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“COVERING THE NEWS TODAY FOR A BETTER TOMORROW”

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Controversial Ad against Amy Acton in Ohio Governor’s Race

A chorus of condemnation from some Ohio politicians is growing against Ohio Republican gubernatorial candidate Vivek Ramaswamy over an attack ad produced by his campaign that featured his opponent’s estranged mother enduring as a child. The ad, which has not been aired on television but spread on social media, shows Dr. Amy Acton’s estranged mother, Donna Stearns Arthur, criticizing her and questioning the years of abuse she endured as a child.

BBCI’s Alfred Porter, Jr. has no time to slow down

After winning the Greater Cleveland Activism Awards Activism Through Music Award, it would be easy to slow down and enjoy the honor. But, according to Al Porter, Jr. “We have a lot of positive events that we will be doing in the community as part of BBCI (Black on Black Crime Inc).

On Saturday November 7th from 1:45 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 1899 Main Classroom Building E.22nd (enter from Chester or Euclid Avenue), large room #136, join the CSU Department of Africana Studies and BBCI Hip Hop Workshop #302 with guest Legendary DJ Jack Da Rippa , Project Warm, Mike Cash, Trinity Malik of Man 2 Man, Written Exam Champion Ronnie B, Mr Powers of BHS and DJ Dollar Rock.

On Wednesday November 11th, Veteran’s Day, the City of Cleveland will have a Special Veteran’s Day program starting at City Hall. At Tower City, BBCI Hip Hop artist Denyse Monroe will help with the celebrations.

Sunday November 29th at 4 p.m. the community including longtime members and activist Terry A Tolefree house at 14511 Terrace Rd.. The group will march from her house to Kirk

Republican gubernatorial candidate Vivek Ramaswamy over an attack ad produced by



Alfred Porter Jr was awarded the Greater Cleveland Activism Awards Activism Through with Elizabeth Still BBCI President - BBCI was Honored as a Group

Middle School (Heritage) the Murder Site of 137 Shots which killed Timothy Russell and Malissa Williams. Terry A Tolefree recently died, but she is remembered as one of the first activists to sound the alarm on the events of November 29th 2012.

On Sunday December 13th at 1281 E.67th Superior , there will be a Pre Kwanzaa Gold Standard Event at 4 p.m. with guest Sojourner Quartet, BHS, Dontez Taylor, Live coverage by Art McKoy Radio Show www.newstalk-cleveland.com WERE 1490 am, Kwanzaa Claus, music and food.

Voice It Radio on Tuesday 7pm The BBCI Hip Hop Workshop Radio Show is still going strong after it’s first workshop in 2012. 216/440 Artist to watch spot-

light for this month are Suave Goddi And Stoney Simpkins Song called Hanford Dixon (Dawg Nation) which features Hanford Dixon Cleveland Browns Legend on the YouTube Video.

Black On Black Crime Inc is a Cleveland-based non-profit organization focused on crime prevention and com-

munity safety within the Black community, operating from 14660 Euclid Ave, East Cleveland.

The group has been at the forefront of every major social justice movement in Cleveland. For more information, Visit blackonblackcleveland.com

Judge Antonio Nicholson is ready to win his match

By BRUCE CHECEFSKY

Antonio Nicholson is one of the 34 Common Pleas judges in Cuyahoga County, in the General Division. His career began as a criminal defense attorney in the public defender’s office, where he served as a lead attorney for Eighth District Court of Appeals Judge Larry Jones’ Drug Court.

Jones died unexpectedly in 2021 at age 68. He had been on the appellate bench since 2009 and was a pioneer and legend in the legal community, a quintessential public servant who regularly quoted Civil Rights lawyer Thurgood Marshall, the first Black U.S. Supreme Court justice.

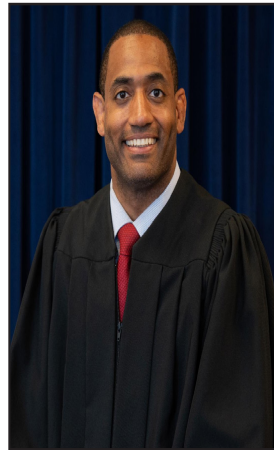
As a drug court attorney, Nicholson had both a regular and specialized docket. His clients included people with drug and mental health issues, which led to their criminal activities. Some got charged with felonies, but once in the program, they pleaded to a misdemeanor. After the yearlong program, they would graduate. Their case got dismissed, and the record expunged.

“I drafted hundreds of expunged motions,” he said.

Nicholson worked for two private attorneys for the next five years before returning to the public defender’s office, where he handled felony cases in Lake County. In 2024, he ran for judge of the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas General Division against former Cleveland City Councilman and Council President Kevin J. Kelley and lost.

Impressed with his campaign, a few years later, Gov. Mike DeWine appointed Nicholson to the bench to complete the term of Judge Deena Calabrese, who was elected to the Eighth District Court of Appeals. Nicholson, one of the few Black judges appointed by a Republican governor, began his term on July 14, 2025. To maintain the seat, he must run for election in November 2026.

Nicholson was born in



Nicholson

the Kinsman neighborhood of Cleveland. He eventually moved to Solon, where he graduated from high school before attending Cleveland State University and graduating with a bachelor’s degree in criminology and sociology. He received his Juris Doctorate degree from Charlotte School of Law.

As a standout athlete, Nicholson ranked as high as third in the state while wrestling at Solon High School. His famed high school coach was Tony DiGiovanni, who retired in 2015 with a Division I state title (1990) and 19 state championships during his tenure.

“DiGiovanni was one of the best coaches to walk in this country,” said Nicholson, recounting his time with the legendary wrestler. “He changed lives.”

West Liberty University recruited Nicholson before he transferred to Cleveland State University, where he could compete in Division I. He was the captain of the CSU wrestling team, with a match away from the NCAA Division I National Wrestling Championships. He set up a private practice after graduating from law school.

Lessons from his wrestling days play a significant role in his understanding and prac-

tice of law, especially in the courtroom, where he now presides as a judge.

“I was third in the state and lost in the semifinals in overtime. Even then, it was pretty tough to work through the brackets to place third,” said Nicholson. “I had to beat a bunch of guys who were state champs, and when you take third, it might look like you have fallen down, but you get right back up and compete. I did not win my first election in 2024, but fought to get appointed by the governor, just like I fought to place third in the state championships.”

Sports, especially wrestling, taught him the fundamentals of becoming a defense attorney. Nicholson is treating the current campaign to keep his seat with the same passion he did while wrestling.

“I have to defend my title,” he said, referring to the governor’s appointed seat, “and they’re trying to take it away from me.”

Nicholson, along with his staff, runs courtroom 17C with efficiency and purpose.

“My bailiff is in the courtroom sometimes seven days a week,” said Nicholson. “I do not ask her to do that—my staff works incredibly hard. We feel honored to serve the citizens in this county. We take this job seriously.”

As a registered Republican in the heavily Democratic Cuyahoga County, during a non-partisan election, Nicholson faces the challenge of getting his message heard.

“It is difficult as a Republican Black male, just as it is as a Black male in this county, to get on the bench in the general division. I used to be a Democrat,” he said. “I wanted to run as a Democrat. I am still waiting for the return phone call. The Republicans reached out and gave me a platform.”

