

The Dayton Weekly NEWS

An African-American Community Newspaper

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57 Year's Later... WE ARE STILL MARCHING

By: Jared Grandy

On June 12, 2019, a young man by the name of Saveon Carr-Wiley got into a heated altercation with a coworker in Columbus, Ohio. In a fit of rage, Saveon went home to get a gun and returned to the site, but before any harm could be done, the better of angles of his nature prevailed and he returned home. Nevertheless, sometime after he arrived home, police officers arrived to arrest him. He was charged with improperly handling a firearm in a motor vehicle, a felony in the fourth degree in the State of Ohio. However, Franklin County



Black Lives Matter, Dayton March in Washington.

judicial officials did not feel the consequences of a fourth-degree felony were punitive enough for this young black working man. Instead, legal gymnastics were performed and the charges were trumped up

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World's First Black Superhero Gone Too Soon

Chadwick Boseman family released a statement, saying "It is with immeasurable grief that we confirm the tragic passing of Chadwick Boseman. Chadwick was diagnosed with stage III colon cancer in 2016, and battled with it these last four years as it progressed to stage IV."

They continue that "it was the honor of his career to bring King T'Challa to life in Black Panther."

"He died in his home, with his wife and family by his side"

Chadwick, who most famously brought the first black Marvel superhero to life in "Black Panther" along with a string of 'Avengers' movies, was no stranger to giving life to iconic roles. He portrayed Jackie Robinson, James Brown, and Thurgood Marshall in "Marshall."



Chadwick Boseman, the iconic "Black Panther" star, has died at age 43 after a 4-year battle with colon cancer.

Born in South Carolina, he always had an affinity for theater, and wrote his first play in high school. He attended the Howard University, and graduated with a Bachelor's degree

in Fine arts. He started his career in writing and directing, but clearly, he was meant to be on the other side of the camera. He took the world by storm in 2013 in the

role of Jackie Robinson in "42." On playing that role, Chadwick said, "The story is relevant because we still stand on his shoulders. He started something

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Carol Prewitt and Mark West Receive Distinguished Toastmaster Award

By: Carol Prewitt

Ralph Smedley, founder of Toastmasters International, once said, "Let us share the benefits we have gained for ourselves with others." What a great opportunity to grow as effective communicators and leaders. On October 22, 1924, Dr. Ralph C. Smedley founded Toastmasters International to help others become more effective communicators and leaders. That mission remains alive today as members continue to benefit from the Toastmasters program in friendly and supportive clubs. Toastmasters International is a non-



WiBN Downtown Morning Toasters Distinguished Toastmasters Carol Prewitt and Mark West

profit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs. The organization's membership exceeds 364,000 in more than 16,200 clubs in 145

countries. Toastmasters International has helped people from diverse backgrounds become more confident speakers, communicators, and leaders. Shared benefits were experienced recently by two

members of the Downtown Morning Toasters club. Toastmasters Carol Prewitt and Mark West received the Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award. The DTM award represents the highest level of educational achievement in Toastmasters. They completed their educational training via the traditional education program. Toastmasters International has implemented Pathways, a new educational program. It is comprised of 11 paths that teach more than 300 unique competencies

To earn the DTM designation in the traditional

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Black Lives Matter Dayton

By LaTonya Victoria
Photo courtesy of Black Lives Matter Dayton

I recently had the opportunity to speak with one of the founders of Black Lives Matter Dayton, Carlos Buford, and several local community activists about the current climate in the Miami Valley and the ten-point plan they crafted recently demanding police reform in Dayton. Mr. Buford told me that their ten-point plan was in response to Dayton's Mayor, Nan Whaley's, five-point plan.

Mr. Buford explained to me that Black Lives Matter Dayton came to be formed because of the atmosphere in Dayton around the time of the announcement of the Ku Klux Klan rally



that was coming to Dayton on May 25, 2019 and having Donald Trump as the President of the United States.

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Happy Labor Day!



Around DAYTON

Miami Valley Weather

Friday
Partly Cloudy
High 79
Low 55



Saturday
Mostly Sunny
High 82
Low 58



Sunday
Partly Sunny
High 84
Low 65



5 day Forecast

Monday
Partly Sunny
High 80
Low 60



Tuesday
Partly Cloudy
High 82
Low 63



The Dayton Chapter of The National Black MBA Association (NBMBA) Launches Leaders of Tomorrow Program

By: Carol Prewitt
Contributing Writer

The NBMBA leads in the creation of educational opportunities and economic growth for Black professionals. Members enjoy valuable networking opportunities with over 12,500 active members in 40 chapters across the country. The Dayton Chapter of the NBMBA continues to reach new heights of efficiency, effectiveness and excellence and is committed to making a powerful and sustainable difference in the communities in which its members work and serve.

The NBMBA is proud to continue its rich tradition of mentoring talented young people through its Leaders of Tomorrow (LOT) program. Since the first LOT conference in 1991, the NBMBA has been blessed to watch promising young people with amazing ideas go on to pursue careers as entrepreneurs, business professionals, and more. The Dayton Chapter of the NBMBA, under the leadership of President Barbara Stewart Bostick, NBMBA Legacy member, has launched a local LOT mentoring program. Since 1991, the NBMBA LOT

program has mentored more than 8,000 talented youth aspiring to become effective leaders and change agents.

