



Volume 76 No. 1

*"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."*

December 21, 2022



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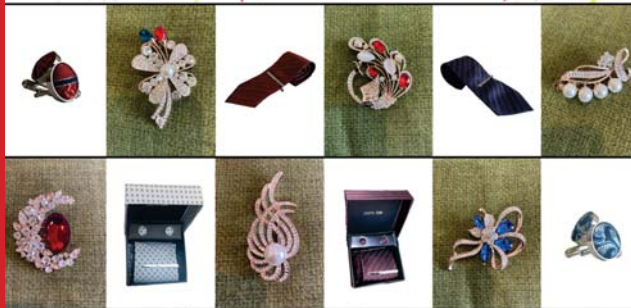
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# Turning Pain Into Power

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, Ph.D.  
The Truth Contributor



*Do not judge me by my successes. Judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again.*

— Nelson Mandela

Yvonne Harper was one of three former City of Toledo Councilmembers to plead guilty last week after being arrested for taking cash in return for political favors.

Stunned by the councilmembers' arrests in July 2020, the guilty pleas totally deflated the Black community. Many of us believed that perhaps the arrests were a racially-motivated setup directed at those who, at the time, constituted one-third of Toledo City Council.

We were sad because so many of us supported them for so long. We had hoped they would lift the community that had been down for so long. We had hoped that they would be completely exonerated. Yet, those hopes seemed to die with the announcement of the guilty pleas.

Yet, even when things do not go as expected, I believe God always has a plan.

I caught up with former councilmember Yvonne Harper as she was preparing to travel to Kokomo, Indiana. She was excited to hear her new pastor preach his final sermon before arriving in Toledo to take the reins of her beloved Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church.

Yes, Harper had accepted a plea deal that dropped bribery and extortion charges in return for a guilty plea on a single conspiracy case. But, rather than slinking depressed into a corner, she seemed upbeat despite her traumatic encounter with the criminal justice system. "I've laid low on social media, just trying to stay out of the way, but I'm going to be okay. So don't worry about me," she said.

Being active in a supportive church has been a blessing to Harper.

In most Black churches, the criminal justice system has impacted almost every member. If it is not the member themselves directly, then a child or other relative has been incarcerated. The justice system touches the entire Black church from the leadership down, including those who work inside it. Members just aren't vocal about it. Instead, they provide support quietly because of the shame and stigma associated with having a felony or criminal record.

Even with tremendous support from the community and her church, Harper remains concerned about the sentencing, "although I've never been in trouble like this ever," she opined.

Harper will be sentenced in June by U.S. District Judge Jeffrey Helmick. Her guilty plea agreement on the conspiracy charge calls for a sentence between two and three years in prison.

I asked Yvonne about her thinking and the rationale behind the guilty plea, but she declined to respond.

... continued on page 6

# Dark...and Still Darker...

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq  
Guest Column

Ever have those times or days when your perception of events appears to be dark in the sense that tragedy, sadness or being in a woeful state, has arrested you?

And, yet, what is even more foreboding is when that darkness just got darker and you know that there is a troubling settling in of a malaise that if you do not reject it, it can linger and cause apathy or a numbing of your spirit?

For Toledoans, that dark and its cousin, the darker, appeared in the past few days with the grim news of the murder of two young teenage Black youths.

Details may be sketchy, but a murder suspect has been apprehended and if that person is the shooter, two young kids lost their lives on a humbug regardless of any provocations that the two kids may have caused the alleged gunman.

Details as to the reason that the two teens were at the Maumee Park cabin and what transpired in that cabin that caused them to be apparently kidnapped and taken to a place of execution is not fully developed.

Nor do we know what adult supervision was at the kidnapping site that could have prevented the two kids from leaving the event and getting into a car for their transport to a killing site.

Still puzzling for the grieving family members is what was the involvement of the other charged adults in the kidnapping and murder of their children.

There are a lot of relationship questions that need to be explained between the two teens and their alleged killer and the alleged accomplices to their grisly deaths.

The house on Chase Street, which was suspiciously burned to the ground, was found to be the "burial site" for the two young boys and now begins the arduous task of stitching together the facts and personalities that led to this heinous crime.

Speculations will abound as to whether one of the kids had a gun on his person at the "party(?) site or whether one or both teens knew their abductors and felt safe getting into the death car or what supervision was there at this cabin site that either allowed the teens in or told them to leave when they created a fuss.

... continued on page 6

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# Biden Signs Legislation to Protect Same-Sex, Interracial Marriages

By Julius Washington

Howard University News Service

President Biden signed into law today the Respect for Marriage Act during a ceremony at the White House, formally repealing the Clinton-era Defense of Marriage Act.

The bill, which passed both chambers with bipartisan support, will codify into law federal recognition of marriage between same-sex and interracial couples, as decided by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Obergefell v. Hodges*.

Biden, who made headlines in 2012 for publicly indicating his support before the White House had articulated such a position, called the passage of the legislation "a vital step towards equality, liberty and justice."

"Marriage is a simple proposition: Who do you love, and will you be loyal to that person you love? It's not more complicated than that," Biden said.

