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# THE REAL DEAL PRESS

Volume 4 / Issue 30 / May 19, 2019

## High Tech Academy students rise to STEM Challenge



(left to right) Winning Team members Mariah Lynch, Mychael Gregg, and Delonte Goodman. Second Place Winners Andrea Sawyer, Halima Osman, and Indigo Brown Barrett. Contestants Jayla Bridgewater, Yury Leonardo, and Le'Ana Christian. Photo credit: Lewis Burrell III

**By Lewis Rice**  
SPECIAL TO THE REAL DEAL PRESS

Fifteen ambitious and excited Cleveland high school students, who are simultaneously enrolled as college students through Cuyahoga Community College's High Tech Academy, competed in the finals competition of Tri-C's inaugural STEM challenge on Tuesday, May 14.

The students worked in teams to answer challenging math and science questions typically taught in trigonom-

etry, statistics, chemistry, physics courses. The contest, formatted similar to the popular "Academic Challenge", sparked high energy and high interest among the young competitors following the completion of their spring semester final exams.

"I had a great time because the questions were nice and challenging", said Cleveland School of the Arts 10<sup>th</sup> grader Jayla Bridgewater. "The questions really made me think", added Bridgewater, who's considering the STEM

Challenge was an intellectually stimulating, yet an enjoyable experience. "I enjoyed the STEM program because I got to challenge my knowledge, and also learn more about what I need to work on", added Indigo Brown Barrett, an 11<sup>th</sup> grader at Facing History New Tech High School.

STEM Challenge is the brain-child of Tri-C math professor Clarence Johnson, a former Academic Challenge contestant when he was a student at Cleveland's John

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**High Tech Academy (HTA)** was jointly established in 2000 by the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C), to prepare high school students for technological careers and/or higher education in a resource-rich learning environment. The curriculum focuses on developing academic and technical skills, particularly in English, reading comprehension, mathematics and information technology. Students attend their home high school classes in the morning and college-level classes at Tri-C in the afternoon, earning college credits while working towards a high school diploma. The tuition-free program offers career pathways in several fields including Information Technology, Business Management, Health Careers, Creative Technologies. Stacy Hutchinson is HTA principal.

### This Week in Politics

## Looking for local leaders

**By R. T. Andrews**  
EDITOR

They say you've got to be tough to be a Clevelander. Last week's news reports seem to drive home that point with a vengeance, as our fair city took it on the chin, the shin, and the solar plexus.

We were hardly surprised to read last week that a [lawsuit has been filed](#) against the operators of the manufacturing project that was supposed to bring 650 new jobs to the economically shrunken Glenville neighborhood.

Unable to attend their [bally-hooed launch last September](#), we checked out the company's [website](#), where we found more high falutin' prose that said even less than the one draft wonders we occasionally turned in in philosophy class.

The company and its operations may yet prove to be "the gift from God" per the reported words of Rev. E. Theophilus Caviness of Greater Abyssinia Baptist Church. But if it doesn't, we think the good reverend will have to dig deep into his expansive vocabulary to explain how he and his friends fell hook, line and sinker for the big city promises of Tierney "Ty" Williams, owner

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# ACHES, PAINS & AUTOMOBILES

## Men's Health Tune-Up



Saturday June 22, 2019

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Care Alliance Health Center

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## Growing Democracy Teach-In: Navigating Government & Accessing Public Information

Accessing public information is an important part of community organizing, citizen journalism, research, and informed decision-making. But government bureaucracy can affect how we interact with public agencies and sometimes creates obstacles to accessing information. At this community teach-in we'll learn strategies for recognizing and overcoming these barriers so you can access the information you need and get government to work for you!

Growing Democracy is a community workshop series bringing together community members, scholars, and practitioners to share information, experiences, and insights on issues of democracy and civic engagement. Come learn directly from university professors - for free! Open to anyone interested in community politics, social activism, political engagement, and community organizing.

