

# THE TOLEDO JOURNAL

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**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021 - APRIL 13, 2021** 

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Pearly Mae Wiggins celebrates 90th



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**EVERYBODY IS** SOMEBODY IN THE TOLEDO **JOURNAL** 

# Easter egg hunt, outdoor activities brighten children plagued by quarantine



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

The children make a mad dash to gather as many eggs as possible.

doors, especially after

being mostly confined

quarantine...

By Jurry Taalib-Deen Journal Staff Writer

"When you hear a cow go moo, off the karaoke machine, then y'all can run and get your

eggs," was the order given to the children as they impatiently waited to start the children to get an Easter egg hunt. When the cow was heard, children took off running, some running into each other, but all laughing or smiling while

picking up as many eggs as possible.

That scene was Saturday, March 27 in a field adjacent to the Oak Grove Estates in Holland, Ohio. Besides the Easter

egg hunt, there were games, prizes, free food, Easter Baskets and much more.

The event was organized by Catherine Productions, Beverly Lear, CEO, and Ear-

ly Bird Basketball Clinic, Best ...We wanted Creation and Amazing Grace Baptist Church out and enjoy the out- as co-sponsors. Lear

told The Toledo Journal that indoors, due to the Catherine Productions adopted Oak Grove Estates for the Easter holiday.

"Now that the weather is getting better, we wanted the children to get out and enjoy the outdoors, especially after being mostly confined indoors, due to the quarantine brought



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Khloe Washington paints 11 year old, J.J. Thompsons face with the letters, MVP.

about by the Coronavirus," she explained.

Ms. Lear added that everyone in attendance had their temperature checked and Covid-19 mandates were encouraged.

"I love the turnout. During the pandemic, sometimes we, as adults, forget what the children are going through. So to-

Continued on page 2.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

The children still gathering as many eggs as possible. Some of them were so excited they were falling on the ground.

# Easter activities brighten children

Continued from page 2.

day, we wanted to bring a type of carnival environment to this part of town," she said.

Valerie Golladay, resident services coordinator for Oak Grove Estates, said "This is very beneficial to this area, being that there's really nothing out here for the children to do, and many parents don't have cars. Today gives the children an opportunity to get some exercise and just enjoy the day."

Due to the success of the Easter egg hunt, as well as other past events hosted by Catherine Productions, Ms. Lear said they've been asked to host various other events at LMHA properties throughout the Toledo Greater Metropolitan area. Several of those venues include Elmdale Court, Vistula Manor, Wiley Homes and Ravine Park Village.

house.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Organizers of the event are, from left, Linda Fitzpatrick, Faye Koonce, Angel Sawyer, Tiffonee Young, Tim Evans, Sheila Anderson, Beverly Lear, Connie Jones, Trae McCadney, "Lady K" and Val Golloday.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

No children's outdoor activity is complete without the inflatable bouncy



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Shalicia Deloney paints the hand of six year old, Dezire Bufford.

# MONTH OF APRIL LEASING SPECIAL!!!

# **Legacy Hills Apartments** 4424 Hill Ave., Toledo, OH 43615

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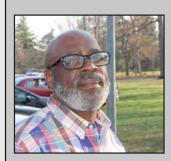
# How do you feel about the trial of the murder of George Floyd?

#### **Lawton Williams**

Construction Worker



I just hope the one who killed George Floyd, as well as the officers who didn't intervene, get what they deserve. Floyd's murder caused unrest with all communities across the country. My 16 year old has been watching the trial and it has angered him. I truly believe it's the intent of all police departments to instill fear within the Black community. If he isn't found guilty, there might possibly be riots across the coun-



#### **Kenneth Manaham**

Cook

I think the trial is going to be unjust. We always see police kill Black people and nothing happens to the police; that's why I don't think it will be a fair trial. If it was a Black cop killing a White person, then we would see that cop getting convicted of murder. When police kill innocent Black people, that officer needs to be treated as a murderer.



Christal Brazell Home Maker

I feel like the cop, who killed him won't be found guilty, even though there's video. The justice system doesn't prosecute cops for killing Black people, even if there is video of the murder. The cop should be imprisoned, but I don't believe it'll happen.



**Arqeula Camper** 

Security Officer

I just hope justice will be served, but I don't believe it'll happen. Courts don't convict police for killing Black people; that's why I don't believe he'll be found guilty.



**Cornell Gauldin** Forklift Driver

The recent evidence that the police department shared about, not training officers to put their knee on someone's neck, should be the main testimony to convict him. I just hope he's found guilty and gets time in prison.



**Taniesha Sanders** 

Healthcare Worker

I haven't watched much of the trial because it's hard to watch. There's video of George Floyd being killed on TV and pleading for his life; to me that's all that's needed to convict him. I just hope justice will be

# Ongoing Events

#### **Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program Outreach Meetings**

If you can't pay your mortgage due to COVID-19. we can help toledo.oh.gov/mortgage

The deadline to submit applications for the new Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program is 4:30p.m., Friday, April 16. The program will provide assistance to 150 low-to-moderate-income households in the city. There are seven remaining outreach meetings for members of the public to complete aplications in person with assistance:

- 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Aprl 7, at Sanger Branch Library, 3030 West Central Ave.
- 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., April 8, at Birmingham Branch Library, 203 Paine St.
- 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., April 10, at Main Library, 325 Michigan St.
- 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., April 13, at Heatherdowns Branch Library, 3265 Glanzman Rd.
- 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., April 14, at West Toledo Branch Library, 1320 Sylvania Ave.
- 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., April 15, at Washington Branch Library, 5560 Harvest Lane

Find information at Toledo.oh.gov/events

#### **Red Cross Assistance for residents of Cresthaven Apartments**

The Red Cross is providing immediate financial assistance to 12 families who were forced from their homes by the fire at the Cresthaven Apartments.

The residents are able to use the assistance provided for temporary lodging, food, clothing or other needs. Residents are being encouraged to work with their insurance companies and apartment management for longer-term lodging solutions.

The Red Cross is not collecting donations of material goods for the residents. Financial donations to disaster relief will help people affected by similar disasters and others where our assistance is needed.

#### **TOLEDO MUNICIPAL COURT** "Notice to Proceed with Eviction"

The 6th Circuit United States Court of Appeals issued a ruling on March 29, 2021 effectively invalidating the CDC's recent June 30th extension of the moratorium on evictions. As a result, the CDC's eviction moratorium will be effectively lifted on April 1, 2021. The 6th Circuit's decision ends the 7 month

CDC order barring certain evictions. This moratorium shielded renters from eviction if they earned less than \$99,000 and also had lost income during the pandemic and were further likely to become homeless if evicted. Toledo Municipal Housing Court has set forth the following guidance in response to the 6th Circuit's order. If a landlord wishes to proceed with an eviction that was previously stayed, the landlord must file a "Notice to Proceed with Eviction" with the Housing Court. A notice can be filed in person in the civil department of Toledo Municipal Court or online through the court e-file system at no charge. If not already purchased, the landlord will need to purchase a writ. If a writ has already been purchased, the Civil Bailiff's Office will contact the landlord to schedule the eviction. Tenants are encouraged to check Resources for Tenants (toledohousingcourt. org) for more information regarding their rights and responsibilities. Contact: Lisa Falgiano Court Administrator, Toledo Municipal Court 419-245-1949.

#### **TARTA Announces New Vaccine Ride Program**

TARTA announces a new free Vaccine Ride Program with services in Maumee, Ottawa Hills, Rossford, Sylvania, Sylvania Township, Toledo and Waterville. The Program offers several options to residents needing transportation to a vaccination site:

Vaccine Xpress - A direct TARTA route w/hourly service from the downtown Toledo Transit Hub to the Lucas County Recreation Center (Rec Center) began, March 23. This route will operate on days when the state recognized mass vaccination site, Rec Center, is hosting events. For specific details, visit www.tarta.com.

Call-A-Ride for Vaccines - TARTA's door-to-door service is available to take residents to vaccination sites within their community Mon to Sat. Reservations are required and can be made up to 3 days in advance by calling 419-243-7433. The service is available in Maumee, Ottawa Hills, Rossford, Sylvania, Sylvania Township and Waterville.

Toledo Area Regional Paratransit Service - TAR-TA's ADA service that is available 7 days per week in TARTA's service area. Reservations can be made up to 7 days in advance by calling 419-382-9901. Pre-qualification of the service is required.

#### **Toledo Elementary Athletics Movement** Presents 2021 Baseball & Softball

K-6th grade \$40/player - Opening Day May 1

Registration Open Now at teamelementarysports. org to play for their Elementary School's Team.

For futher information contact TEAM@team elementarysports@gmail.com.

