NORTHWEST OHIO'S OLDEST AFRICAN AMERICAN-OWNED WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

THE TOLEDO JOURNAL

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EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY IN THE TOLEDO JOURNAL



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At the start of the 5K run, members of the BRB Running Club, while holding their flag and over 60 at the race, lead the 5K run.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Artina McCabe and her family attend the event every year, even though she's breast cancer free.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Jessica Hubbell, right, fought for herself and instills a fighting spirit in other people to value life.

Race for the Cure inspires survivors to be the 'cure' for others

BY JURRY TAALIB-DEEN
Journal Staff Writer

Happy and very celebratory was the energy of thousands of people as they began gathering in downtown Toledo the morning of Sunday, September 28 for the annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. The nationwide fundraising event features a 5K run/1K walk, with proceeds going to breast cancer research and potential cures.

Dancing and laughing while wearing pink attire or garnishing something pink, which represents Susan G. Komen's pledge to end breast cancer was the mood of the morning.

Vendors lined St. Clair St., between Monroe and Washington, giving out health related information, while music played and the smell of coffee filled the area.

And although pictures of people who lost their lives to breast cancer were hanging,

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Robert Smith Receives 2025 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Press Club of Toledo at annual Touchstone Awards Ceremony

By Michael Daniels
Journal Staff Writer

On Thursday September 25, 2025, The Toledo Press Club held their Annual Touchstone Awards Ceremony in downtown Toledo's Valentine Theater. Among the numerous awards and recognition given out that evening, Robert Smith the Founder and Exec. Director of the African American Legacy Project Of N/W Ohio received a Lifetime Achievement Award presented to him by the 2025 Press Club of Toledo Board of Directors Vice President Marcus Harrison.

Mr. Smith, who was a Producer at local TV13 television station before he retired was inspired to create the Legacy Project Of N/W Ohio after meeting and doing a piece on a local black Pharmacist (one of the first African American female pharmacists in the United States) ,Toledo legend the late Mrs. Ella P. Stewart. He had also visited a similar project called the King Arts Complex in Columbus, Ohio, which is a Cultural Center that celebrates African American culture and history inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

After retiring in October of 2004, Mr. Smith's dream vision became his new reality, and he officially opened the African American Legacy Project (AALP) Of N/W Ohio in Toledo. He knew it would be a long hard road ahead, but being full of determination and driven he made it. 20 years later in October of 2024. He watched as the successful organization he created celebrated its 20th Anniversary with a huge weekend Gala of events. Ultimately, the community's response to the African American Legacy Project has been nothing less, than overwhelming, as the AALP continues to grow and recognize, honor, celebrate, and document those, who have made and those, who are presently still making local African American History.

About his award, Mr. Smith said, "The goal of the AALP is to continue to be the storyteller of Toledo's African American community and the keeper of the records. Our black history is important and it's a history that we almost lost. Our history tells the story of a people and our culture, and now we have the ability to share this information with everyone, along with many generations, to come. This is something I plan to continue to do for as long as I have the chance to do so. Already, we are grooming the younger people in the community to come forward and tell their story. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank The Toledo Press Club for acknowledging us and recognizing the all-important distinguished work that we do preserving our local African American history!"

Stephanie Elton: The President of The Toledo Press Club added, " This is our 27th year and it was almost a unanimous decision to nominate Mr. Robert Smith. We are all about journalism and storytelling, and what he has done is collect and document the stories of Toledo's African American community and created a place where others can come and explore and learn all about these stories and the people."

To contact the African American Legacy Project Of N/W Ohio, call 419-720-4369.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Robert Smith (L) Ex. Director of the African American Legacy Project Of N/W Ohio accepts the Lifetime Achievement Award from the 2025 Press Club of Toledo Board of Directors Vice President Marcus Harrison at the 2025 Touchstone Awards presented by the Press Club of Toledo.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

After receiving his award, Ex. Director Robert Smith of the AALP was congratulated by Community Activist and friend Juanita Green.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Attending the Press Club of Toledo 2025 Touchstone Awards Ceremony with Lifetime Achievement Award winner Robert Smith (standing 2nd from left) were friends and family members (L-R) Bernadette Joy Graham, Mr. Smith's brother Russell Smith, and Zachary Simmons.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Former TV Journalist, Award winner Robert Smith enjoying the evening's program with current local Journalist Sheila Howard at the 2025 Touchstone Awards presented by the Press Club of Toledo.



Coming Events

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

We provide the following assistance at no cost to all who come through our doors: State IDs and Birth Certificate assistance (Documents are important! Let us help you with them) Blood pressure monitoring and answers to health questions. For more information, please call Monroe Street Neighborhood Center at 419-473-1167 Ext 333 or 317.

Every Tuesday

Art Tatum Hope Center offers Toledo food lifeline
Art Tatum Zone's Hope Center Food Pantry
The pantry at 531 Pinewood Ave. provides free groceries from 4-5p.m. every Tuesday.

COMMUNITY FOOD GIVEAWAY
Free food for all families in need

Weekly Food Bank Hours: Mon-Thurs. 12 PM – 1PM
New Community Food Giveaway Date:
3rd Wednesday 11:30AM – 2:30PM (May 21st)
5732 Douglas RD. Toledo, Ohio 43613
Need More Info: Call 419-474-2328
Visit Our Website: LIONOFJUDAHTOLEDO.ORG/MANNA-FOOD-GIVEAWAY

Every Tuesday
Tabernacle Church 4:00 – 5:00 PM

531 Pinewood Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43604
Each Tuesday, individuals and families are invited to visit our choice food pantry, where they can select the groceries that best meet their household's needs. In addition to supplemental food support, all guests are warmly welcome to enjoy a hot, home-cooked community dinner a time to share a meal, connect with others, and experience the support of neighbors. Community members are encouraged to share additional needs with our volunteers. We're here not just to help today but to connect you to resources that can support a better tomorrow, including referrals to housing, employment, health, and higher-tier support services.

Every Wednesday
Hope Center Mobile Pantry

Wednesdays 4:00 – 5:00 PM
Robinson Elementary School
1075 Horace St.,Toledo, OH 43606
Can't make it to the Tabernacle location?
Our Hope Center mobile food support trailer brings the pantry directly to the community. Visit us at Robinson Elementary every Wednesday, to access essential groceries and learn more about other available resources.

The 3rd Thursday of the Month

Free Food Pantry10-1 P.M.Warren AME Church
915 Collingwood Blvd.

Every Saturday
The Glass City Church of Christ Soup Kitchen

Every Saturday Noon until 1:30 p.m.
901 Hoag @ Avondale
*FREE *FRESH *Cold/Hot TO GO IS AVAILABLE

Every 1st and 3rd Saturday

The Redeemed Christian Church of God Mount Zion Chapel Toledo 2239 Cheyenne Blvd Toledo holds food pantry every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month 10:00 am – 11:00 am.

Every 3rd Saturday
River Of Life Church The Storehouse

River of Life Church 3611 Upton Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43613. Community Food Distribution Meats, Canned Items, Cereal, Drinks, Toiletries and More!!!
Contact us 419-380-9357.

The Month of October, 2025

Greater St. Mary's Missionary Baptist Church **Celebrates 100 Years of Faith, Fellowship, and Community Service** in the City of Toledo

Greater St. Mary's Missionary Baptist Church is proud to announce the celebration of its 100th Anniversary, marking a century of spiritual growth, community impact, and unwavering faith. The Centennial Celebration will take place Every Sunday at 5:00pm throughout the Month of October at 416 Belmont Ave, Toledo, OH 43604, and the entire community is invited to join in this historic occasion. The church invites current and former members, friends, and neighbors to attend and take part in this once-in-a-lifetime Celebration. Whether you've been apart of Greater St. Mary's Missionary Baptist Church for decades or are discovering it for the first time, all are welcome to join in commemorating this historic occasion.

Media Contact:
The Very Reverend Savonte A. Warren
Centennial Committee Chairman
Email: Savonte@covenantreformation.church

Oct. 18th & Oct. 19th
"The 39th Annual Sylvania Fall Festival"

The Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce brings you the 39th Annual Sylvania Fall Festival. This year's event will feature over 60 vendor booths including craft and farmers' market-style booths, representatives from local organizations, 8 food trucks, and live music all weekend! The events will be taking place on Sat. October 18th 2:00 pm – 8:00 pm & Sun. October 19th 10:00 am – 4:00 pm at Centennial Terrace. For more information please contact the Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce at 419-882-2135 or visit the website www.sylvaniachamber.org.

The 2025 Walk to End Alzheimer's
Toledo Saturday, Oct. 18

Glass City Metropark 1505 Front St., Toledo, OH 43605
To register as a team or an individual and receive the latest updates on this year's Walks, visit the chapter's Walk website.
Those concerned about themselves or a loved one can contact the Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter at 419-537-1999 to schedule a care consultation and be connected to free local resources.

Oct 19th St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church

All are invited to worship with
St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church
954 Belmont Ave. October 19, 2025, at 11 a.m.
For Connectional Lay Sunday
Speaker, Mrs. Deborah Sims of St. Paul
Rev. Darran Overton, Pastor
Colors: black and gold
MASKS OPTIONAL

Oct. 21st

Toledo NAACP General Public & Membership Meeting
On Tuesday October 21, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. 1326 Collingwood Blvd
"Together we Rise"
Valerie Murphy Toledo Chapter Secretary

2025 Friends of The Library Book Sales

Friends of the Library (FOL) will host eight book sales in 2025, where customers can purchase gently-used, well-loved books for $1 each. More than 30,000 hardcover and paperback books are available for purchase, along with CDs, DVDs, audiobooks on CD and cassette, records, board games, and more. The 2025 FOL book sale schedule is:
Nov. 6-8
Book sales are held at the Friends of the Library Book Center, which is located at 1301 N. Reynolds Road near the corner of Reynolds Road and Dorr Street.
Book sale hours are from 4 to 7 p.m. on Thursdays and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Friends of the Library members receive early access from noon to 4 p.m. on the Thursday of each book sale. They also receive a 10% discount on book sale purchases. To become a member, visit toledofol.org.