In 2013, the Supreme Court held in *United States v. Windsor* that same-sex couples were entitled to the same federal marriage rights and privileges as heterosexual couples, repealing Article 3 of DOMA. In 2015, the court's decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges* repealed the rest of the law, holding that, "there is no lawful basis for a State to refuse to recognize a lawful same-sex marriage performed in another state on the ground of its same-sex character."

Recent legal challenges, however, and an increasingly conservative Supreme Court raised fears that the court might overrule the decision and give states the ability to ban same-sex marriage.

Following the Supreme Court's 6-3 decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's*

Health Organization (2022) and Justice Clarence Thomas' individual, concurring opinion, where he expressed the opinion that the Supreme Court had a "duty to correct" its "substantive due process precedents, including *Griswold*, *Lawrence*, and *Obergefell*," Democrats in Congress introduced a number of bills to codify these decisions into federal law, on issues including contraception, private decisions about sexual behavior and same-sex marriage.

The bill passed both chambers of Congress with bipartisan support, 61-36 in the Senate and 258-169 in the House. An earlier version of the bill passed in the House in July with increased Republican support.

A religious liberty exemption was added to the bill to help garner support from some reluctant senators. Included in the exemption were guarantees that the tax-exempt status of churches could not be revoked and "confirms that non-profit religious organizations will not be required to provide any services, facilities, or goods for the solemnization or celebration of a marriage."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Majority Leader Chuck Schumer were on hand at the White House event and delivered remarks in commemoration of the historic legislation.

"For millions of LGBTQ Americans, today is a historic day, a day of jubilation, and a day of relief," Schumer said. "After a lot of hard work, today, the long inexorable march towards greater equality takes an important step forward."

Speaker Pelosi heralded the efforts of the attendees and activists in helping to make the bill's passage a reality.

"This would not have happened without the advocacy, without the mobilization, at the grassroots level," Pelosi told the assembled crowd. "You all made this happen."

The event also featured performances from a pair of Grammy-nominated artists, including Sam Smith, who performed his hit song, "Stay With Me," and Cyndi Lauper, who performed "True Colors."

The Respect for Marriage Act also enshrines into law protections for interracial couples. While the 1967 decision in *Loving v. Virginia* was not explicitly mentioned as being targeted in Justice Thomas' dissent, the decision relies on substantive due process, the same legal reasoning behind *Griswold*, *Lawrence*, and *Obergefell*.

Julius Washington is a reporter for HUNewsService.com, specializing in politics.

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# AALP's Robert Smith and Al Baker Chat About the Past and Present

*The Truth Staff*

Robert Smith and the African American Legacy Project, in collaboration with WJUC, The Juice, 107.3, have initiated a series of live, hour-long interviews, conducted before a live audience at the AALP headquarters.

The second session of the series occurred on Thursday evening, December 15, and featured a chat between Smith and Al Baker, former chairman of the board of Trustees at the University of Toledo, whose family has bestowed upon the AALP a grant in the amount of \$30,000.

Smith and Baker reviewed the latter's role with UToledo, his long career in business as an Owens Illinois vice president and his quite amazing family and their accomplishments.

Baker was approached to be chairman of the board of trustees in 2019 and "reluctantly" accepted he said. He was reluctant because of the time and work involved and because of the level of scrutiny the job would bring. He ultimately decided to do it because of "the significance," of the appointment. The significance was that he would be the first African-American chairman.

During his tenure, he takes pride in three "major accomplishments" that he helped to guide the board and university through. First, the university saved the Medical Center and "got it back on its feet and righted that ship," said Baker of that part of the institution that was on the verge of closing several years ago.

Second, the university "navigated COVID" by introducing virtual learning and "keeping the university operating."

The third major accomplishment, said Baker, was bringing in a new president, Dr. Gregory Postel, MD, during that difficult early pandemic period. "It was a challenge to find the right person under those conditions," he noted.

Baker's ties to UToledo began much earlier than his appointment to the board of trustees in 2016. A graduate of Scott High School, Baker entered the university on a football scholarship in 1968 and became part of the famous group of scholar-athletes who were undefeated – 35-0 – during that Chuck Ealey period of 1969 to 1971.

Baker was a longtime employee of Owens Illinois and served as vice president of human resources – the first African American in that position – from 1992 until his retirement in 2006.

It's certainly a lengthy record of accomplishments for Mr. Baker, but he may not be the most accomplished person in his family of six siblings.

Baker's parents, Frank and Molene Baker, both Alabama natives, moved the family to Toledo in 1952 when Al was two years old. Although the father Frank had only been permitted to complete the eighth grade in the segregated South, he was a strong advocate for education and made sure his children received that message.



*Al Baker and Robert Smith*



*Rodney Eason; Paul Hubbard; Dr. Houston Johnson; Al Baker*



*The Baker Family - Erin Baker, Beverly Baker, Al Baker, Amari Baker, Barbara Baker, EdD, Carolyn Baker*

"We grew up poor but we didn't know it because our parents stressed character and faith above all else," said Baker of his upbringing. "Our parents gave all their efforts in making sure their six children were educated and would do better than they did."

Among the six, there is a medical doctor, one with a doctorate in education, one with a doctorate in nursing, an engineer, a minister and a businessman – all with successful careers.

