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“COVERING THE NEWS TODAY FOR A BETTER TOMORROW”

Greater Cleveland Activism Awards honors local activists

The Greater Cleveland Activism Awards honored Civil Rights legend attorney Fred D. Gray, Sr. as well as community leaders on September 20 at 6:00 p.m. at the Cleveland Agora.

The legacy of the late Civil Rights activist Khalid Samad was honored.

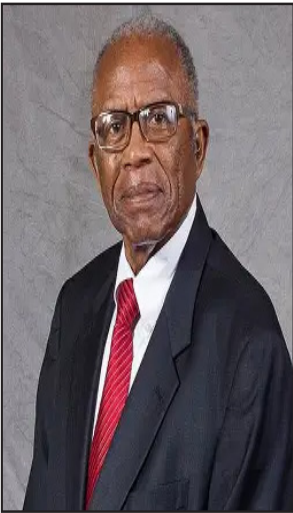
The Greater Cleveland Activism Awards brought together community leaders, activists, elected officials, entertainers, business leaders and residents from throughout Northeast Ohio for an evening celebrating individuals whose work has made a lasting impact on Greater Cleveland and beyond.

Presented by VoiceltRadio Corp. in partnership with Black on Black Crime, Inc., the Greater Cleveland Activism Awards were created to recognize the often-unsung individuals who have dedicated their lives to civil rights, social justice, neighborhood improvement, youth development, public service and community advocacy.

The evening featured a historic keynote address from legendary civil rights attorney Fred D. Gray Sr., one of the most important attorneys of the American Civil Rights Movement.

Gray represented Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., participants in the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and victims of the notorious Tuskegee Syphilis Study. His legal career has helped reshape American civil rights law and expand protections for generations of Americans.

Gray, a graduate of Case Western Reserve Univer-



sity School of Law, will be honored with the newly established Fred Gray Civil Rights & Justice Award, which will recognize individuals whose courage and commitment embody the principles of justice, equality and service that have defined Gray's historic career.

The program will also include a special tribute to the life and legacy of longtime Cleveland activist Khalid Samad, whose decades of advocacy, organizing and community work made him one of Cleveland's most respected voices for justice and neighborhood empowerment. An award will be named in his honor as part of the ceremony.

A total of 20 Greater Cleveland activists and community leaders were recognized during the evening.

The event featured live entertainment and special performances throughout the program, including appearances by Carlos Jones & The Plus Band, Moises Borges, Young Caleb, Rod Piper, Mickie Baby, and other artists and special guests.



The Greater Cleveland Activism Awards brought together community leaders, activists, elected officials, entertainers, business leaders and residents from throughout Northeast Ohio. Brandon Chrostowski is a chef, restaurateur, and humanitarian. He is the founder, president, and chief executive officer of EDWINS Leadership and Restaurant Institute which helps the formerly incarcerated. (ESDN Photo by Al Porter Jr.)



Delores Gray Ford was one of 20 Greater Cleveland activists and community leaders who were recognized during the evening. Ford, is an elected member of the Ohio State Board of Education (District 11) and President of the Carl Stokes Brigade. She has over 20 years in education, social work, and community health, and social justice initiatives. (ESDN Photo by Al Porter Jr.)

Thousands Face Losing Vital Medicaid Coverage

By BRUCE CHECEFSKY

“Many changes are coming down the pike,” said Christy Nicholls at the Cuyahoga Job and Family Services Long Term Care Forum last month, referring to changes under HR 1, also known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA). “We are taking these changes very seriously.” Nicholls, Deputy Administrator of Medicaid for Cuyahoga Job and Family Services (CJFS) in Ohio, oversees the county’s public healthcare assistance and support programs. CJFS, a county division, helps families and individuals access public benefits, jobs, and community services to promote economic self-sufficiency.

Erin Bradford-Davis, manager of the Specialized Medicaid Benefits Center (SMBC), and Mayra Vargas-Bremer, SMBC Team Coordinator, were on hand to present material and new information regarding changes to the Medicaid program. SMBC is a service unit within the Cuyahoga County Division of Job and Family Services in Ohio, which administers, reviews, and determines eligibility for specialized, long-term care Medicaid programs and waivers.

Medicaid changes under the OBBBA begin in October for non-citizens, with most major changes taking effect Jan. 1, 2027, for non-exempt Medicaid expansion adults. The changes include new eligibility categories and revised terminology and application language for non-citizen Medicaid eligibility, Nicholls said.

“A five-year waiting period is imposed on most non-resident applicants with a green card before becoming eligible for Medicaid,” she said. “Exceptions to the waiting period include active military members, spouses or unmarried dependent children of veterans, and serving spouses of veterans.”

Work and eligibility requirements for non-exempt Medicaid expansion adults aged 19 to 64 include at least 80 hours per month of work or community engagement to keep their health coverage, while adjusted gross income must be at or below 138% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), and applicants must not be eligible for Medicare benefits.

“Work requirements include

paid or unpaid, in-kind work, or earning the federal minimum wage for eighty hours, which equals \$580 a month,” explained Nicholls. “Community service with a public or non-profit organization counts towards the new requirement, or enrollment in an education program half-time can be counted as a work requirement.”

Exclusions and exceptions include a parent, guardian, or caretaker relative of a family member, dependent children under the age of fourteen, disabled individuals, foster youth under twenty-six years old, disabled veterans, individuals participating in a drug or alcohol treatment program, incarcerated or recently released from incarceration within the last 90 days, and those with a health condition that prevents them from working.

“This would include blindness or disability as defined by the Social Security Administration,” she added. “Anyone with a substance use disorder, disabling mental disorder, physical or intellectual developmental disability, or serious or complex medical condition is also exempt. Nursing home residents often meet one of these exemptions.”

Under the new restrictions in HB 1, Medicaid enrollees will undergo eligibility reviews every six months instead of annually, requiring them to certify twice as often. Critics, including the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP), a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit research and policy institute, say more frequent reviews increase the risk that eligible people will “fall through the cracks” because of missed mail, address changes or complex paperwork.

“The law cuts \$1.1 trillion from Medicaid and ACA marketplaces, according to Congressional Budget Office estimates,” said CBPP. “Major cuts include a provision that takes away Medicaid from people who are eligible for the ACA Medicaid expansion but can’t show that they meet a work re-

quirement, other red tape that will block people from enrolling in health coverage they are eligible for, and provisions that take away health coverage, across all major programs, from most categories of immigrants living lawfully in the U.S.”

More than 100,000 Ohioans, including over 50,000 children, have lost Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits under President Donald Trump’s bill, which the Ohio Capital Journal reported would make the largest cuts to food stamps in the program’s history.

As of May 2026, approximately 66.4 million people are enrolled in Medicaid across the U.S., with an additional 7.1 million enrolled in the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), totaling roughly 73.5 million people combined.

In Ohio, Medicaid and CHIP enrollment accounts for roughly 25% of the population, or about 2.6 million residents, a share that exceeds the national average. Ohio also ranks sixth nationally in total Medicaid spending. In Cleveland, an estimated 40% to 45% of residents, or roughly 145,000 to 162,000 people, rely on Medicaid. Several nonpartisan organizations estimate that the new restrictions could cause 5 million to 15 million Americans to lose their Medicaid coverage beginning in 2026.

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), the legislative cornerstone of Trump’s second-term economic agenda, bundles permanent extensions of his 2017 tax cuts with new temporary deductions, border security funding, and extensive cuts to federal social safety net programs to offset the costs. Republicans view changes and cuts to Medicaid as necessary, claiming the program is too expensive and the welfare system is bloated, according to POLITICO, a global, nonpartisan digital news and journalism organization, even while most Americans favor keeping or increasing Medicaid funding because they or their families rely on it.

In Cuyahoga County alone, over 87,000 Medicaid recipients who enrolled through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) expan-

sion face new eligibility and work requirements, or roughly a third of the county’s 344,000 total Medicaid enrollees. Based on current projections, SMBC estimates 20,000 to 45,000 individuals will have to meet the new requirements or face losing coverage under new federal eligibility restrictions.

Ohio’s Republican members of the U.S. House of Representatives who voted for OBBBA include David Taylor, Jim Jordan, Bob Latta, Michael Rulli, Max Miller, Warren Davidson, Mike Turner, Troy Balderson, David Joyce, and Mike Carey. All 10 are seeking reelection in the November 3, 2026, general election. Vice President JD Vance championed and supported the legislation. He cast a tie-breaking vote. The SMBC contact center is facing a surge in calls as the deadline nears, but has been unable to add staff to meet demand, Nicholls said.

“We apologize for the long wait times and encourage people to use the call-back line, which typically returns calls the same day,” she said. “However, depending on the volume of calls, the call-back may occur the following day.”

As the 90-minute online forum ended, Nicholls said, “We are navigating changes that affect us all, and we are here to serve you.”

To apply for SNAP, Medicaid, Child Care, or Cash Assistance, the main contact number is 216-802-2810, email CuyahogaCustomerRelations@ifs.ohio.gov , or check out the website at https://hhs.cuyahogacounty.gov.