Obituary

The Toledo Journal accepts memorials and obituaries for publication.

Please call the office at 419-472-4521 for more information.

Trump Wants States to Stop Mail-In Voting

By April Ryan

"There's no reason to set the clock back, simply because Vladimir Putin gave him some political advice," said Donna Brazile, former head of the Democratic National Committee and former chair of the DNC's Voting Rights Institute. President Donald Trump said in his meeting with the Ukrainian president on Monday that he would issue an executive order before the 2026 midterms to end mail-in election ballots. Subsequently, the president also acknowledged his Alaskan conversation with Putin, in which the Russian president told him, "Your election was rigged because you have mail-in voting."

However, for Democrats, the concern is not Trump's EO but how he rallies the states to end mail-in balloting. "He doesn't have the power to order any of this. He [Trump] hopes he can make state governments do what he can't," says Eric Holder, former Obama Attorney General of the United States, and is currently the chairman of the National Democratic Redistricting Committee (NDRC). "We've made significant progress and providing access to people to vote by mail or to vote early. Any efforts to curtail that accessibility will only set us back as a country," adds Brazile. Donald Trump has voted by mail twice in 2020 in the state of Florida, and he consulted Friday with Russian President Vladimir Putin about the issue of voting by mail.

Reflecting on history, Brazile notes, "Most modern democracies give voters give citizens the tools to vote by mail or vote early. Or, in some cases, same-day vote of registration." Brazile also says Donald Trump benefited from early voting in the 2024 election cycle after winning several states, "like North Carolina." The Veteran democratic strategist advises the twice-elected president: " Before putting forward an executive order, he might want to talk to his state governors and secretaries of state, along with the RNC. [Republican National Committee]" In a related note, Brazile will sponsor a resolution at the DNC meeting next week on preserving voting rights for all Americans.



MY RECENT RANDOM THOUGHTS AT LARGE



By Lafe Tolliver, Attorney



PHOTO CREDIT / Koshu Kunii via Unsplash

Sometimes when you read the news, local or national, you may ponder why some matters are of great importance and then some are of practically no redeeming value whatsoever.

A case in point is the near rapturous fawning over pop star Taylor Swift in putting out her twelfth album.

So called "pop stars" are suppose to put out albums and their PR teams duty is to puff it up so big that you are programmed to believe that this media made production has to be a part of your social life and the very reason for your existence, that you will become a cheerleader for all things…Swift.

American love a good, "RAH-RAH" story or tale. It has the tendency to take us out of our daily ho-hum daily routine and place us in a make believe world if even for a few moments of escape; and after Taylor Swift has strutted across your TV screen and dazzled you with her sequin gowns, you will sigh and go back to running the sweeper…and her bank account grows by leaps and bounds.

I'll pass on Swift-a-Mania and any other manufactured pizzazz which does not leave a positive message in its wake.

Here is a thought that will have the barbarians rushing my front door: In Toledo and regrettably in so many other "urban centers", the shame and embarrassment of "our" youth acting the fool and acting out in rage and in anger at their fellow teens and even the adults solving their unresolved social and personal issues using a gun.

One of my takes on Trump declaring war on urban centers is that it is a sly way in which he can use the National Guard or the military to corral and incarcerate minority juveniles. To be clear, Trump has not and is not a friend of Black people, among others, and for people to think that Trump has their best interest at heart wold be akin to Jews in Nazi Germany voting for Hitler! (Note: J.D. Vance at one time, called Trump Hitler!).

Sadly, a lot of what we see and hear in the Black "community" (if you can call it a community with shared values of respect and decency for one another) is the glaring fact that too many of "our" youths are and were raised by parents who apparently did not know squat about family values and as such, they had next to nothing to pass on to their offspring about respect for themselves and others, work ethics, respect for women, respect for authority and a passion to make something of themselves.

For too many kids, especially young boys, a gang culture is the best resemblance of a family that they have known or may ever know. When kids birth kids, the result is that we all lose and the values that are needed to be inculcated in those family members are missing or are not modeled in the home by a parent in a single family home. Yes, there are exceptions.

Trump's ignorance about the phrase, D.E.I., and what it historically means is that we are suffering under his belabored delusions about making America great again and with his compliant clown car of accomplices, they are more than willing to utter detestable lies about the competence of minorities, and we all suffer.

Of course no one attacks the utterly devoid lack of competence of his rat pack whom in their various powerful positions, simply carry out his wishes of intentional cruelty and lies about Obamacare and the 2020 elections being a farce.

Their sole duty is to sear their conscience as to what is right and wrong, fair and just and earn, "Atta Boy!" points from Trump.

The Democratic Party is in a fixable mess! They have taken for granted, for decades, the loyalty of their voters simply because the near sighted Democratic Party thought they had no place else to go. And so while the Republicans have been feverishly organizing at the city, county and state level, including school boards, to push their warped messages, the Democrats were not willing to spend the money or the time counter organizing.

Now because of that party being adrift, the Republicans were able to spring out like a hidden tiger and put a warped person like Trump in the White House, not once, but twice!

PROJECT 2025 was long out in the open as their blueprint to reconfigure the government to their image and Trump was simply their compliant poster boy to do their bidding.

Now, according to the polls, the political division in this country is so wide and deep that in my estimation, it will take many years to reconstitute a Congress that can govern and an occupant of the White House that is not divisive and mean, just for the sake of meanness.

In my vision, there is no one leader that has the charisma and political savvy to wield such an influence that both sides of the spasm are willing to come to terms and do a "redo" of this thing called democracy.

If not, then it has been as good two hundred and fifty year run (for most people) and we will have to see what may take its place.

My marching orders to you? Stay positive, be proactive, vote, help those in need and speak truth to power knowing that there are millions just like you out here also watching the sign of the times.

Lafe Tolliver, Attorney

comments to: tolliver@juno.com

The Toledo Journal

A NATIONAL BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER

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Celebrating 198 years of the Black Press

Reaching over 60,000+ readers weekly
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Serving metropolitan Toledo, including Swanton, Springfield Township, and Holland, Ohio

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America Dragged Back to Jim Crow as Trump's Project 2025 Reshapes Nation

By Stacy M. Brown
Black Press USA Senior National Correspondent

America is no longer drifting toward authoritarianism. It is living it. Project 2025 has been instituted, and the results are clear. Donald Trump has put forth racist policies that strip away protections, empower white supremacists, and turn Washington, D.C., into a militarized zone. His followers have taken the flag of racism and run wild with it, building whites-only communities and terrorizing Black neighborhoods under the cover of his administration.

The Thurgood Marshall Institute at the Legal Defense Fund warned last year that Project 2025 was "a direct, boundless, pregnant threat to the interests and well-being of Black people and our democracy." The Institute detailed how the plan would consolidate executive power, dismantle civil rights enforcement, suppress the Black vote, gut public education, and eliminate safeguards against discrimination. "Our democracy stands at a crossroads, a path of infinite promise towards a more inclusive, equitable, and durable democracy on the one hand, and one of immeasurable and irretrievable demise on the other," Janai S. Nelson, President and Director-Counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, said in 2024. "The assault on Black communities envisioned by Project 2025 will almost certainly condemn us to demise."

Trump's Militarized State

Since his return to office, Trump has turned the nation's capital into what residents describe as an occupied city. Military vehicles patrol neighborhoods, checkpoints dominate downtown, and police with expanded immunity operate with near total control. Trump has threatened to "clean out" cities like Chicago, Baltimore, and Philadelphia, targeting majority-Black communi-

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America Dragged Back to Jim Crow as Trump's Project 2025 Reshapes the Nation

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ties as justification for federal crackdowns. Immigration raids have surged, ripping apart families across Black and Latino neighborhoods. The atmosphere exploded recently when CodePink protestors confronted Trump, Vice President J.D. Vance, and Cabinet members Marco Rubio and others. Standing within inches of Trump, they shouted "Free D.C. Free Palestine, Trump is the Hitler of our time" before being hauled away by security.

Signs of Jim Crow

Across the country, the evidence of regression is mounting. In Rockdale County, Georgia, children walked into Honey Creek Elementary School to find "Whites Only" and "Colored Only" signs taped over water fountains and posted in the cafeteria. Officials claimed it was part of a history lesson about Ruby Bridges. Parents said their children were traumatized. One mother recalled her son being mocked by classmates when he drank beneath a sign reading "For Colored Only" and said, "to me that's not a history lesson."

> *In Arkansas, a compound called Return to the Land has built a 160-acre enclave restricted to people of European ancestry. Its leaders praise Adolf Hitler and the Ku Klux Klan while raising hundreds of thousands of dollars to expand into Missouri. "You want a white nation? Build a white town? It can be done. We're doing it," Eric Orwoll, Return to the Land co-founder, said.*



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Project 2025, Presidential Transition Project. Project 2025 with American flag in the background (Photo by Ahmad Bilal)

Building a White Nation

Trump's policies have also emboldened groups openly constructing whites-only settlements. In Arkansas, a compound called Return to the Land has built a 160-acre enclave restricted to people of European ancestry. Its leaders praise Adolf Hitler and the Ku Klux Klan while raising hundreds of thousands of dollars to expand into Missouri. "You want a white nation? Build a white town? It can be done. We're doing it," Eric Orwoll, Return to the Land co-founder, said. "We don't need to get back to the Jim Crow era," countered Barry Jefferson, NAACP Arkansas State Conference President. "We've been through that before. I think no one should be discriminated against because of their skin color."

A Nation Pushed Backward

From the militarization of Washington to racist raids in Black cities, from schoolchildren forced to relive segregation to whites-only communities legally testing America's civil rights laws, the consequences of Project 2025 are undeniable. Trump has institutionalized racism at the highest levels of government, and his supporters are enforcing it on the ground. "This organization wants to return us to sundown town, and we are not that," said Susan Schmalzbauer, pastor of the United Methodist Church in Missouri. "There's really no place for hate. Hate divides, but love unites."