The next generation of Bakers is maintaining that record of success. Al Baker's nephew, Frank and his wife Laura, have been instrumental in putting together the \$30,000 grant for the African American Legacy Project.

The AALP one-hour program was unveiled in November with its initial offering and first interview with William McDaniel, The Ohio State University's long time Jazz Studies program director and African American Studies administrator.

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*Perryman... continued from page 3*

However, a legal source who did not want to be identified agreed to weigh in. The source surmised that the prosecution might not have direct evidence that Harper took the funds she allegedly received illegally. Instead, the funds went 'to or through attorney Keith Mitchell,' now deceased. "I think the plea offer was important and beneficial because Yvonne doesn't want people to feel like she took a bribe," the legal expert added.

Given that she has no prior criminal history and limited income, Harper likely will end up facing more like 16-24 months plus a fine, according to federal sentencing guidelines. However, other similar cases in Ohio have a sentencing of eight to nine months.

Nevertheless, rather than incarceration, Judge Helmick could also place Harper under house arrest or probation, given her long stellar career of serving this community.

What does the future hold?

The tragedy of making a mistake or falling lies in staying down and failing to bounce back up. Just because a person has a felony, criminal record, or been incarcerated doesn't mean they don't deserve a second chance.

Harper is praying that she will not do any prison time, given that she has no prior record. She even plans to remain active in the Democratic Party. She may even run again for Toledo City Council unless legislation forbids it.

Yet, what would be even more remarkable is for Harper to turn her pain into real power by using her experience to help others obtain a second chance.

I would love to see Harper reinvent herself as a community advocate for returning citizens and those coming through the criminal justice system.



Yvonne Harper

Using the skills she learned as a councilmember, she could help point people in the right direction and connect community members to those that can help them.

Now, Harper is in a position to help educate others on the issue of mass incarceration. She can also help others to be more sympathetic to the problem of selective enforcement of nonviolent crime, which is 100 times harsher in sentencing Black and brown citizens than others.

Nevertheless, there are some valuable lessons to be learned from our mistakes over the course of our lives.

Sometimes God shakes things up in life so that we can rebuild them better or reinvent ourselves. Sometimes we are called from one method to a different method to do the same work.

And finally, We all fall, but do we get back up and reinvent ourselves by turning our pain into others' power?

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at [drdperryman@enterofhope-baptist.org](mailto:drdperryman@enterofhope-baptist.org)

*Tolliver... continued from page 3*

For the sake of the devastated family members of the two kids, I hope they will get answers from the accused persons as to what led the accused to kill two young teens and why there were other adults ostensibly involved in what happened in that Maumee cabin and thereafter.

As we see too often, life for too many people is of no value or consequence to them and they will kill you as soon as look at you. We, as a community, are injured when any such killings take place in our midst because the value of life should unite all of us and when that social web is fractured by murders, we all are involuntarily placed in a dark space until justice is restored.

And on another grievous topic of dark and darker, we all may have read with a heavy heart that three Black city council members are changing their former pleas of not guilty to that of guilty regarding the taking of bribes in exchange for political favors or votes.

Yvonne Harper, Larry Sykes and Attorney Tyrone Riley will face sentencing in June 2023 for their roles in accepting bribes in exchange for their votes regarding political matters brought or to be brought before the city council.

Councilman Gary Johnson has refused such a plea deal and the other accused member of this group, Atty. Keith Mitchell, is now deceased.

Not only do we have the collective community embarrassment of so many Black council members facing such opprobrium over such offensive behavior, but you can imagine the shame and anguish being faced by their family members.

When you realize the mere "pennies" that was the loot bag for these councilpersons that they exchanged for their votes or promises of their votes, they sold themselves woefully short.

This is not to indicate that their capture would have been approved and smiled upon if they receive tens of thousands of dollars for their votes.

But. To face the possibility of years in a federal prison for getting practically coupons and a pack of gum in exchange for polluting themselves for their criminal activity, makes one say, "Really? For that pittance of money!"

Toledoans experienced both dark and darker this past week and one can only hope that light will pierce such dark veils and we all can both readjust

to both protect youths when we see that they are in danger; and express genuine sorrow for those who let their fallen human nature override their better impulses.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at [tolliver@juno.com](mailto:tolliver@juno.com)




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I have been to the Holy Land before, but this time, I feel an urgency for us to go back and receive new insight and fresh revelation.

**Are you ready for a refreshing? Come and go with me...**

I believe God is going to do something special as we take this journey! Begin now to pray and seek God for his guidance in planning for this tour. I encourage you to elevate your expectation, and prepare now for miracles, signs and wonders...

God Bless You!  
Bishop Pat McKinstry



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**DAY 4**

Start the day at Yardenit, the Baptismal Site on the Jordan River. Take a scenic drive past Cana of Galilee to Nazareth to visit the Church of the Annunciation and Mary's Well. On to Muchraka, the location of Elijah's altar during his confrontation with the false prophets of Baal. Continue through the Valley of Armageddon to the excavation site at Tel Megiddo. On to Caesarea, built by Herod the Great in 22 B.C. Continue to the city of Jerusalem.