There are approximately 19 Black judges serving across the various courts in Cuyahoga Coun-

ty, with 6 Black judges (4 female, 2 male) out of 34 total seats in the General Division of the Court of Common Pleas. Nicholson and Jeffrey Saffold are the only Black males on the bench. African Americans represent about 30% of the population in the county.

His appointment by Gov. DeWine was a competitive process, said Nicholson, in which he had to apply, just like everyone else who applies for a job. It was not just an application. He had to prove that his qualifications outmatched his competition. This is where his experience as an elite wrestler helped him.

“I knew that as soon as I got the appointment, I had to run a race to keep it,” he said. “I have sacrificed a lot to serve Cuyahoga County. I am very proud of it. I am passionate about my job. We make some very tough decisions daily to protect our community while protecting people’s rights. I take this position seriously.”

Nicholson, an Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) national champion, has coached youth, middle school, and high school wrestlers for the past twenty years. “I am giving back to the people who gave to me. Community service means everything to me. We have to come home to our communities to share our successes.”

He says there is no mystery to winning a wrestling match. “You outwork everyone else if you want to win,” said Nicholson. “I know. I have done that.”

Cuyahoga County general elections for county executive, county council, and Court of Common Pleas judges are on November 3, 2026.

Judge Antonio Nicholson will be on the ballot, ready to take the match.

Make your vote count!

Gasoline prices higher again for fall

The national average for a gallon of regular gasoline is one cent lower than last week at \$4.08, but there's been little movement on the crude oil front. Due to continued volatility in the Strait of Hormuz, crude oil prices remain in the \$85 per barrel range. For the first time ever, the national average in August has been above \$4 per gallon every day. This month is poised to set a new record as the most expensive August at the pump, surpassing the previous August record set in 2022.

According to new data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), gasoline demand increased

last week from 8.68 million barrels per day to 9.04 million. Total domestic gasoline supply decreased from 209.4 million barrels to 206.8 million. Gasoline production increased last week, averaging 9.8 million barrels per day. At the close of Wednesday's formal trading session, West Texas Intermediate fell 13 cents to settle at \$82.23 a barrel. The EIA reports that crude oil inventories increased by 0.1 million barrels from the previous week. At 428.9 million barrels, U.S.

crude oil inventories are 1% above the five-year average for this time of year.

Northeast Ohio Average for Self-Service Gasoline

	Regular
This Week (10-23-26)	\$3.61
Last Week (10-16-26)	\$4.61
Last Year (10-24-25)	\$3.52
National (10-23-26)	\$4.49

Islam In The Community

US journalist beaten by West Bank settlers recounts ordeal from hospital bed

Dozens of Israeli settlers beat and robbed veteran Washington Post photographer Heidi Levine Friday during an attack on an olive tree grove in the West Bank.

The Israelis, masked and dressed in all-black, beat the Palestinian villagers harvesting olives while chasing out a group of journalists there to document the work. The settlers descended from a near-

by hilltop settlement, hurling rocks at the gathering before setting the grove aflame.

Levine was caught in the mix. She was in a vest that read “PRESS” on the front and the back, but the attacking Israelis did not care to differentiate her. Instead, they knocked Levine to the ground, kicked and beat her, and then stole her cameras and phone, reported the

Post.

The settlers also threw tear gas into the crowd, according to video footage captured by independent journalist Andrey Khrzhanovskiy. Israel’s military, the Israel Defense Forces, were nearby in vehicles but did not intervene.

Levine told the Post that she was overtaken by the settlers. “They just kept kicking me and kicking me, like



The Washington Post photographer Heidi Levine, who was attacked by Jewish settlers, responded on Saturday to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who called the attack “alleged.” “I was shocked and insulted.”

probably 50 times,” she told reporters.

Khrzhanovskiy said that settlers beat Levine with sticks while the villagers retreated. Levine was taken to a nearby hospital after the incident.

“This morning, a Washington Post photographer, Heidi Levine, was attacked by Israeli settlers while reporting in the West Bank. She was wearing visible markings clearly identifying her as a journalist,” the executive editor of the paper, Matt Murray, wrote in a statement Friday morning. “While we are relieved that Heidi has received medical care and is safe, we are outraged by this unwarranted attack on a journalist doing her job and urge a thorough investigation and follow-through from authorities.”

Israel has attacked dozens of journalists throughout its assault on Palestine, violating international law in the process. The attack on Levine came less than two weeks after settlers assaulted AFP photographer Jaafar Ashtiyeh. Israel has also killed at least 247 media workers since the conflict began three years ago, according to a September report by the Committee to Protect Journalists. At least 192 of those individuals were Palestinian journalists working in Gaza.

Why? The Palestinian Land is now their land.

Three years ago, Zamir Haimi, 56, barricaded himself with his family inside the bomb shelter of their home in Kibbutz Nir Yitzhak, as the community’s security team battled Hamas terrorists who had infiltrated the kibbutz during the October 7, 2023, invasion of southern Israel.

For hours, the family remained trapped inside, surrounded by the sounds of rockets and gunfire, without food, water, or access to a bathroom, instead using a bucket as a makeshift toilet.

“The first thing that came to my mind was my mother’s stories,” he recalled. Both of Haimi’s parents were Holocaust survivors who immigrated to Israel and helped found Nir Yitzhak, where he has lived his entire life. “Although we didn’t go through exactly what they did... there was a strong connection between my mother’s stories and what we went through that day.”

For Haimi, a farmer and father of four, the nightmare did not end when the Israel Defense Forces regained control of the kibbutz at 3 p.m., nearly nine hours after the day’s first rocket siren.

His nephew, Tal Haimi, who led Nir Yitzhak’s security team, was killed fighting the terrorists and his body taken hostage to Gaza.

trust what is close, proven and present, not what is distant, institutional, and disconnected.”

That emphasis on proximity also surfaces in how some Gaza envelope residents describe their political choices: ahead of the October 27 election, many appear drawn to politicians who have visited their communities and stood alongside them in the three years since Hamas’s October 7 onslaught.

“For the most part, the Knesset members and politicians who have come belong to the [left-wing] camp,” Haimi said, citing Naama Lazimi and Gilad Kariv of the Democrats, who have often visited the Gaza border region and taken part in anti-government protests since October 7.

A second Gaza area resident, who asked to remain anonymous amid heightened tensions ahead of the election, echoed that sentiment. She plans to vote for the Democrats, but also spoke positively of B’Yachad chairman Naftali Bennett, who recently visited the Nova festival site near her hometown of Kibbutz Re’im to mark the attack’s third anniversary, alongside other opposition leaders.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu skipped memorial events on October 7 itself, attending only state ceremonies two days earlier. His direct outreach to the hardest-hit kibbutzim has been limited since October 7: he toured Be’eri and Kfar Aza shortly after the attack and spoke with soldiers there, and later

Nowhere is the impact more immediate than in the Gaza border communities that bore the brunt of the 2023 invasion, where residents saw their towns overrun, neighbors killed or abducted, and long-held assumptions about their security collapse.

