

Volume 80 No. 7 *“And Ye Shall Know The Truth...”* October 25, 2023



Bishop Charles Allen, CEO Chautauqua Lakeside

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Displaced Narratives: A Palestinian-American Activist's Perspective

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, Ph.D.

The Truth Contributor

Truth is that transcendent reality disclosed in the people's historical struggle for liberation, which enables them to know that their fight for freedom is not futile.

- James Cone



In the cruel, eye-for-eye, and tooth-for-tooth tumultuous arena of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the thunderous echoes of the October 7 attack on Israel continue reverberating. The Gaza Strip, a narrow five-mile by 25-mile strip of land home to roughly 2.3 million Palestinians and one of the most densely populated places on Earth, has been the epicenter of extensive Israeli bombardment.

Israel's vicious military operation follows a brutal surprise attack by Hamas, a Palestinian group that infiltrated Israel from Gaza, killed approximately 1,400 Israelis, and kidnapped over 200 hostages, including Americans. Israeli retaliation has now killed more than 5,000 Gazans, where nearly half the population is under 18. Some outlets have asserted that the Israeli counterblows killed more Palestinian children in one week than Ukrainian children killed in one year of war with Russia.

Unquestionably, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a complex and deeply rooted struggle marked by historical grievances, competing narratives, and profound human suffering. The October 7, 2023 events encapsulate this complexity, where the line between resistance and aggression blurs, and the reactions are shaped by the lens through which individuals view the world.

Amidst the swirling currents of debate and scrutiny surrounding this conflict, it is imperative to tune in to the perspective of a Palestinian-American activist who embodies the aspirations of the Palestinian people. This voice carries the weight of ancestral memories under Israeli military occupation and oppression.

Toledo attorney and activist Linda Mansour's voice is a poignant reminder that the search for a just and lasting resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict must also include a deep appreciation for the diverse perspectives and experiences that have shaped the lives of those caught in its turbulent currents.

Perryman: Please talk about your connection to Palestine and to Gaza.

Mansour: I am of Palestinian heritage and a first-generation American, born in Walter Reed Hospital. My dad was serving in the US Army, but he and my mom both were born in Palestine. My mom lost her father in December of 1947, there was no Israel then. But the Zionist militia groups killed my

mom's father and then within a few days they killed her brother and her nephew. We had to leave the beautiful home in Jerusalem. That's my connection to Palestine in general.

Perryman: You are also a YWCA Milestone honoree and crusader for social justice.

Mansour: As an attorney, I've been on fact-finding missions surrounding frustration over Israel's military occupation. I was in Gaza from December 2008 to January 2009 when they did what they're doing now, but there was no social media or TV, and Israel blocked it out, which they're trying to do now. The strategy is the same, and the propaganda using their textbook on perception management hasn't changed.

So, I've been involved since I was 15 - the First Intifada, the Second Intifada, the fact-finding delegations with indigenous women of the United States into Gaza that I went to that was half Jewish American and half Palestinian American. I've been through it, and living it is truly excruciatingly painful.

Perryman: Were you in Gaza when the October 7 attacks took place?

Mansour: No, I wasn't in Gaza during the October 7 attacks. I was in the West Bank with my daughter at the time. Leaving was challenging due to limited checkpoints and transportation options. Unlike today, when they send ships and planes, those options weren't available back then. My daughter didn't want to leave; she felt we were privileged, and I had to convince her that she wouldn't save Palestine by staying there, but it was a challenge to get out.

Perryman: Is Israel alone to blame for the unspeakable violence on October 7? Does blame begin with "The Hamas Massacre," or does it start with

... continued on page 11



Linda Mansour

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Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo Calls for Wholehearted Support of Israel

By Fletcher Word

The Truth Editor

"Advocating now for a 'ceasefire' keeps Hamas in a position of strength. A ceasefire cannot happen before the Israeli and American hostages are released," said Daniel Pearlman, vice president, Community and Government Relations Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo, last week during a media briefing last Thursday, October 19, at the Federation headquarters in Sylvania.

"Take a moment to reflect on whether, 80 years after the Holocaust, we as a society are willing to tolerate such crimes against humanity. If we aren't willing to tolerate this, then we must recognize Israel's right and responsibility to defend its citizens from terrorism," he added.

The local Federation's media briefing came 11 days after the October 7 Hamas attack on the Jewish state, during which the invaders killed approximately 1,400 Israeli citizens and kidnapped over 200, including as many as a dozen American citizens, two of whom were released this past weekend.



Daniel Pearlman

oppressed but the Jewish Federation, according to Pearlman, will have none of that. Antisemitism is at the root of Hamas' reason for existence and reason for the October 7 massacre.

Referring to Hamas 1988 Charter, Pearlman pulled a quote: "The Day of Judgment will not come about until Moslems fight Jews and kill them. Then, the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will cry out: 'O, Moslem, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him.'" (Article 7).

Indeed, as protests also become increasingly common, even in the United States, Israel's closest ally, the Federation has noted the rise of antisemitism even in the U.S.

"Previous violence in Israel has been linked to a sharp increase in antisemitism in the United States," said Pearlman. "According to the FBI, Jews (who make up two percent of the U.S. population) are targeted by 60 percent of all religiously-motivated hate crimes... we expect 2023 to shatter 2022's record of antisemitic incidents, in part from the war emboldening antisemites."

Ido Rottem

Rottem is a young Israeli who moved to the Toledo area in 2015 in order to marry his fiancée. He is a student at the University of Toledo about to earn an undergraduate degree in computer science. His family remains in Israel.