**DAY 5**

Start the day at the Mount of Olives for an outstanding view of Jerusalem. Visit the Chapel of the Ascension, Garden of Gethsemane, and Church of All Nations before driving along the Kidron Valley seeing the Tombs of Absalom, Zechariah and James. Visit the Old City, see the Pool of Bethesda, the Chapel of the Flagellation, and the Ecce Homo Arch. Continue through the Bazaar to the last stations of the Cross Via Dolorosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the Gabbatha pavement.

**DAY 6**

After breakfast, continue to the Jewish Quarter visiting the Cardo, the "Wide" wall built by King Hezekiah, the Herodian mansion and the Golden Menorah. Continue to the Temple area and Mt. Moriah, to see the Dome of Rock, visit the Western Wall, the Ophel Archaeological Park and Museum and the Southern steps. Visit the Upper Room and King David's Tomb.

**DAY 7**

This morning we drive past the Inn of the Good Samaritan to arrive at the shores of the Dead Sea - the lowest point on earth. We go to Masada. Continue to Ein Gedi, where King David found shelter from the wrath of King Saul. After lunch (on your own), enjoy a short "float" in the Dead Sea. On to Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947

**DAY 8**

After breakfast and hotel check out continue to the Garden Tomb, visit Calvary where we will partake of Communion service. Continue to Bethlehem, Visit the Church of Nativity, the Milk Grotto and Shepherds' Field. Enjoy a special farewell dinner before being transferred to the airport.

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# Blue Gill Presents Grant to Soul City Boxing

On Sunday, December 18, the members of the Blue Gill Fishing Club gathered at the club to present their annual Christmas donation, a check for \$500, to this year's awardees, the Soul City Boxing and Wrestling Gym – an anti-gang and anti-violence non-profit organization located in the heart of the city.

Receiving the donation were Otha Jones, Jr. and his son, Roshawn Jones. Otha Jones made a point to thank the Blue Gill for their assistance, one of the only such establishments, he noted, that had extended such a hand to the organization.

The gym will use the funds, said Jones, to help kids in the eight-to-12 age group acquire books and receive tutoring. The gym currently has about 60 youth in its programs.



(Standing Left to Right): John Chapman, Nate Greene, Johnnie Walker, Al Chapman, L A Frost, Thomas Walker, Perry Helms, Al Chatman. (Seated) Roshawn Jones and Otha Jones, Jr.



Standing - Renae Palmer, Geraldine James, Gloria Chapman, Tonya Chatman; Seated - Rhonda Coates, Lesley Mitchell



Roshawn Jones and Otha Jones, Jr.

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# The History of Kwanzaa – Why You Should Support It

By Don Lynn

Special to The Truth

Kwanzaa was founded in Los Angeles, CA in 1966 after anger over widespread police racism triggered the Watts Rebellion or race riots in 1965.

Harambee was an African-American newspaper originally created in August 1966 by Ron Karenga and Hakim Jamal for the organization US. Karenga then donated the publication to the Black Congress, an umbrella organization for diverse groups i.e., CORE, NAACP, Black Panthers and others. The Los Angeles Black Congress was founded as a community--rebuilding effort in Watts. Its first issue commemorated the anniversary of the 1965 Watts Rebellion. It was instrumental in publicizing the Black Panther idea and symbol in Los Angeles. Activist Elaine Brown was a reporter for the newspaper. Editors included Ron Karenga and John Floyd of the Black Panther Political Party.

By April 1969, the newspaper had returned to its roots as an exclusive publication of Karenga's US organization.

Maulana is Swahili Arabic for "master Teacher".

Karenga is Swahili Arabic for "keeper of Tradition".

Maulana Karenga was born Ronald McKinley Everett on July 14, 1941. He's an American Professor of African History, an Activist, has numerous Ph.Ds., and is the creator of Kwanzaa.

During the week of Kwanzaa, Dec 26 - Jan 1, families and communities come together to honor the ancestors and to celebrate African and African American culture. Each day we light a candle to highlight the principle of the day. The core value of Kwanzaa is the Nguzo Saba: The seven principles of Kwanzaa.

. Umoja - (unity): maintaining unity as a family, community and race of people.

. Kujichagulia - (self-determination): defining, naming, creating, and speaking for ourselves.

. Ujima - (collective work & responsibility): building and maintaining our community solving problems together.

. Ujamaa - (cooperative economics ): building and maintaining retail stores and other businesses and to profit from these ventures.

. Nia - (purpose): work collectively to build communities that will restore the greatness of African-American people.

. Kuumba - (creativity): to find new, innovative ways to leave communities of African descent in more beautiful and beneficial ways than the community inherited.

. Imani - (faith): Karenga defines this as faith in community "to believe with all our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and the righteousness and victory of our struggle".

Toledo Kwanzaa House (TKH) is the local chapter of "OHIO CELEBRATES KWANZAA" which hosted its first collaboration in 2020 via zoom. It was hosted by: Akron, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dayton, Kent, Toledo, and Youngstown. The zoom platform allowed us to track participants which was over 2,000 viewers across the states as well as other countries.