#### Every Tues. 11:30am-1pm The Bridge at Monroe St. UMC

So you've hit a rough patch: a lost job, illness, or other difficult transition that's making it hard to make ends meet. Life changes can be hard. We've been there. And we want to help. We provide the following assistance at no cost to all who come through our doors:

Food Pantry, Clothing, Personal Needs, State IDs and birth certificate assistance, & Blood pressure monitoring and answers to health questions

Fork more info call Monroe Street Neighborhood Center at 419-473-1167 Ext 333 or 317.

#### Mt. Nebo Mary and Gail's Closet Free Clothing

Mt. Nebo launches clothing ministry in Mary and Gail's Closet.

Mary and Gail's Closet is a new clothing ministry to benefit men and women in need of job and interview business attire. It's stocked with donations from Macy's, New York & Company and the Rotary Club, among others. Appointments are required. Call Mt. Nebo at 419-246-8561.

# **Senior Centers Closed**

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

#### Free Food Pantry Every 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month

The Redeemed Christian Church of God Mount Zion Chapel Toledo will hold a food pantry, at 2239 Cheyenne Blvd., Toledo, OH 43614

## April. 10th

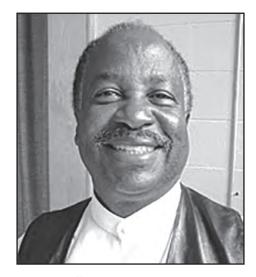
The Redeemed Christian Church of God **Mount Zion Chapel Community Food Giveaway** 

At 2239 Cheyenne Blvd., Toledo, 43614. In celebration of our 18th year anniversary, on Saturday, between the hours 12-2pm. Everyone is Welcome.

## April 10th

Continued on page 15

# JIM CROW Circles and Lands in Georgia!



By Lafe Tolliver, Attorney

In my last column, I indicated that the ancient relic of voter suppression aka: Jim Crow was flying high and was seeking comfort, understanding and solace in a friendly clime.

Now, bird watchers on the ground have reported that Jim Crow has been sighted and a recent landing was confirmed in the statehouse of Georgia.

When Jim Crow landed, he strutted, like a preening drum major, into the chambers of the Georgia House and Senate and was greeted with thunderous applause.

Reporters even saw a teary-eyed Governor Kemp, who ran and knelt at the feet of this raucous and bombastic bird.

In both chambers of the Georgia legislature, the cackling bird was greeted as a conquering hero. Both men and women swooned as ol' Jim Crow passed by them and said to the rapturous crowd of white Republicans, "Don't worry, I am here and everything will be alright!"

Jim Crow assessed the crowd and took his invited seat in the chair of

The Speaker of The House and then motioned for quiet with his two large wings still quietly moving up and down.

"This is an historic day for Georgia! Finally, I have found a place to call home again after so many, many of being banned by those pesky Northern carpetbaggers. When I found out that my ace flying buddy, Donald Trump got the boot here in Georgia, I was devastated beyond belief for I thought for sure that Georgia would always be my home with its long and proud history of suppressing the vote of colored people."

"I simply assumed that the good white people of this fair state would do the right and honorable thing and make sure that the Negro vote would be properly "managed" but somehow, things got snick snarled and those people just would not be still."

"My allies, the White Citizens Council and the KKK and their buddies in the judicial system and law enforcement simply fell down on the job; and now look what you got! A Jew and a Black being your United States Senators!

Georgia how did you let this outrage happen?"

"Don't you know what will happen if these hordes of nappy headed voters are allowed to vote? There goes your democracy and the next thing you will know is that you will have the March of the Butterscotch Babies taking over everything! Is this what you want?"

At this, the assembled crowd, yells in unison as one voice, "No, not now, not ever!"

Jim Crow, now looking more emboldened than ever, glances over the proposed voter suppression legislation that is up for a vote and nods his head in approval at its many provisions that will either slow down or stop the Negro from voting in large numbers.

Jim Crow, now having the enthralled audience in his grasp, goes on to say, "In the good ol' days, we knew how to take care of our coloreds and when they got out of their place, we knew what to do. This bill you are about to pass is a good start in that direction!"

"I can tell you that I just flew in from Arizona, Mississippi, Alabama, Wisconsin and Arkansas and they are having the same problems with their black and brown people."

"Those states, and others, are looking to you Georgia to set the example and rein in these out-of-control colored voters. Our sacred way of life is in dire jeopardy if we cannot control who votes."

"Once you let the masses into the voting booths, you lose! It is as simple as that. Why do you think we had to lynch so many black people back in the day?

The major reason is that they got uppity and wanted to act white and vote!

That's why!"

"Unless you control the vote, you control nothing! Voting is power and if you give the Negro the vote, the next thing is that he wants to marry your daughter and live next door to you."

"You got to stop that madness by stopping the vote! Are you with me!"

At this point, the crowd turns delirious and drowns out the voices of the few protesting black legislators who are present.

To the delight of the white audience, Jim Crow then produces a tape recording of Donald Trump saying, "To all of you good people in Georgia,

As you know the election was stolen from us and we need to fight to get it back.

This legislation is a way to fight back. So, do what my buddy Jim Crow tells you what to do so we can make sure in the next election, those people do not overrun us and enact their socialist agenda and allow hordes of Mexicans to travel by car caravans to your great state and bloat your governmental services. Georgia for Georgians!"

At this exhortation, the crowd went delirious with some women fainting and many men openly crying tears of joy.

Jim Crow saw the reaction of the crowd, smiled and started for the door because, before the day was over, he was scheduled for flyover stops in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Ohio.

As he gave one last look back at the appreciative crowd before he took flight, Jim Crow wiped a tear from his eye and was wistful for the good oi' days when colored people knew their place and white folks knew how to handle them.

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





# Our Diversity is Truly America's Strength and the Hateful Reaction to it is Truly America's Weakness



By Jesse Jackson Wire Writer

(TriceEdneyWire. com) - The recent murder of eight people in North Georgia, six of them Asian American women, has brought national attention to the increasing violence and hatred suffered by Asian Americans in

this country, and to the continuing reality of violence against women. Hate crimes against Asian Americans were up a staggering 150 percent in 2020, with Asian American women twice as likely to be victimized as men. Those targeted are of all ages and all different Asian nationalities.

The violent attacks are often simply random, as when Xiao Zhen Xie, a 76-yearold grandmother in Francisco, was punched in the face by a stranger. Children have been bullied and insulted. Asian-owned businesses have been vandalized; homes smeared with hateful graffiti. The immediate cause of the increasing violence can be traced back to Donald Trump labeling the COVID-19 pandemic the "Kung Flu" and blaming the Chinese for its spread. Trump's taunts focused the anger of frightened people on Asian Americans, despite the fact that Asian Americans often front-line essential workers — were disproportionately hit by the disease.

This comes on top of the resentment fu-

eled by the loss of good jobs in America, as rapacious multinationals and foolish policymakers conspired to cripple manufacturing. The recent outbreak of race crimes directed at Asian Americans is the most recent chapter of a long, dismal history in this country, dating back to when Chinese workers were first imported in the 1850s to do dangerous, low-wage jobs in mining and railroad construction. Employsuppressed wages, stripped them of their rights and stomped out any effort to organize.

Immediately, fears that the "Chinese were taking American jobs" spread wildly. Just as with African Americans, Asian Americans were victimized repeatedly by vigilante violence and official injustice. In 1854, the California Supreme Court in People v. Hall ruled that Asians could not testify against a white person. Hall, who had murdered a Chinese immigrant, walked away without penalty. In 1871, in Los Angeles, a vengeful mob lynched 17 Chinese men.

No one was ever pun-

The pandemic and the poisonous rhetoric of Donald Trump have exposed once more the hard work that

must be done to

bring together an

inclusive society.

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ished. In 1882, the U.S. Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act, a ban on Chinese immigration that was extended for 60 years. In World War II, Japanese Americans were interned in what were essentially concentration camps, a brazen violation of their rights that the Supreme Court, to its shame, ratified. More recently, when refugees from Vietnam began to work in shrimping off the coast of Texas, the local Ku Klux Klan, garbed in their regalia, set their boats on fire. After 9/11, violence against South Asians soared.

In reality, the 20 million Asian Americans in

the United States are very diverse, coming from 20 countries with different languages, religions and races. The largest numbers come from China, India and the Philippines. Collectively, they are the fastest growing minority in the United States. On average, they are remarkably successful. Their median annual wage is higher than that of all Americans.

They are less likely to live in poverty. Over half of those older than 25 have a college degree or more, compared with 30 percent of all Americans. Seven in 10 who are 5 or older speak English proficiently. Yet, despite this success, they suffer from systemic racism and face a growing threat of violence. Now is the time to confront this plague. The murders in North Georgia have sparked vigils across the country. Civil rights organizations, African American and Latino groups have rallied in solidarity.

