

National Apprenticeship Week

Get a Job and Career

Volume 74 Number 16

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WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16- NOVEMBER 22, 2017



THE TELEGRAM

CELEBRATING 73 YEARS OF SERVING METROPOLITAN DETROIT AND THE DOWNRIVER COMMUNITY*



ALEX R. HILL RECOGNIZED AS A TOP AFRICAN AMERICAN PR MILLENNIAL TO WATCH

The Huffington Post Names Recent Ofield Dukes Awardee One of The Best



Alex Hill is on the move

Today, Alex R. Hill has accomplished another milestone at age 25 being recognized as one of The Top 25 African American PR Millennials to Watch by The Huffington Post.

Hill is a native of River Rouge, Michigan and graduate of Consortium College Preparatory High School who attained his Bachelors of Arts in Journalism from Howard University's Cathy Hughes School of Communications in 2014. During his tenure at Howard, he could be found organizing scholarship benefit concerts in Detroit featuring the Howard Gospel Choir of Howard University. He started to sharpen his communication skills while interning at CBS 62/CW50 and Dreamer

Management. Upon his college graduation, he obtained employment with Miles Ahead Entertainment Inc., a firm that specializes in marketing, public relations, special events, broadcast, video/audio production and digital campaigns.

Last month, Hill received the prestigious inaugural Ofield Dukes Millennial Excellence in Public Relations Award in Washington, DC for his work in the industry.

For more information contact Alex Hill via e-mail at HumbleHillPR@gmail.com ABOUT The Top African American PR Millennials to Watch Series Contributor and global media and communications strategist Gwendolyn Quinn and Antonice Jackson, President of the National Black Public Relations Society's Washington, D.C., Chapter (BPRS-DC)

RIVER ROUGE WINS GRANT TO BUILD SPLASH PARK IN MEMORIAL PARK

CDBG Project to Break Ground in Spring, Expected to Be Ready for Summer



Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans and River Rouge Mayor Michael Bowdler display rendering of new splash park

DETROIT – Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans and River Rouge Mayor Michael Bowdler announced a project to build a splash park in Memorial Park using a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The County recently awarded River Rouge a \$300,000 grant to complete the splash park as part of its

CDBG demonstration project program.

"We've been through some tough times at River Rouge, and it's nice to be able to have a project the whole community can enjoy," Bowdler said. "Memorial Park is at the heart of the city. It's a perfect spot for families to come and enjoy

each other and the outdoors, and this will only add to that experience."

Construction of the 5,200-square-foot splash park is expected to start in the spring and be completed this summer

Splash Park - Page 6A

Inster Chamber of Commerce host members at Oak Street Health



Inkster Police Chief addresses the group on Emergency Preparedness

Serving Detroit and the Downriver Community since 1944
For delivery of the Telegram to your home or business call 313-928-2955.

CRIME ALERT - POLICE DEPT.

BLOTTER FOR RIVER ROUGE

November 8th, 2017

At 1536hrs, an officer was clearing a Traffic Stop on West Jefferson at West James, when he observed a 2000 Chevrolet pickup pass by him in the outer lane of travel, and the driver not wearing a seating belt. He effected a Traffic Stop at Jefferson and West Henry Street. He spoke to the 43 year old male driver and asked for his driver's license and the vehicle's paperwork. He told the officer he was a traveler and the officer was not allowed to stop him. The officer advised him that if he did not provide his license he would be placed under arrest. The male finally told him he didn't have one and handed the officer a laminated card with a titled name handwritten on it. The male refused to provide the officer with his correct name and date of birth. The male was placed under arrest without incident for Hindering. He was transported to the police station and during the booking the male refused to provide any information and be fingerprinted or be photographed. He was advised he would not be given a bond or see the judge until he was processed. He finally gave in to be fingerprinted. He LIVESCAN showed his name and date of birth and he had several outstanding warrants.

November 12th, 2017

At 02402hrs, officers were dispatched to the River Rouge Police station Lobby on a report of a female being punched and bitten by her boyfriend. Incident began when the 21 year old female states she and her 38 year old boyfriend had been dating over three years when he came to her home in the 100 Block of Goodell Street. She states they were hanging out and watching television and drinking. She states

around 0340 they went to bed and while having sex he asked her for her phone. But it was locked, so he handed it back to her and she unlocked it. So he began going through her phone looking at her calls. He told her he was looking for a call were she was supposed to have been talking to her sister and he began to accuse her of cheating on by talking to another guy. She stated she was on her knee and he was behind her and grabbed her by her hair. She managed to pull away from him and he began punching her in the face with his right hand . She tries to put her right hand over her face but he kept punching her until she grabbed a knife from the window seal and struck it across at him as he continued to punch her. She believes she may have stabbed him once before he bite her in her back, then he fled.

November 11th, 2017

At 2340hrs, officers were dispatched to Mr. K's Saloon for a fight inside a bar. When officers arrived the two females involved were in the bathroom. An officer went into the bathroom and a 29 year old female was sitting in a chair with scratches all over her face and head. She state she was jumped by another female and may have been hitting the head with a bottle. The wife states incident began when she was sitting at the end of the bar when a 32 year old female came in and began starting trouble with them and tapped her on her leg and began beating her with a closed hand fist . The fight was broken up and the suspect left the bar. Rapid Response was notified and arrived to transport to the Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital for further medical treatment.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Apprenticeship week highlights path to good jobs in Michigan



Michigan has long been known for its hard-working people. That hasn't changed over the years. But the careers that transform Michigan — and the world — are very different from even a few short years ago. With more than 500,000 new private-sector jobs created since 2010, employers know that Michigan is a great place to locate and expand. But our work isn't done, and we need to help more people gain in-demand skills so they can fill rewarding jobs as we continue to grow our economy. National Apprenticeship Week provides us the opportunity to highlight one of the many pathways to good jobs available here. Registered apprenticeship programs continue to be an effective way to grow Michiganders' paychecks and provide a sustainable, prosperous lifestyle. Today, there are more than 900 registered apprenticeship programs in the Great Lakes State, with 14,000-plus appren-

tices, putting us in the top 10 in the nation for these training programs. Michigan has long been known for its hard-working people. That hasn't changed over the years. But the careers that transform Michigan — and the world — are very different from even a few short years ago. With more than 500,000 new private-sector jobs created since 2010, employers know that Michigan is a great place to locate and expand. But our work isn't done, and we need to help more people gain in-demand skills so they can fill rewarding jobs as we continue to grow our economy.

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WHAT DO YOU SAY??

Coop's Casual Wear GRAND OPENING



1125 Southfield Rd. - Lincoln Park
FREE TEA WITH PURCHASE
313-903-7255

IT'S TIME TO READ!!