Diane Gordon's family and friends began celebrating Kwanzaa in Toledo in 1967 in her home. As word got out, she and Kewape "Ken" Peterson did public presentations in Toledo and Michigan. TKH developed from that beginning now as a volunteer organization committed to promoting communities and teaching the seven principles.

This year's Kwanzaa celebration, December 26 - January 1, will be held at the Frederick Douglass Community Association, 1001 Indiana Ave. Toledo, Ohio 43607.

5:00 PM - Pre-Kwanzaa Program

6:00 PM - Kwanzaa Celebration

Official Kwanzaa Website: <https://www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org>

**PLEASE COME OUT AND SUPPORT KWANZAA!!**

Asante (Thank you Toledo)

Owesos (Don Lynn)



Libation plant and Kinara (candle holder)

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# Mary Louise Elegant Creations

*Special to The Truth*

It's our favorite time of the year again!

Christmas time ... from my grandchildren and me. The cakes, pies and cobblers will be baking in our homes and our homes will be filled with Christmas decorations, along with the scents of yummy foods throughout.

Reading Christmas stories is something we enjoy doing at Christmas time. We'll also enjoy making cookies for Santa Claus, wrapping our gifts for Mom and Dad and singing Christmas Carols – it's our family tradition.

Kendal and Tre love to color in their giant Christmas coloring books with the Christmas Grinch song

playing in the background.

We will place the cookies we baked for our Christmas visitor by the fireplace with a warm glass of milk for Santa and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer.

These memories remind me of my own childhood – it was full of fun and festivities, things like the Christmas parade with my father and all of my sisters. Cooking, singing and so many memories that have lasted my entire life.

My family – baby Isaiah, Kendall Girl and Tre – want to wish everyone a wonderful and a Merry Christmas and an outstanding New Year from our family to yours!!



## ADVOCATE FOR AN ABUSED CHILD

We invite you to a

## CASA Volunteer Information Meeting



Sunday, December 4

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sanger Branch Library

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# The Truth About Life Insurance

By Vince Davis Insurance Inc. #2

The Truth Contributor

I have been helping people with their life insurance for almost 40 years. That means that a 50-year-old man or woman that I wrote 40 years ago are either 90 years old or dead.

So, if that 50-year-old wrote a 30-year term policy 40 years ago. Then that term policy will have expired before he or she died. At that point the policy expires. Term Insurance is like renting a house. The payment may go up. The rental agreement may end. Even if you lived in the house all your life, you do not own it. Therefore you cannot sell it. You can't take a loan out on it. You had shelter.

I have written a lot of life insurance. I have paid out a lot of death claim checks. People ask me all the time, Vince, what is the best life insurance policy to own? The best life insurance policy is policy that is paid and in force when you die. Term, whole life, variable life, or whatever. It does not matter.

WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE IS MORE LIKELY TO BE IN FORCE IF YOU LIVE LONG AND KEEP PAYING THE PREMIUMS. WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE IS LIKE OWNING THE HOUSE. YOU CAN TAKE LOANS OUT AGAINST IT. YOU CAN ACCUMULATE CASH VALUE. YOU CAN ASSIGN IT TO ANOTHER PERSON

Everybody says they have a life insurance policy at work. Do you know how that works? In most cases your work insurance reduces too little or nothing when you terminate. You might get a gold watch for your work effort at retirement. Work insurance is normally done or different when you stop working there. Quite often your work life insurance is not portable. It was an employment perk. That benefit existed while you were an employee.

Get all the work insurance you can. Its normally a great deal. Just don't plan on keeping it. Check with HR to validate what you have. See how long it will stay in force. Ask if the price changes. If it does not change



Vince Davis

then how long does it stay the same?

I see more whole life policies that pay out than any other kind. Whole life policies are structured to last for your Whole Life. That is a matter of fact how they got their name

The next more than likely policy to be in force is a Universal Life Insurance policy. They are sort of a permanent life insurance policy. There are premium payment variations and policy loan circumstances that can render the policy ineffective or cause it to lapse completely.

All life insurance can benefit your family. The key is knowing the positives and negatives of owning each policy type. Purchase a policy or two. Your life insurance policy fulfills an "I Owe Your Voucher to Your Family." Write your family a love letter. The policy benefits pass to family and avoid probate.

"Dear Family, this is for you. I'm not here. But I want you to be ok. You will miss me. But I do not want you to miss much else. Love Dad, Mom, Significant Other."

HAVING LIFE INSURANCE FOR YOUR FAMILY SAYS I LOVE YOU UNCONDITIONALLY. NOT HAVING LIFE INSURANCE FOR YOUR FAMILY SAYS. I CARE, ONLY IF I'M HERE!

I can advise you about your insurance. Call or text me for an appointment. Generally, it is never a good idea to cancel a whole life policy that you bought a long time ago. It is usually not a good idea to cancel your policy to get another policy period. The price is based on your age when you bought it. If you do plan on getting a new policy Keep your old policy until your new policy comes through. It might not get approved. Look it over carefully or have an insurance professional do so.

