



The Dayton Weekly NEWS

An African-American Community Newspaper

October 8 - 15, 2020

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Fifth Third Ascend Level Up Business Assistance Workshop Provides Assistance to Local Entrepreneurs

Fifth Third Bank has once again teamed up with local organizations to provide business consulting and technical assistance to small businesses in the Dayton region who have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Through a partnership with the Miami Valley Community Action Partnership (MV-CAP), the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce Minority Business Partnership (MBP) and local subject matter experts will provide high level refresher courses and one on one technical assistance for businesses who may need to restructure or pivot their business. The workshops will be delivered in three different cohorts over the next 12 months. We will be conducting three zoom cohorts. The



dates are as follows:
Cohort 1 - October 15, 22, 29, November 5, 12, 2020
Cohort 2 - January 6, 13, 20, 27, February 3, 2021
Cohort 3 - April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 2021
After participants complete the refresher workshops, each business will be paired with a team of experts to receive one-on-one counseling specific to

their business. "It's like having your own business consultant," said Donerik Black, a local business consultant who will be hosting the Zoom meetings and pairing businesses with subject matter experts. The workshops are designed to introduce entrepreneurs to experts in all areas of business from accounting, to market research, digital content,

human resource management, sales and financing. Every facet of business ownership will be covered in these workshops. Businesses will have the opportunity to work with experts to streamline their current processes and get the necessary technical assistance to work through challenges that have been identified. This year, we have add-
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By: LaTonya Victoria
Staff Writer
In 24 days (Tuesday, November 3rd), residents of the Miami Valley will cast their votes. They will also be voting on numerous issues and local races in addition to the Presidential election. I had the opportunity to discuss the importance of voting with Montgomery County Recorder Brandon McClain. Mr. McClain told me how less than 80,000 votes across three states helped to determine the 2016 Presidential election. He shared how there have been local races in Montgomery County that were decided by less than 20 votes. Hearing this helps us all to understand how important every vote is. Mr. McClain hosts a voter empowerment series every Wednesday at 6:30 PM called "My Vote Matters." The program can be found on the McKinley United Methodist Church Facebook page or on the church's

Your Vote Is Your Voice

YouTube channel. Mr. McClain said, "One of the things I try to share is we have to look beyond the now. When we look at the election of two individuals that is the now. We must look to the impact that it will have in the future. If someone makes poor decisions now, the devastation and impact is long lasting. That doesn't just affect you today. It affects you tomorrow. It could affect your children. It could affect your grandchildren. These decisions have the

impact to cause ripples in the ocean of democracy. It is something that serious. It is not just something that could affect us for the next four years. Someone's bad decisions can affect us for our entire life." I asked Mr. McClain if there was anything, he would like to make sure that our readers know and he responded, "Look at how the Coronavirus Pandemic has been handled. We are talking about something that could have lasted months, that now

could possibly last years. That is leadership or the lack there of. We must be mindful that when we vote for the President, congress, or our local county elected officials, they aren't decisions that people make that affect you today and tomorrow but decisions that affect you next year and the year after that. These are wide ranging impacts. That is

Black Nurse Helps 100 Other Nurses to Start Their Own Businesses

Michelle Greene Rhodes, Founder and CEO of Michelle Rhodes Media LLC in Tampa, Florida, has created a place for nurses to personally develop and meet their big goals outside of the traditional roles. The RNterprise™ Academy is an online brand that helps nurses go "onward and upward" in business. The program developed in 2016 was created to help nurses meet their maximum potential and avoid burnout, a common problem in health-

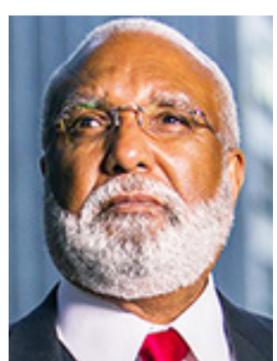


care. For those nurses who enjoy business but feel stuck, this could be an excellent option to support healthcare. This can also help alleviate the swinging door in this field where

statistics show up to 33% of nurses leave the field within the first two years of beginning the profession. With burnout knocking on her doorstep back in 2008, Michelle found herself feeling physical symptoms daily while at work. A nurse of 23 years, Michelle states "I remember finding myself reflecting the good days when I loved what I did daily and was happy to serve day in and day out." She served many years as a hospice nurse who witnessed death
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Wrongful Conviction Expert Launches Foundation to Help Exonerate Innocent Prisoners

Los Angeles, CA — It is estimated that 2.3 million people are currently incarcerated in the United States, and approximately 2 – 10% (40,000 – 230,000) are wrongfully convicted. Since a majority of wrongful conviction cases do not have DNA evidence, it can sometimes take years, even decades, to prove the innocence of a wrongfully convicted person. However, such legal personnel cannot afford to work pro bono long-term and most convicted persons seeking exoneration cannot afford legal representation. Per Santa Clara University of Law, some cases can cost more than



Timothy T. Williams, Jr.
\$2 million and an estimated 5,000 attorney hours or more to win the freedom of a wrongfully convicted person. Launching in October 2020, the Timothy T. Williams, Jr. Foundation for Wrongful Convictions (TTWFWC) is mak-

ing history by providing attorneys, experts, and criminal investigators with grant funding that embraces their prevailing industry rates to work as
Continued on Page 6