Democrats Pour Millions into White Media, But Continue to Starve the Black Press

By Stacy M. Brown
Black Press USA Senior
National Correspondent

One could make the case that Democrats lost the 2024 election in part because they abandoned the Black Press—the voice of Black America. Black voters, the backbone of the party, walked away in numbers unseen in modern times. At the very moment when all Americans—Black, white, Latino, and others—are called to stand against authoritarianism, Democrats have shown not courage but cowardice, not gratitude but contempt for their own base.

The numbers tell the story. House Democrats proudly announced a $3 million ad blitz hitting Republicans over tariffs and the looming shutdown. The DNC spent big on a paid campaign blanketing Wisconsin newspapers to attack Elon Musk during a state Supreme Court election. They rolled out a five-figure ad buy targeting Tennessee Republicans with Epstein-related attacks. The DCCC unleashed a national ad campaign aimed at Latino, Black, and AANHPI voters, blaming Republicans for back-to-school prices, followed by another round of ads—its first national digital buy of the 2026 cycle—hammering Republicans for jeopardizing rural hospitals. Millions for consultants, millions for TV, millions for newspaper spreads in majority-white outlets. But when it comes to the Black Press of America—a network of 200 Black-owned newspapers and media companies, many run by Black women—Democrats turn their pockets inside out.

This is no small network. The Black Press has the potential to reach more than 30 million readers, viewers, and subscribers every week through its newspapers, websites, social platforms, and daily broadcasts. It has never asked for handouts, only a fair shake. Yet, despite all their boasts of diversity, Democrats have invested nothing close to the millions they shovel elsewhere. And this betrayal comes at a historic moment: the Black Press is approaching its 200th anniversary in 2027. Founded in 1827 by John B. Russwurm and Samuel Cornish with the bold declaration, "We wish to plead our own cause. For too long others have spoken for us," the Black Press has carried that mission through every trial of Black America. Yet today, as it struggles financially to reach that milestone, the very party that owes its survival to Black voters has turned its back.

During the pandemic, Democrats flocked to the Black Press' daily broadcast, Let It Be Known. They wanted to be platformed, wanted their voices carried into Black homes. But once they were elected, the same voices that begged for space disappeared. What remains is foul lip service, the kind that sounds no different from Trump's contempt for diversity. The insult is deeper when measured against history. Frederick Douglass thundered through The North Star. Ida B. Wells laid bare the horror of lynching through the Memphis Free Speech. The Chicago Defender carried the voices of the Great Migration and showed the mutilated body of Emmett Till. The Afro American chronicled Jackie Robinson and Martin Luther King Jr.

When Tulsa burned, white mobs destroyed Black newspapers to smother the truth. When Dr. King wrote from Birmingham Jail, it was the Black Press that carried his words. When the Wilmington Ten were caged, it was the Black Press that refused to look away. And today, the torch is still burning. April D. Ryan is today's Alice Dunnigan. Lauren Burke is today's Ethel Payne. Sam P.K. Collins is a modern-day Marcus Garvey. HBCU students have both interned and currently work full-time with the Black Press. The Black Press is not dead history—it is a living force.

So, let the question be asked plainly: if the RNC wrote checks tomorrow to the Black Press, would Democrats call us sellouts? Would they smear us while continuing to funnel millions into papers and platforms that do not speak to our communities?

The truth is this: Democrats have betrayed the very institution that has carried them time and again. They can spend $3 million to flood swing districts, or blanket Wisconsin papers with anti-Musk ads, or pump cash into flashy social media buys—but they cannot find equity for the Black Press. That betrayal is why the party lost ground in 2024. And unless Democrats reckon with their disdain for the Black Press, they will learn again in 2026 and 2028 what they began to taste already: abandonment at the ballot box, silence from the very people whose voices they have chosen to ignore

> *During the pandemic, Democrats flocked to the Black Press' daily broadcast, Let It Be Known. They wanted to be platformed, wanted their voices carried into Black homes. But once they were elected, the same voices that begged for space disappeared. What remains is foul lip service, the kind that sounds no different from Trump's contempt for diversity.*

The men who want to restore the Team in Teamsters

BY JURRY TAALIB-DEEN
Journal Staff Writer



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

The men of Teamsters said they want to help make a better life for everyone. Front, from left are Aubry Stallworth, Darryl Cooper II, Kenny Powell and Ricki Woodard. Back, from left are Antonio Lino, Keith Belcher II, Golwin Williams and Tommy Adams II.

Seven men say they want to put the Team back into Teamsters Local 20 as they each run for local office. On Saturday, October 4, the seven and other members of Teamsters Local 20, met with The Toledo Journal at the Heatherdowns Branch of the Toledo Library, 3265 Glanzman Rd, to explain why they're running for office.

"We want to see a return on our investment," said Keith Belcher II. Teamsters Local 20 brings in, approximately, five million dollars a year, he said and Mr. Belcher, as well as the others present all agreed they would like to see the money distributed equally throughout the city.

For example, they explained the Teamsters Local 20 does a lot for the local schools, which all of the men agreed is a good thing, but when it comes to spreading the wealth out to schools located in the central city, the charity is not as generous. The men said they want children located in the heart of the city to see members of Teamster Local 20 donating, financially, to help make their futures brighter.

"College isn't for everyone and there are jobs here locally, which are a part of Teamsters Local 20 that pay six figures or very close to it. Union jobs are the next best thing to college and sometimes, better than college, when it comes to making money," said Aubry Stallworth, president of the local chapter of the Teamsters National Black Caucus, TNBC. He began naming a few jobs that generate the type of income he mentioned. As he began naming those jobs, others in the room also contributed to the listing; truck drivers $85, 000 -$156, 000 per year; package car drivers, $85,000 -$100,000 per year; warehouse workers, $60,000 - $90,000 per year; were all just a few of the jobs they said could easily put people in a financially better space.

What sparked them to run for local office was when they started traveling to other cities to participate in conferences held by TNBC, which is an affiliate of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, commonly known as Teamsters. At those conferences, in cities such as Memphis, Louisville, Atlanta and Chicago, they saw how money was more evenly distributed, contracts renewed, which is another problem the men have with local leadership, and a more broader representation in the Teamsters leadership. The men, in unison, agreed that they were so used to how things were done in Toledo, that they had no idea things could be better, until they began travelling to those cities. So, once they returned to Toledo, the men started planning to duplicate what the Teamster brotherhood is doing nationally, in Toledo.

Another issue the men said they want to address, locally, is appointments to the Executive Board. Nationally, the men said, the Teamsters Brotherhood appoints people to an executive position based on seniority, but locally, there have been questionable acts of appointing people who only have a couple of years in the union, over someone who has 30 years, for example.

Ballads for voting will be mailed out by October 12 to all members of Teamsters Local 20 and must be returned, postmarked, by November 9. The men are strongly encouraging others to simply vote them in for not only a productive change in local leadership, but an economic change that will beneficially affect everyone.

The men running for local offices and the positions are Antonio Lino, vice president, Tommy Adams, secretary of treasure, Terrance Cole, recording secretary, and Todd Witcher, Ricki Woodward, and Marquise Phillips all running for a trustee position.

For further questions call Aubry Stallworth at 419.496.7765.

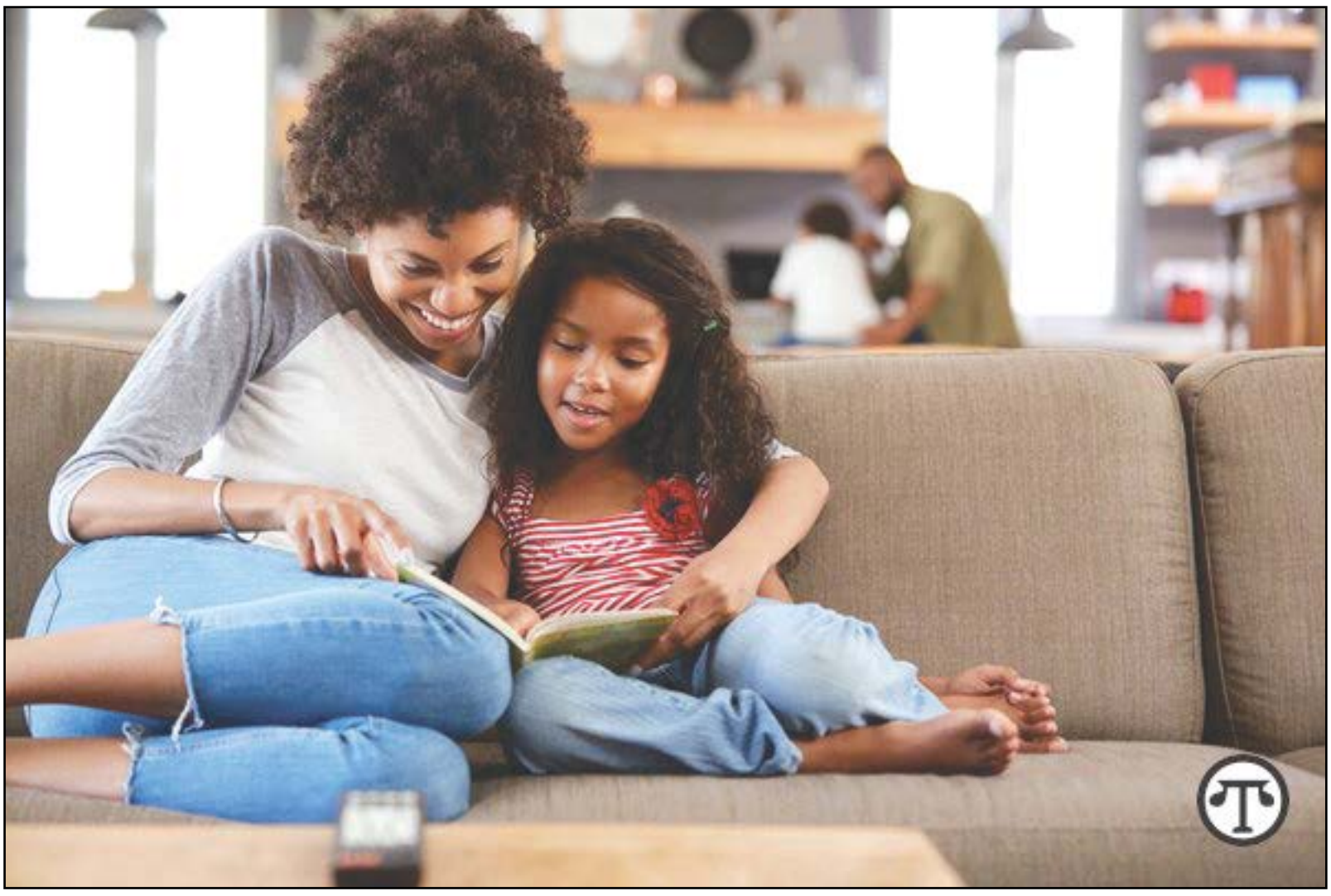
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Pointers For Parents And Teachers

The Most Underutilized Resource in Literacy? Parents



(NAPSI)—Reading can be one of the most difficult things that students learn to do, and it takes more than just amazing teachers and classroom-only solutions to make proficient readers. According to a recent national survey, 52% of teachers say most students make literacy gains when parents are involved. However, most of our schools' literacy movement is missing the most important partner—families.

