

SPORTS
2026 Cleveland Marathon
Page 4

MENU TIPS
Kiku Is The Sweetest Apple
See Page 5

Funk Not Fight Love Fest to be held
Leo's Arts & Music Collaboratory (The Collab) will present its 3rd annual Funk Not Fight Love Fest, free and open to the public, on Sunday June 28 at 4:30 pm at the Collab located at 1956 E. 75th St., Cleveland, Ohio, to recognize, showcase and support Cleveland's African American performing and visual artists.

Toni Morrison Virtual Book Club
Toni Morrison Virtual Book Club will be held on May 31 for 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This free virtual statewide book club is designed to bring all Ohioans together to discuss the 11 novels of the Lorain native and Nobel Prize-winning author. You can join to discuss just one novel or aim to read them all!

Author Alley to be held at Loganberry
Author Alley will be held at Loganberry Books, 13015 Larchmere Blvd. on August 1-2, 2026. Dozens of local authors will set up shop in the iconic mural-adorned alleyway next to Loganberry, where they'll have the opportunity to connect with new readers and mingle with fellow writers.

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READ ON - WRITE ON

Suing the NEORSD helped curb the utility's polluting of Lake Erie; Can a federal lawsuit prevent the NEORSD from destroying the historic Shaker Lakes?

By PAT WHITE

In 2010, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Justice Department announced a comprehensive Clean Water Act settlement with the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORSD) to address the flow of nearly 5 billion gallons untreated sewage into Cleveland area waterways and Lake Erie. (*United States and State of Ohio v. Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District*).

(NOTE: *Flanagan v. NEORSD et al* is the case presently in court attempting to prevent the NEORSD from destroying the historic Shaker Lakes Parklands.)

In settling the case of *United States and State of Ohio v. Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District*, the NEORSD agreed to be monitored for 25 years, pay fines to the EPA, and to use the fees that they collect to improve their neglected infrastructure. The estimated cost to correct these deficiencies was a 3 billion dollar investment over 25 years.

What is important to understand is that keeping raw sewage out of Lake Erie was/ and is the main job of the sewer district, and that the sewer district was so negligent in their duties that a federal consent decree was necessary to ensure that the NEORSD would

do its job.

Before the lawsuit, the sewer district was not in the business of designing sewer parks, restoring streams, or building dams... with one exception:

Lake View Cemetery Dam was built in 1977 by the Cleveland Regional Sewer District for 6.3 million, or about 40 million in today's dollars. The dam was the brainchild of Cleveland mobster Anthony Liberatore.

This may explain the dam's proximity to Little Italy, and the amount of cement, 67,000 cubic yards of concrete used to build the structure. Standing at almost 90 feet high with a width of 500 feet across, the water levels at the dam's base have always been negligible. The structure's only function today is as a very expensive repelling wall used by firefighters during training exercises.

This monstrous dam project benefited the cement contractors. It also created union jobs. At the time, Liberatore and Jackie Presser, who was the president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and who had close ties to organized crime, were both named to the Board of Trustees of the newly formed Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District.

(Story cont. on page 7)

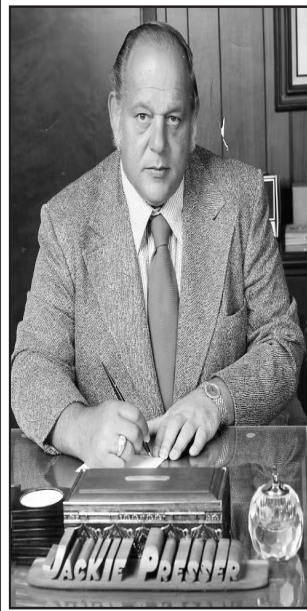
NEORSD Founding Board of Trustee members as profiled in Scene magazine and Washington Post articles

"Vintage Photos of Cleveland's Most Notorious Mobsters" and "Teamsters' Presser Led Two Lives As He Rose to the Top of the Union"



Liberatore

Anthony "Tony Lib" Liberatore – Tony Liberatore was a favorite mobster in the Cleveland crew. Highly respected and well thought of, qualification for such recognition was the fact that he served twenty years for a 1938 murder conviction. Upon his release he was active with Laborers Local 860 and in 1972 was given a full pardon by the state of Ohio. In 1975 then Cleveland mayor Ralph Perk appointed "Lib" to a regional governing municipality. (NEORSD) He would eventually become the business manager for the same Local. While proving himself a noble resident he also was cultivating strong ties with the local Cleveland crime family. Jack Licavolli thought so much of him that he "made" him to his crime family and he was quickly elevated to capo status. Liberatore was a part of crew that supplied the backup hit team in the 1976 murder of Danny Greene. In many ways he was seen as a possible future boss for the crime family. From 1982 to 1990 Liberatore served time for a racketeering conviction. It wasn't long when in 1993 he was convicted of money laundering and handed an eight year sentence. The "last great hope" would die of complications stemming from Alzheimer Disease in 1998 while in prison after having his conviction upheld by the US Supreme Court.



Presser

Teamsters President Jackie Presser lived a double life as he rose through the union's ranks: one as a government informer and another as a Teamsters official with a widespread reputation for being under the thumb of the mob, according to documents obtained by The Washington Post. The Justice Department's controversial decision was to not indict Presser on charges of embezzling Teamster funds from his home town Cleveland local. He escaped prosecution for using the money to pay "ghost employees," reportedly on the grounds that he had also done service as an FBI informer and that his FBI handlers had sanctioned the payroll padding. (Many criminal dealings allegedly occurred while Presser was on the Board of Trustees of NEORSD) "In December 1975, a New Jersey state police officer stepped into the Roman Forum, a private club inside a West Paterson, N.J., Teamsters local, and arrested a man named Comillo Molinaro on a felony warrant. The officer, Detective Sgt. Robert T. Bucino, later testified that Molinaro was so anxious to avoid being booked that he began talking in hope of striking a deal. Molinaro, Bucino said, told him he was a Mafia "soldier" from Cleveland and that he had influence there, particularly when it came to obtaining loans from "the Teamsters' pension plan." Applicants, Bucino said Molinaro told him, would have to be recommended by a Mafia member or associate and then Molinaro "would contact his source . . . a Mr. Jack Presser . . . He described Mr. Presser as an underling of President Fitzsimmons . . . out of Cleveland."



Standing at almost 90 feet high with a width of 500 feet across, the water levels at the dam's base have always been negligible. The structure, however, is used by firefighters for repelling practice during training exercises.

Black with a racist White parents

By C.M. APPLING

In the past, the state of Ohio had progressive policies when in regard to racial liberalism and co-existence in interracial, political and social matters. During the era of American, antebellum slavery, Ohio was considered as one of the North's leading, abolitionist states before the

Civil War. And, Oberlin College in Lorain County (35 miles southwest of Cleveland) defied racist convention and enrolled black students to study with white students as intellectual equals.

Also, during the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 60s, Carl Stokes became Cleveland's first, black mayor (one of the first, African-American mayors of a major, U.S. city).

However, during the former, Joe Biden presidential administration and the current, Donald Trump administration, Ohio has changed party hues from a liberal, 'blue' state to a conservative, 'red' one. It currently plays political havoc with race relations between whites and blacks in the Midwestern, 'Buckeye State.' And, that havoc is not only increasing separation between family members of the same race, but between family members made up of both races.

Recently, a black/white, mixed-race man named Brian Windle in Toledo, Ohio, posted a 20-second, viral video on Facebook showing his white mother, Julie Marie Windle, ranting and calling him the N-word. Mr. Windle is quoted as saying his mother has been "doing and saying things like this" his entire life. And, now that he has two, small children (who are also light-skinned), he has admitted that his mother is demonstrating this racist behavior in front of them.

Windle's mother, a nurse director at the University of Toledo Medical Center, is a plain but pleasant-looking woman with glasses in the Internet online photo. So, why would she subject her own offspring and descendants

to the ugly, ignorant and insulting slurs and bigoted treatment that most non-mixed, African-Americans are subjected to? After all, if she made the decision to have a black man's baby, her reaction as a parent should be to defend her own child, not side with the white supremacists who would try to harm him?

Racial matters around the world are diverse and complicated. But, as I am a light-skinned, African-American man who grew up in the United States and have had my own, racial identity questioned at times, I feel I somewhat understand what Brian Windle might be going through.

During the American slave trade, the white plantation owners in the South tried to use a divide-and-conquer ploy to divide black people by allowing the light-skinned, mixed-race slaves to work in the Big Houses as cooks and servants while the dark-skinned slaves worked in the fields picking cotton, tobacco or sugar cane. At this time, to have any black blood in your genealogical background was considered a 'taint' by white supremacist propaganda. So, they created the 'One-Drop Rule' for slaves which stated that to have any black ancestry was to be 'all' black. And, in the case of Louisiana, sub-categories were installed for Creoles with titles like mulatto (half-black), quadroon (one-fourth black) and octoroon (one-eighth black).

Then, after the Civil War, after Reconstruction, after Jim Crow and during the civil rights movement, the U.S. Supreme Court passed the case of *Loving v. Virginia* in 1967, legalizing interracial marriage in America. Richard and Mildred Loving (a white man and a half-

black woman) opened the door for other, interracial couples to miscegenate (race-mix) without fear of arrest or physical harm.