Ido Rottem

"I was born in Israel into a war and since then I've been into war a few times and it's a very common thing in Israel to grow up in a lot of war.

But this time, this war is different.

For me, hearing my family, my brothers and sisters crying, being afraid, feeling at times hopeless – it's hurting. It's a constant pain that we all suffer for two weeks now.

We still don't know when it's going to end.

I want to talk about the music festival. Music festivals in Israel are very common. It's a way to break out of the stress and fear; it's a way to celebrate life; it's a way for people to feel united, to find happiness, when sometimes you cannot find it.

I used to go to those places, to those parties with my friends, to celebrate life, being in nature, being in a beautiful place. Ten years ago it would have been me.

For all of the poor families who lost their loved ones; for all of the poor families whose loved ones have been kidnapped, captured in Gaza; for all of the poor families, the Palestinians in Gaza that want nothing in this war, nothing with Hamas and nothing in any kind of terrorism, they just want to live their quiet lives, happily in their families --- we are with you!

We are praying for all of you, for both sides. We are all human, there are good people on both sides, we must remember that."

"There is something that I call the change of emotions that starts with an event. The event will lead to emotions that lead to sadness. We cannot contain the sadness for too long, so we convert it to anger. Once the anger is accumulated, we convert it to hate. Once the hate is there for too long, it will convert to action.

We must know that once we cross the border between anger and hate, it's really hard to come back. At this stage of anger, we have to learn that if we want to find solutions, we have to talk with each other. It has to be through communication, it has to be from conversation. People need to ask questions rather than act and feel hate towards others.

... continued on page 12

U.S. and worldwide condemnation of the attack was immediate, as were protests advocating for the rights of Palestinians.

"The Jewish Federation unequivocally condemns Hamas' barbaric acts of terrorism, supports Israel's right to defend itself and demands the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages forcibly taken into Gaza," said Pearlman, noting one of the key obstacles in the way of an immediate peaceful solution – the Israeli citizens held hostage.

But Pearlman also noted that the Jewish Federation sympathizes with the average Palestinians who are not members of Hamas and who are also being victimized by the Hamas atrocities.

"We also decry the loss of innocent Palestinian lives, all of which are avoidable. Hamas is to blame for every Israeli and Palestinian man, woman and child that has been and will be killed in the war that started with its ruthless and unprovoked massacre of Israeli civilians," he said.

The rest of the world may attribute Hamas violence to an uprising of the

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L O V E

It's Raining Legal Freebies

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

Yes, it is that time of year again when I open up my goodie bag and let it rain...legal freebies! This time I will concentrate on a single legal freebee that can follow you beyond the grave...your will (or lack of one!).

You would be amazed, or maybe not, at the number of people who yak...yak...yak to me about making a simple will but yet, for various reasons, fail to do so; and I then get the call from the puzzled or grieving family about the "infighting" that is happening because good ol' Mom or Dad assumed that the kids would be nice to each other and not fight like alley cats over who gets what of their properties and goodies.

How many Thanksgiving dinners and birthdays have been ruined because family members refuse to sit down and listen to each other because they thought that they knew what Mom or Dad wanted about who got the house or the car or the bank account balance or that diamond encrusted ring.

How many stories I have heard about what Mom or Dad intended when they were alive as to who was to get the old Chevy car, the IBM stock, the beautifully carved breakfront or the antique collection of silver spoons!

But yet, when they pass away with no written declaration of their intentions, "All H*ll can break loose" when Lakisha comes in from Houston and takes the silver set or when DeMarcus rolls up with a tow truck and vanishes with the antique Coup DeVille.

And how could anyone forget that it was sister Donasthazeia who, by herself, took care of Mom for years and no one else lifted a finger, much less contributed any money for her upkeep and welfare!

Of course, she feels she is entitled to raid the bank account and take the forty-five thousand dollars account balance and quickly vanish to parts unknown.

Well, if you read my legal freebies about a will, maybe, just maybe you can avoid the trauma of family members raiding the home and ransacking the cupboards and drawers as if it is a free looter's night out!

So, here we go!

(1) A will can be as long as a five-hundred-page novel or as short as three paragraphs. It all depends upon the writer of the will.

(2) In Ohio, a written will must be witnessed by two persons who actually

see the writer of the will sign her or his name to the document.

(3) It does not have to be notarized.

(4) If a will is challenged, it is normally on the grounds that someone unduly influenced the will writer to say things that normally would not have been said or granted to a person named in the will or that a fraud was committed to have the will signed. Tough to prove, but it can be done.

(5) You do not need an attorney to draw up a will. Make sure it is in writing and signed by a competent person (is breathing and knows what day it is and who is who and what they have that they are passing on to others) in the physical presence of two adult witnesses who are not to receive anything out of the will.

(6) Yeah, you need to date the will and placed the signed names and addresses of the two witnesses at the end of the will, in a place after the will writer signs it.

(7) To save a lot of grief, remember, you can place on your accounts and insurance policies the names and addresses of the persons who you wish to receive those funds (you can even dictate the percentage of what they are to receive). This is done by a simple form obtained from the bank or pension fund or insurance company.

(8) You want to bypass probate, you say? By doing the above (7), those assets do not go into probate court, but since they are a part of a contract, those goodies go directly to the named beneficiaries.

(9) If you want to sound hip and cool, tell the banker that you want a T.O.D. (transfer on death) or a P.O.D. form (payment on death) to be part of your bank or pension or insurance records. Again, no probate court proceedings regarding those funds!