The program offers participants resources, knowledge, and opportunities through mentoring relationships, scholarships, and internships. The program is driven by mentoring across the NBMBA's Five Pillars of Leadership: Leadership, Financial Literacy, College Preparation, Career Preparation, and Life Skills. The Dayton Chapter is honored to have as their partners, Sinclair Community College leaders and positive role models Jessica Demmings, Michelle Littlejohn, Shola Odumade, and Diana Peterson. The Chapter is currently recruiting students for this great opportunity. The following details are outlined for interested students and parents. For an electronic application email DaytonLOT1@gmail.com or contact Carol Prewitt, LOT Advisor, at 937-626-8720.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Students must be in high school (grades 9-12)
- Students must reside in Montgomery County
- Students must have a 3.0 Grade Point Average

Application Process:

- Complete the NBMBA LOT application – Due Friday, September 11, 2020
- Participate in an interview – Tuesday, September 15, 2020, 6:30P.M.

Program Benefits:

- Participate in a year-long LOT Program
- Attend National Leadership Summit
- Participate in NBMBA Case Competition
- Compete for up to 30k in scholarship funds

Program Requirements:

- Participate in Saturday Sessions. Attendance in 90% of sessions required.
- Third Saturday of the month, September 2020 through May 2021
- 1:00P.M. – 3:00P.M.
- Location: Sinclair Community College or virtual Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions

President Bostick invites all current leaders, professionals, college students and others interested in a commitment to excellence to register for the upcoming 2020 NBMBA Virtual Conference and Career Fair, September 23 – 25, 2020. This is a very special conference as the NBMBA is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. Acclaimed speakers include Congressman James Clyburn, Jemele Hill, Dr. Dennis Kimbro, Iyanla Vanzant and more. For additional information and to register go to the web site at www.nbmbaa.org. For additional information about the Dayton Chapter membership email them at DaytonNBMBAA@gmail.com. You may also review the Dayton Chapter of the NBMBA information on FaceBook at www.facebook.com/daytonnbmbaa.

What's The

WORD

On The Street

Have We Lived Up to The Dream of Martin Luther King, Jr?



Dr. Minetta Daniel-Cox



Tommy Owens, Jr.



Lamar Packey

By LaTonya Victoria
Staff Writer

On August 28th, 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr delivered his iconic "I have a dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in front of over 250,000 people according to history.com. To mark the 57th Anniversary of this event organizers held the "Get your knee off our necks" march in Washington D.C. I spoke with several people in the Miami Valley and asked them what words of wisdom or advice would Martin Luther King, Jr say to us today about our current state of affairs. I received a variety of responses, as follows:

1) Dr. Minetta Daniel-Cox, a tenured music faculty member at the University of Dayton, said "I think that he would say keep studying. One step at a time, keep moving forward. I think for me it's been a message I've been receiving in my own life this past month. I think those kinds of things can echo through generations. It's the message I've been getting over and over from all of the black leaders on whose shoulders we stand. The idea of keep going. I think that might have been what's been going on these past few years. Maybe we got complacent or maybe we got distracted. So now we push forward. Literally, these words have been coming to me from so many different places. I say push forward and keep moving."

2) Tommy Owens Jr., the President of Owens Entertainment and Advertising, replied, "I don't know if he would have words of wisdom for us or if he would be disappointed in us with the lack of us caring for each other and sticking together. I think he'd be upset with us. The things that he fought for and the things that he strived for, ... we are no longer trying to achieve those things. If we had stayed on the path that he set for us, a lot of these things wouldn't be happening to us. Especially, as far as economic development and things of that nature go. He would be very upset with us especially in the black community because we don't own anything. I could see him being very upset with us and saying hey guys what are we doing? We've given back all of our movie theaters, our grocery stores, our doctors' offices, and our pharmacies. The things that we had. Look at us now. We own nothing. I think the words of wisdom would be more of a disappointment in us."

3) Lamar Packey, President and owner of Shutter Eye Photo, and co-owner of Dayton Wedding Photographers, responded, "We are making some progress with the protests. I don't believe the violence at the protests is us. I feel a lot of the violence is people that are bringing it there to start issues. He'd tell us to keep with peaceful protests, but also to take more action with political battles. Things like getting out to vote and getting involved in your city council and priority boards. I think marching is important, but to make real change we must get involved with local politics. The local politics is what affects you first. That's what you see quickly."

Carol Prewitt and Mark West Receive Distinguished Toastmaster Award...

Continued from Page 1

education program, you are required to:

- Earn the Competent Communicator (CC)

award.

- Earn the Competent Leader (CL) award
- Serve at least six months as a club officer
- Serve a complete one-year term as a district officer.
- Serve as a club sponsor, mentor or coach.
- Participate in the preparation of a Club Success Plan.
- Earn your Advanced Communicator Gold or Advanced Toastmaster Gold award.
- Earn your Advanced Leader Silver or Advanced Leader award.

This accomplishment was earned through their applied hard work and strong support of club members which include three other Distinguished Toastmasters, Brenda Gaines, Steven Moore and Mike Staffan. Through their Toastmasters journey they have gained real-world, transferable skills such as effective communication, leadership,

management, strategic planning, service to others, public speaking, critical thinking, planning and implementation, organizing and delegating, facilitation, motivating people, and team building.

Carol is president of Prewitt Consulting, LLC. She consults in the areas of Civility Training, Etiquette and Business Protocol. Mark is a registered representative of PFS Investments Inc. and works with Primerica Financial Services. They both agree Toastmasters has enhanced their communication and leadership skills. They acknowledged Downtown Morning Toasters 22 club members are like family, loving, fun, honest, encouraging, inspiring, enthusiastic, patient, kind and supportive.