The staff addresses escalated issues within 48 hours of initial request and informs customers of next steps after consulting with eligibility staff. Provide name, address, home or cell number, or other contact information where customer can be reached.

For additional support and information, contact Erin Bradford-Davis, SMBC Center Manager, erin.Bradford-Davis@jfs.ohio.gov ; Mayra Vargas-Bremer, SMBC Team Coordinator, mayralie.Vargas-Bremer@jfs.ohio.gov ; and Christy Nicholls, Deputy Administrator, Medicaid, christy.Nicholls@jfs.ohio.gov .

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	(09-25-26)	\$3.61
Last Week	(09-18-26)	\$4.61
Last Year	(09-25-25)	\$3.52
National	(09-25-26)	\$4.49

VANTAGE POINT

YOUR HEALTH

Governor DeWine announced \$13.5 million to transit agencies

Governor Mike DeWine, Lt. Governor Jim Tressel, and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Director Pamela Boratyn today announced \$13.5 million to support public workforce transportation in rural and urban areas of Ohio.

ODOT is awarding the funding to transit agencies in 13 counties through the Ohio Workforce Mobility Partnership Program (OWMP). The funding will

support 19 transit projects that increase the ease and efficiency of transporting residents to economically significant employment centers or places of employment outside of their home communities.

“When we connect workers directly to reliable transportation, our entire economy improves,” said Governor DeWine. “This new round of funding ensures that hard-working Ohioans can easily reach

growing employment centers, helping businesses stay fully staffed and competitive.”

Workforce Mobility graphic

Fiscal Year 2027 Workforce Mobility Project List

The OWMP Program was established with support from the Ohio General Assembly. The program provides funding for infrastructure, equipment, tech-

nology, vehicles, and planning projects.

In this current grant cycle, funding will support high-impact projects operated by local transit authorities, regional transportation districts, and county partners. Projects include purchasing bus equipment, replacing existing equipment, expanding transit facilities, improving signage, and modernizing bus shelters.

Suicide prevention resources: Self-care

Suicide is when people harm themselves with the intent of ending their life, and they die as a result. A suicide attempt is when people harm themselves with the intent of ending their life, but they do not die.

People of all backgrounds can be at risk of suicide. Suicidal behavior is complex, and there is no single cause.

Where can I learn more about suicide prevention?

practice. And we’re supporting research to develop and test fast-acting treatments that can reduce suicidal thoughts and behaviors.

Explore clinical trials about suicide prevention

Clinical trials are research studies that look at new ways to prevent, detect, or treat diseases and conditions. To learn more or find a study, visit:

Clinical Trials – Information for Participants: Answers to common questions about clinical trials, including why people might take part in a clinical trial and what they can expect

at 988lifeline.org . In life-threatening situations, call 911.

Additional federal resources

2024 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services): A comprehensive whole-of-society approach to suicide prevention accompanied by a Federal Action Plan

Ask Suicide-Screening Questions Toolkit (NIMH): A free screening resource for medical settings that can help health care providers identify youth and adults at risk for suicide

National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention : A public-private partnership working to advance the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention

Weekly Wealth For Your Health

Making money while working out

Here are a few ways that you could tie physical activities to achieving your financial goals. Hopefully being able to tackle both resolutions at once can help keep you motivated for the entire year.

Compete with yourself, or others. If you’re up for a little friendly competition, consider creating or joining a challenge and putting money on the line.

There’s an on-line app that you can use to place a wager on how often you’ll work out. At the end of the week, you have to pay your preselected amount for each workout you miss. But if you complete your workouts for the week, you collect a portion of the amount paid out by everyone else.

Some people make an arrangement with a friend where you each agree to work out X times a week and to

pay the other person \$5 or \$10 for each workout missed. Or, you could opt to make a donation to a charity of your friend’s choice rather than pay each other. The goal is to provide accountability, and the financial aspect can add a sense of urgency and be a great motivational tool.

Connect an activity tracker to rewards programs. Several services give you points each time you work out and let you redeem the points for cash, gift cards or other prizes. The real trick is to use multiple programs and maximize your rewards from every workout. Some employers also provide bonus points to employees that use these programs or have similar rewards programs of their own.

Make working out your work. If you’re looking to make a serious lifestyle change, and potentially some serious money, consider becoming

ing a personal trainer or fitness instructor. While the certification process can be expensive and time-consuming, afterward you’ll be able to charge clients for classes or one-on-one training.

Or, you could try to find flexible and active work that suits your interests and experience. Gardener, referee or dog walker could be good fits to supplement your income.

Keep exercise-related expenses down. It can be tempting to buy new workout equipment or sign up for a gym when you’re excited about a New Year’s resolution. However, there are many ways to get fit without expensive equipment or a large gym.

For example, you can find videos of free instructor-led workouts or yoga sequences online or try an app that creates and leads you through workouts. If you want to take up an activity that requires facilities, look for inexpensive options at local community centers.

Raise money for a charity with every step. You may not have a strong desire to earn money but are still looking for a little extra motivation to work out. Similar to the programs that

reward you with points, there are apps like Charity Miles that you can use to raise money for your favorite charities while exercising.

You could also sign up for a charity walk, run or ride and know that when you cross the finish line you’ll be helping a good cause.

Bottom line: >> By keeping costs down and looking for ways to make money while staying active you can make your budget (and body) more flexible. This approach could help you stay motivated for longer, and you can use the extra money to pursue your other goals for the year.

Perhaps you’re trying to save for a down payment or vacation, focused on building your retirement savings or looking to make a significant impact in your community by donating to non-profit organizations. Every extra dollar can bring you one step closer to achieving that goal.

Nathaniel Sillin directs Visa’s financial education programs. To follow Practical Money Skills on Twitter: www.twitter.com/Practical-Money.

NIMH news about suicide prevention, including press releases and highlights on the latest research findings.

Information about the prevalence and treatment of suicide prevention in the United States.

Why is NIMH studying suicide prevention?

Suicide is a leading cause of death in the United States and a major public health concern. When a person dies by suicide, the effects are felt by family, friends, and communities.

Data show that some communities experience higher rates of suicide than others. Effective, evidence-based programs and treatment options can help prevent suicide.

How is NIMH research addressing this critical topic?

NIMH is supporting and conducting research to understand who is at risk of suicide and why. This includes research that examines ways to identify individuals at increased risk and identifies groups and communities that are disproportionately affected by suicide.

The organization also supporting research that evaluates the effectiveness of different suicide prevention programs. This includes programs in health care, community, school, and justice system settings. It also includes efforts to provide effective programs and practices focused on suicide prevention.

Additionally, they are funding practice-based suicide prevention research centers that aim to speed the translation of effective interventions and services into

Clinicaltrials.gov: Current Studies on Suicide Prevention : List of clinical trials funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) being conducted across the country

NIMH Suicide Prevention Studies for Adults: List of studies being conducted on the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD

Share outreach materials about suicide prevention

Digital shareables

Social media graphics, videos, and resources about suicide prevention.

Find help and support

Learn how to find help for yourself or someone else. You can also find support and locate mental health services in your area on the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration website.

If you or someone you know is struggling or having thoughts of suicide, call or text the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988 or chat

Suicide (MedlinePlus): Information, journal articles, and other resources about suicide and suicide prevention collected by the National Library of Medicine

Suicide Prevention (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention): Resources for communities and states to support suicide prevention efforts

Suicide Prevention and Care Program (Indian Health Service): A national program addressing suicide prevention, based on fostering collaborations across Tribes, Tribal organizations, Urban Indian organizations, and the Indian Health Service

Suicide Prevention Resource Center : A federally supported resource center devoted to advancing the implementation of the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention

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Islam In The Community

Netanyahu rages against critics, including Mamdani, at the U.N. General Assembly

Protesters rallied outside the United Nations building in New York and many delegates inside walked out of the room as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gave a fiery address to the General Assembly, denying allegations of genocide and slamming his critics, including the city's mayor, Zohran Mamdani.

He called allegations of Israeli genocide in Gaza "the biggest lie of the century" and defended attacking Iran alongside the U.S., calling it "one of the

easiest decisions I've ever had to make." He added: "if we hadn't done it, we'd all be dead."

In his Thursday speech, he lashed out against the protesters outside — who included Hollywood stars Susan Sarandon and Hacks actress Hannah Einbinder, both detained during the anti-Netanyahu protest — calling them "phony" and asking why they hadn't all protested when Iranian security forces killed thousands of demonstrators in January.

He also berated the

dozens of U.N. delegates who walked out when he started his speech, calling them "moral cowards."

Netanyahu then attacked Mayor Mamdani, who has called him a war criminal and pushed for federal authorities to act on the International Criminal Court-issued arrest warrant for him.

The Israeli leader called Mamdani, New York's first Muslim mayor, "antisemitic."

"Mr. Mamdani, you tried to stop me from coming here. You tried to silence



Netanyahu then attacked Mayor Mamdani, who has called him a war criminal and pushed for federal authorities to act on the International Criminal Court-issued arrest warrant for him.

me. Well, you can't silence me, and you can't silence the truth," Netanyahu said in his speech.

In a statement responding to Netanyahu's criticism, Mamdani dismissed the Israeli leader's speech as "baseless lies meant to sanitize his genocide against Palestinians."