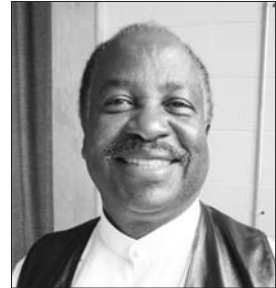
(10) Want to change your mind about a will that you executed 20 years ago or even last week? Simple. You will execute what is a codicil or an addendum to your will and you sign and date it in the presence of two signing witnesses and place that document with your will papers.

(11) Worried about unscrupulous family members finding your papers and making off with them? Not a problem. Have your original will placed in the local probate court vault for a small fee for safekeeping purposes. Now, you can sleep like a baby at night knowing that LeMarre or Raydunshunda will be out of luck snooping around the house.

(12) To save money, consider making a joint will with your spouse! Two wills for the price of one! How better does that get! You simply got to make provisions that when you both die at the same time or within 30 days of each other, who gets your worldly fortunes and goodies.

Well, that is enough for now. If you need samples of the above, simply send me a non-traceable money order for \$83.54 (includes shipping and handling) and I will meet you at a local park to exchange the documents for the dough. Whatta deal!

Contact Lafe Tolliver, attorney, at tolliver@juno.com



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Toledo Crime Rate Continues on a Downward Path

The Truth Staff

Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz held a press conference on Tuesday, October 17 to announce the results of the City of Toledo's 2023 third quarter crime statistics which again show a significant improvement over the same period in 2022.

Year to date, crime is down significantly in all categories except auto theft. Most significantly, homicides in Toledo are down 30.4 percent from 2022, and while the downward trend is also true nationally, Toledo's shift is much better than the national average of 11.6 percent downward year-to-date.

"I'm happy to report that the trend we have noticed in Toledo this year with the crime statistics going down has continued," said Kapszukiewicz in his opening statement.

"I have said before, in my judgment, the biggest civic story has been how dramatically crime has gone down ... this is an encouraging story. It doesn't mean that we are satisfied or that we will stop on our efforts," he added.

Homicides are down by 30. percent, meaning that, through the end of September, 32 murders have been committed in 2023, compared to 46 committed in 2022 during the same first nine months. Burglaries are down 15.2 percent (from 1,209 in 2022 to 1,025 in 2023); robberies are down 23.1 percent (from 389 to 299); thefts from motor vehicles are down 26.3 percent (from 1,580 to 1,136) and persons shot are down 29.7 percent (from 195 to 137).

On the other hand auto thefts have increased from 919 in 2022 to 1010 in 2023 year-to-date.

Kapszukiewicz, and Toledo Police Chief Michael Troendle, attributed the downward trend to two major reasons – the change in community relationships since the end of the COVID pandemic surge and the actions that the City and the police department have initiated.

"I believe at the end of the year, in most metrics, we are returning, after the pandemic, to what has been the norm – the 30-year average," said the mayor.

"During the pandemic, relationships toward the police changed in ways that were frankly unhealthy and unproductive," said Kapszukiewicz of the 2020 through 2022 years when crime in general and homicides in particular soared. (63 in 2022, 70 in 2021 and 57 in 2020 compared to 38 in 2019 and 36 in 2018).

"Anxiety during the pandemic was a factor, our story is different now," he added.

However, "our efforts locally have mattered," he also noted.

In December 2022, the City adopted a plan that has made a difference, the mayor said, involving elements such as increasing the number of police officers and getting them out of their cars and patrolling the streets, clearing blight in neighborhoods, increasing programs for youth, dealing with neighborhood issues (such as with the violence interrupters), attracting business investment and providing housing stability.

Chief Troendle also emphasized the impact of foot patrols on crime during his remarks. The foot patrols started in June and will end, for the year, at the end of October.

"None of this can happen without getting men and women out of cars and on foot," he said of the improvement in crime statistics. "Our community has also played a big part," he added of the reaction to police officers patrolling on



Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz speaks as Chief Michael Troendle and Prosecutor Rebecca Facey look on

foot and interacting with residents.

Addressing what he feels has been negative feedback on the declining homicides, Troendle noted that such numbers are not merely a coincidence. "Shootings over the past year are 18.75 percent down," he said. "We are making strides but we have a lot more to do."

Earlier this year, the mayor hired Rebecca Facey as a prosecutor to focus on domestic violence. She has added three prosecutors on her staff to deal with the issue and has been able "to apply more resources towards prosecuting offenders and protecting violence," Kapszukiewicz said.

The most troubling issue with this year's crime statistics is the increased involvement of youth. "It's unfortunate that the age of victims and shooters is getting so low," said Troendle.

The one area in which crime has increased is auto theft, which is up 9.9 percent year-to-date in Toledo. This statistic is also reflected in a national trend. Ohio is third in the nation in the increase of auto thefts, following Illinois and New York, with a 15 percent increase in thefts through the first half of 2023.

In particular, Kia and Hyundai thefts surged in cities nationwide after a popular TikTok video showed viewers how to steal the cars, a fact which the mayor and the chief conceded could be at least part of the problem, even though the thefts of many models have been on the rise.



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Junction Coalition Lands Grant to Direct Lead Poisoning Prevention Effort

The Truth Staff

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), through its Child Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, has awarded Toledo's Junction Coalition a \$600,000 grant, spanning over a three-year period, to help reduce lead poisoning in the Toledo community. The Junction Coalition is one of 11 organizations in the United States, and the only organization in the state of Ohio, to receive this grant.

Alicia Smith, CEO of the Junction Coalition, announced the grant on Monday morning during a press conference in front of the mural on the side of the Coalition's office building. Smith was accompanied by representatives of the numerous community organizations that have partnered to bring the grant to Toledo.