Toastmaster is an excellent organization to join to improve your personal and professional development. The Toastmasters

program breaks barriers not your budget. Members pay international dues of \$45 USD every six months, plus a new member fee of \$20. Downtown Morning Toasters president Judith Kinney invites you to visit Downtown Morning Toasters. Members and visitors must comply with Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic restrictions of wearing a mask and social distancing. The club meets every Wednesday, 7:30a.m. – 8:30a.m. at Sinclair Community College, Building 12, 444 West Third St., Dayton 45402. Parking is available in the underground garage. For additional information contact Toastmaster Steven Moore, DTM, Vice President of Education at stmoo@aol.com.

Join us for our Grand Re-opening!

Wings of Love Services Adult Day Center have moved to a new location and would like to invite you to come take a tour!

“Serving seniors and individuals with disabilities”

4130 Linden Ave Ste. 180
Dayton, Ohio 45432

Walk through tours will be held by appointment only. We also have virtual tours available!

Please contact Renay Frost (Dayhab Supervisor) to set up appointment.

937-789-8192

wols.renayf@gmail.com

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Health

Schedule a Screening Mammography Near You in September



Premier Health is making it easier for busy women to get their annual mammogram screening with its mobile mammography coach that travels to businesses, public venues and events throughout Southwest Ohio.

Equipped with advanced imaging equipment, the coach offers traditional 2D and Genius™ 3D Mammography™ technology to detect breast cancer.

Schedule a mobile mammogram by calling (855) 887-7364. For more information about the process and locations, visit www.premierhealth.com/mobilemammo or email MobileMammo@premierhealth.com.

The following dates and times are open for appointments in September:

- Tuesday, Sept. 1, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Jamestown Family Medicine, 4940 Cottonville Road, Jamestown, OH 45335;
- Thursday, Sept. 3, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Community Health Centers of Greater Dayton – Charles Drew Health Center, 1323 W. Third St., Dayton, OH 45402;
- Saturday, Sept. 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Dixon United Methodist Church, 1691 Infirmary Road, Dayton, OH 45417;
- Thursday, Sept. 10, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Ohio's Hospice, 1669 Rombach Ave., Wilmington, OH 45177;
- Friday, Sept. 11, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Atrium Medical Center Imaging – Grand Avenue, 4214 Grand Ave., Middletown, OH 45044;
- Saturday, Sept. 12, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Astoria Health and Rehab, 300 Astoria Road, Germantown, OH 45327;
- Monday, Sept. 14, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at SureCare Medical Center, 360 W. Central Ave., Springboro, OH 45066;
- Saturday, Sept. 26, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Dixon United Methodist Church, 1691 Infirmary Road, Dayton, OH 45417; and
- Wednesday, Sept. 30, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Miami Valley Hospital Imaging – Springboro, 630 N. Main St., Springboro, OH 45066

Premier Health welcomes partnerships with area businesses and event organizers to bring the mobile mammography coach to their locations in the community. For more information about how to bring the coach to your event or site, email MobileMammo@premierhealth.com or call (844) 453-4199.

RTA Tributes Bus to Childhood Cancer Awareness Month



The Greater Dayton RTA partnered with Dayton Children's Hospital to create a special tribute for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month by displaying original artwork from child patients on RTA's September bus.

The tribute was inspired by an RTA employee who requested if the artwork of his niece, who passed away from childhood cancer, could be added to the September bus design in honor of the month. The drawing features a little girl fighting off a fiery dragon that was created during her battle with cancer. This request led to RTA reaching out to Dayton Children's to have current childhood cancer patients share their own artwork. Through this partnership, an inspiring gallery is displayed on the bus, highlighting local children as they battle this terrible disease.

The bus will recognize the following children who offered their designs:

Gage, 3
Ava, 4
Sam, 6

Xavier, 6
Faith, 9
Haydn, 10

Brooklyn, 10
Kelsey, 15

"At Dayton Children's, we're committed to providing above and beyond cancer care for the children in our community," said Dr. Ayman El-Sheikh, chief, division of hematology/oncology at Dayton Children's. "We are thankful that the Greater Dayton RTA is raising awareness about childhood cancer and the brave children who are living with and battling this disease."

The bus will showcase the artwork with the names of patients that were willing to share their drawings. The September bus will also highlight Labor Day, National Grandparents Day, and the remembrance of September 11. This will be the first time RTA has collaborated with Dayton Children's Hospital on this effort.

Sports

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Champion, John Thompson Dies at Age 78

By: Liz Roscher

John Thompson, the trailblazing Georgetown University coach who became the first Black coach to win an NCAA championship, has died at age 78.

Mr. Thompson was an enormous figure in sports, and an athlete who went on to break barriers as a Hall of Fame basketball coach. A native of Washington, DC, he went to college at Providence College, RI, and was part of the team that won the 1963 National Invitation (NIT) championship. In 1964 he helped Providence reach the NCAA tournament for the very first time and was also an All-American.

He graduated in 1964 and played two seasons for the Boston Celtics, backing up Bill Russell and winning two championships before retiring in 1966 and becoming the coach at St. Anthony High School in Washington, DC.

Then Georgetown University came calling in 1972. Within three years the Georgetown 3-23 team had made the NCAA tournament, the first of 20 times they'd participate over Thompson's 27 years as coach.



John Thompson

Georgetown made it to the Final Four in 1982, and in 1984 he became the first Black coach to win the NCAA tournament. The following year they were defeated in the national championship game by Villanova University.

Mr. Thompson amassed a 596-239 record at Georgetown and 97 percent of his athletes stayed in college for all four years to earn a college degree, but that doesn't mean he didn't coach a ton of amazing National Basketball Association (NBA) players. Hall of Famers Patrick Ewing and Allen Iverson were both

first overall picks. Alonzo Mourning was a second overall pick and Dikembe Mutombo was picked fourth. A total of 26 players were selected for the NBA draft during Thompson's tenure.

