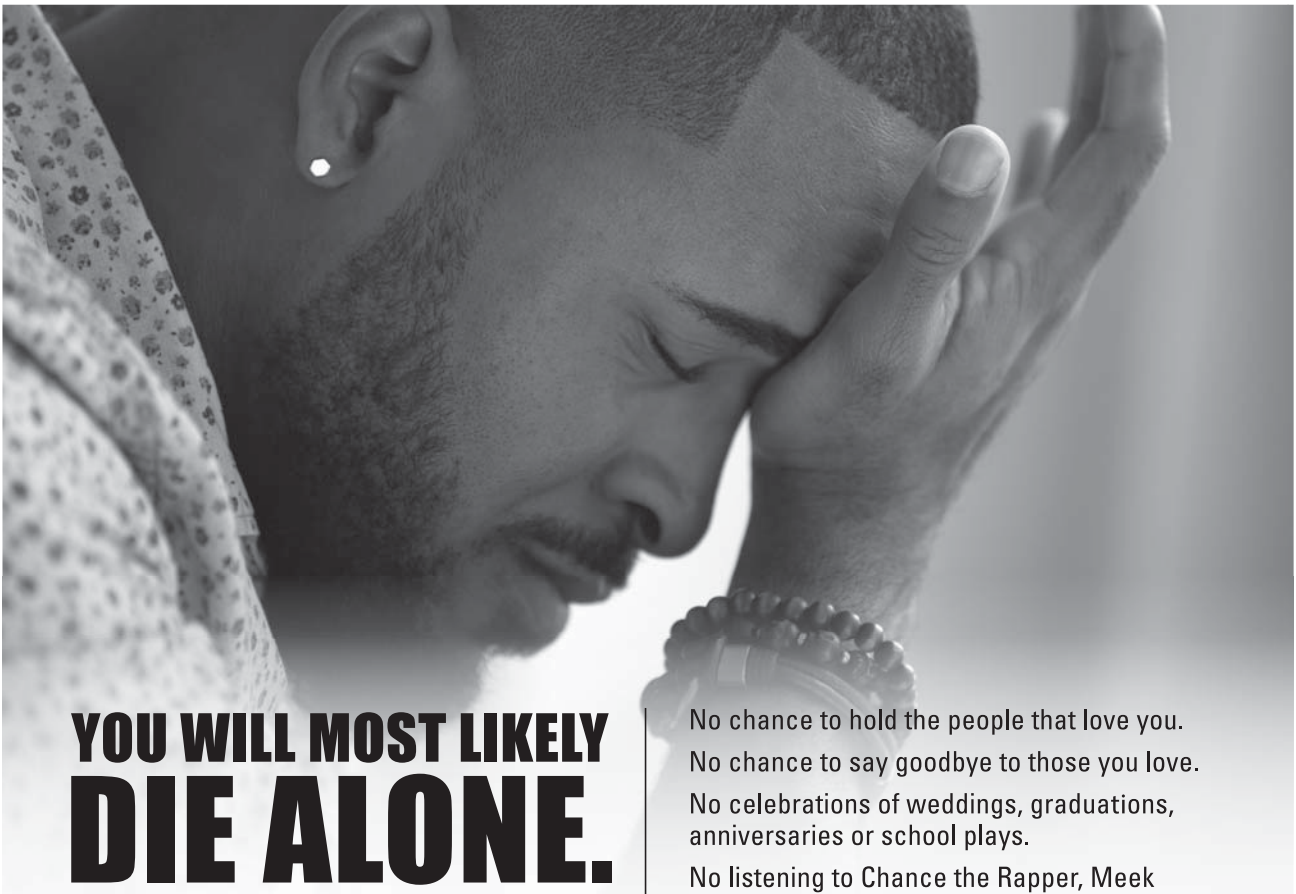


# The *Sojourner's* Truth

Volume 61, No. 3

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

April 22, 2020



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# Reproductive Health & Wellness Center Launches New Telehealth Services in Response to COVID-19

*Public Health services available by appointment only*

The Reproductive Health and Wellness Center (RHWC) at the Health Department announces last week, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, will offer virtual health visits (telehealth) to patients. With Ohio residents asked to stay home and discouraged from making nonessential trips, many patients have been unable to access the care they may need. The Health Department's RHWC team has worked around the clock to implement a new telehealth program and will start virtual visits *via telephone only*, on Monday, April 20, 2020.

Telehealth services will be available on Mondays and Fridays, from 8:00 am to 1:00 p.m., by appointment only. Those in need of an appointment are asked to call 419-213-4209, provide contact information and an appointment time will be confirmed once a RHWC employee returns a call. **Walk-ins are not permitted during this time.**

"Existing patients, new patients, those who may be engaging in risky behavior, have the access to care and information they need, now through telehealth," said Dr. J.A. Smith, Medical Director. "We

want to ensure those patients with the greatest need, have access to care, while reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19 through social distancing efforts."

Additionally, the childhood immunization program, Shots 4 Tots n Teens, will be operational throughout the month April on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **also by appointment only.** Please call 419-508-9610 to schedule a Shots 4 Tots n Teens appointment, **walk-ins are not permitted at this time.**

**The Shots 4 Tots n Teen phone number provided in the previous press release was incorrect. The above information has been updated to reflect the correct phone number.**

The supplemental nutrition program for Woman, Infants, and Children (WIC) at the Health Department's downtown location, will start to operate Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., by appointment only. Please call 419-213-4422, for any questions regarding WIC benefits.

## House Dems Welcome Input from Voting Rights Advocates

*Working group highlights Democratic efforts to make elections safe and accessible*

State Representatives Paula Hicks-Hudson (D-Toledo), Michele Lepore-Hagan (D-Youngstown), and Bride Rose Sweeney (D-Cleveland) responded to a letter from over 60 advocacy groups containing election policy recommendations for best practices, particularly in emergency situations like the country is now facing. The three representatives make up the House Democratic Caucus' Elections Working Group which has been monitoring election challenges and crafting policy proposals to ensure elections remain safe and accessible. The coalition's letter focused on expanding mail voting and providing adequate in-person voting opportunities, two top priorities of the House Democratic Caucus and its Elections Working Group.

