioners said, is essential to support the Postal Service for the timely and prompt delivery of medicine, social security payments, rent checks, the exchange of goods, and mail-in absentee ballots, which will be a crucial component in November election. The ongoing coronavirus pandemic further amplifies the need for on-time mail delivery in our country, they added.

"The defunding, the deactivation of sorting and processing equipment, and the delay in the delivery of incoming and outgoing mail is a concern for everyone in this country," said Commissioner Pete Gerken, who personally learned about the roadblocks in mail delivery from his letter carrier. The employee told the commissioner that restrictions on overtime had forced him to leave mail at the post office that needed to be delivered on his route.

As part of a nationwide protest to support funds and full functioning of the Postal Service, Commissioner Gerken joined representatives of three local U.S. Postal Worker unions on Saturday, August 22, for the #SaveThePostOffice Rally outside the Main Toledo Post Office on St. Clair St.

During the rally, Commissioner Gerken asked rally attendees to participate in an experiment to test how long it takes to receive a letter that was mailed from the collection box outside the Main Toledo Post Office. Rally-goers deposited self-addressed envelopes at the collection box outside

the post office. They were asked to return the postcard inside the envelope after they received the letter in the mail.

The results of the tabulation show that it now takes, on average, up to nine days for the post card to reach its destination (4.5 days one way) - a turnaround in delivery time that only took two to three days several years ago when employees at the Main Toledo Post Office were at full staffed operationally, which operated



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL
Sister Virginia holds a green pepper, as she points out the other items being grown.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL
Officer Donald Scott talks to those in attendance about crime in the area, and some of the preventive measures that can be taken to help detour it.

equipment that sorted mail based on the first three numbers of the five-digit ZIPCODE.

"What if that was your absentee ballot and you wanted to make sure your vote counted in the election," Commissioner Gerken said. "Why does it take seven to nine days to get a letter delivered and sent back (when mailed out the next day for delivery) when it use to take only three days."

Commissioner Gerken continued: "If we can get the Post Office to reinstate the three-digit operation back in Toledo using the sorting machines currently available but decommissioned, then the mail will get delivered on time and to the correct location. One of those machines are the machines that will process your ballots. Getting the sorting machines back into operation will cut mail delivery time in half."

Martin Ramirez, President of the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) Local 170, said: "Returning 'three-digit' operations in both flats and letters here in our beloved Toledo P&DC (Processing and Distribution Center) on 435 S. Saint Clair St. is the vital link in returning the premium mail standards of one to two day mail service that all of Northwest Ohio had relied on before all the changes past and present have been implemented."

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HBCU Students for Biden and Black Students for Biden: ‘Four More Years of Trump Means Death for Many African Americans’

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

Just how crucial will the engagement of Black students, including those from historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) be in the 2020 election?

Black Students for Biden and HBCU Students for Biden say that it could mean the difference between life and death for many African Americans.

During a 30-minute livestream this week, sponsored by the Biden-Harris campaign and featuring actress Yandy Smith-Harris, an enthusiastic but focused group of young African Americans declared the race between Democratic Presidential Candidate Joe Biden and President Donald Trump a battle not just for the soul of the country, but for the lives of Black people.

“So many of our civil liberties are under attack, including the right to vote, the right to assemble, to be who we are and to exist equally,” said Smith-Harris, the star of “Love & Hip Hop: New York.”

“Our basic freedoms are under attack, so it’s incredibly important right now, more than ever, to vote for Biden. I feel like we are back in 1963, so many of the things that Martin Luther King, Jr. fought for are prevalent today.”

Smith-Harris contin-

ued:

“We have to realize that our vote can change our lives. It is that serious. This administration has made blatant racism okay, and it has no concern for Black lives.”

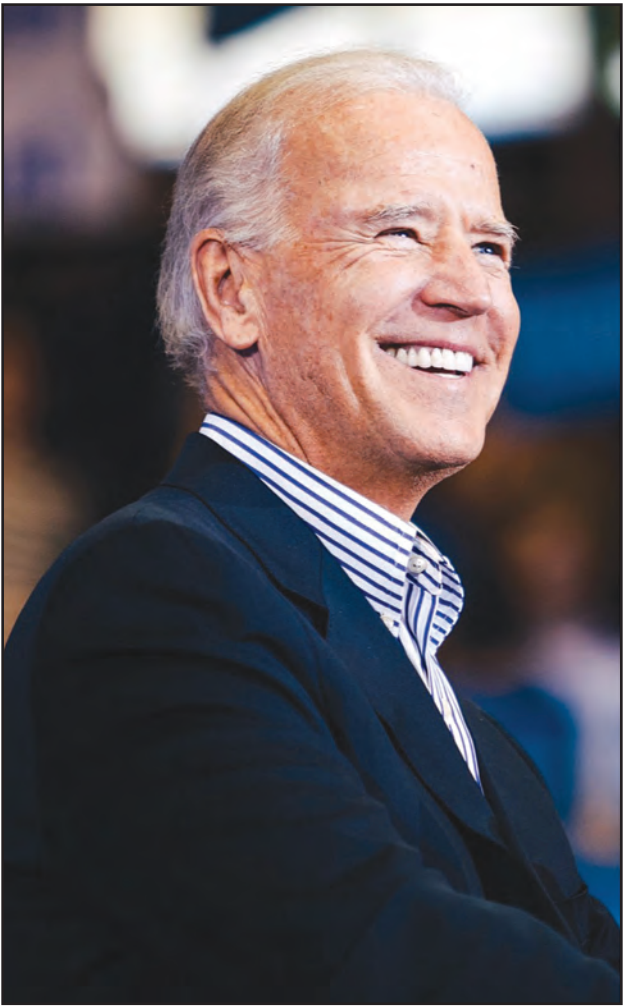
“We are traumatized that we can’t walk outside or sleep in our beds, if we continue with this administration, where you can be called a patriot when you kill someone.”

“We can’t continue to live in fear with the police’s militarization and where Black lives don’t matter. If we don’t change the face of what democracy looks like in this country, there will be no more democracy.”

“There is no way we can continue with another four years of this administration where we are dying and being incarcerated at crazy amounts. We have to stop this, there’s no room for error and there’s, no room for [uncertainty].”