He resigned from Georgetown in 1999, the same year he was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame. He stayed involved with Georgetown for the rest of his life and was inducted into the College Basketball Hall of Fame in 2006. Thompson has an autobiography scheduled to be released in January, 2021.

Dayton Public Schools Brings Back Fall Sports; Trotwood, Jefferson To Follow?



Dayton HS Sports CEO Deon Cash (Front L), Attorney Ben Swift, (Front R) and Dayton Public Schools student-athletes during "I Want A Season" Episode

After seemingly unwilling to budge to bringing fall sports back for months, the Dayton Public School (DPS) Board held a final meeting last Friday to decide if fall sports will be brought back to start practicing or if it was to be postponed until January.

It was approved almost unanimously, which is interesting considering a week ago, it seemed all but a done deal that it would be canceled.

Just a day after Columbus decided to bring back their sports, DPS decided to join them and will start practice this weekend.

With it almost being close to a unanimous vote (5-1-1) it was a sigh of relief for the DPS student athletes, coaches, and parents whose tireless efforts

kept the heat on the Board after seeing every other school district move forward with fall sports almost three weeks ago.

With the votes of Will Smith and others on the board, the students will now start the process of getting sports back during the 2020-21 season. While it won't be the same as normal, it will still give life to a program which is already deciding to cut hundreds of jobs and has taken a lot of flack for some decisions lately.

While that is a serious issue on its' own, the one thing for sure is that Friday nights are for football. Fall sports are as essential to any student athlete's life as anything in this point and time in their lives.

That's why, when most

of the DPS kids were asked, "Do they want COVID-19?", they immediately said "No."

However, in the very next sentence they expressed the fact of risking their health, no questions asked, to play.

"We just want a chance to play," Belmont senior RB Tavon Hardwick stated. "Everyone else is playing. We want to play too."

Now comes the hard part.

Can DPS athletes, parents, Faculty, and staff take the necessary steps to keep everything on point during this time of panic? Everything is riding on it.

Play ball Dayton Public Schools.

But stay responsible.

Editorial & Comments

Letter to the Editor

Unfortunately, The School-To-Prison Pipeline Is Real and Thriving In Dayton Public Schools (DPS)

Dear Editor,

During the last ten years or so of my 28-year career with DPS, I constantly heard about the school-to-prison pipeline. Because I heard it most from principals who were clearly using it as a crutch to neglect their responsibility to maintain behavioral and academic standards, I dismissed the concept out-of-hand. After all, I fully understood the concept of the prison-industrial-complex and the socio-economic forces behind it. That was easy, incarcerate predominantly Black men and women, and predominantly White people reaped the economic benefits. The majority of the arresting officers are White. The majority of the people in the Court systems are White. The majority of the prisons, (not jails) are in predominantly White neighborhoods, and the majority of the employees in those prisons are White. Follow the money and the prison-industrial-complex is easy to understand. Because my primary focus was real academic achievement, connecting the financial dots of the school-to-prison pipeline was not something I did while teaching. After retiring and reflecting, the financial benefits to those pushing the pipeline have become painfully clear as I have witnessed my own grandson's journey through that pipeline.

Who benefits and how? Irresponsible parents benefit temporarily when they view the school system as primarily a free baby-sitting service with meals provided. Administrators benefit when they are paid lucrative salaries to implement programs that make them look good on paper but actually retard academic progress. School Board members benefit when they use their positions to propell themselves to higher political positions. Lazy and unprincipled teachers benefit when they collect their salaries and simply go along to get along, rather than do the hard work of educating children. There are four primary components of the pipeline:

- 1) Grade inflation and social-promotion
- 2) Lack of clear behavioral and academic standards
- 3) Failure to recruit and retain competent teachers
- 4) Athletics over academics

James A. Williams became Superintendent early in my career at DPS. He strove to eliminate vocational programs and declared that all DPS students would go to college. He declared that the grading scale would be elevated, i.e., a student must get a 95 average rather than a 90 to get an A. When this resulted in more athletes becoming ineligible, he declared that a 1.5 grade point average was a C rather than a D. The principals acquiesced to these ridiculous mandates and DPS students suffered. I was one of a very few teachers who rebelled against these ridiculous edits and made-up grade point average change. They were only rolled back when the Sinclair administration wrote a letter to DPS administrators stating that DPS graduates were increasingly being put on probation for D averages then complaining that their 1.5 to 1.9 grade point averages were C averages rather than D averages. Superintendent Williams leveraged his reign of terror over DPS personnel into a very lucrative contract as a superintendent in up-state New York.

Towards the end of my career, Lori Ward became Superintendent of DPS. Since she had come from business, she endeavored to run DPS like a business rather than the service that it is. One of her mandates was to decrease suspensions by 10%. In order to acquiesce, in-school suspensions were initiated by principals whereby students were simply sent to other classrooms for abhorrent behavior. This brilliant strategy resulted in decreasing the official suspension rate but these extremely disruptive students managed to disrupt teaching and learning in their own classrooms and then take their disruptive behaviors to other classrooms. The end result for DPS students was our continued march to the bottom of the state in academic achievement. Superintendent Ward was rewarded with a new contract and hefty raise before finally departing to who knows where.