TELEGRAM

Serving Detroit and the Downriver Community Since 1944

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

For the Cities of River Rouge, Ecorse &
ADJUDICATED for the city of Inkster
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WOODS, INKSTER, LINCOLN PARK, MELVINDALE, RIVER ROUGE,
ROMULUS, TAYLOR, WAYNE, WESTLAND AND WYANDOTTE

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DEADLINE

All news item and advertising copy submitted for publication
on Thursday must be at the office of The Telegram no later
than 4:00pm on Friday.



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CIVIL RIGHTS TODAY

FUMES ACROSS THE FENCE-LINE, A NEW STUDY BY NAACP, CLEAN AIR TASK FORCE, AND NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 14, 2017) — Clean Air Task Force (CATF) and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) have co-authored a landmark report that demonstrates, for the first time, the specific health risks from airborne pollutants caused by oil and natural gas development impacting African American communities.

The study, Fumes Across the Fence-Line: The Health Impacts of Air Pollution from Oil and Gas Facilities on African American Communities, is being launched today at a briefing at the National Press Club by CATF and NAACP, and supported by the National Medical Association (NMA).

Key findings of the study are: Oil and natural gas facilities are built near or currently exist within a half-mile of over one million African Americans, exposing them to an elevated risk of cancer due to air toxic emissions; The oil and natural gas industries violate the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) air quality

standards for ozone smog due to natural gas emissions in many African American communities, causing over 138,000 asthma attacks among school children and over 100,000 missed school days each year; There are 91 counties across the U.S. that are building oil refineries or where refineries exist close to more than 6.7 million African Americans, or 14 percent of the national population, disproportionately exposing them to toxic and hazardous emissions such as benzene, sulfur dioxide and formaldehyde. These "fence-line" communities, or communities where oil and natural gas refineries are placed near the property lines or fences of African American and low-income people, are the focus of the groundbreaking study, providing data on the environmental racism that activists have been fighting for decades.

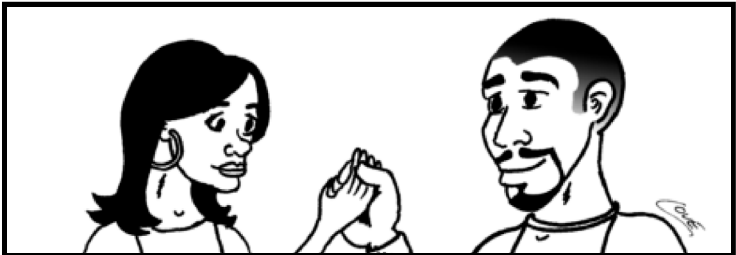
"Energy companies often deny responsibility for the disproportionate impact of polluting facilities on lower-income communities and communities of color," said Kathy Eglund, NAACP's Environmental and Climate Justice Committee Board Chair. "It is claimed that in most cases the potentially toxic facilities were built first and communities knowingly developed around them. However, studies of such areas show that industrial polluting facilities and sites have frequently been built in transitional neighborhoods, where the demographics have shifted from wealthier white residents to lower-income people of color. Polluting facilities also reduce nearby property values, making them more affordable areas to live in for people who do not have the means to live elsewhere."

"Studies of air pollution from the oil and gas industry have revealed emissions throughout the entire supply chain, from the wellhead to the consumer, with deleterious effects on communities around the country," said Lesley Fleischman, Research Analyst for Clean Air Task Force and co-author of the study. "However, we've found that fence-line communities, including many African Americans, are suffering especially serious health consequences as a result of these emissions."

The health impacts from the oil and natural gas supply chain described in Fumes Across the Fence-Line are based on data and analysis that were first quantified in two recent reports published by CATF. First, Fossil Fumes examined how air toxics are linked to increased risk of cancer and respiratory disorders in dozens of counties that exceed EPA's level of con-

Fumes - Page 10A

JEFFERSON AVE RAPPER & THE MICHIGAN AVE GROUPIE



What's up Group?

Same old stuff Rap.

I thought about what you said about voting...So I will make sure I vote in the elections next year.

But what I want to know is; 'why is the new drug/opiod problem a Mental Health Crisis?

I know right. Back in the day it was a War on Drugs and they were arresting everyone selling and using drugs and throwing them in jail.

Right. My dad, my cousin Ty-rone and you remember Bull-

dog, were in jail for 10 years.

Yep. I remember him. He and his cousin Ace went down together. His family lost their house and the family moved to a shelter.

Yep, I wish the Crack problem was a Health Crisis back then.

Right. Then it wouldn't be so many brothers in jail for possession of drugs. Maybe they would have been treated in the hospital and sent home to their families.

I agree Group.

Talk to you next week Rap.

LETTER POLICY

The Telegram welcomes letters to the editor from our readers. . Each letter should include a name, address and a daytime phone number.

Letters to the editor, opinion and editorial columns do not necessary represent the views and opinions of the Telegram Newspaper.

Send articles to Telegram Newspaper 10748 W. Jefferson Ave. River Rouge, MI 48218 or email to telegram@telegramnews.net (no attachments please) or fax to 313-928-3014.

One year in

By Jim Abeare - Contributing Columnist



He is closer to the regular person than the political elites want in office.

People have been talking Russia collusion since the election.

The good news is, with all that talk, the government has not been able to really screw up the country.

I know congress has failed with repealing Obamacare and it looks like they will fail in Tax reform, but they are otherwise preoccupied with collusion talk that they haven't screwed us.

Though with the media's constant barrage against the President, America and our culture, people are starting to have a negative view of the country.

I wonder what the media would be saying about the country if Hillary was elected?

After a year you would think that we were done with the Russia talk, but we aren't.

One of Rush Limbaugh's undeniable truth's of life is "If you tell a lie often enough and long enough it becomes the truth".

Perfect example is Obama's country of birth controversy from the right.

Now it is Russia collusion from the left.

Let's just enjoy life and ignore the politics.

TAKE TIME TO READ! IT WILL TAKE YOU FOR A RIDE

Zenith Lunch

Breakfast * Lunch & Dinner

2 + 2+ 2 Breakfast Specials

11295 W. Jefferson Ave. River Rouge
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Your Friendly Family Restaurant

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

National Action Network
Weekly meeting - 10:00am
6100 14th St
Detroit, MI 48208
JOIN US

For more information
Nandetroit@gmail.com
313-312-5287 or 313-492-6774

Inkster National Action Network Meeting
Monthly meeting
1st Saturday of each month
4300 Harrison St, Inkster
10:00am

Western Wayne NAACP
December General Membership Meeting
December 11, 2017 - 7:00pm
Christian Faith Ministries
27500 Marquette Garden City
Everyone is welcome
313.544-0620

Watchmen on the Wall

By Janine Folks - Religion Columnist



You can do a new thing, even if you think you're old. I met a dying woman in her 70s. At age 50, she decided to go to nursing school. She finished nursing school in two years and got a job right away. An amazing nurse, she received an award for Nurse of the Year. She got 20 good years of nursing under her belt and left this earth feeling good about that. I left realizing that you don't have to think you're too old to do something new. Some people accomplish great things at a young age. In the Bible, we read of men becoming kings at a very young age. Today, we see child stars that appear to be very successful. Perhaps you were not a child prodigy and now you're older feeling like you have accomplished very little. Maybe there is much you still wish to achieve. So you were not voted most influential under 30 or 40. Maybe there are things you thought you would accomplish before you leave this earth and now you thing you have blown it. Think it's too late.