The mainstream media has finally put a spotlight on the rise of anti-Asian hate crimes. The Asian American

continued on page 5

# The Toledo Journal

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3450 W. Central Avenue, Suite 107, Toledo, OH 43606 (419) 472-4521

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# Black America Needs a 'New Normal': Equitable Credit Access to Build Wealth



By Charlene Crowell Wire Writer

Over the past year, the COVID-19 pandemic has imposed dual crises. Over 542,000 Americans lives were lost and continue to increase. At the same time, the rippling effects of a massive economic downturn has caused the nation to lose 9.5 million iobs - more losses than even those of the Great Recession, finds the University of New Hampshire's Carsey School of Public Policy.

Although many officials have called for a 'return to normal', millions of small businesses and communities need something new instead. In Black America especially, the 'old normal' never delivered equitable access to wealth-building opportunities as those that well-served served much of white America. Instead, a lengthy history of public policies designed to create and sustain a burgeoning middle class systemically excluded Blacks and other people of color.

Now, while federal lawmakers seek to understand how best to bring the nation out of health financial crises, many advocates are calling for a new paradigm: intentional inclusion of all who have been shut out, knocked down and underserved. Recent testimony before Capitol Hill committees focused on different issues but led to the same conclusion: the time for change is now.

For example, comments during a February confirmation hearing for Adewale Adeyemo, nominated by President Biden to become Deputy Treasury

Secretary, the nominee said, "Until we contain the pandemic, economic policy must remain focused on providing relief to those harmed by the public health crisis, especially those disproportionately impacted: low-income communities and communities of color. The pandemic has exacerbated inequality, strained families, and exposed disparities in opportunity throughout our country that existed long before COVID-19. Without additional relief, this hardship will become even more acute and will inflict long-lasting pain on countless Americans."

At press time, the Senate was set to act on the Adeyemo nomination. If confirmed, he would become the agency's point-person to implement the executive order requiring all federal offices to submit diversity and inclusion plans to the office of Management and Budget. In the interim, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, as reported by the New York Times, announced plans to invest \$9 billion into Community Development Financial Institutions and Minority Depository Institutions as they look to step up lending.

Concurrently, the U.S. House of Representatives' Financial Services Committee has convened multiple hearings that featured expert witness testimony echoing the calls of Mr. Adeyemo.

On March 10 the full committee held a hearing entitled, Justice for All: Achieving Racial Equity Through Fair Access to Housing and Financial Services.

Rep. Maxine Waters, a California Congresswoman and committee chair's opening remarks set the tone of the forum.

"Today we are here to discuss steps that this Committee can take to create justice and achieve racial equity through access to fair housing and financial services.... And no matter where you are and who you are--in America or around the world, institutional racism based on skin color creates barriers

that impact social and economic outcomes," noted Ms. Waters.

Testifying on behalf of the Center for Responsible Lending, Nikitra Bailey, Executive Vice President recounted the legacy of federal housing policies whose sum created today's financial inequities.

A 1933 federal housing program, the Home Owners Loan Corporation (HOLC), supported redlining through its underwriting guidelines. As a result, Black and other communities of color, were denied access to mainstream financing. During the first 35 years of this program, only 2% of FHA insured mortgage loans went to Black and other homebuvers of color.

Similarly, the 1944 GI Bill, continued the same systemic discrimination. In Mississippi, for example, the 3,329 VA -approved mortgages included two Black servicemembers.

Fast forward to more recent times, by the early 2000s, half of all mortgages made to Black and Latino families during the run-up to the foreclosure crisis were unsustainable subprime loans -- despite these consumers having credit records that qualified for cheaper, safer and more responsible loans.

"Because of these lending practices," testified Bailey, "Black and Latino families lost over \$1 trillion dollars in wealth during the crisis. Moreover, Black homeownership has been the slowest to recover from the Great Recession. In fact, there would be 770,000 more Black homeowners if the homeownership rate recovered to its pre-crisis level in 2000... The racial wealth gap contributes to the fact that in the 46 largest housing markets in the country, a median income Black household could only afford 25 percent of homes on the market last year in comparison to the 57 percent that a median income white household could afford.32 It will require focused and bold action to reverse these inequities."

The following day, a

subcommittee of House Financial Services convened yet another hearing. Entitled, "Slipping through the Cracks: Policy Options to Help America's Consumers during the Pandemic" the session spanned access to affordable credit or small business capital, debt collection, and stained credit all became inevitable and further complicated the financial disadvantages faced by communities of color.

"Without a safety net or a cushion to fall back on, people of color are far less able to weather financial



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED Rep. Maxine Waters

calamities," testified Carla Sanchez Adams, Managing Attorney with Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, Inc. "With fewer assets to draw on, people of color find are more prone to poverty traps."

"Debt collection activities increased in 2020," continued Sanchez Adams, "as did profits for debt collectors. Auto repossessions were prevalent, and consumers were left at the mercy of their lenders. Consumers would benefit if all debt activity ceased during the pandemic. The problems with our credit reporting system continued and revealed the need for reform around what consumer information is reported and how it is reported during a pandemic....Consumers would benefit from a moratorium on the negative reporting of unpaid debt during the pandemic. Scams and fraud also surged."

Speaking on behalf of minority lenders and small businesses, Robert James, president of Carter Development CDE and chair of the National Bankers Association, emphasized the importance of minority-owned small businesses, the lack of convenient access to mainstream banking as well as the dwindling number of minority depository institutions as issues demanding attention and correction.

"Minority-owned small businesses are the lifeblood of their communities," testified James. "The pre-pandemic 1.1 million minority-owned small businesses employed more than 8.7 million workers and annually generated more than \$1 trillion in economic output. Women own nearly 300,000 of them, employing 2.4 million workers. Despite their significance, these businesses face underlying challenges that make them vulnerable during normal times."

"Black-owned businesses, overall, also tend to start out with far less capital, whether from investments or bank loans, than white-owned businesses do," continued Carter. "And only 1 percent of black business owners get a bank loan in their first year of business, compared with 7 percent of white business owners. The COVID-19 crisis has compounded this issue: 42 percent of minority-owned small businesses responding to McKinsey's US Small Business Pulse Survey reported that obtaining credit was becoming increasingly difficult, compared with 29 percent of all respondents."

But credit terms and a pronounced shortage of accessible credit, according to Carter, are equally lending conditions that must become more inclusive.

"Limited access credit is a compounding factor that hurts the underlying health of minority-owned small businesses. said Carter. "Research has found that black small-business owners were significantly more likely to be asked to provide more information about their personfinancials—including personal financial statements and personal W-2 forms-when applying for small-business loans than white small-business owners were, even when controlling for credit score and business characteristics."

At the same time, as noted by Carter, from 2009 to the second quarter of 2018, nationally, the number of Minority Depository Institutions (MDIs) dropped from 215 to 155. MDIs are also much smaller in assets than the average non-MDI bank.

"Black and Hispanic MDIs have average assets of \$245 million and \$2.7 billion, respectively," said Carter, "compared to an average of \$3.1 billion for all US banks."

"Even before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, US household debt was on the rise, reaching over \$14 trillion," testified Ashley Harrington, CRL's Federal Advocacy Director. "While much of this debt stems from mortgages, a growing amount stems from non-mortgage consumer debt, including student loans, credit cards, installment loans, and auto loans. As people continue to lose jobs and have hours cut, and as deferred rental payments and other debts come due, we can expect to see an uptick in delinquencies and defaults on these non-mortgage debts."

Harrington offered a key recommendation to federal lawmakers that could begin to allow consumers to have more control over their own financial management.

"Allowing every adult to save and hold onto at least \$1000 per week in wages, and \$12,000 per bank account." urged Harrington. "will help families avoid eviction and afford essential costs like medicine and food. While family savings cannot replace the social safety net, it is critical that families be able to provide for themselves at a minimum. basic level. These protections are more urgent than ever: recent research has established that 8 million more families have fallen into poverty since May 2020.'

# Our Diversity is Truly America's Strength and the Hateful Reaction to it is Truly America's Weakness

continued from page 4

Leaders Table has called on the federal government to ensure robust enforcement of civil rights laws, and prioritize violence prevention and restorative justice. Strikingly, they understand that all communities of color

struggle in the face of racism and hate crimes.

They call on Congress to invest in communities at risk, building for all Americans basic economic rights that include jobs, housing, health care and education. The founding vision of the Rainbow Coalition was the inclusive society. We realized when you combine all the marginalized people who suffer from discrimination — African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, members of the LGBTQ communities, undocumented immigrants, the disabled and more — we represent the majority of

America. And when workers come together across lines of race and religion, they can change the world.

The pandemic and the poisonous rhetoric of Donald Trump have exposed once more the hard work that must be done to bring together an inclusive society.