A July 2025 survey of Gaza border region residents by Atid Laotef, a group dedicated to rebuilding the area, found that nearly 80 percent of respondents said the attack had changed their security outlook toward Gaza, with more than half saying their perception had shifted significantly.

Haimi said October 7 made him “less naive” — about Israel’s government and military, but also about Gaza and its residents. Before the attack, he had welcomed Gazans into his own home when they received permits to work in Nir Yitzhak.

Still, he said the experience had not fundamentally changed his own left-leaning politics.

“I’m going to vote for the Democrats headed by Yair Golan,” said Haimi, who has become heavily involved in activism for the left-wing party, ahead of the upcoming election. He described the Democrats as a party of “people whose hearts are in the right place,” which he said was a major reason for his support.

Indeed, alongside newfound misgivings regarding the intentions of Gazans, the attack has also inspired a deep erosion of trust in the current national government: 76.8% of respondents to the Atid Laotef survey said they had little or no trust in it, compared with 69% who expressed trust in their local authorities.

Atid Laotef said the disparity showed that “residents of the [Gaza] envelope

toured Nir Oz, but has largely avoided meeting directly with area residents.

The Re’im resident recalled spending October 7 locked in her shelter with her family, like Haimi and countless others who survived the attack. She called it a “stroke of luck” that the terrorists who infiltrated the kibbutz did not break into her home.

She and her family have yet to return to Re’im, and now live in central Israel. Linger security fears have left her unsure whether they will ever go back.

“I’m certain it will happen again,” she said of the October 7 onslaught, the deadliest in the nation’s history. “It’s just a question of when.”

After the attack, her community was evacuated to Eilat, where they spent two months. She said no government representative or Knesset member came to visit them during that time.

“The only people who worked and functioned were civilian actors and volunteers,” she said, adding that politicians on “both the right and the left” had left her disappointed, with her trust in the government having since significantly deteriorated.

Loyalty runs deep, but dissent surfaces

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Amir and Adel Mason to fight

Amir and Adel Mason to fight on “A Night To Remember III” Professional Boxing Show on Friday, December 11 at The Lacentra in Westlake, Ohio. The Mason brothers will be on the boxing show with six other bouts. Tickets are on sale at NEWHOUSEBOXING.COM. Amir, who is a welterweight, record is 7-3 with two KO wins. Adel, who is a featherweight, record is 3-0 with 2 KOs.

Tuesday, October 20, 2026 to Friday, October 23, 2026

EAST SIDE DAILY NEWS

SPORTS

War on the Shore XXIII boxing show will be held on October 17 at 4:00 p.m. at the Lasalle Theater, 823 E. 185th St., Cleveland, 44119.

For information, contact Bryan Gedeon at 216-956-1362.

Cavs begin 2026-27 season

By KARL BRYANT

The Cavs tip-off the 2026-27 season Thursday, October 22, in Philadelphia against LeBron James and the 76ers. They then will hold their Home Opener on Saturday, October 24, against Brooklyn.

Guardians lose ALCS to Tampa Bay

BY KARL BRYANT

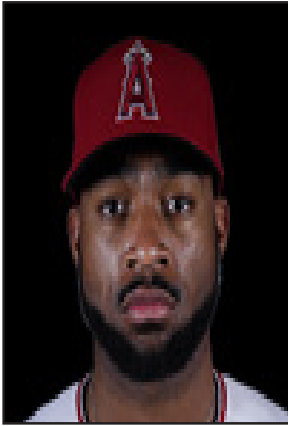
The Guardians were eliminated by the Devil Rays in the American League Championship Series, 4-2, when they lost Game 6, 7-3, at Tampa Bay. The Rays advance to the World Series to play Milwaukee. Neither Tampa Bay nor the Brewers have won a World Series, so MLB will have a Brand New Champion.

The convoluted pitching strategy of having relievers and starters switch roles caught up with the Guardians as the combination of the Rays seeing



Bibee

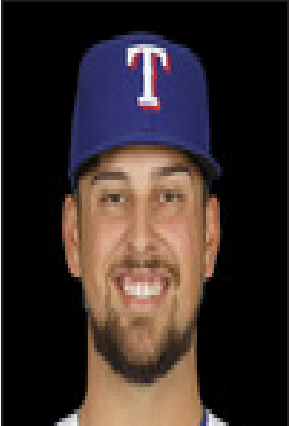
very familiar faces (and pitches), and overworked Guardians arms getting tired, proved to be fatal. CLE Manager Stephen Vogt did not trust starter Tanner Bibee, who saw miniscule action, and basically was a decoy taking up a roster spot. Large



Adell

numbers of Bullpen arms saw action in multiple games, and did not perform as well as in the regular season, when thrust into their new roles.

Late acquisitions who came on board for CLE either close to or right at the Trade Deadline, did



Lowe

do well during the Post-season. Batters Jo Adell and Nathaniel Lowe, along with pitcher Foster Griffin made significant contributions. So, at least that was a success story.

Players, who were at one time either Indians or Guardians, came through for the Rays, as they faced their former squad. Richie Palacios (2-Run double), Junior Caminero (2-Run HR) and Yandy Diaz (2-Run HR) delivered six runs for the Rays in close-out Game



Griffin

6. They'd been thorns in the side enough in previous games.

Well, at least CLE made it as far as they did. The huge payroll Yankees got swept in the ALDS and the even huger payroll Dodgers got swept in the NLCS. The Guardians made it an interesting October for their fans in The Land.

Curiously, with fan support at Progressive Field, the Guardians were only 41-40 at Home



Ramirez

in the regular season, and they were just 2-4 at Home in the Postseason. Home Field Advantage just didn't play out for them in 2026.

The Guardians have a plethora of youthful talent to build on for the future. They had plenty of Rookies who made their mark this year. With a healthy Jose Ramirez and other talented veterans returning next year, there's certainly reason for optimism in 2027.

Buckeyes get big win in Indiana

BY KARL BRYANT

The Buckeyes beat the Defending National Champion Hoosiers, 19-15, in Indiana. Although they survived a close game, their star Q, Julian Sayin, did not. He was injured late in the game and is expected to be out for several weeks, at a minimum.

OSU's first TD was a 2 YD TD Pass to former VASJ RB Bo Jackson just before Intermission. Stat Geeks noted that the Buckeyes have scored a TD in the last 30 seconds of the Half in every game to date this season! In the 4th Quarter, Jeremiah Smith caught a 38 YD TD Pass.

Before being injured, Sayin completed 15 of 29 passes for 235 yards and the two TDs, with two INTs. He was sacked four times, including the one that did him in. His Hoosier counterpart, Josh Hoover, completed 20 of 40 for 296 yards and a 19 YD TD to Nick Marsh, who also nearly had a go-ahead score in the final minutes, but landed just out-of-bounds in the End Zone on 4th Down.



Indiana QB Josh Hoover (10) is sacked by Buckeye Jaylen McClain (8), resulting in a fumble, which was recovered by TJ Alford, during OSU's 19-15 win. (ESDN Photo by Bill Moore (Minority Publishers Assn.)

The game was an Air War as rushing yards were hard to obtain. OSU surprisingly ran for just 78 yards and Indiana ran for just 73.