Think again. No matter what the reasons are that you did not do what you wish you had

done, there is still hope. Maybe you won't do those things the way you imagined originally, but you can still do them in a way that works and serves a purpose.

There was a couple in the Book of Genesis in the Bible, Abraham and Sarah. They never had a child. They had gotten old, way past Sarah's child bearing age. At their age, they had accepted that it just would not happen for them. So when God spoke to them and told them they would have a child, Sarah laughed hysterically, "A baby at my age? Yeah, right..." (Gen. 18). That was a mistake.

Don't doubt what you can do when you're old, especially as a child of God. The dying woman's wisdom inspired me to have courage to try new things, even at a seasoned age. So I gave roller derby a try and I played on a league at age 43. My seasoned age made me better, wiser. I was not the fastest or most agile, but I knew how to play smart. That made me effective in my own way.

God restores. He said, "And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten..." (Joel 2:25)

God can restore you when you begin to walk in that direction. What have you longed to do? Start a new career? Go back to school? Get fit? Change some self-defeating habits? Get your life together? Write a plan? A new hobby or activity?

Pray about it and do it. If you fail, you can say, "I tried and gave it all I had." That in itself is satisfying. Don't die with a 'what if?' Decide to either let the dream go, or go for it!

God is known for doing a new thing and making a way out of no way (Isa. 43:19). Sing to Him a new song! (Psa. 33:3) Blessings.



Are you a Senior Star?
We are looking for people 80 years old and older to feature in the Telegram Newspaper.
Call 313-928-2955
& share information about your Senior Star

Ecorse Seventh-day Adventist Church
3834 10th St Ecorse, MI
(Corner of 10th & Francis Streets)
Dr. Errol Liverpool, Pastor

Sabbath Worship Service (Saturday)	9:15 a.m.
Sabbath School (Saturday)	11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting (Wednesday)	6:00 p.m.

Community Services Food Distribution
Every Third Wednesday
9:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
(313) 928-9212

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC MICHIGAN METRO CHAPTER Presents
“HATTITUDE”
Sat., Nov. 18, 2017
Ticket Price:
\$40.00 per person, includes Brunch Buffet
Fairland Club
5000 Fairlane Woods Dr. Dearborn
Hat designs by Vee’s on the River
Wear your favorite Hat!

Fews Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
456 Palmerston Street, River Rouge
Rev. A. Richard Doss, I Pastor
Morning Worship Service - 11:00 AM
Sunday School--9:30 AM
Bible Study-Wednesday at 6:00 PM
Give thanks unto the Lord

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ECORSE
3837 - 15th St. Ecorse
Rev. Alfred L. Davis, Jr. Pastor
313-381-2700

7:30am Service 1st & 5th Sunday
9:00am Sunday School
10:45am Morning Worship
Wednesday Bible Study 11:00am & 6:00pm
fbcecorse@att.net
And if you're looking for the LORD
He's in the HOLY PLACE.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ECORSE



All are Welcome

IT'S TIME TO READ!!

Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
4411 5th Street Ecorse
313-382-8577
Rev. Marcus Johnson Pastor

Sunday Morning Service - 11:00am
Everyone is welcome

REACH NEW MEMBERS IN METRO DETROIT WITH AN AD IN THE TELEGRAM NEWSPAPER

Jehovah Jireh Ministries

Mercy House 15 E. Charlotte Ecorse 313-282-9508

Sunday- Fulfillment Hour 10am Worship 11am & 6pm
Monday -Bible Study 7pm
Wednesday - Prayer and Praise 7pm
Rev. Everett Thomas Pastor

*“Transforming Lives Spirit, Soul and Body
We proclaim Jesus is Savior and Lord!”*



Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church

3936 12th Street Ecorse, MI 48229
CHURCH PHONE # (313) 383-1069 FAX: (313) 383-2842
Pastor - Rev. Kevin B. Mack

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays:
Early Morning Worship7:30 a.m.
Church School at Study9:30 a.m.
Mid-Morning Worship10:50 a.m.
First Sunday: Baptism & Communion Service.....10:30 a.m.
Mid-Week:
Wednesday - Bible Study ... 7:00 p.m.

CORPORATE PRAYER

Sun 6am Wed 6pm

They that trust in the LORD shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever.

Psalms 125:1

ALL ARE WELCOME



St. Marks

Missionary Baptist Church

3860 Inkster Rd, Inkster * 734-351-1365

Rev. Dr. Alford D. Sample
Services:
Sunday School 9:30am
Morning Worship/Youth Church 11:00 am
Bible Class/Youth Church 6:30 pm
Bus Pickup Available

II Timothy 2:25
Study to show thyself approved unto God;

Community AME Church

4010 17th St, Ecorse, MI 313-386-4340



Sunday School 10am Sunday Worship 11am
Wed Bible Class 6pm

“Empowered by the living Word” Matt 4:4

Rev. Kabrielle Baker

PRAY FOR YOUR FAMILY

PRAY FOR THE FAMILIES IN TEXAS

PRAY FOR OUR YOUTH

PRAY FOR OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

RUNNER FOR CHRIST MINISTRIES
27085 W. Outer Drive
Ecorse, MI 48229

WORSHIP SERVICE & BIBLE CLASSES

SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 8:30 am

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE @ 9:30 am

BIBLE READING CLASS
MONDAY @ 6:00 pm

ADVANCED BIBLE CLASS
THURSDAY @ 6:30 pm

INTERNET BIBLE CLASS
Monday - Friday 9:30 am to 10:30 am
Saturday Worship Service 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
<http://www.rfcm.org/blog-talk-radio/>
Or Call in @ (646) 915-8148

Church Office
3409 W. Jefferson Ave.
Ecorse MI 48229
(313) 381-9303 or www.rfcm.org
Gerald M. Overall, Pastor

Beaumont offers help enrolling in the Health Insurance Marketplace



Beaumont will be hosting several Health Insurance Marketplace open enrollment events at each of its eight hospitals and other sites in November and December through Friday, Dec. 15. The first Beaumont enrollment opportunity will take place from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Nov. 13 at the Beaumont Neuroscience Center, 3555 W. 13 Mile Road in Royal Oak. Recently, funding for outreach efforts to help people select a plan in the marketplace has been cut by nearly 72 percent in Michigan.

Unlike past years, the enrollment period is now 45 days – half of what it used to be. The Health Insurance Marketplace is a result of the Affordable Care Act, which provides health care coverage to people across Michigan and the United States looking for low-cost health care plans. About 61,000 people are now getting treatment at Beaumont facilities as a result of insurance coverage through the Healthy Michigan Plan or the Affordable Care Act.