Throughout my career I had the misfortune to observe too many teachers simply acquiesce to feckless fiats and morbid mandates from administrators rather than stand up and fight to keep students out of the school-to-prison pipeline. They gave students passing grades when they knew these students were not even trying to learn, and were subsequently failing. They wilted to the will of coaches and principals to change the grades of athletes in order to maintain their eligibility. These unethical and cowardly teachers were also firm pushers of the pipeline. They profitted from these students' future incarceration by collecting their checks and sending their own children to private schools or living in districts where their children could be properly educated.

As DPS students return to online learning because of the COVID-19 pandemic, concerned citizens should consider the record of Superintendent Elizabeth Lolli, her last contract, and question her tenure as chief pusher of the pipeline. We should also question the four board members who recently voted to lay off teachers and other staff when no other district in the area had done that.

When I earned my Masters degree from Central State University in, I had to write a thesis. I followed 23 students from Roth Middle School who were moved from 7th to 9th grade in one school year. None of them graduated! Who benefitted? Obviously the principal who refused to deal with their atrocious behavior and lack of effort academically. How many of them are now alumni of the pipeline? I wish I knew. The school-to-prison pipeline is real and it has to go!

Kimaru Wa-Tenza (kwatenza50@gmail.com)

Something to Consider: Dealing with Today, Yesterday, and Tomorrow

By: Brenda Cochran,
Contributing Writer

When we think about it, there are two days in every week that we need not worry about. They two days that should be kept free of fear, anxiety or apprehension. One of them is yesterday, where we may have had a lot of mistakes and cares, blunders, faults, aches and pains. The fact is that yesterday has passed and is forever beyond our control. All the money in the world cannot bring back our yesterdays. We also cannot erase a single word that we have said. In other words, yesterday is gone!

The other day that we shouldn't worry about is tomorrow. This day is beyond our control. We realize that the sun is going to rise beautifully or dismal, but it will rise. Until it does, we have no stake in tomorrow because it hasn't been born yet.

This leaves only one day and that is today. Today, any person can fight the battles that he or she might have on this one day. It's only when we add those yesterday burdens and tomorrows dreads is when we may break down. It's not the experiences of today that drives us crazy, it is the remorse or bitterness of something that happened yesterday and/or the dread of what tomorrow may bring.

Forgetting what is behind us or what lies ahead is taken from the Book of Philippians 3:13. Forgetting the former things, do not dwell on the past, is found in the Book of Isaiah 43:18. In terms of tomorrow, though, we don't need to worry about it because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough troubles of its own. Find this in the Book of Matthew 6:34.

In essence, don't boast about tomorrow because you have no idea what the day will bring. See this in Proverbs 27:1. On the other hand, this is what



Brenda Cochran

God says when we think about today: "We should rejoice and be glad in it." Look at Psalm 118:24.

The ultimate goal is to be better today than yesterday, with a plan to become even better tomorrow.

When we think about our lives, we find there is no superior or inferior when it comes to life. There is no measuring stick that can rank us in order of our importance. Everyone is exactly equal in importance to this world and it isn't possible for any one person to become more or less important than any other person.

The question is how do we determine excellence? How do we become the best? The first thing we do is to define what we think is the best. We also recognize that being the best is something that is related to you and only you. It's about achieving your best, ranked solely against yourself and your own past and performances in your future.

How often have you found that some people agree that they are extremely good in math, but they cannot write an essay. The one thing you can do is look at your own natural talents and write them down. Then you can ask yourself, how you can further develop these talents and abilities, and how can you hone them and make them the best that they can be? You can also ask yourself what

natural gifts you have that you have not yet begun to grow and develop? Be sure to write these down too.

The next thing you can do is to make a list of the qualities that you don't particularly like about yourself or things you would like to change. An example is, are you impatient, or are you judgmental, or lazy, etc. Be sure to set the goals that will help you change.

Remember that every day we are the result of every past decision or commitment that we have made. Tomorrow we are going to be the direct result of the decisions that we may make today, so, if we are doing things today that will make us better tomorrow, and we keep on doing this day after day, we're going to be in the process of becoming our very best.

The following are quotes that pertain to yesterday and tomorrow:

1) Albert Einstein: *"Learn from yesterday, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning."*

2) Eleanor Roosevelt: *"Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift. That is why it is called the present."*

3) Dale Carnegie: *"Remember, today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday."*

Here is the best one: *"Surrender to what is—Let go of what was—Have faith in what will be."* This quote is one to tack on your wall. It is by Sonia Ricotti, a leading expert in personal transformation and known around the world as a "Bounce-Back" expert and author of "Unsinkable: How to Bounce Back Quickly When Life Knocks You Down."

Opinion:

New Drug Pricing Executive Order Burdens Patients

By Kenneth E. Thorpe
President Trump just issued several executive orders designed to reduce drug prices. The most consequential, dubbed a "Most Favored Nation" policy, pegs Medicare payments for medicines to the prices paid by foreign governments.

This plan would reduce access to today's innovative medicines and stifle medical progress. It must be shelved. There are much better ideas for reducing prescription drug costs.

Many foreign nations have single-payer health systems that impose strict price controls on new medicines and refuse to cover particularly expensive drugs.

Patients living in those nations end up with fewer treatment options. Patients in the United Kingdom and France had access to just seven in ten new cancer therapies between 2011 and 2018.

American patients could access virtually all of them.

The U.S. market operates differently. Insurers compete for patients -- often by offering generous drug coverage. Drug researchers are incentivized to develop new treatments, as they know that American patients value innovation. As a result, research companies across the world generally launch their newest drugs here first.

The proposed executive order would slow medical progress. There are currently 4,500 drugs in America's development pipeline. These medicines target everything from cancer and HIV to heart disease and asthma. Price controls would inevitably reduce drug firms' revenues and leave them less to invest in research and development. This could block the next generation of drugs from ever even hitting the pharmacy

shelf.