"In Ohio, we are fortunate to have a strong voting rights commu-

nity that is always holding public officials accountable on matters of democracy," said Rep. Hicks-Hudson, leader of the caucus working group. "The recommendations they have made are in line with what we as a caucus have prioritized over the past two decades to clear away obstacles to Ohio voters' rights. Mail delays, postmark problems, and unreasonable procedures cannot be allowed to disenfranchise Ohio voters. It is our intent to return to Columbus to work on addressing and promoting access to the ballot for all eligible voters."

"I commend the League of Women Voters and the many other voting rights groups in this coalition for their continued work and presence as we seek to expand access to mail voting for Ohioans and provide for the many voting challenges posed by this public health crisis," said Rep. Lepore-Hagan, sponsor of vote by mail bill HB 560.

"We lawmakers rely on Ohio's voting advocacy community to help inform our constituents about their voting rights and to inform our elections policy work," said Rep. Sweeney. "The recommendations this coalition has put together draw on everyday voters' experiences and we are listening to their proposals as we gather information to move forward with a solution for Ohio's 2020 elections and beyond. This primary has revealed weaknesses that Ohio should have been prepared for. But a decade of rollbacks to voter access and neglect of needed upgrades have left the state vulnerable."

The House Democratic Caucus members worked with their legislative colleagues to enact an extension to voting in the ongoing 2020 primary. Several changes they sought did not make it into the final bill and voters are now confused by the changes which eliminated almost all in-person voting and failed to guarantee easily available application forms and paid postage for all voters.

House Democrats have introduced bills to improve voting this General Assembly and in General Assemblies past. Protecting voting rights has long been a priority of the caucus.

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# “I Have Total Authority ... Tremendous Total Authority!”

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

...continued on page 7

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# Exposing the Fault Lines in Our Racial Policies

For centuries, policies in the United States have perpetuated segregated cities, housing with unsafe and overcrowded conditions, inadequate public transportation, food deserts, and unhealthy air quality. Through policy and practice, we have excluded many from economic security without stable jobs that pay a living wage with benefits, including health care and paid leave.

It is no secret that these policies and practices have negatively impacted communities of color, contributing to disparities in access to health care and disproportionate rates of asthma, diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and kidney disease. It should be no surprise that data now starkly show that communities of color—particularly black, Latinx, and Native communities—are tragically and disproportionately dying from the COVID-19 virus.

Early data from across the country show disproportionate rates of deaths due to COVID-19 for blacks in Washington, D.C.; Milwaukee County, Wisconsin; Cook County, Illinois; Louisiana; the Detroit metropolitan region; for American Indians of the Navajo Nation; and for the Latinx community in New York City. As we come together as a nation to attack this pandemic, the question we must ask ourselves is whether we have the will to acknowledge and accept this discriminatory reality, aggressively address the problems that have been exposed, and to redesign policies and practices so that they undo entrenched racism and justly help everyone. If we do not, the racial and ethnic gap in outcomes for too many children, families, and communities, now and in the future, will continue to widen.

For many families, the short-term adjustments and solutions to maintaining employment and their children's educational progress during the pandemic are not possible. Children can't fully participate in all of the options for computer-based learning and enrichment if they don't have access to computers or internet; parents with children in foster care can't effectively visit with their children through digital meetings like Zoom or Skype or on their smartphones if they can't access these options, don't have sufficient internet access, or can't afford a data plan or smartphone.

Parents don't have the luxury to practice social distancing if they must rely on public transportation to report to jobs that are considered essential.

Neither can families doubled up in inadequate housing or living in shelters find ways to distance themselves from others. And families without health insurance and a reliable medical home cannot effectively treat the underlying health conditions that are putting them at such risk.

This pandemic has exposed the structural and systemic racism in this country and presents an imperative for tackling the root causes of the disparate outcomes in communities of color. We need different strategies: both immediate approaches targeted to quickly protect the populations most at risk and longer-term, systemic reforms and policies that account for disparities in access and outcomes for communities of color with a focus on reversing them.

Public systems and their community partners are currently adapting to help families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of the solutions they are creating may have applicability beyond the current crisis—quickly setting up COVID-19 help lines in multiple languages; working with landlords to suspend evictions for unpaid rent; providing free meals to students with school buses delivering meals to specific housing complexes; conducting specific outreach to immigrant and refugee communities through trusted liaisons; and allowing for easier applications to important programs like Unemployment Insurance.

Some public systems are rapidly experimenting with ways for families to access needed mental health services through telehealth, attend virtual court hearings, have frequent video visits when children are placed in foster care, and return children home from congregate care settings earlier and with adequate community supports.

These approaches are responding to communities in ways that increase accessibility and attempt to reduce barriers, and are critical for communities of colors during this crisis. And if successful, they may provide ideas for longer-term systemic solutions during and after our recovery.

Now is not the time to put racial equity and justice on the back burner. Rather, as policies are implemented to combat the societal effects of the virus, we must develop solutions that account for and remedy structural racism and are targeted to the people and communities in greatest need.

We need longer-term relief and rebuilding strategies including, among other things, policies that permanently provide paid leave benefits when people get sick or need to care for their children or loved ones; health care reforms that expand eligibility and access; a child allowance that supports all families' economic stability and gives every child a fair shot at success; expanded financial support and access to high-quality early care and education for all young children so they are prepared for and can succeed in school; policies that eliminate the inequities caused by the digital divide; and effective pathways to economic success for marginalized young adults and young families.

Policies like these better support families during national crises by ensuring all have the financial support they need in the event of health emergencies and economic downturns, but also create avenues for families who have been historically excluded to care for their children, meet health care needs, and provide financial stability in better times. While these policies benefit everyone, they can and should be designed to structurally shift how we serve families in good times and bad—supporting the people who need

...continued on page 6

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# HBCUs Struggling During Pandemic to Stay Afloat

By Fletcher Word  
Sojourner's Truth Editor

The fate of historically black colleges and universities after the coronavirus pandemic has faded is a matter of great concern to these institution's staff, faculty and administration.