Vincedavisinsurance.com State Farm Insurance Agent Vince Davis  
3344 Secor Rd. suite a102 Toledo Ohio 43606. 419-244-2904, 419-24-4105 fax, cell 419-509-0326

## Annual Christmas Price Index Foreshadows Higher Costs This Season

Special to The Truth

"True Loves" will spend more this holiday season if they buy all of the gifts from the classic carol, "The 12 Days of Christmas."

PNC's 39th annual Christmas Price Index, a light-hearted take on the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index, measures the average change in prices consumers should expect to pay for the gifts outlined in the well-known holiday song. This year, the price of those gifts is up 10.5%, the third highest year-over-year increase in the index's history.

"True Loves will need to come up with a record \$45,523.27 to buy those 12 perfect gifts this year," said Amanda Agati, chief investment officer for PNC Asset Management Group. "This is a disquieting development for many, as pandemic-related supply chain disruptions and

elevated energy and commodity prices continue to impact the cost of goods and services. Despite generous intentions, the gifts that make up the Christmas Price Index are not well-insulated from what's being experienced across the broader economy."

The cost of all 12 individual gifts is reported on PNC's interactive website, [pncchristmaspriceindex.com](http://pncchristmaspriceindex.com).

"While the gifts in this specialty basket of goods and services are truly unique, American consumers might consider asking their True Love for a different kind of gift this year instead," Agati suggested.

Courtesy StatePoint

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# Tisha-Lee Mays' AMAYSing Kids Broadcasting Company Wins Competitive Grant by JumpStart

The Truth Staff

Tisha-Lee Mays founded the AMAYSing Kids Broadcasting Company & Media Mentorship Program during the summer of '21 in order to reach out to school aged children, grades four through eight, to help improve reading skills by developing their broadcasting skills.

"A new way to teach reading and communication skills," says Mays.

In order to improve her own skills as an entrepreneur and businesswoman, Mays participated in the recently concluded 12-week course offered by JumpStart and earned the top prize in her cohort for her presentation at the end of the course.

AMAYSing just concluded a nine-week session in four area schools and will start another such session in four or five other schools after the holiday break. Each program can host up to 30 students and the program strives for a 10 to 1 student/instructor ratio, says Mays. The instructors are primarily drawn from college students at the University of Toledo, where Mays, a radio personality at WJUC, The Juice, 107.3 FM, is a lecturer at the School of Media and Communications.

AMAYSing takes its broadcasting equipment into the schools to work with the students and eventually, says Mays, will utilize a media bus with television and recording equipment to facilitate its instructions. The \$10,000 grant Mays won with her JumpStart presentation will be used for the purpose of outfitting such a bus.

Wrote Mays about her JumpStart experience:

*"These last 12-weeks have been an intense, exciting journey that I had the privilege to share with four other incredible entrepreneurs who I am forever connected with: Black Frog Brewery, EZ Shade, Ordinary Pioneer, Anchored in Hope Counseling, LLC"*

*"My advisor for the NW Ohio Small Business Impact competition was Adam Salon, who brought out the very best of me, and helped me understand my passion as a full-scale business model. "With his genius, he intentionally added Kevin P. Mullan and Steven Powell to our team who offered countless hours of expertise and Phelan Spence who is the mastermind behind creating the financial model. To be honest, the \$10,000 is the icing on cake. It's the wealth of expertise and direction I received from my team that was invaluable."*

*"I am now a better entrepreneur because of you! Thank you to all*



*of the advisors, Roy Hodge for everything and the extended JumpStart family for all you do to help grow businesses in our community."*

*"When I contacted JumpStart a few years back I had a business plan that needed a lot of work. At that time, my first advisor, Kenny Farrar, broke my plan down and helped me build it back up and continued to be an open source of knowledge and encouragement."*

*"I am truly grateful to Amy Haschak and the JumpStart NW Ohio family and CEO Ray Leach for the opportunity to showcase AMAYSing Kids Broadcasting Camp and Media Mentorship Program."*

*"It was also great to see Freddie Coffey after all these years WZIP/ZTV/WAUP Alumni The University of Akron. I am so excited to be part of this incredible network now."*

*"I can't even explain the overwhelming support that was in the room. I couldn't have done it without my better half Dante Mays and our boys (Dante Mays Jr had to work). Thank you to the Jones family and Cyrus for introducing me! My THE JUICE FM 107.3 Deb Hogan, Rick Hogan, Rosalyn Whickom, Shae, Charlie Mack, my incredible staff Alyn Martinez Nick Schroeder, Sydney Schauwecker, Department of Communication, The University of Toledo, my entire AMAYSing Kids Broadcasting Camp and Media Mentorship Program families who have supported and allowed the kids to come out on a school night. The kids did a beautiful job showing off the program!"*

*"Thank you BGSU School of Media and Communication. Vonna Lynn, Dee Bank, Ms. Banita, Moni Mpress Featchurs Quintin Riley, Chawone Ardrey, Ambershaun Miller Byrd, Jurry Taalib-Deenn, Alisha Durham, Ebony Carter, Sue Roberts Wright, Tasha Allen, Mr. McDaniel, Gesu Catholic School, Toledo Public Schools and the City of Toledo"*

*"In addition to providing our traditional portable programming inside schools and organizations, with the 10k we are investing in an interactive media bus that will be fully equipped with a recording and television studio. This will allow us to go directly into the community to serve even more kids more kids. Thank you to the three fantastic judges who were faced a very difficult decision."*

*"JumpStart is necessary when starting a business. We are just getting started, there are more aMAYSing things to come. All things are possible with God in the center of it all!"*



**SEGMENTS:**

- \*You Are Not Alone  
Dementia Talk W/ Pamela
- \*LP Flavor Review
- \*Gods Word To Be Heard
- \*Happy Black Sheep
- \*Peace Gems
- \*Show question of the week

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# *The New Yorkers: 31 Remarkable People, 400 Years, and the Untold Biography of the World's Greatest City* by Sam Roberts

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

Every day, you fly just under the radar.