BLACK HISTORY

A Moment In Time

Know The Past, Shape The Future

Phyllis Wheatley 1753 – 1784

After being kidnapped from West Africa and enslaved in Boston, Phillis Wheatley became the first African American and one of the first women to publish a book of poetry in the colonies in 1773. Poet Phillis Wheatley was brought to Boston, Massachusetts, on an enslaved person ship in 1761 and was purchased by John Wheatley as a personal servant to his wife. The Wheatleys educated Phillis and she soon mastered Latin and Greek, going on to write highly acclaimed poetry. She published her first poem in 1767 and her first volume of verse, Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral, in 1773. Having been freed from slavery, she later married and struggled financially, with Wheatley unable to find a publisher for her second volume of poetry. Under the family's direction, Wheatley (who, as was the custom at the time, adopted her master's last name) was taken under Susanna's wing. Her quick intelligence was hard to miss, and as a result, Susanna and her two children taught Wheatley to read



and was actively encouraged in her literary pursuits by the household. Wheatley received lessons in theology, English, Latin and Greek. Ancient history was soon folded into the teachings, as were lessons in mythology and literature. At a time when African Americans were discouraged and intimidated from learning how to read and write, Wheatley's life was an anomaly. Wheatley wrote her first published poem at around age 13. The work, a story about two men who nearly drown at sea, was printed in the Newport Mercury. Other published poems followed, with several also being published, further increasing Wheatley's fame.

why votes matter. There is an election every six months. Every election matters. But this is the most important one!" The League of Woman's Voters website lists several tips to help us request an absentee ballot. One way

to request an absentee ballot is to go to the web site voteohio.gov and print your request for an absentee ballot. Another way is to fill out and mail back the form
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Around DAYTON

Miami Valley Weather

Friday
Mostly Sunny
High 79
Low 60



Saturday
Showers
High 77
Low 57



Sunday
Showers
High 69
Low 58



5 day Forecast

Monday
Showers
High 74
Low 61



Tuesday
Showers
High 73
Low 55



Don't Trust the Mail? Vote Early in Person

YOU HAVE A CHOICE



VOTE Bob Matthews For
Montgomery County Commissioner

Bob's Vision

www.bob4cc.com

FAITH

Divine help is needed for tough situations.

FAMILY

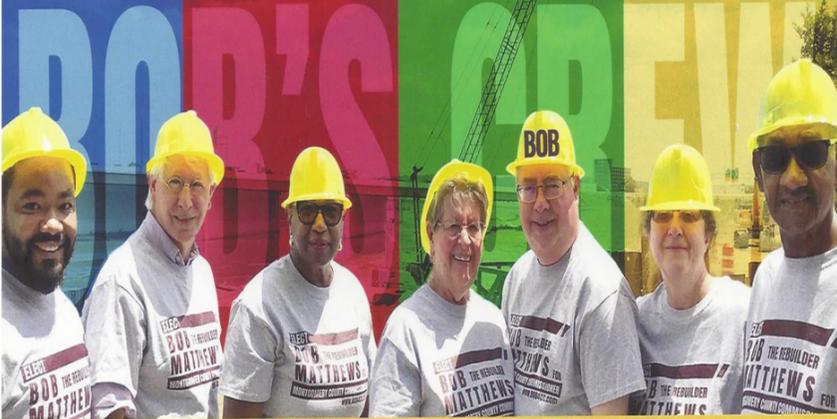
Strong families will strengthen Montgomery County.

FINANCE

Help for struggling families.

FUTURE

Fresh leadership means a better future for you.



REBUILDING YOUR FUTURE TOGETHER
on the web www.bob4cc.com on facebook [@bob4cc](https://www.facebook.com/bob4cc) on the ballot **NOV03**

NOTHING CHANGES

UNLESS YOU CHANGE THE LEADERSHIP

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Your Vote Is Your Voice... Continued from Page 1

to request your absentee ballot. Make sure that

you provide all requested information. Be sure to use the same address that you used when you registered to vote. It is suggested that you use black ink or the color stated on the form and do not skip any information, then mail the form back to the Board of Elections. Once your form is received,

your actual ballot will be mailed to you. Fill out your ballot using black ink, or the color stated on the form. Mail your ballot back to the Board of Elections by October 27 or drop it off in the ballot box outside the Board of Elections office located at 451 W. Third Street by 7 PM.

On election day, voters will be voting on the following candidates:

President and Vice President of the United States, County Prosecuting Attorney, Representatives to U.S. Congress, County Clerk of Courts, Justices of the Ohio Su-

preme Court, County Sheriff, Court of Appeals Judges (some districts), County Recorder, State Representatives, County Treasurer, State Senators (even-numbered districts only), County Engineer, County Commissioners, County Coroner, Court

of Common Pleas Judges, and Members of the State Board of Education (some regions).

Join us over the next few weeks as we begin to look at some of the candidates and issues on the ballot.

VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETINGS

MVRPC will hold two virtual Public Participation Meetings regarding the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Update on October 20 & 21, 2020.

The Long Range Transportation Plan is a long-range (20+ year) strategy and capital improvement program developed to guide the effective investment of public funds in multi-modal transportation facilities.

The meeting will take place via Zoom, a video conferencing platform, and will be held as follows on
Tuesday, October 20, 2020 - 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 21, 2020 - 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Access the meeting via computer, tablet or mobile device using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83248393179>

Or By phone: (301)715-8592 US (Germantown)
(312)626-6799 US (Chicago)

Enter Meeting ID: 832 4839 3179#

After a brief presentation, MVRPC staff will accept comments and answer questions regarding the DRAFT projects and strategies in the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan.

If you are unable to attend, visit plan2050.mvrpc.org to view documents and provide comments.



For additional information, contact Ana Ramirez, Director of Transportation Planning and Funding at 937.223.6323 or plan2050@mvrpc.org

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YES!
U CAN
OTE

REGISTER BY OCTOBER 5
VOTE BY NOVEMBER 3

QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
(937) 225-5656

EVEN IF YOU:

- HAVE A CRIMINAL HISTORY**
- ARE HOMELESS**
- CANNOT VOTE IN PERSON**
- DO NOT HAVE A STATE ID**

We Don't Have to Cancel Halloween, There Are Plenty of Ways to Enjoy the Holiday



By: Karen Aronian

Halloween doesn't need to be canceled. There are plenty of ways to enjoy trick-or-treating and participate in festivities, while doing it safely.