The Israeli leader's comments came after Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas delivered his address via a recorded video. The Trump administration had denied a visa to Abbas, on the grounds that the Palestinian leadership is undermining the prospects for peace, even though Abbas has been consistent in his call for a settlement with Israel. It's the second year in a row the U.S. has denied Abbas a visa for the assembly.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas speaks via pre-recorded video after being denied a visa to attend in person during the 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly at United Nations headquarters, Thursday, Sept. 24, 2026.

In his address, Abbas condemned Israeli actions in Gaza and the occupied West Bank and again called for a two-state solution. "We seek a democratic Palestinian state that respects the rule of law and human rights, a non-militarized state that lives in security and peace alongside the state of Israel," he said.

He also called Israel's war in Gaza a "genocidal war that has created an unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe."

Netanyahu's defensive address responds to criticism

Israel's war against Hamas in Gaza has been a major topic of the week, as several world leaders have used their speeches to bluntly criticize Israel's conduct. A U.S.-mediated truce between Israel and Hamas has been in place since last October, but Israel has continued its attacks. More than 1,300 Palestinians have been killed since the ceasefire agreement, according to the Hamas-run Gaza health authorities.

U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres condemned the Hamas-led attack on Israel in 2023 but said what followed by Israel was an "onslaught on Palestinians in Gaza." Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan described Gaza as "the most inhumane, most shameful concentration camp of our time."

Jordan's King Abdullah II, whose country has maintained a peace treaty with Israel since 1994, called Israel a "regional threat" that operates with "terrifying levels" of impunity.

Netanyahu called the world leaders who criticized him "tyrants" and

pushed back on much of what was said.

A photo of the late Qassem Soleimani, the architect of Iran's regional military activities, is displayed as chairs for delegates from Iran are unoccupied while Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks at the United Nations in New York, Thursday. Soleimani was killed in a U.S. attack in 2020.

He rejected claims of genocide by Israel and downplayed settler violence against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, saying it was the work of 150 "juvenile delinquents." But NPR has found that violence is widespread and destructive. The United Kingdom recently said such settler attacks and land grabs amount to "ethnic cleansing."

The Israeli settlement of Har Homa, backdropped by the Israeli-occupied Palestinian West Bank city of Bethlehem (right), is seen in the Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem on Aug. 14.

U.K. accuses Israeli settlers of 'ethnic cleansing' in West Bank and bans their goods

He also accused the media of not telling the truth about the war in Gaza. Israel has not allowed outside journalists to enter Gaza to independently report in almost three years.

Increasingly isolated, Netanyahu's combative address comes as he faces an election next month that will decide if he remains prime minister.

Under scrutiny will be his handling of the Oct. 7, 2023, attacks on Israel by Hamas that killed about 1,200 people and prompted Israel's ground offensive in the Gaza Strip. Almost 74,000 people have been killed in Gaza since that 2023 attack, according to the Hamas-run health ministry.

Another key issue is the war in Iran, launched by Israel and the U.S. in February, that has affected key waterways through which Gulf countries export their oil. The seven-month war has shaken global markets as numerous attempts at diplomacy to end it have failed.

Yemen Vice President Abdullah Abdulkader al Alimi-Bawzer, part of the country's internationally recognized government, also addressed the U.N. General Assembly on Thursday. He warned that recent advances by Iran-backed Houthi rebels in the Bab el-Mandeb Strait pose an "international economic risk." Some 12% of the world's trade passes through the strait.

Yemen's Houthi armed forces patrol as Yemeni prisoners loyal to the Houthi authorities arrive in the capital Sanaa on Sep. 12, after being released on the



Jewish groups protest Netanyahu visit to the UN.

west coast where he and others were being held by Yemen's Saudi-backed government forces.

Middle East conflict Houthis try to push deeper into western Yemen, upending life, witnesses tell NPR

The Houthis, who have controlled the capital, Sanaa, and part of Yemen's north since 2014, seized the important port city of Mokha earlier this month from the country's government forces, which are backed by Saudi Arabia. The Houthis have declared a blockade on Saudi shipping and have attacked its oil tankers.

Since the surge in fighting in Yemen, tens of thousands of people have been displaced, and a humanitarian crisis is deepening.

More than 100 people were arrested outside the United Nations' headquarters in New York City on Thursday as Benjamin Netanyahu addressed the general assembly, a speech that also prompted dozens of UN delegates to walk out in protest.

The protest outside the UN,

one of several this week against the embattled Israeli prime minister, drew hundreds of Jewish, Palestinian, Iranian and Lebanese New Yorkers, among others, as well as several elected officials and candidates in the November election, and a number of celebrities.

Many wore shirts reading "Fund people not bombs" and chanted slogans like "Let Gaza live" and "the whole world is watching." Official vehicles heading to the UN were diverted as protesters sat down in the middle of the street for more than an hour, unfurling banners that called to "end the genocide" and flying a kite reading "Free Palestine" — a reference to Israel's threat earlier this year that it would target Palestinian children flying kites, organizers said.

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A Look At My World

I Used to Take Violin Lessons

By Dr. JAMES L. SNYDER

When it comes to music, I am quite a fan. I enjoy all kinds of music, though some more than others. When I'm driving, I love having the radio on and listening to music. Sometimes I jump from station to station listening to different kinds of music.

Although I love music, I am not the person anyone would want to sing. If you ever heard me sing, you might have a little pause about music yourself.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage has been playing the piano since she was a young girl. Her father played the piano, and she has followed in his footsteps. She is quite good at the piano, and she has been the pianist in all the churches we have pastored.

Even in retirement, she plays the piano at our Sunday morning service.

I don't know why this thought came to me. But when I was in first grade, I took violin lessons. That was in 1957. I don't quite remember why I took violin lessons. But everybody in first grade was invited to take some music lessons. One day, my first-grade teacher asked me, "Would you like to take violin lessons?"

Who in their right mind would ever say no to their

first-grade teacher? So, I told her I would, and she set me up for my first lesson.

At the time, music wasn't part of my life. We didn't have TV, and at my age I rarely listened to the radio. The only music that I heard was in church on Sunday. What I brought to that violin lesson is beyond my comprehension.

My parents bought me a violin, and I practiced at home. At least I thought I was practicing. My music was so terrible, and it showed in my violin lessons, that the violin teacher called a meeting with my parents.

I was excited because I thought he was going to tell my parents what a wonderful violin player I was. However, when the meeting started, it was completely different from what I expected.

The teacher looked at my parents, then looked over at me, then back at my parents and said, "If you have any respect at all for music you will take your son out of these violin lessons. I've never had a worse student in my life."

Of course my parents were surprised, as I was. Out of respect for the violin teacher, they removed me from his class. On the way home, both my parents were silent. I never heard anything from them about that meeting. That week they sold

my violin.

Nothing has changed throughout the years. I'm still as bad at music as I ever was.

It's good to know what you can't do so you can adjust your life.

As a pastor, I've had to lead the congregation in singing hymns. Fortunately, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage was playing the piano and played it so loud nobody could hear me singing. I didn't catch up to that until many years later.

Some people are just gifted in music. I watched the TV show America's Got Talent and listened to all the music people auditioned. It's amazing how much musical talent they have on that show.

Even though singing is not my forte, I certainly enjoyed listening to music. Sometimes the ear is more profitable than the mouth.

I remember one time I was in the shower, and for some reason I began singing. A few moments later, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came to the bathroom, knocked on the door, and said, "Are you okay? You sound like you're in pain."

I didn't know she could hear me singing in the shower. So, that was the last time I sang in the shower. Now I only sing when I'm driving across town by myself.

When I get to heaven, I hope I have a good singing voice. Until then, I'm going to keep my singing to myself.

We attend church on Sunday night, and they have a lot of music and singing. Older people getting up on the pulpit and singing like an angel impress me. No Sunday night goes by that I don't want to get up and sing myself. But out of great respect for the congregation's ears, I refuse that impulse.

Just because I can't sing doesn't mean I don't appreciate others who are singing. I enjoy listening to them, and after the service, I like to shake their hand and tell them what a good job they did.

It's not that I can't sing; it's just that I have a terrible voice. I do not know the difference between one musical note and another. To me, they're all the same. I guess I'm just a monotone.

Some award should be waiting for me because I haven't cursed the world around me with my singing. That should be worth something.

The Bible says something interesting along these lines.

"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath" (James 1:19).

Many are swift to speak and slow to hear. If I would actually hear something, I would be slow to judge someone.

Like The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage says to me, "God gave you two ears and one mouth for a purpose." In that light, I'm going to work hard at using my ears more than my mouth.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores.

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Bootland to lead Monsters

The Monsters are proud to welcome Nick “Booter” Bootland back into the Cleveland fold as the eighth head coach in their history. Cleveland is not entirely unfamiliar to Bootland, who played for the Cleveland Barons spanning four seasons from 2001-05 posting 14-16-30 with 125 penalty minutes in 121 career games. In his time here previously, he enjoyed the Rock n’ Roll Hall of Fame, taking in a Guardians game, spending time at West Side Market and Little Italy, and hiking at Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Tuesday, September 22, 2026 to Friday, September 25, 2026

EAST SIDE DAILY NEWS

SPORTS

A LEA fundraiser boxing show will be held on August 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the Metroplex,1620 Motor Inn Drive, Girard, Ohio 44420. For information, contact John Loew at 330-501-5713.