Later still, in the 1970s, the sitcom *The Jeffersons* also featured Tom and Helen Willis: the first, interracial couple to be regularly shown on a TV series. Tom (a blond white man) and Helen (a dark-skinned black woman) had two, adult children: Alan (a white-looking brunette son) and Jenny (a brown-skinned daughter). And, on the sitcom *black-ish*, (2014-2022) it featured Andre (Dre) Johnson as an African-American advertising executive and Rainbow (Bow) Johnson as a golden-brown-skinned, mixed anesthesiologist doctor. Bow had a white dad (Paul) a light-skinned mom (Alicia), a golden-brown-skinned brother (Johan) and a white-looking sister (Santamonica).

During the 1990s and the early 2000s, there was an interracial, baby boom explosion in America that was unprecedented and unheralded as never before. Many black/white, mixed-race celebrities dominated media interest as the country seemed to be finally 'stewing' with racial harmony in its supposedly 'melting pot' of national spirit.

Celebrities like Halle Berry, Lisa Bonet, Lenny Kravitz, Jasmine Guy, Thandie Newton, Boris Kodjoc, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, and Paula Patton were featured prominently on TV shows and films. While others like Mariah Carey became the top-selling, female recording artist of all-time; Meghan Markle married into British aristocracy and became the first, mixed-race, Duchess of Sussex; and Barack Obama became the first, African-American president of the United States.

As we enter midway of the year 2026, many people believe

that to be part-black is no longer a 'taint', a curse or 'tragic' as mixed-race offspring can claim to have 'the best of both worlds'. But, in reality, many mixed-race children still suffer from racism and/or jealousy that is forced upon them by either whites or blacks or both.

In the case of Brian Windle's mother calling him and her grandchildren the N-word, it is unfortunately a story I have heard before. Twice. Once, my wife's mixed-race godson has an older brother whose behavior was called the N-word by their white step-father. In my own family, I have a half-black great-niece whose half-black, half-brother is being raised by their white mother's racist parents.

Growing up in Shaker Heights, I knew many light-skinned, black kids and many mixed-race kids. Children of mixed marriages and/or relationships in America are still susceptible to rejection and/or prejudice from both sides of the color line. But, as long as they know that racist, white society considers them as black, and that their white parents should understand that, that can help them cope with any identity crises or problems that might arise as they grow and mature.

As a whole, black folks have always 'absorbed' the mixed-race children of society into the community since slavery times. However, as the saying goes, 'All skin folk ain't kin folk.'

Meaning, all black people aren't open to their light-skinned and/or mixed brothers and sisters. And, mixed people should be proud of their black heritage without having to be ashamed of their white parent or family members.

Gasoline prices rise, and rise again

The national average for a gallon of regular is four cents lower this week at \$4.49. Even though this week's average is cheaper than last week, gas prices are still the highest they've been in four years. With gasoline demand on the rise and the prolonged closure of the Strait of Hormuz, pump prices are likely to remain elevated as the summer travel season gets underway. Today's national average is 40 cents more than a month ago and \$1.32 more than a year ago.

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

last week from 8.75 million barrels per day to 8.76 million. Total domestic gasoline supply decreased from 215.7 million barrels to 214.2 million. Gasoline production decreased last week, averaging 9.3 million barrels per day.

At the close of Wednesday's formal trading session, West Texas Intermediate fell \$5.89 to settle at \$98.26 a barrel. The EIA reports crude oil inventories decreased by 7.9 million barrels from the previous week. At 445 million barrels, U.S. crude oil inventories are about 2% below the five-year average for this time of year.

Northeast Ohio Average for Self-Service Gasoline

	Regular
This Week (06-05-26)	\$4.75
Last Week (05-29-26)	\$4.61
Last Year (06-06-26)	\$3.52
National (06-05-26)	\$4.49

VANTAGE POINT

Free concert series featuring young pianists

In partnership with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Piano Cleveland will present a series of nine free community concerts at the Museum from July 21 through August 1. Featuring pianists from the Cleveland International Piano Competition and Institute for Young Artists, the concerts are free and open to the public. All concerts will be held in the Museum's Visitor Hall, a free community space where guests can gather, explore, and connect with science.

In total, the competition will bring 13 Semi-Finalists and around 20 Institute students to Cleveland for the last two weeks of July. The Semi-Finalists

will play in a total of four competition events while Institute students will receive instruction from the panel of musicians and industry professionals who also comprise the competition jury. "Our partnership with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History is especially exciting because it gives our international participants performance opportunities in a world-class space while contributing to the museum's impactful community programming."

"We are proud to partner with Piano Cleveland on this free concert series celebrating exceptional young artists," said Meenakshi Sharma, Acting President & CEO of the Cleveland

Museum of Natural History. "This collaboration reflects our shared commitment to access, creativity, and meaningful community experiences."

The Cleveland International Piano Competition for Young Artists Semi-Finalists will perform in the Museum's Visitor Hall in the week leading up to the competition on the following days: Tuesday, July 21 | Noon Wednesday, July 22 | Noon Thursday, July 23 | Noon

Once the competition is underway, the students of the Cleveland International Piano Institute will take over the series with free concerts in the Visitor Hall on the follow-

ing days:
Friday, July 24 | Noon
Tuesday, July 28 | Noon
Wednesday, July 29 | Noon
Thursday, July 30 | Noon
Friday, July 31 | Noon

The competition concludes on Friday evening with the Final Concerto Round, performed with the Canton Symphony Orchestra. Cleveland audiences will then have the unique opportunity to see the newly minted winners of the 2026 Cleveland International Piano Competition for Young Artists in one last free concert, also held in the Museum's Visitor Hall on Saturday, August 1 at noon.

YOUR HEALTH

Your dental visit could save your life

Nurse Sandy Wexler went to her dentist in 2012 for a routine teeth cleaning.

During the exam, her dentist took a moment to feel the sides of her face, jaw and neck, looking for signs of oropharyngeal cancer—a type of cancer that occurs at the back of the mouth or top of the throat.

Her dentist noticed an enlarged lymph node on the right side of Wexler's neck and sent Sandy to see her physician.

It was metastatic squamous cell oropharyngeal cancer.

After weeks of radiation and chemotherapy at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Wexler was cancer-free. But had she not seen the dentist when she did, Wexler might not be alive today.

"I credit [my dentist] with saving my life because otherwise it could have been six more months before this could have been diagnosed and found," she said.

The American Cancer Society estimates that there will be 51,540 new cases of oral cancer and oropharyngeal cancer diagnosed this year and 10,030 deaths from them. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has noted that oropharyngeal cancer is on the rise.

As doctors of oral health, dentists see the mouth as a window to overall health and, as in Wexler's case, can identify clues suggesting cancer.

This means more and more dentists are talking with patients about health issues that might at first pass seem unrelated but can actually affect oral health. Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination is one such topic. In fact, the American Dental Association has partnered with MD Anderson in an effort to improve public and professional education about the HPV vaccine and HPV-related cancers.

HPV vaccination was first discussed for its benefit in preventing cervical cancer in women, but there are other HPV-related cancers, including those at the back of

the throat and the top of the mouth.

The HPV vaccine can prevent infection with those strains of HPV responsible for 60 percent of oropharyngeal cancer cases. Because of this, consistent with the recommendation of the CDC, many dentists are now recommending both their male and female adolescent patients get the vaccine.

At your next dental appointment, don't be surprised if your dentist checks for signs of oral and oropharyngeal cancer and talks to you about the benefits of the HPV vaccine. HPV vaccination can prevent cancers; a thorough exam for signs of oral and oropharyngeal cancers could save your life.

Your dentist may be the first to spot serious medical problems, such as cancer, while they're easiest to treat.

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 online 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 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/PracticalMoney.

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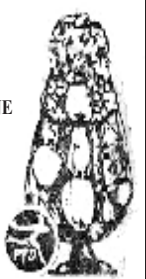
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Islam In The Community

Netanyahu has ordered the army to seize more than 70% of Gaza's territory

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Thursday that he has directed Israel's military to take over 70% of Gaza's territory.

During an interview at a conference in the occupied West Bank, Netanyahu said that Israel is "tightening" its grip on Hamas. "We are now in 60% of the territory of the Gaza Strip. We were at 50%. We moved to 60%," he said. "My directive is to move to — take it step by step — first of all 70. Let's start with that." As Netanyahu spoke, the audience called for him to take over all of Gaza's territory.

In late April, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) issued maps to international aid groups that showed the military already controlling approximately 64% of Gaza.

The seizure of more of Gaza would force approximately 2 million Palestinians into a shrinking fraction of the coastal enclave's shattered territory.

Under a October 2025 ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hamas, Israeli forces withdrew to a demarcation line known as the "yellow line" that left them in roughly 53% of Gaza.

On Tuesday, Hamas accused Israel of moving the line, saying this "constitutes an explicit and ongoing undermining of the ceasefire agreement, a serious violation of its provisions, and an exposed attempt to impose new facts on the ground by force, with the aim of entrenching military control over the Strip and undermining any real chance of stabilizing the situation or making de-escalation efforts succeed."

Both Israel and Hamas are supposed to be abiding by the terms of the US-brokered ceasefire agreement, which went into effect



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Thursday that he has directed Israel's military to take over 70% of Gaza's territory.

in October. But progress on the plan, which was promoted by President Donald Trump, has stalled, risking a scenario in which Gaza's territory becomes permanently divided.

Nickolay Mladenov, a Bulgarian diplomat who serves as the official in charge of implementing the agreement, warned earlier this month that without progress, the yellow line could turn "into a fence or wall, a permanent separation of Gaza."

Mladenov acknowledged a reality on the ground in Gaza in which "civilians are still being killed" and "families live in fear" of Israeli airstrikes.