Halloween is on the fence in most states as Governors have yet to say if it's over and out. Parents are impatiently waiting and hoping that their kids will enjoy the traditional festivities.

Some options so far serving as back-up trick or treat plans:

- Drive-in scary movies
- One-way parades with candy handed out by gloved and masked adults
- Gatherings at apple orchard pumpkin patches where families practice distancing and go thru corn mazes, have live music, candy hand-outs and costume competitions at a socially ac-



ceptable distance

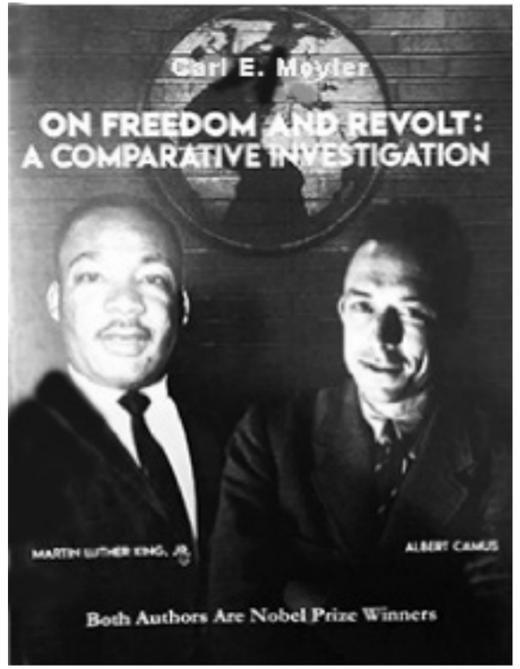
- House parties with a 25 person indoor limit and outdoor 100+
- Halloween scavenger hunts
- Halloween ghost walks
- Halloween hunts (with orange eggs full of candy)
- Family day/overnight trips to Hotels where activities and events are setup and Halloween spirit and decor is over the top
- Halloween crafting with apples, pumpkins carving, bobbing, baking, jewelry making and Halloween glow in the dark

necklace bracelet earrings

- Zoom mystery whodunits and scavenger hunts for prizes
- Halloween bonfires, sing alongs and spooky campouts
- Haunted outdoor light up jack-o-lantern pumpkin tours
- Halloween costume walk / run 5K (distanced)
- Tomahawk Throw and Archery Kill the Demon Target Contests
- Live animal superstition shows with bats, cats and spiders...

On Freedom and Revolt: A Comparative Investigation

ON FREEDOM AND REVOLT: A COMPARATIVE INVESTIGATION is a powerful CIVIL RIGHTS book dealing with such plagues as injustice, racism, oppression, hate, murder, holocaust, and war, to name a few, interfaced with love and brotherhood. The book is presented through the literary writings of two civil rights champions, Martin Luther King, Jr. (American) and Albert Camus (French). The thoughts and ideas from twelve (12) of their selected books are compared giving twenty-one (21) solutions/recommendations to the evils of systemic racism and its effects on any human population. Since publication, this book has received superior evaluations and responses from the publication's world



THE VINEYARDS PROJECT (For churches)

What can the churches of Jesus Christ do in the name of love and brotherhood? The Vineyards Project consisted of two-paired churches, one Black and one White, working together to identify means of racial reconciliation and peace when racism and hate are present and practiced in daily living and survival. Some of the activities of different pairings included preacher pulpit exchanges, choir exchanges, National Issues Forum, discussion on critical political issues, exchange meetings in the churches or homes, taking trips together, joint youth activities, joint picnics, Habitat for Humanity work, marching together on Dr. MLK, Jr. national holiday, eating out together, and of course having discussions on racial issues, etc.

This particular program is an example of what both Camus and King said needed to be done to bring about societal change and transformation through the universal church as change agents. We recall especially Dr. King's indictment of the White church for its non-involvement and aloofness (**Letter from Birmingham Jail**) and name calling during the 1963 bitter protests in Birmingham, Alabama, and America. Read his book **Strength to Love** which is included in this book. Likewise, Camus was critical of the European churches for their cowardly and inhumane stand during the seizure, incarceration, and deportation to death camps of some six million Jews during World War II.

Based on available information, programs that are similar to the Vineyards project have begun throughout America and the world. This type of program represents the idea of **Human Solidarity** (Working groups) (teamwork) on the part of Camus and **The Beloved Community of Dr. King**

(Solutions/recommendations to injustice key points #'s 3,4,7,13 and 20 from chapter 5 can apply here.)

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

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Thumbs-UP for Our Police Force – We Need YOU

Personal Hygiene is very important (washing hands, social distancing, wearing a mask, we respect Hippa), but if you get ill... you want a healthy immune system to fight-off any infection. Avoid foods that breaks down the immune system (Sugar, pop, greasy foods) add foods & nutritional supplements (that have been proven) that heal, repair & rejuvenate your Immune System.

Come to  ...It's where Healing & Rejuvenation Begins.

Editorial & Comments

Something to Consider:

Acquiring the Ability to Live Successfully in a Time Like This

By: Brenda Cochran
Contributing Writer

If you are asked to compose an essay that should include your personal feelings concerning the year 2020, you just might have some difficulty. This is no doubt because there would be so many feelings that include: uncertainty, fear, unrest, depression, mood swings and more.

It seems that the most difficult is the ability to remain as positive and productive as you can no matter what your personal circumstance is now. When you are able to remain positive, you are more resourceful, more creative, and more productive. In other



Brenda Cochran

er words, it simply feels better.

Though many do not consider that they are living successfully during a time like this, there are some things that may help to do just that.

In the Book of Joshua in the Bible, we find how

the Israelis were able to experience success when they obeyed the Lord's plan. Though we are living in different times, there are some things that will aid us in living successfully during our time now or any difficult time:

First, we need to keep the right perspective. Living in a time like this, we find that it is easy to feel overwhelmed and crushed. In the middle of a difficult time, it is important to maintain the right perspective because there are some tendencies to exaggerate the problem which means that a minor problem is turned into a huge one.