216 Regatta to be held

The 216 Regatta will be held on September 26–27 at the Edgewater Yacht Club, 6700 Cleveland Memorial Shoreway. Classes & Racing: CRW features: Over a dozen One Design classes Nine Handicap (PHRF) divisions Three JAM divisions and four race courses www.clevelandraceweek.com.The event draws over 1,800 national and international participants annually, offering marketing exposure to sailing professionals, amateurs, juniors, and women’s sailors www.clevelandraceweek.com. It maintains a strong sponsorship network, placing it among the top U.S. sailing regattas www.clevelandraceweek.com.

They’re Now the 1st Place Guardians

BY KARL BRYANT

The Guardians clinched a Postseason berth at Press Time, with a 1-0 win over the Red Sox. All that’s left to be decided is if they’ll be the AL Central Champion or a Wild Card. They hold a one game lead on the White Sox, so have a good chance to be Division Champion, but no one can catch them for the third Wild Card. If they finish atop the division, ahead of Chicago, the White Sox will be the third Wild Card. In the just-completed game, Joey Cantillo (11-9) allowed one hit and struck out four in hurling 5.0 scoreless in-



Cantillo

nings, after entering the game in the 2nd Inning in a designed move, following opener Daniel Espino, who struck out two in his one inning of work. Boston managed only one other hit against five CLE pitchers, who combined for the Shut-out. Cade Smith struck out the side to earn his MLB-leading 41st Save.



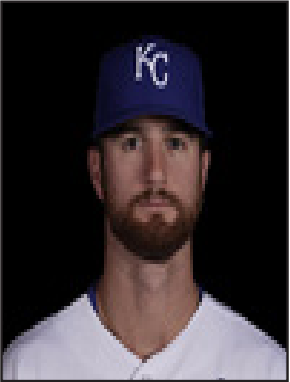
Espino

Angel Martinez smacked a HR in the 2nd Inning for CLE’s game-winner. The Guardians celebrated in style in their Clubhouse after the clinch. CLE Manager Stephen Vogt, who raucously participated, exclaimed, “It just doesn’t get old and you can’t take one minute of it for granted.”



Smith

The 1-0 win returned the favor from the previous night when the Red Sox shut them out, 1-0. Boston’s Sonny Gray (18-5) a Cy Young favorite, barely got the best of hard-luck loser Foster Griffin (15-6), who allowed one mea-



Griffin

sly run on a 6th Inning single. CLE had won the series opener, 3-2, behind a strong performance by Rookie Parker Messick. Hunter Gaddis (5-3) got the win in relief. Cade Smith notched Save No. 40.



Messic

The fact that CLE pitching showed up so robustly in the clutch in the heat of a Pennant Race, while facing a fellow playoff-guaranteed team, certainly portends good things to come for their chances in the Postseason.

KSU No Match for OSU

BY KARL BRYANT

The Buckeyes - as expected - rebounded from their last-minute one-point loss the previous week in Texas, with a complete dousing of the Golden Flashes, 59-3. The non-contest was over by Halftime as OSU built an insurmountable 35-0 lead. Five - count ‘em - five KSU QBs combined to complete 8 of 21 passes for a myopic 63 yards. OSU amazingly had only one sack of the cadre of Kent State signal callers, which also was the same number of sacks (one) that the Flashes recorded. Ten KSU runners cobbled together 71 yards on the ground. OSU QB Julian Sayin completed 18 of 22 passes for 241 yards, with two TD passes - a 6 YD TD Pass to Nate Roberts, and a 49 YD TD Pass to Brandon Innis on a Hail Mary Pass to end the Half. Backup QB Luke Fahey completed 4 of 5 passes for 141 yards, including a 75 YD TD Pass to Chris Henry, Jr., while tossing one interception. Ja’Kobi Jackson ran for



Sayin

Jeremiah Smith had five catches for 85 yards in one Half of play. He became the Buckeyes all-time reception yardage leader with a 23-yard reception in the 1st Quarter. The Heisman Hopeful has 2,958 career receiving yards. Afterwards, OSU Coach Ryan Day heaped praise on Smith, saying, “Boy, it’s hard to put anybody above him...33 games to break the all-time leading receiving record at Ohio State. I think that speaks more than anything to just him, his mindset, his discipline, what he does every day.”

Ja’Kobi Jackson ran for

two OSU scores - one an 11 YD TD Run and the other, a 1 YD TD Run. Villa Angela- St. Joseph’s Bo Jackson had a 1 YD TD Run and Isaiah West had a 4 YD TD Run. Seven Buckeyes amassed 145 yards on the ground. 349 lb. Jamir Perez lumbered 11 yards with a KSU fumble for a TD. Sean Leonard took KSU MVP honors for kicking a 30 YD FG just inside the Two-Minute Timeout, to avoid the Shutout. The Flashes Tanner Mints returned OSU 3rd String QB Tavien St. Clair’s only pass of the game 48 yards to the Buckeye five to set up KSU’s face-saving score. Yet, by holding the Golden Flashes to a FG there, the Buckeyes rewarded their betting backers, who dared to take the daunting 52.5-point spread. This Saturday, the Buckeyes begin Big Ten play by hosting Illinois in the Battle for the coveted Illibuck Trophy.

The Browns played their second Florida Away game in a row and this time came away with an unexpected win in Tampa. Their 23-19 victory was aided by a two-hour+ weather delay, as lightning and tropical force storm made the final two minutes last for what seemed like an eternity. Former QB Baker Mayfield, who certainly had a chip on his now-healed shoulder for the way things ended for him in CLE, completed 21 of 34 passes for 182 yards, with a TD and an INT by Brown DB Myles Harden. He was sacked three times, but only for minus-6 yards. The Browns “D” did their job by holding the Bucs to FGs in Red Zone situations. Tampa Bay’s one time across the goal line was a Mayfield to former Buckeye Emeka Egbuka 5 YD TD Pass. Embattled Browns QB Deshaun Watson lived to start another day as he completed 24 of 30 passes for 238 yards and TD strikes to Denzel Boston, of 55 yards, and the game-winner to Blake Whiteheart, of 17 yards. He was sacked twice, yet was the leading CLE rusher with 22 yards. The Browns ran for just 44

yards overall. PK Andre Szmyt, with three FGs and two PATs, was named AFC Player of the week. Speaking of strikes, lightning strikes at the Two Minute Warning sent the teams to their locker rooms and a torrential downpour ensued. Two hours and change was needed to get the field ready and the teams ready to play. With the ball at the Browns 28, and some rain again falling, CLE was able to keep Mayfield and the Bucs from scoring, and cement the victory. CLE Coach Todd Monken, who raced to the End Zone to celebrate with Browns fans in attendance, following his first NFL win, remarked, “I’m so happy for him (Watson). Good for him. Good for 22 months working his (rear end) off to get to where he’s at. I’m gonna leave it at that.” CLE now will host Carolina in The Land this Sunday as they play their first Home game of the year.



Kenyon QB Drew Morgan (12) had a tough game facing the John Carroll Defense, as the Blue Streaks pasted a 56-7 shellacking on his Owls on JCU’s Senior Night. JCU moved to 3-0 on the season and 2-0 in the North Coast Athletic Conference. (ESDN Photo by Bill Moore (Minority Publishers Assn.)

Steelers stymied by Pats

BY ANDREW CARTER

The Steelers were stymied by the Patriots, who held Aaron Rogers and Co. to just one FG in a 20-3 loss in Foxboro. It was noted that the last time the duo of Coach Mike McCarthy and QB Rogers did not score a TD was way back in 2010, when both were with the Packers in a 7-3 loss in Detroit. The Steelers “D” did reasonably well as former Buckeye RB TreVeon Henderson’s 39 YD TD Run was the only offensive TD for N.E. He had 76 of the Patriots 136 yards rushing. N.E. QB Drake Maye went 14 of 22 for 208 yards, with an INT by Steeler Patrick Queen. Payton Wilson also recovered a N.E. fumble. Steelers QB Aaron Rodgers went 23 of 37 for 187 yards, with an INT that bounced

off the intended receiver. He was harassed throughout the game and lost 43 yards on four sacks, one of which was a 4th Quarter strip sack that was run in 19 yards for an insurance TD by the Pats Elijah Ponder. Jaylen Warren had 43 of the Steelers 91 yards rushing. Their only score was a Chris Boswell 56 YD FG. He just missed a 57-yarder. They were just 2 of 12 on 3rd Down conversions. Steelers Coach McCarthy afterwards stated, “We’ve got to give Aaron better platforms to throw off of because I don’t want to dink and dunk and play keep-away football. There’s a place for that maybe situationally, but that’s not the philosophy. We have to attempt to get the ball thrown downfield.” The Steelers host Cincinnati this Sunday.