"Our HBCUs are geographically situated in conservative regions which will impact – if not cripple – their ability to re-open," says Dr. Mallory Williams, a Toledo resident and professor of surgery and chief of Trauma and Critical Care at Howard University College of Medicine.

HBCUs typically do not have the resources – the endowments, the alumni donations – that larger majority educational institutions – private and public – have. HBCUs exist largely on student tuitions, all of which have disappeared with the colleges closing during this pandemic – a result, says Williams, of a combination of "cost-sensitive consumers and fragile financial institutions."

Howard University, notes Dr. Williams, is not in as difficult situation as other HBCUs because of the university's direct federal funding and because it is, he says "the Athens of all HBCUs." Howard's president has given a full refund to students still residing in its dorms and those who had food plans.

However, it is a difficult future, he predicts, for Howard and all HBCUs as they enter the sooner-or-later phase of re-opening with a consumer base much more vulnerable economically than the base of other institutions of higher learning.

"The cascading impact will be exponential," says Williams of the effort to re-start, referencing his own medical college concerns. For example, the incoming class of black doctors, he notes, will have a delayed start in education; third year students will not have met the criteria of interacting with patients as they enter their fourth year.

The Howard University faculty, says Dr. Williams, is older than "regular college faculties" and belong to the most susceptible coronavirus group.

The \$2 trillion CARES Act passed by Congress in March earmarks \$30 billion for education and \$14.3 billion of that total for institutions of higher learning. HBCUs and small institutions with various needs are slated to split 10 percent of the higher education funds.

Among the many concerns for the HBCU students who are trying to keep up with their studies online is the technology demands on the institutions



Dr. Mallory Williams

and students – a shortage of Wifi and computers for the many low to middle-income families who comprise about 75 percent of HBCU student bodies.

HBCU debt, says Gregory Price, professor of economics at the University of New Orleans, is also a concern. Bethune-Cookman in Daytona, Florida, notes Price, has a debt of \$306 million on a recently constructed dormitory. Now that the dorm is empty, Bethune-Cookman will be hard pressed to make payments on that debt in a timely manner.

Meanwhile the rich get richer. Harvard University, which ended the 2019 fiscal year with a \$300 million operating surplus and has the nation's largest endowment of \$41 billion – enough to build new dormitories into the 22nd century – will be receiving \$8.7 million from the CARES Act Higher Education Relief Fund.

What happens after the pandemic? Dr. Williams fears that after the pandemic has subsided "public health policy and political leanings can converge to widen historical inequities" leading to a larger and more impoverished underclass.

In fact, such a widening of inequities is well underway.

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# The Congressional Black Caucus on Trump's Funding Cut to the WHO

In response to President Trump's threat to cut funding to the World Health Organization, the Congressional Black Caucus has released the following statement:

"At a time of crisis, true leadership seeks to solve problems not blame others. This President has threatened to cut funding for the World Health Organization (WHO), an organization that has helped decrease the spread of diseases such as Ebola, Cholera, and Yellow Fever. The WHO is established in most countries around the world, and has deployed more than 250,000 testing kits to help fight this pandemic. It is ludicrous for this ad-

ministration to target and vilify WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus while he is in the midst of coordinating the global fight against this deadly virus to save lives. Leadership is defined by expertise, based in facts, and created to serve humankind, which is required to overcome this crisis.

The Congressional Black Caucus condemns the malicious treatment against the WHO and Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus by this administration and encourages Congress to ensure proper funding for the organization to tackle this deadly pandemic."

## Keeping Math Skills Up-to-Date While School is Closed

*Special to The Truth*

The transition from in-person to online learning isn't easy, particularly when it comes to mathematics, a subject where many students benefit from classroom learning and individualized attention from their teacher.

With closures affecting schools and universities for the foreseeable future, sustaining one's math skills is very important, as research has shown that academic gains can quickly be lost without practice -- on average, students lose approximately 2.6 months of learning in math over a typical summer, according to the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

During the COVID-19 crisis, consider accessing the following free

distance-learning tools from Casio America, Inc., which are designed to support educators, parents and students K-12 and beyond:

- Tools for calculation, graphing, geometry, statistics and more can be accessed at [ClassPad.net](https://www.classpad.net), an all-in-one web-based platform with an interactive menu that enables students and teachers to draw geometry figures freehand and input calculations as they would on real scratch paper. Users can also plot data points and add text labels, expressions and pictures to graphs or geometry diagrams.

- Emulator calculator software recreating the functionality of scientific and graphic calculators, including Casio's PRIZM fx-CG50 and fx-CG500, is supported in Windows and Mac operating systems.

- Downloadable math activities created by teachers for students in grade levels kindergarten through college can help students practice their math skills and learn new techniques for their continuing education.

For access to these resources, as well as online support, visit [Casio-Education.com/remote-learning](https://www.casio-education.com/remote-learning).

Formal class may not currently be in session, but that doesn't mean the learning needs to be put on hold. Leveraging available resources can help students maintain their math skills so that when schools reopen, students can enjoy a successful return to the classroom.

*Courtesy StatePoint*

*Fault Lines... continued from page 4*

help the most and addressing racist barriers that continue to restrict success for all Americans.

COVID-19 has laid bare the structural inequities impacting the health and well-being of too many our nation's families and children. The pandemic also provides a chance to use the recovery to move beyond problems to solutions so that we build a racially, socially, and economically just society where all children, youth, and families can thrive.

The Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) works to achieve a racially, economically, and socially just society in which all children, youth, and families thrive. We translate ideas into action, promote public policies grounded in equity, and support strong and inclusive communities.

We advocate with and for all children, youth, and families marginalized by public policies and institutional practices. Learn more at [www.CSSP.org](https://www.CSSP.org)

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# High School Seniors Trying to Deal with Altered End-Of-Year Plans

Sojourners Truth Staff

“It’s been a big heartbreak for most people,” says Noe Ramos, a senior at Start High School, of his interrupted final year of secondary education and the loss of events which seniors and their families eagerly anticipate. “For my mom especially,” he adds.