The Problem

Lexia's 2025 Back to School Teacher survey also revealed that only 9% of teachers have found that parents are highly involved in supporting their child's literacy activities and 62% want better tools to guide families. In addition, 34% of teachers noted in the survey that they don't receive as much support as they would like from their school to engage parents.

Not The Parents' Fault

Currently, we're leaving parents on the sidelines of our nation's reading crisis, however. There are many reasons for this:

1. Knowledge Gap—66% of teachers say parents don't know how to help. What's more, most national literacy reform conversations focus on curriculum, teacher training, and testing—not family engagement. These reading reform efforts that exclude parents are missing half the equation.

2. Time and Access Barriers—Work schedules, language differences, and sometimes parents' own literacy challenges.

3. Resource Gap—46% say families lack books and reading tools at home.

4. Support Gap—Only 10% of teachers say they have comprehensive family literacy programs.

Schools are implementing science of reading in classrooms, but only 15% of teachers send structured, science of reading-aligned activities home. Science of reading provides proven, evidence-based best practices for teaching reading and supporting students of all abilities. With evidence-based instruction, students and teachers do not waste time on unproven practices. The survey also noted that teachers would really like in-person workshops explaining science of reading basics to parents.

Who Can Help

Earlier approaches to reading instruction, such as whole language and balanced literacy, did not consistently provide the phonics foundation students needed for strong literacy growth. Today, a growing number of schools are embracing the science of reading—a body of research built over decades across education, neuroscience, and psychology. With Lexia's evidence-based tools and training, educators are implementing Structured Literacy successfully, giving students the skills and support they need to thrive.

Lexia strengthens the school-home connection by giving educators accessible tools and data-driven insights grounded in the science of reading. These resources help teachers have clear, personalized conversations with families, encouraging parents to take an active role in their child's learning.

When educators receive actionable, relevant information, communication evolves from routine updates into meaningful, two-way dialogue. Grounded in a common understanding of the science of reading, this partnership between schools and families creates a united front—harnessing the untapped potential of parents as vital partners in student success.

Educators point to five priorities for advancing literacy:

• Train parents and teachers together in the fundamentals of the science of reading.• Provide accessible, multilingual resources for use at home.• Invest in family literacy programs within school budgets.• Give teachers the time and support to build strong parent partnerships.

These actions create the conditions for student success. When learners feel capable and see schoolwork as meaningful, they become more motivated. Science of reading-aligned solutions make this possible by translating research into classroom practice—personalizing instruction and enabling teachers to target skills with precision.

Learn More

For further facts and to see the survey, visit www.lexialearning.com.

Did You Know?

According to a recent national survey, 52 percent of teachers say most students have something at home that can greatly improve their academic success: families. Students, they found make more progress when parents are involved. Learn how parents can help from the experts at Lexia, www.lexialearning.com.



New Book Helps Kids Find The Sunshine Within Themselves

(NAPSI)—A great way to cheer up a child on a gray or otherwise down day is with a new book by Tabitha Brown, the Emmy Award–winning host of the children's show "Tab Time" and multiple NAACP award winner, #1 New York Times bestselling author, and vegan food star.

Illustrated by Olivia Duchess, it was inspired by Brown's own childhood adventures, and pays homage to the community and neighborhood that influenced who she is today.

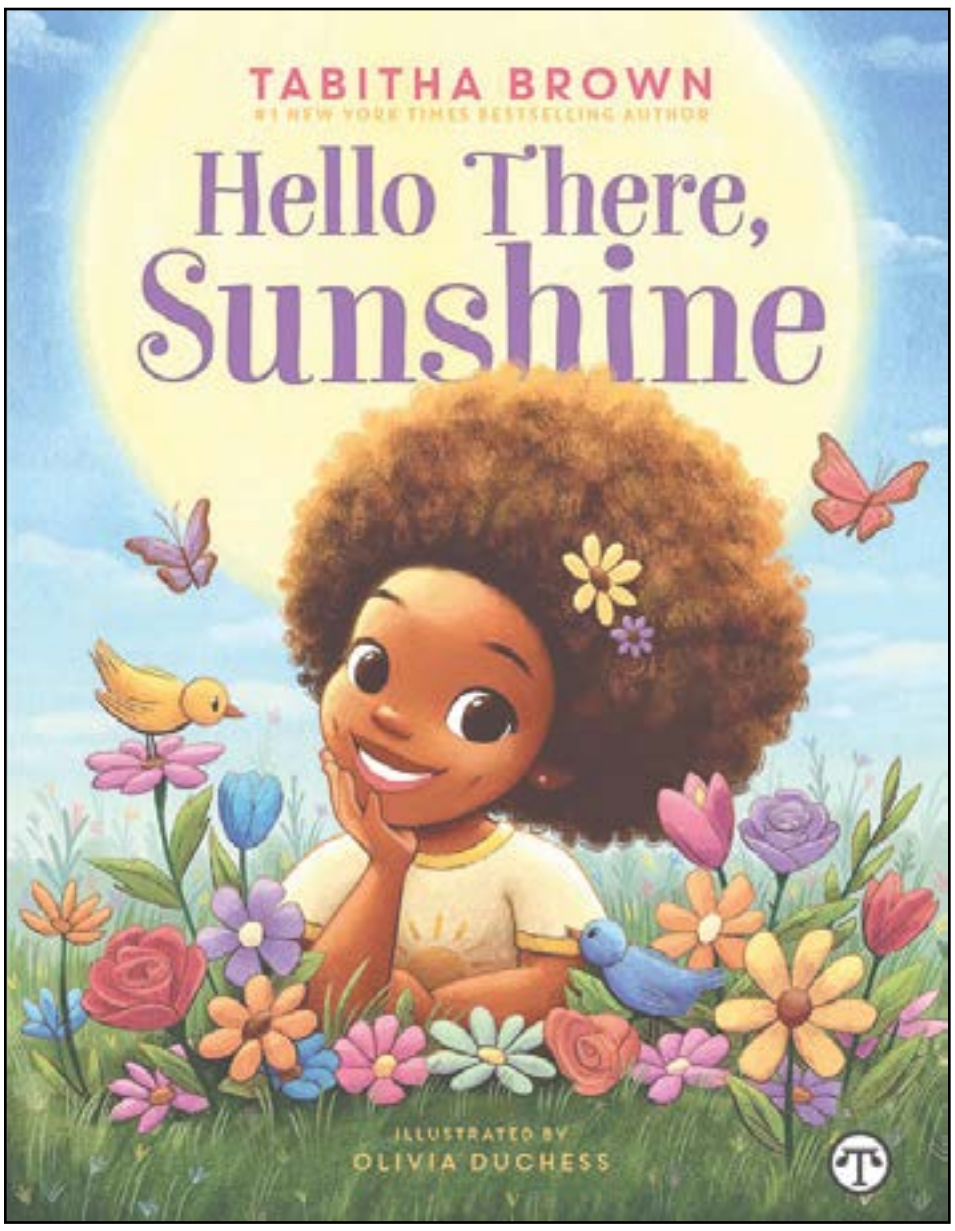




PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Emmy award–winning host, #1 New York Times bestselling author, and "America's Mom," Tabitha Brown, shares personal and inspiring childhood story in her first-ever picture book, Hello There, Sunshine.

The Story

With themes of kindness, curiosity, and joy, "Hello There, Sunshine" follows young Tabitha, who wakes up ready to greet the sun every morning. She loves how it brings everyone joy. But one day she wakes up and the sun is missing. Not one to dwell on the negative, Tabitha hops on her Strawberry Shortcake bike with her puppy in tow and makes it her business to find the sun.

The adventure takes her through her neighborhood, lending a helping hand and asking everyone if they've seen the big star. When the sun is still nowhere to be found, Tabitha remains positive, looks a little deeper, and finds that sometimes the sunshine we're looking for is inside of us.

A great pick for fans of "What Do You Do with an Idea?," "You Matter," and "Just Because," Brown's children's debut is a marvelous read-aloud and a great gift that will remind the youngest reader to always stay positive.

> *"My mom always taught me that helping others makes us feel good! The light inside of us all shines and I hope this book reminds every child that they are their own sunshine!"*

Brown says, "My mom always taught me that helping others makes us feel good! The light inside of us all shines and I hope this book reminds every child that they are their own sunshine!"

The book, published by HarperCollins Children's Books, one of the leading publishers of children's and teen books, can be an excellent way to encourage kids to rely on themselves, be mindful of others and find their own happiness.

Did You Know?

