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EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY IN THE TOLEDO JOURNAL



Portion of One-hundred-eighty million dollars to go to reducing gun violence



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

People who lived in the vicinity of Woodward High School were determined to end the shootings.

By Jurry Taalib-Deen
Journal Staff Writer

On Saturday, May 15, at Woodward High School, 701 E. Central Ave, the second of a series of townhall meetings aimed at reducing gun violence was held. JoJuan Armour, director of the Mayor's Initiative to End Gun Violence, spearheaded the event.

He informed those in attendance that meeting sites were being rotated based on crime stats, areas that have the highest incidents of violence and gun shootings, in order to give the people in that particular area the opportunity to discuss ways at reducing gun violence.

During the general meeting, an overview of what transpired at Scott High School, a few weeks previously, was discussed, before breaking up in groups to strategize tactics on their objective.

In attendance at the Summit was Wade Kapszukiewicz, Mayor of the City of Toledo. The Toledo Journal interviewed him regarding the city receiving \$180 million dollars in Covid-19 relief from the American Rescue Plan. In a March Statement from the Mayor's office, read he wanted to use \$30 million of the \$180 million, for programs to reduce gun violence, provide workforce development, fight food insecurities and develop a youth mentorship initiative. In neither, the meeting at Woodward, nor Scott, was that funding discussed.

Mayor Kapszukiewicz said the money hasn't arrived as of yet, but he's expecting \$90 million dollars within the month and the second portion will arrive in the spring of 2022. In the meantime, he pointed out the Toledo City Council just passed a \$1.4 million dollar ordinance, in which funding will

be going to programming such as youth summer jobs, and various other programs such as baseball city league.

"No parent or grandparent will be able to say their child doesn't have anything to do this summer," he said.

The Toledo Journal then asked if the money from city council, as well as the \$90 million dollars, due to arrive, will be going to organizations within Toledo who already work with youth. Mayor Kapszukiewicz responded by saying yes, the money would go to organizations currently working with young people.

"We don't want to reinvent the wheel," he said. Mayor Kapszukiewicz was asked has there have been any meetings arranged to meet with those organizations and how they can receive funding. He said anyone interested can go to the City of Toledo's website and follow the links.

Further, he was asked if

all funding would go to Toledo based organizations, as opposed to those based in the suburbs, but who do work within city limits. Mayor Kapszukiewicz responded by saying, he doesn't know exactly how the government will have the money earmarked, but the public will be kept abreast.

Mayor Kapszukiewicz was also asked who would be over distributing the funds. He pointed to his Chief of Staff, Kathy Crosby, who will be putting a committee together to address that concern. The Toledo Journal contacted her office and is waiting for a reply.

Tiffany Prestone-Whitman, Toledo City Councilwoman at Large who, was also at the townhall meeting, was asked if the \$90 million dollars will go to Toledo based organizations, she said, she too, didn't know how the federal government will have the money earmarked, but her desire is



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

JoJuan Armour explaining to those in attendance that it's going to take everyone coming up with ideas that can be implemented.

to make sure that the money stays within Toledo.

"My desire is to make sure all the money stays within the city. Also, our priority is youth development and treating gun violence like a public health issue. I want to focus on a strong economic investment for young people 16-24," she said.

Mr. Armour was also asked about making sure the money stays with Toledo based organizations, he too said he wasn't sure how the federal government will have it earmarked, but quickly followed up with, "But if it's up to me, all of the money will stay with organizations located within Toledo." He also said he wasn't sure how much his department would be receiving from the \$90 million dollars.

Mr. Armour was then asked if he would be willing to implement a plan like Richmond, California had during the early 2000. At the time, the city was one of the most dangerous places in America, when a out-of-the-box plan was implemented that paid criminals to stop committing crime. Officials targeted the criminals, who were most responsible for violent crime, and began working with them by paying them \$1000 a month and getting them and their family involved in various programs to help better their living situation. The following year, there was a 40% drop in homicides.

Upon hearing the information, Mr. Armour said he would look further into the program and responded by saying, "Anything that works would be good."



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Tycie Alcorn, front, director of youth development for the YWCA, and Tyese Rosemond, rape crisis coordinator, gives Ronald Taylor information about their services. Ms. Alcorn said they work with about 400 youth a month from Toledo Public Schools, dealing with a variety of things including avoiding teen violence. She said her program could use more funding for curriculum development and creating other programs aimed at keeping teens in productive environments.

ConocoPhillips Heads Diversity and Inclusion Efforts in the Oil and Gas Industry

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

With projections that half of its workforce will consist of minorities by 2040, the oil and gas industry has continued to recruit individuals of color, women, veterans, and groups that have been mainly underrepresented.

At ConocoPhillips, Shawn Green and Maalika Moore-Thomas each take an optimistic approach to recruiting some of the best minority talent and minds.

Green, the manager of global services and technology, and Moore-Thomas, the senior supplier diversity coordinator, also keep a steady eye on diversity and inclusion with ConocoPhillips' contractors and suppliers.

"My day-to-day is basically working with our diverse suppliers from various backgrounds – minorities, LGBTQ community, and veterans – to ensure that our supplier base is well-rounded and to make sure that we have those diverse suppliers that we contract within our oil and gas specific jobs, as well as our professional services jobs," Moore-Thomas asserted.

Green's role is "to set the supply chain approach and strategy for automation, data analytics, and merchant technology," he stated.

"I'm ultimately accountable for the development approach for those programs that are under my purview."

Moore-Thomas added that ConocoPhillips and the industry continue to work toward a more inclusive en-



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Maalika Moore-Thomas

vironment that reflects different backgrounds, interests, and perspectives.

Green concurred.

"One of our major initiatives is ensuring we have suppliers for the variety of categories and sourcing opportunities we have," Green remarked.

"It's really about making sure that we have a line of sight to those opportunities and a pipeline to diverse suppliers."

Added Moore-Thomas, "The importance of diversity is not just talking points or conversation. We believe each person is accountable for creating and sustaining an inclusive work environment. It's important to have diversity in backgrounds, but it's im-



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Shawn Green

portant to have diversity in thought and perspective at each table where decision making takes place."

Raised in a single-family home in Tampa, Florida, Moore-Thomas later attended The Ohio State University and earned two degrees in psychology and criminology.

While working as a buyer for a small company, Moore-Thomas received a message from a ConocoPhillips manager that intrigued her enough to relocate to Houston eventually.

"I became very interested in oil and gas through learning about how much this industry truly influences the way we work and live," Moore-Thomas said.

"I applied for the position and never looked back."

Green grew up in Houston, where he lived with his grandparents.

He said his primary focus was acquiring an education.

Green attended a magnet high school where engineers from Exxon often mentored him and other students.

Green attended Tulane University, where he majored in chemical engineering, and he later received an MBA with finance and management concentrations.

Both Green and Moore-Thomas have pitched the industry to students at historically Black colleges and universities, and they continue to encourage all minorities about oil and gas.

"I have worked in this industry for 24 years, but my first exposure was in high school," Green recalled.

"Over the years, I think we've made steady strides in energizing folks to understand the industry more. I know we have more work to do in having that awareness and outreach (regarding diversity and inclusion)."


Moore-Thomas said "all hands are on deck" in creating a more diverse and inclusive industry.


"[We are] figuring out how we can better task force, or diversify, the space," she added.

Green concluded that the industry is keen on developing programs and strategies to increase diversity in the workforce.

"It's a great time to be in the industry," he exclaimed.

"It's a great time to be at the forefront of change. There will be a lot of opportunities."







America's Pandemic Recovery Relies on Energy

Energy Workers And Company Leaders Are Supporting the COVID-19 Relief Support Effort:








- Providing supplies such as personal protective equipment (PPE);
- Philanthropic community efforts to provide fuel gift cards, sanitizers, clothing, face coverings, and meals to hospitals, fire and police departments throughout the U.S.;
- Supplying jet fuel at no cost to critical companies and airlines to transport PPE deliveries and restore air service to remote communities;
- Providing fuel discounts to first responders and others who serve their communities;
- Donating ultra-low temperature freezers to health organization to help keep vaccines at their required storage temperature.

To learn more about how energy helps your community, visit CommunityEnergyCenter.org



The Community Energy Center, a cooperative with the National Newspaper Publishers Association and National Association of Hispanic Publications Media, will provide information and perspectives on the integral role of the energy sector in daily life for American families in a wide range of communities.

Ohio’s mask mandate ends June 2 & if you received the Covid-19 vaccination, you don’t have to wear a mask, but if you haven’t been vaccinated you’re still advised to wear a mask. The question many people are asking is, how would anyone know who has & hasn’t been vaccinated. What’s your take on this mandate?