According to Mark Twain, "There has been much tragedy in my life;

at least half of which actually happened. Remember to look at the bigger picture and don't let problems take on the size or magnitude greater than they actually are."

Even in your most difficult time, there are still positive things happening in your life. Ask yourself if this will matter a year from now, or three years from now. It is helpful to remember that you have been able to get through issues and challenges in the past and you will get through this one as well. Also remember that good and bad things happen to everyone, don't be surprised by difficulties, rather, know that they may come. They are a part of life.

The next point is to focus on what you can control. It is important to be clear from the outcome of what you really hope to witness. When you realize that there are many people who are living with the same situation and circumstance that you are, keeping in touch with others or even sending cards and/or notes may help someone else. Phone calls help a lot too.

As this difficult COVID-19 drags on, many are feeling the burden of this new normal. A recent survey says that most claim that the stress and the worry associated with such a time like this has affected their mental health. This is the major reason to hold on to ev-

erything positive.

At a time like this, bad news seems to be everywhere and it is important to keep our heads held high. Keeping strides in our professional life has not been easy, but thank goodness, we have the Internet available for us.

Since we are not traveling as much, we have more time to devote to many positive things no matter what they might be. Using your time wisely is important and never forget that "Silver Lining." Find one for yourself. Also, maybe we can all keep striving, seeking, finding and never yielding.

Commentary

Myths and Lies About Poverty



By Jesse Jackson

"The poor will always be with us," say the cynics.

No doubt, some will always be wealthier than others. We wouldn't want to live in a society that forced all to be equal. But poverty isn't inevitable. The 30 million people in America who lived in poverty even before the pandemic when unemployment was at record lows needn't exist in that state.

Too many myths and lies cloud our understanding of the poor. Most poor people are not Black. More are White than Black, female than male, young than old. More have a high school education. Some graduate.

Poverty in America used to be far worse; about a third of Americans lived in poverty in the 1950s. Poverty was reduced, dramatically, by Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty. The war on poverty was defeated not by poverty, but by the war in Vietnam, which sapped resources, attention and will. Most poor people work when they can. They take the early bus. They do the hardest jobs for the least amount of money.

They bear the most amount of stress. They care for the children of others. They tend to the sick. They serve food in restaurants. They sweep the streets. They clean bedpans beneath hospital beds that they cannot lie in when they get sick. Many are essential workers who are at greater risk in the pandemic.

When the pandemic forced the economy to shut down, millions lost their jobs — and their health care at work, if they had any. Over 30 million still draw unemployment, with over a million new applicants each week as companies continue to lay off workers. Many more children are hungry. Public policy — the "stimulus checks," the enhanced unemployment insurance, the expansion of food stamps (SNAP), the partial moratorium on evictions and foreclosures, the aid to businesses if they kept their employees on payroll — saved millions from poverty.

Now those benefits have expired, but the unemployment remains high. Many companies are declaring bankruptcy. Many are slashing payrolls with permanent, not temporary layoffs. Again, public policy could help. The House passed another rescue package — the HEROES ACT — that would provide another round of stimulus checks, sustain enhanced unemployment benefits, continue the expanded food stamps, extend the payroll protection subsidies and provide aid to states and localities to avoid the layoffs of millions of public employees. The Republican Senate refused to act — and refused to compromise. Senate leader Mitch McConnell put together a \$1 trillion alternative but didn't even try to get his members to support it.

The nonpartisan Urban Institute noted that a second round of stimulus checks alone would keep 8.3 million people out of

poverty from August to December. The extension of enhanced unemployment benefits would keep 3.6 million out of poverty. The continuation of food stamp expansions would keep about 1.7 million out. If all three were enacted, 12.2 million people would be kept out of poverty for the rest of the year. Mitch McConnell refused to act.

Donald Trump, the great "deal maker," refused even to get involved. After the benefits expired, McConnell finally decided to pass a bill out of the Senate, but his Republican colleagues would support only about \$300 billion in new money for a bill that did not include the stimulus checks, did not include the SNAP benefits and limited unemployment assistance to \$300 a week, half of what it was in the first rescue package. They voted to put millions of Americans into poverty. Public policy matters. We could eliminate poverty in this country with sensible policy.

Raise the minimum wage to a living wage; empower workers to organize and negotiate a fair share of the profits they help to produce. Guarantee affordable health care for all. Provide affordable housing for all. Provide high-quality pre-K and quality education for all. Add a jobs guarantee, so that instead of forcing workers onto unemployment when the economy slows or their company goes belly up, they can move to a public job doing work that is necessary — from retrofitting buildings for solar heating to caring for our public parks to providing care

Loss of Voter's Rights? It Can Happen

"There are a few conversations one would hear that mimic the nagging fears no one would dare admit." Anonymous

By: Robert McGhee

In my 44 years of life, experience has taught me to prepare for the worst. One of the worst fears I would rather not be writing about is the gradual erosion of basic human rights for my race of people. Yet, ever since I realized there are stipulations and conditions upon the freedom of the once black slave, I have secretly feared the day would come when I would have no legal or constitutional rights to protect my being. This has been a worry I have attempted to conceal, hoping not to spread my irrational thoughts to my community.

Fear is a formidable foe, however, using its power to paint distracting images upon the mind of a person. These images tend to be invasive, leaving no room to find relief from Fear and it is taunting. Fear has broken the strongest of wills in men and women, rarely being confronted by a person determined enough to have their needs or personal goals met. When Fear does meet a truly unbreakable opponent, Fear usually laughs, explaining its threats away as conjecture and playfulness.