Israel has repeatedly carried out strikes in Gaza since the ceasefire, accusing Hamas of violating it by rearming and rebuilding its forces. Those strikes have killed more than 850 people in Gaza since the ceasefire began, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Public Health. Earlier this month, Israel assassinated Izz al-Din al-Haddad, the leader of Hamas' military wing. Eleven days later, Israel assassinated his successor in a subsequent strike.

"We vowed to eliminate everyone who led the October 7 massacre, and that is what will be done: They are all condemned to death everywhere," Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz said Thursday on social media.

Hamas has also refused to disarm or decommission its weaponry, Mladenov said, a key element of the ceasefire plan upon which much of the future of Gaza rests. Israeli forces are supposed to gradually withdraw from occupied territory in Gaza after Hamas disarms and when an international security force secures parts of the enclave.

Though some countries have signaled a willingness to contribute to the security force, there is no clear timeline for its deployment. And in the absence of progress on the ceasefire agreement, Israel has gradually seized more of Gaza, entrenching its hold on the devastated territory.

The name Hind Rajab, possibly the most famous Palestinian victim of the war, appears on row 5,918 of the Hamas-run Gaza Health Ministry's list of fatalities. In January 2024, she was the sole survivor among seven people in her family's car as they tried to flee Gaza City at the orders of the IDF. For over two hours, she remained on the phone with her family and the Red Crescent, which dispatched paramedics to rescue her.

Eleven days later, her body was found in the car, which was riddled with hundreds of bullets. The bodies of the paramedics, Yousef al-Zeino and Ahmed al-Madhoun, were discovered in the bullet-riddled ambulance nearby. Their deaths are recorded later in the table, in rows 46,722 and 49,661.

Hind Rajab was 5 years and 8 months old when she died. Her position in row 5,918 means that 5,917 children younger than her were killed in the war. The first

name in the table is Waad Sabbah, who was killed six weeks after Hind. She and 17 other newborns died within their first 24 hours. One hundred and fifteen children died before reaching one month. A total of 1,054 children died before their first birthday.

The Gaza Health Ministry's list of the dead, which Haaretz translated from Arabic with the help of AI and which spans more than 2,000 pages, is a document whose significance is rivaled only by the controversy it has generated. Governments worldwide, along with researchers and human rights organizations, have treated it as the closest thing to an official estimate of the death toll. Israel and conservative researchers, on the other hand, have raised doubts. They have criticized the list, attempted to undermine its credibility and pointed to errors, though these appear negligible.

Over time, however, a consensus has taken shape: even if the list has weaknesses, including the fact that it does not differentiate between combatants and civilians, it reflects the scale of the disaster inflicted on Gaza and its people. It also forms the basis for allegations that Israel committed war crimes, crimes against humanity and even genocide.

"It's clear that the list isn't 100 percent accurate and that it has errors, but I think they're around one percent," says Dr. Lee Mordechai, a historian at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem who leads a war documentation project based on tens of thousands of open sources.

He also points to the test of time. In previous rounds of fighting, when Israel eventually published its own figures for civilian deaths, they were close to those of the Gaza Health Ministry. "The Health Ministry's count is actually an undercount. It does not include unidentified bodies, bodies buried in the rubble or bodies for which there is no information."

As the months have passed, claims of fabrication and exaggeration have largely remained confined to Israeli television panels. At the end of January, an apparent dispute over the number of dead seemed to end in Israel when a senior army source confirmed that the IDF recognizes that 70,000 people died, precisely the figure cited by Gazan authorities. Even so, politicians have been slow to echo that acknowledgment, and the IDF's English-language spokesperson quickly issued a denial of the senior officer's remarks.

Even if the argument over the total number of dead is, for now, largely settled, disagreement in Israel continues over who the dead were: How many were gunmen, how many were affiliated with Hamas, how many were killed under circumstances that meet the conditions of international law?

None of this alters the stark figures in the table. Of the recorded deaths, 20,876, about 30 percent, are young girls, teenage girls and women. Another 3,220 were aged 65 and over, including the final name on the list, Tamam



Hind Rajab was 5 years old when she was killed by Israeli soldiers. Her number on the list, which is organized by age, is 5,918.

al-Batsh, who was 110 when she died

Israel's military has accepted the death toll compiled by health authorities in Gaza is broadly accurate, marking a U-turn after years of official attacks on the data.

A senior security official briefed Israeli journalists, saying about 70,000 Palestinians had been killed by Israeli attacks on the territory since October 2023, excluding those missing.

It is the first time Israel has publicly estimated the toll from the war in Gaza. Previously the government and military had only provided figures for militants Israel claimed to have killed.

Gaza health authorities said the direct toll from Israeli attacks had exceeded 71,660 people, with at least 10,000 presumed buried in the rubble of bombed buildings. For more than two years, Israeli officials and media had attacked the Palestinian

figures as "Hamas propaganda" and dismissed them as "not accurate".

The abrupt shift in stance raises broader questions about Israel's defence of its campaign in Gaza. A UN commission, rights groups and scholars have accused Israel of committing genocide in the territory.

"What other accusations could turn out to be true?" the Israeli newspaper Haaretz said after the briefing. "The Israeli public must ask itself what this belated recognition indicates about the army and the government's credibility regarding Israel's conduct in Gaza."

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A Look At My World

Just pinch a nickel until the buffalo screams

By Dr. JAMES L. SNYDER

Every so often, something happens reminding me of my father, who passed away over 16 years ago. Thinking back, he was the epitome of frugality. If I were to look up in the dictionary the meaning of frugality, I would not be surprised to find my father's name.

His favorite saying was, "Just pinch a nickel until the buffalo screams."

When I first heard him say that, I did not understand what he meant.

I try to be frugal and not spend money I do not need to. I got that from good old dad.

Thinking of my father and his frugal attitude, I remembered when he generously picked up the lunch tab, then left a nickel tip for the waitress.

At first, I could not believe it. I thought maybe it was a joke, and I was waiting for the punch line. Unfortunately, it never came. He actually tipped the waitress a nickel. I was tempted to ask him about that, but I figured it was none of my business.

I do not need to have the latest gadget on the market. I do not have to update my cell phone every year to have the latest model. I've had my truck

for 20 years and I'm not planning to trade it in for a newer model anytime soon. If that old truck gets me to where I need to go, that is all I really need.

Years ago, I had a friend who traded in his car every two years for a brand-new one. I do not know whether he paid the car off before trading it in. He had to have a new car, which made him feel like a big man.

Some relatives of mine, whom I will not name, are very obsessed with having the latest gadget. They like to flaunt it all the time

I do not interfere in their business. If they do not want to be frugal with their money, that's their business, not mine. However, I think it is very important for me to be frugal with my spending. After all, I am retired and live on a limited budget.

I'm never going to win that \$10 billion lotto because I'm too frugal. I cannot tell you how many phone calls I received claiming I had won \$10 million in some lottery. All I have to do is pay \$ 1,500 in processing fees.

If my anti-frugal friends are willing to pay a \$ 1,500 processing fee out of pocket, that is none of my business. To get that out of my pocket would be more impossible than anything I can think

of at the time.

I do not live an extravagant lifestyle by any means. Fortunately, for me, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage does not live an extravagant lifestyle either. We are not in it for the money, but for the time we can spend together

If you walk by me sometime and hear a buffalo scream, you will know what I'm doing: pinching a nickel.

Another area where I try to be frugal is with my time. I want to feel in control of my days and use my time meaningfully, avoiding wasting my time, and focus on what truly matters.

As a teenager, I knew how to waste time as well as anybody else. It took me a long time to realize I needed to be frugal with my time and make the most of it.

My parents were snowbirds and spent the winter in Florida. The last time they were in Florida, my father was really in a serious health situation. He had been in a coma for a week or so. Then one day, he woke up as though he had never been sick in his life.

I am so glad I was there when he woke up. When he saw me, he actually got out of bed and sat with me in the living room. The first thing he said was: "Son, I want to go back home to Pennsylvania as soon as possible. Do you think we can do it in the next couple of days?"

I agreed with him, and one of Dad's friends was there, took me out to the garage and said, "Don't you know your father is sick and may not live much longer?"

Looking at him, I said, "Friend, I know my father has maybe two days left to live. I do not want the last of my time with him arguing about going back to Pennsylvania. I want to have a good conversation with him because I know this is the last one I'll have with him."

The next day, my father passed away, I was so grateful I spent the time I had with him before he passed, and that time was not spent arguing about anything.

I want to be frugal with every aspect of my life, not just my money.

Jesus addressed this subject in Luke 14:28-30.

"For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish."

I have learned that being frugal enables me to finish what I start, which is so satisfying.

James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025. ..e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com.

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Monsters eliminated

By ANDREW CARTER

The Cleveland Monsters were eliminated from Calder Cup contention, in a Game 5, 3-2 loss at Home in the AHL North Division Finals. They led Toronto, 2-1, with 4:30 left to play, when the Marlies tied it. Toronto then broke the hearts of Rocket Arena assemblage by scoring the winning goal with 12 seconds remaining to take the best-of-five series, 3-2, and end the Monsters season.

Tuesday, June 2, 2026 to Friday, June 5, 2026

EAST SIDE DAILY NEWS

SPORTS

Fight Night will be held on June 6 at 7:00 p.m. at Maronite Center, 1555 S. Meridan Rd, Youngstown, Former World Boxing champions Roy Jones and Ray Mancini will be in attendance. For information contact Kelly Pavlik at 330-565-9566.

Browns begin OTAs

By KARL BRYANT

The Browns began Organized Team Activities. These are voluntary, but many players find it wise to attend. Mandatory Minicamp begins June 9. CLE 1st Year Coach Todd Monken is giving Deshaun Watson every opportunity to earn his Big Bucks and take the starting QB role. Watson and Shedeur Sanders are both getting 1st Team reps at signal caller.