Hosted by National HBCU Students for Biden Co-Chair William Fairfax, and Lubna Sebastian, the National Director of Students for Biden, the event kicked off a series hosted by the Black Students for Biden and HBCU Students for Biden.

Organizers said the forums provide opportunities to highlight the easiest ways students can get involved, why Black youth is so important in making change, and how to



mobilize their friends and families for the election.

As a Black student and senior at Duke University, a primarily white institution (PWI), Adrianna Williams, the co-chair of Black Students for Biden, said the odds are stacked against her and other African Americans each day.

“Several of our PWIs are institutionally racist,” Williams declared.

“I know for the past four years, as much as I love my experience at Duke and the memories and friends, as a Black woman, I wake

up every day knowing that I’m going to be faced with professors who don’t see me as I am and don’t see that my voice matters.”

Williams, who lists Shirley Chisolm, the first Black woman elected to Congress, as her role model, said it’s a fight each day for equality. “My role model said if you don’t have a seat at the table, bring one,” said Williams, noting that she had paraphrased Chisolm.

“Activism takes on different forms. Activism at a PWI is a way

for Black students to support one another and remind ourselves that we matter,” Williams exclaimed.

“We are fighting for our rights to thrive and prosper in these spaces every single day.”

Williams added that among her concerns about the Trump administration is inadequate healthcare for African Americans.

“The state of public health in this country and health issues that disproportionately affect Black people and people of color concern me,” Williams said.

“We have Black women in this country who are disproportionately affected when it comes to maternal mortality. I’m going to medical school, and I want to become a doctor because it scares me that this country fails to recognize that Black women are dying at such high rates during childbirth.”

Biden’s plan for Black America includes reducing the high African American maternal mortality rate, expanding access to reproductive health care including contraception and protecting the constitutional right to choose, and doubling the nation’s investment in community health center which provide primary, prenatal, and other important care, and whose patients are disproportionately members of racial and ethnic minority groups, including African Americans.

As president, Biden has pledged to invest \$70 billion in HBCUs to close the funding disparity between them and PWIs. In the plan, \$10 billion would go toward funding retention, enrollment, and job placement for alumni.

“I come from the Harlem projects, and it was a challenge. So, I think I understand right now, being on the other side, a little older, how important [it is] for this community to speak out on what they’re dealing with,” Smith-Harris said.

“I remember when I went to Howard University and wondered how I would pay for it, how I would pay rent and survive. I graduated during the mid-recession, and now we’re facing the same thing with the coronavirus pandemic with people losing their jobs,” she noted.

Smith-Harris continued:

“Black voices are loud and vital. I went on an HBCU campus tour, and there are so many Black youths who were so real about where they were, so many people are making decisions over the lives of young Black people who have no idea of what they’re everyday challenges are.”

“They weren’t exposed to just how vital their voices are on the legislative level. They realized how vital they are. Black youth have a very important role in remixing our democracy and the principles and practices because they are now at the forefront.”

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Colorectal Cancer Takes the Life of Far Too Many People and Black Men are Disproportionately Affected

ATLANTA, Aug. 31, 2020 /PRNewswire/ -- Following the devastating news of the death of the world's beloved Black Panther, Chadwick Boseman, from colorectal cancer, many were left asking why – and how. What most don't know is that Chadwick Boseman sat at the intersection of where colorectal cancer rates are among the highest and rising the fastest.

He was a young man. And he was a Black man. Colorectal cancer affects far too many in this country and disproportionately impacts the Black community, with among the highest rates of colorectal cancer of any racial/ethnic group in the U.S. African Americans are 20% more likely to get colorectal cancer

continued on page 9

COVID-19 and Sickle Cell Disease

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - September is Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month, and COVID-19 has given the need for awareness more urgent than ever.

The CDC has issued this statement a couple of weeks ago, as it pointed out that people of any age with certain underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Like, seemingly, everything else about COVID-19, Blacks/African Americans are carrying a much heavier burden as it relates to those with sickle cell disease. Thirty years ago, the U.S. sickle cell anemia population was estimated to be 32,000 –50,000.

Today, assessing the number of individuals with SCD nationwide with sickle cell disease is, for all practical purposes, is impossible, since there is no coordinated system of data collection and reporting of the prevalence and death rate from this disease. Sadly, because of this, the number of individuals who died with or of sickle cell disease or even the number of individuals that go unreported, is unknown.

Back in 2010, a study in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine pointed out that the average age of death (39 years) and the proportion of individuals surviving to age 45 years (35%) were lower in 2006 than the proportion of individuals surviving (50%) before 1994. This is in spite of the presumed improvements in health care in this country.

Many of us don't understand that sickle cell disease is a genetic condition. People who have it have inherited certain genes in their blood from their parents. If a child inherits a sickle cell gene from each parent, they have sickle cell disease. If a child inherits a sickle cell gene from one parent and a normal hemoglobin gene from the other has sickle cell trait rather than sickle cell disease. Most people with sickle cell trait don't have symptoms but can pass the gene to their children. Sickle cell disease (SCD) disproportionately affects Black/African Americans in the United States as well as forebearers from sub-Saharan Africa, the Western Hemisphere (South America, the Caribbean, and Central America), and some Mediterranean

countries.

Symptoms and complications of sickle cell disease are different for each person and can range from mild to severe. However, people with the condition inherited a mutation that causes red blood cells to transform from a round shape into a sickle shape (a process called "sickling"). Healthy, round red blood cells are able to move easily through the blood vessels to carry oxygen to all parts of the body. Sickle-shaped red blood cells, however, are not able to flow through blood vessels as easily: They can get stuck and clog blood flow, which can inhibit oxygen delivery, damage blood vessels and lead to inflammation.

The symptoms of sickle cell disease include abdominal pain, bone pain, shortness of breath, delayed growth, fatigue, fever and chest pain. A bone marrow transplant may cure the disease; otherwise, treatment focuses on symptom management.

Due to the impact other infections can have on people living with sickle cell (including pneumonia and acute chest syndrome) anyone with a sickle cell disorder who has a worsening cough, difficulty in breathing or fever.