I must be honest. Writing these articles has been the best part of 2020 so far. This year has brought the death of my patriarch, the complete separation from my family and community, and the second year of extreme personal poverty and depression. Yet, through it all, a deeply rooted, and intense spiritual longing to witness a better day for the descendant of the African slave has carried me along these troubled winds of our collective African American fate.

These are critical times in the lives of black people in Ohio and America. At times, it pains me to sense the despair of the Jim Crow era elders. Our 45th President has repeatedly made comments relating his fondness for black people in a more servile state akin to the fifties. Candid, off-the-cuff remarks such as these have increased acts of racial discrimination, false police reports and violence upon black people in this country. When a society knows they have free will to act out their racist behaviors, many will exert that newfound power upon unsuspecting victims. Such has been

recorded throughout history, namely, during Reconstruction, when wealthy black towns, like Black Wall Street, were subjected to violence without legal recourse.

There is so much at stake in this 2020 election that I have been forced into seclusion to meditate on the future. Any future where my family is publicly demeaned, physically assaulted, or otherwise violently attacked is not one I can fathom. However, I digress. In all actuality, I can surely imagine a time when little black boys and girls, once having ultimate freedom to exercise towards the pursuit of their own choosing, will be returned to the state of human chattel. Honestly, it is frightening. Yet, like I have been saying all along, it is all good in the hood, right? We blacks don't know how good we've got it, I believe, covers the sentiment of our current society. Don't curse me, but I fear they may have it right and exact.



for the elderly and more.

Let's not fool ourselves. America has millions of people in poverty because Americans choose not to demand the policies that would lift them out of poverty. Because corporate CEOs choose profits and bonuses over fair pay

for their workers. Because small-minded legislators are more responsive to those who pay for their party than those who are in need. This isn't complicated. The recent decision to block action on a second rescue package is a decision to increase the

number of Americans in poverty, the number of children who go hungry. The Bible teaches we will be judged by how we treat the "least of these." We should shudder at that judgment.

Education

“Hamilton”, the Most Successful Musical in Broadway History is Coming to Dayton



CSU grads at Homecoming years ago . L. Benette DeCoux, center Carolyn Collier, and Betty M. Sanders, native of Dayton and mother of Renee Goolsberry, one of the Skyler sisters.

By Benette DeCoux
Staff Writer

It's too good to be true! It's true as advertised! It's true because of the “leg work” done by Dayton Live Association to bring the touring production of “Hamilton” to Dayton's Schuster Center for a two week run with 16 shows during the 21-22 season. The award winning American Musical, the Tony, Grammy and Pulitzer Prize -winning blockbuster musical production and promises to be a show stopper. Specific dates and ticket information will be released later.

The play is the second written by Lin-Manuel Miranda, the first being “In the Heights” which was performed in Dayton in 2018. Hamilton took years to take shape, each song honing in on historical facts, hip hop style. The script itself became the focus of Miranda's time and attention once he read the biography of Alexander Hamilton, a native of the Caribbean who came to America after a hurricane destroyed his country, by writing a winning scholarship that brought him to America. The author of the book was Ron Chernow for those who want to get more information about Hamilton's humble beginnings. In any event, his face is still on each

\$10 bill.

As Miranda was writing the play he was busy working and acting in existing plays. It took years of time and talent to reach off-Broadway, and then on Broadway performances with an outstanding cast. Michelle Obama saw the performance and wrote a glowing memory in her best-selling book “Becoming.” Quoting a portion of her accolades about Hamilton, she said: “Hamilton was a musical celebration of America's history and diversity, recasting our understanding of the roles minorities play in our national story, highlighting the importance of women who'd long been overshadowed by powerful men...It was catchy and funny, heart swelling and heartbreaking—the best piece of art in any form that I'd ever encountered.”

The cast for the play was culturally diverse and well suited for their roles in fabulous costumes, including King George III of England; George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Aaron Burr and others who played significant roles. And then there were the three beautiful Schuyler sisters. Author Ron Chernow said, “These ethnically diverse performers have made the Founding Fathers feel approachable, bringing them to life.”

The original cast includes many dignitaries

including creator Lin-Manuel Miranda, as Alexander Hamilton. He self-described himself as “young, scrappy and hungry.” With Puerto Rican roots, a lover of Latin music who took piano lessons while growing up in NYC and is now winner of a Tony award.

George Washington, the First President was played by Christopher Jackson, one of Maranda's best friends forever, sang the role of Chief Tui in Moana and co-stars in TV's Bull.

Thomas Jefferson was played by Daveed Diggs a track star at Brown University. He is also a hip hop writer and vocalist with the group Clipping. More recently, he appeared as Rainbow's brother Johan on ABC's Black-ish and he is currently starring in the TNT series Snowpiercer.

Aaron Burr, was played by Leslie Odom Jr., a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, won a Tony and then transitioned to featured roles in Murder on the Orient Express and Harriet.

The three Schuyler sisters were important to the story line. This writer chooses to focus on Renee Elise Goolsberry, who has roots in Dayton. Her mother, Betty M. Sanders, her brother Robert (Bob) Sanders and sister Laura Bush are native Daytonians. Betty met and

married Ron Goolsberry through a courtship at Central State University. In addition to Renee they also have an adult son. Renee, a native of Texas, plays the role of Angelica in the original cast. She sings solos with ease and is beautiful to behold. She has starred on Broadway as Mimi in Rent and Nala in the Lion King as well as appearing in over 13 episodes of The Good Wife. She won the Tony Award for Best Supporting Actress in Hamilton. She then played the starring role in HBO's “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” and was featured In “O” magazine. She is married to lawyer Alex Johnson and they have two children. She and her mother are both members of Delta Sigma Theta International Sorority, Inc. and Jack and Jill of America.

Thanks to a collaboration between Miranda and Disney plus on cable television, thousands got to see Hamilton's original company perform the entire play in the comfort



The Skyler Sisters, original cast members in Hamilton. Renee Goolsberry, award winning singer in the middle.

of their own homes, beginning July 3, streaming until July 31, nationwide. Now those who have heard and or seen Hamilton in other cities around the nation can see the touring, not the original cast described above, in downtown Dayton.