Sponsored by Beaumont, the enrollment events assist those who need help signing up for insurance plans, those in need of health coverage or those looking for a new plan. Certified application counselors and navigators will be available to answer questions about the enrollment process, to help people from feeling overwhelmed and assist them in identifying plans that fit their budget.

Numerous open enrollment events will take place at Beaumont hospitals or at sites near each of Beaumont's hospitals in Dearborn, Farmington Hills, Grosse Pointe, Royal Oak, Taylor, Trenton, Troy and Wayne. To find out where and when there is an event near you, call 800-582-1101 or email questions to marketplace@beaumont.org.

"This is the time when people without coverage or those who want a new insurance plan can apply for health coverage, while comparing options and costs. Many people don't know much about the marketplace and insurance, what type of insurance plans are available and all of the different things they cover, such as medical, vision and dental," said Roseanna Von Linslow, financial representative at Beaumont. "There are ways to lower your costs, and people are here to talk to you about it."

For those re-enrolling, changing plans or new to the program, here are some

guidelines:

More choices to make informed decisions

Options are available for all needs and budgets. Finding the right coverage depends on what's most important for the insured and his or her family and covered family members.

"Another thing to remember when shopping for insurance is to check if your current provider accepts the plan you're looking at," Von Linslow said. "Not all providers accept all plans, so it's important to know if yours does."

Some examples of health care plan options include:

- emergency services
- hospitalization
- maternity and newborn care
- preventive and wellness services
- pediatric services

There are many other services available that can be discussed with one of Beaumont's counselors. Assistance with Medicaid and Medicare enrollment will also be offered.

Enrollment materials

If you're planning to enroll in a plan at an open enrollment event, or have an appointment with a navigator or counselor, be sure to bring the following items:

- picture identification
- Social Security numbers (or document numbers for legal immigrants) of everyone in the household who needs coverage
- employer and income information for every member of your household who needs insurance coverage
- policy numbers for any current health insurance plans covering members of your household
- Assistance and contact information

If you are unable to attend an open enrollment event, you can shop for individual health plans on the federal marketplace via Healthcare.gov or by scheduling an appointment to speak with a Beaumont certified application counselor.

You can also avoid a penalty by enrolling in coverage by the Dec. 15 deadline. The ACA law requires everyone to have coverage. If you don't enroll before the cutoff date, you could be forced to pay \$695 per person, or 2.5 percent of your income – whichever is greater - which could be close to the cost of your premium if you enrolled in a plan.

All appointments are free, local, and available on evenings and weekends. Walk-ins are welcome.

For more information on the Health-care Marketplace, call 800-582-1101 or email any questions to marketplace@beaumont.org.

SERVICE BUILDERS TO FEED THOSE IN NEED

Family strengthening is goal



On Sunday, November 19, 2017, the Service Builders Foundation, a 501c3 affiliate of the Eta Iota Omega Chapter (Inkster) of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® will hold its fourth annual Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner for persons who are clas-

sified as low-income, sick and shut-in or homeless. The dinner is being held at the Dozier Recreation Complex located at 2025 Middle Belt Road from 1-4 p.m. Meals will be delivered to the sick and shut in. Interested persons may call Ms. Margaret Williams, Family Strengthening Initiative Chair, at 734.326.5464 for more information.

The Service Builders Foundation focuses on building a stronger Inkster through service to families, initiatives in education, health programs, environmental ownership and raising awareness of global issues that impact their lives. Carlotta Mitchell is Foundation Chair, Danielle Williams is Vice-Chair

LIST YOUR BUSINESS IN SMALL BUSINESS LISTING

Splash Park

From Page 1A

and will be located in the northern end of Memorial Park near Great Lakes Ave., with easy access to restrooms and pavilions for picnics. It will be maintained by city employees and will not require any additional full-time personnel.

The splash pad is expected to have three designated areas - for young children to teens as well as a family area -- that will allow children a safe place to play. Initial plans are to have the splash pad activate when a user pushes a button with an automatic timed shut-off to make the splash pad more interactive while reducing water waste when not in use.

"These types of splash pads are a great way for kids to socialize and get some exercise, too. It's going to be fun seeing them running around having a blast this summer," Bowdler said.

CDBG's are funded through the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide communities with resources to address a wide range of community development needs. Wayne County receives federal funding on behalf of 34 out-county communities and disburses it to projects that meet locally determined needs. The splash

park was one of three demonstration projects awarded this year by Wayne County in an effort to work with local communities to try and maximize CDBG funding that have multi-jurisdictional impact.

"We've made a concerted effort to try and pool our CDBG dollars to maximize impact, and this is clearly a project families in River Rouge and Ecorse will enjoy," Evans said. "River Rouge had to cut costs and eliminate many things to get its finances in order, so it's important to take the opportunities where we can to provide the recreational experiences that help make a community."



RIVER ROUGE PUBLIC LIBRARY
PICTURE WITH SANTA
Saturday December 2nd
Time: 10 am—12 pm
Kids will have a craft to do while waiting to see Santa.
Pictures will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis.
One picture per family please.
Each child will receive a free goody bag.



Cox Leads Trauma Informative Approach In River Rouge

By Xavier Jones - Sports and Entertainment Reporter



Brandon Cox at his desk, ready for what comes next

The school district of River Rouge is taking a different approach from years past. Engines have started rolling on the a Trauma Informed technique. Seasoned educator, Mr. Brandon Cox has been chosen to serve as Director of Trauma Services for the River Rouge school district. This is the first year the position has been available in the River Rouge School District. Superintendent Dr.Derrick R. Coleman intends on River Rouge to be the forefront of this movement.

Trauma Informed means recognizing the signs of trauma in students, families, and staff. It's the district's responsibility to integrate the proper knowledge in school procedures. Building good meaningful relationships, avoiding retraumatization, and increasing the flow of learning are all goals of the Trauma Informative approach.

Mr. Cox invited me to his office to explain the new approach to me.

Telegram- Can you describe the Trauma Informative approach?

Cox- An approach to education countrywide. Dr Coleman understands there has to be a paradigm shift in the way things were taught and how things need to be taught now. This can be accomplished by caring, having compassion, empathy, assisting students where they are and taking them where they need to be.

Telegram- Why were you identified as a candidate for the position?

Cox- I've built good relationships with students, and staff.

They are meaningful relationships that really mean something. Dr. Coleman wants me to help other staff members build similar relationships in order for students to attach to the curriculum in an easier way. An old saying goes, "The students won't care until they know how much you care about them."

Telegram- How does the Trauma Informative approach benefit the River Rouge school district?

Cox- The Trauma Informative approach enables students to build caring relationships with

adults and peers. In a loving and respectable environment. The program gives them the tools to self regulate their emotions and behaviors. Students will succeed academically while we're supporting their mental health. It all goes back to developing good adult to student relationships.

Telegram- What was the state of education before the Trauma Informative approach?