Thanks, in large part, to Dr. Mary T Basset, a physician during the American civil rights movement, who protested the fact that sickle cell disease research, screening, and treatment received little to no funding and was neglected because patients were of mostly African American descent. As a result, one of the civil rights movements' achievements was the establishment of the Sickle Cell Anemia Act of 1972. Since then, there has been more public awareness of the genetic disorder and it has led to more funding towards finding a cure for the disease. Now, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), spends about \$100 million on sickle cell disease research each year.

The Case Western Reserve School of Medicine and University Hospitals reports that, according to the NIH, "the only cure for sickle cell disease is a bone-marrow transplant, a procedure in which a patient receives bone marrow from a healthy, ge-

netically-compatible sibling donor. However, transplants are too risky for many adults, and only about 18% of children with the disease have a healthy, matched sibling donor".

There is some very promising hope, as a result of the years of research. A young African American woman, Jennelle Stephenson, 28, who was born with sickle cell disease, fully recovered after receiving genetic treatment as part of an NIH clinical trial that might hold the key to a cure of this disease. This is truly exciting news!

In the meantime, we must especially remember that those with sickle cell disease are particularly vulnerable, and we have an obligation to ensure that they are protected and receiving the best of care.

COVID-19 can cause severe inflammation and injury to the lungs. This can take a greater toll if you have sickle cell disease, a group of inherited red blood cell disorders.

Be sure to stay well hydrated, wash your hands frequently and avoid close contact with other people who have symptoms of a respiratory infection!

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 Fellow in Research Bioethics and Writing. 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

Colorectal Cancer Takes the Life of Far Too Many

continued from page 8
and 40% more likely to die from it than other groups. Black men have the highest incidence rate.

"Colorectal cancer is the second deadliest cancer in the country," said Durado Brooks, M.D. vice president of prevention and early detection at the American Cancer Society. "This disease is ravaging the Black community and it is as important as ever that everyone has access to and is receiving the recommended screenings. Even during the coronavirus pandemic, necessary screening tests remain available to prevent the disease or find it at an early, more treatable stage."

In addition, rates of colorectal cancer in younger age groups is rising. In 2020, 12% of colorectal cancer cases will be diagnosed in people under 50 – about 18,000 cases. Since the mid-1980's

adults age 20-39 have experienced the steepest increase in colorectal cancer rates.

The American Cancer Society recommends that people with average risk begin regular screening at age 45.

Those with higher risk should consider – with their physician – earlier screening. Higher risk factors include:

- family history of colorectal cancer or certain types of polyps
- personal history of colorectal cancer or certain types of polyps
- personal history of inflammatory bowel disease (ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease)
- known family history of a hereditary colorectal cancer syndrome such as familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) or Lynch syndrome (also known as hereditary non-polyposis colon cancer or HNPCC)
- personal history of radiation to the abdomen (belly) or pelvic area to treat a prior cancer

In addition, anyone with concerning abdominal or gastro-intestinal symptoms such as a change in bowel habits that lasts for more than a few days; rectal bleeding; blood in the stool; cramping or abdominal pain; weakness and fatigue; or unintended weight loss should consult with their doctor.

Screening can prevent

continued on page 10

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Susan G. Komen® Toledo And Findlay Race For The Cure Events Going Virtual For 2020

Submitted - TOLEDO, Ohio — Susan G. Komen Northwest Ohio®, part of the world's leading non-profit breast cancer organization, announced that the Findlay and Toledo Race for the Cure events in 2020 will be held virtually. The decision to conduct its signature fundraising series of 5Ks and family walks virtually this year was made in the interest of protecting the health and safety of its participants from COVID-19, many of which are breast cancer survivors and those living with the disease.

"We are heartbroken to not be gathering with our friends and supporters

in person this year, but our number one priority is keeping breast cancer survivors, those living with metastatic disease, and others with compromised immune systems safe," said Mary Westphal, Executive Director of Susan G. Komen Northwest Ohio. "Despite this change, we are still planning an incredible virtual event, and we need everyone's help! COVID-19 may have taken a fun weekend from us, but breast cancer robs our friends, loved ones and neighbors of their health, their hair, their bodies, and, for some, even their lives. We can't stop, because breast cancer doesn't

stop. That's why we need our community to rise up, register, fund raise, and then celebrate the fight against this terrible disease."

Registration fees. Registration is \$30 for Adults and Survivors/Those Living with Metastatic Disease and \$20 for Youths (18 years old and younger). Anyone already registered for either 2020 Race will be automatically registered for the 2020 Toledo and Findlay Virtual Race for the Cure events.

Registered participants will receive: A commemorative 2020 Findlay or Toledo Virtual Race for the Cure T-Shirt, a virtu-

al fundraising tips, a gift sheet with gifts from community partners valued at more than \$30, a free Komen Northwest Ohio gift (while supplies last), and downloadable Race materials like bibs, window signs, yard signs, and more. New: participants now have the ability to opt out of receiving a T-shirt

Breast cancer survivors and those living with metastatic disease will additionally receive a pink feather boa and customized Race Materials.

Race Packets. There will be Race for the Cure registration and packet pick up at the Franklin Park Mall Food Court on

Saturday, Sept. 19 and Sunday, Sept. 20 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Race Day. On what would have been our Toledo Race day, Sunday, Sept. 27, all participants are invited to tune into WTOL 11 on TV or online via the live stream for a celebration of the virtual Findlay and Toledo Race for the Cure events. We'll showcase your amazing photos and videos from social media, recognize top fundraisers, and celebrate survivors!

Further information for virtual event details may be found at komennwohio.org/virtualor by calling the Komen Northwest Ohio

office at 419-724-2873 during business hours, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Susan G. Komen® is the world's leading non-profit breast cancer organization, working to save lives and end breast cancer forever. Komen has an unmatched, comprehensive 360-degree approach to fighting this disease across all fronts and supporting millions of people in the U.S. and in countries worldwide. We advocate for patients, drive research breakthroughs, improve access to high-quality care, offer direct patient support and empower people with trustworthy information. Founded by Nancy G. Brinker, who promised her sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would end the disease that claimed Suzy's life, Komen remains committed to supporting those affected by breast cancer today, while tirelessly searching for tomorrow's cures. Visit komennwohio.org or call 1-877-604-2873. Connect with us on social at www.komennwohio.org/social

Breast Cancer Fact Sheet

1 in 8 women in the U.S. will be diagnosed with **breast cancer** in her lifetime.

