



THE CHASE, THE VERDICT

# Not Entirely a Matter of Black & White



Courtesy of <http://imgick.cleveland.com>

By **R. T. Andrews**  
Publisher

Race matters in America, probably more than in any other country on earth. The rule of law is an established principle here. It's a matter of black letter law. And thus it was a foregone conclusion that Patrolman Michael Brelo, who was so wildly out-of-control on November 29, 2012 that he jumped onto the hood of a car and fired the majority of his 49 total shots straight down through the windshield in an effort to kill two people who were in the process of dying if not dead already — courtesy of the 88 bullets fired

at them by the remainder of that baker's dozen of itchy-fingered police officers — would be found not guilty of voluntary manslaughter.

Because when the victims each have in excess of twenty bullet holes in them, including several mortal wounds apiece, it is well nigh impossible to establish that any particular one of those thirteen officers fired the shot without which Timothy Russell and Malissa Williams would have survived.

So Judge O'Donnell rendered the correct verdict on the main charges. That was relatively easy, so much so that we will have to leave for another day a discussion about why only one officer was indicted.

For right now, we want to focus on the lesser included charges of felonious assault, and specifically the troublesome finding by the judge that while Brelo did assault Malissa Williams, knowingly causing her bodily harm, he was legally justified in doing so because he had an "objectively reasonable perception" that the Malibu and its occupants presented an imminent threat of serious bodily harm to Brelo and his fellow officers.

The Court found that "Brelo's entire use of deadly force was a constitutionally reasonable response to an objectively reasonably perceived threat of great bodily harm from ... Russell and Williams."

To credit Brelo with reasonably perceiving anything when he was so clearly emotionally out of control is to erect a standard of such incredibly broad scope that police can literally get away with murder. And in fact I suspect that is what happened here.

Surprisingly, I came to that conclusion only after reading the detailed facts as found by the judge.

Police officers know that they may be held accountable in a court of law for their actions, not necessarily from a

standpoint of being criminal defendants, but from an understanding that to secure a conviction they must follow certain procedures. They must have, for instance, reasonable grounds to search a defendant in order for any evidence they find as a result of their search to be admissible in court.

Over time police have learned by trial and error what establishes that reasonable standard. For example, police learned fifty or so years ago, during the Age of Aquarius, that if they stopped a vehicle they wanted to search, they could justify the search by saying they detected an odor of burnt alfalfa in the vehicle, which generally indicated that marijuana had been consumed. As knowledge of this olfactory sleight of hand spread throughout law enforcement ranks, big city cops all across the country were suddenly appearing to be as knowledgeable about alfalfa smells as Nebraska cornhuskers.

In the pattern of American jurisprudence, Judge O'Donnell gave unstinting credence to the testimony of every officer who claimed to have seen one of the occupants of the Malibu with a gun, or loading a gun, or some such. These

observations were all made at night, at high speeds, and from a distance. I suspect that these observations, reported over police radio, were laying the groundwork for whatever lay ahead in the fact-finding process. And in Brelo's case, the fact that he heard these claims — none of which were established by the evidence — contributed to his so-called "objectively reasonable perception" that he and his fellow officers were in jeopardy from the Malibu and its occupants.

If no such false or inaccurate observations had been reported, it would have been a lot harder to make a case that the police perceptions of danger were "objectively reasonable" to the level of justifiably applying deadly force.

## NOT ABOUT ONE OFFICER

Ultimately this case was and is not about Brelo's perception. The police were out of control that horrible night. The State Attorney General said there was systemic failure. He was right. Mayor Frank Jackson, who believes in personal responsibility, disputed the AG's determination. Jackson seems to believe that individual officers were each

CONTINUED | Page 3



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## THE WORD ON SMALL BUSINESS

# Small Business is the New Frontier

By Kirby Freeman  
Press Correspondent



More than at any time in the past, small business owners are drawing resources and attention from various institutions, media, and policymakers.

Federal, state, and local government lawmakers outwardly talk about issues and problems facing small entrepreneurs. Banks and other financial institutions run more commercials about specific products and services tailored to small businesses. Even non-profit and community organizations brag about efforts they make to help small businesses grow.

All this attention to small businesses and small business owners reflects the fact that small businesses – which are generally categorized as operations with less than 100 employees – now employ nearly two-thirds of all workers. Trends now show approximately 80% all new jobs in the economy are being created by small businesses.

As Corporate America continues to trim its workforce in response to cost pressure from globalization and cost benefits from automation, more Americans are increasingly learning to rebuild their lives and livelihoods by working for themselves.

The message of entrepreneurship is especially important in the minority community. With unemployment rates generally clocked at twice the rate of white workers, minori-

ty workers could be especially receptive to the powerful message of business ownership.

The U.S. Small Business Administration estimated that in 2013, minority and Hispanic business owners made up less than 15% of all U.S. business owners, but represented about 34% of all employees. Specifically, African Americans represented 7% of all business owners, while representing about 13% of employees.

The concept of small business ownership has become more attractive to larger numbers of individuals in the minority community, as corporations have stripped away large numbers of middle-managers and chopped off many rungs on the ladder of opportunity to diverse populations of employees.

The promise of business ownership serves as a powerful message of unrealized potential to legions of minority workers – especially those older “Baby Boomers” (born between 1946 and 1964). This was the generation that grew up with the promise that strong unions, defined pensions, and a job in a large corporation would almost guarantee financial security.

Current reality of stagnant employment and wage growth, as the economy continues to try to recover from the global downturn of 2007 through 2009, is now convincing many former corporate employees to begin setting up their own businesses. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, there has

been a sharp rise in business formation by minorities and women in recent years. This trend will likely accelerate in coming years.

The potential of economic development and self-sufficiency that small business development provides to growing African-American, Hispanic, and Asian-American communities makes it imperative that small businesses are nurtured and championed.

As we enter the closing years of President Barack Obama’s Administration, growing income inequality and the well publicized tragedies of deadly encounters between African-American citizens and police nationally and here in Cleveland underscore the limits of political and legal empowerment efforts in the minority community.

While we need to continue to press for greater levels of political empowerment, we all must redouble our efforts to build a solid economic base within the community by aggressively starting and building businesses that will ensure much greater levels of financial self-sufficiency by any and all means.

I look forward to reporting on and providing information that will be helpful for small business owners in Northeast Ohio. There are a lot of events and issues on the horizon regarding small business. I look forward to a dialogue with *Real Deal Press* readers as we champion the concept and promise of small business opportunities and ideas.

## NOT ENTIRELY A MATTER OF BLACK AND WHITE

Continued from Page 1

culpable for their behavior. He's right also.

The problem is American jurisprudence is incapable of assigning liability when police officers riot, or create, we should say, an urban disturbance that is so chaotic that individual responsibility cannot be assigned. At least not when the task is to find which was the single bullet that caused the death when a whole volley of them were hell-bent to accomplish the task.