Medical breakthroughs are constantly making it easier and cheaper for patients to stay healthy. A recent study from my organization, the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease, found that new medicines could avoid \$6 trillion in healthcare costs and prevent 16 million deaths by 2030.

It isn't fair that Americans pay so much more than Canadians and Europeans. But policymakers should work to get these nations to shoulder more of the research burden not import their harmful policies.

Kenneth E. Thorpe is a professor of health policy at Emory University and chairman of the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease. This piece originally ran in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.



Classified

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Deborah Howard
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**Black Lives Matter Dayton...
Continued from Page 1**

ed States. This is why he and Chris Landrum formed the group Black Lives Matter Dayton. Mr. Buford also formed Urban Citizens for Social Justice several years earlier. Mr. Landrum and two ladies also led a march of 3,000 people in Dayton in June of 2016 from the Riverscape to the Courthouse and back.

I spoke with Reverend Dr David Fox who explained that the date May 25th has special significance because it is also African Liberation Day which is celebrated globally. Reverend Dr. David Fox said, "We received a proclamation from the city and county for that day to be recognized. The Black Lives Matter Dayton (rally) was to be an alternative to the protesting of the Ku Klux Klan.

I asked Mr. Buford what they were hoping to accomplish with the ten-point plan? He replied, "We feel that there could be some changes implemented that will

stop over policing in our neighborhoods and, with those ten points, we are trying to accomplish that. So that we could have better community and police relations, those points were put down and crafted so that we can try to curb back the violence that goes along with it when the police interact with a community member." Mr. Buford said this of his decision to form the organization, "I look at that decision then and where we are now, and it was the best decision that we ever made."

Michael Motley is a community activist who is part of a coalition to support progress throughout the black community. I asked Mr. Motley what the readers of the Dayton Weekly News can do if they want to be involved. He said, "We are always looking for folks to get involved in their own liberation. My thing is the people in the community need to get involved in whatever organization fits them that is moving in

the direction of liberation of black people. I don't think we need to restrict it. It's like going to church. If you are spiritual, join whichever church fits you. Just get involved."

This past weekend marked the 57th Anniversary of the iconic march on Washington, D.C. held on August 28th, 2020. Mr. Buford and a group from Black Lives Matter Dayton went to Washington, D.C. to participate in the "Get off my neck I can't breathe" march. He also had this to say about the recent shooting in Wisconsin. "We, as a community, must start to intervene on behalf of black people when police brutality is evident. Even if it means letting police know we are about to intervene when we clearly see wrong doing".

Join us next week for part two of Black Lives Matter Dayton as we explore some of the ten points that are highlighted in the Black Lives Matter Dayton demand for police reform.

Entertainment

**World's First Black Superhero Gone Too Soon...
Continued from Page 1**



- I would even say maybe he didn't even start it, it started before him. But he carried the torch and carried it alone for a period of time before other people could help him." Clearly, he forwarded the narrative of that, as he moved on to play one of the most influential roles of a gen-

eration in the portrayal of T'Challa, aka Black Panther. The impact he had on Hollywood, while too short, was phenomenal. He hosted 'SNL' in a very memorable episode, and was slated to star in 'Black Panther 2' which was meant to be released

in 2022 As outstanding of an actor, Chadwick was also an incredibly effective activist and role model. He had a unique and powerful voice that resonated with kids and adults, showing them anything was possible.

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1. Racism is evil, wrong and should have no place in the brotherhood of human beings. It is a grave hindrance to the freedom of both the oppressed and the oppressor.

2. Governments, agencies and people of good will from any persuasion and way of life must come together in solidarity to work diligently with persistence to promote equal opportunity and justice for all citizens.

3. Love, compassion and human understanding should be taught in every home and in every school from kindergarten through university.

4. Act of war in today's world of technology is violence of the highest order. It is legalized murder proclaimed in the name of peace and civility.

5. The basic human instincts found in all people such as caring, valuing, justice, kindness, peace, hope, sharing and fellowship must become the absolutes that guide day to day living.

6. It is a betrayal against humanity to be silent when freedom and justice are being denied.

This book can be purchased at Barnes & Nobel, Books A Million, and on Amazon.

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Religion

Richard Allen (1760 – 1831)...
Continued from Page 1

purchasing land, which was eventually donated to the church or rented out to families. Flora died on March 11, 1801, after a long illness. Scholars do not know if they had any children. After moving to Philadelphia, Allen married Sarah Bass, a freed slave from Virginia. She had moved to Philadelphia as a child and the couple met around 1800. Richard and Sarah Allen had six children. Sarah Allen was highly active in what became the AME Church and is called the "Founding Mother."

Allen was qualified as a preacher in 1784 at the Christmas Conference, the founding of the Methodist Church in North America in Baltimore, Maryland. He was one of the two black attendees of the conference along with Harry Hosier, but neither could vote during deliberations. Allen was then allowed to lead services at 5 a.m., which were attended mostly by blacks. Eschewing Asbury and Hosier's circuit riding practices, he moved to Philadelphia, a center of free blacks.

In 1786, Allen became a preacher at St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania but was restricted to early-morning services. As he attracted more black congregants, the church vestry ordered them to be in a separate area for worship. Allen regularly preached

on the commons near the church, slowly gaining a congregation of nearly 50 and supporting himself with a variety of odd jobs. Allen and Absalom Jones, also a Methodist preacher, resented the white congregants' segregation of blacks for worship and prayer. They decided to leave St. George's to create independent worship for African Americans. That brought some opposition from the white church as well as the more-established blacks of the community.