Noe is headed to the University of Northwestern Ohio in Lima in the fall – hopefully – to study robotics and automotive technology – his passion, indeed his trade, for the past several years. In fact, he has been taking trade classes in precision machinery and working at “a great job” – G.L. Heller Company in Whitehouse – in robotics for the past year.

“It’s been very disappointing but you can’t control what’s going on in the world,” says Noe. “We are going to have to fight adversity later in life. This is helping us to learn. A lot of people will disagree with me but this is opening us up to the real world – you can’t always have things your way.”

Preparation for the end of senior year – the prom, the graduation ceremony, the photos, the long goodbyes – are what most high schoolers have been focused on for much of their four years. Noe has been similarly focused.

Football, cross country and track have kept Noe busy for much of his high school years. This year he was part of the SMARTS group – Students Making Adjustments Right This Second – a student voice program that encourages students to work together to support their schools and their community.

And, lately, of course, he’s worked at staying optimistic about what the future holds.

“I’m looking at it and trying to be positive. If you go to college, sooner or later you will graduate,” says the college-bound senior. Not everyone close to him, however, is quite so sanguine about recent events.

“My mom still wants pictures in cap and gown.”



Noe Ramos

Total Authority... continued from page 3

ANNN: Oh, yes you did!  
 CLOWN: Did not!  
 ANNN: Did!  
 CLOWN: Did not!  
 ANNN: Did!  
 CLOWN: You are a third-rate reporter! By the way, who are you with?  
 ANNN: I am with the All Negro News Network.  
 CLOWN: Oh, a reporter from one of those sh\*\*hole African countries! No wonder.  
 ANNN: There was talk that you were considering firing Dr. Fauci, is that true?  
 CLOWN: Almost! He is sucking up all my street cred! I alone can solve this problem. I am an extremely stable genius!  
 ANNN: If you open the economy before testing is done and there is a relapse and thousands more die, what will you do?  
 CLOWN: I will fly to Mar-A-Lago and give you updates via Trump News...I mean Fox News! They are doing an tremendous job!  
 ANNN: When you were briefed in January about this coming pandemic, why did wait so long to do something?  
 CLOWN: I had to first check in with Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, Laura Ingraham and Putin to get their advice. Tremendous people!

Contact Lefe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com

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|-------------------|---|---|
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| <b>2</b>          | Apply soap  |   |
| <b>3</b>          | Lather and scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds |   |
| <b>4</b>          | Rinse your hands well under clean, running water    |   |
| <b>5</b>          | Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them  |   |
|                   |   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>HAND SANITIZER</b></p> <p>If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry.</p>  |

For more info, visit: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov)  
 Updated March 18, 2020

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# Amari Wilson: Headed to The Ohio State University in the Fall

*Special to The Truth*

Amari Iman Wilson is the daughter of Walden and Cheryl Wilson and currently a senior at St. Ursula Academy Catholic High School. Amari and her good friend (Brooklynn Gregory) played an integral part in starting and organizing an African-American Club at their school.



Amari Wilson

The two young ladies created a business plan, established activities and worked with school administration to become mentors for the young ladies of the Ella P. Stewart Elementary School for Girls.

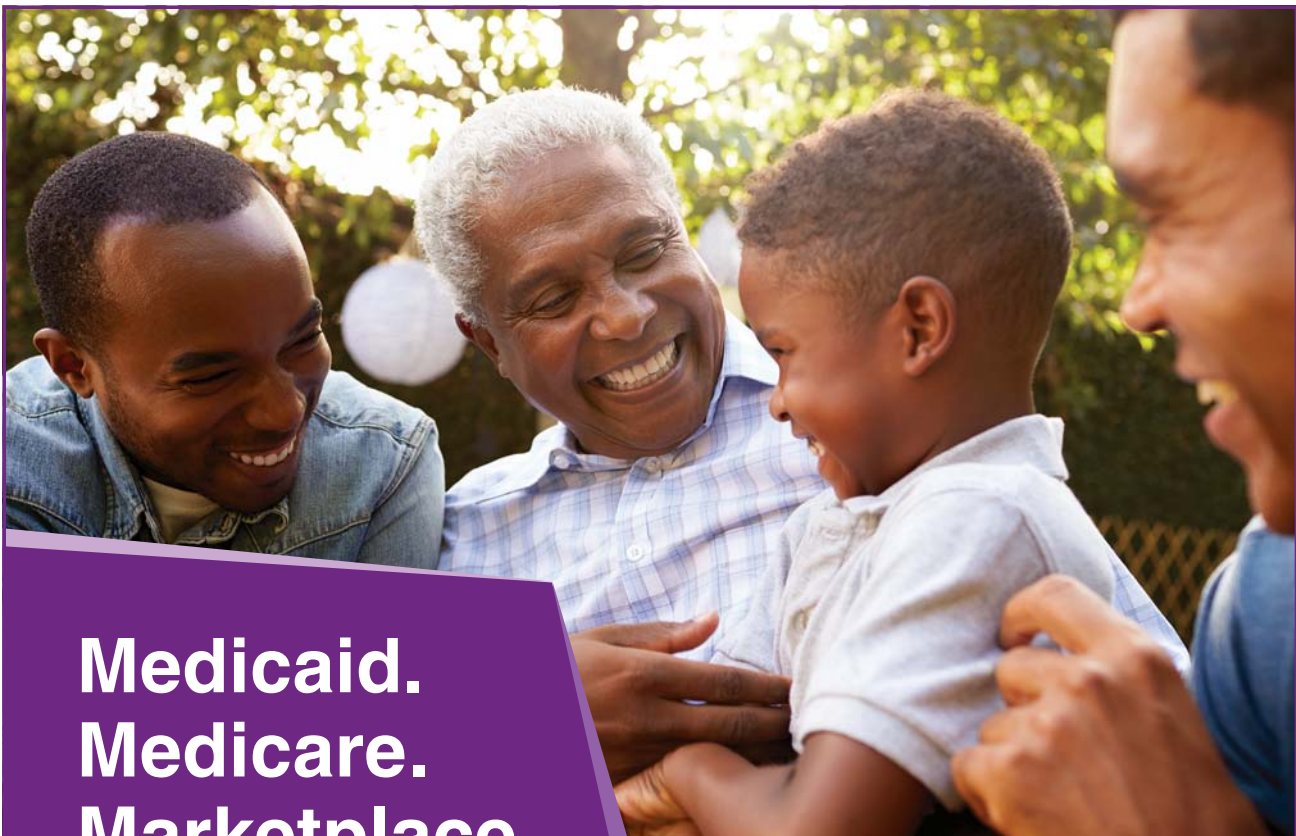
Amari is busy and wears many hats as a varsity cheerleader, Glass City Outreach S.T.E.P.P. and Praise Team member, National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists Delegate, Pretty Brown Girls