And this is where the buck does stop at the Mayor's desk. He is going to have to accomplish what Carl Stokes — Cleveland's best and most competent mayor in the last

100 years — tried but could not do: effect a broad and systemic cultural change in the Cleveland Police Department.

Fortune may have smiled on Jackson, however. He may even have foreseen how this would play out and been exquisite in his timing. Almost immediately following the predictable result of Breló's bench trial, Jackson and the US Department of Justice announced agreement around a consent decree that envisions a total makeover of the Cleveland Police Department. Jackson — any mayor — could no more enforce such a change than he could fly to the moon, but he now has the force and

authority of the US Department of Justice and the US District Court as staunch allies. And for good measure, he likely has a Governor willing to use his bully pulpit, and an anxious Establishment eager to make things work so that Cleveland's moment in the sun is not blotted out by a tsunami of police misconduct.

Jackson has loyally defended his safety directors, first Martin Flask and now James McGrath, maintaining that they have worked to keep the police from going rogue more often. They now have that federal might behind them. It's time for them to reward Jackson's loyalty

and stand and deliver.

Change is seldom easy, and the kind of changes we need don't come much harder. And let's acknowledge that the Cleveland Police do not comprise the only institution needing systemic change in the top-down authoritarian culture that has been Greater Cleveland's *modus operandum* for longer than any of us can remember.

City Council has to become more assertive. The media, the general public, the faith community, all have a role to play.

We need to be able to speak truth without demonizing.

We need to learn to do

without finger pointing and blaming. [This includes the would-be mayoral recallers].

We need to make this our moment. Let us not aim for a police department that merely complies with a consent decree.

What would it take for us to have an excellent police department? A world-class police department? A police department that in fact exemplified the mythical police department of our youth, where every Commander was wise, every line officer was stout and courageous, and every patrolman was well above average?

Who among us is willing to leave his or her comfort zone in service to such an ideal?

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# Local publisher, pushing bigotry, running for Bedford school board

## *Elected officials support his business with taxpayer dollars*

By **Richard Donald Jones**  
Press Correspondent

At least three local suburban mayors and a candidate for municipal judge are refusing to distance themselves from an article in a local newspaper owned and edited by a former Bedford School Board president that calls Muslims “Allah’s scumbags”, among other insults.

Liberty News, a tabloid mailed to homes in Solon, Bedford and a few surrounding villages, published in its May issue a rambling attack on the Muslim faith that culminates with the writer declaring “Islam is humanity’s moral low” and advocating that all Muslims be forcibly converted to Christianity.

The paper’s editor and presumptive publisher is Joseph V. Mestnik, who is once again running for a seat on the Bedford school board. According to its website, [www.libertyohio.org](http://www.libertyohio.org), the publication was established in 1984.

### FREE SPEECH?

Surrounding overt attacks on Muslims and their faith are several community update articles written by local elected officials, including the mayors of Solon, Bedford Heights, and Walton Hills. In addition, Michelle Paris, a former chief magistrate of Cleveland Municipal Court, has bought space in Mestnik’s paper to promote her candidacy for judge of Bedford Municipal Court.

Mayor Berger declined to

address the attacks on Muslims when asked, and invited this reporter to review the First Amendment of the Constitution. When advised that Mestnik, while serving as Bedford school board president, routinely used his publication to blame the district’s low test scores on students whose families resided in various Bedford Heights apartment complexes, Berger responded, “There is some truth to that.”

Asked if he was offended by the racial implications in Mestnik’s writing — the majority of the residents of the apartment complexes are African American, as is Berger — the mayor said, “I don’t read what’s in that paper. It’s just a free resource for me to reach the residents of Bedford Heights.”

Representatives of Solon Mayor Susan Drucker refused to respond to questions regarding taxpayer money spent with the publication but did say that Mestnik has a First Amendment right to publish his views.

Walton Hills Mayor Kevin Hurst acknowledged that his office has spent “thousands of dollars” with the publication but justified his expenditure of taxpayer dollars as a “good deal.”

“Look, he has the right to free speech,” said Hurst. “Maybe he crosses a line sometimes? I don’t know because I just check to make sure he gets my stuff right. If there was another publication that reaches the residents of Walton Hills and was affordable I would try that, but we talked to the Plain Dealer and the price was outrageous.”

A Hurst spokesman later called to confirm that despite Liberty News’ harsh rhetoric, the paper’s next issue would contain content and advertising paid for by residents of Walton Hills.

Michelle Paris, a Moreland Hills resident running for a judgeship in Bedford Municipal Court, also refused to comment on Liberty News but did admit that she would continue to buy advertising in the publication.

“I can’t comment on the contents of this current issue as I have not seen the paper but he has a right to free speech and a right to publish his views.”

Asked whether a judicial candidate who allowed herself to be associated with hate speech could be trusted regarding decisions that affected Muslims or African Americans, Paris responded, “No comment... I am not going to comment.”

Mestnik, who spent several terms on the Bedford school board, has long used his publication to showcase his controversial views. In October 2014, Mestnik wrote under his byline “most Syrians, Iraqis, Jordanians, and Saudis are totally illiterate.”

Warming up what he referred to as a history lesson, Mestnik went on to say that “Islamic women are kept totally uneducated, ignorant and illiterate. Women’s role is to constantly be pregnant from the age of 9. The average Muslim family throughout the world has 9 children! Christians need to be armed with Smith and Wesson handguns or Colt 45s.”

Mestnik’s publication has

also denigrated President Barack Obama, among other things writing that members of “the same Islamic Brotherhood that was driven from power in Egypt ... have offices in the White House.”

Calls to Mestnik and Liberty News seeking comment were not returned. Mestnik, who lives in Oakwood Village, has pulled petitions to run again for one of the two seats on the Bedford school board.

African Americans comprise about 81 percent of the district’s roughly 3,200 students, according to Richard Dillman, director of pupil services for Bedford schools. The district serves the cities of Bedford, Bedford Heights, and Walton Hills, in addition to Oakwood.

“White supremacy repackaged”

Julia Shearson, executive director of the local chapter of Council on American-Islamic Relations, described Mestnik’s rhetoric as the “same old white supremacy repackaged.” She noted that Muslim women are the most educated sub-group of women in the United States, part of a cohort that includes neurosurgeons and Ph.Ds. Shearson further noted that fully 30 percent of the US Muslim population is African American.

So far, Mestnik is the only declared candidate for this year’s Bedford school board race. Unless at least two candidates file by the August deadline, Mestnik will again be making educational policy for Bedford schools.