IN THE UNITED STATES

- Breast cancer is the most common** cancer among women in the U.S., accounting for 30 percent of newly diagnosed cancers.
- Every 2 minutes**, one case of breast cancer is diagnosed in the U.S.
- In 2020, more than 276,000 new cases** of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in women and more than 2,600 cases in men in the U.S.
- In 2020, more than 42,000 women and men** in the U.S. are expected to die from breast cancer.
- Improvements in early detection and treatment led to a 40 percent** decline in breast cancer deaths in the U.S. between 1989-2017.

- In the U.S., breast cancer mortality** is about 40 percent higher in black women than in white women.
- It is estimated more than 154,000** women are living with metastatic breast cancer.
- There are more than 3.8 million** breast cancer survivors in the U.S.

AROUND THE WORLD

- Breast cancer is the most common** cancer in women around the world, with an estimated more than **2 million new cases** recorded in 2018.
- Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death** in women around the world.
- Every 50 seconds**, somewhere in the world, someone dies from breast cancer. That's more than 1,700 women and men every day.
- There are more than 6 million** breast cancer survivors around the world.



Sandy Finestone, PsyD
Scientific Advisory Board and
AIS Steering Committee

Marian Johnson-Thompson, PhD
Komen Scholar and
AIS Steering Committee



Colorectal Cancer

continued from page 9

colorectal cancer by finding and removing growth, called polyps, in the colon and rectum before they become cancer. It can also find colorectal cancer early, when it is small, hasn't spread and may be easier to treat. When found early, before it has spread, the 5-year relative survival rate is 90%.

For more information or to speak with someone about colorectal cancer and its effects on the Black community, experts and physicians from the American Cancer Society can provide interviews, information and valuable

About the American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society is a global grassroots force of 1.5 million volunteers dedicated to saving lives, celebrating lives, and leading the fight for a world without cancer. From breakthrough research, to free lodging near treatment, a 24/7/365 live helpline, free rides to treatment, and convening powerful activists to create awareness and impact, the Society is the only organization attacking cancer from every angle. For more information go to www.cancer.org.

SOURCE American Cancer Society

CONTACT: Teri Mitchell Porter - American Cancer Society, 312.909.9385 teri.mitchellporter@cancer.org

Parenting During This Pandemic Requires An 'Anointing' Many Already Possess



By Candace J. Semien
Jozef Syndicate Reporter, The Drum Newspaper

With today's coronavirus pandemic, parents and grandparents are facing a crisis never before seen. From dealing with health fears, sharp shifts to virtual learning, job losses, and political protests, parenting youth today—in a world that's vastly changing—has become more challenging and overwhelming.

Nearly half of parents of children under age 18 said their stress levels related to the coronavirus pandemic are high, according to a new survey by the American Psychological Association.

"For many parents, it can feel overwhelming to face competing demands at home and work along with possible financial challenges during this unprecedented crisis," said Arthur C. Evans Jr., PhD, APA's chief executive officer. "Children are keen observers and often notice and react to stress or anxiety in their parents, caregivers, peers, and community. Parents should prioritize their self-care

“
If a family is to get through a crisis it is through unified effort in looking out for one another. Not survival of the fittest but fitting all to survive.
”

and try their best to model healthy ways of coping with stress and anxiety.”

Louisiana-based family counselor Barbara W. Green said one way to deal with the crisis is to recognize God's gift to parents.

“A crisis comes for the purpose of reflection, returning, and restoring,” said Green. “It takes the Anointing to recognize what to do in a crisis. This anointing is a parent anointing. It is the special, God-given ability to parent that many people already have,” she said.

In 2013, Green published the second edition of, “The Parent Anointing,” which clarifies the unique position God establishes to help adults parent and rear children. Green offers this advice for those seeking solutions and strategies through this pandemic. “The parent who moves in the anointing follows God, the Heavenly Father,” she said.

Within the pages of The Parent Anointing and during private sessions, Green urges parents to reflect on God as the ultimate parent and

become that reflection.

“The parent anointing is the ‘reflection’ of love of the Father God upon His children. When a parent operates in the anointing (calling and instruction) of the Heavenly Father, the child sees the goodness of God reflected in the love which the parent has for the child,” she said.

She used John 17:22-23 to explain. It states, “And the glory which You gave me, I have given them, that they may be one, just as we are one. {Unity} I in them, and You in me .{Reflection} and that the world may know that You sent me {Representation} and have loved them as You have loved me {reflective mirroring}.”

The parent anointing is not reserved for biological parents only, Green said. A parent is also a nonbiological adult who cares for and guides a child or teen. For all parents, the anointing is reflective from God through the parent to

the child and it is present in three significant ways: faith, purpose, and significance.

The way to survive any crisis is to resist the temptation to become selfish, Green said “If a family is to get through a crisis it is through unified effort in looking out for one another. Not survival of the fittest but fitting all to survive. And, if the family is to survive, it must be done through one accord, not discord. The family that strives together, remains together, in purpose. And (when) the purpose is to glorify God, the family has achieved added value on earth, and in Heaven, to survive the crisis.”

Green also tells parents to hold on to faith. “It is the one, sure way to please God. More than 2,000 years ago, the Glory that was given to family was oneness in faith. It is the major supplier of anointing.”

She reminds parents that God watched over His son to “perfect the things that concerned Him and, in turn, the Son never did anything without consulting His Father, first. ‘I do the will of the Father who sent Me,’ Christ

said.”


The anointing gives parents the power to be like Christ and consult the Father in every decision and do God's will, especially through this pandemic, she said.

For families to endure, grow, and defeat stagnation during this time of crisis, these three things are needed:

- Purpose Singularity where one person may have the same purpose as another but remains singular in how they achieve their purpose.
- Unity in the agreement of the importance of strengthening the family structure.
- Glory and credit for overcoming obstacles the family members may face during these trying times.

Circling back to John 17, Green said, “It is then, that the child will say, ‘the lessons my parents gave me I have given my children that they may be one just as God and I are one. And I have loved them in the same manner as my parents and God loved me.’”

“
It takes the Anointing to recognize what to during a crisis. This anointing is a parent anointing. It is the special, God-given ability to parent that many people already have.
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Not Forgotten,' 26 Missing Children Recovered in U.S. Marshal Operation

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

In 2018, the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) launched a series on the plight of missing children of color – focusing primarily on missing Black girls. The series, which continues with regular updates, included the development of partnerships with several organizations that focus on educating the public about missing children across the U.S.