After OSU Coach Ryan Day spoke about Sayin's expected absence, he said,

"What an unbelievable opportunity (his replacement will have) to lead this team right here with these kind of players." Backup QBs Luke Fahy and Tavien St. Clair will have an extra week - because of an upcoming BYE - to prepare for OSU's next game at USC.

Steelers Sink Bucs

BY KANDREW CARTER

The Steelers were down by the Gulf of Mexico (It's been called that since 1550!) and had to put in some extra time to come away with a win. They beat the Buccaneers, 26-19, in overtime.

Tampa Bay was ahead, 16-3, after the 3rd Quarter, when Aaron Rodgers rallied the Steelers. He threw a 5 YD TD pass to Darnell Washington in the 4th Quarter and led the Steelers close enough for Chris Boswell to kick three more FGs. The Bucs Chase McLaughlin also kicked four FGs, with the tying one from 53 yards with .08 left in regulation. Rodgers tossed a 6 YD TD Pass to Germie Bernard for the winning score in OT. The

game ended when Tampa QB Jalon Daniels inexplicably took a sack on 4th Down.

Rodgers threw 49 times, completing 33 for 253 yards, two TDs and an INT. Daniels threw 43 times, completing 22, for 164 yards, a TD, and two INTs. Each QB was sacked five times for exactly 42 yards in losses. The Steelers ran for 89 yards and the Bucs ran for 102.

Interestingly, Steelers Coach Mike McCarthy spent Intermission in the injury tent being treated after being stepped-on along the sideline. The Steelers now travel to Paris this Sunday, to face, appropriately-enough, New Orleans, whose insignia is the fleur-de-lis.

BEEZWAX

By John Martin

SO MR. BEEZWAX... WHERE IS YOUR PAIN?

AT THE FRONT DESK WHEN I PAY MY BILL!

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Deciding to ignore Quentin's condemnation of Voodoo Doll's empty, evil vanity, Veronique uses her reality-warping power to open a space portal beside herself...

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Veronique! What are you doing---?!!?

BY C. M. APPLING

...I'll always have love and appreciate everything you've done for me. Au revoir, mon Cherie...

NO!!! V, come back---!?!?

TO BE CONTINUED

On The Town

MOVIES * MUSIC * THEATER * DANCE * RESTAURANTS * NIGHT LIFE

Sports drama about Muhammad Ali to premier on Prime Video

The Greatest is an 8-episode biographical sports drama limited series about Muhammad Ali premiering on Prime Video on November 4.

"Hear from the people who knew him best, from experts of the world of boxing, relive the legendary fights and explore the life of boxing's greatest symbol, Ali."

The series was created by Ben Watkins, and produced in collaboration with Ali's estate, with executive producers including his widow Lonnie Ali, as well as Josh Wakely and Michael B. Jordan.

The cast includes: Jaalen Best as Cassius Clay, later Muhammad Ali; Giovanni Ribisi as Clay's boxing trainer, Angelo Dundee



The Greatest is an 8-episode biographical sports drama limited series about Muhammad Ali premiering on Prime Video on November 4.

Omari Hardwick as Ali's father, Cassius "Cash" Clay Sr.; Dana Gourrier as Ali's mother, Odessa "Bird" Clay Kai Parham as Ali's brother, Rudy, later Rahaman Ali; Amin Joseph as Sonny Liston; Erica Tazel as Sonny's wife, Geraldine Liston; Michael Ealy as Malcolm X; Reno Wilson as Drew Bundini Brown; Aleks Paunovic as William Faversham Jr. Dave Davis as Marvin Geller; Rico E. Anderson

as Willie Reddish; and Adrian Alvarado as Dr. Ferdie Pacheco.

The series received a series order from Amazon Prime Video in July 2024 with the series produced in collaboration with Muhammad Ali's estate. The rights to his life story were originally acquired by executive producer Josh Wakely, who brought the project to Amazon. It is produced



The Greatest is an 8-episode biographical sports drama limited series about Muhammad Ali starring Jaalen Best as Cassius Clay, later Muhammad Ali

by Amazon MGM Studios.

Ben Watkins is executive producer and showrunner on the series, with Watkins executive producing via Blue Monday, as well as directing of the first two episodes. Michael B. Jordan will executive produce for Outlier Society, with Outlier's president Elizabeth Raposo also serving as executive producer.

Lonnie Ali,

'You Can See Everything' is a crazy documentary, or is it?

With a record-breaking opening weekend at the box office under its belt, Nathan Fielder's Elizabeth Holmes film "You Can See Everything" is reportedly pursuing an awards campaign that could make it the first-ever documentary nominated for Best Picture at the Academy Awards (Warning: This article contains spoilers for "You Can See Every-

thing"). No documentary in history has ever been nominated for Best Picture, the Oscars' top honor, but film distributor A24 is reportedly pushing forward with an awards campaign seeking to recognize "You Can See Everything" in the coveted category.

The distributor is launching an Oscars campaign for consideration across most



Convicted felon Elizabeth Holmes allowed a film crew into her home a month before she was to report to federal prison.

major categories, including Best Director for Fielder and

Lance Oppenheim, another honor no documentary has ever notched.

Aside from the top honors, A24 is also pushing for Oscars consideration for categories including editing, cinematography, costume design, production design, sound, original score and makeup and hairstyling, Variety reported.

Recognition for documentaries in other categories is not impossible, but still rare: "Hoop Dreams," a 1994 basketball documentary, landed a Best Editing nomination, while a handful of documentaries in recent years have been nominated for Best International Feature Film.

Variety has already predicted "You Can See Everything" will earn a Best Picture nomination, but it currently has "The Odyssey" pegged as the winner. It also predicts a nomination for best editing. The Hollywood Reporter went a step further, predicting nominations for best picture, director, supporting actress and editing.

The awards campaign for "You Can See Everything" will likely be helped by the film's stellar reviews and impressive box office performance. The movie has a near-perfect 98% score on Rotten Tomatoes, and the social media site Letterboxd announced earlier this week the film has an average 4.7-star rating out of a possible 5 based on user reviews, making it the site's highest-rated film. "You Can See Everything" earned the biggest opening weekend for a documentary in two decades, grossing \$15 million.

Renewed interest in singer Johnny Hartman has been sparked by The Bridges of Madison County film soundtrack which introduces a new generation of fans to his mellow style. Born July 3, 1923, in Chicago, Hartman sang with his high school jazz orchestra and studied music at Chicago Musical College before World War II intervened. In the late 1940 after his military discharge, Hartman worked with Earl Hines, Dizzy Gillespie, and Erroll Garner. He was a favored soloist in clubs and on television during the 1950s. Hartman's forte was the romantic ballad. He was inventive in his rich baritone style, yet remained true to lyrics. Among several recordings, Hartman's most captivating (and enduring) albums was a 1963 session (reissued by MCA/Impulse in 1986) with saxophonist John Coltrane, McCoy Tyner (piano), Jimmy Garrison (bass) and straightforward renderings of "Lush Life," "My One And Only Love," "You Are Too Beautiful," and more. Hartman is at his best on this gorgeous album.