*Additional reporting by R. T. Andrews, Editor.*

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**Publisher & Editor:**  
R. T. Andrews

**Advertising Sales:**  
Paul K. Jones  
(216.338.7038)

**Contributors:**  
Burner Crew; Derek K. Dixon; Kirby V. Freeman; Alan Howard; Chardé Hurst; Richard Donald Jones; Mary Jo Minarik; Afidelia E. Scruggs

**Photography:**  
Randy O. Norfus;  
Eric Benson; Jeff Ivey

**Layout & Design:**  
Steve Aresman Thomas/Attvcks Media LLC

**The Real Deal Press**  
216.672.4301 v  
216.672.4304 f  
[rta@TheRealDealPress.com](mailto:rta@TheRealDealPress.com)  
[@RealDealPress](http://RealDealPress.com)



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REAL MONEY

# How to Create a New Middle Class

By **J. Burner Crew**  
Press Correspondent



Major cities are beginning to move the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. The federal minimum wage is currently \$7.25 per hour and some states have an even higher minimum. The move to a living wage from a minimum wage is a major shift with unpredictable consequences. Most employers are concerned with the ability to raise prices to offset the increased labor cost while most employees want to earn a wage that supports a higher level of independence.

There are real human outcomes at stake and the unforeseen consequences may cause severe dislocations in our national economy, but the impact on social change will be fascinating to watch and study for decades to

come. The move to \$15 for so many service workers will create an opportunity to move into the middle class even if it is at the lower end.

Seattle was the first major municipality to commit to the new minimum. Los Angeles is now moving to create legislation that would make them the second. The legislation would give employers until 2020 to comply, and it appears they will be successful. More than 800,000 service sector employees will now make a living wage. That means wages will rise significantly and the cost of fast food will increase, a tradeoff most citizens are willing to bear. The more complex issue is how quickly other major cities will join the effort and if the federal government will play a role with the current congressional split. Some employers are highly resistant but surprisingly many Republicans see hidden ben-

efits to the new standard.

If all other costs remain stable we will create an entirely new minimum standard of living reducing the need for government programs to serve citizens currently living below the poverty level. The economic outcome for the U.S. will have a positive impact for most major urban centers. It is difficult to foresee major negatives for the national economy but will higher wages make the US less competitive on a global production basis?

The movement if it continues will certainly contribute to inflation, something our system needs today but may be difficult to contain once started. There will be a list of positive outcomes balanced against the negatives that will be difficult to understand for years to come but there will be significant change. The greatest fear is if it becomes a "mirage": if higher wages create inflation and in five

years the higher cost of rent and other items negate the new higher wage rate, the poverty level would remain the same with just a larger number. The first indication should come from the fast food industry. Will higher labor cost hurt sales and change the price point for fast food? Restaurant owners pay a combination of salary plus tips. Will patrons feel compelled to tip if they believe the server is earning \$15 an hour in salary?

Our research indicates there will be a blended response. If the rise in wages takes five years to achieve, workers will feel an immediate early stage increase in real buying power. Moving into an apartment or starter home becomes a real option, followed by owning a car with insurance and repair funds. We expect the new demand will force prices up. Rent receipts will rise if the supply in major urban centers does not increase. The

cost of fast food will go up slightly and other staples consumed by the middle class will rise gradually.

The cost increases of the consumer markets will adjust over time to reflect the stronger demand caused by higher wages but service workers should be better positioned at the end of the cycle.

Of course once Democrats and Republicans realize higher wages produce higher tax receipts and new income tax payees in conjunction with lower discretionary budget costs, they will find it difficult not to endorse the effort. Higher minimum wages sound great to the majority, but do have real implications for a small minority of employers. Our guess is they will figure out a way to maintain profit margins in light of increased employment costs. The process of change will be a fascinating case study for decades to come.



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# ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Public servants and professional politicians know that it's always election season. Here's where you can keep up on who's doing what on the campaign trail.

## MAPLE HEIGHTS MAKEOVER MOVES FORWARD

We announced in February that Maple Heights city government was likely in for a major overhaul. The voters of course will have the last word, beginning with a likely September mayoral primary, but with a filing deadline of June 10, council candidates are emerging to challenge incumbents as well as to pursue open seats where incumbents have decided either to move on or to try and move up. We will be reporting in depth on all races in Maple Heights this year, but for now, here is how things are shaping up.

District 6 Councilman Richard Trojanski will seek the council presidency, hoping to succeed Jackie Albers, who is retiring. In District 1, Stafford Shenett wants to succeed his mentor, retiring Councilman Alex Adams. Trojanski and Shenett may both be unopposed. That might also be the good fortune of Tanglyn Madden in District 5, where incumbent Bill Brownlee has announced he is all in for the mayor's race.

In other council races, District 2 Councilwoman Toni Jones may be challenged by Thomas J. Coyle Sr., while District 4's Ron Jackson will square off against challenger Dolly Lewis. At press time, no candidate had emerged to vie for the District 6 seat being vacated by Trojanski, and Christian Ostensen is the only announced candidate to succeed the retiring Anthony Cefaratti in District 3. Meanwhile District 7's Edwina Agee has spawned two challengers looking to boot her from Council: Colleen Scott and Celestine Wilburn. If all three stay in the race, this district will have a primary to go along with the expected mayoral primary on September 8.

We note that a number of these challenges were inspired by Council's attempt last year to put traffic cameras on the streets of the city without a vote or even meaningful consultation with the citizenry. Wilburn and Madden were two of the leaders of the successful battle to banish the cameras, a struggle that saw the Supreme Court force Council to put the issue on the ballot and an electorate that decisively rebuffed Council's camera gambit.

## EAST CLEVELAND SCHOOL BOARD TO CONSIDER THE INCOMPREHENSIBLE

Abdul Shaheed Jabbaar, Phil Roberts, and Herald D. Williams have all pulled petitions to run for the East Cleveland Board of Education. They should all be planning to be in attendance when the Board meets June 8 to consider the bid of long-time Superintendent Myrna Lee Corley to "retire" and be rehired. This is probably a done deal because the all-female board — with a majority that rolls over whenever former East Cleveland judge Una H. H. Keenon, the board president, clears her throat — is likely to support this insane idea. Somebody needs to be there to complain. Loudly.

Here's hoping such an indefensible board action will have the same effect as Maple council's traffic camera blunder, and cause concerned citizens to emerge to DO THE RIGHT THING and FIGHT THE POWER.

## REPRESENTATIVE NAN BAKER ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR STATE SENATE DISTRICT 24



**State Rep. Nan Baker (R-Westlake)** announced last month that she is seeking the Republican Nomination in 2016 for the Ohio Senate, 24th District. She will be term-limited serving her 4th term at the Ohio House ending 2016. The 24th Senate District is currently served by Senator Tom Patton who will also be term-limited in 2016.

Baker's current Ohio House District 16 represents Bay Village, Fairview Park, North Olmsted, Rocky River and Westlake. The Senate District 24 includes House Districts 6 and 7 along with 16. Communities within Senate District 16 include Oakwood Village, Walton Hills, Solon, Chagrin Falls, Gates Mills, Mayfield Village, Lyndhurst, and Highland Heights, among others.

## CAPITAL BEAT |

We've been trying for over a month to figure why

the Ohio Democratic Party deliberately cut its Achilles Heel in Columbus this spring by violating its own policies and endorsing former Gov. Ted Strickland a full year before the party primary to select a candidate for the US Senate. Strickland was not so great a governor that he should be handed a clear path to the primary. And he's not that fantastic as a candidate, either. When he ran for re-election, he was routinely outshined by his running mate for Lt. Governor, Yvette McGee Brown.