"We are honored to be among the distinguished recipients of this grant, a testament to our unwavering commitment to the welfare of Toledo's residents," said Smith. "This funding will empower The Junction Coalition to make a lasting impact in Toledo, supporting those most vulnerable to the dangers of lead poisoning."

Joining Smith and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur at the announcement were Angela Mingo, vice president of Development and Corporate Affairs for Nationwide Children's Hospital; Juanita Greene, co-chair, the Toledo Lead Poisoning Prevention Coalition; George Thomas, CEO and general counsel, The Fair Housing Center and co-chair, the Toledo Lead Poisoning Prevention Center; Doni Miller, president and CEO, Neighborhood Health Association, Theresa M. Gabriel, board chairman, Pathway, Inc. and State Senator Paula Hicks Hudson.

"Today we announced \$600,000 in funding to The Junction Coalition to spur on community engagement, educational programming, and ultimately reduce and prevent lead exposure in Toledo. The Center for Disease Control's Child Lead Poisoning Prevention program supports critical drinking water infrastructure needs, including replacing toxic lead service lines. In Toledo, it will have profound benefits to public health as it reaches among



Alicia Smith



Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur congratulates The Junction Coalition and its community partners

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our most historic neighborhoods," said Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. "I am glad to have fought alongside our local partners to bring this funding home, and I will continue to support them in their efforts and work to bring more funding home across our region of NW Ohio."

Kim Baker, who has served in many roles in government and nonprofit circles, such as former aide to Jack Ford when he served on City Council, was named the program coordinator for the three-year rollout of the lead poisoning prevention program.

Baker noted that the program will start the prevention efforts in the Junction neighborhood during the first year, encompass the north Toledo community in the second year and take the program to all of Toledo in the third.

"We know that there is no safe level of lead," said Nationwide's Mingo as she spoke of the harm caused locally and statewide by the pervasive ness of lead paint in low-income areas and the impact on children in particular.

"This country has suffered for a long time with institutional segregation and lead paint if a consequence," said NHA's Miller. "This is the right thing to do and it aligns perfectly with our mission; we are also a civil rights organization and everyone deserves a healthy life."

Fair Housing's Thomas spoke of the "hundreds and thousands" of children damaged every year by lead paint poisoning. "This is a major impediment to fair housing in our community with real long-term consequences."

Thomas noted that the nation's laws are too often enacted in a reactionary response to harm already inflicted. It's time, he said, to be proactive in the approach to such a community problem.

"This is a moral issue," said Toledo Lead Poisoning Prevention Coalition's Greene. "We are going to be a force in making sure we educate the community."

Such sentiments were echoed by State Senator Hicks-Hudson who added: "The problem can be prevented if we have the will to do it."

According to The Toledo Lead Poisoning Prevention Coalition, the Toledo community has inherited a large, toxic legacy of lead paint exposure due to most of Toledo's housing stock being built before 1978.

Every year, thousands of Toledo children test high for lead in their blood. There is no safe level of lead in the bloodstream. The CDC's grant, provided by the National Center for Environmental Health's Lead Poisoning Prevention and Surveillance Branch, was established to help families avoid the dangers of lead in their homes.

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A Renowned and Beloved Bishop Honored

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

Over 200 people gathered to celebrate the 75th birthday and 34th pastoral anniversary of Bishop Pat McKinstry. The occasion was called, 'Queen's Royal Gala a Red Carpet Event,' and was held on Friday, October 20. The guests in attendance were treated to a professional photographer, an estimated 20 ft. red carpet, a 360 automatic spin photo booth, table service and elegant white and crystal decorations.

"Thank God for you and I pray that you experience the best years ahead of you. We celebrate you on this day," shared Pastor Park via video tribute.

"Thank you for the life that your life Bishop. You are an extreme expression of God's love for me. Thank you for your wisdom and care," shared Bishop Rossman via video tribute.

The celebration began as praise dancers dressed in white as Bishop McKinstry and her husband Luther McKinstry were escorted down the red carpet to a standing ovation. The room remained at a stand as a poem was recited that was entitled 'Hail to the Queen.' The poem mentioned positive and loving characteristics of Bishop McKinstry who was referred to as the Queen and later spoke about how beloved Mr. McKinstry is by his queen.

"I just had to say thank you, pause and give honor to Dr. Pat McKinstry for her faithful service in the vineyard. You are a woman worthy of honor," shared Pastor Webb, via video tribute.

Also, during the recitation of the poem, Bishop McKinstry's grandchildren Tashlai McKinstry Burney, EdD, principal of Rise and Shine Academy, and her husband Calvin Burney Jr., EdD, superintendent of Rise and Shine Academy, carried crowns down the red carpet and Bishop and Mother Page

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Bishop McKinstry and Luther McKinstry



Crowning



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Bishop Honored...continued from page 8

crowned Bishop McKinstry and Mr. McKinstry as the crowd applauded. "I always see you in the word of God. Steady and able to break barriers and shake up the world. You declare the word of God and are a mother to this city," shared Pastor Pitts via video tribute.

The celebration continued with in-person and virtual tributes, selections from the praise and workshop team, birthday cake presentation to Bishop McKinstry, a comedy set by Alton Walker and selections by singing group Darrel Petties. Bishop McKinstry is the pastor of Worship Center which is



located on Collingwood Blvd in Toledo.

"Thank you my sister, you are still standing strong and you are such a blessing. I know her for so many years. May Heaven continue to smile upon you. Congrats. Keep on keeping on," shared Bishop T.D. Jakes.