Guardians Remain Solidly in 1st Place

By KARL BRYANT

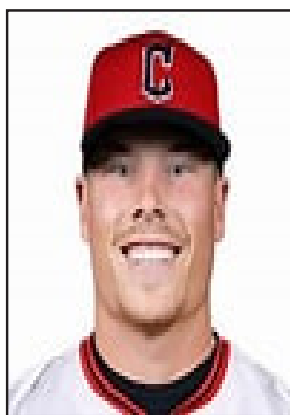
The Guardians have won 7 of 10 at Press Time and remain solidly in 1st Place in the AL Central. In two InterLeague Play series, they first took a trip to the City of Brotherly Love, where they took 2 of 3 from the Phillies, and returning to Progressive Field, they lost the first

two games of a set with the Nationals, but won the series finale, 3-2.

In a 6-3 loss in the second game of that series vs. the Nationals, they fell behind, 4-0, before they scored a run, and then saw the deficit increase to 6-1. Starter Joey Cantillo (4-2) was pulled after throwing a massive 69 pitches in only two innings of work,



Cantillo



Bazzana

where he allowed the four runs on three hits, including a HR, and walked four. The Guardians put on a belated 9th Inning rally, which came up short for a 6-3 final. Travis Bazzana doubled in a run and Jose Ramirez, who earlier knocked in a run on a Sac Fly, plated the last tally on a ground out.

Yet, fans were buoyed

by the team's recent success and 1st Place standing. Janice commented, "We certainly have shown that our pitching staff can compete with anybody's. Barry agreed, saying, "Our pitchers have been carrying this team. Yesterday was an aberration. That kid (Tanner) Bibee must be snake bit. First, they can't score runs for him

and now, he can't keep the ball in the park. The rest of them (pitchers) have been doing pretty good." Bibee (0-7) allowed five HRs in the previous day's 10-2 loss.

Jane, who'd participated in the Bark at the Park event going on during the game with her bright white pooch, remarked, "We just had a lot of fun. There were a lot of fun things to do. The other dogs and owners were friendly. I would have like out guys to win today, but they'll win tomorrow." They did.

The Guardians pulled

out the series finale, 3-2, in a Daytime Getaway Game. Gavin Williams (8-3) recorded the "W," and Cade Smith, his 19th Save. CLE scred all their runs in the 5th Inning as Ramirez knocked in a run with a Sac Fly, and Chase De Lauter and Angel Martinez each delivered RBI singles. Stat Geeks pointed out that it was the eighth straight game in which the Guardians have failed to score more than three runs. Yet, thanks to their pitching, they remain firmly in 1st Place.

They entertain the Red Sox this weekend.



Thousands of runners pass in front of the Terminal Tower on Public Square during the 49th running of the Cleveland Marathon on a newly-designed scenic course. ESDN Photo by Minority Publishers Assoc.)

49th Cleveland Marathon

By KARL BRYANT

The 2026 Cleveland Marathon, which offers several distances of races for all ranges of runners wishing to "pound the pavement," welcomed over 13,000 participants to Downtown Cleveland to "get in their steps" in a major way. Elite runners and Weekend Warriors alike, were able to peruse many more historical City Landmarks this year on a redesigned scenic course.

The Men's winner of the University Hospital's Cleveland Marathon was Jacob Kocis of Versailles, KY, who was over 10 minutes faster than runner-up Tyler Polman of Independence, OH, who was the leading NE Ohio Men's participant.

The Women's winner, who ran 26.2 miles, was the unbelievable Ashton Swinford of Hudson, OH, who astonishingly won her 5th STRAIGHT Cleveland Marathon. The Amazing Ashton finished nearly eight minutes ahead of runner-up Emily Ambrose of Cleveland.

In the Half-Marathon, the

Men's winner was Hunter Brignall of Seneca Falls, NY. He finished over a minute ahead of Jorge Villanueva, of Akron, who was the top NE Ohio finisher at that distance.

Katie Clute of Olmsted Township, who is a Track and Field athlete at the University of Oregon, won the Women's Half-Marathon. She finished over five minutes ahead of runner-up Madeline Stier of Frisco, TX.

In the Men's 10K, contested the day before, Joseph Kelly finished 45 seconds ahead of fellow Lakewood denizen, Tyler Vitullo. In the Women's 10K, Lauren McCafferty of Cleveland finished 53 seconds ahead of Emily Raymond of Gates Mills.

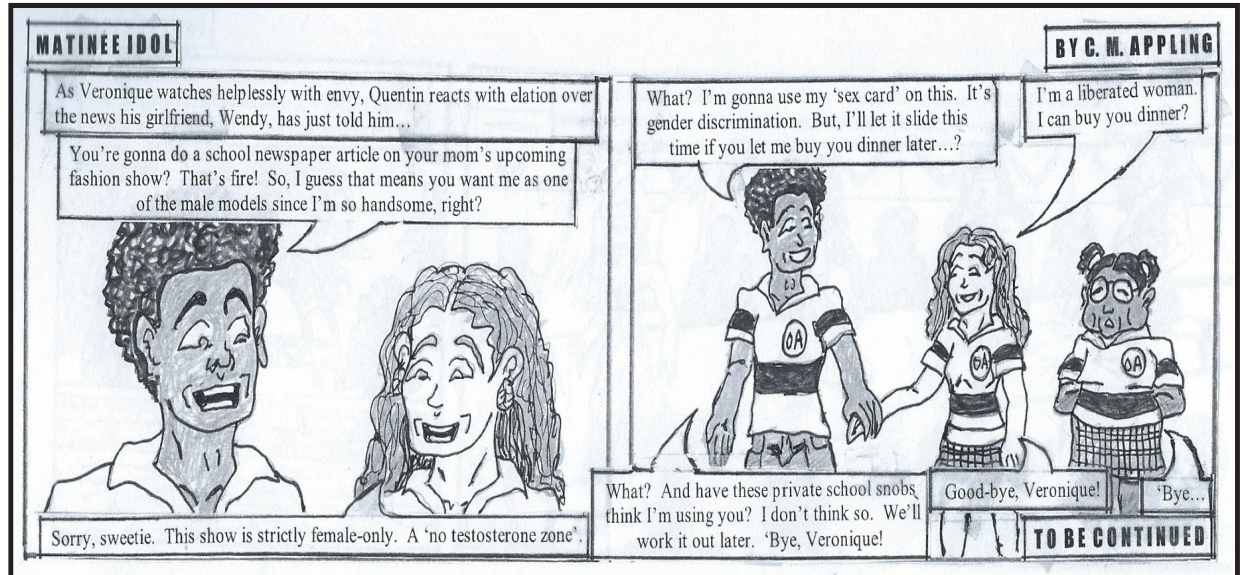
In the 5K, ran the same day as the 10K, Oliver Huffman of Stow, finished 32 seconds ahead of Noah Berko of Solon. In the closest race of the main contests held during the two-days of racing, Sydney Winger of Strongsville, edged out Bryn Westerman of Murrysville, PA, by three seconds, to take the Women's 5K race.



Cleveland Marathon Men's winner Jacob Kocis of Versailles, KY, gives Media members the Tale of the Race in front of one of the banana tables, shortly after crossing the Finish Line. (ESDN Photo by Minority Publishers Assoc.)



Ashton Swinford of Hudson, just seconds after becoming an amazing five-time winner of the Cleveland Marathon. Grabbing a water right after crossing the finish line, she just had been congratulated by CLE race founder Jack Staph (left). (ESDN photo by Minority Publishing)



On The Town

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

VIDEO GAME SYMPHONY - LEVEL UP! comes to State Theatre

VIDEO GAME SYMPHONY - LEVEL UP! comes to State Theatre on Saturday, June 13 at 7:30 p.m.

The Video Game Symphony makes its long-awaited debut at Playhouse with LEVEL UP!, a bold and immersive concert event celebrating the artistry, emotion, and epic scale of video game music. Performed by over 150 musicians on stage,

including special guest artist 88bit, this electrifying program showcases how game scores have evolved into some of the most powerful and cinematic music of our time.

This evening's program will include selections from:

- Baldur's Gate 3
- Clair Obscur: Expedition 33
- Super Smash Bros. Brawl
- The Legend of Zelda: The Wind Waker
- Super Mario Galaxy 1 & 2

- Undertale
- Final Fantasy VI & VII
- The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim
- Helldivers 2
- Super Mario RPG
- World of Warcraft
- Assassin's Creed
- Civilization VI
- Uncharted 2: Among Thieves
- Pokémon Mystery Dungeon
- Hollow Knight

LEVEL UP! Preshow & Super Star Cosplay Contest

Arrive early for the LEVEL UP! Preshow, where the fun begins before the first note is played! Explore a geek-market filled with vendors offering super-cool collectibles, art, and gear. Then, cheer on your favorite characters during the Super Star Cosplay Contest, held live on stage right before the concert begins. With three prize categories—Child, Teen, and Adult—fans of all ages can step into the spotlight and show off their

ultimate character builds before the concert begins.

LEVEL UP! is more than just a concert—it's a celebration of epic adventures, sprawling digital worlds, and all of the incredible music that brings them to life.

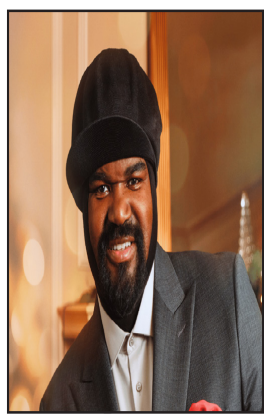
The Video Game Symphony's historic debut at Playhouse Square promises to be an unforgettable night where gaming culture and symphonic performance come together at the highest possible level.