Of course, Strickland has party relations of longer and deeper standing than his challenger for the nomination, the Cincinnati kid councilman, P. G. Sittenfeld. He did spend all those years in Congress. But we think Sittenfeld has a spark that the old guard's preemptive strike won't be able to put out. And they might not even have tried if Ted's dear friend Hillary hadn't pushed her team to try and squeeze Sittenfeld out of the race. She did that because she believes that Strickland will be more competitive against Sen. Rob Portman in November 2016. A close Senate race, the reasoning goes, would help her carry Ohio in the Electoral College.

Barack Obama carried Ohio in 2008 and again in 2012 because he built his own political team in this state, bypassing the sclerotic Ohio Democratic establishment. He did so by mobilizing a lot of people with profiles similar to Sittenfeld: young, vital, energetic, idealistic. Apparently, Hillary has yet to see that memo.

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# Now that Cultural Garden ground is broken, the real work must begin

By **Derek K. Dixon**  
Press Correspondent

Regardless of how divergent their viewpoints have been on the reasons for decades of stagnation in the construction of the African American Cultural Garden, none of that mattered last month when the Garden's network of civic, business and political support — weary and frustrated over five mayoral administrations of fundraising false starts and generational ambivalence — celebrated the ground-breaking that many thought would never happen.

While the atmosphere on May 11 was understandably awash with jubilation, speaker after speaker dared not leave the podium without at least a brief reference to the importance of proper stewardship now that shovels have finally turned.

CONTINUED | Page 8



(top) Victor Tall, 2d from left, listens as NAACP President Hilton Smith speaks at May 11 groundbreaking ceremony for the African American Cultural Garden in Rockefeller Park just south of St. Clair Ave. (bottom) Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson, 2d from right, stands with architect Daniel Bickerstaff [white suit], and leading contractors, L-R, John Todd, Josh McFlamm, Lonzo Coleman and Dominic Ozanne. Photo Credit: Bill Reiter, City of Cleveland.

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## NOW THAT CULTURAL GARDEN GROUND IS BROKEN, THE REAL WORK MUST BEGIN

Continued from Page 7

After the celebration, a few of them took time to amplify their views in conversation with *The Real Deal Press*.

Bob Render, godson and protégé of the late AACG founder Booker T. Tall, emphasized that maximizing use of the future landmark will require an unprecedented cooperation across generations. “We have to get the young people to embrace the significance of this cultural symbol,” Render said. “Booker Tall was a visionary who led civic, cultural, social, legal...all levels of the city’s stakeholders. He had a unique sense of history. If we go back and look at the history of the struggle of African Americans on a national scale, young people have always re-energized the movement. Booker brought in young people (in support of the Garden).”

“Older folks have the historical perspective and

a sense of history,” he continued. “Young people have the energy. You need a marriage of both. If we’re going to make it to the finish line, all parties have to come together, even the traditional naysayers. It is now time for everybody to put up or shut up. If we can spend millions of dollars on lottery tickets, gambling, entertainment, etc., surely we can do it for what symbolizes the best of our heritage.”

Public officials attending the ceremony agreed hands-on ownership by the black community has to be a top priority not only to complete the Garden but also to use it properly. “There’s a legacy that has to be maintained,” observed Warrensville Heights Mayor Bradley Sellers. “The political folks can bring it together, but it’s going to take the people to move it forward.”

Mayor Frank Jackson echoed the sentiments of

long-time AACG supporter and youth advocate Dorothy Adams. When asked what the responsibility of the Cleveland community should be, he answered simply “Just what she said,” referencing Adams and her statement that adults in attendance should set a visible example of financial commitment to the Garden’s completion. “We have to own the success and completion of this project so that (the younger generation) will follow us,” said Adams.

A representative of the generation between today’s youth and civil rights-era Clevelanders like Tall and late Call and Post publisher W.O. Walker took the podium next. “There’s no greater earthly honor for a son than to see the dream of his father bloom, blossom, and take root,” said Tall’s son Victor, a lawyer and army colonel. He described his

father’s understanding of how the Garden “symbolized the power of diversity through nature and history.”

Putting that understanding of nature and history to practical use had always been the intention of the Garden’s designer, architect W. Daniel Bickerstaff. “The ‘present’ pavilion is envisioned as a platform of celebration for weddings, lectures and performances. The seating elements along its perimeter will serve as its foundation for specific or impromptu gatherings both large and small. Or it may just be a place for leisure reading or social media access.”

“In the ‘future’ pavilion,” he continued, “we introduced seating elements in order for one to sit, look back upon the present and past pavilions and reflect. We also introduced another water feature containing a geyser. It differs from the

passive water feature in the ‘past’ pavilion because it seeks to elucidate that, as a people of African descent residing in America, we are able to set our own paths and establishing our own agendas.”

Cleveland NAACP President Hilton Smith concluded the ceremony with a plea for continued financial support. “As we reach into our pockets to give, think of Booker Tall, think of the great W.O. Walker, and all those that have stepped forward. We see the way. Let us live the way.”

Render realizes the race has been long, but emphasized that the final leg is the most important. “In order to make it to the finish line, it will need that second wind of energy from the African-American community and other community stakeholders. If we have the faith, God certainly has the power.”

LOCAL

## ARTS CALENDAR

### 6TH ANNUAL CLEVELAND DANCE AND DRUM FESTIVAL JUNE 20-21

The dancers and drummers of 4450 Cedar on the weekend of June 20-21 for what is certain to be a memorable and fun experience when the Djapo Cultural Arts Institute hosts its sixth annual Dance and Drum Festival.

So bring your toe-tappers to the Phillis Wheatley Association, More info: call 559-0162 or email juneteenthcleveland@gmail.com.



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## SCHOOL NEWS

**Warrensville School Board has vacancy.** The Warrensville Board of Education is seeking interested candidates to fill the school board vacancy created by Lisa Johnson, who resigned effective May 22. Applications, resumes and letters of interest should be submitted by Friday, June 5. Check school website for details. The successful candidate will be appointed at a special meeting of the Board to be held on or before June 19, serve until December 31, 2015, and be expected to run for the remaining two years of Johnson's term at a special election to be held at the upcoming general election in November. For questions, call 216-865-4717.

**East Cleveland superintendent resigns, looking to be rehired.** Superintendent Myrna Loy Corley is retiring an employee of the Board, and is seeking reemployment in the same position as a reemployed retiree. The Board will hold a public meeting on the issue of Corley's reemployment as a retiree on June 8, at 6p, at Shaw High School.

**Bedford superintendent to retire July 31.** Superintendent Sherman C. Micsak read a letter at the May 7 board meeting saying he will retire from the Bedford City School District, effective July 31. He has been with Bedford for 23 years, the last six as superintendent.