A great way to cheer up a child is with "Hello There, Sunshine," a new book by Tabitha Brown, the Emmy Award–winning host of the children's show "Tab Time" and multiple NAACP award winner and #1 New York Times bestselling author. Learn more at www.harpercollinschildrens.com.



Race for the Cure inspires survivors to be the 'cure' for others

continued from page 1

the mood of the people was optimistic that a cure for the disease is on the horizon.

But for people like Shawnda Mays, a two time breast cancer survivor, she's not waiting for a cure to help fight the disease. She opened a support group called, "On The House." The entity provides services for people with breast cancer and services to their caregivers.

Another fighter in the war against breast cancer is Jessica Hubbell. She and about 30 people were walking with her. In October 2022, she had just finished breastfeeding her twins when she received a call from her doctor telling her she had the disease.

"My doctor was even crying and saying she wouldn't wish the disease on anyone, especially the nicest person she ever met. My heart just dropped upon receiving the news. My husband and I got in the car and just drove around and I just cried, saying 'I don't want to die; I don't want to die.' But after that drive, I cried no more and began fighting back," she explained.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

The Central Catholic Irish Dance Team cheer walkers during the 1K Walk



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Shawnda Mays isn't waiting for a cure for breast cancer. The two time breast cancer survivor started a support group that provides services to breast cancer patients and their caregivers.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Be Right Back, BRB, running club, founders, Jason Young, right and Travon Watoon, brought over 60 runners from the club to support Diamond Pitts.

Ms. Hubbell constantly tells people to enjoy every moment of their lives. She also imparts that message to her students; she is a special ed teacher who no longer has breast cancer.

Diamond Pitts was diagnosed five years ago but is currently breast cancer free. She had over 60 people running with her during the 5k run; the members of Be Right Back, BRB, Running Club.

"It's so overwhelming to have this many people supporting me; I've never had such a large community support," she said.

Ms. Pitts gets regular checkups, eats healthier and runs with her club members.



Protect your loved ones

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Monclova Fire Department
Monclova Twp Admin Bldg

Ottawa Hills Police Dept
2125 Richards Rd., Ottawa Hills

City of Oregon Police Station
5330 Seaman Rd., Oregon

Monclova Twp Administration
4335 Albon Road, Monclovia

NW District Police Station
2330 W Sylvania Ave., Toledo

Scott Park District Police Station
2301 Nebraska Ave., Toledo

Swanton Village Hall
219 Chestnut St., Swanton

Waterville Police Department
25 N Second St., Waterville

Whitehouse Fire Station #85
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Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County

*Check your preferred location to see if they are accepting syringes or liquids.

****In order to protect your privacy, please take all medicine out of original packaging or bottles.**

A Celebration of Life for Tinesha (TT)Smith



Tinesha "Niecy" Smith, 52, of Toledo, Ohio, passed away on September 11, 2025. She was a devoted mother, loving daughter, proud Corrections Officer, and vibrant soul who touched many lives. Known for her bold spirit, faith, and deep love for family, she will be greatly missed.

A Celebration of Life will be held on October 25, 2025, from 2-6pm at Scott Park Hall, 2541 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH (across from House of Day).

Lt. Col. George Hardy, Tuskegee Airman and Patriot, Dies at 100

By Stacy M. Brown Black Press USA Senior National Correspondent



Lieutenant Colonel George E. Hardy, one of the last surviving Tuskegee Airmen to fly combat missions during World War II, has died in Sarasota, Florida. He was 100 years old.

Hardy was born in Philadelphia on June 8, 1925. He entered the U.S. Army Air Corps at 18 and graduated as a pilot at 19, becoming the youngest Red Tail fighter pilot of the 332nd Fighter Group. Stationed at Ramitelli Air Base in Italy, he flew 21 missions across Europe. "We had our own club in Naples…so you didn't go to the White club. That's…the way life was," Hardy said in an interview with the Veterans History Project. When the war in Europe ended in 1945, Hardy returned to the Tuskegee Army Airfield as a supervising pilot until it closed in 1946. His career continued across two more conflicts. He flew 45 combat missions in the Korean War and 70 more in the Vietnam War. His decorations included the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor, a Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, and an Air Medal with 11 Oak Leaf Clusters.

Education remained central to his life. He earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and a master's degree in systems engineering reliability from the U.S. Air Force Institute of Technology. He also received an honorary Doctor of Public Service from Tuskegee University. "We went into the Air Force with racial segregation. When we came out, we changed…When I look back on my service, I'm so proud of the Air Force. And I just think I was able to participate in that and survive that," Hardy said. The Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. called Hardy's legacy one of "courage, resilience, tremendous skill and dogged perseverance against racism, prejudice and other evils."

"Colonel Hardy was an amazing man. He was a patriot. He loved his family. He loved his community. He loved our organization," Leon Butler Jr., national president of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., said. "He worked very hard. He worked tirelessly to preserve the legacy, not for himself, but for those that he served with, and he cared about the families of other original Tuskegee Airmen." The National WWII Museum honored him as a "true American hero," while the Tuskegee Airmen National Organization honored him by noting that, "His legacy of courage and dedication will never be forgotten."



Assata Shakur Remembered: a voice of struggle, a legacy of love

By Stacy M. Brown Black Press USA Senior National Correspondent



The passing of Assata Shakur has left a deep void in those who saw her as more than a revolutionary. She was a mother, poet, and symbol of liberation whose life embodied struggle and sacrifice. On Black Press USA's Let It Be Known morning news show, journalist and commentator Thandisizwe Chimurenga spoke about Shakur's death and her legacy. "My heart literally skipped a beat," Chimurenga said. "I have known Assata's daughter and husband for over 30 years. I immediately called to see if it was true. I was so saddened when he said that it was true."

Born JoAnne Byron and once known as JoAnne Chesimard, Shakur became a leading member of the Black Panther Party and the Black Liberation Army. She was targeted by the FBI's COINTELPRO program, convicted under disputed circumstances in 1977, and sentenced to life in prison. In 1979, she escaped and was granted asylum in Cuba, where she remained until her death. "I purposefully refrained from going into journalism mode," Chimurenga said. "The only question I asked was had she been ill. He said, Yes, she had been ill. My heart was broken for them because losing a parent, losing your mother, you are never prepared for that. And I was heartbroken for me, being, as Assata says, an African woman in America, that she was no longer physically here with us."

For Chimurenga, Shakur's exile carried both sorrow and triumph. "I liked knowing that she was physically walking around free in Cuba, away from the clutches of the U.S. government," Chimurenga said. "I was absolutely saddened that I had never taken myself down to Cuba and tried to find her and interview her as a journalist. But at the same time, I was rejoicing in the fact that for close to 50 years, she remained free of the United States criminal injustice system." Her words shaped generations of activists. "It is our duty to fight for our freedom," Shakur famously stated. "We must love each other and support each other. We have nothing to lose but our chains." That declaration became a chant during protests in Ferguson and in the Black Lives Matter movement.

"She was our warrior queen mother, our sister comrade, our mama," Chimurenga said. "She fought for us. She sacrificed for us. And her autobiography, infused with poetry, showed us the beauty of a woman the state called a terrorist. She was a beautiful soul who often said we must be weapons of mass construction, creating more beauty in the world because the people running it are destroying it." Reactions to her passing showed the divide in the nation. "America is a white supremacist nation," Chimurenga said. "It was not founded for us. We were brought here to enrich other people. If we did not believe it before, everything Trump is doing right now is in perfect lockstep with white supremacist principles. And that is how he was able to be reelected twice." Chimurenga said Shakur's memory will always remain tied to her devotion to her people. "Love. Love of Black people. Sacrifice, commitment, and beauty," she remarked. "That is who she was."

‘IN THE KITCHEN WITH REV’
Rev. Thomas Bell Delivers The Word and a Hot Meal

By Michael Daniels
Journal Staff Writer



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Hear the Word of the Lord and more, watch ‘IN THE KITCHEN WITH REV’, every Monday live at 6:00 pm on Facebook.

For Rev. Thomas Bell becoming a pastor and delivering the Word of God was always his destiny, but, he just didn’t know when, where, and how.

Naturally, a kind, hearted, good, nurtured person by nature, he was the perfect candidate. Raised in the church, from an early age, he has always known the Lord and the Spirit of God was with him. He recalls being six years old in church and hearing his grandfather telling everyone that he was the next preacher in the family. When he told his grandmother, she simply replied, “I knew it, I felt you were called to be a pastor a long time ago”.

Much later, he talked it over with his pastor, Bishop Jerry L. Boose of Second Baptist Church, about what he considered to be a calling from God to preach. His pastor encouraged him and told him he could feel it as well. He followed that feeling and in time his destiny was fulfilled. Now today Pastor Bell has been preaching the Word for the last 16 years, and he is the Pastor at Agape Love Fellowship Church here in Toledo for the last four years. Somehow in his heart he knew that spreading God’s Word is what the father wanted him to do. He Said, “I was inspired by my own love for people, I know that when people encounter me, they encounter God’s love, and they feel his presence. I feel that this is what led me to serving as a pastor, because God sees my heart and he knows I am willing to serve and not be served, and do what he tells me to do.”



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Rev. Thomas Bell (R) welcomes Pastor Pastor Randall Carter (L) of Resurrection Baptist Church in Toledo, Ohio to ‘IN THE KITCHEN WITH REV’.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

‘IN THE KITCHEN WITH REV’, (on Facebook and Instagram) features Toledo’s Rev. Thomas Bell the pastor of Aga’pe Love Fellowship Church in the kitchen mixing up some of his favorite dish’s while at the same time delivering to his audience the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ!



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Rev. Thomas Bell delivering The Word of God on ‘IN THE KITCHEN WITH REV’, live on Facebook and Instagram.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

On ‘IN THE KITCHEN WITH REV’ Rev. Thomas Bell (3rd from L) was passing out samples of his homemade fresh southern peach cobbler he just made live to his audience with (L-R) facility Manager Buffie Beasley, his daughter Nyla Bell, and his wife Wanda Bell.