According to a news release from the U.S. Marshals Service, the U.S. Marshals Service Missing Child Unit's "Operation Not Forgotten" resulted in the rescue of 26 children in Georgia, the safe location of 13 children and the arrest of nine criminal

associates.

The U.S. Marshals Service did not identify the rescued children, but because of their action, the children are safe, and their families are relieved.

"These were some of the most at-risk and challenging recovery cases in the area, based on indications of high-risk factors such as victimization of child sex trafficking, child exploitation, sexual abuse, physical abuse, and medical or mental health conditions," officials noted in the news release.

The operation was completed in conjunction with the U.S. Marshals' Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, along with Georgia state and local agencies.

Investigators filed 26 arrest



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

warrants and additional charges for allegations including sex trafficking, parental kidnapping, registered sex offender violations, drugs and weapons possession and custodial interference.

"The U.S. Marshals Service is fully committed to assisting federal, state, and local agencies with locating and recovering endangered missing children, in addition to their primary fugitive apprehension mission," Donald Washington, director of the U.S.

Ohio Department of Aging challenges Ohioans to take 10 BIG Steps to Prevent Falls

Sept. 21-25 is Falls Prevention Awareness Week

By Beth Gianforcaro
The Ohio Department of Aging

The Ohio Department of Aging has a friendly challenge for all older Ohioans: take 10 BIG Steps to Prevent Falls during Fall Prevention Awareness Week, Sept. 21-25, 2020.

"One in four Ohioans over age 65 will fall this year. That fall can have long-ranging impacts on the individual as well as their family and community," said Ursel J. McElroy, director of the department. "There are simple things all Ohioans can do right now to decrease their risk of a life-changing fall."

10 BIG Steps to Prevent Falls is part of the department's STEADY U Ohio falls prevention initiative. The week-long campaign pairs five free, daily, online learning opportunities with five personal action steps to promote different aspects of falls prevention. Each day,



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

participants will learn about a unique topic from falls prevention and other experts. Then, they will be provided with a checklist, planning template, or other activity to apply the information to their daily lives.

Individuals can learn more, register for online learning opportunities, and download

related personal action items on the STEADY U Ohio web page.

The 10 BIG Steps to Prevent Falls:

Monday, Sept. 21: Know your falls risk factors

Step 1: Learn about the factors that increase your risk of falling and steps to reduce your risk.

Step 2: Complete a falls-risk self-assessment and discuss the results with your family and care providers.

Tuesday, Sept. 22: Exercises to reduce your falls risk

Step 3: Learn about exercises and other physical activity that can reduce your risk of falling.

Step 4: Create a personal exercise plan and try a new exercise.

Wednesday, Sept. 23: Fall-proof your home

Step 5: Learn how to identify and remove falls risks in and around your home.

Step 6: Complete a home hazard walk-through and checklist.

Thursday, Sept. 24: Eat well to prevent falls

Step 7: Learn how a healthy diet can help lower your risk of falling.

Step 8: Create a meal plan to prevent falls.

Friday, Sept. 25: Talk with your health care providers

Step 9: Learn how to talk to your doctor and other health care providers about falls.

Step 10: Complete a medication inventory and discuss it with your health care provider or pharmacist.

Since September 2013, the Ohio Department of Aging's STEADY U Ohio initiative has helped older adults, families, caregivers, professionals, and community leaders understand and recognize age-related factors that increase the risk of falling and fall-related complications. Individuals and organizations can find falls prevention information and resources at www.steadyu.ohio.gov.

Ongoing Events

Continued from page 3.

- Ottawa Park - Ottawa Parkway
Saturday, Sept. 19 - 10 AM until noon
 - Navarre Park - 1101 White St.
Saturday, Sept. 26 - 10 a.m. - noon
- Your one-stop shop!
Register to vote
Request an absentee ballot. Complete the Census.
This initiative is made possible through collaboration between Toledo Lucas County Public

Library, City of Toledo and the City of Toledo's Human Relations Commission, League of Women Voters of Toledo-Lucas County, the Lucas County Commissioners, Metroparks Toledo, Ohio Unity Coalition, United Way of Greater Toledo, and more.

Sept. 20th until Oct. 11th The Padua Center Invites you to "Peaces of Art" 2020

Join us for our "Peaces" of Art Celebration a two part event. Pick-up Dinner: September 20, 2020 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. BBQ Chicken Dinner \$8.00 (including baked beans, potato salad, cupcake, drink). St. Martin de Pores Church 1119 West Bancroft St., Toledo, Ohio 419-460-3071. Auction on line: Starting September

20 until Oct. 11 at 6:00 p.m. Go to this web site and make your bid! <http://paduacenter.betterworld.org/auctions/peaces-art-2>

Oct. 10th, Nov. 14th, and Dec. 12th
City of Toledo Human Relations Commission
A series of Peace Rallies to combat the effects of Gun Violence and help HEAL our neighborhoods. Heal Live DJ Free Food Guest Speakers/Resources. A series of Peace Rallies to combat the effects of Gun Violence in the community and Help Heal Neighborhoods. Social distancing and Masks required. All events 1-3 PM.

- 10/10 - Savage Park
- 11/14 - Wilson Park
- 12/12 - TBD

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Metroparks Toledo has a great opportunity for you to join our team! We currently have openings for seasonal maintenance staff. If you are going to work, why not do it in the beautiful outdoors. Must be 18 or older with high school diploma or equivalent and valid driver's license. Graduating high school seniors may apply if 18 years of age or older. \$9.40/hr. Duties include cleaning and facility and grounds maintenance. Employment varies through December based on need. Must enjoy working outdoors and be able to learn to use power tools and equipment. Go to www.MetroparksToledo.com <<http://www.metroparkstoledo.com/>>> to view the job description, position requirements and apply online. EOE

MANAGER OF COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE, MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR & ASSISTANT PROPERTY MANAGER

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH), located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for the following positions: **Manager of Compliance and Performance Excellence, Maintenance Supervisor & Assistant Property Manager**. For complete details, visit <https://www.lucasmha.org> and click on Careers. Deadline: **09/30/20**. This is a Section 3 covered position (s). HUD recipients are encouraged to apply and are to indicate on the application if you are a LMHA Public Housing client or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. **NO PHONE CALLS**. Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, religious creed, gender, military status, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin.



also the only male to successfully defend his Olympic title in the 400m.