	<p>Lorenzo Byrd Tattoo Artist</p> <p>Why would the mask mandate be lifted if everyone hasn't been vaccinated? And the fact that the virus can still be contracted, even after getting the vaccine, means masks should remain mandatory; so this new mandate doesn't make sense.</p>
	<p>Dennis Handley Unemployed</p> <p>I'm kind of torn between this mandate. I feel like if you've been vaccinated you should be able to move around without a mask; that's the perk of being vaccinated. Although I've received the vaccination, I'm still going to wear my mask.</p>
	<p>Charles McIntouch Factory Worker</p> <p>It's way too early to stop wearing masks. I've been vaccinated, but I'm still going to wear mine. How can anyone trust the fact that people walking around, without a mask, have been vaccinated? I'm wearing mine for about another year.</p>
	<p>Donasia Payne Student</p> <p>How do we know who has been vaccinated? Many people will lie and say they have received the vaccination. Health professionals are saying people can still contract the virus after being vaccinated and there are things about the efficiency of the vaccine experts are saying they don't have answers; in other words, the vaccine isn't 100% efficient. So for those reasons, I think everyone should still wear masks.</p>
	<p>Elaina Gammer Direct Support</p> <p>This new mandate sounds so contradictory. Personally, I'm scared about this new mandate and the vaccine. It seems like healthcare professionals are using the general public to test the efficiency of all the vaccines. I'd feel more comfortable if there was only one and I'd feel more comfortable if I didn't feel like I was being forced to take it.</p>
	<p>James Scott Unemployed</p> <p>I don't think it's fair to be able to walk around without a mask if you haven't been vaccinated. When the mandate is lifted, we won't know if people walking around without a mask have received the vaccine.</p>
	<p>Linda Byrd Retired</p> <p>I think ending the mask wearing mandate is a bunch of crap. How will we know who has been vaccinated? We can still contract the virus after being vaccinated, so the masks were another line of defense. I think a lot of people will lie about being vaccinated.</p>

Ongoing Events

OhioMeansJobs Lucas County to hold virtual resume and interview & Classes to prepare job seekers for In-Demand Jobs Week

Online Resume Writing webinar: Tuesdays, 11 a.m. - noon June 1 & June 15. To register, please go to <https://bt.ly/3wCNOfh>

The online What to Do and Not Do of In-Person and Virtual Interviewing webinar

Wednesdays from 11 a.m. - noon, May 19, June 2, & June 16 to register, please go to <https://bit.ly/3rSkQIN>

Every Tues Food, Clothing and Personal Needs The Bridge at Monroe St. UMC 11:30 am - 1 pm

So you’ve hit a rough patch: lost job, had an illness, or other difficult transition that’s making it hard to make ends meet. We provide the followig assistance at no cost to all who come through our doors: State IDs and birth certificate assistance, Blood pressure monitoring, and health Q&A.

For more info, please all Monroe Street Neighborhood Center at 419-473-1167 Ext 333 or 317.

Every 4th Saturday Memorial Lutheran Church - Free Bagged Lunch

Memorial will begin providing a PB&J sandwich, a bottled water, fruit and a cookie on the 4th Saturday or each month for anyone who stops by between the hours of 12pm to 2pm. Where: 3215 Douglas Rd., Toledo, OH 43606. More info: email office@memorial-lutheran.org or call (419) 472-2161.

Mt. Nebo Mary and Gail’s Closet - Free Clothing

Mary and Gail's Closet, is a new clothing ministry to benefit men and women in need of business attire, including job and job interview - appropriate outfits. Appointments are currently required. Call Mt Nebo at 419-246-8561.

Free Food Pantry

Every 1st & 3rd Sat. of the month

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

Now Thru June 3rd

WGTE Presents Color With WGTE

Join WGTE Public Media as we present Color with WGTE. Sponsored by the Joseph and Judith Conda Family. Children ages one through 10 are invited to participate through the entry form on the wgte.org website. The contest will target three age groups: 1-4, 5-7, and 8-10. Prizes donated by the Toledo Museum of Art, will be awarded to the first place winners in each age group. Please submit any questions to WGTE Public Media at colorwithWGTE@gmail.com or call 419-380-4633

Toledo Public Schools to Offer Vaccine Clinics for Ages 12 and Up

The U.S. FDA has approved the use of the Pfizer vaccine for children between the ages of 12-15, and The CDC recommends that this age group receives the vaccination.

The Toledo Lucas County Health Department is partnering with TPS to offer vaccines to students 12+ and their families. Students under 18 are required to have a signed consent from their parent/guardian to be vaccinated during the school day.

The Pfizer vaccine requires two doses. Participants must receive their vaccine on both of the dates listed for each clinic:

- **Waite** - 5/19 & 6/9, 12-6pm
- **Woodward** - 5/19 & 6/9, 12-6pm
- **Bowsher** - 5/21 & 6/11, 11-6pm
- **TTA** - 5/21 & 6/11, 1-6pm
- **TEC** - 6/7, 1-6pm
- **Start** - 6/8, 12-6pm
- **Rogers** - 6/8, 11-6pm

Families should allow time to complete paperwork and to wait 15-30 min for observation after receiving the vaccine. There is no pre-registration required. Face masks covering the nose and mouth must be worn at all times.

2021 Engage Toledo Free Drop off Refuse and Recycling Event

Acceptable items include electronic waste; up to 10 tires, no commercial tires; documents; houseware goods; clothing; toys; bulky items, and refuse. Latex paint will be accepted for \$1 per gallo. Major appliances will not be accepted. Residents should follow all signs and directions. For questions, call Engage Toledo at 419-936-2020 or visit the Engage Toledo website at toledo.oh.gov/engage-toledo.

The event will be held as follows: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 22 at Point Place Plaza, 5109 Suder Ave.

May 23 - 10AM

May is Lupus Awareness Month! Walk for Lupus

Meet at Ottawa Park (entrance closest to Toledo Hospital) to walk for Lupus. Any and everyone is invited to walk. There is NO REGISTRATION FEE, but will accept all donations to the Lupus Foundation of NWO. Anyone who donates \$10 or more will receive a food coupon, those local will receive \$10 off a meal at The BlueGill Fishermens Club, those out of town will receive a \$10 gift card to Chick-Fil-A. A light snack and water will be provided the day of the walk. One wheelchair available for someone who can't walk the whole trail. Let's educate and bring Awareness to Lupus, honor survivors, and those who have lost the battle. Don't forget to wear your purple!

The Arts Commission Announces Return of The accelerator Grant Program for Local Artists

The Arts Commission values the many artists across disciplines who contribute vibrancy to Toledo. The Accelerator Grant is a competitive program offering financial support with a quick turn-around for artists to advance their creative projects, thereby advancing their careers. Eligible categories of support include: equipment, supplies, professional development and project support. Grant amounts are not to exceed \$1500. Full guidelines found on our website, along with the application.

Continued on page 15.

The False Republican Mantra: ‘America is Not a Racist Country’



By Jesse Jackson
Wire Writer

“America is not a racist country.” This is quickly becoming a Republican mantra. Sen. Tim Scott, the only Black Republican in the Senate, used it in his rebuttal to President Joe Biden’s address to the Congress. Sen. Lindsey Graham, the Republican weather vane, echoed him, as did Republicans across the country. Scott went on to accuse Democrats of dividing the country by using race as a “political weapon.” This is an old, threadbare rhetorical trick. Racism is not the problem; those protesting discrimination are the problem.

Racist rhetoric and actions like those of Donald Trump aren’t dividing us. Those protesting the hatred are doing the dividing. The upside down, inside out duplicity can be traced back through the history of the Republic. Even when the South seceded from the Union to protect slavery, its leaders argued that it was Lincoln who caused the secession because he wouldn’t guarantee the spread of slavery into the new states coming into the union. This dog whistle race-bait politics may be old, but it still has force, so politicians deploy it regularly. So, it is worth taking the question of whether America is a racist country seriously.

A racist nation-state is a country that enforces racism as a matter of law. Apartheid South Africa was universally condemned as a racist country because apartheid was the law of the land until Nelson Mandela and the African National Congress and allies forced the change

in laws and policy. By that standard, the United States began as a racist country. For 246 years, slavery was the law of the land.

The Constitution counted slaves as three-fifths of a person for the purposes of the apportionment. In the 1857 Dred Scott decision, the Supreme Court ruled that African Americans were not and could not ever be citizens of the United States, that blacks were “regarded as beings of an inferior order and...had no rights which the white man was bound to respect.”

Much of the wealth of the country — North and South — was built on the backs of the enslaved. (And the country’s expansion was built on the slaughter of the land’s native peoples.) The Civil War brought an end to slavery and a “second founding” of the Union with the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments. Yet by 1896, the former slave owners in the South had taken back power — propelled by the terrorist campaigns of the Ku Klux Klan and others — and made segregation — legalized apartheid — the law of the land.

America was once more a self-declared racist country. It wasn’t until 1954 that the Supreme Court in Brown v. Board ruled segregation unconstitutional. It took the Civil Rights Movement to transform the laws— winning the passage of the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act and extending equal rights under the law to all. At that point, America was no longer an apartheid country by law but it was still a country that had to address the legacy of racism. Inevitably, hundreds of years of legalized racism were institutionalized into the very marrow of the society. African Americans have less wealth because they were deprived of any ability to accumulate wealth for decades.

Blacks were zoned into ghettos, urban areas then deprived of private or public investment. Black unemployment remained about double that of White unemployment. Blacks were and are the last hired in an upturn and the first fired in a downturn. Our criminal justice system systematically discriminates against African Americans.

This list can go on. Change — reform of the laws and institutions — doesn’t come easily. Those with privilege generally don’t see the shackles burdening those without. If overt racism is increas-



Protester throws tear gas canister back at police during a Black Lives Matter protest in Portland, Oregon, in June 2020.

“*Much of the wealth of the country — North and South — was built on the backs of the enslaved. (And the country’s expansion was built on the slaughter of the land’s native peoples.) The Civil War brought an end to slavery and a “second founding” of the Union with the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments. Yet by 1896, the former slave owners in the South had taken back power — propelled by the terrorist campaigns of the Ku Klux Klan and others — and made segregation — legalized apartheid — the law of the land.*”

ingly frowned upon, racist attitudes and assumptions — measuring people by the color of their skin rather than the content of their character — die-hard. Dog whistle politics — stoking of racial fears subtly or brutally — are still a common currency. For decades, Southern Democrats, barons protecting the white privilege in the South blocked reform. Once Lyndon Johnson joined with Dr. King to lead the Civil Rights Revolution — Republicans took advantage by becoming the party of white sanctuary across the South. Now that too has become institutionalized, as Republicans in states across the country press reforms designed to suppress the vote of minorities and gerrymander districts to isolate the minority vote.