Cox- The traditional model. Teachers didn't take a lot of time to understand the whole child. The traditional model thought process is what's going on in their life and what might affect them has nothing to do with academics, once a safe zone is created the academics will improve. Back in the day everybody focused on curriculum. I think we have to be focused on the individual to implement the curriculum. We need to focus and understand all the needs on the student.

Telegram- Who do you need on your team to help?

Cox- The ideal team will be comprised of school social workers, mental health agencies, superintendents, deputy superintendents, special education teams and principals. But to roll this out we need a lot of stakeholders and key players to ensure we're doing it properly.

Telegram- Thank you Mr. Cox, thank you for your time.

Cox- No problem you're welcome. Have a great day.

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Romulus Elected Officials begin next term

By: Telegram Staff Reporter



Romulus Elected Officials for 2017-2021; Top row Clerk Ellen Craig Bragg, Treasurer - Stacy Paige, Mayor - LeRoy Burcroff, Council person Tina Talley, 2nd row; Council persons - Virginia Williams, John Barden, Celeste Roscoe and Kathleen Abdo; bottom row; Councilpersons Eva Webb and William Wadsworth

Photo by Renee Summer

The City of Romulus hosted their 19th Inaugural Ceremony on Monday, November 13, 2017. The elected officials were sworn in by 34th District Court Chief Judge the Honorable Judge Tina Brooks-Green. Last week's election resulted in three new council persons; Tina Talley, Eva Webb and Virginia Williams. Along with the new officials, the returning officials were Mayor - LeRoy Burcroff, Clerk -Ellen Craig-Bragg, Treasurer - Stacy Paige and

Council persons Kathleen Abdo, John Barden, Celeste Roscoe and William Wadsworth.

During the ceremony Romulus High School Student Jason Parmley sang the National Anthem and Former Council person Linda Choate said good bye. She thanked the city for their support during her over 30 years of service. She was presented with numerous award and recog-

inition from different departments.



Linda Choate
Former Councilperson



Pastor Arthur Willis leads the Elected Officials and program participants in the Lords's Prayer during the benediction of the program

Photo by Renee Summer

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Guest Speaker & Author:
Shameka Dean

Fumes

From Page 3A

cern. And Gasping for Breath, also published in 2016, estimated the health impacts from ozone smog caused by emissions from the oil and gas industry.

Fumes Across the Fence-Line also uses the Oil and Gas Threat Map, developed by Earthworks and FracTracker Alliance, to illustrate the threats faced by people across the nation from pollution from the oil and gas industry. The map shows the locations of the 1.2 million oil and gas facilities operating around the country, as well as the populations, schools, and hospitals within a half-mile radius of those facilities.

The largest African American populations living in areas with cancer risk above EPA's level of concern are found in Texas and Louisiana, with close to 900,000 individuals at risk in those two states alone. Some of the largest African American populations at risk for childhood asthma attacks due to ozone smog resulting from oil and gas facilities are located in Houston and Dallas. However, since pollutants can drift for hundreds or even thousands of miles before forming ozone smog, African American communities as far as Chicago, Washington, DC, and New York City each face thousands of childhood asthma attacks each year due to oil and gas pollution. In addition, the report found that three states – Texas, Ohio and California, closely followed by Louisiana, Pennsylvania and Oklahoma – have the largest share of African American citizens living within the half-mile “threat zone.”

“The effects of oil and gas pollution are disproportionately afflicting African Americans, particularly cancer and respiratory issues, and the trend is

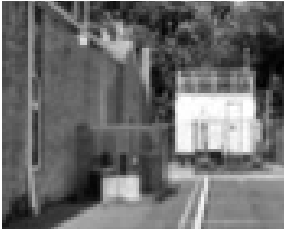
only increasing,” said Dr. Doris Browne, NMA President. “Our membership is seeing far too many patients in communities of color suffering from these diseases. It is our goal to fight to reverse this dangerous trend.”

The EPA in 2016 took a welcome step in finalizing strong standards for methane and ozone smog-forming volatile organic compounds (VOCs) covering new and modified oil and gas facilities. Doing so would have the additional benefit of cleaning up other pollutants including air toxics such as benzene, formaldehyde and sulfur dioxide. It also began to address the 1.2 million existing sources of methane and other airborne pollutants, which spew out millions of tons of pollutants without any controls. However, the Trump Administration has targeted these protections and those governing methane emissions on public lands. These rollbacks are currently being challenged in courts across the country.

“What this Administration is discovering as it attempts to undo vital health and environmental protections is that these sensible standards cannot simply be wished away, only to the benefit of the oil and gas industry,” said Sarah Uhl, Program Director, Short-Lived Climate Pollutants, for Clean Air Task Force. “Not only do we have the law on our side, we also have the medical and scientific communities who will help ensure that our air, and our health, particularly in fence-line communities, are protected to the full extent of the law.”

For this study and more, please visit the Environmental and Climate Justice resource page at www.naacp.org

48217 Zip Code Air Sampling Station
New Mt. Hermon Baptist Church
3225 Deacon Street
Detroit MI 48217



OPEN COMMUNITY INFORMATIONAL MEETING
Mon., Nov. 20, 2017
Time: 6:00-7:30 PM
New Mt. Hermon Baptist Church

AGENDA

Presenters will discuss air sampling data collected between September 2016 and September 2017. The air monitors have been collecting samples of heavy metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), sulfur dioxide (SO2), and fine particulate matter (PM2.5) among others. This will be the third community informational meeting since the monitoring station was sited at New Mt. Hermon in August 2016. A final report will be issued in late December with a final meeting in January or February 2018.



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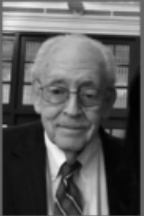


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JOHN BLAIR NAMED NEW POLICE CHIEF; RICK HOPPER DEPUTY CHIEF

TAYLOR – Mayor Rick Sollars, in a surprise public announcement during the 2017 Inaugural Ceremonies Tuesday night (November 14), named John Blair as Taylor’s newest police chief. Richard “Rick” Hopper was named deputy chief.

Mayor Sollars was the keynote speaker during the inaugural, held at the Lakes of Taylor Golf & Banquet Center before about 200 people. After this speech, which emphasized governmental teamwork, Sollars called both men to the podium to be officially sworn in by City Clerk Cindy Bower.

“We did a wide, in-depth search to find a new police chief and deputy chief,” Mayor Sollars said. “But as it turned out, we had the best people for the job right here in our own department. I couldn’t be happier.”

The search committee spent months going through candidates for the position, some of which were from departments with as many as 3,000 employees.

Both Chief Blair and Deputy Chief Hopper were extremely happy with the appointments, and a large contingent of Taylor Police attended the event. Blair had been acting chief since July 2017. Like those before him, Chief Blair is a longtime member of the force and was an executive commander before being named acting chief.