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 heavyweight 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.

BIDDING OPPORTUNITY

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on **Metroparks Toledo, Misc. Asphalt Paving, Lucas County, OH** will be received; opened; and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537 Friday, October 9, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. local time.

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

THE SCOPE OF WORK consists of resurfacing and paving of Oak Openings and Toledo Botanical Gardens Maintenance Areas. General construction includes limited select demolition, earthwork, aggregate base, asphalt, topsoil, seeding and mulching. Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents and plan-holder's list through Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, Ohio 43604 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (check made payable to Newfax Corporation) or via the Newfax Digital Plan Room at www.newfaxcorp.com. Newfax can be contacted at 419-241-5157 or 800-877-5157. A non-refundable fee of \$15 is required for each set of full-size documents obtained. For additional information, please contact Jon Zvanovec @ 419-360-9184, jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com.

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

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

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

By order of the Board of Park Commissioners

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA

David D. Zenk, Director

HELP WANTED

LEGAL NOTICE

The Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities is seeking to fill several vacancies on its Board of Directors. Applicants shall be residents of Lucas County, citizens of the United States, interested and knowledgeable in the field of intellectual disabilities and other allied fields, and, to the maximum extent possible, have professional training and experience in business management, finance, law, health care practice, personnel administration, or government service. One appointment shall be to complete an unexpired term through December 31, 2021. Two appointments will be to serve 4-year terms beginning January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024. Interested applicants will need to complete an Application for Public Volunteer located on website www.co.lucas.oh.us and attach resume. Please submit materials to Benjamin Pushka, Board of Lucas County Commissioners, One Government Center, Suite 800, Toledo, OH 43604, by Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

BLACK HISTORY FACTS

September 20, 1830: First Negro Convention of Free Men agree to start their boycott on slave-produced goods.

September 17, 1861: Hampton Institute founded.

September 22, 1863: Mary Church Terrell was born, first Black person to serve on the DC board of education.

Septembr 16, 1889: Claude A. Barnett, founder of the Associated Negro Press, born.

September 21, 1891: Inventor, FW Leslie, patents the envelope seal.

September 19, 1941: Otis Redding, singer born in Dawson, GA.

September 17, 1958: Dr. King's book Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story is published by Harper & Row.

September 20, 1958: Dr. King is stabbed in the chest by Izola Curry, who is subsequently alleged to be mentally deranged. The stabbing occurs in Harlem, N.Y., while Dr. King is autographing his recently published book. His condition was said to be serious but not critical.

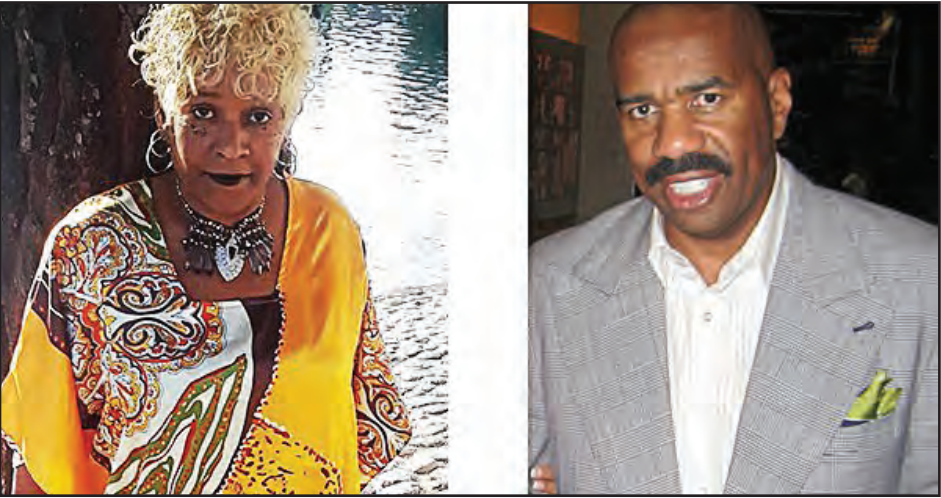
September 18, 1964: Dr. King has an audience with Pope Paul VI at the Vatican.

September 18, 1970: Rocker Jimi Hendrix dies at 27.

Florence Griffith Joyner - also known as "Flo Jo" was the fastest woman alive. She has records in the 100 and 200 meters that still haven't been broken after almost 30 years.

Michael Johnson - was the only athlete in history win the 200m and 400m at the same Olympics. He's

Steve Harvey Served With a Restraining Order Filed By Civil Rights Activist, Essie Berry



Black News - After three years of alleged stalking, cyberbullying, harassment, and threats, a judge has finally granted civil rights activist, Essie Berry, a restraining order against the popular comedian/ TV show host. Thursday, September 3, 2020

Nationwide — Essie Berry, a civil rights activist known for helping victims of injustice, says it all started in 2013 when she was to start a reality show and began helping Mary Harvey, Steve Harvey's ex-wife with some legal matters. Essie says that Steve did not like the fact that she was helping his ex and he began intimidating her with scare tactics along with threatening and harassing messages.

According to Essie, since then, she has been an ongoing victim of stalking and harassment and has filed numerous police reports against Steve Harvey in San Bernardino County, California with the Montclair Police Department. She says, "It appears that celebrity status is above the law. If I had been a white woman being stalked, bullied, and harassed by Steve Harvey, the law would have arrested him years ago."

On August 18, 2020, however, Essie was finally granted a restraining order from Judge Thomas S. Garza of the Superior Court of San Bernardino County in California. She says that for the last three years, Steve Harvey and his constituents have been using their resources as a vehicle for threatening phone calls, vulgar language, cyberbullying, text messages, emails, and countless other harassment tactics to "destroy her soul."

She also claims that Steve Harvey has invaded her privacy by placing pictures of her home on the Internet.

Essie is happy about the restraining order but says that she won't fully feel that justice has been served until she has received an official police report. The local police department, however, seems to be taking the side of Steve Harvey.