And not surprisingly, they cynically accuse Democrats and the civil rights move-

ments of our age of using race to divide America. What’s increasingly clear, however, is that this politics of racial division harms working and poor Americans of all races. Race-bait politics is designed to divide working people to limit their power. Donald Trump is a perfect example, enlisting largely white working people in part by racial appeals, and then passing tax cuts for the rich and deregulation for the CEOs once in office.

Great leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King, W.E.B. DuBois, Cesar Chavez and the Black Lives Matter organizers all understood this. They have organized across lines of race to build alliances to bring about reforms that will benefit working and poor people generally. That is our task today. And we can’t let dog whistle race-bait politics continue to divide us.

The Toledo Journal

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Sandra S. Stewart-Publisher/Myron A. Stewart-Editor
Member of National Newspaper Publishers
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Living Within a Lie

By Oscar H. Blayton
Wire Writer

Even a person who does not believe a lie may be forced to live within it. For generations, people of color, while not believing in white supremacy, have been forced to live as if it was real. And we are still forced to live that way today.

But the one glimmer of hope shining through the toxic cloud of racist lies enveloping the world for more than five hundred years is TRUTH. And critical race theory is one means of delivering the truth.

White supremacists are now attacking critical race theory, however, in an attempt to destroy it. By destroying critical race theory, they hope to destroy the truth and force all of us to continue to live within a lie.

The truth that the color of one's skin does not determine a person's God-given abilities has always been evident to people of color. But within a global social structure designed to advantage white people over everyone else, that truth has been denied and hidden from view.

The orthodoxy of white supremacy, reinforced by a willingness to employ gunpowder in a pan-global rampage, allowed white supremacists to amass most of the material resources of the earth, along with the means to exploit them solely for their own benefit. What school-aged child has not seen graphic renderings of Europeans, cast in a heroic light, gunning down indigenous people of North America, South America, Africa and Asia? This oppression and annihilation of people of color have been characterized by British author Rudyard Kipling as "the white man's burden" to bring civilization to the rest of the world.

Poisonous race hatred spawned by white supremacy has flowed through Western society like filth in an open sewer. Yet there are those who take offense at the assertion that America is a racist country. While there are innumerable instances that evidence this fact, one very clear, recent example stands out for me.

When the feature film "The Hunger Games" was released in 2012 based on a series of young adult fiction, many white fans were enraged by the fact that one of the main characters, Rue, was portrayed by Amandla Stenberg, a mixed-race actress with an African American mother and a Danish father. The plot of the film revolves around 12 children who are forced to fight to the death in a futuristic, dystopian America. The shock and anger of many moviegoers boiled over even though the author, Suzanne Collins, described Rue in the book as having "dark skin." A blizzard of offensive, racist posts filled with the n-word and other derogatory terms flooded social me-

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Consumer groundswell calls for end to bank-supported predatory loans

By Charlene Crowell
Wire Writer

Last October during the throes of the COVID-19 pandemic and its rippling economic downturns, a key federal financial regulator adopted a rule that blesses the “rent-a-bank” scheme where predatory lenders partner with banks to evade state interest rate limits.

Known as the “True Lender” rule, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) gave a green light to predatory lenders. It effectively overrides a string of state laws in almost every state enacted to end abusive payday, car-title, and installment loans with explosive interest rates of more than 100%.

Taking effect in late December 2020, the rule facilitates a scheme whereby payday and high-cost installment lenders pay fees to banks for use of their name and charter to dodge state interest rate laws by claiming the bank’s exemption from those laws for itself.

Ironically, the mission of the OCC is to ensure that national banks and federal savings associations provide fair access to financial services, treat customers fairly, and comply with applicable laws and regulations. Yet this OCC regulation helps predatory lenders evade state laws and harms consumers in direct violation of the agency’s stated mission.

To more accurately describe how bank charters were used to sell predatory loans, consumer advocates refer to the rule change as a ‘Fake Lender’ as the real lender is the predatory non-bank lender – not a bank.

The OCC’s ill-advised regulation has also unleashed a swarm of consumer advocacy from diverse spheres of influence but united in opposition.

For example, 138 academicians across 44 states and the District of Columbia registered their opposition to Rent-A-Bank and include law professors from prestigious institutions such as Cornell, Columbia, Georgetown, Harvard, Howard, Notre Dame, and Northwestern. In an April 20th letter, the professors wrote in part, “If this Rule is not undone, it will spell disaster for untold numbers of Americans who are trying to recover from this time of unprecedented health and economic disaster.”

A day later on April 21st, a bipartisan group of 25 state attorneys general also urged corrective actions.

“During an unprecedented economic downturn, brought on and exacerbated by Covid-19, the OCC seeks to expand the availability of exploitative loans that trap borrowers in a never-ending cycle of debt,” wrote the attorneys general. “We urge Congress to use its powers under the Congressional Review Act to inval-



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Senator Sherrod Brown.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Rev. Dr. Frederick Haynes

OCC calls it ‘True Lender,’ but coalition says it’s really ‘Fake Lender’

idate the OCC’s True Lender Rule and safeguard the right of sovereign states, and the ability of an independent judiciary, to safeguard our citizens from rent-a-bank schemes designed to work end runs around essential consumer protections.”

The Congressional Review Act (CRA) enables rules to be rescinded with simple majority votes in both the House and Senate before advancing to the President for his signature. In late March, Representative Jesus “Chuy” Garcia of Illinois and Maryland Senator Chris Van Hollen introduced joint resolutions providing for congressional disapproval under the CRA. Each awaits floor votes expected to occur in mid-to-late May to comply with the law’s deadline for action within its allotted 60 legislative days.

Other organizations active in the regulatory reversal effort include: Conference of State Bank Supervisors, Credit Union National Association, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., National Association of Federal Credit Unions, and Veterans Education Success.

Consumer advocacy to reverse the “Fake Lender” rule reached a zenith on April 28 when a hearing was convened by the U.S. Senate’s Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs. Its Chair, Sen. Sherrod Brown’s opening statement set the tone and purpose for the forum.

“Like so much we do, this comes back to one question: whose side are you on?”,

queried Sen. Brown. “You can stand on the side of online payday lenders that brag about their creativity in avoiding the law and finding new ways to prey on workers and their families. Or we can stand up for families and small businesses, and the state attorneys general and state legislatures who have said ‘enough’ and are trying to protect themselves and their states from predatory lending schemes.”

Witness testimonies at the hearing made clear the concerns as well as the choices before Congress.

Rev. Dr. Frederick C. Haynes III, Senior Pastor of Dallas’ Friendship West Baptist Church, represented not only his 12,000 - member congregation but also Faith for Just Lending, a coalition of Christian denominations who believe that fair and just financial practices respect human dignity.

“For decades banks used maps to deny loans to communities of color and now they are using maps to serve as loan sharks of those same communities”, testified Rev. Dr. Haynes. “That the OCC would make a rule giving predatory lenders a way to charge 200-400% interest and more, even in states that have fought hard to stop this predation with a 36% interest rate cap -- that is indeed obscene, and as we would put it in my faith community, sinful and demonic.”

“We ask, finally, for your strong and proactive support of the Congressional Review Act that will overturn the OCC’s true

lender rule,” he continued, “and remember the wisdom of Thomas Piketty who warns, ‘When private interests exceed the interest of the public, we cease to be a republic or a democracy’.”

Lisa Stifler, State Policy Director with the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) reviewed her decade-long consumer advocacy, addressed which lenders benefit from the rule and their actions.

“How the OCC’s rule will work is already clear, because OCC-regulated banks are enabling some of the most predatory loans on the market,” noted Stifler. “For over a year, Stride Bank has been helping the payday lender CURO pilot installment loans of up to \$5,000 with rates as high as 179% annual percentage rate (APR). This outrageously priced loan is illegal in almost every state. Yet, the OCC rule invites predatory lenders to evade state laws by paying a bank to put its name on the paperwork.”

“Another OCC-regulated bank, Axos Bank, rents its name and charter to the predatory small business lender World Business Lenders (WBL),” continued Stifler. “WBL loans range in the tens – even hundreds of thousands of dollars – and carry rates as high as 268%. Often secured by the borrower’s personal residence, these loans are causing small business owners to lose their homes.”

North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein shared his state’s experience with Rent-A-Bank before warning Senators of looming doom that would befall the nation if timely action was not taken.

“The OCC, through the Acting Comptroller, not only rammed through the Fake Lender Rule one week before the 2020 election, but it did so unlawfully,” testified AG Stein. “The OCC radically exceeded its statutory authority in issuing the rule. Although the OCC purports to be interpreting portions of three federal banking laws, none of them authorize rent-a-bank schemes or give the OCC authority to preempt the state law true lender doctrine.”

“This rule, if not reversed, provides a get-out-of-jail-free card to predatory lenders who violate state laws limiting interest rates and fees on consumer loans,” Stein concluded.

Perhaps the most succinct summary of the day came from Chairman Brown.

“Some issues that come before this committee are complicated, they divide people, there are thorny nuances to consider” noted the Ohio Senator. “This isn’t one of them. It’s simple: Let’s stop predatory lenders instead of encouraging them.”

Here’s hoping that it is just that simple when Senators on both sides of the aisle face a vote and opportunity to stand up for consumers.