Crowning of Bishop McKinstry and Luther McKinstry



Bishop Pat and Luther McKinstry grandson Calvin Burney Jr., PhD, and wife Tashlai McKinstry Burney, PhD



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TPS NEXTSTEP Event at the Glass City Center

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

Toledo Public Schools Career Technology Education held a College and Career Exploration event NEXTSTEP (formerly Career Connect Expo) on Tuesday, October 10 through Thursday, October 12 from 9:30 am-1:30 pm at the Glass City Center.

Toledo Public Schools' mission is to produce competitive college-ready graduates, so with that in mind, they provided a meaningful experience to enhance their college and career readiness by providing them with the tools and pathways for

their future.

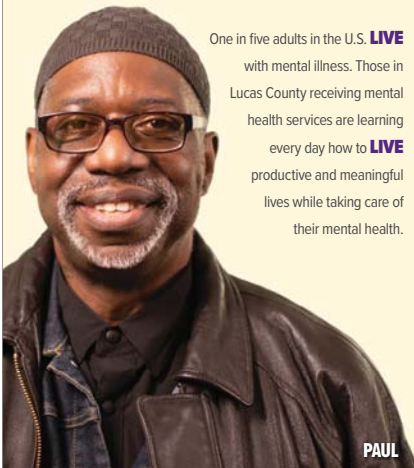
This year's NEXTSTEP event was the first year as a combined college fair and career event.

NEXTSTEP was a three-day event open to all 7th - 12th-grade TPS students. During the three-day event, approximately 4,500 students attended to view the presentations of 210 vendors.



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Scott students



A student taking a sobriety test



Tirrell Brennemen and Ryan Rollison



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Perryman... continued from page 2

millions of people being confined in a 5 x 25-mile open-air prison?

Mansour: I'm not responding to October 7. Would you target a specific date when they reacted to Nelson Mandela's resistance in South Africa? This has been going on since my grandfather was killed in December 1947. Still, the problem is that the powers-that-be control the propaganda, just like when the U.S. entered Iraq. The drumbeats went on and on about weapons of mass destruction, and God forbid someone should question that there are weapons of mass destruction.

In fairness to injustice, you don't start on October 7. However, the powers-that-be begin on October 7, and they have the mic. No one supports the Palestinians except the people, but the power is with the governments. I don't know if you saw Jewish Voices for Peace that went and was in the House last week in D.C. I think 200, 400, and they were arrested. Those were Jewish people protesting and saying stop, stop already!

Perryman: How do you balance the interests of the Jewish people and the interests of Palestinians living on the same land?

Mansour: This is not about Jews. This is the Zionists doing land grabs.

Chautauqua Institution... continued from page 16

Now, let's rewind back to the Civil War era, and meet two visionaries, John Heyl Vincent and Lewis Miller.

In 1874, Methodist Episcopal minister John Heyl Vincent and businessman Lewis Miller organized the New York Chautauqua Assembly at a campsite on the shores of Chautauqua Lake in New York state. Two years earlier, Vincent, editor of the Sunday School Journal, had begun to train Sunday school teachers in an outdoor summer school format. This camp became known as the *Chautauqua Institution* and reflected a nation-wide interest in the professionalization of teaching.

But here's the twist – they didn't aim to whip up revivalist fervor. No, their grand plan was more about enlightenment than tent revivals. Instead, imagine the *Chautauqua Institution* as a new chapter in the book of 'American education'.

Trust, this academic institution is a page-turner filled with a rich historic archive.

The *Chautauqua Institution* has played a significant role in the development of adult education in America. "The Chautauqua movement is unrivaled in its passion for professionalizing teaching," explains Allen.

At *Lakeside Chautauqua*, there's an abundance of spiritual opportunities, educational lectures, cultural arts performances and recreational activities year-round for both families and groups of all sizes.

"We hosted *The Sounds of Soul* this past July," shares Allen. "These talented singers, dancers and songwriters performed a combination of Motown classics mixed with some of the greatest pop and R&B hits ever written. It was stellar."

Religion, within the Christian tradition, encompasses both individual and communal sanctity. Fortunately, pathways of faith are as diverse as the individuals at Lakeside. "Every summer we invite preachers from across the globe to share their unique messages during our Sunday Hoover Community Worship Services," says President Allen.

Throughout their long history the Chautauqua hasn't conformed to a single denomination; it's a melting pot of faith. As a church-affiliated vacation resort and United Methodist Annual Conference site, Chautauquas across the United States and Canada are a colorful mosaic with every Christian faith group represented.

My mom grew up in Jerusalem, and with Jewish people, they shared their holidays, did business, and lived in peace and harmony. When my uncle was killed a week after my grandfather was killed, at the barrel of the gun, he said to this person, "We do business with you, we're friends with you, don't shoot," and as he's saying that, they kill him.

So, this is not about Jews, Christians and Muslims. The Holy Land was holy before the Zionists started up, before they massacred all the people in Deir Yassin and drove everybody out in 1948. Now, what they're trying to do is do the same thing. They've been waiting for this.

Perryman: Well, let me ask it this way. How do you balance conducting a war in a civilian population where one group has intentionally placed its military infrastructure within the confines of a civilian population?

Mansour: You're drinking the Kool-Aid. They are not placing themselves anywhere. They live in Gaza. Hamas is the government. They do the education, were elected and have a military arm. They have been locked in from air, sea, water, food and land. They can't get out. They can't get out. People with cancer who need to get out to get treatment can knock at the door and

...continued on page 12

But, to be real, there is a subtle whiff of good ol' American principles underpinning the whole show. It's like the secret ingredient in grandma's famous apple pie; you might not see it, but it's what makes her dish unforgettable.