Our diversity is truly America's strength, and the hateful reaction to it America's weakness. rising violence against Asian Americans, the Black Lives Matter marches against police brutality, the tragic epidemic of deaths of despair plaguing displaced working people, the increasing anger at immigrants require all of us to come together, across lines of race and religion and region, to protect one another and to unite in the call for equal justice. Together we can make a more perfect union.

# Networking brunch held for Black female entrepreneurs

By Journal Staff Writer

To inspire, connect and more importantly, follow the Forbes Magazine report that listed Black women as some of the fastest growing entrepreneurs in the United States, were the overall objectives at the first annual Mid-Month Mixer celebrating Black Entrepreneur Women. Held on

other women business owners a road map to greater financial success.

That road map or itinerary of the day had several quest speakers, Kenneth Johnson, Valerie Thompson, Vanice Williams, Toledo City Council, Susan Hamilton of ASSESTS Toledo and Dr. Corinn Taylor, keynote speaker sharing their experiences on constructing



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Sasha Clayborne, local music artist, performed several selections throughout the day.

Saturday, April 3 at Occasions Hall, 5359 Dorr St, the event was organized by three local business owners.

The networking event was the brainchild of Takeyla Brown, Alicia Owens and Shante' Mitchell, all entrepreneurs, who designed the event to specifically help give

their businesses. But also and more importantly, they shared information on how entrepreneurs can access funding from government or private institutions and how they can effectively grow their business.

group home for troubled youth, told The Toledo Journal that

Black women were excited about

Ms. Brown, who owns a

ship and for that, we should be celebrated."

From left are organizers of the event Takeyla Brown, and Shante' Mitchell, speakers,

Vanice Williams, Toledo City Council Member, Dr. Corinn Taylor, moderator of the event,

Ms. Mitchell is also an accomplished business owner of a home healthcare and residential agency.

Ms. Owens is the owner of Occasions and she said, "I'd like to see us develop our network and be willing to work together more in order to grow our business; that's what I want to see come out of to-

Besides being a city council member, Vanice Williams is the owner of a child care center. She spoke about her personal struggles and accomplishments on being a business owner. Further, she shared information on the government's plan to be more business friendly. One such way, she said, is the city will soon be creating a link for

> business owners that will have information on what's needed locally and on the state level to be an established business.

Dr. Taylor who is a registered nurse by trade. has a Master's Degree in Community Health and her PhD in Organizational Leadership, is also an accomplished delivered the keynote ad-

Her theme was, "We may encounter many defeats, but we must not be delayed." She told her audience that they may encounter big obstacles, but they have to stay focused and have resiliency in order to bring about their dreams.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL



Apostle Kendrea Steward, and organizer, Alicia Owens.

the event.

"We need to celebrate our Black women entrepreneurs, who struggle to make their business successful,"

"Black women have two obstacles; we're black and we're women," Ms. Mitchell said. "But even with these obstacles, Forbes Magazine list us as one of the fastest growing groups entering entrepreneur-

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# Pearly Mae Wiggins celebrates 90th birthday The hero who saved many



Pearly Wiggins, center, with a crown on her head, is surrounded by family and friends at her surprise 90th birthday party.

By Jurry Taalib-Deen Journal Staff Writer

In Spencer Township and the surrounding area, Pearly Mae Wiggins is known for her charitable work. Besides being an active member of her church and volunteering for countless causes, including being one of the original volunteers of the Spencer Township Fire Department. Ms. Wiggins saved the lives of little children by being a foster mother to over 30 children, most of her adult life.

On Saturday, March 27, at her home in Spencer Township, some of those foster children, who are known as always remember "Her children," honored Ms. Wiggins with a surprise birthday party. Family and friends first drove up to her home in a "car parade," honking and yelling happy birthday. Then, they parked and exited their vehicles, wearing face masks, and presented the birthday girl, whose birthday is on April 5, with flowers and presents.

Suzette Overton, daughter, who spearheaded the party, traveled from North Carolina to, "Give my mom her flowers while she's still alive."

"She treated us no different than her own children," Ms. Overton said. "Whenever I have a problem or need someone to talk to, she is the first person I call."

Ms. Overton and her sister

Mom would always tell me, 'God doesn't put more on you than you can handle.'

were raised by Ms. Wiggins since the age of nine.

"Mom would always tell me,

My mom has been a pillar of the community for 72 years. But for her to make it to 90 years old... definitely is a cause for celebration.

'God doesn't put more on you than vou can handle': I that during times of struggle," Ms. Overton said.

Mary Wiggins Terrell, daughter. said, "My mom has been a pillar of the community for 72 years. But for her to make it to 90 years old, which is a milestone, definitely is a cause for celebration. Her love for all her children is what causes us to still be in her life."

"She's our mom. Me and my two other siblings were the first foster children she took in and raised. We were never treated any different than her children; for that, I'm thankful and love her very much," said Ulonda Sutton.

Rodney Taylor began experiencing the love from his mom at the age of six.

> "She gave me a lot of love. She gave me the foundation of what being a man is. She took me to church and instilled God into my life. For all those things and ones I didn't mention, is why I love her and she [was] deserving of this day," he expressed.

> > "Pearly is my sister," said her friend of many years, Mattie Taylor.



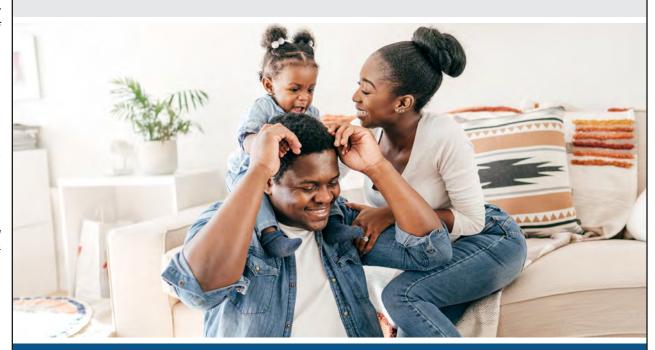
On her 90th birthday, Pearly Wiggins offered two keys to a long and healthy life; "Mind your business and trust God."

"She's a wonderful person; loving, kind and always help-

"Today has been so wonderful," Pearly Wiggins said. "All of this is a surprise to me. I wasn't expecting anything to happen."

Pearly Wiggins offered advice for a long and active life; "Mind your own business and trust in God."

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# What About Those Who Didn't Get a COVID-19 Vaccine (Yet)?



By Glenn Ellis Staff Writer

Don't get me wrong, this is not an encouragement for anyone to not get the vaccine. I'm just looking at the reality of what we are facing as we fight our way out of this pandemic.

While we should continue to do everything we can to support the total success of

the current COVID-19 vaccine campaign, if we don't fully embrace the sobering truth of both the vaccine hesitancy and the anti-vaxxers, we are playing a dangerous game of Russian roulette.

Always remember, that the strategy for beating this thing centers on something known as herd immunity. I'm sure you've heard that word by now. This is when the entire population is protected from the virus because enough of the general population has either been vaccinated or previously infected by the virus and developed natural antibodies. Needless to say, with a virus as deadly as COVID-19, we certainly don't want to sit and watch enough folks get infected and hope enough of



them don't die to contribute to our herd immunity goal. That means we have to rely on the success of the vaccine campaign.

Now, back to the start of this column. We know (as much as we would rather not admit it) everyone is not going to get a vaccine! A Harvard study of registered voters found that 41 percent of them said that they would not take the vaccine. That's a long way from herd immunity. We need somewhere around 80% of every man, woman, and child in America getting vaccinated. The startling reality in these numbers is that Pew Research found that of those who don't currently plan to get a vaccine, the main reasons are concerns about side effects (72 percent); belief the vaccines were developed and tested too quickly (67 percent); and just want to know more about how well they work (61 percent). The figures for frontline healthcare workers who are planning to get the vaccine are as high as 35 percent. All because they are scared; simply don't have enough information to make an informed decision. Sadly, like many other things in our nation, health literacy has always been a very low priority in the United States healthcare system.

Like I've been saying for

years, "Information is the best medicine!" I'm not sure any of us knows how much money has been spent on the research, development, manufacturing, and distribution, and administration of these vaccines.

Likewise, no one can count how little has been spent to make sure the almost 350 million people in the United States can actually follow the science?

If we aren't willing to address this dilemma in the allocation of our resources, and the accompanying priorities in addressing a public health crisis, who are we? Certainly,

Continued on page 16.

As I write this, we're vaccinating only about 1 million people a day. At that pace, Reuters estimates it would take until April 2022 for 75 percent of Americans to receive at least their first vaccine dose.



# Seeing Your Doctor During the Pandemic

Submitted

(Family Features) If you've been putting off a visit to your doctor during COVID-19, you're not alone.