Living Within a Lie

continued from page 4

dia because a little Black girl had invaded their imagined white space of innocence and bravery. But a particularly telling post was a tweet by someone with the handle “KK” who wrote: “Call me racist but when I found out rue [sic] was black her death wasn’t as sad #ihatemyself.” There can be no more clear affirmation that some people cannot even imagine that Black lives matter.

This race hatred began in America when European invaders, arriving with Christopher Columbus, annihilated as many as 3 million indigenous inhabitants in the Bahama Islands and continued with the slaugh-

ter of indigenous people in the early days of every state in this nation. This genocide of Indigenous Americans, combined with the importation of enslaved Africans as unpaid labor, created wealth for the European invaders founded upon stolen land and stolen labor. The continued encroachment on Indian land and exploitation of people of color through immorally low wages continue to underpin this disproportionate accumulation of wealth by white Americans. Current policy decisions by lawmakers and corporate leaders such as refusing to legislate a livable minimum wage, redlining, discriminatory hiring practices, gerrymandering, and on and on,

also continue to obstruct wealth accumulation by people of color.

The facts are clear, written in the blood-soaked soil and the countless unmarked graves of people of color who were murdered, massacred and worked to death so that certain white people could accumulate wealth and live as they pleased. This includes mistreatment of the Chinese, who were barred entry into this country after they helped build its railroads, and Japanese Americans who were herded into concentration camps during World War II without due process of law, while German Americans largely were allowed to go about their lives untroubled.

Approximately 1.2 million indi-

viduals born in Germany resided in the United States in 1940. Another 5 million had both parents born in Germany and 6 million had at least one parent born in Germany. Of these people, approximately 11,000 were detained during World War II and most of those were German nationals.

During this time, almost every Japanese American was placed in concentration camps. Approximately 127,000 Japanese Americans lived in the continental United States in 1940 and it has been reported that more than 120,000 were interned in concentration camps despite reports from the FBI and the Office of Naval Intelligence stating that the vast majority of Americans of Japanese ancestry were loyal to the United States.

Nevertheless, it was ordered that any person with “one drop

of Japanese blood” – regardless of age – was to be interned. This resulted in infants and children living in orphanages and hospital patients with any Japanese ancestry being interned. Many of those hospital patients died as a result of being separated from their health care.

Despite many white supremacists wanting to avert everyone’s eyes from the truth, America’s racism has followed a long and winding path, leaving a history too lengthy to recount here. But critical race theory is an effort to place the facts before the world so that people, armed with the truth, can make meaningful change and not be forced to live within a lie.

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

Civil Rights Groups Sue Georgia Over New Sweeping Voter Suppression Law

Submitted

The American Civil Liberties Union, ACLU of Georgia, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF), Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), and law firms WilmerHale and Davis Wright Tremaine brought the case on behalf of the Sixth District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Georgia Muslim Voter Project, Women Watch Afrika, Latino Community Fund Georgia, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

The law being challenged is S.B. 202, which was passed by the Georgia House of Representatives and Senate and signed by Gov. Brian Kemp in under seven hours last Thursday. These elected officials' actions follow the 2020 presidential election and the 2021 runoff elections for two seats to the U.S. Senate that saw record turnout of voters, particularly Black voters, in Georgia.

The elections were celebrated not just for their turnout, but also for their integrity, with Georgia officials praising them as safe and secure. But rather than act to expand participation in the political process, Georgia leaders responded by doing what they have done

many times in the state's history: they placed burdensome, unjustified, and unnecessary restrictions on voters, particularly voters of color and other historically disenfranchised communities.

The lawsuit challenges multiple provisions in S.B. 202, including the: ban on mobile voting new narrow identification requirements for requesting and casting an absentee ballot delayed and compressed time period for requesting absentee ballots restrictions on secure drop boxes out-of-precinct provisional ballot disqualification drastic reduction in early voting in runoff elections perhaps most cruelly, ban on "line warming," where volunteers provide water and snacks to Georgians, disproportionately



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Civil rights groups have filed a new federal lawsuit against Georgia's sweeping law that makes it much harder for all Georgians to vote, particularly voters of color, new citizens, and religious communities.

S.B. 202 is perhaps the most bold and shameful voter suppression legislation enacted in the modern era. Its purpose and target are clear: to create barriers to voting for Black voters who turned out in record numbers for the November 2020 presidential election and the January 2021 special election...

those of color, who wait in needlessly long lines to cast their vote

These provisions, the lawsuit charges, violate Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, and infringe on Georgians' rights under the First, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

"This law is driven by blatant racism, represents politics at its very worst, and is clearly illegal," said Sophia Lakin, deputy director of the ACLU's Voting

Rights Project. "We urge the court to act swiftly to strike it down."

"Legislators and Governor Kemp ignored the very obvious lessons from the election in 2020 and runoffs in 2021: expand safe and secure access to the ballot, codify innovations to voting, and provide additional resources to cash-strapped counties," said Nancy Abudu, deputy legal director for the SPLC. "Instead, to appease conspiracy theorists and amplify deadly lies about past elections, Georgia's leaders have chosen to pass into law S.B. 202, which makes it more difficult for every Georgian — but particularly Georgians who are members of historically disenfranchised communities — to vote in a safe, secure, and convenient manner and have that vote counted. In so doing, the defendants have violated federal law and the U.S. Constitution, and we turn to the federal courts and U.S. Congress to address the incredible harm S.B. 202 will have on our clients."

"S.B. 202 is perhaps the most bold and shameful voter suppression legislation enacted in the modern era. Its purpose and target are clear: to create barriers to voting for Black voters who turned out in record numbers for the November 2020 presidential election and the January 2021 special election. The provisions of the new law and the manner in which it was enacted reflect

a thorough disregard for the sanctity of protecting the right to vote and a headlong and determined zeal to diminish Black political power in Georgia," said Sherrilyn Ifill, LDF's president and director-counsel. "This is a powerful moment for democracy in this country. S.B. 202's attempt to disenfranchise Black voters in Georgia harkens back to the most shameful days of voter suppression in the decades before the civil rights movement. That this law was passed in Georgia, less than a year after the death of one of the state's greatest heroes, Representative John Lewis, is shameful. In his name, we will fight to strike down this illegal attempt to undo his legacy. Anything less represents a grave threat to the future of our democracy and inherently undermines the notion of equality for all."


"Democracy depends upon people expressing their voices freely through their votes," said WilmerHale partner Debo P. Adegbile. "The Georgia omnibus voting obstruction law is a prime example of modern voter suppression and erodes democracy. A great deal has changed in Georgia but the commitment to brazenly disenfranchise voters clearly has not."

"S.B. 202 attacks the most sacred foundations of our democracy. But in this country, the law secures every American citizen the equal right to make their voice heard at the ballot box, no matter who they are. And we intend to vindicate that right in court," said Adam Sieff, attorney at Davis Wright Tremaine.

The lawsuit, Sixth District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church v. Kemp, was filed in federal court in Atlanta.

The lawsuit, Sixth District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church v. Kemp, was filed in federal court in Atlanta.






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COVID 19: My Personal Battle from a Positive to a Negative Result

Jeffrey L. Boney Shares His Story about Surviving the Coronavirus and Dealing with the Emotional and Mental Anguish of the Journey to Overcome the Virus

By Jeffrey L. Boney
NNPA Newswire Contributor

“Jeffrey, unfortunately, your test came back positive for the Coronavirus.”

Hearing those words from the doctor, March 27th, 2020, shook me to the core.

Was that a death sentence for me?

Was it a coincidence that my mom years earlier had died in the same month of March?

Was this really how my life was going to end?

The news reports I had been watching and reading reported dire results relative to those who had contracted the virus. Death tolls were rising. Governors began searching for beds and ventilators for people who were being impacted by this virus.

Honestly, I felt like the odds were stacked against me.

The journey for me started with a very slight cough. On March 17th, I started experiencing internal digestive symptoms that I initially assumed was a result of me not

eating anything that day. It was a Tuesday, which meant it was Press Day at the Houston Forward Times, where I serve as the Associate Editor. Now, it wasn't uncommon for me to skip breakfast and skip lunch in order to remain laser focused on getting the newspaper done. When I started feeling faint, however, it was then I decided to get something to eat.

I made my way down to the Reggae Hut around 5:30 pm and ordered the oxtails, rice and peas and the vegetables, along with a beef patty and a Kola Champagne to drink. I made my way back down to my office with my plate and I ate a little bit of the rice and peas; a little of the vegetables; and barely ate one of the oxtails, before closing the container and putting the plate in the refrigerator. That was the last time I saw that plate or my office.

The next day, I not only had a continuous loss of appetite, I also had stomach pain and

was experiencing heavy and unusual bouts of diarrhea. I even had an episode where I went to the bathroom and while on the way, I passed out and was disoriented. I woke up lying on the floor in a sweat, trying to figure out what happened to me. I drank lots of water, tried natural remedies and ceased all of my normal activities. None of that worked or changed my situation.

I self-quarantined and self-isolated for eight days – from Tuesday, March 17th to Wednesday, March 25th. During that time, I contacted my primary care physician, who informed me that continuing to self-quarantine was probably the best option at the time, considering the symptoms I was experiencing.

I decided to reach out to my good friend, State Representative Ron Reynolds to express my concerns about my health status, as well as get his advice on whether he thought I should go through one of the

drive-thru testing sites that had recently opened. I desperately wanted to get tested, primarily for my peace of mind, but also because I was concerned for my family. They were still living in the same house as me.