## NEW FEATURE for Real Deal Press Readers

This issue introduces a new regular feature. It's a column on small business matters that will provide information on programs and initiatives designed to encourage small business development, celebrate minority business accomplishments, and seek to encourage and support minority business development, an essential ingredient in continuing the liberation of African Americans.

America's growing income inequality, together with the well publicized tragedies of deadly encounters between black citizens and police — not only in Cleveland nationwide — underscore the limits of political power and civil rights work untethered to

a strong economic base.

Even as we press for greater levels of political empowerment, we must redouble our efforts to strengthen the African American economy by aggressively starting and building businesses that can finance greater levels of self-sufficiency. The new column, reported by Kirby V. Freeman, is a key part of our effort to nurture and champion black entrepreneurship and economic development.

Over the years, Kirby has worked with hundreds of small businesses as a banker and credit officer with Growth Capital Corp., KeyBank, Huntington Bank, and ShoreBank; as a business advisor in the

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program; as a tax professional and office manager with H&R Block; and as Development Director for the City of Canton. It is our hope and expectation this column will quickly become a valued resource for current and would-be entrepreneurs seeking to establish, improve and grow their businesses.

As always, we solicit your feedback. We want your ideas, your stories, your suggestions, as we work to build a community paper that serves you well and makes you proud.

Email your comments to [rta@theRealDealPress.com](mailto:rta@theRealDealPress.com), fax them to 216.672.4304 or call 216.672.4301.

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**- Sonya Pryor and Allen Jones Family, 9 Years**

**south euclid**



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Funding for the High Tech Academy Health Career Pathway is provided by PNC Bank, the Harold C. Schott Foundation, and supported by the Kaiser Permanente Foundation

# Brelo Verdict Sparks Calls for Systemic Change

By **Derek K. Dixon**  
Press Correspondent

Citizens outraged with last week's acquittal of police officer Michael Brelo acknowledged they have channels of expressing their displeasure that go beyond collective, public demonstrations.

Following a bench trial, Common Pleas Judge John P. O'Donnell acquitted Brelo of two voluntary manslaughter charges and a lesser offense of felonious assault. Brelo fired the final 15 of his 49 shots into the dying or already-dead bodies of unarmed Chevy Malibu driver Timothy Russell and passenger Malissa Williams. His barrage from atop the idling car's hood followed nearly 100 shots from twelve other Cleveland police officers in an East Cleveland Middle School parking lot November 29, 2012.

Church leaders and various suburban citizens agreed that political and economic solutions are what's most impactful and can start at home.

"We spoke about it within our family," said African American University Heights resident Curtis Farrow, who opened the topic of responding positively with his 18-year-old daughter. "She said it doesn't make sense to riot, and that she's glad that hasn't happened in Cleveland."

"We weren't surprised by the verdict," said Andre White along with wife, Cheri, an African American couple from University Heights. "Especially when I saw the city police getting prepared with riot gear and things, it was obvious what was coming."

Jerry Cordaro, who is white and also lives in University Hts., also had family conversations. "Frank-

ly, I was disgusted by it," Cordaro stated in reference to O'Donnell's verdict. "So I understand people are upset; but they have to put their anger toward something constructive. I believe the change that is needed is political."

Cleveland Heights attorney James Costello, also white, took an analytical approach. "I read the whole verdict and I understand why he made the decision that he did," said Costello, who supported controlled protesting. "I'm happy to see by and large it's been a nonviolent protest. People are generally taking a preemptive approach to making change."

Ryan Palmer, a Caucasian, single Euclid resident decried the potential precedent that is set by the judge's reasoning for O'Donnell's rationale behind the acquittal. "So you're telling me that multiple cops shot him but no one gets convicted because it's inconclusive as to which officer killed him? From now on, as long as a cop fired at the same time as others, he can effectively commit murder." Palmer believes that continuous protesting buoys legal and political changes. "Without that long-term, persistent protesting, the next victim of the Cleveland Police Department will happen. They just haven't found their next victim yet?"

The beliefs of these and other Cuyahogans that public responses should be political and economic reflect the sentiments many Cleveland church leaders offered their congregants the morning after the verdict. Antioch Baptist Church Senior Pastor Todd C. Davidson encouraged church members to keep a wider systemic view in mind when considering the Brelo case. "This is not about vilifying or victimizing one person, because adversarial conditions are never created by one person; but this is about challenging systems," he stated. "We must despise systems of social and economic injustice without despising those who were

reared in the crucible of a system that favors some and devalues others. Davidson encouraged members to fight corrupt systems by using the historically effective agents of voting and cooperative economics, such as withdrawing financial patronage to institutions that don't reflect voters' sense of justice.

Dr. Jawanza K. Colvin, senior pastor of Olivet Institutional Baptist Church cited Jesus' own unfair trial and verdict. He promoted to his congregation an intention of sensible response rather than an emotional reaction. "What will define the city of Cleveland is what we do on the other side of the (Brelo) verdict," Colvin said. Despite the temptation to take retribution into their own hands, Colvin reminded the listeners "you show you have God in you when you say to (the perpetrator) 'I'm not going to do to you what you have done to me.' In the same way Jesus redeemed His cross, we have to take what is meant to be brutal, and turn it into something meaningful. If necessary, we need to shake up (re-evaluate) our businesses, or withhold our dollars until necessary changes are made."

Others were not as optimistic about legal change overcoming personal prejudices. "Racism is very, very real," proclaimed Andrea J. Silver, a Jewish baby boomer and single mother of three living in South Euclid. "If there are cops that hate you because you're black, even if economic opportunities increase, it still won't help because the judicial system will allow them to get away with unfair treatment. The only hope is to change their hearts."

Pastor Davidson agrees. "We need voices that value love and allow reconciliation to emerge from executive boardroom tables, communities, churches, from our political leadership. Love is still the only remedy that conquers hate."

## IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD



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**first 100 visitors serviced**

## LOCAL BUSINESS CALENDAR

### *Clinic's AfAm Employee Resource Group offers W.E.A.L.T.H. Talk*

The Cleveland Clinic and its African American Employee Resource Group is presenting a financial health forum and dialogue about wealth, education, assets, liabilities, training, and health featuring celebrity financial coach Lynn Richardson.

The forum will be Wednesday, June 10 from noon to 1:45pm at the Clinic's Bunts Auditorium, 2045 E. 90 St. Light refreshments will be provided.

Richardson is featured regularly on the BET and Centric Networks, and has appeared in *Essence*, *Jet*, and on *The Tom Joyner Morning Show*. Her wonderfully named book, *Living Check to Monday: The Real Deal About Money, Credit and Financial Security*, achieved bestseller status at the 2008 Congressional Black Caucus Conference Book Pavilion. She is currently president and CEO of MC Lyte's Hip Hop Sister Foundation.

Attendees are asked to register early by visiting <http://survey.clevelandclinic.org/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=wealthtalk>.

Complimentary parking for offsite guests is available in the E. 93rd Street Garage located between Euclid and Chester Avenues.