Most adults (57%) agree the pandemic has changed how they feel about going to a health care provider's office, according to a survey of 1,000 adults in October 2020 from a national alliance of health care experts working to stop medical distancing, which was commissioned and sponsored by AbbVie.

The survey showed that in adults with chronic diseases, cancellations of their visits to the doctor amounted to 61%. Of those that had canceled appointments, 18% did not reschedule them. Some of the reasons included concerns about contracting COVID-19, not wanting to go into the hospital if not necessary and believing they can hold off on care until the end of the pandemic.

Keeping up with regular appointments is an important part of effective ongoing health care, especially for those managing chronic conditions. Continuous, clear and open communication with your health care providers is essential to getting the care you need.

See Your Doctor

Most important to know during this time are the measures your health care providers are taking, such as wearing personal protective equipment, practicing physical distancing and increasing cleaning and sanitization procedures. Find out what precautions health care providers are taking in your area.

Also, see if your health care team offers telehealth appointments as an alternative. Virtual visits put you face-to-face with your doctor from the comfort and safety of your own home.

"It's generally wise to limit in-person interactions to safeguard against contracting COVID-19, but forgo-



ing care for an ongoing health condition, especially a chronic illness, may put patients at unnecessary risk," said Dr. Oren Cohen, chief medical officer, Labcorp Drug Development. "Our goal in health care is to keep patients safe and healthy. Health care providers have established robust protocols to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Calling ahead to understand the process for an office visit or test is a good idea. In some circumstances, telehealth visits may be a good option as well."

Keep Up with Your Medicines

In addition to seeing your doctor, it's also important to take your medications as prescribed. Stay in touch with your pharmacy and health care provider team to ensure prescriptions stay current. Also avoid waiting until the

last minute to request a refill so you don't encounter delays or potentially miss doses.

Seeing your doctor and taking your medications are very important to your ongoing care. It's also a time to talk with your health care provider for more advice on how to get the care you need during the pandemic and beyond.

Take Control of Your Health Care During COVID-19

Health care providers are taking extra precautions and implementing additional protocols to conduct in-person visits in the safest way possible. Here's what you can do to take care of your health:

\* Make and keep your appointments.

\* Reschedule any cancelled appointments.

\* If you decide to see the doctor in-person, be sure to call your doctor and ask what health precautions are being taken.

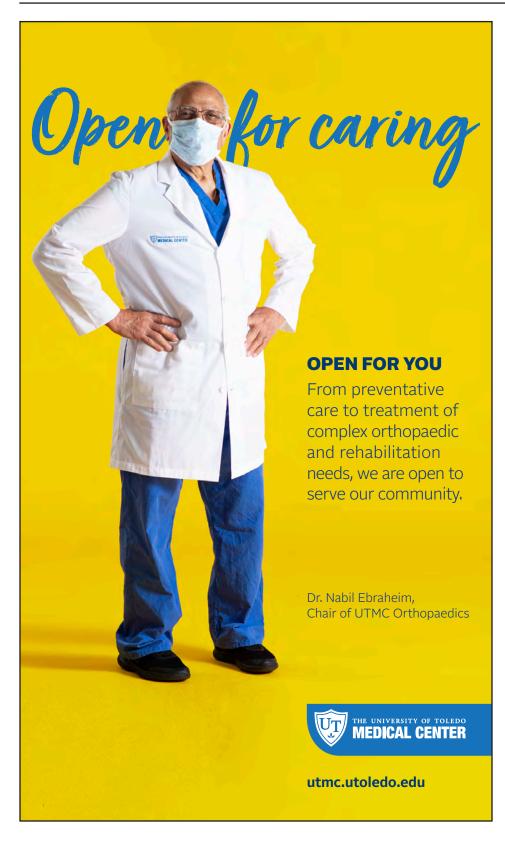
\* Consider a telehealth visit as an alternative to going to an in-person visit.

\* Take your medications as prescribed.

\* Check the expirations of your medications and ask for refills with plenty of time to have them filled.

\* Ask your health care provider for additional ways to protect your health during this pandemic.

Sponsored by AbbVie Photos courtesy of Getty Images





# In Loving Memory

Jimmy Lee Brown 2/10/1961 - 3/6/2021



"If I should go tomorrow
It would never be goodbye,
For I have left my heart with you,
So don't you ever cry.
The love that's deep within me,
Shall reach you from the stars,
You'll feel it from the heavens,
And it will heal the scars."

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."

1 Corinthians 16:13

"Our Hero" Love you forever Jimmy!

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

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Elizabeth C.

## Dear Elizabeth C:

You have described a "Green Burial" very well. Keep in mind a preplanned service is as stated, "pre-planned". In respose to your question as to the making and changing of plans, once again there is always the open avenue of court challenges to the best made plans.

C. Brown

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# Barack Obama's Grandmother, Mama Sarah Obama Passes Away At 99

Black News - Condolences are pouring in for the Obama family over the loss of the paternal family matriarch. Mama Sarah Onyango Obama who was profiled after President Obama was elected in 2008, has passed away. She was 99.

The news was confirmed by Mama Sarah's daughter Marsat Onyango who said her mother died at a hospital in the city of Kisumu in Kenya. TMZ reports that a family spokesperson shared that Mama Sarah had been sick for a week, but did not die of COVID-19. President Obama has been informed of her passing and released a statement on Twitter memorializing his grandma.

Kenyan President, Uhuru Kenyatta, released a statement on Mama Sarah's death, saying;

"The passing away of Mama Sarah is a big blow to our nation. We've lost a strong, virtuous woman. A matriarch who held together the Obama family and was an icon of family values."

Mama Sarah attended President Obama's inauguration in 2009 and prior to that was highlighted dancing outside of her home in the Kenyan village of Nyang'oma-Kogelo when Obama was elected. Mama Sarah was the second wife



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Mama Sarah Onyango Obama passed away in Kenya at 99

of Barack's grandfather and President Obama referred to her as Granny' in his memoir, 'Dreams from My Father.' According to him, the two developed a bond after initially struggling to communicate while meeting in 1998 during a trip to his father's homeland.

Later, Obama spoke about his grandmother again in his September 2014 speech to the U.N. General Assembly.

Mama Sarah was a changemaker who used The Mama Sarah Obama Foundation to help provide food, education, school supplies, and basic medical needs to children who lost their parents and young girls. She also was known to raise several of them in her home in her rural Kogelo village.

R.I.P. Mama Sarah Obama.

# The Seven Last Words of George Floyd



By John Thomas III, Editor The Christian Recorder

The commemoration of Good Friday is a solemn and holy event for Christians. We cannot get to the resurrection of Jesus Christ without traversing through the crucifixion, death, and burial of God's only begotten son. One of the dividing lines among Christian traditions is the context of Jesus's Passion and death. When we separate Jesus from His worldly environment and circumstances—being persecuted as a Jewish teacher by a foreign empire and betrayed by compatriots who were threatened by His message and witness—we lose sight that Jesus, both fully God and man, was gruesomely murdered.

This year's Good Friday is especially poignant for African Americans it comes in the middle of the trial of Derek Chauvin for the grue-

some murder of George Floyd. The 9 minutes and 29 seconds that turned the collective stomach of the world have been seared into our shared consciousness and the legacy of this watershed moment is still playing out. In the same way that we cannot allow our faith to be sanitized, we cannot allow the death of Mr. Floyd to be stripped of the circumstances of institutional racism, poverty, and White Supremacy that led to his brutal death at the hands of one who was charged to serve and protect. It is customary on Good Friday to commemorate the seven last words/sayings of Jesus Christ in solemn worship. In that spirit today, I encourage us to reflect upon the seven last words of George Floyd based upon the police bodycam transcript.

## 1) Mama, mama, mama!

"When George Floyd called for his mother, he was calling for all of us," said a friend of mine who is the mother of a young Black son. When Jesus was dying on the cross, He looked to His mother, Mary commending her to John's care. We can only imagine how Mary felt to see the life slowly leaving her son's body. In his last moments, Mr. Floyd cried out for the woman who brought him into this world as he realized he was being ripped out of it.

2) Please, man.

When Jesus was on the cross, He appealed to His tormentors to quench His thirst. Mr. Floyd appealed to the humanity of his tormentor to save his life. He was already on the ground and restrained. He was not a threat. This plea echoes the signs of the 1960s strikes when working-class Black people asserted their dignity by simply saying, "I am a Man!" It also echoes the appeal of Sojourner Truth for persons to see and value her humanity by saying, "Ain't I a Woman?" In the eyes of his murderer, however, Mr. Floyd was not a citizen-much less, a human being.