Amari's Choices...

member, LABRE community volunteer, Top Teens of America recipient, University of Toledo Excel member, University of Toledo STARZ mem-

... continued on page 11



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# Becoming a Better Father: Meet Patrick Ryder

By Mariah Hicks

Brothers United Coach

*"I was 18 years old when I had my first child. I wasn't ready for sure."*



Patrick Ryder was born and raised in Toledo, OH. He attended Woodward High School and had moved to Lansing, MI before finding out he had a child on the way.

His life from there began to change. He moved back to Toledo and lived with one of his friends.

"I wasn't financially ready. I already knew I didn't want to go to school, so it was pretty much wondering how I was going to be successful without going to school. How was I going to make a life, because that was basically the only way that I knew, but it wasn't for me."

Mr. Ryder started working at a minimum-wage job so he could save money and prepare for his child.

Moving back to Toledo, he didn't have a good support system. His mother was really the only person he could rely on, but she worked a lot. He expressed that he could never find a babysitter, and with him working to bring in a source of income, a lot of weight fell on his co-parent, which created a strain on their relationship.

Mr. Ryder had his second child at 20 years old and his third child at 22. The first two co-parenting relationships were rocky.

"Our communication just wasn't good enough and we held ill-will towards each other because things didn't work out."

By the time he reached his third child, the co-parenting relationship with that child's mother was more grounded.

"I became more grounded and more mature. Becoming a father, I just realized how patient I am and optimistic I am and how strong I can be."

Although he didn't see his kids often, Mr. Ryder was still dedicated to becoming a better father. He heard about Brothers United through a family friend and decided to join. He credits the program with helping him see things from a different perspective.

"When I went to Brothers United, there were similar situations to let me know I wasn't the only one going through those incidents. It let me know I'm not alone and, like myself, there are other men trying to become better."

From hearing stories from the other fathers, Mr. Ryder was able to understand how he could have dealt with situations in his life differently.

Through Brothers United, he learned how to handle business and become a better father overall. He realized that he needed to start taking other people's feelings into consideration, especially his co-parents', before making decisions.

When asked what advice Mr. Ryder had for fathers in the BU program or fathers thinking about joining, he said, "Get really active and

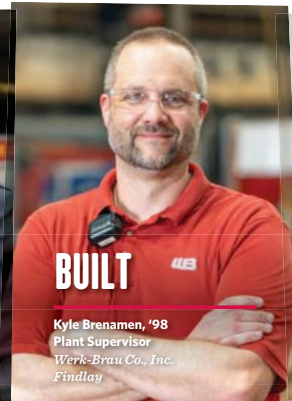
...continued on page 10



## Northwest Ohio is POWERED



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## In Memoriam

# Carmen Williamson – May 5, 1925 – April 5, 2020

Carmen Williamson, age 94 of Toledo, Ohio passed away April 5, 2020 of COVID-19. He was born May 5, 1925 in Xenia, Ohio and spent his life honorably as a member of the U.S. Navy, a father to seven children and a 33 degree Mason.

He worked for the government for 42 years. Throughout his life he has been an exemplary sportsman and mentor who has given back as much as he has received. As a young man Carmen was a successful feather weight boxer, winning 264 bouts. He went on to become a referee, judge, and official in the ring.

He has served the Toledo Golden Gloves Association, USA Amateur Boxing, and the National Police Athletic League Boxing Championships. One of his proudest days was when he was named International Association DeBoxe Amateur (AIBA) Emeritus. AIBA Officials were the only officials worldwide authorized to officiate World Championship Olympic Games and high level competitions.

In the U.S. and through the Golden Gloves Organization, Carmen was able to turn many young lives around. He raised the community's awareness that low-income inner city youth could achieve greatness. He spoke of this belief at various speaking engagements and demonstrated these beliefs by producing successful boxers that went on to become successful adults in life.

In the 1984, Carmen had the distinguished honor of being named International Olympic Commission Solidarity Expert for Olympic style amateur boxing. He was voted #1 Official by the Referees and Judges Commission representative of 167 countries and was the first black man awarded an honorary gold medal for officiating the sport of boxing by the Olympic Committee.

Carmen created a 40-hour training course for coaches and officials. Students who completed his course were certified to coach and officiate national boxing championships. This course was taught by Mr. Williamson in 48 countries throughout the world. Carmen preached discipline, nutrition, proper sleep habits, and attention to academic studies. Young men learned to set goals and envision themselves as winners, not only at boxing, but also at life. At the completion of training, each was evaluated by the U.S. Olympic Committee and the International Olympic Committee.



Williamson and Muhammad Ali



Carmen Williamson

Carmen always valued education, but had to quit school and work to help his family. At the age of 75, Carmen passed his GED test and entered the University of Toledo to earn his bachelor's degree. He loved education so much, he would arrive early to class and sit in the front row.

He is preceded in death by his parents Hugh and Elsie Williamson, wife Charlotte Williamson, brothers Randall and Maciel, sister Cleona, daughters Carol Reeves and Camille Williamson, and son Carmen Williamson, grandson Lamar Witcher, son in law Michael Brown. He is survived by his daughters: Carmenita (Dean) Ross, Charlene Higginbotham, Carlotta Williamson-Brown, Celia Williamson (Jeff Olejownik), son-in-law Joseph Reeves, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a host of family and friends.

We ask that family and friends stay home and stay safe. A small gathering for family will be held at Dale Funeral Home. A larger celebration of his life will be held at a later date to be announced.