On his way to the pulpit, he also happened to pick up another skill, he learned how to cook. At first it was small dishes, then through self-study of cookbooks and trial and error he got so good at it that he ended up cooking for friends and family entire meals. He became such a superb cook that he even appeared on the Master Chef TV program in season 14.

After all that, he asks the Lord what now, what do you want me to do? Then the Spirit of God spoke to him again and told him to “preach and cook, and I’ll do the rest!” That is when, ‘IN THE KITCHEN WITH REV.’ was born. Now every Monday evening live at 6:20 pm on Facebook you can watch the Rev. Thomas Bell cooking something spectacular while spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

“This show is not about me, it’s about him” he said, “and It’s about sharing with others the gifts that God has given me which is to serve him and spread his word! I am devoted and any way I can bring another soul to him, is what I’m going to do!”

Rev. Thomas Bell has been married to his wife Wanda Bell for about 20 years, and they have one daughter Nyla Bell. You are welcomed to join him for Sunday Morning Church service at Agape Love Fellowship Church, 3167 Dole St. Toledo, OH. at 10:00 am, and at his Wednesday evening Bible study at Grace Community Center located at 406 W Delaware Ave, Toledo, OH at 6:00 pm.

Pastor Bell also thanks Promedica for their support.

OHFA Offers Free Trainings to Real Estate Professionals and Mortgage Lenders

(COLUMBUS, Ohio) The Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) has launched trainings on its programs for lending, real estate, and counseling partners. The Agency offers down payment assistance, career-related interest rate discounts, other loan products, and benefits for Ohio homebuyers.

Trainings are free and offered virtually and in-person. Lasting from one to three hours, courses for real estate agents include:

Fair Housing Foundations (offers 3 hours of civil rights credit) – Taking a historical view of fair housing and civil rights, this course goes into the details of current housing, advertising, and lending laws using case studies, housing statistics, and videos.

OHFA Homebuyer Programs (offers 1 hour of elective credit) – This course reviews the variety of loan options offered by OHFA, including down payment assistance and interest rate discounts for homebuyers. Participants learn about eligibility requirements and product combinations to reduce homebuyers' out-of-pocket expenses.

Courses for mortgage professionals are:

Becoming an OHFA Expert – This course reviews all aspects of OHFA programs, loan processing, and down payment assistance. The course reviews eligibility criteria and program combinations, so mortgage professionals understand how the programs can help their clients achieve homeownership.

Lender Online, Processing, Closing and Post-Closing – Presented in video format, this course teaches participants how to use the Lender Online Reservation System.

To register for an upcoming training, real estate professionals should visit www.ohiohome.org/RegistrationsExtClasses/.

Interested mortgage professioals should visit www.ohiohome.org/partners/training.aspx.

Mortgage and real estate companies can also schedule classes for their employees by contacting OHFA's Single Family Relations Program Manager Jon Duy at jduy@ohiohome.org.



The Constitution is Not Partisan



By David W. Marshall

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - When Donald Trump defeated Kamala Harris, he won by only 1.5 percentage points overall while receiving 312 Electoral College votes. Among Hispanic voters, Trump won 48 percent of the vote, after losing to Joe Biden by a margin of 61 percent to 36 percent in the 2020 presidential election. In 2024, Trump won 15% of Black voters, up from 8 percent four years earlier. With the current gerrymandering war, both political parties are now positioning themselves for next year's midterm elections. For Hispanic and Black voters who supported Trump in 2024, one question comes to mind. Are they getting what they expected from a second Trump term?

People are waking up, and they are not liking what they are seeing. As a result, constituents' anger over ICE raids in their districts has become intense during town halls in congressional districts represented by both Democrats and Republicans. It was the central focus of questions at Wisconsin GOP Rep. Bryan Steil's town hall in late July, as constituents attacked the congressman's efforts to blame former President Joe Biden's policies for the country's immigration problems. "What I see happening to our immigrant population embarrasses me, and you have not raised a voice to complain about it," one attendee told Steil. "Where do I see your leadership? I see no leadership. I see following Trump 100% of the time." The biggest crowd reaction of the night came in response to Steil's introductory remarks celebrating border security, which then prompted an attendee to shout, "We are all immigrants."

In Virginia, Democratic Rep. Jennifer McClellan held a town hall intended to focus on issues affecting senior citizens, but the frustrations surrounding the Trump administration's handling of immigration dominated the meeting, diverting it from topics such as Social Security and Medicaid. People are starting to pay attention, and they are concerned. Among the only times McClellan drew applause occurred when she condemned the Trump administration's handling of deportations and its use of "Alligator Alcatraz," a migrant detention center in Florida that a federal judge has ordered closed.

"I hope that when we enforce our immigration policy—whether it's who we detain, who we deport—that we do so consistent with American values of due process and compassion," McCellan said. Many people agree with McCellan concerning due process and compassion from a moral perspective, but due process and compassion from our government often get lost in partisan politics.

> *Republicans are counting on increased support from Hispanic voters to win five newly redrawn congressional districts. Republicans specifically increased the share of Hispanic voters in three of the five targeted districts, capitalizing on recent political shifts to the right among Hispanic voters in South Texas and urban areas like Houston and San Antonio. Will the Republicans be able to hold onto those gains, given the backlash GOP congressional lawmakers are receiving?*

The same is true with fair elections, checks and balances, and holding elected leaders accountable. How would MAGA Republicans respond if Barack Obama used the same authoritarian tactics we see used by Donald Trump?

Our democracy is shaky, but we still live in a democracy despite the gerrymandering in Texas and California. Ironically, with all of the anger over ICE activities and deportation, Republicans are counting on increased support from Hispanic voters to win five newly redrawn congressional districts. Republicans specifically increased the share of Hispanic voters in three of the five targeted districts, capitalizing on recent political shifts to the right among Hispanic voters in South Texas and urban areas like Houston and San Antonio. Will the Republicans be able to hold onto those gains, given the backlash GOP congressional lawmakers are receiving?

A July national poll by Equis Research found that one-third of Hispanic voters who backed Biden in 2020 and then Trump in 2024 are planning to vote for a Democratic congressional candidate. Another one-third of these voters are undecided. The fact that we have the gerrymandered district in Texas comes from a direct request from Trump, whom Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker called a "wannabe dictator." In a democracy, every citizen has certain basic rights that the government should not take away. Free elections through a fair system of representation are part of those basic rights, which gerrymandering takes away.

Across America, demonstrations were held over the Labor Day weekend as a public protest against policies under the Trump administration. These public protests represent our rights in a democracy to assemble freely and protest government actions. Everyone has an obligation to exercise these rights peacefully, with respect for the law and in consideration of the rights of others. President Trump doesn't like it when people are protesting against him and his administration. On June 14, as the President held a $45 million national military parade in

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FAMOUS QUOTES

"Anytime you get more than a couple of Black women together, you're creating this powerful mechanism for change." Kimberly Bryant

"I didn't learn to be quiet when I had an opinion. The reason they knew who I was is because I told them." Ursula Burns

"The success of every woman should be an inspiration to another. We should raise each other up. Make sure you're courageous, be strong, be extremely kind, and above all, be humble." Serena Williams

"Black women can do anything. We have proven that time and time and time again. " Tarana Burke

"When you take care of yourself, you're a better person for others. When you feel good about yourself, you treat others better." Solange Knowles

"Give light and people will find the way." Ella Baker

"Even if it makes others uncomfortable, I will love who I am." Janelle Mon·e

"It's not the load that breaks you down; it's the way you carry it." Lena Horne, Dancer

"You don't make progress by standing on the sidelines, whimpering and complaining. You make progress by implementing ideas." Shirley Chisolm, Politician; First African American woman nominated for President

Known Breast Cancer Risk Factors

Being a woman, or a person assigned female at birth, is one of the most important risk factors for developing breast cancer.

As with many other diseases, your risk of breast cancer goes up as you get older. About two out of three invasive breast cancers are found in women 55 or older.

Family History: Women with close relatives - especially sisters, mothers, or daughters - who have been diagnosed with breast cancer have a higher risk of developing the disease.

Genetics: About 5% to 10% of breast cancers are thought to be hereditary, caused by abnormal genes passed from parent to child.

Personal History of Breast Cancer: If you've been diagnosed with breast cancer, you're three to four times more likely to develop a new cancer in the other breast or a different part of the same breast.

Radiation to Chest or Face Before Age 30: If you had radiation to the chest or face to treat another cancer or acne, you have a higher-than-average risk of breast cancer.

Certain Breast Changes: If you've been diagnosed with certain benign (not cancer) breast conditions, you may have a higher risk of breast cancer.

White women are slightly more likely to develop breast cancer than Black, Hispanic, and Asian women. But Black women are more likely to develop more aggressive, more advanced-stage breast cancer diagnosed at a young age.

Being Overweight: Overweight and obese women have a higher risk of being diagnosed with breast cancer compared to women who maintain a healthy weight, especially after menopause.

Pregnancy History: Your age when you give birth to your first child and the number of times you've given birth - including if you've never had a full-term pregnancy - can affect your risk of developing breast cancer.

Breastfeeding History: Breastfeeding can lower breast cancer risk, especially if you breastfeed for longer than one year.

Menstrual History: Women who had their first period before they turned 12 have a higher risk of breast cancer later in life.