# 3) You're going to kill me, man!

Mr. Floyd told his murderer that he was dying and pleaded with him to stop. As the trial goes on, we are hearing the damning testimony of persons who all say they know they witnessed a murder. An assassination perpetrated by White Supremacy at the hands of the police. How many times have we heard deadly force being justified because of a perceived threat or a need to stand one's ground?

# 4) I can't believe this.

Mr. Floyd's disbelief that a transaction with an alleged counterfeit bill could cost him his life at the hands of someone who he had worked with. The shock from

Continued on page 16.

# Lourdes University Garners Military Friendly Honors

One of Nation's Top 2020-21 Military Friendly® Schools

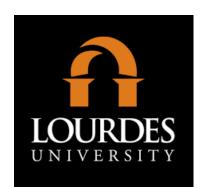
Submitted

Continuing its mission to provide veterans, their spouses, and the military community with the finest choices for education opportunities, Military Friendly has released the 2021-22 Military Friendly® Schools list. Now in its 11th year, the Military Friendly® Schools list has come to set the standard for higher education institutions to provide the best opportunities for veterans and their spouses. This prestigious list provides a comprehensive guide for veterans and their families using data

sources from federal agencies and proprietary survey information from participating organizations

Institutions earning the Military Friendly® School designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey completed by the school. More than 1,000 schools participated in the 2021-2022 survey, with 625 schools earning the designation from every state in the country.

Lourdes University is proud to join the list of Top 2021-22



Military Friendly Schools®. The institution earned the designated rating for exceeding all six benchmark standards for Military Friendly® status.

Military Friendly® commended Lourdes for being "a small private school that is very welcoming to veterans. Class sizes are much smaller than those at larger schools and students often remark about the feeling of safety and tranquility on campus. Veterans needing peace and quiet have access to a veteran center that has several couches, military memorabilia, large screen television, refrigerator, computers and printers. Because most student veterans are a bit more mature than traditional students, the center is a popular spot. Lourdes can fully prepare all of its students

for future success."

A major component to Lourdes University's military-friendly status is the strong program and support provided by Veteran Affairs Coordinator and Assistant Professor of Business & Leadership Gary Bentley. Mr. Bentley is a retired Air Force Major and former Executive Officer of the 180th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard.

For more information on Veteran Affairs at Lourdes University, contact Mr. Bentley at 419-517-8885 or gbentley@lourdes.edu.

# 15-Year Old Wins Global Math Competition



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Submitted

Faith Odunsi, a 15-year old Nigerian high school student, has won the 2021 Global Open Mathematics competition. She beat contestants from many countries around the world including the U.S., China, Australia, and others.

Odunsi excelled in all rounds of the competition and even got to answer more questions than her competitors in the final round. But she said she didn't really think she would win.

"I was already tense, so I just smiled. I was too anxious to dance. I was tense because it was a tough competition," Odunsi told Punch.

Odunsi managed to win by a 30-point margin, setting a new record. She received a \$1,000 prize for winning the contest.

Currently a senior high

school student at the Ambassadors School in Ota Ogun State, she did not let the competition affect her academic activities. She prepared for the contest after class with her teacher who coached her and she also studied at night from 11 pm to 12 am.

She plans to someday study computer engineering in college.

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# FAMOUS QUOTES

"If your dream only includes you, it's too small." **Ava DuVernay** 

"It's your game; make up your own rules." **Barbara Corcoran** 

"In the end, some of your greatest pains become your greatest strengths"

## **Drew Barrymore**

"Every five years, I feel like I'm a completely different person."

Jessica Alba

"You can have it all. Just not all at once." **Oprah Winfrey** 

"Don't let anyone work harder than you do." **Serena Williams** 

"Your self-worth is determined by you. You don't have to depend on someone telling you who you are." **Beyonce** 

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#### **JOB POSTING**

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Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH), located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for the following position(s): Senior Accountant I & CFP Coordinator and Manager of Procurement & Contracts. For complete details, visit https:// www.lucasmha.org and click on Careers. Deadline: 04/18/21. This is a Section 3 covered position. HUD recipients are encouraged to apply and are to indicate on the application if you are a LMHA Public Housing client or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. NO PHONE CALLS, Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, religious creed, gender, military status, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin



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A Service & Support Specialist is the primary point of coordination for each person on their caseload. As a successful Service and Support Specialist, you will be supporting individuals with developmental disabilities by assisting them in determining and pursuing their individual life goals, while coordinating services and supports across multiple systems. The candidate for this career opportunity must possess a Bachelor's degree in Social Work, Counseling, or related area, plus one (1) year of experience in coordinating, assessing, and linking services and supports and/or developing, and assessing habilitation programs and activities for individuals with DD or in a related area.

All candidates must submit to the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities by April 23, 2021, a resume and cover letter along with an employment application, which is available at www.lucasdd.org. If in need of ADA accommodations, contact us directly at 419-380-4033. EOE.

## **HELP WANTED**



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# **BLACK HISTORY**

**April 10, 1854:** Hallie Quinn Brown, women's rights activist, born.

**April 13, 1907**: Harlem Hospital opens in New York City.

**April 7, 1915:** Billie Holiday, blues singer, born in Baltimore, Md.

**April 9, 1950:** Juanita Hall becomes the first African American to win a Tony award for her role as Bloody Mary in the musical South Pacific.

**April 11, 1966**: Emmett Ashford became the first Black major league umpire.

**April 4, 1967:** Dr. King makes a speech about the war in Vietnam "Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence," at Riverside Church in New York City.

**April 3, 1968:** Dr. King addresses a rally of striking sanitation workers and their supporters in Memphis. He also delivers his last speech, titled "I've Been to the Mountaintop," at the Memhis Masonic Temple.

**April 4, 1968:** Dr. King is assassinated by a single rifle shot to the head and neck. He was killed while standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis. He had left his room to greet visitors who had assembled in the parking lot below.

**April 8, 1968:** Coretta Scott King leads Memorial March in Memphis, Tenn., with sanitation workers.

**April 9, 1968**: Hundreds of thousands of people attend funeral services for Dr. King in Atlanta, Ga.

**April 8, 1974:** Henry ("Hank") Aaron broke Babe Ruth's major league baseball record, by hitting his 715th home run in a game at Atlanta stadium.

**April 4, 2018**: The Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commssion commemorates the 50th anniversary of the assasination of Dr. King in the Ohio Statehouse Atrium in Columbus. Speakers include commission members David Jehnsen, chari and founding trustee of the Institute fr

**April 12, 1989:** Sugar Ray Robinson, five-time winner of the world middleweight boxing championship and unbeaten welterweight champion, dies.

**Colvin** did the same thing - nine months before Parks did. She was only 15 at the time, and was one of the first Black activists to openly challenge the law. As she told Teen Vogue in a 2017 interview, "The whole movement was about young people, saying we want more from America."

Madam C.J. Walker: Before Mary Kay, there was Madam C.J. Walker. Walker is widely regarded as one of the first ever self-made American, female millionaires. She created hair-care solutions and remedies with Black women in mind and sold them doorto-door. She eventually created a brand people recognized, widely manufactured her products, and hired 40,000 ambassadors since the company's inception to help her sell her products, according to Mic.

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GEM Energy provides services to improve customer business performance and reduce facility operation costs through on-site power development, HVAC and plumbing, facility management, energy procurement and building controls. Based in Toledo, Ohio since 1999, GEM Energy is part of the Rudolph Libbe Group, with offices in Cleveland, Columbus and Lima, Ohio, and Plymouth, Michigan.For additional information, visit www.RLGBuilds.com.

GEM Facility Management is seeking a Lead Facility Manager. The Lead Facility Manager is expected to be competent with multiple maintenance disciplines and can work to solve many facility issues. This associate must exhibit strong communication skills and can work effectively with teams. The associate will be required to manage a large facility and maintenance staff.

High school diploma or equivalent, minimum 2 years of applicable maintenance experience, two-year technical degree is equivalent to one year of experience, minimum of 5 years of facility and staff management, leadership experience and demonstrated ability to lead, coach, and build relationships while effectively maintainingboundaries.

**GEM Energy is an EEO Employer.** 

For more information and to apply, please visit www.RLGBuilds.com/careers.

Lyda D. Newman: Like Walker, Newman gravitated toward a career involving the hair-care industry. Newman got a patent for her invention, the first synthetic hairbrush, in 1898. Her innovation allowed for easier access to the bristles in order to clean out the brush. In addition, she introduced synthetic bristles. Before her invention brushes used animal hair, such as a boar's. Her invention made brushing long locks a more hygienic process.

Ruby Bridges: Bridges proved that you don't have to be an adult to change history. Her activism started at just six-years old. In 1960, she was the first Black child to racially integrtean all-white elementary school in the South. On her first day of school at William Frantz Elementary School in Louisiana, she had to be escorted through an angry crowd of white parents and students by four federal marshals.