BEEZWAX By John Martin

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Matinee Idol activates his Drama-genre telepathy to read Voodoo Doll’s mind and discovers that she is actually his Haitian-born schoolmate, Veronique Devereaux...

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No!! That ugly girl is not who I am! She is insignificant! Weak! I am in control!

No! Veronique! Listen to me...?!?

Look at me! It’s me, Quentin! I’m Matinee Idol!

You? Quentin? It--- it can’t be...?!?

TO BE CONTINUED

BY C.M. APPLING

On The Town

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

2026 Pittsburgh Int’l Jazz Festival: Rained On But Not

By VINCE ROBINSON

Musical notes danced with raindrops as Mother Nature took center stage at the 16th Annual Pittsburgh International Jazz Festival co-presented by Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield last weekend at the August Wilson African American Cultural Center.

The street festival was preceded by an indoor event on Friday night with the incredibly talented jazz vocalist Samara Joy in the Cultural Center..

Under threatening skies, undeterred jazz fans donned ponchos and spread their umbrellas on the days the followed. The payoff was an array of shows on alternate stages in a rhythmic rotation. Things got warmed up with the PIJF All Stars with Howie Alexander, seemingly local young lions with an energetic Howie Alexander in the driver’s seat.

The sound was bumping with another three hours coming from the Rakiem Walker Project, T Marie R&B Review and a D’Angelo Tribute with the Dennis Garner Band. After heaping helpings of Neo Soul and a taste of jazz, Jae Sinnett Rock Blurred Lines Project ushered in a metal component to the mix.

And then there was trumpet maestro Sean Jones and his clique Presence with their contemporary spin on the genre that included tunes of his own and the powerhouse sacophonist Tim Green.

Jones brought a heartfelt message of unity through music to the stage as he and his stellar assemblage of bandmate created magic.



The 16th Annual Pittsburgh International Jazz Festival co-presented by Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield was held last weekend at the August Wilson African American Cultural Center. (ESDN Photo by Vince Robinson)

Next up, the Man, the Myth, the Legend Bernard “Pretty” Purdy set up camp on the opposite stage. In the rear center, eyes shielded from the spotlight and under the cover of his Zildjian cymbals, he took a deep dive into the funkiness of his craft by invoking the spirit of Gil Scott-Heron with poet Mike Smalls and his homage to The Revolution Will Not Be Televised.

With four thousand recordings under his belt, he’s played with greats from the Beatles to Aretha Franklin and so many more. He came with Mr. Magic funk. Rock Steady funk. Special guest Eric Roberson stepped out to embellish Marvin’s ‘What’s Goin’ On. Purdy then slipped into Sonny Rollins mode with St. Thomas, Tighen UP from Archie Bell and the Drells, and Steely Dan’s Peg. It was quite a party!

Roberson, meanwhile, took up his mantle of Artist-in-Residence to do a full set with his bandmates in a largely improvised set with an engaged audience. He is a master of free-styling, lending a clue to how he’s managed to experience success as an independent artist and

a record of eight albums and hits of his and with others. Lee Johnson, a cinematographer from Cleveland, Ohio, found himself onstage with Roberson lip synching while Roberson provided the vocals. It was hilarious. “J.D”, another festival goer, joined Roberson onstage to provide suggestions of emotions for the singer to emote with his lyrics and mannerism.

The night rapped up with a jam session in the AWAACC curated by by pianist Orrin Evans featuring bassist Robert Hurst and Sean Jones while the younger crowd drowned in the sound coming from the one’s and two’s of Hip Hop Legend DJ Kid Capri.

Sunday was all about jazz, kicking off with the return of the PIJF All Stars and leading to Cleveland’s Nathan-Paul & The Admirables. The saxophonist left it all on the stage, playing with emotion that brought him to his knees at times. He bristled at this reporter’s comparison to sax giant Kenny Garrett, but the



Songstress Lalah Hathaway, several pounds lighter than her former self, but no less the vocal talent, closed out the festival with her jazz-infused R&B sensibility. (ESDN Photo by Vince Robinson)



Nasir Wilson, prodigy of one of the hardest working percussionists in the business, joinedthe PIJF All Stars and leading to Cleveland’s Nathan-Paul & The Admirables. (ESDN Photo by Vince Robinson)

mannerisms are uncanny and his approach to arrangements and tension building within songs are remarkably similar.

Joining him in his cadre was the wunderkid Nasir Wilson, prodigy of one of the hardest working percussionists in the business, Weedie Braimah and Cleveland dance ieon Talise Campbell. Both were present to witness the young lad brimming in percussive excellence.

Fast forward to the next set, the awesome trio that included Orrin Evans with bassist Hurst and s special guest, the Grammy Award-winning Terri Lynne Carrington on drums. His session was a tribute to Thelonius Monk that did not disappoint as he laid out a few Monk tunes and proceeded to exquisitely slide into a few of his own compositions.

Carrington would engineer her own session a bit later, straying from the realm of straight ahead jazz into one of many lanes she travels in. This one featured two spoken word artists, vocals and Carrington’s compositions dancing with intermittent raindrops.

It was the same precipitation that covered the streets during performances by drummer Nate Smith, Annie & the Caldwells and another set by Eric Roberson that featured more of his songs and less improvisation. As the skies continued to cry, the enigmatic Lady Blackbird with her prodigious blonde mane captivated rain-geared patrons serious about taking in her offering of talent.

Songstress Lalah Hathaway, several pounds lighter than her former self, but no less the vocal talent, closed out the festival with her jazz-infused R&B sensibility along with the occasional pitter patter that left serious music fans undaunted and looking forward to PIJF ’27. Perhaps nezt time, sunshine will prevail.

MENU TIPS

Sensational seafood meals made easy

(NAPSI)- Busy families on the go can relish simple, delicious coastal cuisine when looking for a great after-school snack or affordable dinner option. Tried-and-true family favorites such as pasta and pizza get a refreshing makeover when savory seafood like shrimp is included in semi-home-made dishes.

Sensational seafood meals can be made easy with premium, frozen seafood found right in the grocery freezer aisle. Brands like SeaPak Shrimp & Seafood Co. offer an array of seafood options that make busy lives simple and delicious.

With school, work, recitals, practice, games, meetings and more often all packed into the hectic week, it can be easy to let dinner fall by the wayside.

The good news is that dishes using crispy, golden-brown popcorn shrimp or savory shrimp scampi can usually be prepared in less than 30 minutes.

For a quick mid-week meal or hearty afternoon snack, try SeaPak

After School Shrimp Fried Rice. The recipe will please everyone in the family and the taste of the coast is in every bite.

More mouthwatering recipes can be found at www.seapak.com.

A f t e r - S c h o o l Shrimp Fried Rice

1 package SeaPak Popcorn Shrimp or Shrimp Scampi

1 tablespoon sesame oil (can substitute vegetable oil)

1 cup frozen mixed vegetables

4 cups cooked rice

1 to 2 tablespoons soy sauce

Prepare SeaPak shrimp according to package directions and keep warm. (If using Shrimp Scampi, drain half of the scampi sauce into extra bowl; use to top off dish before serving or as a dipping sauce for French bread.)

Bring a large skillet or wok to a high heat and add oil. Stir in vegetables and cook, stirring continually, for 2 minutes. Stir in rice and cook, stirring continually, for another 2 minutes. Add soy sauce and stir to coat. Remove from heat and toss in shrimp. Serve hot.

Just Jazz

By NANCY ANN LEE

Charles Mingus

Charles Mingus (born April 22, 1922) was a bassist extraordinaire, an ingenious bandleader, and a monumental composer of large-scale works whose creativity rivaled Duke Ellington's.

Mingus's music combines many styles -- gospel, blues traditional New Orleans, swing, bebop, Afro-Cuban, and Euro-classical.

Many of his recordings have been released.

But when he died in 1979 at age 59, some of his compositions had never been performed.

Jazz historian Andrew Homzy told me that they found many parts to Mingus' suite, "Epitaph", in disorganized array in a box in a closet.

The suite was restored and recorded live in New York City in 1989 by a tribute orchestra led by Gunther Schuller.

The next year, Schuller conducted the 31-piece Mingus Epitaph Orcherstra at a Tri-C JazzFest performance.

Mingus' widow, Sue, has kept alive Mingus' musical legacy by heading The Mingus Workshop.

She chose the musicians for the 14-piece Mingus Big Band that performed in Cleveland on February 8 at the Cleveland Art Museum.

Among the fine soloists that performed were Frank Lacy, Robin Eubanks, Craig Handy, Seamus Blake, Howard Johnson and many others.

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

'Lady Sings The Blues' is a classic movie

By C.M. APPLING

The motion-picture genre of a ‘black romance’ is still a fairly new subject in the history of film itself. In the 1990’s and the early 2000’s, African-American audiences were treated to an emotional feast of relationship-driven movies that explored the passion, intimacy, sensitivity and eroticism rarely seen on screen between black men and women.