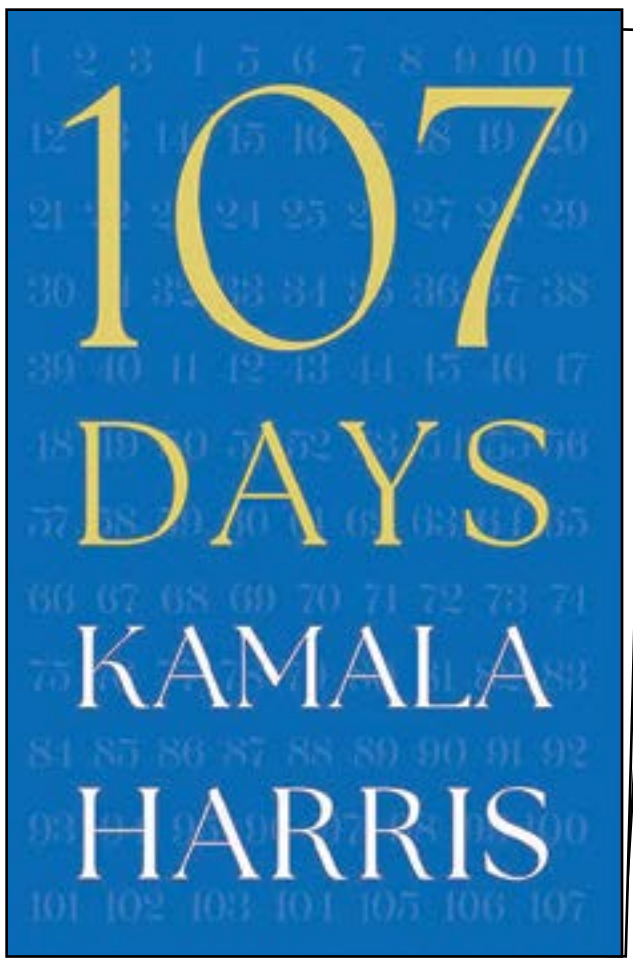
Using HRT (Hormone Replacement Therapy): Some types of HRT can increase the risk of breast cancer in people with certain risk factors.

Using Hormonal Birth Control: Hormonal forms of contraception (such as the pill, patch, and hormonal IUDs) may slightly increase the risk of breast cancer.

Drinking Alcohol: Research shows that drinking alcoholic beverages of any kind increases a woman's risk of hormone receptor-positive breast cancer.
Dense Breasts: Women with dense breasts have a higher risk of developing breast cancer.

107 DAYS: KAMALA HARRIS' BOOK ROCKETS OFF SHELVES IN FIRST WEEK

By Lauren Burke



Publisher Simon & Schuster announced that the campaign memoir of former Vice President Kamala Harris, 107 Days, has sold 350,000 copies in one week. The sales total includes print, ebooks, and audiobooks.

The numbers released by the publisher reflect that Harris' book will be the top political book of 2025. The book goes into the details of Harris' unexpected 107-day 2024 presidential campaign. The former Vice President became a famous nominee after President Biden dropped out of the race for The White House on July 21, 2024. Biden dropped out after a disastrous debate performance against Donald Trump on June 27, 2024. Biden appeared confused and was slow to answer many questions and many attributed his issues to his age.

Shortly before Biden's withdrawal there was internal debate on whether there should be a hastily put together Democratic primary. But with only a short time left in the campaign before Election Day — Vice President Harris became the nominee. But the campaign was only 107 days because of Biden's late timing in exiting the race. While there has been internal criticism within the Democratic Party pushing back against what Harris relays in her book, the strong interest and response by the public in the form of strong book sales and packed appearances is evidence of strong public interest.



According to Simon & Schuster, the book has already been ordered for a 5th printing. A 5th printing of "107 Days" will bring the number of hardcover copies in print to 500,000. Harris' book has a chance to be a historic best seller. Michelle Obama's memoir "Becoming" is widely considered the most-read political memoir of all time. The 2018 book sold over 8 million copies globally and discussed issues of identity, race, ambition, family, and public service.



Ask Rusty: Should my Spouse be getting half of my Social Security amount?

Dear Rusty: I was referred to you to ask a question about Social Security benefits. I receive about $1,700 a month from Social Security while my husband receives only approximately $750 monthly. Is he entitled to file for half of my Social Security as a monthly benefit without touching my amount? Signed: Curious Wife

Dear Curious Wife: For information, spousal benefits are one of the most misunderstood areas of Social Security. A spouse does not always get half of their partner's Social Security benefit – how much the spouse gets is determined by their age when the spouse benefit is claimed, and it is always based upon both partner's full retirement age (FRA) benefit, regardless of when they actually claimed Social Security. The partner with the lower SS benefit can only get half of the other spouse's FRA amount if that partner takes the spouse benefit at (or after) their personal SS full retirement age (FRA). And each spouse's FRA may be different depending on the year they were born (FRA today is somewhere between age 66 and 67, depending on the person's year of birth).

Here are two basic rules for a lower earning marital partner to get spouse benefits:

• The lower earning spouse's FRA entitlement must be less than 50% of the higher earning spouse's FRA entitlement. FRA amounts are used, even if SS benefits were claimed earlier than, or later than, full retirement age, and FRA amounts are frequently different than the monthly amounts actually being received.

• If one spouse's FRA amount is less than 50% of the other spouse's FRA amount, the difference between those two amounts can be added to the lower earning spouse's SS retirement amount, to become their spousal benefit. That may, or may not, equal half of the higher earning spouse's FRA amount.

So, if you claimed your Social Security exactly at your own full retirement age, and your husband also claimed his Social Security exactly at his own full retirement age, then - based on the numbers you provided – your husband is likely entitled to about $850 per month, instead of his current $750. And that would not affect your own SS benefit in any way.

Your FRA entitlement would need to be more than twice your husband's FRA entitlement for him to receive a spousal boost from you. But if either of you claimed Social Security before (or after) your respective full retirement ages, your husband would not get 50% of your benefit.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Five Garage Safety Tips

(Family Features) When you throw open the windows, you'll likely be spending more time with the garage door open, too. Make access to your outdoor equipment safer with these tips to get your garage ready for the warmer months.

Organizing clutter is part of the process, but warmer weather can also serve as a reminder to make sure your garage equipment and features are secure and functioning properly.

* Your garage floor tends to capture grime and grit from the outdoors, especially where your car sits. Take time to thoroughly sweep and mop, but also take stock of the floor's condition for any chips or other damage that may grow worse over time and pose a risk for tripping or other safety issues.

* Check your garage door performance. Ensure doors are rolling smoothly with no hitches. If you do happen to notice any abnormalities, it's a good time to investigate. In some cases, a little grease or a minor adjustment is all you need to get things back on track.



* Don't forget to check your garage door sensors, too. Warmer weather means animals and children (and their toys) are more likely to find themselves in an automated door's path when it begins to lower. Ensure sensors are operating properly to prevent injury or property damage.

* Verify all outlets, lights and other electrical features are in proper operating condition and all wires are intact and free of damage or fraying.

* Ensure any poisonous materials, such as paint, garden pesticides, cleaners and automotive fluids, are safely stored out of reach of pets and children that may have increased access to the garage during warmer months. Also check for spills or leaks of any potentially hazardous or flammable materials.

Taking time to safety-proof your garage can provide your family months of stress-free use. Find more tips for getting your garage in order at eLivingtoday.com.

Photo courtesy of Unsplash
#15612
Source: Family Features



A Guide to Identifying Common Garage Door Issues

(Family Features) Garage doors can experience a variety of issues, from minor annoyances to major malfunctions. However, regular maintenance can not only ensure safety and longevity, but also prevent small issues from escalating into costly problems.

Common problems include the door not opening or closing properly, unusual noises during operation, the door reversing before it fully closes, uneven door movement and slow response time from the opener or remote control.

Identifying the root cause is the first step to fixing the issue.

* Door not opening or closing properly: This could be due to misaligned sensors, which can be fixed by adjusting the sensor brackets at the bottom of the tracks or cleaning the lenses.

* Noisy door: This can typically be resolved by tightening all the hardware, including hinges, bolts and screws - as well as the opener's chain or belt - or lubricating the moving parts such as rollers, hinges and tracks. Be sure to replace any that are worn out or damaged.

* Door reversing before it hits the floor: Often caused by an obstruction in the path of the door or a misadjusted limit setting. Check for an object blocking the door (or a sensor) or reset the limit to alleviate.

* Door moving unevenly: Possibly due to worn-out springs or cables, it's often best to replace the damaged parts.

* Slow opener response time: Try reprogramming the opener or replacing the batteries in the remove control to get more prompt response times (and potentially range) from your opener.

While many garage door maintenance tasks can be handled by homeowners, certain situations warrant professional intervention. For instance, if you notice significant damage to the springs or cables, it's best to call a professional.

Discover more easy and effective DIY solutions for common garage door problems at eLivingtoday.com.

Photo courtesy of Shutterstock
#17575
Source: eLivingtoday.com



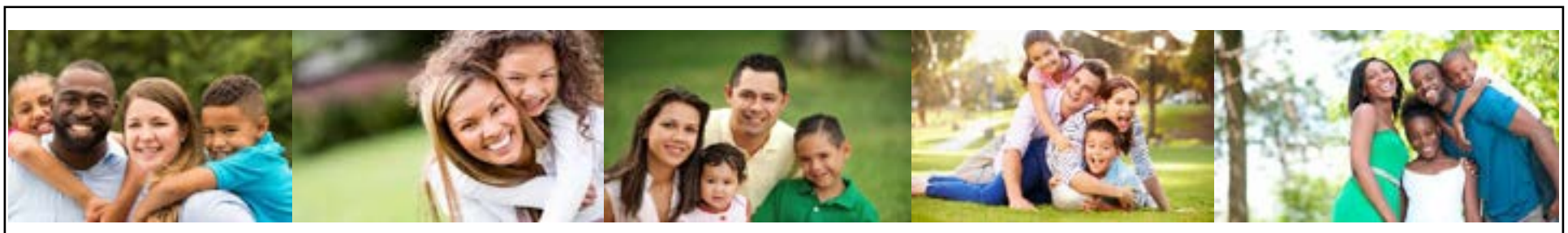
THE CONSTITUTION IS NOT PARTISAN

continued from page 12

Washington, D.C., people gathered for counter-action, attending "No Kings" protests to "reject authoritarianism." Ahead of the demonstrations in D.C., Trump warned "people that want to protest will be met with big force," saying participants are "people that hate our country."