He started his career with the department in 1991, and worked various assignments including road patrol, SWAT, field training officer, firearms instructor, investigations, special operations and traffic division. He has also served in a supervisory position as a road patrol, K-9 and special operations sergeant and lieutenant of the traffic division, and commander of the patrol division, firearm training unit, traffic division and special support services section.

He has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in

Criminal Justice from Michigan State University and is a graduate of Northwestern University’s Police School of Staff and Command. He has been a MCOLES certified firearm instructor since 1997 as well a State of Michigan certified Concealed Pistol License instructor since 2002.

He has also served as program director of two Federal Cooperative Agreements with the Federal Highway Administration and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Acting Chief Blair was selected twice as the Department’s Officer of the Year (1999 and 2008) and the Police Officer Association of Michigan Officer of the Year in 2008

Deputy Chief Hopper, a former Commander, also has over two decades of experience in the department.

He has been with the Taylor Police Department for 20 years and is currently in charge of the Investigative Division and Records Bureau. He also oversees internal affairs, hiring, recruiting, departmental freedom of information act requests, and technology related items.

During his career he has served as a Public Service Officer (three years), Road Patrol Officer (four years), Detective (two years), Special Operations Detective (three years), S.W.A.T. Team Operator (five years), Patrol Sergeant (four years), Patrol Lieutenant (two years), Investigative Commander (two years).

He obtained an Associates Degree from Schoolcraft College, Bachelor Degree from Eastern Michigan University and is currently pursuing a Master’s Degree in Public Administration.

He served for six years as a U.S. Army Military Police Officer with the 1176 M.P. Company with a 1 year deployment in support of Operation Joint Endeavor.

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CITY OF INKSTER

In accordance with the City of Inkster City Charter Chapter 7, Sec. 7.8; an abstract of the proceedings of the November 6, 2017 Regular Council Meeting is hereby published.

APPROVED:
Approval of the Agenda.
Approval of the Consent Agenda.
A public hearing on Certificate of Compliance.
Approval of four Board and Commission appointments
Approval of a first reading on Certificate of Compliance and Dangerous Buildings.
Approval of an automobile lease of a 2011 Ford Bus.
Approval of an offer to purchase a residential parcel.
Approval to purchase a vacant residential parcel.
Approval to purchase three residential properties.
Approval to enter into an agreement with Zeimet Wozniak.

Felicia Rutledge
City Clerk

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Rouge Panthers defeats Cranbrook Cranes in Regional game



The River Rouge Panthers team, cheerleaders and coaches celebrate with coach Corey Parker after winning the Regionals

The Panthers were able to keep their composure as Cranbrook fought hard from the kickoff of the regionals football game. But in the end, the Panthers were victorious with a 21-14 win. They will advance to the semifinals for the third straight year.

The powerful defense of the Panthers were able to minimize the Cranes scoring ability. Once the score was tied at 14-14 it came down to who wanted it more. The Panthers pulled together in the last four minutes of the game with an interception and a forced fumble on a Cranes quarterback handoff, sealed the game. The Panthers will take on Edwardsburg on Saturday, November 18th.



A hole is opened for Alexander Carter and he carries for 20 yards before he is tackled

Semi-Final High School Football

By Butch Davis

This week in high school football is Semifinal Saturday as on this day will tell the story of what teams from Division One thru Eight will take part in the finals next Friday and Saturday at Ford Field. In addition still their two teams from Downriver (River Rouge and Riverview) and two teams from Detroit (Cass Tech and Martin Luther King) still in the mix. Yeah! So here are the Semifinal matches taking part this Saturday afternoon of interest in the Telegram News reading area. By the way, Home Teams at MHSAA-Designated Semifinal Sites and Finals at Ford Field are determined by the highest Playoff Point Average.

Division 1 Semifinals
SF1 Detroit Catholic Central (8-4) 63.667 at Clarkston (10-2) 87.667 @ Walled Lake Western S 1:00 PM
SF2 Detroit Cass Tech (9-2) 72.889 at West Bloomfield (10-2) 91.111 @ Troy Athens S 1:00 PM

Division 2 Semifinals
SF1 Livonia Franklin (10-2) 83.778 at Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central (12-0) 110.222 @ Grand Ledge S 1:00 PM
SF2 Warren DeLaSalle (10-2) 94.492 at Detroit Martin Luther King (11-1) 95.667 @ Hazel Park S 1:00 PM

Division 3 Semifinals
SF1 Battle Creek Harper Creek (12-0) 101.222 at Muskegon (12-0) 112.000 @ East Kentwood S 1:00 PM
SF2 Farmington Hills Harrison (9-3) 74.222 at Riverview (11-1) 84.222 @ Rochester S 12:00 PM

Division 4 Semifinals
SF1 Escanaba (10-2) 77.639 at Grand Rapids Catholic Central (12-0) 92.667 @ Traverse City Thirlby Field S 1:00 PM
SF2 River Rouge (10-2) 76.889 at Edwardsburg (11-1) 86.000 @ Jackson S 1:00 PM

The Pistons Doing All Right

By Butch Davis



Detroit Pistons forward Tobias Harris has been named Eastern Conference Player of the Week.

Picture from the NBA

The NBA announced this past Monday that Detroit Pistons forward Tobias Harris has been named Eastern Conference Player of the Week. Harris, 25, averaged 21.3 points and 7.7 rebounds while shooting 49% (22-45) from the field and 64% (14-22) from beyond the arc to lead the Pistons to a 3-0 record for the week. Harris connected on four-plus 3-pointers in each game while shooting better than 55% from behind the arc in all three games.

“I’m honored to be named Eastern Conference Player of the Week, but this is truly a testament to how well we’ve been playing as a team,” Harris said. “My coaches and teammates put me in positions to succeed and this recognition is a result of the hard work we put in, as a group, during the offseason and training camp.”

The big news is that the Detroit Pistons has opened the season with the third-best record in the NBA at 10-3, including a league-best 7-1 at home. Harris leads the club in scoring at 20.1 points per game while shooting 48% from the field and 51% (5th in the NBA) from 3-point range this season. The Pistons (10-3) are tied for the third-best

record in the NBA and own the best home record in the NBA at 7-1. The last time the Pistons started a season 10-3 or better was in 2005-06 when they started 11-2. Detroit recorded its first home-stand sweep of five-plus games since 2008, wow!

Andre Drummond is averaging 19.3 rebounds in his last three games. Tobias Harris shot 60% (21-35) from beyond the arc during the Pistons’ five-game home stand. Avery Bradley is averaging 21.0 points in his last five games while shooting 47% (37-79) from the field. Reggie Jackson is playing best point guard since being a Piston. Yep, it helps to be healthier.