**When:** Thursday, May 23rd, 2019, 6pm - 8pm

**Where:** Parker Hannifin Downtown YMCA, 1301 E. 9th St, Cleveland, OH 44114

**Cost:** Free  
[GROWING DEMOCRACY PROJECT](#)  
(Click for more info.)

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Publisher & Editor: R.T.Andrews

Layout & Design: Steve Aresmon Thomas

Contributing Writers: Marilyn Dyson, Kirby V. Freeman, David Miller, Nathan Paige, Lewis Rice.

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**QUOTE of the Week**  
**"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."**

- Frederick Douglass

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# Every Sunday

## Community Calendar



**Monday, May 20 at 7p.**

Best-selling children's author Andrea Davis Pinkney visits at the Warrensville branch of the County Library, 4415 Northfield Rd. [44128].

**Tuesday, May 21 at 7:30a.**

Catch *The Real Deal Press* live on **WOVU-FM/95.9** [lives-tream [here](#)] for a quick take on what's happening.

**Wednesday, May 22 at 4p •**

The Cleveland school district continues its series of neighborhood meetings to discuss its new plans for building new elementary schools and moving or closing others. Wednesday's meeting will be at New Tech Collinwood, 15210 St. Clair Ave. 44120. Other meetings are scheduled as follows:

• **East:** Thursday, May 23, 4 p.m., East Technical High

School, 2439 E. 55th St. 44104; • **Southwest:** Tuesday, May 28, 6 p.m., John Marshall High School, 3952 West 140th St. 44111.

• **Near West:** Saturday, June 1, 1:30 p.m., Garrett Morgan High School, 4016 Woodbine Ave. 44113.

**Thursday, May 23 at 6p.**

The Urban League of Greater Cleveland holds its annual meeting at its headquarters, 2999 Prospect Ave. [44115].

**Friday, May 24 at 7p.**

The Cleveland Museum of Art will host a salon in

conjunction with its ongoing exhibit of acclaimed photographer's Gordon Parks remarkable first decade of professional work. Gillian Johns (Associate Professor of English at Oberlin College) joins in conversation with Daniel Gray-Kontar (Executive Artistic Director of Twelve Literary Arts) and Tonika Johnson (Chicago-based photographer and activist) for a conversation about how Parks influenced and was inspired by a network of creative and intellectual figures, including Ralph Ellison, Richard Wright, and Langston Hughes.

## Community Bulletin Board

**Thursday, May 23-June 16.**

The rock musical *Aida*, by Elton John and Tim Rice, tells the tale of an enslaved Nubian princess entangled with an Egyptian soldier engaged to Pharaoh's daughter. Tony Sias directs this love story — based on the Giuseppe Verdi opera — set in the context of cultural identity issues. 216.795.7070.

**Friday, May 24 from**

**7p-9:30p.**

InstaRide CLE, a young area minority business enterprise, is hosting a corporate mixer for business owners and corporate types to come and learn about their new personal car and errand service. Free admission. Re:Bar, 2130 East Ninth St. [44115]

**Saturday, June 22 from 6p.**

The Cleveland NAACP's annual Freedom Fund Dinner

at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, 24 Public Square. Veteran political strategist turned Fox News commentator will be the keynote speaker. Call 216.231.6260 for ticket info.

Yoga is no longer a foreign language in the black community. [My Village Yoga](#) is offering five FREE weekly community yoga classes:

• Mondays at 10:30am • (Chair) St. Philip Neri Family

Center - 799 E. 82 St [44103]  
 • Tuesdays & Thursdays at 6p  
 • (All Levels) Thurgood Marshall Recreation Center - 8611 Hough Ave [44106]  
 • Saturdays at 10:30am • (All Levels) Harvey Rice branch Cleveland Public Library - 11535 Shaker Blvd, 44104  
 • Saturdays at 12:30pm • (Beginner) PNC Fairfax Connection, 8220 Carnegie Ave, 44103

## LifeCycles



Colette Jones of Destination Cleveland will receive the Industry Impact Award from the American Advertising Federation of Cleveland.

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## This Week in Politics

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of plant operator North Coast Natural Solutions and Level 5 Global Corporation.