Jason’s Lyric, (1994, starring Allen Payne and Jada Pinkett-Smith) was a sizzling, Romeo and Juliet-styled drama between a Southern, TV salesman and a waitress whose brothers were at war. Love & Basketball, (2000, starring Omar Epps and Sanaa Lathan) chronicled the childhood-through-early-adulthood lives of two male/female friends whose mutual dedication and admiration for their sport eventually reveals their true feelings for each other. love jones, (1997, starring Larenz Tate and Nia Long) featured a male writer and spoken-word poet and a female photographer whose artistic careers intertwine with their complicated, on-again, off-again romance until they both reach a point of equal attraction and forgiveness.

Black filmmaker Tyler Perry has made many, romantic comedies/dramas that centered around a simple, black love story as well. However, before any of these other sexy, cinematic efforts were brought to big-screen movie theatres, there was one that set a standard and precedent for these that came later. It was 1972’s Lady Sings The Blues.

Produced by music impresario Berry Gordy and his Motown record company, the film was actually based on the autobiography of jazz legend Billie Holiday. In the 1920’s and 30’s, Holiday made musical history by becoming the first black woman to tour with an all-white band. Although an outstanding success as a prolific music artist, her life was nonetheless shadowed by the rigors of racism and an addiction to heroin.

Another music legend was cast to portray the tragic Holiday. This person was Diana Ross of The Supremes (who were one of Berry Gordy’s most successful acts on the Motown label in the 1960’s). Lady Sings The Blues was Ross’ first, major acting role and she was nominated for a Best Actress Oscar for her performance. Cast opposite her as her principal love interest, Louis McKay, was an actor whose role in this film would forever garner him the reputation as THE black romantic, matinee-idol for all black women for a generation: Billy Dee Williams.

Together, on-screen, Ross and Williams’ melancholy romance struck a chord in black movie audience’s hearts like never before. Their passion was not an overtly-sexual or boiling-hot fever born of lust. Instead, it showed Williams’ character courting and ro-

maning Ross’ character in a gentle, tender manner tinged with an underlying heat that simmered just beneath the surface.

While Holiday was shown spiraling downward from her perch of jazz perfection, McKay was there to support her. He tries desperately to save her from herself once her addiction becomes overwhelming.

Throughout the history of mankind, it has traditionally been the woman’s place in society to support ‘her man’ under any and all circumstances. That was their ‘duty’. But, when the roles were reversed, as in the case of Lady, the concept of a black man supporting ‘his woman’ throughout her trials and tribulations, was too enticing for black women to resist. They fell in love with Williams and pledged their eternal devotion for him after appearing in this role.

Lady Sings The Blues also featured 1970’s comic trailblazer Richard Pryor as Holiday’s friend, ‘Piano Man’. The soundtrack for the film showcased Ross’ modern interpretations of Holiday’s haunting, plaintive classics.

As Ross and Williams went on to star and co-star in other, 1970’s and ‘80’s movies, none would match what he did in Lady Sings The Blues. The powerful, bittersweet performance of Ross and Williams generated a new genre in film that the mainstream Hollywood movie studios and companies had no idea existed in black culture.

The next generation of Black stars

By C.M. APPLING

Since mankind began, parents have been passing down family traits and various, other human variables in order to create genealogical histories. In modern times, certain new terms have emerged in the African-American community to describe this concept. ‘Generational wealth’ is financial security that is passed down in perpetuity. ‘Generational trauma’ is racial horror that is inherited through societal injustice. And, ‘legacy kids’ are the offspring of HBCU alumni who have enrolled in their parents’ and/or grandparents’ alma maters.

But, in Hollywood, the children of African-American actors and actresses who are successful like their parents are rare. These ‘next generation’, black stars were born to follow in their forebear’s footsteps in TV and the cinema. Their talent flows in the blood, with the DNA of their progenitors powering them to perform in the motion-picture industry. And, many times, the physical resemblances between parent and child is so similar that the facial features seem akin to carbon copies of the origi-

nals, leaving no doubt as to the family relationships.

In the 1950s and 1960s, black, leading men in movies like Sidney Poitier and Harry Belafonte broke racial barriers in film during a time when the civil rights movement had just begun and blatant racism was still prevalent in the Jim Crow, American South. But, Poitier’s daughter, Sydney Tamiia Poitier, has appeared in episodic TV roles and in films like Quentin Tarantino’s Death Proof (2007) while Belafonte’s daughter, Shari Belafonte, had a starring role on the ABC drama, Hotel, from 1983 to 1988.

In the 1970s, the duo of ‘Cheech’ Marin and Tommy Chong were infamous for their comedy albums and counterculture humor which always involved getting high. They starred in several, ‘stoner’ movies together Tommy (who was half-Chinese and half-white), married a black woman and had their daughter, Rae Dawn Chong. Rae made her movie debut as a prehistoric woman in the non-verbal drama, Quest for Fire (1981) and opposite icon Arnold Schwarzenegger in the action

film, Commando (1985).

Motown Records was the mecca of black music in the 1960s and Diana Ross was the lead singer of The Supremes during that time. After achieving a successful solo career, she also ventured into acting, portraying the troubled, blues and jazz legend, Billie Holiday in Lady Sings the Blues (1972). Ross had several children, including Tracee Ellis Ross who used her natural, comedic talent in sitcoms like Girlfriends (about four, single, African-American, female friends in the 2000s) and opposite Anthony Anderson in black-ish (about an upper-middle-class, black family in the predominately-white, suburb of Sherman Oaks, California). Diana Ross’ son, Evan Ross, appeared as an actor in the all-black, coming-of-age drama ATL (2006), as part of an all-black, real-life, swimming team in Pride (2007) and in the sci-fi/fantasy franchise, The Hunger Games: Mockingjay -Part I (2014) and Part 2 (2015).

In the 1970s, Richard Pryor was the biggest, black comedian in Hollywood. Having started his career in stand-up comedy, he

recorded several, successful albums as his ‘crazy n****r’ persona and appeared in many motion-pictures as well. His daughter, Rain Pryor, starred in the ABC sitcom, Head of the Class from 1986 to 1991. It starred Caucasian Howard Hesseman as the teacher of a multi-racial, multi-cultural group of gifted, high school students in an IHP (Individualized Honors Program) in Manhattan, New York. Rain’s character was T.J. Jones: a tough, streetwise but brilliant adolescent.

During the era of ‘gangsta rap’ in music of the 1990s, Ice Cube (a.k.a. O’Shea Jackson, Sr.) was part of the legendary hip-hop crew N.W.A. (N****rs With Attitude). Later, after beginning an acting career, he starred in John Singleton’s debut opus, Boyz ‘N’ the ‘Hood (1991), he appeared in the cult comedy Friday (1995), and in the Barbershop and Are We There Yet? franchise comedies. His son, O’Shea Jackson, Jr., portrayed his own father in the N.W.A. biopic, Straight Outta Compton (2015) and in Den of Thieves (2018) and its sequel, Den of Thieves: Pantera (2025).

Superstar power

couple Will Smith and Jada Pinkett-Smith both started their acting careers in sitcoms: Will on The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air and Jada on A Different World, before becoming dramatic and action stars. Their children, Jaden and Willow, followed suit in example at early ages. Willow released a record album like her former, rapper father and starred with him in I Am Legend (2007). But, Jaden began acting in the biopic drama The Pursuit of Happiness (2006) with his dad Will as a black son and father who are destitute and homeless before his father becomes a successful, stock broker. And, in The Karate Kid (2010) remake, opposite Jackie Chan and Taraji P. Henson, Jaden played a black boy from America whose mom relocates them to China and learns karate from Chan’s character to face youthful bullies.

Denzel Washington is the most famous and renowned, African-American actor of all time. He has appeared in Spike Lee movies like Mo’ Better Blues (1990), Malcolm X (1992) and He Got Game (1998), as well as other films like Devil In a Blue Dress (1995), The Great De-

baters (2007) and The Equalizer trilogy (2014, 2018 and 2023). He won the Best Actor Oscar/Academy Award as a corrupt cop in Training Day (2001). His son, John David Washington, attended the all-black, all-male, Morehouse College and played both college and professional football before becoming an actor like his iconic dad. His breakthrough role was in Spike Lee’s BlackKkLansman (2018) based on the true story of a black police detective in 1970s Colorado who uses a white, Jewish cop as a proxy to infiltrate membership into the Ku Klux Klan. He also starred in the sci-fi, time-bending movie Tenet (2020) and the sci-fi, A.I. (Artificial Intelligence), action film The Creator (2023).

Cuba Gooding, Jr. is one of Hollywood’s most distinguished and diverse, African-American actors. Having appeared in the groundbreaking, starring role of John Singleton’s Boyz ‘N’ the ‘Hood (1991), he portrayed a black, Navy Master Diver facing oppressive racism in the biopic Men of Honor (2000), as a member of the all-black, World War II, fighter pilots in both The Tuskegee Airmen

(1995) and Red Tails (2012), as the real-life, African-American neurosurgeon Ben Carson in Gifted Hands (2009) and as a foul-mouthed, White House employee in the biopic The Butler (2013). His son, Mason Gooding, has portrayed the biracial, male twin Chad Meeks-Martin in the Scream 5 (2022), Scream VI (2023) and Scream 7 (2026) horror film franchise. Recently, he played the part of the collegiate member of three, black, male friends who encounter racial aggression inside a wealthy, white, gated community in The Gates (2026).