“Jeffrey, unfortunately, your test came back positive for the Coronavirus.”

I saw the news. I read the media reports online and on social media. It was clear, based on those reports, that I was not displaying the type of respiratory symptoms that the majority of COVID-19 patients were reported to have been experiencing, such as shortness of breath or having

a heavy cough. There were also reports that the only way a person could be tested was if they were elderly or a first responder. I was deeply concerned.

A few days after my call with Rep. Reynolds, I received a call on my cell phone from U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee on Wednesday, March 25th. She had heard I was experiencing a health challenge and asked me some questions. Congresswoman Jackson Lee then immediately informed me that she wanted me to come down to United Memorial Medical Center (UMMC) on Tidwell to get tested right away. I wasted no time. I asked the Congresswoman for the address and immediately got dressed to make my way to UMMC.

As I was driving to the hospital, Congresswoman Jackson Lee told me that she had already spoken to the Chief

Continued on page 8.

Open for healing



Alex, colorectal cancer survivor and patient at UTMCM's Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center

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COVID 19: My Personal Battle

Continued from page 7.

Medical Officer for United Memorial Medical Center (UMMC), Dr. Joseph Varon, and that he was prepared to receive me and administer the test.

I was so relieved that I would be able to get tested and get a definitive on whether I had contracted the COVID-19 virus or not.

I arrived to UMMC and was met by Dr. Varon. He walked with me inside to the place where I was to be tested, and he immediately tried to put me at ease. I was told by Dr. Varon that my test results would take anywhere from 24-48 hours to come back, so I waited patiently and eagerly.

As anxious as I was to find out the results on the following day, I decided to give it another day.

On that Friday, March 27th, things took a drastic turn for the worse, as it relates to my health. I began to cough, and what I thought would be regular phlegm coming out, turned out to be a significant amount of bright red blood. As this continued to happen, I made the decision to call Dr. Varon and share my update. After hearing my status, Dr. Varon implored me to come to the UMMC Emergency Room (ER) immediately, which I prepared to do.

Before I got off the phone with him, however, he hit me with the update I was anxious to finally receive, but with some news I was definitely hoping and praying not to hear. Dr. Varon informed me that I had tested "POSITIVE" for the Coronavirus.

I was shook. My family was stunned. I am a married father of three. My family is everything.

Upon my arrival, there were two large signs that said STOP. My wife, who had followed me to the hospital, was not allowed inside. I was met by medical staff and they ushered me into a room in the ER. She stood outside awaiting word. The nursing staff immediately went to work, initially drawing blood and then taking some vitals at the order of Dr. Varon.

As events would unfold, Dr. Varon would turn out to be one of the primary angels of medicine that made the difference relative to my Coronavirus recovery efforts.

One of the first things Dr. Varon ordered his medical staff to do with me upon my arrival to the ER was to do a CT Scan. For those who may not know, a CT Scan is more detailed than a regular X-ray, and allows doctors to see inside your body by using a combination of X-rays and a computer to create images of your organs and other things inside your body.

Of course, I didn't know why

a CT Scan was being performed on me at the time, nor did I know what the end result would be. Let me just say that performing that CT Scan on me was the best thing that could have ever happened to me, because it revealed some-



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Jeffrey L. Boney's battle with COVID-19 was a long and difficult journey.

thing major that was going on inside my body that couldn't be seen by looking at me from the outside. The CT Scan revealed that my lungs showed a severe case of pneumonia, as well as other issues involving my vital organs that came as a result of the Coronavirus.

It was decided at that moment that I needed to be admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) right away. It was then that I realized how serious things were, and it was the moment that I knew that I was going to have to rely on my faith in God.

I called my wife to tell her I was being admitted and informed her that I was not going to be able to have any visitation throughout my time in the ICU. I was on a mental and emotional roller coaster at this point. I didn't know how long I would be in ICU, but more importantly, whether I would make it out alive. I could not help but think about the time in 2003 when my wife and I took my mom to the ER because she was ill. It was a life-altering experience for me.

After being seen by doctors in the ER, the medical staff informed us that my mom would need to be admitted to address her serious health condition, which turned out to be worse than believed. Both my wife and I decided to stay with her, but my mom kept telling us to go home, get some rest and come back the next morning. We stayed anyway. They moved her in the wee hours of the morning to a different floor. It was then that I told her that I was not be going very far, as I chose to sleep at my mother-in-law's house because it was closer to the hospital than my house was. As

reluctant as I felt leaving my mom at that hospital, nothing compares to the phone call I received from the hospital, no more than five minutes after I laid my head down on the pillow. The nurse on duty called to inform me that my mom had

stopped breathing and had slipped into a coma. I mean, right after I left. They told me that there was a shift change and that my mom had been given a specific medication, and by the time the new nurse on duty went to check on my mom, they became aware of the situation.

I was devastated. I felt guilty. I felt as if I was there, I could've possibly done something. Several months later, my mother passed away and I never forgot that moment.

As I was being prepared to go to ICU myself, I was reminded of my mom's experience, and I was instantly bombarded with memories and emotions about what she endured. I also struggled with the mental anguish of worrying about a virus that reportedly has no cure or vaccine to fight it. I knew I needed to draw on something greater than myself to get through this ordeal.

On Friday, March 27th, the journey towards fighting the Coronavirus had truly just begun.

Not only did I have a severe case of pneumonia when I entered ICU, my liver and kidneys also needed to be protected from the virus; my heart rate was through the roof; my heart condition worsened and I was headed to the point of potential heart failure; my blood pressure was high; I had a sharp pain in my right side; I continued to have heavy diarrhea episodes; and I still had a loss of appetite. Things were not looking good for me and I felt horrible. I began to wonder if I was ever going to get better.

From the very beginning, I had to rely on my faith in God, as I continued to deal with the

mental anguish of being in this Coronavirus-specific ICU area, particularly knowing that there were people around with breathing issues and hearing machines go off all day and night, and as I regularly looked at the news and read reports

showing the number of people dying on a daily basis as a result of the virus.

I needed a miracle.

Because I didn't have any respiratory issues, just digestive issues, it caused the doctors to develop a treatment plan for me that was different than other patients they had been treating prior to my arrival to the hospital. Dr. Varon and Dr. Joseph Gathe, Jr. oversaw my care. They created a whole Coronavirus cocktail, which included heavy doses of Vitamin C, which was specific to my treatment. Per Dr. Varon, my case taught them that they must use high dose blood thinners on every Coronavirus patient admitted to the hospital.

After several days, my symptoms began to subside, and my appetite came back in a major way. I longed for my breakfast, lunch and dinner, and couldn't wait to eat it. Dr. Varon eventually informed me that all of my vital organs had returned to normal and that my blood work and vital signs were solid.

Finally, I felt like I was turning a corner and getting better. That was until a second CT Scan was performed, which revealed more shocking and devastating news regarding my health condition.

When the results of my second CT Scan came back, it revealed that I had been diagnosed with a pulmonary embolism in my right lung. A pulmonary embolism occurs when blood clots block the flow of blood to the lungs. A pulmonary embolism can be fatal and life-threatening, which is why Dr. Varon and his team promptly took the necessary steps to address the blood clot and reduce my risk of death.

I was immediately placed on blood thinner medication.

I continued to follow the instructions of the doctors until I received that wonderful news that on Sunday, April 5th, I had made significant and miraculous improvement, and subsequently was being discharged to go home to my family. I was so thrilled, yet still deeply concerned because I still didn't know whether I was still "POSITIVE" with the Coronavirus. I was concerned about my family and praying they would be fine. Prior to being discharged, I had another COVID-19 test done and was awaiting the results. I self-isolated once again, until I got my second test results. After several days, I got the results and tested "NEGATIVE" for the virus. Because I wanted to be completely sure before interacting with my family again, the doctors administered another COVID-19 test and those results came back "NEGATIVE" as well.

This was a long and faith-filled journey, to which I still am slated to have to deal with this blood clot in my right lung for the next six months or so. I will continue to fight and do what I am supposed to do. In the meantime, I am encouraging everyone, especially my African American brothers and sisters, to get tested. I believe everyone should be tested immediately, regardless of whether you have symptoms or not. This is NOT a drill. This virus is unrepentant and aggressive and can spread quickly to anyone who comes in contact with it. Listen to your local leaders and medical professionals to help stop the community spread. I am a living witness that you can contract this virus and how it impacts you. Don't ignore your symptoms and don't ignore the seriousness of this virus. Don't be selfish and just think about yourself. Think about your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, loved ones and those you don't know. Stay safe!

Giants can be intimidating. The fight can many times be tough. Sometimes we lose. Sometimes we win. The common thread in winning versus losing is giving it all you have when you are in the midst of a fight. In the Bible, David showed us that giants can indeed fall. This was my journey and this is my testimony. I am forever grateful to God and to everyone who uttered a prayer, shared an encouraging word, providing any resources or sent positive energy my way.

My family and I greatly appreciate each and every one of you. God bless you, and let's do everything in our power to defeat this horrible and vicious COVID-19 virus.

Part of the Vaccine “Wait and See” Crowd? This is for you.

By Kevin Seraaj
Wire Writer

You see the news reports and you hear that infections are continuing to mount. And so, too are the deaths. You're curious about the vaccine, and you think you might need to be safe rather than sorry, but you have chosen to instead adopt the “wait and see” approach. You think that maybe if you just hold out a little longer, and “wait on it,” you'll either hear something that will change your mind— or you'll breeze through this whole pandemic thing without anything ever happening to you. After all, 98% of the people who get infected fully recover.