### **State Realtists holding two-day conference at Playhouse Square**

More than 100 real estate professionals from all over Ohio, Michigan and Indiana are expected to attend the 66th

Annual Empowerment Conference of the Ohio Realist Association. The Cleveland Realist Association is host chapter for this conference, which will be held at the Wyndham Cleveland Hotel at Playhouse Square.

Attendees will hear from Ron "Real Deal" Finklestein, a consultant, international author, sales trainer and speaker whose business books focus on management and leadership, personal development, operations, marketing, and sales. The conference will offer a wide array of professional programs on such topics as converting construction to permanent loans, real estate safety and crime prevention, sales and marketing techniques, and core legal concepts.

The National Association of Real Estate Brokers [NAREB], parent group of the Realtists was formed in 1947 when the real estate industry was so segregated that black real estate professionals were forbidden even from using the term "realtor". Their parent group is the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, whose president, Donell Spivey, is expected to attend the conference.

More information on the Realtists can be obtained by visiting [nareb.com](http://nareb.com) or [clevelandrealist.org](http://clevelandrealist.org). Akil Hameed of Fass Management is president of the local chapter.

Conference sponsors include First Federal of Lakewood, Optima Lender Services, Third Savings & Loan, Fifth Third Bank, and Forest City.

### **Christian Business League Salutes David W Whitehead on June 12**

David W. Whitehead, retired corporate secretary and chief ethics officer of First Energy, will be recognized as a Business Trailblazer at the Christian Business League's quarterly breakfast on June 12 at 7:30am.

Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased by calling 216.791.5760.

CBL breakfasts are held at the Manor Banquet and Conference Center, 24111 Rockwell Drive, Euclid.

### **Tribute To Hilton O. Smith set for June 23 at Manor of Euclid**

Hilton O. Smith will be recognized at a special luncheon in his honor for his career-long commitment to the advancement of minority and women owned businesses nationwide, particularly in the construction industry. Smith has been with construction industry giant Turner Construction for 41 years, and is currently Senior Vice President for Community Affairs. Smith has also been involved with many civic and community organizations, both locally and nationally. He is the current president of the Cleveland NAACP.

The luncheon will be Tuesday, June 23 at 11:30am at the Manor Banquet and Conference Center, 24111 Rockwell Drive, Euclid. Lonnie Coleman of Coleman Spohn Corporation, Dominic Ozanne of Ozanne Construction, and Mark Perkins of McTech, are co-chairs of the luncheon.

For information and registration visit [www.bpspecialvents.com](http://www.bpspecialvents.com).

## COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

### **Karamu Celebrates Centennial at art museum; stages THE WIZ**

On Saturday, June 13, starting at 7:00 p.m., Karamu House will celebrate its 100th year at the Cleveland Museum of Art with a fundraising dinner, live entertainment and performances, impact award presentations, and after party.

Performances of THE WIZ, Karamu's final 2014-2015 production, are now underway at Karamu.

Call 216.795.7070 for information on the centennial or the musical.

### **Greater Cleveland Jr. Golf Scholarship Fund Outing & Fundraiser**

This year's 9th annual Golf Outing will be Monday, June 22 at the Signature of Solon Country Club, 39000 Signature Dr. Registration starts at 8am with a 9am shotgun start and an awards banquet at 3pm. Attorney Michael L. Nelson Sr. is this year's guest host.

The registration deadline is June 8. Register online at [www.gcjgsf.org](http://www.gcjgsf.org) or contact Joyce Shinn [216.387.1900], Duane Morris [216.245.9820] or June Taylor [216.475.8091] for more info. The Fund is a nonprofit organization with tax-exempt status.

The Greater Cleveland Junior Golf Scholarship Fund has been around since 1980. The program uses golf to encourage and reward excellence among youth in the attainment of academic and personal goals while providing access to mentors from area business, professional, religious and political leaders.

### **Food Pantry opens in Maple Heights on June 27**

Faith Community Church has established a Food Pantry for residents of Maple Heights District 5. Pre-registration is required and may be initiated by calling 216.518.0520. Food will be distributed to qualified registrants on the 4th Saturday of the month, beginning June 27 from 12:30pm -3:30pm at the church, 15650 Friend Ave.

### **St. Clair Superior Development Corp. annual meeting set for June 10**

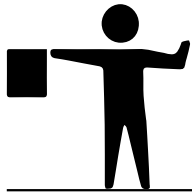
The St Clair Superior Development Corporation will report the year's highlights in the near east side community on Wednesday, June 10th from 8:00am-10:00am at Ariel International Center, 1163 East 40 St. The event will feature a light continental breakfast, a series of testimonials from neighborhood residents & stakeholders, an opportunity for networking, and a keynote address from Executive Director Michael Fleming.

All guests must RSVP to attend. The event is free, but a suggested donation of \$5 is welcome. All proceeds go directly towards SCSDC's neighborhood art projects & initiatives.

### **Call for Glenville project artists**

ARTISTS ARE WANTED to work on a public art project to re-beautify Glenville's once-famed East 105 St. Charllen Huff is seeking 20 artists to do some painting. We don't know the details but we hear it may involve garbage cans. Call 216-318-8971 or email [charlhuff@gmail.com](mailto:charlhuff@gmail.com) for more information.

Last month we listed hundreds of property addresses that several communities have identified as part of a countywide demolition program. To that list we now add demo targets in three more cities. This is a major program whose costs will likely exceed \$50 million. Watch this space for updates.



# CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEMOLITION GRANTS

## CLEVELAND



- |                            |                                |                               |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3295 W 82 ST • 44102       | 10805 BRYANT AVE • 44108       | 1337 E 117 ST • 44106         | 3437 E 119 ST • 44120    |
| 3151 W 50 ST • 44102       | 10716 GARFIELD AVE • 44108     | 10729 LEE AVE • 44106         | 3477 E 119 ST • 44120    |
| 3376 W 129 ST • 44111      | 10623 GOODING AVE • 44108      | 1438 E 123 ST • 44106         | 5023 GUY AVE • 44127     |
| 1433 E 47 ST • 44103       | 10613 HAMPDEN AVE • 44108      | 1372 E 125 ST • 44112         | 4542 EFFIE RD • 44105    |
| 6010 BONNA AVE • 44103     | 1025 LINN DR • 44108           | 3429 REGENT RD • 44127        | 10001 WAY AVE • 44105    |
| 1065 E 72 ST • 44103       | 1021 LINN DR • 44108           | 6815 UNION AVE • 44105        | 10517 NELSON AVE • 44105 |
| 1072 E 72 ST • 44103       | 11706 FAIRPORT AVE • 44108     | 2648 E 114 ST • 44104         | 10510 DOVE AVE • 44105   |
| 1221 E 72 PL • 44103       | 900 E 123 ST • 44108           | 2844 E 98 ST • 44104          | 3537 E 131 ST • 44120    |
| 6920 WADE PARK AVE • 44103 | 11809 CASTLEWOOD AVE • 44108   | 9828 ELWELL AVE • 44104       | 3982 E 123 ST • 44105    |
| 966 WHEELLOCK RD • 44103   | 12424 CHESTERFIELD AVE • 44108 | 11906 HONEYDALE AVE • 44120   | 4152 E 123 ST • 44105    |
| 8304 MEDINA AVE • 44103    | 1240 E 123 ST • 44108          | 11914 HONEYDALE AVE • 44120   | 13405 CAINE AVE • 44105  |
| 8316 MEDINA AVE • 44103    | 536 E 115 ST • 44108           | 12015 CONTINENTAL AVE • 44120 | 3719 E 140 ST • 44120    |
| 7921 PULASKI AVE • 44103   | 501 E 128 ST • 44108           | 12013 CONTINENTAL AVE • 44120 | 3717 E 144 ST • 44120    |
| 1323 E 86 ST • 44106       | 14011 WOODWORTH AVE • 44112    | 12020 PARKVIEW AVE • 44120    | 3735 E 144 ST • 44120    |
| 735 E 95 ST • 44108        | 15711 TRAFALGAR AVE • 44110    | 3334 E 119 ST • 44120         | 3588 E 146 ST • 44120    |
| 669 E 101 ST • 44108       | 14414 ASPINWALL AVE • 44110    | 3240 E 125 ST • 44120         | 3874 E 149 ST • 44128    |
| 668 E 101 ST • 44108       | 885 E 147 ST • 44110           | 3341 E 125 ST • 44120         |                          |
| 570 E 107 ST • 44108       | 1357 E 123 ST • 44106          | 3241 E 128 ST • 44120         |                          |
| 10526 GARFIELD AVE • 44108 | 11906 BEULAH AVE • 44106       | 3434 E 143 ST • 44120         |                          |

## CLEVELAND HEIGHTS



- |                           |  |                                 |                            |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 868 ELOISE DR • 44112     | 3369 SYLVANHURST DR • 44112            | 3812 DELMORE RD • 44121         | 3249 DESOTA AVE • 44118    |
| 926 HELMSDALE RD • 44112  | 3382 SPANGLER RD • 44112               | 3784 DELMORE RD • 44121         | 3160 WHITETHORN RD • 44118 |
| 946 HELMSDALE RD • 44112  | 3366 HENDERSON RD • 44112              | 1137 YELLOWSTONE RD • 44121     | 1689 LEE RD • 44118        |
| 933 RAVINE DR • 44112     | 1083 PEMBROOK RD • 44121               | 1125 YELLOWSTONE RD • 44121     | 3249 OAK RD • 44118        |
| 999 CALEDONIA AVE • 44112 | 1000 WOODVIEW RD • 44121               | 2406 NOBLE RD • 44121           | 2796 COLERIDGE RD • 44118  |
| 1030 NELAVIEW RD • 44112  | 890 WOODVIEW RD • 44121                | 1704 LEE RD • 44118             | 13074 CEDAR RD • 44118     |
| 896 GREYTON RD • 44112    | 3649 ATHERSTONE RD • 44121             | 13081 CEDAR RD • 44118          | 13367 CEDAR RD • 44118     |
| 881 GREYTON RD • 44112    | 3702 ATHERSTONE RD • 44121             | 3123 EAST DERBYSHIRE RD • 44118 | 13403 CEDAR RD • 44118     |
| 870 SELWYN RD • 44112     | 3554 RANDOLPH RD • 44121               | 3344 BEECHWOOD AVE • 44118      | 3365 KILDARE RD • 44118    |
| 945 GREYTON RD • 44112    | 3740 LOWELL RD • 44121                 | BEECHWOOD AVE • 44118           | 3347 CEDARBROOK RD • 44118 |
| 960 GREYTON RD • 44112    | 1030 RENFIELD DR • 44121               | 3337 DESOTA AVE • 44118         | 3261 SILSBY RD • 44118     |
| 952 GREYTON RD • 44112    | 1227 CLEVELAND HEIGHTS<br>BLVD • 44121 | 3413 DESOTA AVE • 44118         |                            |
| 1014 GREYTON RD • 44112   |  | 3432 ALTAMONT AVE • 44118       |                            |

## SHAKER HEIGHTS

- |  |                           |                             |                              |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 3350 WARRENSVILLE<br>CENTER RD • 44122 | 3329 MILVERTON RD • 44120 | 16717 SCOTTSDALE RD • 44120 | 18701 CHAGRIN BLVD • 44122   |
| 3390 CHALFANT RD • 44120               | 3721 LUDGATE RD • 44120   | 3676 STRATHAVON RD • 44120  | 3377 WARRENSVILLE RD • 44122 |
| 3430-32 WESTBURY RD • 44120            | 3634 MENLO RD • 44120     | 3567 STRATHAVON RD • 44120  | 3393 WARRENSVILLE RD • 44122 |
| 3339 MILVERTON RD • 44120              | 3738 SUDBURY RD • 44120   | 3616 INGLESIDE RD • 44122   | 3677 WINCHELL RD • 44122     |
|  | 16112 CHAGRIN RD • 44120  | 3544 NORMANDY RD • 44120    | 3621 GLENCAIRN RD • 44122    |





# CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEMOLITION GRANTS

## SOUTH EUCLID



781 QUILLIAMS RD • 44121  
 753 QUILLIAMS RD • 44121  
 3790 FREEMONT RD • 44121  
 3775 FREEMONT RD • 44121  
 3758 PRINCETON BLVD • 4121  
 4073 PRINCETON BLVD • 44121  
 158 BELVOIR BLVD • 44121  
 230 SOUTH BELVOIR BLVD • 44121  
 4263 BLUESTONE RD • 44121  
 3978 LANCASTER DR • 44121  
 184 GREENVALE DR • 44121

4082 SUFFOLK RD • 44121  
 4383 AMMON RD • 44143  
 821 SOUTH GREEN RD • 44121  
 4448 AMMON RD • 44143  
 1141 WINSTON RD • 44121  
 1295 PLAINFIELD RD • 44121  
 1380 VILLA DR • 44121  
 1388 VILLA RD • 44121  
 1006 SOUTH GREEN RD • 44121  
 983 CLINTON AVE • 44121  
 1253 SOUTH GREEN RD • 44121

4637 LIBERTY RD • 44121  
 4528 ANDERSON RDv44121  
 1220 DORSH RD • 44121  
 1416 FRANCIS CT • 44121  
 4768 FARNHURST RD • 44124  
 1676 SOUTH GREEN RD • 44121  
 1811 BEACONWOOD AVE • 44121  
 1780 BEACONWOOD AVE • 44121  
 4154 LAMBERT RD • 44121  
 4193 LAMBERT RD • 44121  
 4217 ELLISON RD • 44121

4081 HINSDALE RD • 44121  
 4036 HARWOOD RD • 44121  
 4246 ELLISON RD • 44121  
 4222 HARWOOD RD • 44121  
 4153 WILMINGTON RD • 44121  
 4225 WILMINGTON RD • 44121  
 4026 STILMORE RD • 44121