Gregory Porter will perform at the Mimi Ohio Theatre

Gregory Porter will perform on September 26 at 8:00 p.m. at the Mimi Ohio Theatre.

This is a rescheduled performance from April 26, 2026

With his rich baritone voice and his mastery of the deepest traditions of soul, jazz and gospel, Gregory Porter has established



Porter

himself as one of America's most versatile and

acclaimed vocalists. His artistry and sensitivity is plain to the ear whether he's putting his stamp on beloved standards by heroes like Nat "King" Cole or demonstrating his own writing talents with original songs strong enough to stand with the many classics in his repertoire.

Produced by Troy Miller (Jamie Cullum, Laura Mvula), All Rise is Porter's sixth studio album and fourth for the iconic Blue Note label. Like his 2013 breakthrough Liquid Spirit — the Grammy Award winner for Best Jazz Vocal Album — Porter's latest is a confident display of his many gifts,

starting with his ability to convey feelings of both exaltation and sadness with uncommon directness and warmth.

On December 13, 2023, Porter performed at the Royal Albert Hall in its "Christmas at The Royal Albert Hall" programme.

In September 2024, Porter announced a 12-night tour of the UK, commencing in April 2025, including a night at Manchester's new Co-op.

In 2025, Porter participated in the sixth season of The Masked Singer UK as "Dressed Crab", where he finished in second place.

Describing his own style, Porter said in a 2014 interview that "I would say Donny Hathaway, Nat King Cole, Bill Withers — I hear something of me in all of them that is similar to the culture that I grew up in i.e. Gospel music. I could hear the familiarity to Gospel music in the songs of someone like Ray Charles; just voices that influence my soul and are rooted in Gospel music."

Since his 2010 debut on the Motéma label, Porter has been well received in the music press.

His debut album, Water, was nominated for Best Jazz Vocal album at the 53rd Annual Grammy Awards.

He was also a member of the original Broadway cast of It Ain't Nothin' But the Blues. His second album, Be Good, which contains many of Porter's compositions, garnered critical acclaim for both his distinctive singing and his compositions, such as "Be Good (Lion's Song)", "Real Good Hands", and "On My Way to Harlem". "Real Good Hands" was also nominated for Best Traditional R&B Performance at the 55th Annual Grammy Awards. In his review of Water, the BBC's Kevin

Le Gendre wrote that "Gregory Porter has a voice and musicality to be reckoned with."

The New York Times described Porter as "a jazz singer of thrilling presence, a booming baritone with a gift for earthy refinement and soaring uplift" in its review of Liquid Spirit.

Chris' Cinema Trivia & Movie Match Up

By CHRIS APPLING

TRIVIA - (Horror)

1. Damien: Omen II (1978) was the sequel and second installment about the Antichrist, 'Damien Thorn': the Devil's own son as a 13-year-old teen at a military academy, but who is the black actor who played the unlucky scientist that is killed in an elevator tragedy once he discovers that Damien's genes are those of a jackal, not a human?
2. Former dredlocked blue-eyed, African American actor Gary Dourdan was known best as 'Shaka Zulu': boyfriend of neohippie/activist 'Freddie' (Cree Summer) on A Different World, but in what sci-fi horror sequel did he star opposite Sigourney Weaver as part of a group of 'space pirates' who become the only line of defense between Earth and a hostile, extraterrestrial invasion?
3. Who is the R&B superstar that had a cameo role as an African-American football player whose team becomes 'possessed' by an alien intelligence that had taken control of the school's teachers?
4. In Scream 3 (1999), the third and final installment of the scream trilogy, who is the young, dark-skinned black actor that plays an actor in the movie and once starred as 'Kenny': the childhood friend of 'Rudy Huxtable' (Keisha Knight-Pulliam) on the classic sitcom, The Cosby Show?
5. Actress Loretta Devine is best known for being the friend of 3 other, African-American women in Waiting To Exhale (1995), or as the history teacher on T.V.'s Boston Public, but in what horror film did she star as the Pam Grier inspired, police cop on a college campus being stalked by a serial killer who murders victims based on city myths?

ANSWERS: 1. Meshach Taylor 2. Aliens Resurrection (1997) 3. Usher (Raymond) 4. Deon Redman 5. Urban Legend (1999)

MOVIE MATCH-UP - (Tales From The Hood)

- ACTORS:
1. Lamont Bentley
 2. Corbin Bernsen
 3. Brandon Hammond
 4. Clarence Williams III
 5. Tom Wright
- ROLES:
- a) abused boy with magical, drawing power
 - b) black, zombie politician c) gang-banger faces guilty conscience
 - d) mortician that condemns 3 thugs to hell
 - e) racist, white politician haunted by living, slave dolls
- ANSWERS: 1. c; 2. e; 3. a; 4. d; 5. b

MENU TIPS

Kiku is the sweetest apple

(NAPS1) — A KIKU apple a day can make a terrific snack: A medium-size one has about 100 calories and is a good source of fiber and vitamin C. What's more, you and your family will likely love its supersweet taste.

Apples are ranked on a sweetness scale according to brix (the sugar percentage naturally found in the apples). Most apples have a brix of 12 to 14 percent. Apples that are sweeter (such as Gala) are at the high end of that range while traditional apples including Honeycrisp and Red Delicious are in the middle to lower end. Brix levels in KIKU apples, which are said to be quite possibly the sweetest apples you'll ever taste, typically range from 16 to 17 percent, often even higher.

KIKU apples are also known for their extreme crunch, juiciness, attractively striped, ruby-red color and intriguing origin. It all started back in 1990, when an Italian apple expert by the name of Luis Braun was traveling through Japan.

He discovered an apple that was dramatically different from all the other apples in its orchard.

He was so mesmerized by its supersweet, full-flavored taste that he took a branch from the tree back with him to Italy.

Once home, he painstakingly set out to grow as many trees as he could, making it his mission to share this new flavor with the world.

Within the U.S., KIKU apples are grown in Washington state, Michigan and Pennsylvania—

with more trees being planted across expanded acres in those states to ensure that strong demand for KIKU apples is met.

"KIKU is very quickly joining the ranks of premium apples that savvy consumers are increasingly seeking," said Steve Lutz, Vice President of Marketing for apple grower Columbia Marketing International, Inc. and former CEO for the Washington Apple Commission. "Cultivating new apple trees is a labor of love," he added. "It can take three to five years to nurture new apple trees. Our growers have been working overtime to bring KIKU to market."

The extreme sweetness of KIKU apples lends appeal to it being a healthy snack option. "It's a great option to help beat the mid-afternoon slump," said registered dietitian and food blogger Laura Chalela Hoover, who recommends eating the apple in place of nutrient-void sweets, which often contain processed sugars and additives. "Naturally sweet foods like KIKU can stop sugar cravings and help you break an unhealthy sugar addiction."

Delicious fresh, these apples also make a wonderful addition to classic dishes, including the grilled cheese sandwich.

Simply layer apple slices and your favorite cheese between two slices of bread and grill at a low temperature.

The sweet juiciness of the apples melds beautifully with melted cheese, making a warm, tasty treat relished by kids and adults alike.

KIKU apples also make an excellent addition to salads or smothered with peanut butter.

Just Jazz

By NANCY ANN LEE

Eric Dolphy

Born in Los Angeles on June 20, 1928, Eric Dolphy became known as a distinctive player of the flute, alto saxophone and bass clarinet.

Dolphy began playing clarinet at age six and alto sax in professional dancebands while in junior high school.

He studied music at Los Angeles City College and played lead alto sax in Roy Porter's band (1948-50).

After two years in the Army, Dolphy returned to L.A., performing locally in relative obscurity until he joined Chico Hamilton's quintet in 1958.

A versatile musician, Dolphy played jazz and 20th Century art music.

Jazz critics claim he constantly surprised audiences with his rapid flow of ideas and unexpected phrasing and intervals.

It was Dolphy, primarily, who introduced the bass clarinet as a solo jazz instrument.

After he chose to remain in Europe, Dolphy had a few gigs before his sudden death from a diabetic coma in Berlin on June 29, 1966.

Dolphy's creations are well-documented on numerous albums still in print.

He also appears on the film The Coltrane Legacy, and on a 1964 session with Mingus released as a video by Shanachie.

Da 'Round Da Way Rewind Review

Samuel L. Jackson's Top 12 Films

By C.M. APPLING

In United States' music history, black, 'Godfather of Soul', James Brown, has been given the well-earned title of 'The Hardest-Working Man in Show Business'. In similar comparison, African-American, veteran actor Samuel L. Jackson has been given the title of 'The Hardest-Working Man in Hollywood.'

Jackson's motion-picture career began in the late 1980's after he appeared in several of African-American filmmaker Spike Lee's movies. Another pioneering, motion-picture-maker he has worked with more than once is Italian-American auteur Quentin Tarantino. Besides working with legendary, prolific filmmakers like Lee and Tarantino, Jackson has had roles in sci-fi, franchise dynasties like George Lucas' Star Wars prequels 1, 2 & 3 (as master Jedi knight Mace Windu) and in Marvel Comics' Avengers and Captain America blockbusters (as eye-patch-wearing, American super-spy, Nick Fury).

He has worked in every genre, including drama, action, comedy, thriller and animation. But, there are 12 films that best define his acting persona:

#12 The Incredibles (2004) Animation. A Disney cartoon feature, it parodies the sci-fi/fantasy world of superhero comics and movies.