MENU TIPS

Celebrate and enjoy popcorn

(NAPSI)—Popcorn, enjoyed every day but celebrated during National Popcorn Poppin' Month, existed long before today's dizzying array of snacks, tracing its roots back thousands of years.

Yet, throughout the ages, this enduring fan favorite has remained relatively unchanged.

Popcorn kernels are the seeds of a large-grain plant also known as maize. Once the kernels are stripped from the cob and dried to 14 percent moisture, they can be popped and eaten.

This seed-to-snack simplicity is just part of the allure. Whole grain, naturally low in fat and calories, and gluten free, popcorn is a good fit for today's health-conscious consumer.

Yet it's the taste and versatility that continue to make this one popular snack food. Americans consume some 16 billion quarts of popcorn each year. That's roughly 51 quarts per man, woman and child.

Add in popcorn's irresistible aroma, connection to good times, seemingly magical transformation and the fact that it strikes a chord with the budget minded, and it's easy to understand why there's a monthlong celebration for

this American icon every October.

You can join in the fun by making this autumnal treat, from a recipe by The Popcorn Board.

Down Home Apple Pie Popcorn

A timely fall treat, combining luscious flavors of the harvest. Yield: 10 cups

Ingredients:

- 3 Tbsp melted butter
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 Tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp ground allspice
- ½ tsp ground nutmeg
- 8 cups popped popcorn
- 1 cup dried apple chips, broken into large pieces
- ¼ cup toffee bits

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 300° F. Whisk melted butter with vanilla. Toss brown sugar with cinnamon, allspice and nutmeg.

2. Toss popcorn with butter mixture. Sprinkle evenly with brown sugar mixture. Stir. Transfer to baking sheet lined with parchment paper.

3. Sprinkle apple chips and toffee bits over top. Bake for 15 minutes or until toffee bits start to melt. Cool before serving.

Tip: Add chopped pecans for extra crunch.

Learn why popcorn pops, the history of popcorn, corny facts, recipes and more at www.popcorn.org.

Chris' Cinema Trivia & Movie Match Up

By CHRIS APPLING



TRIVIA - (Romance)

1. In the 1972 romance/biography "Lady Sings the Blues," Diana Ross portrayed the great jazz icon Billie Holiday and actor Billy Dee Williams was her love interest, but who is the comic/comedian legend who was Holiday's friend "Piano Man" in the film?

2. In what movie did black, romantic leading man Denzel Washington play a Southern African-American rug cleaner who falls in love with the daughter of a motel managing East Indian couple who were forced to leave their home in Uganda after tyrant Idi Amin rose to power?

3. Who is the deceased rapper that starred opposite pop superstar Janet Jackson in John Singleton's "Poetic Justice" (1993) in which Janet is a disillusioned hairdresser who grieves over

the violent death of her boyfriend by writing poetry?

4. What film focused on the "May-December" romance that starred Angela Bassett as a 40-year-old, African-American woman who takes a trip to Jamaica and falls in love with a black man who is 20 years younger than her?

5. Who is the actor and actress that were featured in the film "Love and Basketball" (2000) as childhood friends who grow up together playing basketball, but then must learn to balance their emotions when romance blooms between them?

ANSWERS: 1. Richard Pryor 2. 'Mississippi Masala' 3. Tupac Shakur 4. 'How Stella Got Her Groove Back' 5. Omar Epps and Sanaa Lathan



MOVIE MATCH-UP - (Romantic couples)

FILMS:

1. 'School Daze' (1988)
2. 'Do The Right Thing' (1989)
3. 'Malcolm X' (1992)
4. 'Crooklyn' (1994)
5. 'Girl 6' (1996)

COUPLES:

- a) Alfred Woodard and Delroy Lindo
- b) Laurence Fishburne and

Kythe

- c) Theresa Randle and Isaiah Washington
- d) Spike Lee and Rosie Perez
- e) Denzel Washington and Angela Bassett

ANSWERS: 1, b; 2, d; 3, e; 4, a; 5, c

Da 'Round Da Way Rewind Review

The Reality behind The Purge

By C.M. APPLING

Halloween is a mischievous holiday for little kids to wear costumes and trick-n-treat, for teenagers to visit haunted houses and for adults to watch their favorite horror movies on TV.

And, while Hollywood has been open-mindedly liberal in many genres of motion-pictures, there are rarely any horror movies that have storylines that contain both social commentary and racial relevance. Wesley Snipes' half-human, half-vampire superhero from Marvel Comics, Blade, was an action/horror trilogy starring an African-American man as the lead character.

African-American filmmaker Jordan Peele released Get Out (2017), a psychological-horror film that played upon black peoples' fear about trusting white people. But, in 2013, the horror studio, Blumhouse Productions, released James DeMonaco's seminal horror film, The Purge. As opposed to being a Caucasian person using his entitled, white privilege in America for self-gain, DeMonaco used his to bring attention, in a horror format, to empathize with people of color and daring to question "what is patriotism?", "what does it mean to be American?", as well as graphically displaying man's inhumanity to man, the evil within ourselves and ultimately, reveal the moral bonds that both separate and unite us as a whole.

The Purge horror franchise consists of five films: The Purge (2013), The Purge: Anarchy (2014), The Purge: Election Year (2016), The First Purge (2018) and The Forever Purge (2021). The basic premise is that U.S. government, now run by a fascist regime called the NFFA (New Founding Fathers of America), has mandated an annual holiday called 'The Purge' in which all crime (including murder) is legal for a 12-hour period, as a 'societal catharsis' to 'release The Beast' and all the pent-up rage, hatred and hostility we all carry inside. However, the hidden reality is that the government created the holiday to eliminate the poor, lower-class to end all the housing, medical and food relief of social programs so that only the wealthy elists can benefit and thrive at the sanctioned assassinations of the impoverished.

The NFFA does this by secretly hiring NRA-funded, white supremacist organizations like the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazis, neo-Confederate conservatives and racist, ex-military mercenaries to legally kill people of color.

But, make no mistake. DeMonaco's screenplays are equal-opportunity gore-fests as the annual Purge crosses all racial and socio-economic barriers with maniacs and lunatics who are white, black, Asian, Hispanic and Native-American. All the motion-pictures begin in a similar manner. When The Purge is about to begin, the government airs the televised broadcast announcement that always ends with the backwards and sacrilegious mantra, "Blessed be America.

A nation reborn. May God be with you." Then, across the country, on every street, in every city, the now-iconic Purge siren blares its haunting clarion call that is now as bone-chilling as Steven Spielberg's Jaws theme (written by John Williams) and John Carpenter's Halloween, malevolent melody.

In addition to the omnipotent mayhem of the actual Purge event, another significant factor of the franchise are the unique masks worn by the participants of the horrific holiday. DeMonaco's filmmaking direction and repulsively-visceral presentation has the multiracial murderers don the absolutely most hideous, grotesque, de-ranked and demented masks that the human subconscious mind can imagine. And, during the 12-hour vigil of violence, are scenes of uncontrolled anarchy and disturbed, twisted insanity.