In addition, bench play and ball movement has supercharged the Pistons as rookie Luke Kennard recorded career highs in points (14), rebounds (5), assists (3) and minutes (28) vs. Miami this past Sunday. Or how about the play of Eric Moreland coming in off the bench for Andre Drummond to great success either when Andre in foul trouble or given a breather, Moreland setting screens and making rebounds to keep the Pistons in the game. Second-year forward Henry Ellenson is coming off the pine shooting three-pointer and running the floor. Free agent and new Pistons player Langston Galloway is making a statement in exceling and helping to balance Detroit’s needs as a talented scorer. Galloway has been excellent in his short Pistons career, despite limited playing time and his chemistry with Ish Smith and vital floor spacing has been crucial to Detroit’s second unit so far.

The Pistons will continue their trip on the road with games in Indianapolis, Friday and in Minneapolis Sunday before returning home to play Cleveland at L.C.A (Little Caesar Arena) this upcoming Monday Night.

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TELEGRAM
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Ecorse City Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 21, 2017 from 7:30-9PM there will be a city council meeting at the Ecorse city hall, 3869 West Jefferson.

Harper Woods
There will be a city council meeting November 20, 2017 at city hall, 19617 Harper Ave., at 7PM.

Inkster Book Sale
The Inkster Police Department is hosting a bake sale to raise money to support Community Outreach. This event will take place November 22, 2017 from 10AM-2PM at the Inkster Justice Center, 26279 Michigan Ave.

City Council Meeting
There will be a city council meeting November 20, 2017 from 7-9PM in the council chambers of city hall, 26215 Trowbridge.

Lincoln Park City Council Meeting
Monday, November 20, 2017 at 7:30PM there will be a city council meeting in the Lincoln Park city hall, 1355 Southfield Rd.

River Rouge City Council Meeting
There will be a city council meeting November 21, 2017 at 7:30PM at city hall, 10600 W. Jefferson Ave.

Taylor City Council Meeting
There will be a city council meeting November 21, 2017 from 7-9PM in the council chambers of city hall, 23555 Goddard Rd.

Book Sale
There will be a book sale at the Taylor Community Library (12303 Pardee) November 18, 2017 from 10AM-3PM. Most hardcovers are \$1 and most paperbacks are \$0.25. Crafts for Non-crafters Join us for an hour of seasonal crafting at the Taylor Community Library (12303 Pardee) on November 22, 2017 from 6-7PM. All materials provided.

Adults only.
Wayne City Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 21, 2017 from 8-10PM, there will be a city council meeting at the Wayne city hall, 3355 S Wayne Rd.

Westland Book Sale
Join us at the Westland Public Library (6123 Central City Pkwy) from 10AM-4PM on November 17, 2017 for a book sale! Meeting rooms A and B. City Council Meeting November 20, 2017 there will be a city council meeting at the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Rd., beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Wyandotte Christmas Tree Lighting
Join us on the corner of Biddle and Sycamore on November 17, 2017 at 6PM for our annual

Tree Lighting. WBA Third Friday
The Wyandotte Business Association's Third Friday event will take place November 17th beginning at 5PM in downtown Wyandotte. Many of the shops and restaurants will stay open later than usual, offer giveaways, specials and discounts. In addition, there is musical entertainment and horse and carriage rides throughout the downtown district. For more information please call 734-324-4514.

Christmas Parade
Join us November 18, 2017 at 10AM for our Christmas Parade. The route begins at Northline near the police/court building and ends at Eureka Ave.

City Council
Monday, November 20, 2017 at 7PM, city council will meet in the council chambers of Wyandotte city hall (3200 Biddle Ave., Ste. 300).

To have your event listed in the Community Calendar, send an email to info@telegramnews.net or mail to 10748 W. Jefferson Ave. River Rouge, MI 48218.

Rage In The Cage

Written By - Xavier Jones Sports and Entertainment Reporter



McLaughlin on left and Shatri on right

Veterans Day 2017, the Warrior Xtreme Cagefighting welcomes fans for WXC 70. A wild MMA event with a stacked fight card of pros and amateurs. The professional fight card hosted ten explosive fights. Five amateur fights preluded the action. WXC 70 is the first event of it's kind that the Telegram Newspaper has had the honor to cover. Subscribers of UFC Fight Pass will also be able to see the event for a year.

Fight fans were up battling the night watching their favorites duke it out. Everyone gave it their all as the rowdy crowd cheered on from outside the cage. Young and old came out to the Hype Athletics Center to view the organized chaos.

WXC 70 was a well organized event filled with passion, team-

work and blood. Championships exchanged hands. Wins were taken with pride and losses were taking with a winning smiles. Every woman and man who exited the cage stepped out into our world with a lesson.

I was able to speak with Brandon "Deep Water" McLaughlin before the amateur fights started to heat up. Brandon is a Southgate Anderson Alumni who specializes in Jiu Jitsu and wrestling. He raked up a record of 101-25 as a Titan and continued his career in the NCAA. McLaughlin has collectively wrestled in over 500 matches.

McLaughlin fought in the much anticipated co-main event against friend and former training mate Moe Shatri. The warriors smiled at each other at

the weigh ins, before and after the slugfest. Three hard rounds concluded with Shatori taking victory in a split decision. Shatri and McLaughlin left it all in the cage at the end of the night.

Telegram - What do you do when you're not fighting?

McLaughlin - Working and training. Painting and art, but it's been awhile since i'd had the time to work on something. When it's time to train I push the art aside to focus. I may work on something after the fight.

Telegram - How did you get your start in wrestling?

MMA - Page 15A

ROMULUS HIGH SCHOOL MULTI-SPORT STUDENT ATHLETE SIGNS NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT



Pierre Brown and his family with his letter of intent

Romulus Senior Pierre Brown has accepted a scholarship offer from Michigan State University to run track. Brown is a four-year varsity letter winner in track, a three-year varsity letter winner in football, and a two-year varsity letter winner in wrestling. He has a 3.0 career

grade point average and plans to study dentistry, his goal is to open his own his own dental office. "My older brother is my motivation, I always wanted to be better than him. Everything I do is for my mom, she is my main supporter", said Brown.

His athletic accomplishments include: Two-Time All State Track Sprinter, Junior Olympic Track National Runner Up, Two-Time All League Football Player, and a Regional Qualifier in Wrestling.

Beauty & Barber SHOP TALK



Question of the Week

Have you talked to your children about doing their best?

Youth should be encouraged to strive for greatness.