Then there was the report that [Cuyahoga County wants to borrow \\$40 million](#) to pay for repairs to the Gateway playgrounds of the city's pro baseball and basketball playgrounds. This was depressing news on so many levels. It was of course a reminder that we can find resources to pay for pleasure palaces but not funds to keep our citizens safe, either from lead in their own homes, or even when they are our temporary guests in county jail. For those of you who might have missed it, yet another prisoner committed suicide in the jail on May 10, the ninth such custodial fatality in less than a year. We could say that the cost of repair was something the community obligated itself to when it launched the Gateway sports complexes almost 30 years ago, but we compounded that fiscal problem last year when county and city agreed to

spend upwards of \$140 million to expand what was then Quick-en Loans Arena, now awkwardly renamed Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse.

And then came the news of the need to revisit the building plans previously to voters by the Cleveland Municipal School District. This was actually a sensible announcement that due to population shifts and enrollment declines, the previous plans no longer make sense. But reading between the lines of the District's announcement are some stark realities: Cleveland continues to suffer from the mortgage scams that culminated in the Great Recession of 2008 — the biggest theft of black wealth since slavery ended — and forced thousands of people to lose their homes and seek shelter wherever they could, which often meant across town or across inner ring suburban borders. When the continuing assault on big-city public schools in the guise of for-profit charter schools, en-

abled by state legislators under the bogus creation of community schools, aka charter schools, we have to wonder whether Cleveland's public schools can even survive, even with the numerous successes reported in these pages the past few weeks.

The cumulative effect of these developments is to remind us of the inadequacy of our political leaders. When we look around the country, we see new leaders emerging to address the problems of our nation and various locales. Even if you disagree with the policies and the politics of Georgia's Stacey Adams, Florida's Andrew Gillum, Jackson Mississippi mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba, and first term Congress people like AOC, Aryanna Pressley, and Ilhan Omar, their dedication, intelligence, energy, forward thinking and passion cannot be gainsaid.

We need some elected officials as fanatical about rebuilding our communities as the fans who agonized over whether a ping pong ball might give the

Cavaliers a chance to nab [Zion Williamson](#).

### IN OTHER NEWS:

- Almost beyond plausibility, Ohio's reactionary Republicans, who pushed a highly restrictive abortion ban into law this spring, have been shown to be pikers compared to their counterparts in Alabama and Missouri, who passed abortion laws so draconian that even legislators who voted for them say they are opposed to them. It's all a part of an apparent scheme to capitalize on what may now be a US Supreme Court majority ready to overturn Roe v. Wade.

- **Representative Juanita O. Brent** of Cleveland has been appointed to the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board for a term ending April 29, 2021.

- We close this cheerless chronicle with applause for **Gov. DeWine** and **Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder**, who are pushing to increase the state's support of vulnerable children.

## High Tech Academy students rise to STEM Challenge

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Adams HS, where he won state championships in both chess and track.

"Every day across the country, teachers support student learning in STEM subjects. I felt that it was important for the College to join the growing wave of competitions aimed at encouraging the next generation of young innovators", said Johnson.

"STEM competitions can provide a lifelong appreciation of, interest in and enjoyment of STEM activities the same way that involvement in sports competitions fosters a lifetime enjoyment of sporting events. As schools recognize students' athletic, music and theater talents, we must also provide ways to hail our academic stars", added Johnson.

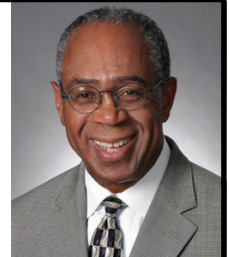
The students were eager to "test



STEM Challenge faculty moderators Robert Banks and Clarence Johnson, PhD.

their knowledge" in a fun and competitive setting. The questions, developed and delivered by Johnson and science faculty member Robert Banks, covered a wide range of math and science topics.

Eleventh grader Quentin Hudson, an aspiring engineer who attends James Ford Rhodes HS, seemed to sum up the general feelings of all participating students when he said, "I was put to the test, and had a blast."



**Reuben Harris Jr.**  
Agent

23360 Chagrin Blvd, Suite 101  
Beachwood, OH 44122  
Bus 216 731 611 Fax 216 731 6836  
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