Nobody bothers you because they don't know who you are and that's just fine. As long as you can keep your head down and get stuff done, you'll survive and thrive to work another day. You don't need fame or fortune to have a good life. As in *The New Yorkers* by Sam Roberts, they might come someday anyhow, though.

Through the years, as a writer of "quirky accounts" of New York City, Sam Roberts has come to know many people whose names have been mostly forgotten – people who, in merely living their lives, made an impact on history, America, and The City That Never Sleeps. Here, Roberts presents 31 freshly-awakened tales, beginning with a mystery.

It was a dark and stormy night in September, 1609, when John Colman bled to death in a small rowboat in New York Bay. Nobody knows for sure where, exactly, his body was hastily buried; eyewitnesses all agreed that Colman was felled by a Native American arrow. His remains were never recovered, making his death New York City's first cold case.

In many of the city's earliest years, women generally couldn't own property but Anneke Jans Bogardus did. It was a nice piece of land,

c.2022  
Bloomsbury  
\$30.00  
384 pages

too, until the British seized it, then it was seized back, and somehow Bogardus lost her property to a church. Well into the last century, her descendants launched lawsuits to regain control over what is now very valuable land.

Capitalist John Jay claimed to despise New York City, but the city wouldn't be what it is today without him. Elma Sands was found dead in a city well, becoming part of America's first "media circus." Thomas Downing, the free son of slaves, built a reputation as a restaurateur in the city, years before the Civil War. John Randel created the city's street grid. Thomas Jennings received one of America's first patents given to a Black inventor. And Philip Payton "transformed the sparsely populated swath of Manhattan... into a fertile destination for mass migration by Black people."

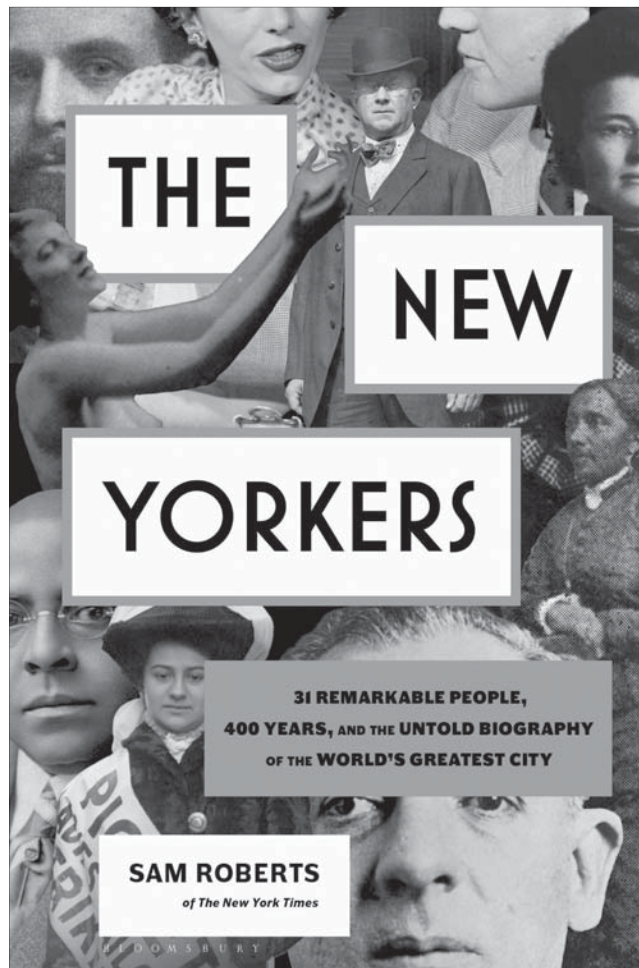
Sometimes, in the whirlwind that this time of year seems to be, it's easy to think that one small life can't make an impact on anything. *The New Yorkers* tells not just a different story, but 31 of them.

You don't have to be a New Yorker or even a big-city dweller to be delighted by the tales that author Sam Roberts offers. Many of these accounts happened when the Big Apple was little more than a seed, back when pigs wandered freely around Manhattan and property was counted in acreage, rather than dollars-per-square-foot. Stories as varied as these really capture the imagination; it helps that Roberts' tales show readers what New York looked like and smelled like, and how it operated during the lives of each of his subjects.

This is history at its most enjoyable, no matter where you live or hail from. If you love a book full of surprises, put *The New Yorkers* on your radar.