Now, let's shift gears and time-travel a bit further. It didn't take long for the Chautauqua Institution to start casting its net wider, like a storyteller unraveling a grand narrative.

Within a few short years, it wasn't just Sunday school teachers coming to this educational wonderland. It became a hub for adults of many stripes, and even dished out a correspondence course, the *Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle*. This wasn't just any course; it was like a bridge to a college education, or a passport to knowledge.

You see, education isn't just textbooks and classrooms; it's a buffet of ideas, a canvas painted with the broad strokes of arts and public affairs. But Chautauqua isn't just about attending lectures and taking notes. Oh no, it was also one of the most peaceful tickets in town for summer residents. Imagine, thousands of folks gathering for concerts that could make your heart skip a beat, and social activities that turn strangers into lifelong friends.

By the time we hit the last stretch of the 19th century, Chautauqua had become a household name; a real rockstar of high-minded activities. For *Chautauquans* it's all about the pursuit of intellectual and moral self-improvement, the grand voyage for the mind and soul. It's a place where civic involvement is more than a duty; it's a calling.

"We are excited for families to visit and discover all we have to offer," says Allen.

Now, in the year 2023, *Lakeside, Ohio Chautauqua's* legacy is a vital compass in the modern landscape. It's a treasure map guiding those who seek wellness, unearthing the globe's true history, while embracing the spirit of Theodore Roosevelt's iconic statement: "the most American thing in America; Chautauqua."

These words remind us of the power of open minds and the importance of unity through the pillars of arts, education, entertainment, and religion, for it's through these elements that we illuminate the shadows of the past, understanding our world and its shared history.

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Support of Israel... continued from page 3

It will only support violence if we will continue going towards where we are going. We must stop it at anger, take it back to sadness and find it in compassion, compassion for the families that lost their loved ones from both sides. Compassion to the Palestinian people that lost their loved ones; compassion to the Israeli families, my brothers and sisters, that got slaughtered.

We have to find a solution out of this. We want peace, we want to live without fear. We can do the best for everyone and understand there is a way to find the good in people. This is what we need to do.

There are a lot of people that still have hope."

As horrific as the Hamas invasion, the mass rapes and murders, along with the several hundred kidnappings, were to the rest of the world, the Israeli reactions – bombings that had killed thousands of Palestinians by the time of the media briefing, a cutting off of food, water, electricity, medical supplies and fuel to the Gaza two million citizens, along with Israeli warnings to those citizens to abandon their homes in the northern part of the territory to move south – even as actually leaving Gaza was virtually impossible – led to protests not only in Arab countries but also around the world, notably in U.S. universities.

The proliferation of protests about the Israeli reaction has prompted the Jewish Federation to question the protesters access to accurate information.

"When you say, 'Free Palestine,' what do you mean by 'Free Palestine?' Free Palestine from Hamas? Free Palestine from whom?" asked Pearlman rhetorically. "The answer, of course, should be 'Free Palestine from Hamas,' because that would mean they don't side with terrorists."

As of this past Monday evening, Israel had widened the war with Hamas, much to the consternation of its allies such as the United States by using warplanes to attack not only Hamas targets in Gaza but also a mosque in the West Bank supposedly used by Hamas and two airports in Syria in order to target Hezbollah militants. The airstrikes occurred after both President Joe Biden and Secretary of State Anthony Blinken attended Israeli war cabinet meeting and urged the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) not to broaden the war.

At the urging of allies, however, on Sunday a second convoy of aid trucks, carrying medical supplies, had been allowed in Gaza through the Egyptian Rafah border crossing.

Perryman... continued from page 11

say, "Can you let me out?" And they won't let them out. Kids who want education have been marching for over a year and are still marching up to this point to the border with Israel peacefully. They were shooting them. If you go to the streets of Gaza, you'll see everybody has one limb, arm, or eye. They're not hiding. They live in Gaza just like the Israelis live. Do you think the Israelis are in the Sinai? They're the Israelis, they're among the people, and they're in the Palestinian territories every single day.

Perryman: So, I understand. Israel closed the border crossings into and out of Gaza and imposed a land, air, and sea blockade. Can you elaborate on what some describe Gaza as a 5-mile by 25-mile open-air prison?

Mansour: To me, it's more than that. If you're in prison, you're there because you've been convicted of a crime. These Palestinians have not done anything except try to live. They love life. Their water, travel and liberties depend on Israel, which controls all of the borders.

Perryman: When all of this violence broke out last week, what steps did you take to maintain your safety?

Mansour: To ensure my safety during the journey, I took several precautions. First, I found a driver who could legally take me through the West Bank, where there are distinct restrictions based on the color of car license plates. White license plates are limited to certain areas, so I needed a car with a yellow license plate. Additionally, I looked for a driver who spoke fluent Hebrew and could blend in to avoid attracting unnecessary attention at checkpoints.

I encountered a particularly challenging checkpoint where an Israeli officer demanded to see my permit. Despite being in a car with a yellow license plate, I explained that I didn't have a permit but held only an American passport. After a tense exchange, the officer eventually allowed me to proceed to the bridge leading to Jordan.

Perryman: Did you ever feel that your life was in danger?