A Weighty Issue with my Wife

By Alma Gill (NNPA News Wire Columnist)



Dear Alma,
Before I begin, let me say up-front that I love my wife. That said, in the years since we wed, she has gained considerable weight. When we eat out, she stuffs herself like a pig and never misses a chance to order desert. When I hint that she might forgo the sweets, she calls me a killjoy. On top of all of this, she refuses to do any exercise that requires her to break a sweat. Sure, I've gained weight, too, but no one would ever accuse me of being fat. How do I talk with my wife about this without making her feel self-conscious or unattractive? Despite the extra pounds, she's still the apple of my eye. Friends say I'm asking for trouble.
E.P.; South Carolina

Ahhh, yea E.P., and they're right...almost. It all depends on your delivery. Confronting a woman about her weight can be as psychologically risky as a woman talking to her man about...well, you know. Here's my confession: I, too, gained weight over the years while my husband diligently maintained his well-groomed looks and muscular physique. What turned me around, you asked? Picture this: Dayton, Ohio 2008. We were at Aunt Pre-vella's 70th birthday party and cousin Lelar was taking pictures. Long story short, she took a picture of me, a side view. While looking through the photos on her camera, like the Isley Brothers I asked, "Who's

that lady?" Her answer: "That's you." In the parking lot later on, she stepped to me lovingly, sister to sister, and said, "What's going on with you, girl? You've got to do something; your health is at risk." She was right and hooked me up with nutritionist Roxanne Koteles-Smith, founder of the Food Wisdom program located just outside of Asheville. The weight came off so fast my coworkers thought I had undergone gastric bypass surgery. Trust me when I say I know how your wife is feeling. She knows she's overweight, and this just may be the motivation she needs to do something about it. Even if you decide to broach the topic, it has to be her decision to make a lifestyle change. So let's come up with a plan, Stan. I suggest you follow the example of cousin Lelar. Approach this subject as a health issue and not a weight-gain problem. When the moments right, let her know you're concerned about her health and the few extra pounds she carrying. She knows what that means. Talk about planning fun activities for the two of you, like daily walks hand in hand after dinner, making more time for whoopee (which burns calories) and maybe joining a gym. Whatever she likes that gets her moving. I personally enjoy hand-dancing. Ask her about joining a bowling team or taking tennis lessons. Be creative. You hold the power to make this an encouraging conversation. Be kind with your words. Remember, it's about reaching new goals set for living a healthier lifestyle and getting your "Boo" back in shape. Assist her on a successful journey. It's all lies in your delivery....

Alma

MOVIE REVIEW

Film Review: Roman J. Israel, Esq.

By Dwight Brown (NNPA Newswire Film Critic)
Rating: 3.5 out of 5 stars



Denzel Washington and Colin Farrell become law partners

Denzel Washington may be the most accomplished actor of our generation. Like a chameleon, he's morphed from the stern father in "Fences" to a dorky, introverted attorney in this meandering crime-drama/thriller. His talent is more than enough reason to sit through the two hours and nine minutes of misguided, anticlimactic storytelling. Writer/director Dan Gilroy's feature film debut "Nightcrawler," about a sleazy paparazzo, hinted at a bright future. His second piece of direction—and tenth screenplay—is noteworthy for creating a uniquely, memorable character: Roman J. Israel, Esq. Israel is a socially conscious, politically-minded attorney. He's a remnant of the '70s pro-Black movement. The puffy Afro, big glasses and boxy-looking suits make him look like a college professor frozen in time. Now in his mid-sixties, he's spent the better part of his career sequestered in a Los Angeles law office, surrounded by files and books. He's an egghead. The brains of the firm, not the dazzling courtroom attorney. At home, with record albums stacked around his cluttered apartment, it looks as if he has idiosyncrasies akin to a hoarder. His brilliant mind (he memorizes legal statutes like Martha Stewart recalls recipes) is evident. His awkwardness around people is profound, like someone with Asperger's Syndrome. When Roman's extroverted law partner suffers a heart attack and can't return to work, the bookworm is forced to plead cases in criminal courtrooms, to no success. He finds work at a glitzy law firm run by a slick attorney (Colin Farrell, "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them"), and fails to fit in. A budding romance with a teacher/social activist (Carmen Ejogo, "Alien: Covenant") brings him to the doorstep of reality. Working a case for a defendant, who is accused of murder, puts the naïve and income-challenged

Roman in a tempting situation, where he can collect a reward. "I'm tired of doing the impossible for the ungrateful," Israel says. Gilroy's script exhausts its energy in the beginning, meticulously setting up Roman's character. Then it runs out of steam and ideas. What's the point in watching a man who is living on the edge of insanity if there isn't a breakthrough that takes him somewhere audiences could not have imagined? Or, why tag along with a failed attorney if he doesn't redeem himself? As the momentum flails in this character-driven film, so does Gilroy's direction.

Colin Farrell, with his slicked-back hair and fancy suits displays the right balance of cold-as-ice calculating attorney and caring snake. Somehow, it's a bit hard to imagine a woman, who looks like Carmen Ejogo ("Selma") having a romantic interest in man who

looks like an urban bear. Yet, their beauty and the beast flirtations are worth a gander. Both actors greatly support Denzel Washington as he crafts a character that was not previously in his arsenal. He's concocted crooked narcotics officers ("Training Day"), pugilists ("The Hurricane"), heroic activists ("Malcolm X") and gunslingers ("The Magnificent Seven"). In most of his performances, anger, decisiveness and self-assurance have well-complimented his leading man looks. For the first time in memory, those innate characteristics are absent. His Roman is a muddled misfit, who makes bad choices; his instincts block him. The slouched posture, protruding stomach and puffy face, also mean that Washington has laid all vanity aside to thoroughly inhabit this unique role. And, he delivers his lines with dour sarcasm. When an offer is made to Roman, the indignant attorney responds, "It's an enema of sunshine." The quirky story of "Roman J. Israel, Esq." is unmemorable. However, it is a very useful showcase for one of the finest actors working today. This kind of performance makes Oscar voters stand in awe. This kind of acting keeps viewers' eyes glued to the screen, regardless of the surroundings. *Dwight Brown is a film critic and travel writer. Read more movie reviews by Dwight Brown here and at Dwight-BrownInk.com.*

MMA

From Page 14A

McLaughlin - I saw a flyer in the hallway, assuming it was something like the WWE. I've never seen the real sport of wrestling so this was something like I've never seen before. It was really hard! I sucked at it for awhile! I put a lot of time and effort into the craft. By my junior and senior year I was beating guys who had been wrestling since they were four years old.

Telegram - How did wrestling grow to MMA fighting?

McLaughlin - One thing led to another. I was getting bored, at the time all I did was work out. Someone suggested it and I took the jump. I trained for four weeks and was undefeated for about three and a half years. I didn't

care much about the fighting I was just having fun.

Telegram - Is the UFC the end goal?

McLaughlin - Of course! UFC World Champion! I don't want to just go to work and die, I want to open a gym to train the fighters under me. There's no point in me doing all of this if I wasn't shooting for the top. If you do something halfway you get halfway results. You put in everything you get everything.

Telegram - What did you learn from this fight?

McLaughlin - I've learned how to set a pace for a three round fight. I've never went a full three until I stepped into the cage with Moe. Also how to adapt to someone with one punch knockout power and a few technical things.

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HOT PICKS

106	917	310
445	392	111
6212	8456	2490
7823	6947	5488

BIG MOMMA'S HITS

736	358
914	212
777	000

BIG RAY'S PICK 4

9583	8719
0821	0076
2244	6420



“I’ve always been drawn to characters.”
– HEBRU BRANTLEY, ARTIST



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