Fannie Lou Hamer: Hamer was a civil rights activist from Mississiipi who fought for African Americans' right to vote, often helping them to register. She worked with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee for a time, fighting against racial segregation and violent voter suppression in the South. She was also one of the founders of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party.

Audre Lorde: This lesbian, Black, female poet's 1973 collection, From a Land Where Other People Live, was nominaed for a National Book Award and increased America's awareness of Intersectionality, or the convergence of race, gender, and class that can put particular groups at a disadvantage or lead to discrimination. Lorde's identity shaped her speeches and writings about the struggles of women, Black people, and the LGBTQ community, according to Mic.

Charles Henry Cooper - was an American professional basketball He and two others, Nat "Sweetwater" Clifton and Earl Lloyd, became the first African-American players in the NBA in 1950. Cooper was also the first African American to be drafted by a National Basketball Association (NBA) team, as the first pick of the second round by the Boston

#### **HELP WANTED**

# Position Available **Grants and Contracts Manager**



Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), a non-profit regional law firm that provides high-quality legal assistance to people and groups living in poverty in western Ohio, seeks a Grants and Contracts Manager.

The Grants and Contracts Manager will be responsible for all aspects of grants management for ABLE and Legal Aid of Western Ohio (LAWO) and covering our 32-county region. This includes all activities related to research, cultivation, proposal preparation, tracking, award processing, outcome reporting, and grant closeout.

Bachelor's degree or relevant work experience including a minimum of 5 years experience in grants management in a non-profit environment with proven record of success is required. Experience with federal grants preferred. Computer proficiency required. Must have outstanding interpersonal, organizational, project management, and oral and written communication skills. Must be able to work collaboratively in a team-based environment and committed to the firms' missions and the principle of equal justice for all. Some travel required. Compensation is commensurate with experience. Excellent annual leave, holiday leave, and fringe benefits.

**To Apply:** Send resume and cover letter electronically by COB on April 15, 2021, to: **jobs@ablelaw.org** with the Subject: Grants and Contracts Manager

ABLE is an Equal Opportunity Employer and places a high value on diversity in our workplace, including diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, and physical ability. We strive to create an environment welcoming to all individuals and we encourage applications from individuals traditionally underrepresented in the legal profession. Equal access to ABLE's Toledo office is available. Applicants requiring accommodation for the interview/application process should contact the recruitment coordinator at the address listed above.

Celtics.

Claudette Colvin - is an American nurse and was a pioneer of the Civil Rights Movement. On March 2, 1955, she was arrested at age 15 in Montgomery, Alabama, for refusing to give up her seat to a white woman on a crowded, segregated bus. Colvin acted a few months before the more widely known incident in which Rosa Parks, secretary of the local chapter of NAACP played the lead role, sparking the Montgomery Bus Boycott that began that year.

**Shirley Ann Jackson** - is an American physicist, and the 18<sup>th</sup> president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She is the first African American woman to have earned a doctorate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). She is also the second woman in the United States to earn a doctorate in physics, and the first to be awarded the National Medal of Science.

Gerald Anderson "Jerry" Lawson - was a self-taught American electronic engineer. He was the first Black Video Game Professional. He created one of the first coin-op arcade games (Demolition Derby), and was the head of Video Soft, an early independent developer for the Atari 2006. He is known for his work in designing the Fairchild Channel F video game console as well as inventing the video game cartridge.

Aretha Louise Franklin - was an American singer, songwriter, civil rights activist, and pianist. Aretha won an incredible 18 Grammy awards in her life time. She became the first female artist to be inducted to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Aretha performed at the inauguration of three US Presidents.



# Autopsy Reveals That Bobby Brown Jr. Died From Alcohol and Drug Overdose

Black News - Los Angeles, CA — Bobby Brown Jr. reportedly died after taking drugs and alcohol, according to an autopsy report recently released. He was initially said to have experienced flu-like symptoms before the police found him dead in his home in November 2020.

According to the document from the L.A. County Medical Examiner's Office obtained by TMZ, the autopsy and toxicology test found alcohol, cocaine, and fentanyl, which ultimately causes death when combined.

A witness also reportedly told police that Bobby Jr. downed tequila before snorting Percocet and three lines of cocaine.

In November, 28-year old Bobby Jr. was found dead in his Los Angeles home. His girlfriend called para44

No foul play was believed to be involved and no drugs were allegedly found at the scene.



medics after finding him unresponsive and he was declared dead at the scene. His family said before his death, he was not feeling well and was experiencing flu-like symptoms but he did not have COVID-19.

No foul play was believed to be involved and no drugs were allegedly found at the scene. The coroner reported the manner of death as accidental.

# WGTE Public Media Receives Platinum Status From Guidestar Seals Of Transparency

Submitted

WGTE Public Media received Platinum Seal Status for the second year by Guide Star Seals of Transparency by Candid. GuideStar is an information service specializing in reporting on U.S. non-profit companies and connects donors and grant makers to non-profit organizations. WGTE received platinum seal status by achieving strategies and goals, metric indicators and evaluation documents. We also were evaluated on our organization demographics, Board Governance leadership, organizational

founding, Annual Report and how we receive feedback from the community.

WGTE Public Media is one of the few non-profit organizations in Northwest Ohio to receive platinum status. WGTE's mission is dedicated to enabling person development and civic improvement by the innovative use of technology to educate, enlighten, enrich, engage, entertain, empower and explore and we will continue to serve our community. For more information on GuideStar Seals of Transparency and to review our status go to www.guidestar.org.

# Jamie Foxx To Play Mike Tyson In Upcoming Limited Series



By Brandon Caldwell Wire Writer

Jamie Foxx's desire to play boxing legend Mike Tyson is now becoming a reality. The Oscar winner is set to don the infamous black trunks for a limited biographical series about Tyson, according to a report by Variety.

The series will be titled Tyson and will span the entirety of Tyson's life thus far. Although the series doesn't have a home at a network or streaming service, Antoine Fuqua is on board to direct and executive produce and Oscar-winning director Martin Scorsese is serving as an executive producer as well. The former two-time heavyweight champion is on board with Foxx portraying him on the small screen.

"I have been looking to tell my story for quite some time," Tyson said. "With the recent launch of Legends

Tyson's career has been previously made into a TV movie titled "Tyson," starring Michael Jai White in 1995. In 1986, he ascended to the top of the boxing world when he became the youngest heavyweight champion ever, defeating Trevor Berbick. He's widely considered one of the fear-some heavyweights of his era, if not of all-time but his life has been as eventual outside of the ring as it was inside the ring.

He's maintained a comeback after retirement, starring in films such as The Hangover and starring in a oneman show on Broadway. Recently, he fought fellow legend Roy Jones Jr., to an eight-round draw in Los Angeles. The fight was viewed to be the launch of the Legends Only League, a boxing league for older fighters who still wanted one more chance in the ring.

Tyson reportedly turned down a \$25 million payday to fight Evander Holy-



Only League and the excitement from fans following my return to the ring, now feels like the perfect moment. I look forward to collaborating with Martin, Antoine, Jamie, and the entire creative team to bring audiences a series that not only captures my professional and personal journey but also inspires and entertains."

Foxx has been vocal about playing Tyson, although his initial belief was to be part of a biographical film. He's been training for the role and at one point detailed an opening scene where Tyson is flat on his back, contemplating the world before ultimately getting up to face the count.

"I have been looking to tell my story for quite some time," Tyson said.

field for an exhibition match. It would have been the third fight between the two after a 1996 match which Holyfield won and a controversial rematch in 1997 when Tyson was disqualified for biting Holyfield's ear.

# April: National Car Care Month Basic Maintenance Helps Avoid Costly Repairs Down the Road

Submitted

National Car Care Month in April is the time of year to give your car some extra attention. Basic maintenance can go a long way toward improving the safety and dependability of your vehicle, plus it helps avoid costly repairs down the road.

"Neglected vehicle care almost always means much higher costs down the line in the form of more extensive repairs or lost resale value," said Rich White, executive director, Car Care Council. "Chances are if you own a car, it needs some work. National Car Care Month in April is the perfect time to focus on your vehicle's maintenance needs."

Results of community car care events held throughout the country last year show that most consumers are neglecting their cars, with seven out of 10 vehicles failing at least one component of the vehicle inspection process. (For a complete list of results, visit www.carcare.org

"These results show that the majority of vehicle owners could save money by being more proactive when it comes to their vehicle," White said. "Whether you do it yourself or take your car to a professional service technician, make sure your car is ready for the spring and summer travel season."