Most people in the “wait and see” crowd prefer to wait because they are suspicious of the vaccine. The U.S. government and the whole healthcare industry have a sketchy history of experimenting on people without

their informed consent. Particularly black people. So this skepticism is well deserved.

Study— probably the most egregious example of the “physician do no harm” conun-

as a treatment in the 1930s. Instead, doctors watched the disease progress and ravage

Small wonder, then, that black people in particular, prefer to “wait and see.”

And it might seem at first glance like a safe position to take, but the anecdotal evidence is clear: there are documented disproportionate rates of COVID-19 illness and death in black communities all across America. You can find them in the nearly 600,000 people who didn't recover from their infections.

“Wait and see” might be a better strategy if it were not for the healthcare inequities we face.

Clearly, the Trump administration— with its constant dismissal of the virus as a hoax and a non-issue— did nothing to make healthcare equity in this pandemic was a priority. President Biden has taken a vastly different approach. But don't take my word for it.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Wait and see” might be a better strategy if it were not for the healthcare inequities we face.

In 1932, the Public Health Service, working with the Tuskegee Institute, began the infamous Tuskegee Syphilis

drum. Blacks were not told the problem was a general disease and were not given penicillin once it was developed

their patients bodies for a period of 40 years.

Other examples exist, but this one cannot be disputed.

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“We can't wait to see our grandkids.”

Charlotte Price



MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

Ohio

Department of Health

coronavirus.ohio.gov

Memory of Syless Griswold honored with balloon, dove release

By Jurry Taalib-Deen
Journal Staff Writer

“I organized today to not only try and keep my family together, after the passing of my mother, but to encourage other families to spend time with each other and don’t wait until there’s a death to do so,” Orlean Griswold told The Toledo Journal at a balloon release honoring her mother.

Family and friends gathered at the Aria Banquet Hall, 5969, Telegraph Rd, on Sunday May 16, to remember their mother, of six children, grandmother, to 16 grandchildren, sister, aunt and friend, who would’ve celebrated her 85th birthday on



The Griswold family

PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Three doves were released during the remembrance of Syless Griswold.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Eight-five balloons were released. The number represented the age Syless Griswold would’ve turned on May 12.

May 12.

Sister-in-law to the late, legendary jazz Toledo duo, Art & Roman Griswold, the family has a rich history to celebrate. The colors white and purple adorned the hall, and everyone wore those colors; being that purple was Syless Griswold’s favorite color.

Even the decorations; balloons, table napkins, bottled water, all her Syless

Griswold name and favorite color.

She passed on January 16, 2021 from Covid-19 and Orlean Griswold is doing everything she can to keep the family coming together and not waiting on a tragedy to spend time with each other.

“I want the kids to break the cycle of waiting until a tragedy hits to enjoy each other. I know it’s not going

to happen overnight, but today is definitely a start,” Orlean Griswold said.

Besides having a balloon release, three doves were set free and a poem was recited: all in memory of Syless Griswold. Further, Orlean Griswold wanted to make the event festive, so added to the event was a dinner, and a raffle.

“My mom would’ve given the shirt off her back to help someone,” she said.

Other than commemorating her mom’s memory, Orlean Griswold said that, the family is starting to put together a family tree so each generation can know the history of the Griswolds.

“My mother kept us all in line; she bossed us all around, but was very loving,” remembered Kathy Griswold, daughter, who immediately followed her statement up with laughter.

Kathy Griswold said that her mom was terrified at catching Covid-19 and it was that virus that took her life. “I didn’t decide to get vaccinated until after my mother passed. I just hope more people take this virus seriously,” Kathy Griswold said.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Orlean Griswold, front, and her niece, Elaina Gammer prepare some of the things that would be raffled off throughout the day.

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Happy 82nd Heavenly Birthday Dad!



William Henry Riley
aka Bro Riley & Gra Gra

Sunrise 5/21/1939 - Sunset 3/5/2021

**Happy Birthday to my
remarkable dad!**

Although you are no longer with us, your memory lives on. We all miss you but know that eventually we will all be reunited in heaven. We will still be reminiscing on the amazing memories you left us with for years to come.

Love and miss you terribly.

Love Always,

Your children: Mark, Chris(Brenda), Vince & Monica Riley
Grand/Greatgrand children: Dayna, Veronica (Elliott), Victoria, Deonta'e (Jessica), Lance, Brandi (Aaron), Damonte', Kelze', Tana, Braylon, Aaron Jr., Adrian, Lance Jr, Leandro, Santiago, Gia, Taryn, and Riley (Bright Eyes)
Sisters: Geraldine Perry, Idella (Clois) Smith, and Marilyn Riley

Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union partners with Toledo Museum of Art on reinvestment in the community

Submitted

The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union (TUFCU) announces a vibrant new partnership with the Toledo Mu-

seum of Art (TMA) that will generate essential growth, development, and economic investment in the Toledo neighborhoods both institutions call home. The museum



recently opened an account at TUFCU, with an initial deposit of \$125,000, and seeks to work with the credit union on future strategic lending and borrowing opportunities. In

addition, the two organizations will collaborate with neighborhood partners to offer concurrent art education experiences for children and financial literacy opportunities for parents.

ASK YOUR FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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

To Mr. Brown and Staff:

I do not have a question; however, I felt compelled to express my family's thanks many times over to you and your staff. We were outdone with your professionalism. We were very uptight and divided amongst ourselves with a lot of doubt as we left home for your office. Within the first few minutes we were very impressed and at ease with the way you presented to us how you would take us through this process at such a low period in our lives. The way you expressed your sympathy to us made us feel like you were a part of our family. Thereafter "you stated for us to try and relax, if we could, and allow us to put things together and make sure all the bases would be covered and in a smooth and timely manner, and that you did. When we left your office, the eight of us, which were divided, came together and agreed on how you assured us. My out of town relatives are still talking about C. Brown and Staff and have never seen professionalism like that anywhere, especially the preparation of our Mother. They were just overwhelmed... Mr. Brown, Thank you over and over and be assured our confidence will forever be in C. Brown Funeral Home in Toledo, Ohio.

Joseph B.

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Laura Koprowski appointed TARTA Deputy CEO

Koprowski previously served as Chief Communications and Customer Experience Officer for the Authority

Submitted

The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) announces that Laura Koprowski has been appointed Deputy Chief Executive Officer. She most recently served as Chief Communications and Customer Service Officer since her arrival in April 2020. Since that time, she has spearheaded numerous interdepartmental initiatives that have vastly improved customer experience and service delivery at TARTA. She has also completely elevated the agency's marketing and communications strategy and enhanced its reputation through exceptional stakeholder engagement.

Prior to joining TARTA, Koprowski



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

ki served in several executive level roles in the public transit and transportation planning space, including Executive Director of Ohio Public

Transportation Association (OPTA). Her leadership in public policy, governmental affairs, communications and marketing have gained her the respect of colleagues in the state and across the country.

"Laura has proven herself to be an outstanding public transportation professional throughout her career and during her tenure at TARTA, she has worked tirelessly to inspire the team to achieve excellence in all that we do. The Toledo Region is very fortunate she has chosen to spend the next chapter of her career in this community," said Chief Executive Officer Kimberly Dunham.

Celebrate Bro. Malcolm X's Birthday - May 19th w/ Positive Action

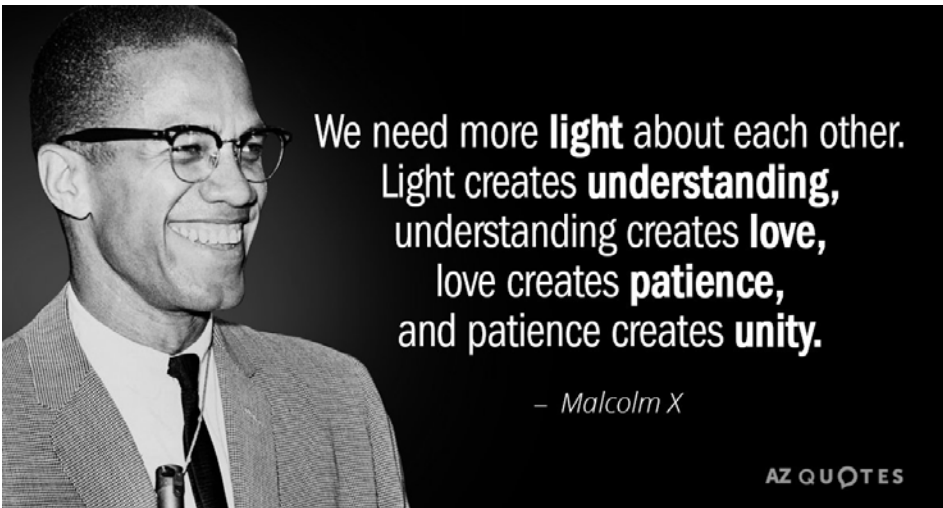
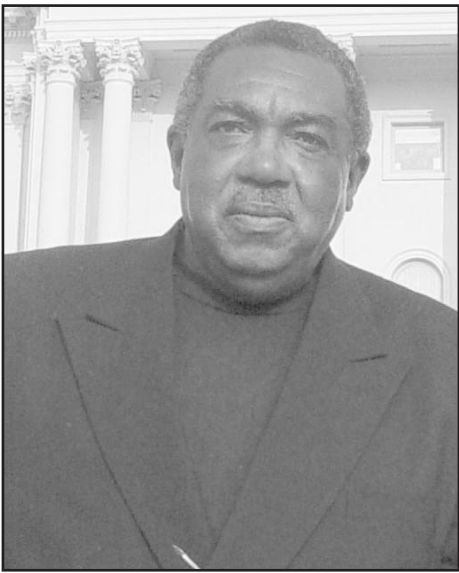


PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED



By A. Peter Bailey
Wire Writer

In the introduction of my upcoming book, "Brother Malcolm X's Visionary, Strategic Pan Africanism: Why It Enraged the U.S. Government," I salute him as a great human being, a great black man and a master teacher. The following quotes from some of his speeches and writings will show why the most positive and productive way to celebrate his May 19th birthday is to be involved in positive action.