## Better Father... continued from page 9

make sure you're actually into it and want to make a change. That's really who it's for. You just gotta be ready to step up."

Mr. Ryder graduated from Brothers United in 2017. He now works at Chrysler and sees his kids weekly. He says their relationships have grown a lot and overall, he's become a better father.

"Now, as a father, my kids are definitely my main focus. I make sure that how I move is due to being a parent, and I make sure they are focused and I have the ability to take care of them. You just want to do right by your children."

If you are interested in joining The Brothers United Program or have someone you want to refer : Call us at (419) 279-6297 or [www.pathwaytoledo.org](http://www.pathwaytoledo.org)

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In Memoriam

# Daisy Smith RN – August 24, 1924 – March 20, 2020

Daisy Lancaster Jones Smith passed away peacefully in her home on March 20, 2020, at the age of 95. She was born to George Lancaster and Omelia Strong August 26, 1924, in E. St. Louis, IL. She was the youngest of four children and was preceded in death by her parents and siblings James, Sallie and Charles.

Daisy married Arthur Henry Jones and three children were born to their union: Caryn, Donna and Arthur, Jr. Widowed at a young age with three small children, Daisy worked as a housekeeper and a cafeteria worker to support her family.

The family spent their early years living in the Port Lawrence Homes. During this time, she became a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church. She later became affiliated with Rose of Sharon Holiness Church of God.

Her ambition and interest in health were the driving forces that led her from housekeeping to pursue a nursing career. She began her educational journey as a student in the first practical nursing program offered in Toledo. She went on to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. Daisy worked as an LPN at Riverside Hospital, while attending classes to become a Registered Nurse.

Daisy graduated with honors and as “Best All Around Nurse” from Maumee Valley Hospital (now University of Toledo) in 1963 as a Registered Nurse. She continued her RN career at Riverside until 1969. From 1969 to 1975, she worked concurrently as Assistant Clinical Manager at Mercy Hospital and Manager at Parkview Hospital. She also organized and managed the Batavia Developmental Center in Batavia, Ohio. In 1996, she received her Bachelor of Education from the University of Toledo. Her pursuit of learning never stopped. After receiving her bachelor’s degree, she continued studies toward a master’s degree.

Daisy’s health activism resulted in community outreach that assisted African Americans with greater access to health care and preventative health education. She was a staunch supporter of the Cordelia Martin Health Center from its beginning. In 1975, Daisy organized the Cordelia Martin Health Center Auxiliary to coordinate volunteer support and raise funds. She later served as the center’s Coordinator of Health Education.

In 1981, Daisy joined forces with fellow nurses Mary Gregory and Donna Todd to found the Toledo Council of Black Nurses. The organization played a pivotal role in mentoring and increasing the number of black nurses in the area. She rightly saw this as crucial to increasing the distribution of health resources to African American and other underserved communities. The Council provided scholarships to nursing students and partnered with medical institutions and civic organizations to carry out



Daisy Smith

preventative health education programming for over three decades.

Between the mid-1980s and mid-1990s, Daisy was involved in research and local and state commissions on minority health. To redress the dearth of scholarly publications on minority health disparities, Daisy worked with Dr. James Price of the University of Toledo on studies published in The Journal of the National Medical Association, Journal of School Health and The Journal of Community Health. These publications covered a range of topics including physical fitness, prostate cancer, blood vessel diseases, weight among adolescents and women’s perceptions of breast cancer and mammography. She ultimately co-authored 10 publications with Dr. Price and other members of his team. This work was also associated with grant-funded, programs for 16-19 year-old African-American youth in Toledo Public Schools and the Child Study Institute.

Daisy continued to play a pivotal role in preventative health education and diversifying the field of nursing. Most notably, in 2010, she was instrumental in Lourdes University (then Lourdes College) receiving a Nursing Workforce Diversity Grant from the US Department of Health & Human Services.

*Amari Wilson.. continued from page 8*

ber, competitive dance team member, Glass City Bible Bowl Tournament member, 2020 Cotillion Debutante and more.

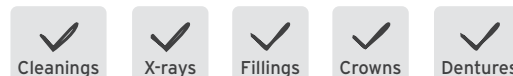
Amari was very diligent in her college search and selected 24 universities that have well-known medical programs. Amari received admission to all of them with various merit scholarships which include Howard University, Spelman College, Hampton University, University of Michigan and Baylor University to name a few. In February 2020, The Ohio State University selected Amari to receive their acclaimed John Morrill Scholarship of Excellence Award which will cover her full tuition for four years and, in turn, OSU invited Amari to return and interview for the OSU Distinction Scholarship that will cover all costs (full ride) associated with attending the university for four years.

On March 3, 2020, Amari received the call from the Grace Johnson, PhD, OSU Chief of Staff of Diversity and Inclusion informing her that she received the prestigious John Morrill Award of Distinction!

Per St. Ursula College Counseling Department, Amari has received over \$776,350 in college merit scholarship awards to date. Amari has also received additional scholarships for her community service in the African American community. Amari’s parents are humbled and continually praise God for the blessings bestowed He upon them. They are quick to say they simply tried their best to lead Amari down the path God clearly placed before them and creating a village of family, friends and church family at the Glass City Church of Christ.

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# Unemployed Due to Coronavirus? Find Available Benefits

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Self-quarantines and stay-at-home orders as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are having an impact on employment right now, and that may continue for some time. During this period of uncertainty, finding ways to pay bills or keep medical benefits are top concerns for many. Here are some tips from Janine Nowatzky, managing director of Inside Rx.

What is unemployment insurance and how do I sign up?

Unemployment insurance is a program between your state and the federal government that provides money when you've lost your job. With the federal government's passage of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, you can receive an enhanced benefit. It authorizes:

- Self-employed and gig workers to receive benefits
- An extra \$600 a week for up to six months
- An extra 13 weeks of benefits beyond what your state currently provides

Each state's rules are different. Review your state's unemployment insurance program to learn about how to apply for benefits. Or learn more by visiting [www.usa.gov/unemployment](http://www.usa.gov/unemployment).

How much money will I get?