Perhaps the most famous of the ‘next gen’, black stars is Zoe Kravitz. Her paternal grandmother was Roxie Roker (who played the black half of an interracial couple who were neighbors and in-laws on The Jeffersons sitcom). Her biracial father is rock star/actor Lenny Kravitz (The Hunger Games, 2009 and The Butler, 2013). Her biracial mother is Lisa Bonet, the eccentric, second daughter on the iconic sitcom, The Cosby Show, and actress in the films Angel Heart (1987) and Enemy of the State (1998). Zoe Kravitz has

appeared in many sci-fi, fantasy and comic book roles like: the mutant villainess Angel Salvatore in X-Men: First Class (2011), as Catwoman a.k.a. Selina Kyle opposite Robert Pattinson as Bruce Wayne in The Batman (2022) and characters in both the Divergent and Fantastic Beasts franchises. And, she voiced the character of Mary Jane Watson in the animated feature film, Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse (2018).

All of these, ‘next gen’, black stars have unique bonds with their famous parents. And, in many cases, have shown that sometimes talent can be inherited in the celebrity offspring from that of their progenitors. They have proven that they are indeed ‘chips off the old blocks’ and that they might not only show physical similarities, but were bitten by the same ‘acting bug’ of their father and/or mother. Nevertheless, these ‘Gen Actor’ celebrities continue to entertain contemporary viewing audiences in the nostalgic tradition of their related elders while keeping the cinematic legacies of their families in the forefront of the zeitgeist of pop culture in America.

Marquonna Tippens feeds needy at women’s shelter

Marquonna Tippens is all about giving back to her community.

She set up meals for those near the Women’s Shelter.

She has a team of dedicated volunteers.

Tippens knows how quickly things can change.

The mother of five was arrested for shoplifting from a Walmart store.

The scanners at self-checkout lines are meant to make shopping a quick and easy experience. However, they are causing a major headache to some shoppers.

After paying for her items at an Ohio Walmart, Marquonna Tippens says a security guard accused her of stealing. He let her go but Tippens says she was so offended she returned everything. Two weeks later, she had a warrant out for her arrest and went to jail for six hours. All charges were dismissed once security footage proved her innocence.

Many of those down on their luck may have similar stories.

The food was hot, and the friendships made were to let people know that someone cares.



Volunteers prepared food for more than 50 people to enjoy a free lunch and to know that someone cares.



Marquonna Tippens is all about giving back to her community. She set up meals for those near the Women’s Shelter.



Marquonna Tippens set up meals for those near the Women’s Shelter. She has a team of dedicated volunteers.

Mahershala Ali stars as a devout father of three, making ends meet as a hitman

Your Mother Your Mother Your Mother opens with a murder in a public restroom in Houston. The victim, a man, is never identified. The killer is a professional assassin named Latif, played by Mahershala Ali.

As their bloody struggle plays out, we hear a solemn voiceover explanation of the film’s title. It’s rooted in a hadith, a record of the sayings and actions of the Prophet Muhammad. A man approaches the Prophet and asks, “Who deserves the best of me?” The question is posed three times, and each time, the Prophet responds, “Your mother.”

Right from the start, the Pakistani American writ-



Your Mother Your Mother Your Mother opens with a murder in a public restroom in Houston. The victim, a man, is never identified. The killer is a professional assassin named Latif, played by Mahershala Ali.

er-director Bassam Tariq clearly delights in outrageous juxtapositions. Latif is not your average contract killer. He’s a husband, a father and a devout Muslim, and he justifies his profession by only targeting victims that he believes society would be better off without. He also never uses

a gun; a saber is his weapon of choice.

It’s not an easy thing, killing people and raising a family — just ask Tony Soprano — and it’s about to get a lot harder for Latif. Right after this latest job, he gets the tragic news that his wife has died of an illness. Latif, not the most attentive of dads, is

suddenly left to raise a teenage daughter, a preteen son and a baby by himself.

Assassins don’t get bereavement leave, and so Latif remains under enormous pressure from his employer, a Muslim crime boss. Much of the pleasure of Tariq’s movie comes from trying to get a handle on his gonzo vision of Houston’s religious criminal underbelly. It’s a wildly stylized world of bright neon lights and ugly strip malls, where it can be hard to tell a house of sin from a house of worship, and even the most unsavory characters live by a particular creed.

Latif is ordered to protect his

boss’ nephew, Hatty, an online pornographer who offers “halal-certified” smut. Hatty, played by Abubakr Ali, has run afoul of a local Christian pastor who’s on a brutal anti-porn crusade. Played by a terrific John Cho, wearing gold dental grills and a cowboy hat, the pastor is one of the film’s more fascinating creations: a gun-loving ex-military man who shares Latif’s belief in the cleansing power of violence.

One especially chaotic scene takes place at a mosque, where Latif and his kids have a run-in with the crime boss, the pornographer and a vanload of sex workers. Afterward, Latif scolds his daughter

— beautifully played by the actor Adia — for having stolen some milk from the mosque for the baby. That leads to a tough conversation about their struggles with faith, including the difficulties of making dua, or praying.

Your Mother Your Mother Your Mother has an interesting origin story. Several years ago, Tariq was set to direct Ali in a new movie about the Marvel comic-book antihero Blade. But after numerous delays, Tariq left the production, and the film fell apart. Years later, the two have reunited on what feels like a more original version of the movie they planned to make. Latif may not hunt vampires as

Blade does, but he’s no less deadly with a knife.

Nearly a decade ago, Ali became the first Muslim actor to win an Oscar, for his gorgeous performance in Moonlight. It’s great to see him play such an unconventional Muslim protagonist here, and to balance his quiet depth with a lethal display of action prowess. Tariq can stage a set-piece with energy and verve, and there’s something fitting about the way he uses violence to call out the blood that has been spilled in the name of religion. And it all builds to an undeniably gripping climax that reaffirms the power of faith and surrender.

Even so, the action remains by far the most ge-

neric aspect of Your Mother Your Mother Your Mother, and I couldn’t help but imagine a different version of the movie that didn’t fall back on so many familiar hit-man thriller beats. But perhaps those genre moves are what allow the movie’s gentler, funnier moments to resonate. I’m thinking of Giancarlo Esposito’s lovely performance as a mosque leader who disapproves of Latif’s career and tries to steer him right. I’m also thinking of the story’s most grounded and compelling subplot: For much of the movie, Latif is driving around Houston, desperate to find breast milk for the baby, who can’t keep formula

‘We won’t stay silent any more’ rally held

By BRUCE CHECEFSKY

Rev. Doug Horner fumbled with a megaphone while protesters gathered in front of the Old Stone Church in downtown Cleveland. He was there to lead the Repairers of the Breach Moral Mondays March from Public Square to the federal government office tower on Lakeside Avenue, just a few blocks away.

Once the megaphone was working, he said, “How is everyone? You’re a small but mighty group!”

Rev. Horner, a prominent retired United Church of Christ (UCC) pastor, community activist, and advocate for the unhoused, is best known for his long-term tenure as the senior pastor of St. Paul’s Community UCC in the Ohio City neighborhood, and he reminded people why they were there.

Repairers of the Breach is a national moral advocacy nonprofit founded in 2015 by the Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II and based in North Carolina, with a mission to combat systemic poverty, racism, ecological devastation, and voter suppression through a “Moral Public Policy Agenda” and the Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival, working across over 30 states to organize low-wealth communities and faith leaders. The term comes from the Bible and symbolizes rebuilding broken community structures by healing divisions and restoring justice. Moral Mondays is a grassroots protest and civil disobedience movement to hold government officials accountable on issues of human rights and poverty.

After a brief introduction, Rev. Horner began chanting. “Somebody’s been hurting my brother and my sister, and it’s gone on far too long.” Protestors joined in. “Somebody’s been poisoning our water, and it’s gone on far too long, and we won’t stay silent any longer.”

Jenny, from Kirkland, held a protest sign. “These times ask us to step forward and speak up for justice for those without a voice, from both an economic and spiritual sense. We are all connected and have to help each other,” she said, and when asked about the critical voting issues for the midterm election in November, she added, “Health care for all is essential. The total polarization of government and people is a challenge. We have to come together as a country. The 1% of the population are serving themselves and leaving everyone else behind.”

Duane Drotar, from Cleveland, said that Senator Bernie Moreno had not responded to several requests to meet, so protesters took to the streets. “We’re going to march to Senator Husted’s office to address voting issues and make an appeal to the importance of voting. President Trump’s One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) killed us,” said Drotar. “We have so many friends and family members that can no longer afford health care because the premiums have skyrocketed. For many people, the new work requirements for Medicaid make it hard for them to survive.”

Democrats are more grassroots in their approach, going door to door, he said, while Republicans bombard the airwaves with untruths. “How are they allowed to do that?”

Tim Walters, a contributing writer to the Plain Press, stood next to Rev. Horner, handing out flyers with a headline that read, ‘Your vote makes an enormous difference!’

“One feature that we pride ourselves on regarding the Moral Mondays March is that, while there is a smaller crowd today than at other times, it shows a significant number of people working together,” said Walters. “We’re going to deliver a letter to Husted’s office today. We don’t expect to see him or get a reply, but our big statement centers on issues of voting.”