DeMonaco's premise for The Purge purposefully mirrors and parallels the African-American history of lynching in the Jim Crow era of the southern U.S. The NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) was founded in 1909 as an anti-lynching organization. But, in 1919, the 'Red Summer' across America ignited into an apex of race riots in Chicago, Illinois; Washington, DC; Knoxville, Tennessee and Charleston, South Carolina. The majority of the time, the white lynch mobs lied and manufactured reasons to kill black people including: (1) a black man raping a white woman; (2) a black person 'forgetting his/her place' or 'disrespecting' a white person, (3) a white person being fi-

nancially jealous of a prosperous black person, or (4) a white person not respecting a black man in a military uniform.

Many times, the mutilation inflicted upon the blacks being lynched could be being shot,

hung, set on fire, having body parts taken as souvenirs (i.e; ears, fingers, toes) or being dragged behind a racing car or truck. And, those lynchings were treated as celebrations with literally hundreds or thousands of whites gathering and taking pictures with the mutilated bodies that would later be used as mailing post cards.

Three of the most infamous lynchings in America were: Mary Turner (1918) an eight-month pregnant black woman who was shot, hung upside-down, set on fire and had her unborn infant cut from her abdomen to be trampled upon; Thomas Shipp and Abram Smith (1930) the most recognized lynching photo with a crowd of whites gloating, a young white girl smirking, and that it inspired legend Billie Holiday's song Strange Fruit (Southern trees/bear strange fruit/and blood on the roots/black bodies swingin'); and Emmett Till (1955) the 14-year old boy from Chicago visiting relatives in Mississippi who supposedly whistled at a white girl. At his funeral, his mother, Mamie, had an open casket to display his mutilated body.

It would radicalize the civil rights movement. Just as the NAACP helped support blacks during the Jim Crow era of lynching, the nascent BLM (Black Lives Matter) movement supported the modern, 'lynching' deaths (mostly by police brutality) of Trayvon Martin (2012), Eric Garner (2014), Michael Brown (2014), Ahmuad Arbery (2020), Breonna Taylor (2020) and George Floyd (2020) with Floyd's death galvanizing BLM into a multiracial, global movement. Halloween is a fun holiday where being scared can be a harmless thrill. And, horror movies are enjoyed for the exact same reasons. But, James DeMonaco has proven that a successful, horror franchise like The Purge can not only be frightening entertainment, but can also be a forum to examine and express socially conscious material that makes you think and appreciate about what we all have in common and what to fight for when the world is on fire all around us.

VANTAGE POINT

No New Data Centers: Full Stop; support S. 5640, the Data Center Transparency Act of 2026,

By ROSALIND GAUCHAT

On September 24, 2026, I attended one of three information sessions regarding data centers in Cleveland. The purpose of these sessions was to gather input from citizens of both Cleveland and Cuyahoga County after they were given information on types and impacts of different sizes of data centers. The resounding call from all speakers (except one) in that packed room in Collinwood Recreational Center was “NO NEW DATA CENTERS. FULL STOP.”

Today, October 20, would have been the end of a moratorium placed on new data centers in the City of Cleveland. Thankfully, City Council kicked the can down the road to January. As a farmer/gardener in both Slavic Village and Hough, I am deeply concerned about the environmental impacts of large data centers that would add insult to already injured areas of our city. So far there

are no regulations on the water used and released into our streams and rivers from these centers, and even if they were, the EPA currently is so weak as to not enforce the pollution standards, much less take measurements of water quality. The neighbors of these centers would have to endure the effects of infra-sound – vibrations that are inaudible and cannot be blocked out by walls or windows. If they were to tap into our current energy grid, it would be unsustainable, and if they were to use “behind the meter” (their own) power source – it would most likely be methane gas. We DON’T need any more pollution. In addition, the “jobs” that would be created are temporary construction jobs, and the income of the AI data centers only go to the big mega-corporations – not us.

Cleveland City Council probably will not hold out with their moratorium indefinitely, and there is always the temptation to bow to moneyed corporate inter-

ests over the people. We, as citizens of Cleveland and its suburbs, Ohio, USA can take action at the personal, local, and federal levels to put, at a minimum, controls on AI data centers. Currently I work with a group of folks of faith and conscience called Climate Hope Affiliates, calling on our federal leaders to curb the ecologically destructive AI data centers around the country. We have chosen to focus on legislation that addresses the polluting and ecological effects of these massive monstrosities.

Please join us in asking our senators, Jon Husted and Bernie Moreno to co-sponsor S. 5640, the Data Center Transparency Act of 2026, which would give us information on how these data centers are currently affecting the grid and their consumption of energy. Also, please ask our representative, Shontel Brown, to co-sponsor two bills: H.R. 6983, which would make data centers responsible for all energy they consume, and H.R. 6984,

which would make data centers move to using renewable energy (wind, solar).

At the state level, you can help put in controls on these data centers by signing or circulating a petition to keep the power of data centers under 24kw. The petition is at <https://conserveohio.com/conserve-ohio-petition-faq/>. Or join Faith Communities Together for a Sustainable Future at <https://www.factsustain.org/>.

At the local level, please call or contact your council people and let them hear your voice – that you wish for yourselves, your families, and neighborhoods a peaceful, thriving, ecologically balanced Cleveland WITHOUT big-scale data centers.

And personally, if you don’t want to support AI, on your online searches, just type your search and then put in the characters “-ai”.... simple as that, or simply go outside and breathe the fresh, pollution free air while you have a chance.

YOUR HEALTH

Managing moderate pain three ways

(NAPS1)—The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently reported some fifty million Americans, more than one in five adults, have chronic pain—but you don’t have to be among them. While everyone experiences pain differently, managing it may be simpler than many people realize.

First, it helps to know what sort of pain you have. According to Dr. Bob Arnot, an award-winning journalist, author of 12 books on nutrition and health, and previously Chief Medical Correspondent for NBC and CBS News, “Pain assessment for patients with muscle pain and arthritis is often done by using pain scales that allow the patient to describe the level of their pain. Once the level of pain is determined, an appropriate treatment or analgesic can be identified—including OTC topical medication.

“When determining the level of pain, it is important to provide answers to your doctor, including: What were you doing when the pain started? What caused it? What makes the pain better or worse? What does the pain feel like—dull, sharp, stabbing, burning? Where is the pain located? Does it radiate? Does the pain interfere with activities? Does the pain force you to lie or sit down? How long does the pain last? How often does it occur? Are you ever awakened by it?

“Doctors will seek to measure the severity of pain on a scale of zero to 10, with zero being no pain and 10 being unimaginable, unspeakable pain. There are several pain scales being used today, ranging from numerical and graphics. The scales follow the same order for explaining the intensity of pain: mild, moderate and severe.”

Minor pain levels generally do not interfere with most day-to-day activities. People with mild pain are able to adapt to pain with medication or devices such as cushions. Moderate pain, on the other hand, interferes with many activities and often requires lifestyle changes, as the person is unable to adapt to the pain. Examples range from an average toothache to a sprained ankle to bad back pain.

Fortunately, there are several ways to manage moderate pain that don’t involve reaching for a pill. Three of the most effective are:

Physical therapy: Physical therapy can be an effective way to alleviate all types of musculoskeletal and neuropathic types of pain. A primary goal of physical therapy is to help chronic pain patients become stronger. In addition, physical therapy can teach people how to move safely and functionally in ways that they haven’t been able to in some time—helping them to avoid injury or reinjury.