Note: Dayton Live performances are held at the beautiful and acoustically sound Schuster Theater, formerly known as Victo-

ria Theater Association. It has been recommended that those who want to purchase tickets for the Touring Company of Hamilton purchase tickets for the 2020-21 season. In that way you have a better chance to have seats of your choosing for the 2022 seats for Hamilton. Use this web site to learn the dates : <https://www.daytonlive.com>.

Black High School Senior Makes History, Gets Accepted into All 8 Ivy League Schools



Roberta Hannah, Black student accepted into Ivy League schools

Springfield, MA — Roberta Hannah, an 18-year old senior at Springfield High School of Science and Technology in Massachusetts, has made history after being accepted into all of the 8 Ivy League schools.

The surprising news came amid the coronavirus pandemic that unexpectedly altered the course

of events for the Class of 2020, giving her a reason to celebrate despite that.

Hannah, who is a student-athlete who plays track and field, said it was really not that easy to achieve what she did. But she worked hard and took honors and AP classes to be ready for it. She is currently preparing for 7 AP exams.

Hannah said she initially wanted to apply to just 3 schools, but her mother and sister encouraged her to apply to all of the 8 ivy league schools. She did so without much expectation and thought that she would only be accepted into 4. But she actually got accepted to all 8.

“I was really anxious getting up to the day, and then I started opening the letters, and I was like ‘oh, I keep seeing ‘yes,.’” she told Western Mass News.

Hannah is grateful for her sister and mother who motivated her to achieve more. Her mother, Valerie Williams, was not able to attend college but she made sure to push her children “a little extra hard” to have the opportunity she didn't have before.

Out of all the ivy league schools she could choose, Hannah plans to attend Columbia University and major in biochemistry and African-American studies.

“So my goal is to be a medicinal chemist, but with making medicine and kind of the one researching it,” she said. “I want my focus to be on increasing accessibility and making the medicine more affordable.”

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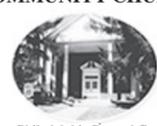
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Fifth Third Ascend Level Up Business Assistance Workshop Provides Assistance to Local Entrepreneurs... Continued from Page 1

ed an enhanced wrap-around service model to compliment the technical assistance. As businesses reopen and recover during the pandemic, there is a greater need to help them pivot and adapt their models and operations to the post-pandemic economy. To assist Ascend small business clients with addressing the unique needs and challenges facing their business, in addition to the Ascend technical assistance and one-on-one counseling sessions, we will provide Level-UP services to qualified clients completing the course work and meet the requirements for Level-UP services. This additional

support will help clients implement their business plan and accelerate their enterprise to the next level – Level-UP! As we expand our support of small businesses in the COVID-19 economy, the Ascend Level-Up model is needed now more than ever. Working with each client, we will provide a customized Level-UP action plan outlining an agreed upon growth strategy to remove barriers and improve their access to networks and resources (Access to Coaching, Access to Capital, and Access to Customers). Examples of services provided include book-keeping, market research, digital marketing, technical writing, legal services,

certification guidance and membership/subscription services. This is the third year of the Ascend Program. Funding for the program has been provided through the Fifth Third Strengthening Our Communities Grant. The Foundation Office at Fifth Third Bank is committed to creating a greater impact on programs and initiatives that create strong, vibrant communities and provide pathways to opportunity. About the Fifth Third Foundation – The Foundation Office at Fifth Third Bank is committed to creating a greater impact on programs and initiatives that create strong, vibrant communities and provide pathways to opportunity.

The Foundation Office administers Private Family Foundations that leave a lasting legacy. The respective Committees review all grant requests for the following trusts and foundations for which Fifth Third Bank serves as trustee or agent. Grants for programming in education, the arts, community development, and health and human services in the Greater Cincinnati area are considered, in addition to the specific funding interests originally identified by each of the individual benefactors. To register for the classes, go to www.53ascendprogram.com or call 937-397-7796.

Wrongful Conviction Expert Launches Foundation to Help Exonerate Innocent Prisoners.. Continued from Page 1

teams on state and federal wrongful conviction cases nationwide. In response to the national crisis of wrongful convictions, TTWFWC sets itself apart by funding the exoneration process from beginning to end. TTWFWC will also provide continuing education and professional development workshops to the next generation of expert witnesses, criminal investigators, and attorneys. Established by Timothy T. Williams, Jr., TTWFWC aims to exonerate at least one wrongfully convicted person by 2025. Mr. Williams is somewhat of a "hidden figure" as an African American national leading expert on police procedure, use of force, and wrongful conviction. Also, as an author and re-

tired Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) Senior Detective Supervisor, with more than 46 years of experience working in the criminal justice system, Mr. Williams is the perfect person to launch such a historic endeavor. "I am delighted to support International Wrongful Conviction Day! Moreover, I decided to launch a project that will fund legal teams that include lawyers, experts, and criminal investigators to scale up pro bono efforts that can save lives," says Williams. Since the debut of his consultancy practice in 2003, T.T. Williams, Jr., Investigations, Inc., Mr. Williams has provided expert testimony in more than 200 cases in Criminal, State and Federal Courts nationwide. Also, he has analyzed over 1,300 cases. Most notably, Williams' expert analysis in the wrongful murder conviction of Kash D. Register helped to lead to the largest reported settlement, at that time, in an individual civil rights case in the history of Los Angeles, totaling \$16.7 million in restitution in 2016. TTWFWC has been endorsed by some of the most recognizable names in law, including Loyola Law School's Project for the Innocent (LPI) and award-winning trial lawyer Thomas Mesereau. To learn more about TTWFWC, or donate to the organization's worthy cause, visit www.TTWFWC.org.