In 1787, Allen and Jones led the black members out of St. George's Methodist Church. They formed the Free African Society (FAS), a non-denominational mutual aid society that assisted fugitive slaves and new migrants to the city. Allen, along with Absalom Jones, William Gray and William Wilcher, found an available lot on Sixth Street near Lombard. Allen negotiated a price and purchased this lot in 1787 to build a church, but it was years before they had a building. Now occupied by Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, it is the oldest parcel of real estate in the United States that has been owned continuously by African Americans.

Allen and others wanted to continue in the Methodist practice. Allen called their congregation the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME). Converting a blacksmith shop on Sixth Street, the leaders opened the doors

of Bethel AME Church on July 29, 1794. At first affiliated with the larger Methodist Episcopal Church, the church had to rely on visiting white ministers for communion. In recognition of his leadership and preaching, Allen was ordained as the first black Methodist minister by Bishop Francis Asbury in 1799. He and the congregation still had to continue to negotiate white oversight and deal with white elders of the denomination. A decade after its founding, the AME Church had 457 members, and in 1813, it had 1,272.

In 1816, Allen united five African-American congregations of the Methodist Church in Philadelphia; Attleborough, Pennsylvania; Salem, New Jersey; Delaware and Maryland. Together, they founded the independent denomination of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME), the first fully independent black denomination in the United States. On April 10, 1816, the other ministers elected Allen as their first bishop. The African Methodist Episcopal Church is the oldest and largest formal institution in black America.

From 1797 until his death, in 1831, Allen and Sarah operated a station on the Underground Railroad for fugitive slaves.

Allen died at home on Spruce Street on March 26, 1831. He was buried at the church that he founded. His grave remains on the lower level.

CONNECTING SOUL II SOUL: Wake up! Listen up! God is still speaking .08372020



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17"In the last days, I will offer My Spirit to humanity as a libation. Your children will boldly speak the word of the Lord. Young warriors will see visions, and your elders will dream dreams. *18*Yes, in those days I shall offer My Spirit to all servants, both male and female, and they will boldly speak My word. Acts 2:17-18

"DEAR GOD, I had a dream last evening that I was back in 1994, talking with people who've long since gone on to worlds unknown. Perhaps they are in the Great Cloud of Witness. Maybe they are somebody's ancestors. Could they be reincarnated to make perfect their relationship with You? On this particular occasion, when they visited me in my dreams, I awoke with the understanding that their message is tri-fold. (1) Wake Up! Listen Up! I AM Still Speaking. In the dream, I longed for a time when life looked simpler, terms of endearment were kinder, and pathways to spiritual growth felt fresher. (2) It is an insult to the Present, to live in the past or the future. (3) Only look back to partner with a lesson forgotten, and look forward to loving and trusting God more."

Usually, I write down my dreams to recall them. And, if I may, I recommend that you keep pen and paper handy to jot down your vision if you're interested in developing a relationship with God, The Revealer.

Wisdom led me to an article written in January 2019 by John Pavlovitz titled "Selling the Soul of Franklin Graham." I shared it on my Facebook page. In the article, the writer is warning us about drifting away from our "call." He implies that Mr. Graham pays less attention to the Voice of Jesus and more attention to the adorations of the masses.

Other ways of drifting are: (1) spending little or no time reading sacred and affirming texts, (2) the Gospel Good News is not a blessing or a conviction, (3) less fellowship with like believers, (4) accepting "sin" is the new normal, (5) The VOICE of conscious is hushing, (6) breaking a promise to strengthen your relationship with God through prayer, meditation, and social justice action, and (7) creating excuses. For the record, I call this The Ultimate Process of Deception.

As the Lord wills, I'll share more about The Ultimate Process of Deception next time.

Until and beyond then, stop drinking this cool-aid.
Instead, Wake up! Listen up! God is still speaking.

Church Events?

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Dayton Represented at the March on Washington

Continued from Page 1

to aggravated burglary, a felony in the first degree. His mother, Nicole Wiley, a life-long Daytonian, cried uncontrollably as she witnessed her son railroaded through the criminal justice system. She rode with the Black Lives Matter, Dayton, caravan to our nation's capital to plea for justice for her son and the hundreds of black men and women who are similarly situated.

The caravan that traveled to Washington, D.C., included parents who have buried their children with a person that struggled with addiction and survived the crack epidemic of the eighties and nineties and with a man who lost his brother to unnecessary gun violence. As a resident of the west side of Dayton, Ohio, I unfortunately encounter people with similar experiences daily. However, an intimate examination of these stories shook me to my core and I was inspired and amazed by their resiliency. As the caravan traveled through central Ohio to the edge of Pennsylvania and through the mountains of Maryland, we encountered an America that is often unseen by residents of urban cores and big metropolitan areas. Motorists flew Trump 2020 flags right along the side of an American flag from the bed of their trucks, cars bore "thin blue line" emblems and front porches of quaint country houses adorned with confederate flags. Passengers of the 15-passenger van prayed that nothing would go wrong with the vehicle because many of the roads we traveled were uncomfortably reminiscent of "sundown towns" our grandparents avoided while traveling through the south.

When we arrived in Washington, D.C., we had seemed to reach a black oasis. People traveled from around the country to march in solidarity 57 years after our ancestors and elders traveled to our nation's capital to hear Roy Wilkins, A. Philip Randolph, John Lewis, and the great Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. Of course, counter protesters greeted us to mock our very existence, but they were minuscule in the presence of the spirit of hope, freedom, change and eloquent rage. On the morning of August 28, we arrived to the national mall at 7:00 a.m. only to find tens of thousands of people already lined up to enter the Lincoln Memorial. Two hundred fifty thousand people risked their lives to gather in our nation's capital in the middle of a pandemic that has already claimed 180,000 American lives in an effort to assert ourselves in a Country that never fully included us. While speeches from the likes of John Lewis and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. are hard to emulate,



Jared Grandy



Activist Jared Gandy and his brother Jordan Grandy



Photographer Vern Holman being safe shooting from under stage.