Jackson's voice-over character, 'Fro-Zone', is an ice/snow-powered, black superhero who, with his white partner/best-friend, 'Mr. Incredible,' come out of suburban retirement to take on a new, supervillain. (In comics, the black superhero is ALWAYS the secondary partner of the white superhero).

#11 Do The Right Thing (1989) Drama. A Spike Lee classic. On a hot, summer day in Brooklyn, New York, Jackson's character is 'Dr. Senior Love Daddy': a local record D.J. who witnesses a race riot between African-Americans and Italian-Americans in his neighborhood community.

#10 Snakes on A Plane (2006) Action. In this movie, Jackson is an F.B.I.

agent transporting a murder witness on a plane from Hawaii to Los Angeles who must defend his witness and the passengers from highly venomous and deadly serpents that have been hidden and released on board. Not a great film, but good, popcorn-eating escapism.

#9 Die Hard With A Vengeance (1995) Action. The third film of Caucasian actor Bruce Willis' 'John McClane' franchise, it's another, pulse-pounding, roller-coaster ride that has Jackson as a Harlem, electronics store owner who gets caught up with Willis' McClane, dishonored cop character against German terrorists who want to steal gold from the Bank Federal Reserve. Jackson's and Willis' constant arguing about racism is hilarious.

#8 Shaft (2000) Action. Directed by African-American filmmaker John Singleton. A remake of the Richard Roundtree, 1970's classic, Jackson plays John Shaft's nephew who is also a New York detective. This new millennium Shaft goes after a young, wealthy, white racist who murdered a black man.

But, African-American actor Jeffrey Wright steals the performance as the Puerto-Rican gangster 'Peoples Hernandez.'

#7 Lakeview Terrace (2008) Thriller. In this movie, they 'flip the script' on racism by having Jackson play a widowed, single-father, African-American, beat cop who harasses and eventually terrorizes his new neighbors: a white male/black female, interracial couple.

#6 Unbreakable (2000) Drama. A 'real-life' tribute to comic book folklore, Jackson portrays a black, disabled, comic book art gallery owner who helps an average, white, football stadium guard (Bruce Willis) discover that he is actually a 'super-hero' (because of his hidden powers), so Jackson's disturbed character reveals that he must be his super-'arch-enemy'. Directed by East-Indian filmmaker M. Night Shyamalan.

#5 Jungle Fever (1991) Drama. Another Spike

Lee epic, Jackson plays a New York crack addict whose younger, architect brother becomes involved in an interracial affair with an Italian-American, temp secretary. One of Jackson's earliest performances, his tragic shooting by his religious father in front of his weeping mother is unforgettable.

#4 Pulp Fiction (1994) Drama. Jackson's first film with director Quentin Tarantino, he portrays a Jheri-Curl-wearing hitman who recites passages from the Bible before executing his victims. This was the motion-picture that put both Tarantino and Jackson on the A-list map in Hollywood.

#3 Eve's Bayou (1997) Drama. Directed by African-American, female filmmaker Kasi Lemmons, in this hauntingly-absorbing, cinematographic masterpiece, Jackson portrays a 'Negro', upper-class, 1950's doctor in Louisiana whose multiple affairs with other women trouble his wife and family until his tragic fate/destiny catches up with him.

#2 A Time To Kill (1996) Drama. In one of his most memorable roles, Jackson is a black, construction worker in the south who is represented by a young, white, defense attorney after he kills the two, white, redneck racists who viciously rape and defile his pre-teen daughter. A cinematic, explosive powder keg, it features Jackson's most iconic, film quote: "Yes, they deserved to die and I hope they burn in hell!"

#1 Django Unchained (2012) Drama. In this pre-Civil War, Quentin Tarantino, neoclassic, Jackson portrays the head, 'Big House' butler/slave of a white, southern plantation owner whose evil, despicable performance earns him his bad karma of revenge by black actor Jaime Foxx' Django: an ex-slave teamed with a German bounty hunter hoping to free Django's enslaved wife through a phony purchase scheme with Jackson's white master.

One by one, U.S. civil rights agency dismantles tools to fight discrimination

Since the 1960s, the federal government has gathered demographic data from employers as part of its efforts to root out discrimination in employment.

The EEOC was established by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to address entrenched discrimination in employment.

In 1966, the newly-established Equal Employment Opportunity Commission issued a rule to tackle entrenched discrimination on the job.

Every year, companies with a hundred or more workers would turn over to the government information about the race, ethnicity, sex and job categories of their employees.

This EEO-1 data, as it's known, has helped the federal agency figure out where people of color and women are not getting hired or promoted. Over decades, the EEOC's work has led to settlements worth billions.

Now, as part of a realignment of civil rights enforcement under President Trump, the EEOC is seeking to end its annual data collection

while also getting rid of a 1979 regulation that allowed employers to take certain steps to address race and gender imbalances revealed by the data.

Together, the moves would mark an about-face in the civil rights agency's efforts to fulfill its mission.

Andrea Lucas, the Trump-appointed chair of the EEOC, did not respond to NPR's questions about the two proposals, which have been submitted to the White House for review.

But in interviews and public remarks, Lucas has repeatedly warned that programs or policies aimed at helping specific groups, such as Black people or women, are unlawful under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 if they exclude others.

"Regardless of what has happened before, the way to stop discriminating based on race is to stop discriminating based on race. The end. Full stop," Lucas said at the Fortune Workplace Innovation Summit earlier this month. "I think that that's a more beautiful vision of our country,

and I think it's consistent with the text of the statute."

A roadmap for addressing discrimination

The 1979 regulation the EEOC seeks to rescind was issued with this very dilemma in mind: Can a company remedy discrimination by giving special consideration to those who were deprived of opportunities in the past?

The answer back then was yes. The agency gave the go-ahead for mentoring programs and even hiring targets.

"The EEOC says you can take some of these voluntary efforts, even though they will be race- or gender-conscious," says Chai Feldblum, who served on the commission during the Obama and first Trump administrations. "This is the EEOC giving employers the roadmap of how they can take race and gender into account in a positive way and not violate the law."

The guidelines, issued in January 1979, made clear that companies first had to document a problem, and then come up with a reason-

able and time-limited plan for how to increase the number of minorities or women in their ranks.

Five months later, the Supreme Court embraced that roadmap. In a 5-2 decision known as Weber, the court found that an affirmative action plan to remedy past discrimination was lawful provided it did not "unnecessarily trammel the interests of white employees" and that it was temporary.

In 1987, the court issued another decision, known as Johnson, extending protection to efforts aimed at help-

ing women.

Now known as the Weber-Johnson standard, it's still the law regardless of what happens with the EEOC's 1979 regulation, says Feldblum. But for how long, she's not sure.

"I think the Supreme Court is just waiting for a case that might allow them to overturn those two important cases," she says.

How data has helped root out discrimination

The more imminent change, assuming the EEOC's proposals go forward, is the demise of the agency's annual

collection of employee demographics. Usually, the data collection begins in late spring. So far this year, there's been no word of it.

Since the 1960s, the EEOC has recovered billions of dollars for workers who have suffered discrimination on the job, and in many cases, EEO-1 data played a key role.

"It's one of the first things that you can look at as you're trying to learn more," says Karla Gilbride, who served as the EEOC's general counsel during the Biden administration.

Dr. Joan M. Baker eulogized

Services for Dr. Joan M. Baker were held on May 22 at E.F. Boyd and Son Funeral Home, 2165 E. 89th Street, Cleveland.



Dr. Baker

Dr. Baker's passion for education shone early in her life and she became known for her dedication and support as an educator. Her character was truly remarkable, characterized by her caring, independent, private, outspoken and reliable nature. She was also a great cook and much more. Those who knew her recognized her dependability. Like her older sister, Evelyn, Joan was deeply devoted to her parents and helped ease the stress of raising seven children. She provided emotional and financial support to her siblings. She exposed her younger siblings to field trips, academic activities and lunches at restaurants like The Lancer.

Some of Dr. Baker's accolades included advisory board of ERIC, Board of Reading and Communication Skills, featured in Who's Who in Education, inducted into Pi Lambda Theta

Education Honorary, Vice chairperson of Power of the Pen, Cleveland's Outstanding Teacher of the year and Martha Holden Jennings fellow. In addition to numerous other school, civic and community awards.

Dr. Baker's life has been one of service to her family, students, colleagues and many more. She was a longtime devoted member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She devoted many years of support to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Joan has left a legacy of helping others.

The family is proud and thankful for her love and the support she has given all of us. Dr. Baker was preceded in death by her parents John and Pearl Baker; her siblings - Evelyn Sallee, Wilburn Baker (Milorene), Dr Donald Baker, Judith Swain (Mitchell), John Baker (JoAnn); niece Sherry Baker Maclin and nephews - Migael Swain and Jerran Hunter.

Dr. Baker continued her journey in education by receiving her masters degree in reading and doctorate in reading and applied linguistics. Both degrees were obtained at Indiana University. After receiving her doctorate, Cleveland Municipal Schools and she worked as a college professor for eight years. Following her time at Cleveland State, she worked as supervisor of Gifted Education and Testing and curriculum specialist with East Cleveland City Schools. She also worked as an adjunct professor at Notre Dame College of Ohio before retiring.

Services held for Anna E. Solomon

Anna E Solomon died on May 26. She was 96 years old.

Solomon was born on February 10, 1930 in Red Bank, New Jersey. She lost her mother young, and she and her siblings were taken in and raised by their great-aunt, Annie Crippens — a woman whose love and sacrifice Elaine would never forget.