Yoga: Recent studies reported by the National Institutes of Health suggest that a carefully adapted set of yoga postures may help reduce pain and improve the ability to walk and move. Yoga typically combines physical postures, breathing techniques, and meditation or relaxation.

Adds the Western Australia Department of Health, “Yoga is very helpful in treating some of the mechanical aspects of pain; for example, when there are tight muscles which contribute to pain.”

In the Annals of Internal Medicine, Dr. Robert Saper wrote, “Both yoga and physical therapy are excellent nondrug approaches for low back pain.”

Topical analgesics: For many people, however, the first choice should be a topical solution: the Salonpas® Pain Relief Patch LARGE.

The Salonpas Pain Relief Patch LARGE is the

only OTC pain reliever. (oral or topical) labeled to relieve mild to tougher, moderate pain associated with arthritis, sprains, strains and backache. It is labeled to relieve mild to moderate pain for up to 12 hours, and was FDA approved just like prescription medicines.

Advises physical therapist Dave Endres, “The new Salonpas Pain Relief Patch LARGE contains two powerful pain-relieving ingredients, menthol and methyl salicylate, which go right to the site of pain.

In my business, keeping pain at bay for as long as possible is a key imperative. If there is a choice between oral or topical pain therapies, we encourage the topical route. We encourage the topical route as it avoids the adverse effects that have been observed with oral dosage forms.”

In fact, according to a recent Danish study of pain relief, “it is time to acknowledge the potential health risk of [oral] diclofenac and to reduce its use. Diclofenac should not be available over the counter, and when prescribed, should be accompanied by an appropriate front package warning about its potential risks...In conclusion, our data support that initiation of diclofenac poses a cardiovascular health risk, both compared with no use, paracetamol use, and use of other traditional NSAIDs.”

Fortunately, the patch is now double the size with the power to target large pain areas.

Weekly Wealth For Your Health

Fixing bad financial habits

By NATHANIEL SILLIN

Most people have at least one bad financial habit. Whether it's impulse shopping, forgetting to pay bills on time or putting off building that emergency fund, balancing what you want to do and what you "should" do is never easy.

The new year is the perfect time to identify potential financial weak points and replace bad habits with productive ones. Resolve to Replace Your Bad Financial Habits

Start by identifying your bad habits. Sometimes a bad financial habit is easy to identify. For example, there might be a growing stack of bills in the kitchen that you willfully ignore. Others may be subtler,

or perhaps they've become so ingrained that you do them without thinking twice.

Not sure where to start? Looking through your previous months' expenses can help you identify expensive trends or one-off purchases that are part of a larger theme. Online or paper bank statements can make this particularly simple. If you have a budget, you likely already compare projected spending with actual spending on a monthly basis, if not, this might be a good time to start.

You might recognize a few of these common bad financial habits in your life:

Paying bills after the due date.

Paying only the minimum required on bills.

Ignoring bills and let-

ting them go to collections.

Putting off saving for retirement or for a rainy day.

Impulse shopping or "retail therapy."

Not keeping track of how much debt you have.

Taking on debt to pay for something you don't currently need.

Ultimately, all of these lead to spending more than you earn and in some cases, bad habits can have a cascading effect.

Try to figure out what's driving your behavior. You might need to figure out what triggers your behavior and the reward you perceive afterward before you can change a habit. However, triggers and rewards aren't always obvious.

For example, you might buy big-ticket items when they're on sale because you want to feel like you're accomplishing something by "saving" so much. Perhaps you could foster a similar feeling of accomplishment by investing the money in a tax-deferred retirement account and calculating how much it'll be worth after years of compound interest.

Aim for these healthy financial habits. What habits should you try to adopt? Budgeting is certainly a worthy activity, but also consider the following mix of behaviors and specific objectives that can help keep your finances in order.

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Youngstown State takes down Northern Iowa 35-22

By THOMAS A. MILLER

“There are certainly areas that we got to be better in. Our communication and fundamentals and all those things. I think we are getting better as a football team. We are and you got to go 1-0 every week and the fact is that we are coming off a four game swing and we have been fortunate and winning football games. You have to earn those and I give our kids credit and I am proud of them.”

Those were the opening comments from Youngstown State head football coach Doug Phillips after he led the number 6th ranked Penguins to a 35-22 beating over the 19th ranked University of Northern Iowa Panthers.

This was game number 8 for the Penguins and game number 6 for the Panthers. It was



Youngstown State Quarterback Beau Brungard running the ball. (ESDN Photo by YSU, Robert Hayes)

played in clear conditions with temperatures in the 40's in front of a pro Penguin homecoming crowd of 10,284 at the Ice Castle at Youngstown State University.

Looking at the student section it looks like a couple hundred fans came from Northern Iowa came to cheer on the Panthers.

Coming into this game YSU was 5-2 (3-1). Last week the Penguins defeated The Indiana

State Sycamores 57-24.

The Panthers upset North Dakota 24-17 go to 3-2 (2-0) Both teams are from the powerful Missouri Valley Football Conference that has 6 teams in the FCS top 25 rankings this week.

This was the 38th meeting between programs with Northern Iowa leading the series 26-11. They last met in 2025 where Youngstown State won

35-32. Youngstown State is led by senior quarterback and 2025 Walter Payton award winner Beau Brungard who has 1,821 yards passing with 17 touchdowns and 567 yards rushing with 10 touchdowns this year.

He looks like a potential 2026 repeat Walter Payton award winner. If he does, he will be the third player in history to do so.

Northern Iowa is led by senior quarterback Jaxon Dailey who has 918 yards passing with 6 touchdowns through 5 games.

The head coach for the Panthers is coach Todd Stepsis who is 6-11 in his second year as a Panther.

The Penguins are led by Coach Doug Phillips who is 36-37 as a Penguin in his seventh year. The betting line for this game had the Penguins as a 21 point fa-

vorite and no they did not cover the spread.

Northern Iowa won the coin toss and deferred. YSU wasted no time getting on the board with Donald Barksdale returning the opening kickoff untouched for 97 yards.

The extra point by Andrew Lastovka was good and YSU led 7-0. The next score also belonged to the Penguins with running back Antuan Gardner taking it in from 2 yards out. The extra point was good and YSU led after the first quarter 14-0.

Nine seconds into the second stanza YSU scored on a perfect pass from Brungard to receiver Lynn Wyche-El for 42 yards. The extra point was good and YSU led 21-0. Seven minutes later YSU scored on a 1 yard rush by Brungard. The extra point was good and YSU stretched its

lead to 28-0.

The Panthers finally got on the board with a pass from Dailey to receiver Kai Black from 24 yards out. The extra point by Max Bartachek was good and YSU led 28-7 at the break.

There was only two scores in the third quarter, both by the Panthers. At the 10:31 mark, Dailey hooked up with tight end Brady McCullough from 16 yards out.

The extra point was no good and Northern Iowa got a little closer 28-13. The next score had Max Bartachek kick-

ing a 45 yard field goal to make it YSU 28-16. To start the fourth quarter the Penguins scored on a 16 yard pass from Brungard to receiver Bryan Hunt.