Black Nurse Helps 100 Other Nurses to Start Their Own Businesses... Continued from Page 1

frequently, found herself experiencing compassion fatigue. In addition to heavy caseloads and 365-day schedules, she saw her personal life suffering. Once those relationships began to deteriorate, she knew that it was time to get some help. It was through therapy after losing her mother and husband that put her life back on the right track. "It was then I found my sense of purpose and a new way of legacy thinking that made me want to leave my mark in nursing, on behalf of my mother." Michelle is from St. Petersburg, Florida, and is an International Speaker who has empowered nurses and black women in Jamaica, Bahamas, London and Paris, is also an 8-time Author. She developed the RNterprise™ Academy to provide participants with 21 hours

of coursework focusing on business startup, business planning, paid public speaking, and how to self-publish books of their own. Her Mastermind produces nurse brands, speakers and trainers across the nation (NurseEntrepreneurSociety.com). She comments, "After finding success with my first book RNterprise!, I knew there was a need for this type of personal development training for minority nurses. I heard reports of bullying, hostile work environments and even racism at work from colleagues who felt stuck. I realized that with entrepreneurship, there was no ceiling and the lane that is created, is from one's own expertise as a professional nurse." She continues, "When launched in 2016, there were not many coaches who were pouring into oth-

er nurses like I envisioned, so I created this brand. Fast forward and now we have helped over 65 nurses become self-published authors, 40+ open businesses, and 25+ get paid as a public speaker or trainer." Her Facebook group holds almost 4,000 nurses from across the globe. "It brings me joy to walk in my lane, and still support healthcare in an ancillary way. These nurses excel by leaps and bounds, once they come into alignment of their true message." Participants can take courses individually, or they can complete a deeper and broader program by personally engaging in a year-long Mastermind. The Mastermind gives a much richer experience that develops a sisterhood and network of nurses who become lifelong members. An official certificate following its successful

completion, along with obtaining this skill set, they leave with opportunities to expand across the globe. The next cohort launches October 24, 2020. Michelle has given powerful talks on these topics at Florida State University for the past 2 years, The American Managed Care Association Conference, The Commission for Case Management Symposium, and has won the Florida Nurses Association ICON award for Nurse Entrepreneurship. Her articles can be found in the Care Management Journal, Brainz Magazine, and Journal for The National Black Nurses Association. Selected as a LinkedIn Future Leader in Nursing, Michelle was chosen to visit LinkedIn Headquarters February 2019 to discuss with the platform what the future might look like for nurses.

"In the culture that we live in, we would be remiss not to add more entrepreneurship/ intrapreneurship education for nurses within the curriculum. I am excited to expand this program as a certificate program or full elective for nursing programs. Our goal is to train nurses in these less explored areas of Healthcare so that we not just give the best care, but can be extremely mindful of costs, be available for public speaking, writing, and to develop programs in our areas of expertise," she adds. Additional information about the RNterprise Academy, including the upcoming yearlong Mastermind schedule can be found at MichelleRhodesOnline.com. The new enterprise version of courses will be available for Schools of Nursing only. Look for the pre-release in early 2021.

Sports

Week Six Game of the Week



DHSS Top 5 Player Tavon Hardwick (QB) preps for snap for Belmont against Trotwood defense in Week 6.

Trotwood Takes Advantage of Belmont Mishaps, Rolls past Bison in Game of the Week

Trotwood came into battle with Belmont in the final week of the regular season as two of the better programs in the Miami Valley would finally play each other.

Trotwood has won three of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) football championships in the last decade, while

Belmont has won six consecutive City League championships.

In the first half, Belmont seemingly was dictating the tempo as they took an early lead at 6-0 and 13-7 before Trotwood took the errant kickoff for a return touchdown (TD) to even the game, and the Rams used that energy to score 28 straight points to turn a tight game into an easy win as Trotwood won 34-19 at Welcome Stadium last weekend.

Belmont and coach Earl White used its running

game and defense to stifle the champs early. The Bison would take a 13-6 lead after a Joddi Burton TD grab from Tavon Hardwick, as it looked like the Bison would be in the hunt for an epic win.

But when Trotwood freshman DeAaron Owens ran the Belmont kick back with five minutes to go in the first half to make it 14-13, the Bison lost all the momentum it had built. The Bison would punt two more times, and the Rams would capitalize both times, as senior



Freshman DeAaron Owens returns kick for TD for Rams in 34-19 win.

quarter back (QB) Cooper Stewart would direct two TD drives with less than three minutes in the half to turn a 13-6 deficit to a 28-13 lead after TD passes to Richard McCluskey and D-1 commit to wide receiver (WR) Daylen Morgan.

When asked after the game why the team went for an onside kick while ahead, the Belmont staff admitted that it was a foiled kick and that it was definitely the momentum

changer that gave Trotwood all they needed to move forward in the win. Belmont would score again but, it was all cosmetic as the Rams move to 3-0 on the season. Belmont falls to 2-1 as both teams prepare for the playoffs that start this weekend.

While Trotwood was happy with the results, they know they will have to play better to get back to the OHSAA State Championship this sea-

son.

Trotwood will travel with Belmont to Oxford to play a Talawanda team in which it will be a battle for the Bison, who are looking to reach the second round of the playoffs after losing in the first round the last 4 playoff games they have had.

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Week Six High School Football Recap

Dunbar throttles Thurgood

Dunbar continued their good play in week six with intensity and

a purpose as they shut down Thurgood Marshall 47-12.

The win gave the Wolverines the opportunity to

play at home in the first round of the playoffs. Jaquan Lusborough was dynamite once again and Greg Packnett was lights

out passing for two touchdowns (TDs) and running for another one.

The defense scored two TDs themselves as the Wolverines were hitting on all cylinders.

Thurgood scored on an amazing punt return by Jaylen Spann, senior running back (RB), wide receiver (WR), defensive back (DB), and kickoff returner (KR).