She graduated from Red Bank High School in 1947 and pursued education at Newark Prep School for Business, Cuyahoga Community College for accounting, and Columbus Technical Institute for Management Development.

She relocated to Cleveland where she married her first husband.

She spent eleven years with Progressive Life Insurance Company in New Jersey, then in 1959 joined the State of Ohio's Department of Mental Health. She walked in as a typist in the business office.

Thirty years later, she walked out as the Hos-

pital Business Administrator for Sagamore Hills Children's Psychiatric Hospital. In August of 1977, she married the love of her life, Homer Solomon Jr. he couple had two daughters. Carla and Carolyn.

She and Homer joined the National African American Recreational Vehicle Association (NAARVA) and proceeded to travel.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Claude and Ella Gray; her sister, Dorothy L. Sidney; her brother, Milton "Billy" Gray; and her beloved husband, Homer Solomon Jr.

She leaves to cherish her memory her daughters, Carla (Lawrence) Brown and Carolyn (Glenn) Byers; grandchildren Chavon (Charles) Aina, Aaron Brown, Avery Byers, and Alexandria Byers; great-grandchildren Aveyah, Charles Jr., Chase, and Christian Aina, and Rue Byers — and a host of friends and family.

Services held for Carrie 'Bonnie' Wall

Services were held for Carrie S. Wall on Wednesday, May 27 at Providence Baptist Church, 12712 Kinsman Road, Cleveland. Rev. Rodney Maiden officiated the service.



Wall

She died on May 15.

Wall was the youngest of five children. She was born on June 19th, 1956, in Greenwood, Mississippi to the late Joe Randle and Betty Mae Glenn Garner.

Carrie, whose nickname was Bonnie, was brought to Cleveland in 1962 by her grandmother, Willie Anne Glenn at the age of six years old. She attended Cleveland Public Schools and graduated from Jane Addams High School in 1975. She went on to Cuyahoga Community College and graduated with her associate degree. She drove an

EMS truck until she hurt her back. She retired from Home Instead Senior Care in 2022.

She met Marvin Wall. They later got married in 1989.

During her latter years, she enjoyed spending time with herher grandkids and going to gospel concerts with her sister and her cousin, Carlene Morgan(Honey).

Carrie is sur-

vived by her husband, Marvin; one sister, Vergie E. Williams (Richard); two brothers, C.D. Glin, Sr. and Ulysses Glen, Sr.; and a brother, who preceded her in death, Martin Earle Randle.

She is also survived by two daughters: Marcie J. Randle and Marshay C. Wall, Two sons: Marion A. Randle and Marvin L. Wall Jr. Six grandchildren: Janeiya Randle, Charles Darel Shields Jr, Danielle Dorothy Jean Gatheright, Tamia Mon'et Wright, Wynter Shay Wall, and Da'varie Harris Wall. Three great grandchildren: Darel Antonio Shields, J'laini Dior Saleem, and Paradise Shields, She also leaves to mourn her death a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Interment was held at Cleveland Memorial Gardens.

Services held for James D. Earley

Services for James D. Earley were held on May 30 at E.F. Boyd and Son Funeral Home, 25900 Emery Road, Warrensville Heights.



Earley

Earley ,66, of Highland Hills, Ohio, passed away peacefully on the morning of May 1, 2026. James, better known as Jim was born December 4,1959, in Rapid City, South Dakota to the parents Ronald and Betty Earley. Jim was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and uncle.

Jim was born the middle child of two siblings, Skipper and Jeana. Jim's parents moved back to Ohio when Jim was a young child and then moved to Chardon, Ohio. He attended Chardon Local School District Public Schools and graduated from Chardon High School in 1977. He was an avid sportsman. Jim played football and baseball for Chardon High and continued to play softball for fun during his lifetime. Jim also loved playing golf and even during his immobi-

lization, he sent a video message to his cousin Pettee that he was still a better golf player than him.

Jim was hard working man with an exemplary work ethic. As a young man, he worked with his great-aunt Gladys Matthews, who was a co-owner of Matthews Memorial Funeral Home, one of the first Black owned funeral homes in Canton, Ohio. In 1982, he went to work for Great Lakes Cold Storage in Solon, Ohio where he retired in 2023 after 41 years.

Jim met the love of his life, Roslyn Johnson and they married in Las Vegas, Nevada on

September 1, 2007. He was a wonderful father to her three children.

Jim was a charismatic fun-loving guy. He enjoyed playing poker with his family, traveling and going to the horseraces with his wife. Jim loved and enjoyed spending time with his family. After Jim's visit with his family in Baltimore, his Uncle Haywood would say "We been Jimotized."

Jim is survived by his wife Roslyn Johnson Earley, his two stepchildren Tiara Johnson and Solomon Rhone, his two grandchildren, Raven and Aden, his niece Hannah Knighton and nephew Tyler Knighton, mother-law Annie Johnson, brother-in-law Gregory Johnson (Sandra), and many beloved aunts, nieces, nephews and other family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ronald and Betty Earley, his siblings, Ronald and Jeana and his stepdaughter Chimere.

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Suing the NEORSRD helped curb the utility's polluting of Lake Erie; Can a federal lawsuit prevent the NEORSRD from destroying the historic Shaker

Except for building the Lakeview Cemetery Dam in 1977, the NEORSRD was not in the business of dam construction and "park" design.

How did the NEORSRD come to present Cleveland and Shaker Heights with only two options:

1. build dams the size of Lakeview Cemetery dam, or
2. a sewer park in which the NEORSRD would destroy the historic Shaker Lakes as well as cut down almost 1,000 trees?

What customers should know is that the NEORSRD was to fix their wastewater facilities and build storage tunnels.

Appendix 3 allowed the NEORSRD to implement some green infrastructure projects. They were to spend \$45M and capture 44M gallons.

In all metrics, the NEORSRD has failed.

After spending \$1.5 billion on tunnels, according to the NEORSRD -their "models" were wrong, and now they are going to attempt to increase the size of 5 of the 7 tunnels.

The NEORSRD spent \$100M designing "sewer parks" in Cleveland to capture 44M gallons. Unfortunately, their calculations were wrong, and they were only able to collect 18-20M gallons.

That's when the idea of using the green footprint of the Shaker Lakes Parklands came into the picture.

To get the Shaker Heights administration on board, Shaker Heights has received a series of green infrastructure grants.

One of the first grants was to build a model green parking lot on Hildana Road. City council voted for two additional \$100,000 grants for the project.

Regarding Hildana Road Green Parking Lot, according to Ann McGuire, spokesperson for the city of Shaker Heights, the parking lot was never built.

Instead, the city used a \$50,000 grant from HUD, and the sewer district used \$220,000 for the design of designed the City received green infrastruc-

Project Clean Lake | Large Tunnel Program

- 7 tunnels
- 18-25' diameter
- 9,000 to 22,000 feet long
- 100-200' deep
- Large Pump Stations
- Operations upgrades

After spending billions of taxpayer dollars to build 7 tunnels, the NEORSRD did not meet their requirements under the Federal Consent Decree. Not even close. In 2024, the NEORSRD requested to amend the consent decree. The Fifth Amendment will require NEORSRD to increase the size of five of the deep tunnels to capture increased combined sewer flow rather than using green infrastructure alone, and to extend the time to complete the work needed to meet the 44-million- (This miscalculation will cost taxpayers -billions?)

ture for bump-outs that were constructed as traffic calming measures with bioswales to improve run-off filtration. This was part of a larger project in the Moreland neighborhood. My colleagues in the Planning Department, who are both out of town for the rest of the week, are the best people to answer questions about that project. When they return next week, I will forward your questions re Hildana. Hope this helps, at least until the planners return. The City of Cleveland Heights has a protocol for dealing with a rain event and Lower Lake.

According to all the NEORSRD presentations, the only solution to stopping the flooding of Coventry Road and North Park Blvd. is to give the NEORSRD \$\$\$\$\$ which is a cost 50 million times more than it costs in Hudson. The NEORSRD seems unaware of the use of Valve 4.

Why the excessive fees for NEORSRD work done in these two cities?

background : In the February 23, 2015 at the Shaker City Council meeting, Dreyfuss-Wells and then Mayor Leiken announced that Shaker was supporting the NEORSRD at the Ohio Supreme Court because Dreyfuss-Wells promised "extensive support to Shaker in the form of dredging of lakes and repairs of dams."

Neither party at the time told Shaker residents that the NEORSRD was under a Federal Consent Decree and was seeking the additional funds to pass off the cost of their penalties and court costs to their customers in the form of this new "stormwater fee."

Neither party mentioned the green component of the settlement which, unbeknownst to Mayor Leiken, meant the NEORSRD wanted the lakes for its

own means and that the promise of dredging the lakes and fixing the dams was simply a means to their end of destroying the historic Shaker Lakes and making a sewer park (which qualifies as a green component).

Dreyfuss-Wells was then appointed by the mayor to the Shaker Heights Development Corporation. Her husband, Kevin, was serving on the Landmark Commission, learning about the rules and regulations of historic preservation. This was the beginning of a very close relationship between the Dreyfuss-Wells and the Shaker Heights administration. In scientific terms, while Mayor Leiken may have believed the relationship was mutualistic with both benefiting, unfortunately, in reality, the relationship is best described as parasitic with the NEORSRD benefiting at the expense of the citizens of Shaker and Cleveland Heights who love and are trying to protect their historic lakes and parklands.

Council meeting after council meeting, the NEORSRD was given the floor to promote their sewer park. Residents were allotted 2 minutes at the end of the meetings to push back at the mountain of sewer park propaganda.