She comments, "Steve Harvey is a dangerous and ruthless man that hides behind his riches and fame. There is a dark side that resides within his soul. He is a manipulator, liar, and intimidator that threatens, cheats, bullies, and harasses Black women that he feels has no power."

Alicia Keys Launches \$1 Billion Fund for Black-Owned Businesses



Black News - Singer Alicia Keys is using her platform to help further racial equality. She has launched a new \$1 billion endowment fund aimed at supporting Black businesses and communities.

The new fund will come as several crises unfold around the world, including the global coronavirus pandemic and the protests against systemic racism and injustice that were sparked by the police killings of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, and others.

During an interview with Billboard, she commented, "We are already seeing the blatant injustices that are going on around us. As an artist, I'm always thinking about how can I use my platform to further racial equity. This fund is one of the answers and our goal is to empower Black America through investing in Black businesses, Black investors, institutions, entrepreneurs, schools, and banks in a way to create sustainable solutions."

“ We are already seeing the blatant injustices that are going on around us. As an artist, I’m always thinking about how can I use my platform to further racial equity. ”

She continued, "The initial goal of \$1 billion is to ensure a substantial commitment," Keys says. "Even with that it does not come close to closing the economic gap. The next steps are to reach out to different industries to invite them to invest in racial justice and create a multi-billion dollar endowment across business sectors."

One of the first major contributors to the fund will be the NFL.

Civil Rights Icon Benjamin Chavis to host weekly black talk show on PBS

By Hazel Trice Edney
Wire Writer

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - Civil rights icon Dr. Benjamin Chavis, former NAACP executive director and current president/CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), will become host of a weekly Black-oriented public affairs talk show on PBS (Public Broadcasting System) in October.

As racial tensions and disparities have skyrocketed in almost every category of American life, Chavis and the show's producer Clara Wilkerson says it's time for a program that challenges the mind and focuses on solutions. They believe the show, Chavis Chronicles, is among the answers. PBS apparently agrees.

"Our nation is polarized by race; polarized by politics; polarized by economics; polarized by health disparities; polarized by the pursuit of education and the education gap; culturally polarized; ethnically polarized; religiously polarized," Chavis said in an interview with the Trice Edney News Wire. "And so, with all of these multiple polarizations that are undergirded by systemic racism, having a national one half hour in depth discussion about these issues - particularly from an African-American perspective - which the main stream media has not really chosen to focus



on, will be crucial."

American Public Television (APT), the leading syndicator of high-quality, top-rated programming to the nation's public television stations, has confirmed that Chavis Chronicles is set to air in top markets across the nation, starting Oct. 1.

"We have reviewed the materials and are pleased to confirm it has been accepted for release in October, 2020 to the nation's public television stations," said a letter to Wilkerson from Judy Barlow, APT vice president for business development. "We are honored to work with you and Dr. Chavis on this fine series which will bring important conver-

sations to the American people. Thank you for bringing it to us."

Wilkerson, an award-winning independent producer, has worked with PBS for more than 25 years. Her company, CRW Worldwide, Inc., has produced more than 25 documentaries and video productions held in over 300 libraries internationally. Wilkerson says she created the Chronicles format specifically with Chavis in mind.

Chavis Chronicles will be rare programming as there are currently no weekly talk shows on network television specifically from a Black perspective. Also, unlike cable television, PBS is still free of charge, which makes it accessible to people of all income levels, Wilkerson points out. "That's why PBS is a great place for this. There's no better place because we can reach the masses."

PBS is a non-profit corporation established by Congress in 1967. It is funded by multiple resources, including private donations, foundations, federal funds, and dues from member stations. Chavis Chronicles will be self-funded, including through advertising sales, "so we can be more autonomous," Wilkerson said.

More than 62 million homes will have access to the show in 100 markets.

Chavis says the first episode will feature an interview with U. S. Rep. Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.) in his home office in Columbia, S.C. It will not only spotlight Clyburn as the nation's highest-ranking Black lawmaker in his role as House majority whip; but also his family roots and civil rights background.

A social justice activist of more than 60 years, Chavis says his experiences have given him an appeal to people from all walks of life. He started his civil rights career as a youth coordinator for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He earned his Master of Divinity degree from Duke University while serving an unjust 34-year prison sentence as a member of the Wilmington 10. The Wilmington 10 case garnered international attention and was pardoned 40 years later. He also received a Doctor of Ministry degree from Howard University.

Chavis concludes. "My whole career is about freedom, justice and equality. But, overarching, the struggle for freedom, justice and equality is to stand for what's true. Speaking truth to power, publishing truth to power, distributing truth to power. Now I have an opportunity to broadcast truth to power. If the Chavis Chronicles is going to represent anything, it's going to represent the truth."

Coaching Legend, John Thompson, Dies at 78

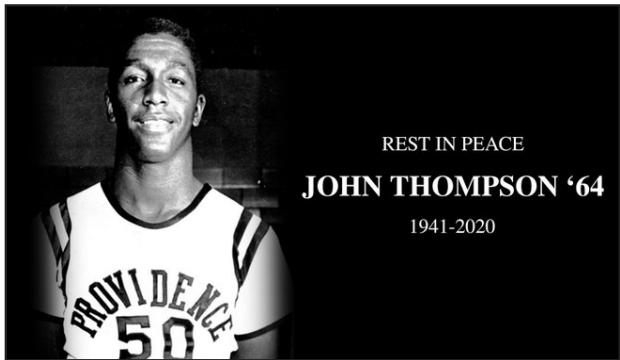


PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Thompson was a coaching legend and unforgettable mentor.



By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire
Contributor

John Thompson was the first Black coach to win the NCAA Championship. In 1984, he led the Georgetown Hoyas to victory over the Houston Cougars. In 1985 Thompson was named Coach of the Year. He coached at Georgetown University from 1972 to 1999.

Thompson was a coach who set the bar high for his players on and off the basketball court. He coached Patrick Ewing, Allen Iverson, Alonzo Mourning and Dikembe Mutumbo. He became a mentor to many long after they left Georgetown and competitive basketball.

Thompson had a preference for players that had a passion for the game on the court. He once said, “you can calm

down a fool before you can resurrect a corpse.” He emphasized the power of habit, attitude and state of mind with his players. “If you think you are beaten you are. If you think you dare not, you won’t,” he once said.