The extra point was good and YSU led 35-16. After trading several possessions, the Panthers had the last score for the day. That was a 17 yard pass from Dailey to receiver Ayden Price. The try for 2 failed and YSU won 35-22.

In the stats department Beau Brungard rushed for 80 yards and 1 touchdown. He also passed for 240 yards and

2 touchdowns. Your top receiver for the day was Lynn Wyche-El who had 8 catches for 106 yards and 1 touchdown.

The Penguins will have a bye tomorrow and will entertain North Dakota on October 31st who are ranked number 11 in the FCS rankings. One thing to remember: Last Saturday North Dakota beat the number 1 team in the country, South Dakota State 21-10.

The YSU vs North Dakota on October 31st is setting up to be one you don't want to miss.

Building careers and opportunity at Woodhill

By RAS OLUGBENGA

At The Community Builders (TCB), our work begins with a stable, affordable home and extends to the opportunities that help residents thrive. At Woodhill Homes, that means working alongside residents to connect them with employers, support their career goals and address the everyday challenges that can stand between ambition and opportunity.

Our workforce development efforts reflect a practical understanding: residents bring skills, experience and determination. What they often need is access and a connection to an employer, help paying for a certification or dependable childcare that makes going to work possible. TCB's role is to help make those connections and remove those barriers. One Woodhill resident's journey toward a nursing career illustrates what that support can accomplish.

When a career assessment suggested nursing, she was surprised. Much of her professional experience was in customer service, although she had worked in nursing related settings and enjoyed helping people. While between jobs, she decided to pursue certification as a State Tested Nursing Assistant, or STNA.

She researched programs and sought help covering the cost. But after more than two months pursuing a scholarship through OhioMeansJobs, she was still waiting for the process to move forward. TCB's Certification Assistance Fund offered another path. Created to help residents afford credentials that support career advancement, the fund helped her move from planning to action. With encouragement and assistance from her service coordinator, she began training.

The coursework was unfamiliar, and starting over felt intimidating. She studied in her free time, drew encouragement from fam-

ily members working in nursing and stayed connected with her service coordinator. When she passed the STNA exam, she gained a credential and greater confidence in her future.

Now, she is interviewing with healthcare employers, with TCB supporting her search through employer referrals. Her next chapter is still unfolding, but she has taken a meaningful step toward a career built around helping others.

That individual support is part of a broader effort shaped by listening to residents.

In 2026, after encountering challenges keeping residents engaged in workforce training programs, TCB sought their feedback. Residents emphasized the need for clearer connections between training and employment. In response, our team strengthened relationships with neighborhood employers and focused on personal introductions and referrals that help residents reach actual opportunities.

We also invested in early work experience. Through the summer Teen Clean pilot, four Woodhill teenagers helped maintain their community's grounds, working 15 hours a month and receiving a \$200 monthly stipend for three months. A local partner provided financial literacy classes alongside the work, helping participants practice budgeting and develop savings skills.

For adults pursuing their next step, the Certification Assistance Fund has supported more than 10 residents in earning credentials in fields including nursing assistance, food service and cosmetology. By helping cover certification costs, TCB makes career pathways more accessible and gives residents a foundation on which to build.

Employment also depends on circumstances beyond a résumé or credential. That is why our work at Woodhill includes digital literacy, connections to trusted

childcare providers and access to rent reporting and credit building opportunities.

Digital skills can help residents navigate applications and communicate with employers.

Reliable childcare can make it possible for parents to attend training, interview and maintain a work schedule. Through the rent reporting option available to residents, on-time payments can support credit building without late payments being reported negatively.

Together, these efforts connect housing stability with residents' goals for financial security and independence.

At Woodhill, TCB is putting that commitment into practice through relationships, responsive programs and sustained support. Progress takes many forms: a teenager earning a first paycheck, a parent finding trusted childcare or a resident passing an exam that opens a new career path. Our responsibility is to help residents turn those steps into lasting opportunities.

When a career assessment pointed a Woodhill Resident toward nursing, she was surprised. She had never seriously considered the field before. Most of her professional experience was in customer service, but she had also worked in nursing-related settings and knew how much she enjoyed helping people.

While between jobs, she decided to take a chance on a new career path and pursue certification as a State Tested Nursing Assistant (STNA). She researched the field, found a training program, and began looking for help with the cost. Her first step was applying for a scholarship through OhioMeansJobs (OMJ), but after more than two months, the process was still moving slowly.

Around that time, TCB offered a new Workforce Development program, the Certification



At Woodhill Homes, residents are connected with employers while TCB supports their career goals and addresses the everyday challenges that can stand between ambition and opportunity.

Assistance Fund, offering scholarships to residents to pursue certifications. This program allowed residents to remove expensive barriers of training programs, and access higher paying jobs through credentials. She shared her career goals with her service coordinator, and the process quickly gained momentum. Through the Certification Assistance Fund, the support made the opportunity feel real and strengthened her excitement about moving forward.

Starting class was intimidating because nursing was new to her, but she stayed focused. She studied in her free time, leaned on family members who work in nursing for encouragement, and relied on the continued support of her service coordinator and TCB.

When it was time to take the STNA exam, she was nervous, but her hard work paid off when she passed.

Now certified, she is interviewing with several healthcare employers, with TCB supporting her job search through employer referrals. She describes the overall experience as positive and is grateful for the support she received. More than simply finding a job, she is excited to begin a career in which she feels confident and can continue helping others.

Other Workforce Development at Woodhill

2026, TCB's Woodhill Homes piloted different WFD programs. After having difficulty retaining residents through workforce training programs, we re-

ceived resident feedback that residents don't want specialized training, but access to jobs and training. TCB strengthened their relationships with local employers by putting boots on the ground and making warm hand-offs with local employers in the neighborhood. Over the summer, we piloted the Teen Clean program, offering 4 teenagers that live at Woodhill Homes summer cleaning jobs. Teens worked 15 hours a month cleaning the grounds, in return for a \$200 monthly stipend, for 3 months. Working with a local partner, the teens attended financial literacy classes alongside of their work, building savings skills and understanding the value of budgeting.

Finally, our Certification Assistance Fund has provided career certifications to over 10 residents, with certifications in STNA, ServSafe, and Cosmetology. These certifications remove cost barriers and provide training to sustain a career, providing confidence and sustainable pay to residents. People aren't just pursuing jobs but the CAF allows them to build careers.

This in conjunction with digital literacy provides an entirely new paradigm for opportunities. We've also been providing access to Rent Reporting and Credit Building. When residents pay their rent on time it positively impacts credit. Late payments do not impact credit negatively.

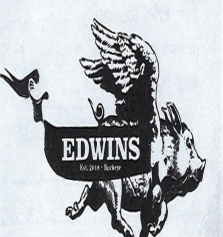
We've also been working with local daycares to ensure parents have childcare they trust which is often a barrier for single parents.

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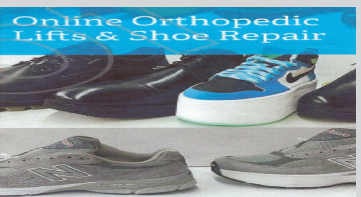
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