The fear mongering of the NEORSRD that the dams were failing and that there would be catastrophic flooding

seemed to be believed by both city councils.

According to the NEORSRD, there was only one alternative: destroy the lakes and allow the NEORSRD to build a sewer park.

Two facts always seem to be missing from their presentations: the Shaker Lakes have never been responsible for flooding in University Circle, and no one involved has any understanding of Bernoulli's Principle that the upstream static pressure (1) is higher than in the constriction (2), and the fluid speed at "1" is slower than at "2", because the cross-sectional area at "1" is greater than at "2."

In order to take over the Shaker Lakes, the NEORSRD began to make several green infrastructure grants to the City of Shaker Heights.

One of the first grants was for \$135,000 from the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District for the Larchmere/Kendall Road Green Infrastructure Parking Lot Renovation. (Councilwoman Moore, accepted the second green infrastructure grant from the NEORSRD for \$135,000.00 (Ordinance 15-97).

According to the invoice, \$105,000.00 was for the cost of the parking lot.

Then Council asked for an additional \$121,500 for the Larchmere/Kendall parking lot Green Infrastructure Improvements (Ordinance No. 16-82).

During the Oc-

The Fifth Amendment to the Consent Decree -2024
Federal Register Volume 89, Number 137 (Wednesday, July 17, 2024)
[Notices]
[Page 58189]
From the Federal Register Online via the Government Publishing Office [www.gpo.gov]
[FR Doc No: 2024-15662]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Notice of Lodging of Proposed Fifth Amendment To Consent Decree and Consolidated Fifth Amended Consent Decree Under the Clean Water Act

On July 10, 2024, the Department of Justice lodged a proposed Fifth Amendment to Consent Decree and Consolidated Fifth Amended Consent Decree (collectively, the "Fifth Amendment") with the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio in the lawsuit entitled United States and State of Ohio v. Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Civil Action No. 1:10-CV-02895-DCN.

The Consent Decree, as currently amended, requires NEORSRD to construct and implement improvements to reduce the volume and number of combined sewage overflows (sanitary and commercial sewage combined with stormwater) and untreated treatment plant discharges from NEORSRD's system by constructing six underground storage tunnels, other storage devices, and green infrastructure, and by increasing the capacity of each of NEORSRD's sewage treatment plants. The proposed Fifth Amendment modifies two Consent Decree requirements.

First, the Fifth Amendment resolves obstacles that NEORSRD has encountered in trying to meet a requirement that green infrastructure (as defined by the Consent Decree) capture at least 44 million gallons of stormwater in a typical year to allow for more storage for combined sewer flows. Instead, the Fifth Amendment will require NEORSRD to increase the size of five of the deep tunnels to capture increased combined sewer flow rather than using green infrastructure alone, and to extend the time to complete the work needed to meet the 44-million-gallon capture requirement up to December 31, 2034, because of the time required to complete the tunnels. The Fifth Amendment also changes the requirement to capture 44 million gallons of storm water to a requirement to capture and store 54 million gallons of combined sewage that would otherwise be discharged without treatment into Cleveland area rivers and Lake Erie. The Fifth Amendment also shortens the time to complete the tunnels from the original requirement of December 31, 2035.

Second, the original consent decree required construction of a high-rate treatment facility capable of treating 400 million gallons per day of flow, which provides treatment to sewage flowing into the Easterly plant beyond the plant's capacity to treat such flow during a rain or snowmelt event. The proposed Fifth Amendment allows for construction of a smaller, 175-million gallon per day facility but also requires NEORSRD to construct equipment of sufficient size to divert additional flows into one of the deep tunnels for treatment at the Easterly plant's main treatment facilities following a rain or snowmelt event.

The publication of this notice opens a period for public comment on the Fifth Amendment. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, and should refer to United States and State of Ohio v. Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, D.J. Ref. No. 90-5-1-1-08177/1. All comments must be submitted no later than thirty (30) days after the publication date of this notice.



More than a decade after signing the consent decree, the NEORSRD has not fixed the problem at Edgewater Park. The NEORSRD places signs warning residents that raw sewage and stormwater still flow into Lake Erie after severe weather causing a health hazard. Rather than spend money upgrading the sewer system, the NEORSRD has spent more than \$100M on sewer parks which remove a nominal amount of stormwater in comparison. When sewage is released with stormwater on the beach, it causes the beach to close, requires beach cleanup and water monitoring to make sure the water is within standards. In 2025, three overflows spilled out onto the beach causing swimming advisories. According to the NEORSRD, it would take \$20M to upgrade their system to prevent pollution at Edgewater Beach.

Send comments in support of the Shaker Lakes U.S. Army Corps of Engineers soliciting comments for NEORSRD's Doan Brook Restoration at Horseshoe Park project until June 25.

On May 26, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) published the public notice (LRB-2016-01374) for the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District's Doan Brook Restoration at Horseshoe Park project. This is the next step in the Sewer District's permitting process for this project, Section 404 permitting under the Clean Water Act.

- Project features include:
- Restoration of 7662 linear feet of Doan Brook and 10.61 acres of wetland, resulting in improved stream conditions and aquatic life passage for fish, amphibians, macroinvertebrates and other wildlife. Work downstream of Lee Road will also improve fish passage between Nature Center at Shaker Lakes and Horseshoe Park.
 - Removal of a portion of Horseshoe Lake Dam, a 170-year-old Class I high-hazard earthen dam that is not in compliance with Ohio Department of Natural Resources dam safety standards.
 - Stabilized stream banks and restoration of Doan Brook's historic stream channel.
 - Improved floodplain for long-term stability and decreased flooding.
- In addition, the Cities of Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights are improving Horseshoe Park with community-chosen and -funded amenities including an outdoor classroom, nature play space, new trails and overlooks and promenades for improved views.
- The full notice from USACE is available at the Regulatory Request System and comments can be submitted to the USACE Buffalo District through June 25, 2026, online or via Keith Sendziak at keith.c.sendziak@usace.army.mil.



The NEORSRD recklessly bulldozed, tagged trees, and planned for the destruction of the historic Horseshoe Lake. The utility ignored the areas historic federal protections. The utility neglected to inform residents of the \$200 M Doan Valley tunnel which they had dug at the bottom of Ambler Park to prevent flooding in University Circle. Most distressing to the residents was the NEORSRD's complete lack of concern for the wildlife as the NEORSRD allowed fish, frogs, snails and turtles to die. A lawsuit is currently in federal court to stop the NEORSRD's plan. Please send a comment (left) to support the Shaker Lakes.

Ireland's 'George Floyd moment' sparks protests across country

The death of a Congolese-born man shortly after he was restrained by security guards outside a Dublin department store has sparked calls for justice in Ireland. Video clips show Yves Sakila unresponsive after being pinned to the ground as bystanders watched, drawing parallels to the 2020 killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police.

People hold flags during a protest following the death of Yves Sakila, a Congolese-born man who died after being restrained by security guards in Dublin, Ireland, May 21.



Yves Sakila, 32, was killed by security guards after being accused of shoplifting.



The death of a Congolese-born man shortly after he was restrained by security guards outside a Dublin department store has sparked calls for justice in Ireland. Video clips show Yves Sakila unresponsive after being pinned to the ground as bystanders watched, drawing parallels to the 2020 killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police.

Hundreds of people protested outside Ireland's parliament on Thursday to express outrage at the death of a Congolese-born man after he was restrained outside a Dublin department store in an incident some compared to the 2020 killing of George Floyd.

Two of the men held his face to the ground and at one point one of them appeared to kneel on his head or neck for a few seconds.

Yves Sakila was detained by security guards on one of the capital's busiest shopping streets last Friday in connection with an alleged shoplifting incident, police said. He became unresponsive at the scene and was later pronounced dead.

A video of the incident widely shared later on social media showed Sakila being pinned to the ground by at least five men for almost five minutes as bystanders watched.

"We call this a George Floyd moment," said David Kaliba, a 35-year-old physics student who went to a north Dublin suburban high school with Sakila, referring to a Black Minneapolis man killed by a police officer who knelt on his neck for several minutes during an arrest in May 2020.

Video shocks the nation

Floyd's death fuelled the Black Lives Matter movement in the United States and sparked protests across the country against police brutality and racism.

"I can't believe it happened in America in 2020 and happened in Ireland in 2026," said Kaliba, who like Sakila moved to Ireland from the Democratic Republic of Congo at a young age.

He described his former classmate, whom he said worked in IT before becoming homeless more recently, as a quiet and shy person who was not aggressive.

"When you look at that video, it literally is like a re-enactment of what happened to George Floyd," said Yemi Adenuga, a spokesperson for Black Coalition Ireland.

Adenuga, a councillor for the governing Fine Gael party who became Ireland's first elected Black female politician in 2019, said the government had failed to put provisions in place to properly in-

tegrate the country's rising number of immigrants and that this was "a recipe for chaos, anarchy and apathy".

There has been a sharp rise in anti-immigrant protests in Ireland in recent years. Anti-immigrant activists helped trigger large-scale rioting in central Dublin in 2023, close to where Sakila died.

The video of his death has shocked the nation and been described by lawmakers in parliament as "distressing" and "disturbing". Prime Minister Micheal Martin repeated calls on Thursday for a thorough investigation and said the manner in which Sakila died has caused huge concern across society.

The protesters outside parliament chanted "no cover up, no delay". Some held signs saying "Justice"

and "cead míle fáilte" (the Irish phrase for welcome) is for everyone".

Police said on Thursday that a post-mortem examination had been completed and that the results are not being released for operational reasons.

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For details, please contact Edward Myers (216) 618-2945



Comedian

Ali Siddiq

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