Besides that, it was all Dunbar in this contest.

The Wolverines, who have been under scrutiny of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) the last few seasons, have had the talent and coaching to make a run in the playoffs the last five years. Three years ago, the Wolverines knocked off an opponent in the first round.

With Darren Powell back calling the offense,

weapons all over the field, and a veteran defense, the senior laden Wolverines could be a threat. A second-round matchup with Alter is looming as well.

Ponitz Punishes Meadowdale Heading into Playoffs

The Ponitz Golden Panthers used a stout running game, defensive pressure and was able to power past the Meadowdale Lions in a big win at Welcome Stadium.

The Dayton High School Sports (DHSS) top 20 players VaShaan Ward and Shavonte McGriff powered the Golden Panthers in a 38-0 win over Meadowdale.

VaShaan, a senior RB-Slot, exploded for a 51-yard run on the first drive to get the Panthers started early and often.

While the Panthers haven't had the best luck

this season, they were fully prepared to take on the Lions in the final game of the regular season.

It wasn't just the big runs by VaShaan that got the Panthers rolling. The defensive intensity was high, forcing turnovers, and the constant pressure that forced the Lions offense into a miserable day. Once Ponitz got started, the Lions could not stop them and had no answers the entire game.

The Panthers staff was incredibly happy with the performance and are also excited to play in the playoffs.

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Bengals Beat Jaguars For First Win of Joe Burrow Era



For the first of what they hope will be many times, the Bengals have won a game with Joe Burrow as their starting quarterback.

Burrow, the first pick in this year's draft, played a solid game in Cincinnati as the Bengals beat the Jaguars 33-25. Burrow completed 25 of 36 passes for an even 300 yards, with one touchdown and one interception, and he looked poised and in control of the offense. It was a promising game for a promising franchise quarterback.

Bengals receiver Tyler Boyd had an excellent game, and Joe Mixon finished with 151 rushing yards.

The Jaguars got 351 yards out of quarterback Gardner Minshew, and he's often making plays without getting much help. Undrafted rookie running back James Robinson remains a bright spot for the Jaguars this season as well.

But the Jaguars just don't have a lot of talent on this roster, and the

Bengals delivered a promising win to a limited-capacity crowd in Cincinnati.

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Health Insurers Must Answer for COVID-Related Disparities Devastating Black and Latino Communities

By Hazel Trice Edney

Black and Latino communities throughout the United States have disproportionately suffered the most devastating impacts of the coronavirus, including a higher rate in deaths, underscoring inequities in the nation’s health care system and the broader society.

In New York state, for example, African Americans make up 14 percent of the population, but have experienced 26 percent of all deaths. In Virginia, 49 percent of coronavirus cases come from the Hispanic and Latino community, which makes up 10 percent of the population.

The disparities reflect a number of factors. But experts point to one factor in particular: the relatively high costs of medical care for COVID-19 at a time when Blacks and Hispanics are less likely to have health insurance than Whites are.

Indeed, as pointed out by the Kaiser Family Foundation, the persistent gap in insurance coverage in minority communities is at the start of a chain of events that produces worse health outcomes. Some 36 percent of nonelderly Latinos and 22 percent of African



Americans are uninsured.

Uninsured adults are twice as likely to forego doctor visits, which often means that developing or worsening health conditions go undetected and untreated. In fact, Gallup released a poll earlier this year that found that 14 percent of American adults said they would avoid seeking healthcare for early symptoms of coronavirus infection for themselves or a family member because they could not afford to pay for the care.

How lower rates of insurance coverage among Black and Latino Americans contributed to disparities seen during the pandemic should be atop the list of questions posed to major insurance companies by the House Committee on Energy and

Commerce, which recently launched an investigation into insurance companies’ policies and practices amid COVID-19.

Demanding clear plans to remediate these critically important coverage issues must be a non-negotiable first step in holding health insurers accountable.

In recent years, health insurers have been shrinking physician networks – the number of in-network doctors available to patients in a given geographical area – in an apparent attempt to cut costs and pad their bottom line. A number of states have seen drastic reductions in coverage networks, including Texas, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Georgia.

For communities of color, shrinking coverage

networks compound the problem of medical indigency, which continues to be a systemic failing. Even in the wake of Obamacare, 30 million people remain uninsured, with half of them being people of color.

The concern of Black leaders over the harmful practices and policies of health insurers surfaced earlier this year. They spoke out forcefully against an attempt by industry lobbyists to press Congress to approve legislation that would have enabled companies to pass on costs to medical providers and patients instead of requiring insurers to pay their fair share.

Rev. Al Sharpton is among Black leaders who’ve long called for Congress to craft legislation to protect people instead of the insurance industry.

During a primary campaign stop in South Carolina, Rev. Sharpton issued a clarion call for Congress to reject those industry efforts and craft legislation that protects the underinsured and those without insurance. And in a follow-up piece explaining the reason for his visit to the state, Sharpton wrote, “African American access to high-quality health care in particular is a pressing

issue this election – if not a full-blown crisis.” That was before the pandemic struck.

In the months since, insurers have engaged in other tactics to sure up profits at the expense of doctors and patients, from strong-arming doctors to accept lower reimbursement rates to restricting the types of COVID-related procedures that would be covered.

Those aggressive measures have paid off: one of the nation’s largest health insurers, United Health-care, recently posted its most profitable quarter in the company’s history.

On Capitol Hill, lawmakers are rightfully trying to respond. In fact,

those historic profits at a time when so many other industries are struggling to stay afloat are what prompted lawmakers to open an investigation.

It is unclear how Congress will press the insurance companies to address the persistent racial disparities in coverage that preceded the crisis and appeared to play a role in making the pandemic particularly deadly for Black and Latino Americans. But at a time when there’s an urgent national conversation on social and racial justice sweeping the country, lawmakers have a responsibility to hold their feet to the fire.

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