Despite the intimidating warning, demonstrators will continue to exercise their right to protest. We elected a president, but Gov. Pritzker is correct. We have a "wannabe dictator" who wants to prevent citizens from exercising their right to protest peacefully. He is targeting political opponents, purging top generals from the military, imposing his will over the arts, installing loyalists to deconstruct the federal bureaucracy, and he is taking power from Congress while expecting the Supreme Court to also fall in line. Because the U.S. Constitution is not partisan, Republicans and Democrats who found themselves protesting Trump policies should also be protesting the Trump dictatorship.

David W. Marshall is the founder of the faith-based organization TRB: The Reconciled Body and the author of the book God Bless Our Divided America.



Lucas Metropolitan Housing Announces the Opening of the Public Housing Waiting List

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will open the public housing waiting list on **Wednesday, October 8, 2025**, at 8:30 am. The pre-application process will close on **Friday, October 10, 2025**, at 4:30 p.m. The pre-application must be submitted during this period.
Note: This notice does not apply to the Housing Choice Voucher waiting list. That waiting list will open soon.

How to Apply:
- Go to LMH's website: www.lucasmha.org.
- Click on "Apply Online."
- Fill out and submit the online pre-application.

Important Information:
- There is no fee to apply.
- You cannot get or turn in pre-applications at any LMH office. You must apply online.
- It doesn't matter if you apply on the first or last day. All eligible pre-applications will then be included in a random computer lottery that will pick candidates to begin the full application process to be added to the waiting list.
- Placement on the waiting list does not guarantee eligibility for admission to the program.

Questions?
- Call LMH at (419) 259-9477 or (419) 259-9427. LMH will respond to your call within 48 hours of the next business day.

Special Help:
- If you need help applying because of a disability, send a written request by Wednesday, October 1, 2025. You can e-mail requests to jhicks@lucasmha.org or rrichardson@lucasmha.org; mail them to Lucas Metropolitan Housing, Public Housing pre-application, 424 Jackson St. Toledo, OH 43604; or call the phone numbers above. Include your name, address, phone number, and e-mail in your request.
- LMH has also partnered with the Toledo-Lucas County Public Libraries to provide free technical assistance with completing and submitting the online waiting list pre-applications. Assistance is available at any branch during regular library business hours.

La Vivienda de Lucas Metropolitana Anuncia la Apertura de la Lista de Espera de Vivienda Pública

La Vivienda de Lucas Metropolitan (LMH) abrirá la lista de espera de vivienda pública el miércoles, **8 de octubre de 2025**, a las 8:30 a. m. El proceso de pre - solicitud se cerrará el **viernes 10 de octubre de 2025** a las 4:30 p. m. La pre - solicitud debe enviarse dentro de este período.
Nota : Este aviso no se aplica a la lista de espera de Vales de Elección de Vivienda (Housing Choice Voucher). Esa lista de espera se abrirá próximamente.

Cómo presentar la aplicación :
- Visite el sitio web de LMH : www.lucasmha.org.
- Haga clic en "Apply Online" (Solicitar en línea).
- Complete y envíe la pre - solicitud en línea.

Información importante :
- No hay ningún costo para solicitar.
- No se puede obtener ni entregar solicitudes previas en ninguna de las oficinas de LMH. Debe presentar su solicitud en línea.
- No importa si presenta la solicitud el primer o el último día. Todas las pre - solicitudes que cumplan los requisitos se incluirán en un sorteo aleatorio por ordenador que seleccionará a los candidatos para iniciar con el proceso de solicitud completo y ser añadidos a la lista de espera.
- La inclusión en la lista de espera no garantiza la elegibilidad para la admisión en el programa.

Preguntas?
- Llame a LMH al (419) 259-9477 o al (419) 259-9427. LMH responderá a su llamada dentro de las 48 horas posteriores al siguiente día hábil.

Ayuda especial :
- Si necesita ayuda para presentar la solicitud debido a una discapacidad, envíe una solicitud por escrito a más tardar el día miércoles, 1 de octubre de 2025. Puede enviar su solicitud por correo electrónico a jhicks@lucasmha.org o al correo electrónico rrichardson@lucasmha.org; por correo postal a ¨Lucas Metropolitan Housing¨ , Pre - solicitud de vivienda pública, 424 Jackson St. Toledo, OH 43604; o llamar a los números de teléfono mencionados anteriormente. Incluya su nombre, dirección, número de teléfono y correo electrónico en su solicitud.
- LMH también se ha asociado con las bibliotecas públicas del condado de Toledo-Lucas para poder proporcionar asistencia técnica gratuita para completar y enviar las solicitudes previas de la lista de espera en línea. La asistencia está disponible en cualquier sucursal durante el horario habitual de atención de la biblioteca.

هيئة Lucas Metropolitan Housing تُعلن عن فتح قائمة الانتظار للإسكان العام.

من المقرر أن تفتح هيئة Lucas Metropolitan Housing قائمة الانتظار للإسكان العام يوم **الأربعاء الموافق 8 أكتوبر 2025** ، في تمام الساعة 8:30 صباحًا. ستنتهي فترة التقديم المسبق في تمام الساعة 4:30 من مساء **يوم الجمعة الموافق 10 أكتوبر 2025** . يجب تقديم جميع الطلبات خلال هذه الفترة الزمنية .

ملاحظة: لا يشمل هذا الإعلان قائمة الانتظار الخاصة ببرنامج قسائم اختيار السكن. من المتوقع فتح قائمة الانتظار تلك قريبًا.

كيفية تقديم الطلبات:

• تفضل بزيارة الموقع الإلكتروني لهيئة LMH على الرابط: www.lucasmha.org.

• انقر على « تقديم طلب الآن »

• قم بتعبئة وتقديم نموذج التقديم المسبق عبر الإنترنت.

معلومات مُهمة:

• ليس هناك أي رسوم للتقديم .

• لا تتوفر نماذج التقديم المسبق من أجل التسلُّم أو التقديم في أي مكتب من مكاتب الهيئة (LMH). يجب أن تتم عملية التقديم عبر الإنترنت.

• لن يؤثر وقت تقديم طلبك -سواء أكان في بداية الفترة أو نهايتها- على طريقة النظر فيه. بمجرد تسلُّم جميع طلبات التقديم المسبق الصالحة، سيتم إدخالها في نظام سحب إلكتروني عشوائي. سيقوم هذا النظام باختيار مجموعة من المتقدمين بشكل عشوائي للانتقال إلى مرحلة استكمال الطلب الكامل؛ مما يمنحهم الفرصة لإدراجهم في قائمة الانتظار الرسمية.

• إدراجك في قائمة الانتظار لا يضمن أنك مؤهل للقبول في البرنامج .

هل لديك أي استفسارات ؟

• يمكنك الاتصال على LMH على هاتف رقم: (419) 259-9477 أو (419) 259-9427 سوف تقوم الهيئة (LMH) بالرد ع لى مكالمتك خلال 48 ساعة من يوم العمل التالي .

مساعدة ذوي الاحتياجات الخاصة:

• يجب على الأفراد من ذوي الاحتياجات الخاصة الذين يحتاجون إلى مساعدة في تقديم الطلب أن يرسلوا طلبًا خطيًّا في موعد أقصاه يوم الأربعاء الموافق ١ أكتوبر 2025 . يمكن إرسال الطلبات عبر البريد الإلكتروني إلى jhicks@lucasmha.org أو rrichardson@lucasmha.org ، أو عبر البريد إلى هيئة Lucas Metropolitan Housing ، قسم التقديم المسبق للإسكان العام، ٤٢٤ شارع جاك سون، توليدو، أوهايو 43604 (Jackson St. Toledo, OH 424)، أو من خلال الاتصال بالأرقام المذكورة أعلاه. يجب تضمين اسمك وعنوانك ورقم هاتفك وعنوان بريدك الإلكتروني في الطلب .

• تعاونت الهيئة (LMH) مع مكتبات توليدو-لوكاس العامة (Toledo-Lucas County) لتقديم دعم تقني مجاني لمساعدة المتقدمين في تعبئة وتقديم طلبات التقديم المسبق عبر الإنترنت لقائمة الانتظار. يتم تقديم الدعم في جميع فروع المكتبة خلال ساعات العمل الرسمية.

卢卡斯大都会区住房管理局宣布开放公共住房等待名单申请

卢卡斯大都会区住房管理局 (LMH) 将于 2025 年 10 月 8 日（星期三）上午 8 点 30 分开放公共住房等待名单申请。预申请流程将于 2025 年 10 月 10 日（星期五）下午 4 点 30 分截止，预申请必须在此期间提交。

注意：本通知不适用于住房选择券等待名单。该等待名单即将开放申请。

申请方式:

• 访问 LMH 官方网站： www.lucasmha.org.

• 点击“在线申请”选项。

• 填写并提交在线预申请表。

重要信息:

• 申请不收取任何费用。

• 不可在任何 LMH 办公地点领取或提交预申请表。必须通过在线方式申请。

• 无论在首日还是截止日提交申请，均不产生影响。所有符合条件的预申请将纳入计算机随机抽签，抽中的申请人将启动完整申请流程，以进入等待名单。

• 进入等待名单并不意味着一定符合该计划的入住资格。

如有疑问?

• 请致电 LMH，电话：(419) 259-9477 或 (419) 259-9427。LMH 将在接下来的工作日 48 小时内回复您的来电。

特殊协助:

• 若因残疾需要申请协助，请在 2025 年 10 月 1 日（星期三）前提交书面申请。您可通过以下方式提交申请：发送电子邮件至 jhicks@lucasmha.org 或 rrichardson@lucasmha.org；邮寄至卢卡斯大都会区住房管理局（地址：424 Jackson St. Toledo, OH 43604，收件主题：公共住房预申请协助）；或拨打上述联系电话。申请中需包含您的姓名、地址、电话号码及电子邮箱。

• LMH 还与托莱多 – 卢卡斯县公共图书馆合作，为填写和提交在线等待名单预申请表提供免费技术协助。各图书馆分馆在常规营业时间内均提供此项协助服务。

平等住房机会