## RICHMOND HEIGHTS



4794 ROCKWOOD RD • 44125  
 WARNER RD • 44125  
 4661 E 88 ST • 44125  
 4642 E 94 ST • 44125  
 4693 BIRCHWOOD RD • 44125  
 4723 E 94 ST • 44125  
 4866 E 88 ST • 44125  
 4884 E 84 ST • 44125  
 4969 E 84 ST • 44125  
 4937 E 86 ST • 44125  
 4923 E 86 ST • 44125  
 4952 E 88 ST • 44125  
 4970 E 88 ST • 44125  
 8803 PLYMOUTH AVE • 44125  
 5014 E 88 ST • 44125  
 5024 E 88 ST • 44125  
 5044 E 88 ST • 44125  
 9206 PARK HEIGHTS AVE • 44125  
 9806 PLYMOUTH AVE • 44125  
 9808 PLYMOUTH AVE • 44125  
 10705 SOUTH HIGHLAND  
 AVE • 44125  
 4972 E 81 ST • 44125  
 10512 MOUNTVIEW AVE • 44125  
 10520 MOUNTVIEW AVE • 44125

11702 CROFTON RD • 44125  
 13816 ROCKSIDE RD • 44125  
 6433 VALLEY RANCH DR • 44125  
 6426 VALLEY RANCH DR • 44125  
 10009 SLADDEN AVE • 44125  
 9908 ROBINSON AVE • 44125  
 10017 PARKVIEW AVE • 44125  
 4876 E 106 ST • 44125  
 4949 E 106 ST • 44125  
 10716 PLYMOUTH AVE • 44125  
 4949 E 110 ST • 44125  
 11215 PLYMOUTH AVE • 44125  
 11204 PLYMOUTH AVE • 44125  
 12818 BROADWAY AVE • 44125  
 11107 LINCOLN AVE • 44125  
 13664 SHADYOAK BLVD • 44125  
 12007 DARLINGTON AVE • 44125  
 13709 OAKVIEW BLVD • 44125  
 12601 BROADWAY AVE • 44125  
 12723 BROADWAY AVE • 44125  
 12711 BROADWAY AVE • 44125  
 13709 CRANWOOD PARK  
 BLVD • 44125  
 13118 FORESTDALE DR • 44125  
 13505 DRESSLER AVE • 44125

13513 BROADWAY AVE • 44125  
 13506 DRESSLER AVE • 44125  
 14212 DRESSLER AVE • 44125  
 14001 BROADWAY AVE • 44125  
 4650 E 144 ST • 44128  
 4424 EAST BLVD • 44105  
 4460 EAST BLVD • 44105  
 12705 MAPLEROW AVE • 44105  
 12602 THORNHURST AVE • 44105  
 12807 NORTH PARKWAY DR • 44105  
 4448 E 131 ST • 44105  
 12900 SOUTH PARKWAY DR • 44105  
 4395 E 131 ST • 44105  
 13211 MAPLEROW AVE • 44105  
 13505 MAPLEROW AVE • 44105  
 13508 THORNHURST AVE • 44105  
 13816 CRANWOOD DR • 44105  
 13808 CRANWOOD DR • 44105  
 13719 SOUTH PARKWAY DR • 44105  
 13718 SOUTH PARKWAY DR • 44105  
 13701 MAPLEROW AVE • 44105  
 13811 MAPLEROW AVE • 44105  
 4504 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR  
 BLVD • 44105  
 12514 MAPLEROW AVE • 44105

12616 CHRISTINE AVE • 44105  
 12602 MELGROVE AVE • 44105  
 4514 E 126 ST • 44105  
 4483 E 126 ST • 44105  
 12801 CHRISTINE AVE • 44105  
 13005 REXWOOD AVE • 44105  
 12917 REXWOOD AVE • 44105  
 12809 REXWOOD AVE • 44105  
 12818 REXWOOD AVE • 44105  
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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### **NCNW Cleveland chapter honors black men at June 6 luncheon**

The Cleveland section of the National Council of Negro Women will give special recognition to a quartet of African American men at its annual legacy luncheon on June 6.

The event will be held at the Hilton Garden East Banquet & Conference Center, 700 Beta Dr. in Mayfield Village.

The luncheon theme is "African American Men: Solid As A Rock". Honorees are The Rev. Elmo Bean, Cleveland councilman Kevin Conwell, civic leader Alonzo Mitchell, Plain Dealer columnist Phillip Morris and businessman Melvin G. Pye Jr. Proceeds benefit Cleveland Section NCNW's outreach programs. For more info, call 216-681-5129 or email [clevelandsectionncnwinc@yahoo.com](mailto:clevelandsectionncnwinc@yahoo.com).

### **Black Storytellers Annual Sisterhood Luncheon is June 6**

The Cleveland Association of Black Storytellers hosts its 10th annual Sisterhood Luncheon from

11a-3p at the Holiday Inn South, 6001 Rockside Rd, Independence. Nationally acclaimed master storyteller Janice Curtis Greene is featured. Tickets are \$35. For more information call 216.556.3313 or email [clevelandstorytellers@yahoo.com](mailto:clevelandstorytellers@yahoo.com) or [clevelandstorytellers.com](http://clevelandstorytellers.com).

### **Budish to lead discussion on regional cooperation**

Cuyahoga County Executive Armond Budish and Eddy Kraus, county regional coordinator, will be panelists at a public policy program on how to improve cooperation among the county's 59 principalities.

The program will be held June 17 from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm at the Siegal Facility, 26500 Shaker Blvd, Beachwood. The forum is co-sponsored by the City Club, Case Western Reserve University's Siegal Lifelong Learning Program and the League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland.

The forum is free and open to the public. Tom Beres of WKYC-TV will moderate the forum, which will be structured as a Q&A session.

## NEWSMAKERS

Movers & Shakers in the northeast Ohio business community.



**Jacklyn Chisholm** is the new president and CEO of the Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland. CEOGC is a nonprofit whose

mandate is to serve low-income people in Cuyahoga County. It operates Head Start and Early Head Start early childhood education programs and a Home Energy Assistance Program.

**Chelci Fudge**, MSSA, LIS-W is now supervisor, Emergency Psychiatric Access Team, at University Hospitals.



**Randell McShepard** has been elected [the first black] president of the Union Club.



**Addisah Sherwood** has joined the Cleveland office of Taft Stettinius as an associate in the Real Estate group. PIC



**Debra Ann Simmons**, former editor of the Plain Dealer, and now a senior news executive at Advance Local, the PD's parent company,

has been selected as one of 13 U.S. journalists for the 2016 class of Nieman Fellows at Harvard University. She will study the impact of the digital news transformation on newsroom leadership and diversity, media ethics and local communities.



**June E. Taylor** has been reappointed to the Cleveland State University Board of

Trustees for a term beginning May 14, 2015 and ending May 1, 2024.

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