Mansour: I wasn't at ease. I didn't know what the officer could do. These young people are brainwashed to believe Palestinians are not human. If I have that star on my forehead that he can tag as Palestinian, then yeah, I had to stick to the story ... and it's not a story. I am an American born and raised in Washington, DC, so he couldn't tag me. By the way, Israel has applied for what they called the Visa Waiver Program, which allows them, like other European nations, to come into the United States without a visa. Yet, we have been fighting for years to be on the Visa Waiver Program. You need to treat all Americans equally, just as we would treat the nations that come in here equally if they come in, and that hasn't been the case.

Perryman: What else stood out?

...continued on page 13

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The Vice President's Black Wife: The Untold Life of Julia Chinn by Amrita Chakrabarti Myers

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

The deed to the house will be yours, free and clear, very soon.

Once the mortgage is paid off, yep, the house and the land are yours. Follow the paperwork, and there are many things you can outright own: a bike, a truck, a dog or cat, but unlike the story you'll find in *The Vice President's Black Wife* by Amrita Chakrabarti Myers, that doesn't extend to a spouse.

In the late 18th century, when America was merely a teenager, "Kentucky was the frontier," says Myers, with great stands of trees between "vast swath[s] of rich, fertile land." Robert Johnson was a surveyor in that area, and he liked what he saw. He and his wife arranged to buy several thousand acres of the best farmland around.

This made Johnson a wealthy man and, by extension, his oldest son would never want for a thing. And so when young Richard, born in 1780, was all grown up but still unmarried, his parents gave him a plantation and 100 slaves to run it.

One of them was Julia Chinn.

Fourteen years old, Julia was pretty, smart, and capable; in fact, Richard's mother chose her to run his house while he was away in Washington, particularly because of her intelligence and her management abilities.

It didn't take long for Richard to notice Julia, or for him to bed her, then wed her.

Myers hints that spite made Richard do it, or that he was flaunting social mores. It surely wasn't illegal to sexually assault one's female slaves; in Kentucky, it wasn't illegal to marry someone of another race, either. Was there

c.2023
The University of North Carolina Press
\$30.00
296 pages

any more affection in the marriage or, as Myers suggests, was it a business transaction, with Julia trading her freedom for their daughters' future?

Still, this book is chilling in the *what-ifs* – perhaps even more so because Julia was well aware of them and so are readers. These possibilities will leave you shaken with the twist in the story at the end of the book, which will send you racing back to re-read the preface. Or you might just re-read it all because *The Vice President's Black Wife* is that kind of book, indeed.

Perryman... continued from page 12

Mansour: I have many friends in Gaza right now who face unimaginable hardships, including losing family members. One friend, volunteering in a shelter, reached out to me urgently seeking resources to help children cope with the trauma of losing their families. The communication is extremely limited there, with no internet access and only the ability to send short messages via 4G. I had to provide a PDF since they couldn't open links.

Another friend, a young artist studying in London, was stuck in Gaza as her school started, and she couldn't leave. It took three weeks before she could finally leave Gaza, but just a day before the recent events began. She feels a deep sense of guilt being away while her parents are there, unsure of their safety. Many of us are anxiously waiting for updates from our friends.

Perryman: Where do we go from here? Is peace possible?

Mansour: The first thing to move forward is getting humanitarian aid to the suffering people who are being bombed. You must get these people clean water. Many of them don't have clean water for drinking and sanitation. Also, their fragile healthcare system is on the verge of collapse without adequate water and electricity.

Opening the borders to allow humanitarian assistance is crucial, as it reduces the vulnerability of those subjected to years of violence. The absence of a recognized nation has left them without an army to defend themselves. What it takes is people calling their congresspeople, senators, and the White House, organizing sit-ins and asking for humanitarian aid and an immediate ceasefire.

Questions should also be directed at Israel and the Zionist movement regarding their intentions, as it is crucial to seek a just and lasting resolution to the conflict that respects the rights and safety of all parties involved.

Perryman: Is there anything else you want to add?

Mansour: The Palestinian people are human beings that just want to live. Open their borders, and let them live in peace. Let them be free in Palestine. Liberty is everyone's right, freedom is everyone's right, and it's not Israel who can tell us when the Palestinians can breathe.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at drdperryman@enterofhopebaptist.org

affection in the marriage or, as Myers suggests, was it a business transaction, with Julia trading her freedom for their daughters' future?

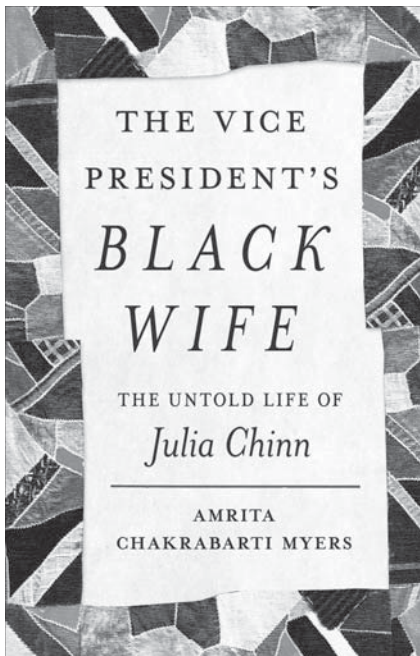
We may never know. Richard didn't sell Julia and he never freed her, though his girls received manumission. But after his service as Vice President of the U.S. and his death at a ripe old age, his brothers conspired to erase the family he loved...

Sometimes uneven, sometimes repetitive, but at the same time, so very interesting, *The Vice President's Black Wife* proves that there are a lot of things about history left to learn.