“Big John Thompson is the single most important African American man in the history of D.C. sports,” Sia writer Clinton Yeats. In 1999 he was selected to be in the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame.

In 27 seasons, Thompson compiled a coaching record of 596-239. Most importantly to Thompson, 97 percent of his players stayed four years and left Georgetown University with a college degree.

Thompson was born in Washington, D.C. and went on to play in the NBA for the Boston Celtics.

Thompson is survived by his three children, John Thompson III, who also coached basketball at Georgetown, Ronny Thompson and Tiffany Thompson. Thompson’s autobiography is due out in January 2021.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Legendary Georgetown coach John Thompson Jr., known simply as “Big John” passed away at age 78.

The Axeman becomes lifesaver by the power of chest compressions

By Jurry Taalib-Deen
Journal Staff Writer

A day prior to his fight on September 4 in Las Vegas, Nevada, DeAndre Ware, known as the ‘Axeman,’ was going through the routine medical checks, that are required of all boxers, when he heard commotion in an adjacent room, he told The Toledo Journal.

“My coach and I heard a commotion in the other room and decided to go see what was going on,” he said. When they arrived, Pete Susens, a coordinator with Top Rank Boxing, had collapsed. Instantly, Mr. Ware, a firefighter/EMT with the Toledo Fire Department, jumped into action and started administering chest compressions.

“There was a doctor with Mr. Susens as I was doing the chest compressions,” he said. “The doctor told me Mr. Susens didn’t have a pulse prior to me giving chest compressions.”

Even after a defibrillator, which sends an electrical shock to the heart to get it pumping again, was used on Mr. Susens, it was the chest compressions given by Mr. Ware that allowed Mr. Susens to keep a pulse.

“I knew the compressions were good when I felt his rib break; that’s a sign that the compressions are being administered correctly,” he said.

Although, a routine procedure in the world of firefighters/EMT personnel, Mr. Ware said what made the situation uniquely



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

DeAndre Ware Toledo Firefighter/Boxer saved top rank official’s life with CPR prior to weigh-in

different was the fact the standard equipment, and medications used, weren’t available to him.

“Typically, we have oxygen, and medication to give the person in need of CPR; I didn’t have any of those things,” he explained.

“The doctor told me Mr. Susens didn’t have a pulse prior to me giving chest compressions.”

“When you’re in a situation where none of the usual equipment is available, you make sure you’re very careful, and aware of what you’re doing.” Therefore, Mr. Ware continued issuing the

chest compressions until first responders arrived.

Mr. Ware was told by the doctor if he hadn’t arrived on time, and administered the chest compressions, Mr. Susens wouldn’t have survived. Mr. Susens contacted Mr. Ware two days later and repeatedly expressed his gratitude for saving his life.

“I was put on this earth to do something. Saving a life means more to me than winning a fight. If he, was my family member, I would’ve wanted someone to save him,” the Axeman said. “I want to be known for something like I just did for Mr. Susens, rather than just being a fighter. I want a legacy of being an overall good person.”

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Black Woman Astronaut Will Be the First to Visit International Space Station

Submitted

Jeanette Epps, a NASA astronaut, will soon make history as the first-ever Black woman to fly to the International Space Station on a mission into orbit. It will also be her first space flight in her career.

Epps, who is from Syracuse, New York, earned a bachelor's degree in Physics in 1992 from LeMoyne College. She then attended the University of Maryland, College Park where she received a Masters in 1994 and a Doctorate in 2000 for Aerospace Engineering.

She was also a NASA Graduate Student Researchers Project fellow while pursuing her doctorate degree, where she authored several journals and conference articles on her research.

After finishing her graduate school, she worked as a technical specialist in Ford's Scientific Research Laboratory for 2 years, co-authoring several patents. She then served as a technical intelligence officer in the CIA for 7 years. In 2009, she was one of the nine selected people to become a NASA astronaut.

Moreover, she would have made history earlier in 2018 as the first Black woman to live on the ISS, but was later reassigned for undisclosed reasons.

Now, Epps has been assigned to NASA's Boeing Starliner-1 mission, the first operational crewed flight of Boeing's CST-100 Starliner spacecraft on a mission to the International Space Station. She will be joining NASA astronauts Sunita Williams and Josh Cassada for a six-month expedition which is set to launch in 2021.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Jeanette Epps, NASA astronaut, makes history.

Anniversary of Church Bombing that Killed Four Black Girls

Group of Prominent Black Women Leaders and Advocates Call for \$1 Billion Investment to Help Black Girls Thrive

Submitted

(PRNewswire) - On the 57th Anniversary of the 16th Street Church bombing in Birmingham, AL, that killed four young Black girls, a group of prominent Black women leaders and advocates today called for an investment of \$1 billion over the next 10 years in Black girls and young women.

With an open letter, the group launched the Black Girl Freedom Fund (1Billion4BlackGirls.org, #1Billion4BlackGirls) to mobilize investments "in the brain trust, innovation, health, safety, education, research, and joy of Black girls and their families."

"At this very moment, Black Lives Matter has emerged as our nation's largest political movement and racial justice is receiving unprecedented philanthropic support. And yet, Black girls and young women still remain victimized by violence, and erased from the very same social justice movement for which they continue to risk their lives," said the letter. "We, Black women and Femme activists, artists, educators, organizers, and philanthropists, have come together at the historic time to call attention to the fact that Black girls in the United States are in crisis. From discrimination in education and healthcare to sexual assault and policing, the lives and livelihoods of Black girls and young women are notably absent in the public narratives, policies, and justice movements most crucial to addressing inequality and racial trauma."

"We believe that by investing \$1 billion in Black girls and young women over the next decade, we can make the biggest change possible," the letter said. "It is clear that, with intention and investment, Black girls can thrive. We call on you to robustly invest in Black girls and women's leadership, innovation, wellness, advocacy. This support is necessary for our collective freedom and to ensure that all Black Lives Matter, now and tomorrow."

The Black Girl Freedom Fund will support work that advances the wellbeing of Black girls and their families, including work that centers and advances the power of Black girls through organizing, asset mapping, capacity-building of non-Black led organizations to better respond to Black girls organizations led by Black women and girls, and legal advocacy and narrative work to shift structural violence enacted against Black girls.

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