The first quote says, "The adult Afro-American community should immediately get together and set up a guardian system so that any black child in trouble or who has a problem can come to them for help. If any more Afro-American children are shot down in the New York City streets, the adults will have to share the blame."

The second quote says, "We must establish all over the country schools of our own to train our children to become scientists and mathematicians. We must realize the need for adult education and for job re-training programs that will emphasize a changing society in which automation plays the key role. We intend to

use the tools of education to help raise our people to an unprecedented level of excellence and self-respect through their own efforts."

In remarks to 37 black young people who were visiting him in Harlem, he said the following:

"I was approached, I think we were at the United Nations, and I met Mrs. Walker about two or three years ago, and she said that a group of students were coming up from McComb, Mississippi, and wanted to know if I would meet with you and speak with you. I told her frankly that it would be the greatest honor that I had ever experienced...It's been my great desire to either go there or meet someone from there."

He then moved on to talk about intense white supremacy in their state. "In studying the process of this so-called progress during the past twenty years, we of the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU), realized that the only time the black man in this country is given any kind of recognition or even listened to is when America is afraid of outside pressure or when she's afraid of her image abroad. So we saw that it was necessary to expand the problem and the struggle of the black man in this country until it was above and beyond the jurisdiction of the United States...I wanted to point this out to you because

it is important for you to know that when you are in Mississippi, you are not alone."

A recent quote I found by Bro. Malcolm is also something that should be a guideline for action. "If your mind is armed, you are never unarmed."

I repeat, the Brother was great human being, a great black man and a master teacher.

A. Peter Bailey, author of Witnessing Brother Malcolm X, the Master Teacher, can be reached alfonzop.bailey@gmail.com.

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BLACK HISTORY

May 20, 1704:

Elias Neau established school for slaves in New York.

May 21, 1833:

Black students enroll in classes at Oberlin College, Ohio.

May 22, 1863:

War Department established Bureau of Colored Troops and launched aggressive campaign for recruitment of Black soldiers.

May 23, 1871:

L. Bell patents locomotive smoke stack.

May 24, 1905:

Hilda Davis, Born, Washington DC, educator

May 19, 1925:

Malcolm X (El Hajj Malik El Shabazz) is born in Omaha, Nebraska.

May 25, 1943:

Henrietta Bradberry patents Bed Rack.

May 25, 2008:

A daughter is born to Martin Luther King III and his wife, Arndrea. They name her Yolanda after his late sister.

HELP WANTED



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Dorothy Lavinia Brown: Dorothy Lavinia Brown was a prominent black teacher, surgeon and legislator. She was the first African American elected to the Tennessee General Assembly, where she helped pass the Negro History Act, which required Tennessee public schools to teach special lessons honoring the accomplishments of African American during Black History Week.

HELP WANTED

FIELD DIRECTOR

The Social Work program of the University of Toledo invites applications for a field director position beginning August 2021. This position is responsible for coordinating the field internship experiences in both the community and the classroom for students involved in the sophomore and senior internships in the BSW program. For additional details, expected qualifications, and how to apply please visit <https://www.utoledo.edu/jobs/> (click on Faculty and then filter by College of Health and Human Services). The University of Toledo is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to excellence through diversity. An EEO/AA/Title IX employer.

HELP WANTED

BGSU

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Bowling Green State University is a tier-one, public university serving 19,000 students on two campuses in northwest Ohio. The University has nationally recognized programs and research in the natural and social sciences, education, arts, business, health and wellness, humanities and applied technologies. BGSU seeks talented individuals to join our community in Bowling Green, Ohio, recognized as one of the “Best College Towns of America.”

The Equity and Compliance Coordinator will assist the Equity and Compliance Officer with the management of the University's compliance with state and federal equal opportunity/affirmative action laws and regulations, as well as assist with investigations associated with allegations of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation in accordance with state and federal laws and University Policy. This position will also assist in the promotion of diversity and belonging and creating and maintaining a database of resources applicable to affirmative action, equity, inclusion, discrimination, and harassment. Deadline to apply: May 28, 2021

Full-time Administrative Staff position available. For a complete job description & to apply for this position visit <https://bgsu.hiretouch.com/> or contact the Office of Human Resources. BGSU. AA/EEO/Disabilities/Veterans. In compliance with the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), if you have a disability and would like to request an accommodation in order to apply for a position with Bowling Green State University, please call 419-372-8421.

PROPOSAL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS HEALTH INSURANCE BROKER SERVICES RFP#21-R010

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMH) will receive proposals for Health Insurance Broker Services. Received in accordance with law until **June 3, 2021, 3:00 PM ET**. See documents: www.lucasmha.org; 201 Belmont Ave., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246). This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



Tyler Perry Honored with Humanitarian Award at the Oscars and Condemns Hate

New Orleans Native Tyler Perry was honored again for his humanitarian work at this year's Academy Awards.

The filmmaker, who is known for helping many worthy causes delivered a passionate acceptance speech at the 2021 Oscars and said his mother taught him as a boy to refuse hate and refuse to succumb to "blanket judgments."

"And in this time, with all of the internet and social media and algorithms and everything that wants us to think a certain way, the 24-hour new cycle... it is my hope that all of us would teach our kids, and I want to remember: just refuse hate. Don't hate anybody."

Tyler Perry invoked his late mother and the example she set for him during a deeply moving speech in which he accepted the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award on Sunday night at the 93rd Annual Academy Awards. Honored for his "cultural influence extending far beyond his work as a filmmaker," Perry explained that he'd lived out of his car more than once, owned a single pair of shoes and that he heard stories about racism and America's racial strife from his mother, Willie Maxine Perry. She grew up in rural Louisiana and lived



through Emmett Till's murder in 1955, the deaths of four young girls killed in bombings in Alabama in 1963, and Dr. King's Assassination in 1968.

Perry, of course, is the actor-producer-director behind dozens of movies and shows, including the Madea films, House of Payne, Alex Cross, The Haves and Have Nots, and Sistas. He also owns the Tyler Perry Studios Complex in Atlanta and heads up The Perry Foundation, the aim of which "has been to transform tragedy into tri-

umph by seeding individual potential, supporting communities, and harvesting sustainable change."

He added, "My mother taught me to refuse hate. She taught me to refuse blanket judgment. And in this time, and with all of the internet and social media and algorithms and everything that wants us to think a certain way, the 24-hour news cycle, it is my hope that all of us will teach our kids... just refuse hate. Don't hate anybody. I refuse to hate someone because they are Mexican or because they

are Black or White or LGBTQ. I refuse to hate someone because they are a police officer. I refuse to hate someone because they are Asian. I would hope we would refuse hate."

Perry continued, dedicating his statuette to anyone who wants to stand in the middle, no matter what's around the walls. "Stand in the middle," he implored, "because that's where healing happens. That's where conversation happens. That's where change happens. It happens in the middle. So, anyone who wants to meet me in the middle, to refuse hate, to refuse blanket judgment, and to help lift someone's feet off the ground, this one is for you, too."

New Orleans Native Tyler Perry, continues to use his platform to help with many worthy causes. For his deep commitment to helping other he was honored at the Oscars, where he gave a moving speech condemning hate and encouraging togetherness and building bridges of understanding between people from different backgrounds.

The post Tyler Perry Honored with Humanitarian Award at the Oscars and Condemns Hate appeared first on New Orleans Data News Weekly.

Leave Unstable Women Alone.

By Trevo Crow
Staff Writer

(ThyBlackMan.com) What I am about to tell you could save your life, your sanity, your health, your finances, your future relationships and your freedom. Do not play with unstable women, leave them alone. There are many absolutely beautiful women out there with incredible figures, angelic faces, soft voices, alluring demeanors and yet as crazy as a loon. You really cannot and must not judge a book by its cover. I know from experience because I have counseled hundreds of them in relationship counseling and mediations. I know because I have dated too many of them before I met my wife. And I know because I have seen the horror stories play out in case after case after case. So I am not here to judge, I am here to help you avoid falling into a pit of vipers where there is often no return.

You see her and she is beautiful. She could stop traffic, including airplanes in mid air. She has the shape, the smile, the look and she seems to be interested in you. Or, in many cases, you pursue her. And while this is not a movie, I suggest you watch the following movies: Obsessed, Thin Line Between Love and Hate, We Belong Together and Waiting to Exhale. These movies represent the reality of unstable, vindictive, bitter, mean, evil, needy, bi-polar or borderline personality disorder women who have enough baggage to fill a jumbo jet. and yes sometimes the guys

play immature games that can backfire times 10.

Yet remember you won't see unstable traits in most of these women up front because most of you are not looking at the looming dangers and red flags. You are captivated, mesmerized and seduced by these sirens and that keeps you from paying attention to what you should be aware of. There is a reason she has no man, even though she seems to be such a great package. And it is not because she has been "working on her career". Nor is it that she "can't find a good man". The danger is in what she is NOT telling you, what you hopefully won't have to learn later and the hard way and what she hops you will not find out until you are trapped in her web.