It will vary by state. But remember, under the CARES Act, you will be able to get an additional \$600 a week for up to six months. The program's start date was set to Jan. 27. So if you lost your job due to COVID-19-related reasons between the end of January and now, then you should be able to receive the additional benefit.

What about health insurance?

It's scary to think about getting through this pandemic without health insurance. What benefits you're able to keep all depends on who you work for. The first step is to ask your employer. They may allow you to continue your health coverage for a short period of absence.

If your employer is allowing you to keep your insurance, be sure to clarify if your missed premium payments will be:

- Covered partially or fully by your employer
- Deducted when you come back to work
- Have to be paid now to continue getting insurance

Your employer may also offer health care coverage through COBRA, but that can be very expensive.

their own Affordable Care Act (ACA) health insurance exchanges. You may be able to sign up for a health insurance plan – even without a life-changing event, which is the usual exception to the standard open enrollment periods.

What about prescription medications?

It's so important to keep taking your medications to stay as strong and healthy as possible. If you weren't able to get health insurance with prescription benefits, there are prescription drug savings programs like Inside Rx that can help. The program offers access to thousands of brand and generic medications for you, your family, and your pets at a fraction of the cost, helping you save an average of 40 to 80 percent. You can fill your prescription at over 60,000 pharmacies in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Or, you can continue to socially distance and stay safe by getting your medications delivered right to your home through the Express Scripts Pharmacy with no delivery fees.

While losing one's primary source of income is stressful and scary, taking advantage of available benefits can help you and your family stay healthy.

*Courtesy StatePoint*

*Daisy Smith... continued from page 11*

Daisy has received numerous accolades for her tireless work as a health educator and activist. In 1998, a portion of The Cordelia Martin Center on Nebraska Ave. was named the Daisy Smith Clinic. After the Center moved to its larger permanent location, space dedicated to children's healthcare was named Daisy Smith Pediatrics. She received a Legacy Award along with Mary Gregory and Donna Todd in 2008 and was inducted into the Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame in 2009.

Her passion for getting African Americans to vote and be a part of political process was equally strong. She was often involved in campaigns for local office and volunteered at local headquarters for gubernatorial and presidential campaigns. In fact, she was among those who successfully pushed to have the first political campaign established in Toledo's inner city.

Daisy's community activities also included the Jewel Chapter Order of the Eastern Stars, Black Women's Democratic Caucus, Daughter of Isis Masonic Fraternal Order, Coalition of Voter Registration and Education, as well as the Legislative Committee of the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce.

Daisy's youthful exuberance often led people to assume that she was younger than her actual age. She often stated her age as "39 and holding," codified in a pendant she wore with just that phrase, gifted to her by her granddaughter-in-law.

Daisy leaves to mourn children Caryn E. Jones Flournoy and Donna M. Jones Watkins of Toledo, OH, and Arthur H. Jones, Jr. of Philadelphia, PA; four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren; life-long friends Arlena Childs, Doris Greer, Doni Miller and Donna Todd – and a host of relatives and friends.

In her honor, all are encouraged to donate to Daisy Smith Pediatrics at the Cordelia Martin Community Health Center.

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# How Contagion Works by Paolo Giordano

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

Like nearly everyone, you're on lock-down.

c.2020  
Bloomsbury  
\$4.99 / higher in Canada  
70 pages, e-book only

You can get out, strategically. Mostly, you stay home a lot, watching movies and doing more puzzles than you have in the last 10 years, combined. Your hands are raw from washing, and you're wondering how this all happened. Author and physicist Paolo Giordano explains in his new book *How Contagion Works*.

Covid-19 (or "Co V-2," as Giordano refers to the disease) is unique, but not too much: SARS, for example, was a coronavirus, too, but Co V-2 is the "first virus to spread this quickly on a global scale." It's also the first virus to show us how we act as a modern social species. This virus takes us "above identities and cultures..."

That's not to say that we can pretend this virus hates us; viruses don't have brains, so we can't make the mistake of blaming it as though it was a sentient entity. Co V-2, says Giordano, "Doesn't care about us, our age, gender, nationality, personal preferences." A virus like this just is.

Epidemics, however, "are mathematical emergencies first and foremost" and contagion is a "chain reaction" that grows exponentially, and with speed. Scientists use the symbol R0 (pronounced R-naught) to indicate a level of contagion; to put Co V-2 in perspective, its R0 is 2.5. Measles has a R0 of 15. The Spanish flu's R0 was 2.1. The spread is halted when R0 is at 1. Social isolation "equals dragging down the R0 value" and if we stop isolating too soon, there is a "high likelihood" that the virus will return.

That's hard to do; by nature, we hate altering our behavior and self-isolation is a big alteration but, says Giordano, we have two choices here: we either find a vaccine or we have patience. We are more connected than we realize, we move around too much, and "we know that the epidemic changes if we change." And speaking of that, he says we should take a hard look at climate change because he blames a lot of this virus on "our aggressive behavior toward the environment..."

If we're not careful, "what is happening with Covid-19 will keep happening more often."

Even as you read this review, says author Paolo Giordano, "the situation" is different than it was even yesterday. Some understanding of how we've gotten here is key to enduring and surviving this pandemic, and *How Contagion Works* helps.

It also helps that you don't need a PhD to understand what's inside this skinny book: filled with examples and stories, the science inside is broken down in steps that are graspable for anyone with even the slightest grasp of this virus. Giordano also addresses the myths and rumors of Covid-19, and he's not afraid to upset his readers with truth.

That means that there may be parts of this book that you might not like. There are also parts that'll give you hope and blow your mind, too, and since well-informed is well-armed, read it. *How Contagion Works* is a book to lock down.

**THE ESSAY THAT HELPED CHANGE THE COVID-19 DEBATE**

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PAOLO GIORDANO

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# CLASSIFIEDS

April 22, 2020

Page 15

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## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Lucas Housing Services Corporation (LHSC), an affiliate of Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA), located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for the following position: **Assistant Community Development Program Manager**. For complete details, visit <https://www.lucasmha.org/219/Careers>. **Deadline:** 03/16/20. This is a Section 3 covered position. HUD recipients are encouraged to apply and are to indicate on the application if you are a LMHA Public Housing client or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. **NO PHONE CALLS.** Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, religious creed, gender, military status, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin.



## DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES/EMA DIRECTOR LUCAS COUNTY

Lucas County Emergency Services is accepting applications to fill the position of Deputy Director of Emergency Services/EMA Director until filled. Additional information regarding the duties is available on the Lucas County web site ([www.co.lucas.oh.us](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us)). Click on "Apply for a Job" and then select "Deputy Director of Emergency Services/EMA Director" from the list to read more or apply.

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## SYSTEMS ANALYST LUCAS COUNTY

Lucas County Emergency Services 9-1-1 is accepting applications to fill the position of Systems Analyst position until filled. Additional information regarding the duties is available on the Lucas County web site ([www.co.lucas.oh.us](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us)). Click on "Apply for a Job" and then select "Systems Analyst" from the list to read more or apply.

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## FEEDBACK NEEDED

The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County (MHR SB) is seeking Lucas County Residents to participate in a short survey.

Please take a few minutes to provide feedback for the development of our 3-year strategic plan that will be focused on the direction, impact, and responsiveness of MHR SB's work in the communities we serve. Your candid feedback and insight will be used to develop the final strategic plan for the next three years. Complete the survey online in English or Spanish by visiting: [docs.google.com/forms/d/1FAIpQLSfJN6abJNj\\_NSqee\\_sHFZIFMX/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1FAIpQLSfJN6abJNj_NSqee_sHFZIFMX/viewform)

Printable versions of the survey are available in Arabic, English, and Spanish on our website: [www.lcmhrsb.oh.gov/publicnotice/](http://www.lcmhrsb.oh.gov/publicnotice/) We appreciate your willingness to participate in this process and look forward to the honest feedback.

## MANOR HOUSE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS ASSISTANT

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# 20 North Gallery Debuts “Around the Corner,” Paintings by Aaron S. Bivins

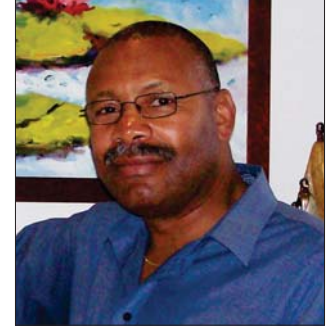
*Solo exhibition of surprising new abstract work by celebrated local artist*

Known for his lush, impressionistic landscape paintings, Toledo artist Aaron S. Bivins debuts a bold new series in his first solo exhibition of abstract works. The exhibit, presented by 20 North Gallery, began April 10 and remains on view through June 27, 2020. Due to current circumstances, there will be no opening reception, to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Instead, 20 North Gallery plans to hold a public reception for the artist in the latter half of the exhibit's run.

The public may view the artwork remotely at [20northgallery.com](http://20northgallery.com) by viewing the online video of the exhibit installation or visiting the 20 North Gallery *Around the Corner* online catalogue & price list. Visitors may also set a private appointment to tour the exhibition via Facetime or Zoom and enjoy a “virtual reception” experience.

In his artist statement for the exhibit, Bivins describes his new venture into abstraction as an initially daunting departure from his artistic comfort zone, but a necessary one to expand his growth as a painter. 20 North

Gallery art director Condessa Croninger states, “Bivins’ most recent series marks a bold new direction for the artist. The paintings are audacious—in scale and execution—forming adroit and contemporary statements of abstract expressionism, completely different from his well-known landscapes and jazz portraits, yet instantly recognizable as his own. Viewers familiar with Aaron Bivins’ work will delight in this new path he has embarked upon, turning a corner in his artistic career.”



Aaron Bivins

Aaron S. Bivins (Toledo, Ohio) attended The University of Toledo in Ohio, receiving a B.A. in Art, as well as a Teaching Certification. He has also studied watercolor landscape painting with the late prominent Toledo watercolorist, Walter Chapman and acrylic and oil landscape painting with noted Toledo artist, Richard Dziak.

Working primarily in acrylic, oil and watercolor, he also explores other media. Bivins is a former junior high school art teacher in the Toledo Public School system—he now serves as a painting demonstrator and conducts watercolor and acrylic workshops and classes, as well as jurying art shows throughout the region.

Throughout his career, he has won numerous awards, including several Best of Show and First awards, at shows such as the *Crosby Festival of the Arts* (receiving a First Award in 2015), Toledo Botanical Gardens; *Art on the Mall*, The University of Toledo (First Award in 2012, 2019); *the Roots of Diversity Multicultural Art Show*, Arts Commission of Greater Toledo; *Arts, Beats & Eats* in Pontiac, Michigan; *the Findlay Fine Arts Festival* (in Ohio); *the Marion Art and Music Festival* (in Ohio); *the Salt Fork Arts & Crafts Festival*, Cambridge, Ohio (First Award in 2016); *Harrison Rally Day for the Arts Fine Art Show*, Perrysburg, Ohio (Best of Show in 2012) and many others.

In 2015, he was honored with a solo exhibition, *Great Migration*, at the Main Library Gallery of Toledo Lucas County Public Library. The exhibit was inspired by the mass movement of African Americans from the rural South to northern US cities in the early to mid-20th century. The show comprised twenty watercolor portraits of African American citizens, painted from historical and contemporary photographs, including some of Bivins’ own family, connecting contemporary audiences to the vast historical narrative of the Migration.

Aaron Bivins’ paintings are included in many private collections throughout the country, as well as in the corporate collection of ProMedica at The Toledo Hospital. Mr. Bivins is an Associate member of the Ohio Watercolor Society and Past-President of the Northwestern Ohio Watercolor Society. He is also a member of the Toledo Artists Club.

In addition to the “*Around the Corner*” exhibit, 20 North Gallery continues to display glass, paintings, jewelry and artists’ cards by noted artists of the region.

**The online video and exhibition catalogue & price list for “Around the Corner: Aaron Bivins Abstract,” containing art images of the full exhibit and artist information, are posted at the 20 North Gallery website at <https://20northgallery.com/around-the-corner/>**



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