Starting with Julia's mother, author Amrita Chakrabarti Myers begins in a commonplace place – the lives of enslaved women and children – but she departs from the norm by telling tales with a large dash of feminism. In many ways, as she shows, women both white and enslaved often had much more power than his-



Vice President's Black Wife author



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INVITATION FOR BIDS SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES AMP 122 COMMUNITIES IFB23-B012

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive bids for **Snow Removal Services for AMP 122 Communities in accordance with IFB23-B012**. Received in accordance with law until **October 27, 2023 at 3:00 PM ET**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



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Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive bids for **Snow Removal Services for AMP 131 Communities in accordance with IFB23-B013**. Received in accordance with law until **October 27, 2023 at 3:00 PM ET**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



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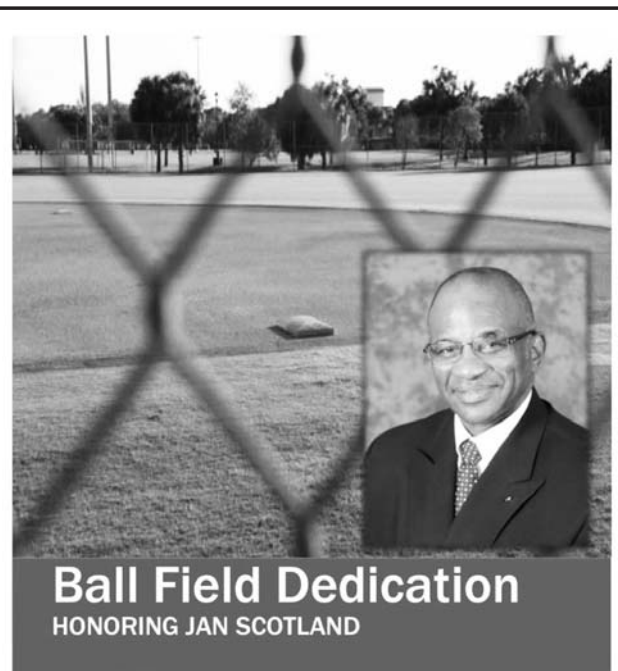
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Toledo Urban FCU Opens a New Branch in Quality Time Child Care Center

The Truth Staff

A number of youngsters are gaining some knowledge of and appreciation for saving their money due to the recent partnership between Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union and Quality Time Child Care.

About 20 three-to-five year olds opened savings accounts last week at Quality Time as Suzette Cowell, CEO of TUFCU, and Aletha Easterly, CEO of Quality Time, set up a process so the children will be able to make deposits once a month and watch their money increase.

"This is empowering our community," said Cowell as she watched the youthful savers enjoy the process of handling money.

One of the students performed bank teller duties for the day. Aria Cowel, granddaughter of Suzette Cowell, displayed a flare for helping others manage their money – it's a talent that clearly runs in the family!



Aletha Easterly, Aria Cowell, Suzette Cowell



Waiting to make a deposit



Aria Cowell (center) gets a little help from TUFCU's Jasmine Boyd as she assists a customer in making a deposit



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“Resonating Through Time: The Chautauqua Movement - Past, Present, and Future”

By Asia Nail

The Truth Reporter

In the tapestry of faith and history, it's a story of division, struggle and reconciliation. A tale that unfolds with the *Chautauqua Movement* as its vibrant backdrop, weaving threads of culture, education, and enlightenment into the very fabric of American heritage. This is a narrative of timeless significance, one that traverses the ages, resonating with the voices of generations past and present.

“We are a faith-based gated community here at Lakeside Chautauqua,” explains Charles Allen, interim president and CEO. “From Memorial Day through Labor Day we have special educational programs for community enrichment.”

Like a beacon in the night, the Chautauqua Trail shines with four radiant pillars: Arts, Education, Entertainment, and Religion.

Lakeside Chautauqua Ohio has embraced families on the banks of Lake Erie for 150 years, offering an immersive journey dedicated to nurturing mind, body and spirit.

“People are often shocked to know how old the history of the Chautauqua actually is,” says President Allen.

And how large a community the resort area is, encompassing nearly 1,000 houses, two hotels, a cinema, a 2,500 seat auditorium, movie theatre and retail stores in abundance.

Aiding The Chautauqua Movement, the *Chautauqua Trail* is a group of organizations and individuals committed to the communication and implementation of the chautauqua concept of building community by supporting all persons in the development of their full potential intellectually, spiritually,

emotionally and physically.

Picture this: “**Chautauqua**,” (pronounced shuh-taa-kwuh) a word as mysterious as it sounds, has its roots in the land of the Iroquois. Chautauqua translates to either “two moccasins tied together” or “jumping fish,” like a riddle recited by our ancestors waiting to be reclaimed. But to be clear; it's also a name that cradles a lake in the heart of western New York; Chautauqua Lake.

The peoples of the **Iroquois Confederacy** are cemented in American history. Known as the **Six Nations**, the Iroquois refer to themselves as the Haudenosaunee, (pronounced “hoo-dee-noh -SHAW-nee”) meaning “peoples of the longhouse,” and refers to their lengthy bark covered longhouses used to house many families.

Much has been said throughout American culture concerning the inspiration behind the ancient Iroquois “**Great League of Peace**” in planting the seeds that led to the formation of our United States of America and its representative democracy.

The Iroquois Confederacy, founded by the Great Peacemaker in 1142, is actually the oldest living participatory democracy on earth. Due to this, in 1988 the U.S. Senate paid tribute with a resolution stating:

“The confederation of the original 13 colonies into one republic was influenced by the political system developed by the Iroquois Confederacy, as were many of the democratic principles which were incorporated into the constitution itself.”

...continued on page 12



Charles Allen at the pumpkin carving contest

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