DADDY ISSUES / TRUST ISSUES / REVENGE ISSUES / OR JUST CRAZY?

So you think you can sleep with her, kick her to the curb, keep it light or keep her on the side, do you? Unfortunately those behaviors push crazy and unstable women right over the edge. So you say "I got this", but do you know how many men who ended up in jail, court or financial ruin have said just that? I tell you again from counseling hundreds (yes hundreds) of them, these women are not playing. And the courts will take their sides almost every time. These women make victims like you change your socks, yet they know how to play the victim and get others to come after you all at the same time. All while looking for their next victim.

While it is often true that



some of these women are unstable because of what males camouflaging themselves as men did to them, that is not true even half the time. And you would be shocked to know how many women take antidepressants, bipolar medication, should be in mental health counseling or enrolled in anger management university. Yet because society almost always sees, promotes and accepts women as the victims, the unstable ones slip right by. And the other unstable women may be the mediators, judges, district attorneys, police officers or pastors you may face. That means there is a massive support network to support unstable women and instead blame you for whatever happened.

They say it is hard to find a good man. But I tell you it is just as hard to find a mentally stable woman. A women without a hidden agenda. A woman without a ton of baggage in her life and another ton of revenge in her heart. A woman who is not on the edge and just waiting to punish the next guy for what the last guy did.

Unstable women always blame anybody but them-

selves for their problems and circumstances. And they usually start with a man as the culprit. So whether you are just being nice, you are running game or you are sincere, leave unstable women alone. This will be hard for many African American men because the women know exactly how to appear as what you want, when you want it. That is their biggest deception, persuasion and covert distraction. And very often men don't even see it coming. Other times you may ignore it, think it isn't that bad, think you can just drop her or be so busy running game that you don't realize you are the underdog by a mile.

The more devious the woman is, the more she will allow you to think you have the upper hand because she is baiting you. In reality, she is watching what moves you, what distracts you, what tempts, persuades and manipulates you. So understand that women are not automatically smarter than men, it's just that men don't pay attention while scheming women in particular pay attention to almost everything and how to use it.

No matter what she does to you, the unstable woman will find a way to make it your fault and find a way to pay you back for it. And she will not stop until she believes you have suffered enough, unless she moves on to the next victim. Once she is set on her quest, you will see a different person, the real person she was all along. Whatever you did for her in the past, even if you took her in off the street, that will not matter to her once her venom rises. Trust me, I have seen this pattern play out over and over and over again on unsuspecting men, men who thought they had everything under control.

I also know quite a few brothers and I have counseled and listened to so many guys whose egos kept them connected to the succubus demons I just told you about. Many guys thought they could handle it, only to find out they were wrong. I could tell you of men who came home to find the entire contents of their houses gone. I could tell you of men who were set up, just like in the movies. And dozens of men whose car windows were smashed, motorcycles were banged up, tires were cut, homes were set on fire, pets met an untimely end and even men who were fired from their jobs because of unstable women. So I don't care if she is Beyonce', Nikki Minaj, Halle Berry, Pam Grier and Serena Williams all rolled into one, if she is unstable, leave her alone. It is not likely that you have the patience, the training, the time, the money and the desire to fix a crazy, unstable woman, especially

when she will swear there is nothing wrong with her.

What are the red flags to watch for? Mood swings, and don't let her tell you "it's just women's hormones" or "that is just how women are". Bossy, controlling, deceptive, manipulative, extremely jealous or even using sex to get her way. And when you speak up against these things, don't let her tell you that "you just can't handle a strong woman". If there is a struggle over who will take the lead on where the connection is going, you best believe she wants the power. Or she already believes she has it and that it should be hers, not yours. Never let her put you in the dog house if you are not a dog. Never let her make you sleep on the sofa in your own home, unless you are not a man. But watch for her attempts to test how much control she has over you by doing these things. And remember, unstable women produce instability and confusion around them. Sometimes it is subtle, sometimes it is obvious, but it is coming. And they often choose female friends who are very much of the same.

This is my advice to you. Don't play with unstable women and don't make excuses to yourself to stay connected to them. Don't date unstable women. Don't get serious with unstable women. Watch for the signs and indicators. And when you see them, leave, run, flee, escape fast. Women who are not playing with a full deck are often dangerous, sometimes deadly and usually a pain that you can do without.

Par Breakers award scholarships to Marstajah McIntouch, Felicity Galvan

By Jurry Taalib-Deen
Journal Staff Writer

“All the applicants were impressive, but Marstajah and Felicity really stood out,” Lovell Diggins Jr, president of the Par-Breakers Golf Club, told The Toledo Journal, at the Heatherdowns Country Club, 3910 Heatherdowns, on Saturday, May 15.

For over 12 years, the club has been awarding graduating seniors who will be attend-

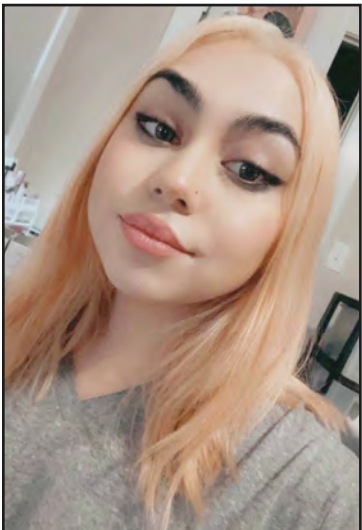


PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL
Felicity Galvan, a Toledo Early College graduate, was also awarded a \$1,000.00 scholarship.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL
Marstajah McIntouch, center, holds her award funding, while surrounded by members of the Par-Breakers Golf Club.

ing college. Due to the strict quarantine restrictions at the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, which caused the club to cancel the in-person presentation, the Par-Breakers awarded two, instead of one, \$1000.00 scholarships. Applicants must be minorities, who have at least a 2.75 GPA, show financial need for the scholarship, participate in extracurricular activities, volunteer with community organizations and present three let-

ters of recommendations. “College isn’t getting cheaper, so this is our way of helping out,” Mr. Diggins said. “That was the main reason I joined this club; because we give back to the community. There are other golf clubs in the city, but awarding scholarships was the reason I joined.” “When I received the email saying I was being awarded the scholarship, I was so happy; this was my first time winning a scholarship,” said Ms.

McIntouch. Besides having a 4.2 GPA, the Bowsher High School graduate was active with the National Honor Society and AVID. While at Bowsher, she took up medical technology and graduated as a licensed CNA. Outside of school she volunteered at Hospice of NW Ohio. And although she was still in high school, Ms. McIntouch was the manager at Taco Bell. She’ll be attending the Uni-

versity of Toledo majoring in nursing and possibly social work. “Ultimately, I want to help disabled kids,” she said. Ms. McIntouch advises all high school students to apply for as many scholarships as possible. “Any amount helps,” she said. Felicity Galvan, a Toledo Early College graduate, wasn’t present for the presentation.

Ongoing Events

Continued from page 3.

The Arts Commission Launches The Momentum Festival Mural Project Call for Artists

The Arts Commission of Greater Toledo’s Art in Public Places Program is soliciting qualifications from artists who specialize in producing large-scale murals to beautify sections of Water St. and the Downtown Toledo concourse tunnel system as part of the fifth year of the Momentum Festival. The project is open to all artists (18+) that are US residents regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or physical or mental disability. Online portal: <https://bit.ly/2RhROjx>. All submissions must be received by 11:59 pm on Tues, May 29. For info contact Jesse Heider-Ayling, at 419-254-2787 x1020 or at jayling@theartsscommission.org.

June 6th

The Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church Celebrating 56 Years of Pastoral Ministry

The Legacy of Rev. Dr. John E. Roberts: The Call, the Commitment, the Challenges: Isaiah 6:8 The table is spread and a feast is going on in Celebration of 56 years of Pastoral Ministry of Rev. Dr. John E. Roberts and Mother Bernice Roberts Sun, June 6, 3pm, at The Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church 640 Indiana Ave. (Rev. Dr. John E. Roberts Way) Toledo, Ohio 43604 Looking forward to seeing you at the Celebration. For more info call (419) 246-3850

Local Organizations Host “Metro beet”, an Urban Farm and Community Garden Tour

Join local gardening organizations and enthusiasts on the Metro Beet, a self-guided tour of urban farms and community gardens in the Metro-Toledo region. Tours will take place Fri from 5-8pm and Sat. 10am-2pm, June 11-12, July 9-10, and Aug 13-14. A map of participating urban farm and community gardens on the tour each month can be found at tinyurl.com/MetroBeet2021Facebook. Participants are expected

to follow COVID19 guidelines, wear masks, and social distance while on the tour. For more info: Yvonne Dubielak, yvonne.dubielak@toledogrows.org, 419-720-8714.

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PAC-MAN

OHIO LOTTERY

In each GAME, scratch off the six play spots. If PAC-MAN goes from START to FINISH without running into a (GHOST) GHOST symbol, win prize for that GAME. Reveal a (CHERRY) CHERRY symbol, and win \$10 automatically.

START **FINISH**

PRIZE PRIZE PRIZE PRIZE PRIZE

WIN UP TO \$10,000!

WIN \$10,000 INSTANTLY OR ENTER FOR CHANCES TO WIN THIS

PAC-MAN ARCADE UNIT AND OTHER GREAT THEMED PRIZES. ENTER AT OHIOLOTTERY.COM/MYLOTTO.

On sale May 11, 2021

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The logo for the Ohio Lottery. It features a red speech bubble with the word "OH!" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below the speech bubble, the word "LOTTERY" is written in blue, italicized, sans-serif capital letters, followed by a registered trademark symbol (®).