\* \* \*

For another different look at New York City and history in a unique kind of nutshell, pick up *A Block in Time: A New York City History at the Corner of Fifth Avenue and Twenty-Third Street* by Christiane Bird (Bloomsbury, \$28.00). This is a look at a small patch of earth, once trod upon by ancient peoples, now one of the most expensive groups of addresses in the nation. It's another book full of delightful surprises for the curious and history buff alike.



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# CLASSIFIEDS

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December 21, 2022



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## SENIOR SECRETARY – TRIO TRIO PROGRAMS

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The Senior Secretary performs administrative tasks for 2 federally funded grant programs of Student Support Services and Ronald E. McNair. This position includes but is not limited to the management of 2 highly confidential databases necessary for tracking program participants and successful submission of annual performance reports to the Department of Education as well as other information required for the successful performance of grant programs. This position also monitors, tracks and reconciles 2 grant program budgets on FMS and WRL; processes payments in and out of 2 grant budgets and assist the program director in budget creation, scheduling meetings, and sending communications both on and off campus. The position requires strong verbal and written communication skills as well as independent judgement and initiative. The position also requires sorting and distribution of mail, greeting visitors, answering department phone, ordering office supplies, and preparing typed copy, maintaining staff calendars and arranging travel. The position hires, trains, and evaluates student clerical assistants and process payroll. The hiring range for this position is \$16.35-\$17.89, based on previous experience.

**Deadline to apply:** The search committee will review applications until the position is filled, however, **for best consideration, applications should be provided by December 21, 2022.**

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

## CUSTODIANS WANTED

We want YOU to join our team! Toledo Lucas County Public Library (TLCPL), a public library that inspires lifelong learning and provides universal access to a broad range of information, ideas, and entertainment, is seeking candidates to fill Custodian positions. Please visit Employment Opportunities I Toledo Lucas County Public Library ([toledolibrary.org](http://toledolibrary.org))<<https://www.toledolibrary.org/jobs>> to review the full details and to apply.

## PATHSTONE

Are you 55 or older? Unemployed and looking for part time work?

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Call Adetra Butler at 419-392-7279. Questions? Please call

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL LUCAS COUNTY CANINE CARE & CONTROL (LC4) – BID PACKAGE 2

Rudolph Libbe will receive proposals for Lucas County Canine Care & Control (LC4) – Bid Package 2. This Bid Package involves demolition of the existing building at 1301 Monroe Street.

Bids are due December 30, 2022, 12:00 p.m.

Bidding documents are available online at BuildingConnected. To receive an invitation to access these documents, contact Andy Wren at 419-725-3291.

One (1) set of bidding documents will be available to review at no charge, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., at 6494 Latcha Road, Walbridge, OH.

This project has MBE/WBE requirements.

## NOTICE TO BIDDERS LEASING OF TIRES FOR THE TOLEDO AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (TARTA)

TARTA seeks bids from qualified vendors to furnish leased tires for its bus fleet.

The scope of work for this project includes but is not limited to: Provision of all tires for TARTA's revenue service vehicles (buses) and all related tire services. For a complete scope of work, visit [tarta.com/news-alerts/tarta-business/open-procurements](http://tarta.com/news-alerts/tarta-business/open-procurements).

TARTA has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal for this project of 11.65%.

Bids must be received by TARTA on or before Friday, December 16, 2022 at 2 p.m. local time, via sealed envelope or email. Mailed bid packages should be in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the bidder's full name, address and telephone number and "TARTA Tire Leasing IFB 2022-24," and sent to:

**Sophie Giviyan, CFO**  
**Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority**  
**1127 W. Central Avenue**  
**PO Box 792**  
**Toledo, OH 43697-0792**

Email submissions should be marked with the same information and sent to: [sgiviyan@tarta.com](mailto:sgiviyan@tarta.com)

TARTA officially distributes bidding documents from the Purchasing Department. Copies from any other source are not considered official copies. Only those vendors who obtain bidding documents from the Purchasing Department are guaranteed to receive addendum information if such information is issued.

Questions about this project should be directed to Sophie Giviyan, CFO, at 419.245.5200.

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Publication date: 11/22

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# Simply D'Vine and the Gammas Provide Holiday Meals

Simply D'Vine Boutique and Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Inc teamed up to provide Christmas food baskets to 40 lucky families on Saturday, December 17 at the boutique's location – 3606 W. Sylvania Avenue, Unit 10.

The baskets contained corn, green beans, yams, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, macaroni and cheese, cake, candy canes and the recipients' choice of a large ham or turkey.

Each woman who stopped by was gifted with a hat/scarf set compliments of Simply D'Vine.



Jennifer Lewis, Mary Huddleston, Terrie Cook, Diana Minor, LaShonda Horton



Terrie Cook with hat and scarf from holiday basket for women

## Mt. Nebo Celebrates the Holidays with Gifts for the Community

On Sunday, December 18, Mt. Nebo Baptist Church, in collaboration with 181 Enterprise and Mr. Snow Removal & Landscaping, gathered over 200 gifts and presented them to the boys and girls of the community.

Kids from all over the community were delighted with early arrival of presents during this holiday season.



Ervin Mitchell, owner of Mr. Snow Removal and Landscaping, with a few of the presents