T. Taylor the uncle of Breonna Taylor



Dayton Weekly photographer Vern Holman with Ilhan Omar U.S. Congresswomen from Minnesota's 5th district.



Al Sharpton addresses the crowd.



contemporary leaders did a fine job inspiring the huddled mass. Yolanda Renee King, Martin Luther King Jr.'s granddaughter, took to the podium to remind us that her grandfather predicted this moment. She stated that a year before his assassination, "He said that we were moving into a new phase of the struggle. The first phase was for civil rights and the new phase is a struggle for genuine equality." The crowd roared loud enough to be heard in the Oval Office at the White House.

Yet, President Trump barely acknowledged our presence. Indeed, Donald Trump and company spent the week of the march spreading divisive messages during the Republican National Convention equating protesters and justice seekers with anarchists and insurgents who seek to destroy the American way of life. But, black Americans and their white allies were there to do what we have always done, "to make real the promises of democracy." We arrived 57 years after the original the great March on Washington to the same hollowed location "to remind America of the fierce urgency of now" and to urge the nation to rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed that all men are created equal. We did not "seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred." We continued to "conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline."

Yolanda Renee King boldly proclaimed that her generation would be the one to realize her grandfather's dream. Therefore, while we sincerely hope that her proclamation is prophetic, rest assured that, if not, generations of black Americans yet to come will continue to fight "until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream."

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Sports Continued from Page 3:

High School Football Kicks Off: Top Teams, Headlines, Players From Week 1



Tae'Sean Smoot (with ball) Leads Springfield to a 21-14 win over Wayne

High school football kicked off the Coronavirus (COVID-19) season with sports all over the Miami Valley. That was no more evident than on Friday, as the football season propelled into week 1.

While they will be playing a shortened season, there was the buzz unlike anything that has been in the sports landscape in Ohio since the halting of the sports season in March.

While at the Springfield/Wayne game, everyone from the athletic director down to the volunteers were wearing masks, and all seemed well. At least for the night. While there will always be a risk to getting COVID-19, this truly felt like a cause that, quite honestly, was a legitimate reason to be out among other people. The crowds weren't big, and there was plenty of social distancing.

Here are the Top

Headlines and key results from Week 1:

Springfield Outlasts Wayne in Game of the Week as Tae'Sean Smoot, Defense Lead Way

Tae'Sean Smoot, the highly touted junior quarterback (QB) from Springfield, knew he was in a battle against one of the top QBs (senior QB Cam Fancher) and teams in the state in Wayne. Tae'Sean, however, was unfazed, and his big strike late in the first half help give the Wildcats the cushion they needed to win the Game of The Week 21-14. The win was in front of about 20% of the spectators this game would normally have.

Wayne would have a few opportunities in the 2nd half, as they rode their top target Elijah Brown, and they would close to 7 on a Jordan Ward touchdown (TD), but it was not enough as the hard-hitting Wildcats stiffened up in the crunch time, and moved to 1-0 on

the season.

Tae'Sean acknowledged, "We made some mistakes, but we stepped up when we needed to. We will get back to practice and work on clearing those mistakes up. I need to throw less interceptions, and I will clear that up." Tea'Sean stated.

Wayne Coach Roosevelt Mukes was disappointed with the results, but appreciated his team's effort and said, "We have to play more experienced. It doesn't matter if we have a young team or not. Players have to make plays. We had a real chance to win that game."

Player of the Game: Tea'Sean Smoot, Springfield

Tea'Sean was in control, especially after he threw his interceptions, which lets me know one thing: He is in complete control of the offense and the team. His late first half TD crushed the Warriors spirit, and his 3 TDs, all in the 1st half, set the tone for the game. His post game comments were all you needed to know of how good this kid really is. The best Junior in Ohio? Possibly.

Chaminade-Julienne (C-J) wins Season Opener

C-J got a big home win over Harrison as they look to try to get back to the playoffs. After the loss to Alter last season, look for



D-1 Commit Cam Fancher (With Ball) Directs Offense For Wayne

upset Eagles squad this season.

Clinton Massie Powers Past Alter

Alter, one of the top preseason teams in the area, took a tough loss to a well-balanced Clinton Massie team 41-31. While Alter offense scored 31, the defense was not up to par and will look to regroup in week two.

Stebbins Rallies Late to Upend Pirates

West Carrollton held a 25-14 lead but the running game, led by super sophomore Omar Holloway, was too late as the Indians rallied to win 28-25.

Elks Chase Harrison, Cameron Smith Lead Way in win over Fairmont

Centerville star QB Chase Harrison ran for a TD and Cameron Smith ran a 95-yard kickoff for the deciding TD to win 21-20. What looked like a Fairmont win turned

the win.

Piqua knocks off Troy, Ends Losing Streak

Piqua ended a 7- game losing streak to their rivals as they ran past Troy in the season opener.

Valley View Clobbers Oakwood

Valley View, a perennial playoff team, crushed Oakwood on the road to go to 1-0.

Fairborn knocks off Miami Valley League (MVL) Champions

The Fairborn Skyhawks knocked off the MVL champions in Xenia as they used a balanced attack to get their 1st win of the season.

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