The Car Care Council rec-



PHOTO CREDIT / PIXABAY.COM

ommends 10 basic maintenance procedures to keep your car operating at its best:

• Check the oil, filters and fluids. Oil should be checked at every fill-up and changed per the owner's manual recommended intervals. Brake, transmission, power steering, coolant and windshield washer fluids should also be checked regularly. Your car's filters, including those for the transmission, fuel system and interior ventilation, need regular inspection and replacement.

•Inspect hoses at each oil change and have them replaced when leaking, brittle, cracked, rusted, swollen or restricted. Check V-belts and serpentine belts for looseness and condition, and have them replaced when cracked, frayed, glazed or showing signs of excessive wear. Typically replace the timing belt between 60,000 and 90,000 miles or the interval specified in the owner's manual to avoid a breakdown or serious engine damage.

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•Check the engine brake system every year and have the brake linings, rotors and drums inspected at each oil change.

•Check that the battery connection is clean, tight and corrosion-free. The battery should be securely mounted. If it is three years old or more, the battery should be tested and replaced if necessary.

•Inspect the exhaust system for leaks, damage and broken supports or hangers if there is an unusual noise.

Exhaust leaks can be dangerous and must be corrected without delay.

•Schedule a tune-up that will help the engine deliver the best balance of power and fuel economy and produce the lowest level of emissions.

•Check the car's heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) system as proper heating and cooling performance is critical for interior comfort and for safety reasons, such as defrosting.
•Inspect the steering and suspension system annually, including shock absorbers and struts, and chassis parts, such as ball joints, tie rod ends and other related components.

•Check the pressure of all tires, including the spare, at least once a month. Check the tread for uneven or irregular wear and cuts and bruises along the sidewalls. Have your car's alignment checked at least annually to reduce tire wear and improve fuel economy and handling.

•Test exterior and interior lights and have bulbs that are not working checked immediately. Replace windshield wiper blades every six months or when cracked, cut, torn, streaking or chattering for optimum wiping performance and safety.

# Ongoing Events

Continued from page 3.

# Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce Spring Expo & Market"

Saturday, 9am-3pm The Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce presents the 18 th Annual FREE family friendly "Sylvania Spring Expo and Market, Saturday, at the Sylvania Sports and Exhibition Center at Tam-O-Shanter, 7060 Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania, Ohio. OVER 100 area businesses, restaurants, and craft vendors will be present. The Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce is committed to ensuring a safe event. Each booth will be fully barricaded to ensure proper social distancing.

Visitors will have the opportunity to win various cash prizes. For more info contact the Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce at 419-882-2135 or visit their Facebook page.

# April 17th

# Book Talk on "First and Only: A Black Woman's Guide to Thriving at Work and In Life" with Author Jennifer R. Farmer

Spotlight Lounge, will host a book talk with Jennifer R. Farmer, author of "First and Only: A Black Woman's Guide to Thriving at Work and in Life." The event will be held Saturday, at 11:00 a.m. ET.

"I wrote "First and Only" because in many instances the challenges facing Black women are ignored or minimized. After consuming tons of leadership content, and realizing many were silent on the racism, sexism, homophobia and classism that Black woman experience in professional settings and in life, I knew Black women needed something that spoke uniquely to their needs," Farmer said.



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# COVID-19 Vaccine

Continued from page 8.

this is not what the wealthiest country on the planet, with the most expensive healthcare system, with the greatest advancements in research and technology is like, is it? Is this who we are?

Unless my math is off (which is possible), 30% of the people in the United States are a little over 100 million folks who are going to "spoil the herd immunity pie". As reported in STAT, by Iain MacLeod, "To vaccinate 75% of the U.S. population, approximately 248 million people — that's nearly 500 million doses — are needed. And it means we need to be vaccinating nearly 2 million people a day so all of them are immune by the fall of 2021. As I write this, we're vaccinating only about 1 million people a day. At that pace, Reuters estimates it would take until April 2022 for 75 percent of Americans to receive at least their first vaccine dose".

It's almost embarrassing that the first concerted, national effort to scratch the surface of public health education, was a dismal \$50 million ad campaign. That pales in comparison to the more than \$12 billion Operation Warp Speed program allocated to vaccine makers: before the end of the summer! Heaven only knows what the price tag is now. This should encourage all of us, as stakeholders in this pandemic, to be prepared for a significant population-divide to emerge in 2021; those who have gotten the vaccine and those who don't.

Now comes the big issue: Should the people who choose not to get vaccinated have restrictions imposed on them? Should they bear full responsibility for the role that a basic lack of information played in the decision to not take the vaccine? Will I be able to ride the bus or the subway if I am still deciding on whether to get a vaccine? Most importantly, who decides these things?

The United States is the only country in the developed world whose healthcare system is tied to the free market. That being said, it would be naïve to think that the bottom line in this massive engagement of the entire healthcare system wouldn't be driven by the economic and political decisions. It plays out in how individual states are able to arbitrarily implement and/or relax restrictions, in response to their respective economic and political pressures.

We have to decide who we want to be, and if everyone matters.

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 indi-

# PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Kim M. Janey is the first woman and first black person to serve as mayor of Boston.

Submitted

Boston seats a black

woman mayor

(Blackman's Street) - Kim M. Janey was named acting Mayor of Boston, the first black person to hold the po-

Janey has been a member of the Boston City Council since January 2018. She represents Roxbury, South End, Dorchester, and Fenway.

When President Biden named Boston Mayor Marty Walsh as the nominee for Secretary of Labor, Janey replaced

A formal swearing-in ceremony will be held on March 24.

Janey, 56, will continue to serve during the remainder of Walsh's term, which ends in January 2022. She is Boston's 55th mayor.

It was also announced that Dennis White, an African American, was named that city's chief of police.

# Street name in honor of Botham Jean

Submitted

(Blackman's Street Today) - Botham Jean, who was shot to death by a Dallas cop, while he was sitting on his couch eating ice cream, has had a street named in his honor.

The ceremony on Saturday honored Botham Shem Jean, who is a native of St. Lucia. Dallas Mayor Erick Johnson said Jean "embodies the very spirit of what the city is supposed to be about." The new street sign was installed in front of the police headquarters.

Jean was shot to death by Amber Guyger, an off-duty cop, who mistak-

enly walked into Jean's apartment, believing he was a burglar.

After the deadly shooting, Guyer was not arrested for several days, which sparked outrage and cries of racial

A year later Guyger was found guilty of murdering Jean, and she is now serving a ten-year prison sentence. Jean was an accountant employed by PriceWaterhouseCoopers.

Then things got even weirder. Trial Judge Tamy Kemp and Brant Jean, Botham Jean's brother both hugged Guyger after she was found guilty.

# Seven Last Words

Continued from page 10.

emergency personnel who clearly saw the signs of distress yet were not allowed to render assistance. The horror of rookie police officers out on their training patrol witnessing a superior crushing the life out of a restrained suspect. We all cannot believe the cruel brutality of White Supremacy—yet it plays before our collective eyes daily with its deadly consequences.

## 5) Tell my kids, I love them.

Mr. Floyd had a life before he became a martyr, a slogan, and a t-shirt image. He was a friend, a son, and a father. Behind every victim of racism is collateral damage—grieving children, a heartbroken community, the lost potential of what could and should have been. Even though his death has become a symbol of the cost of institutional racism for Black people, Mr. Floyd was a real man with real people who mourn him and were robbed of his presence in their lives.

## 6) I'm dead.

Between 1920 and 1938, the New York branch of the NAACP hung a flag outside of its office emblazoned with the words, "Another man was lynched today." In 2015, the flag was revived and updated to say, "Another man was lynched by police today." Jesus's death was a public lynching complete with a gambling show. The world has borne witness to Mr. Floyd's lynching—many

anguished, others cheering, and some nonchalant-in the same way that the spectators watched Jesus hang His head on Golgotha as the sun set.

## 7) I can't breathe!

The most well-known phrase that embodies how White Supremacy has strangled the life out of Black people globally through the trans-Atlantic slave trade (Maafa), colonialism, apartheid, segregation, and a litany of other terms associated with White Supremacy and anti-Blackness. It was first seared into our memories when we watched Eric Garner have the life choked out of him. On May 25, 2020, over 600 years of global anti-Blackness were distilled into a single moment when a white cop literally ripped the spirit out of a Black man. We remember that Jesus committed His spirit to God as his lungs collapsed from the crucifixion.

Breonna Taylor, Atatiana Jefferson, Tamir Rice, Freddy Gray, Philando Castille, Bothan Jean Janisha Fonville, Mr. George Perry Floyd, Jr., and Jesus.

Today as we commemorate one who paid the ultimate price for our eternal salvation, we must also remember those who daily pay the price of the legacy of the brutal and inveterate violence of White Supremacy. Our prayer to make it "on Earth as it is in Heaven" is only as good as the witness and daily steps we take to make sure that Jesus, George Floyd, and so many others have not died in vain. Amen.



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