Walters said voting issues impact different people differently, with human rights at the top of the list. “We want something better, not back to the way it was.”

Mitchell, from Akron, was in Cleveland for the day. He stood on the sidewalk holding a tombstone sign with ‘Lorenzo Vargas, Age 32, Died in I.C.E. Custody 2025’ stenciled across it.

“I am here supporting Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOC),” he said, adding that the midterm elections could result in a better power balance in both the Senate and House. “I.C.E. and significant changes to Medicaid restrictions are a huge issue, with money taken from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and work requirements make it impossible for people unable to work to get food assistance.”

Kathleen McDonnell, from Cleveland’s west side, said gathering with people on a Monday morning in prayer was a wonderful thing to see. “I made over forty phone calls in the past year to my senators to talk about how immigrants are being treated, for example,” she said “I look at the wars we are supporting, and it is grievous. Ignoring and exacerbating the destruction of our environment, gutting human services for people in need, destroying guardrails for democracy, and diminishing voting are equally grievous.”

The protesters chanted as noontime downtown workers piled out of their offices onto the sidewalks and car

traffic increased. “No more hunger! No more war! Peace is what we are standing for!” They repeated the protest slogans several times before gathering their signs and heading down Ontario Ave towards the Anthony J. Celebrezze Federal Building.

Walters was carrying a larger-than-life letter “E” along the march route, with others from the group dragging the letters “V,” “O,” and “T” in succession to spell VOTE.

Rev. Horner was using the megaphone to lead them on. “Somebody’s been hurting our people, and it’s gone on far too long,” he shouted. “Somebody’s been poisoning our water, and it’s gone on far too long, and we won’t stay silent any longer,” he repeated. “Somebody’s been hurting our children, and it’s gone on for too long, and we won’t be silent any longer.”

Protestors are out every second Monday at noon, he said, while taking a break but keeping stride with the marchers. “We are tired of our legislators and senators not listening to us. Finally, this week, we have a meeting with an aide to Senator Husted.”

“We will be cordial and talk about not what he has done wrong but what he has done right, and mention that we want to work with him moving forward on the issues,” he added.

“Whether he wins or loses this race, we need to work together against policy issues that are hurting our brothers and sisters.” He paused and looked around. “We want to cause no harm. It is that simple. We are supposed to help the weakest link in our society as part of our heritage and tradition.”

The march continued along Ontario St., onto Lakeside Ave. E, ending at E. 9th Street, then disappearing inside the federal building. Senator Husted’s office did not respond to a request for comment.

Ohio general midterm elections take place on November 3, 2026, with polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. The voter registration deadline is October 5. Mail-in voting begins on October 6. Early in-person voting is from October 6 through November 1.

The ballot includes one U.S. Senate seat and all 15 U.S. House of Representatives seats, along with the governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, auditor, and treasurer. The Ohio Senate has 17 seats

open, with 99 seats in the Ohio House of Representatives, two Ohio Supreme Court justices, and multiple intermediate appellate and municipal judges.

State Issue 3 is a proposed constitutional amendment to make the state’s voter photo ID requirement a constitutional mandate. A “yes” vote supports amending the state constitution to require a government-issued photo ID for voting permanently. A “no” vote does not eliminate Ohio’s existing photo ID requirement for voting, which has been state law since 2023.

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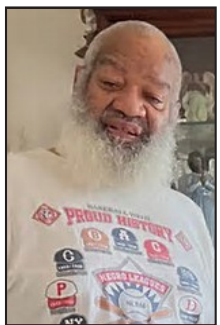
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Activist Timothy Pigford dies

Timothy Pigford, an iconic Black Farmer Advocate and Civil Rights Leader died on August 23. He was 74 years old.

Born November 15, 1951, in Willard, North Carolina, Pigford grew up on his grandfather’s farm and began farming by age 8. He became a successful corn and soybean producer in southeastern North Carolina, served as president of his local Future Farmers of America chapter in high school, and earned a degree from the University of North Carolina-Wilmington.



Pigford

Pigford’s disputes with federal farm lending programs began in 1973 when he was denied a loan from the Farmers Home Administration (USDA) despite seeking \$47,000 for 100 acres. Years later, an

other \$110,000 loan for 170 acres was also denied.

By 1984, he was testifying before a congressional subcommittee about the systemic loss of Black-owned farmland and barriers to credit, famously noting, “President Lincoln gave to Blacks after the Civil War 40 acres and a mule... we have lost the mule and almost lost the 40 acres”

In 1997, Pigford became the lead plaintiff in Pigford v. Glickman, a landmark class-action lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The case al-

leged decades of racial discrimination in farm lending and program administration from 1981 to 1996, and the failure to investigate discrimination complaints.

The settlement, finalized in 1999, is considered the largest civil rights settlement in U.S. history, with over \$1 billion paid to fewer than 20,000 farmers.

A second phase, “Pigford II,” added \$1.2 billion in 2010.

Pigford’s work exposed systemic racial bias in USDA programs and set a precedent for future discrimination cases in ag-

riculture.

He was inducted into the Black Hall of Fame for his contributions to social justice.

Remembered as both a farmer and a principled advocate, Pigford’s life’s work inspired generations of Black farmers to fight for fair treatment and land rights.

He is survived by his wife Janice, their children Timothy C. Pigford Jr. and Cornelius Pigford, and by the enduring impact of the Pigford case on U.S. agricultural policy and civil rights.

Activist Elaine Mokhtefi dies

Activist Elaine Mokhtefi died on September 11. She was 97 years old.

Mokhtefi was an American and Algerian activist, translator and writer. Born in New York, Mokhtefi began working as a translator for anti-racist and anti-colonial activist movements after moving to Paris in her twenties. She supported Algerian independence efforts, then lived in Algeria from 1962 until she was forced to leave the country in 1974.

Her memoir of her time there, Algiers, Third World Capital: Freedom Fighters, Revolutionaries, Black Panthers, was published by Verso Books in 2018.

She was born in Hempstead, New York, on December 10, 1928. Her family was secular Jewish, and she described facing antisemitism throughout her childhood. Her parents were not particularly political, though her father at one point attended Socialist Party meetings, and she described her mother as “especially anti-racist.”



Mokhtefi

At age 16, she enrolled at Wesleyan College, a Christian school in Georgia. Mokhtefi rebelled against the segregationist environment, and she was kicked out after a year.

After returning to New York, she studied languages and joined the anti-war group United World Federalists. In 1951, at age 23, she traveled to Paris from New York by boat, a trip that took 14 days, and sought work there as a translator.

Mokhtefi became an anti-racist and anti-colonial activist very early on.

In 1952, after arriving in France, she attended the International Workers’ Day parade in Paris, where she met Algerian trade unionists. Becoming more deeply involved in this

activism, she participated in the All-African Peoples’ Conference in Accra, Ghana, in 1958.

There, she met Frantz Fanon and Mohamed Sahnoun. Mokhtefi decided to work alongside them in support of the anti-colonial Algerian National Liberation Front (FLN). She joined Sahnoun in New York and settled there in 1960.

In New York, she began working for the local bureau of the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic and the FLN. She also took classes at New York University.

As Fanon’s health declined in 1961, eventually leading to his death, Mokhtefi visited him regularly and supported his family, helping to take care of his 6-year-old son, Olivier.

After Algeria gained independence in 1962, Mokhtefi settled in Algiers, where she remained for 12 years. She was hired as the only American in the new administration and worked as a fixer, taking on whatever task arose. In 1969, she was put in charge of organizing the first Pan-

African Cultural Festival in Algiers. She also helped welcome members of national liberation movements across Africa (Mozambique, Angola, South Africa) and international Black Panther members to Algeria. In particular, she helped organize the clandestine exile of Eldridge Cleaver in Algeria after he fled the United States via Cuba. She also met the likes of Fidel Castro, Houari Boumédiène, Ahmed Ben Bella, and Ho Chi Minh through her work.

She was forced to leave Algeria in 1974, after being ordered to spy on a colleague and friend, Zohra Sellami, during power struggles in the newly-established country, and refusing. She settled in Paris, where she lived for 20 years before returning again to New York in 1994. She was not allowed to return to Algeria for over four decades.

Her activism continued in New York, where she participated in antiwar actions, climate marches, Occupy Wall Street, and pro-Palestinian protests.

During her time in Algeria, Mokhtefi worked as a journalist for the Algeria Press Service, covering news from the Third World in particular.

After leaving for France, she and her husband co-wrote several books on history for young readers.

In 2018, she published the memoir Algiers, Third World Capital: Freedom Fighters, Revolutionaries, Black Panthers. It was published the following year in France under the title Alger, capitale de la révolution: De Fanon aux Black Panthers, with Mokhtefi completing the translation into French herself. It was also released in Algeria in 2019. After their marriage, Klein took the surname of her husband, writer and former Algerian National Liberation Army member Mokhtar Mokhtefi. The couple met in Algiers in 1972, then he joined her when she was forced to leave the country two years later. They lived together in Paris for two decades, then in New York for another two decades until his death in 2015.

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