THE MONTHLY STANDARD

Volume 9 Issue 61 | **FREE: PLEASE TAKE ONE!** | Edition: Dec. 2025 / Jan. 2026

BAD IDEA!

Defacing the Iconic Renaissance Center Would Not Enhance, but, Ruin the Skyline of Detroit



READ STORY & SEE MORE PICTURES ON PAGES 6 & 7

Also in this Issue:

The Black Singing Cowboy: Page 4

Kylee Clark Murder: Page 5

Dana Redd: Page 8

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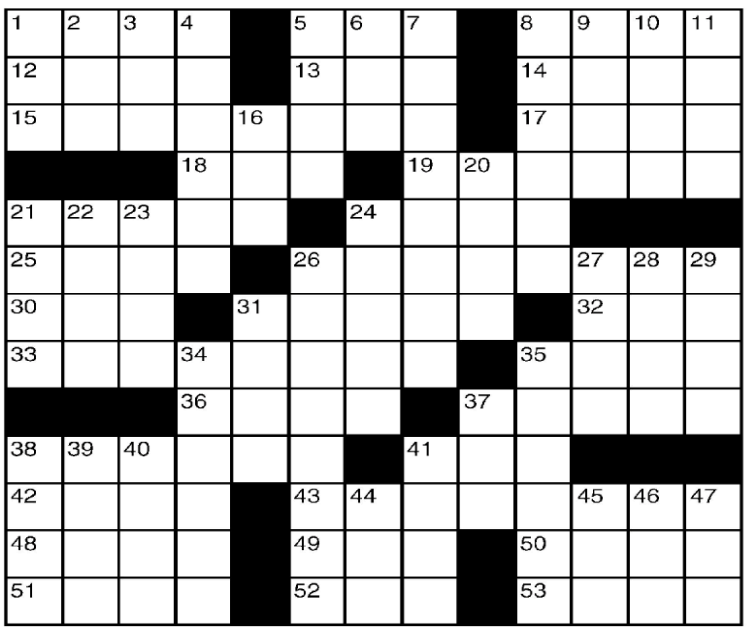
A GREEKTOWN TRADITION

DETROIT'S BEST PIZZA!~735 BEAUBIEN

King Crossword



ACROSS
1 Not as much
5 Ump
8 "The Da Vinci —"
12 Send forth
13 Hosp. section
14 From the start
15 Turkish city
17 Pleasant
18 Urban carrier
19 "Fear —"
21 Grown-up
24 Verdi opera
25 Zilch
26 Crusoe or Gilligan
30 Actor Danson
31 Suggest
32 First lady
33 U-235 and U-238
35 Actress Barbara
36 John Irving's "A Prayer for — Meany"
37 Part of WWW
38 Panhandler
41 London's — Gardens
42 Breather?
43 Columbus' benefactor
48 Exam type
49 Suitable
50 Rod partner
51 Carry
52 Deposit
53 Bigfoot's cousin

DOWN
1 Floral garland
2 Type squares
3 Perch
4 Not wobbly
5 Barbecue fare
6 Old French coin
7 Satisfies
8 Moulin Rouge dance
9 Taking care of business
10 Arp's art
11 Basin accessory
16 Wacko
20 "An apple — ..."
21 Opposed
22 Accomplishes
23 Loosen
24 Colorado ski mecca
26 Regal
27 Cherished
28 Satan's specialty
29 Tear
31 Midwestern state
34 Two-position switch
35 NYC area, with "the"
37 Charlotte's creation
38 Rorschach picture
39 Modern-day coin
40 Summertime pest
41 Perry of pop
44 Hot tub
45 Director Spike
46 Allow
47 — Baba

STICKELERS [sic].

by Terry Stickels

What is the relationship that my mother's sister's son's sister's mother would be to me?

1. aunt
2. nephew
3. niece
4. grandmother

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

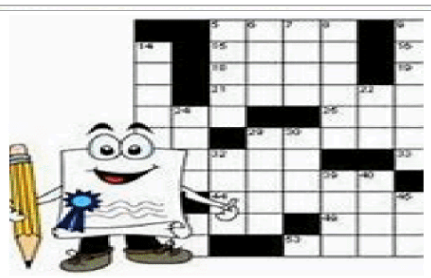
Clue: **Q** equals **T**

UGWFVO WGBY YEGW, DFOYQ C

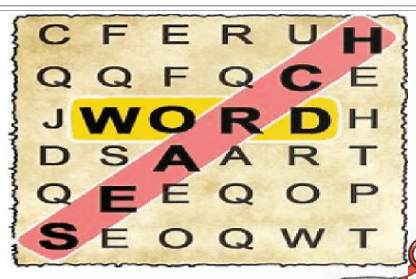
JGVKY EP OCB BQCQFEV

CQQMVUCVQB JM FV TGDTMW-QE

-TGDTMW QWCPPFK?



PUZZLE PAGE
HAVE FUN!





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HEALTH

Fasting is the Best Way to Lose Weight in the New Year

If you gained a few extra pounds at the end of the year, fasting is the healthiest way to shed the unwanted weight. Many may ask: What is fasting? **Fasting means giving up something to concentrate on God.** What we are focusing on in this article is food. Jehovah (Psalms 83:18) must be a part of your fasting routine. If he is not, more than likely, you will fail. Most fasting plans are 7, 14, or 21 days. (We recommend fasting a minimum of 10 days to start). To begin: First, you must pick a plan and PRAY about it. You must dedicate yourself to achieving your goal through consecration to God. Second, you must drink plenty of water. Drinking water helps your body to cleanse itself. You must drink at least 8 glasses a water per day. Third, drink cranberry juice, apple juice, and/or hot herbal tea. These beverages contain natural vitamins and assist in cleansing your body of toxins. **Why prayer is important while fasting.** Your body has a food habit, and YOU are breaking it. If you normally eat 3-5 times per day fasting is going to be very difficult. That's why you need God's assistance. To succeed you must have faith in God and know that he cares for you. Next, simply throw all of your anxiety on him (1 Peter 5:7) and he will give you the strength to succeed. You cannot go wrong if you fast. The act itself is spiritual and will bring you closer to God. There are many instances of fasting in the Bible. Fasting is evident in both the Old Testament and the New Testament. For example. Moses (Deuteronomy 9:9), David (Psalms 35:13), Daniel (Daniel 10:3) Jesus Christ (Matthew 4:1-4). For more information on how to fast effectively, watch the video on our website. "4 Keys To Fasting Effectively With Instant Results..." **www.themonthlystandard.news**

SAFETY

Be a Good Neighbor, Shovel Your Snow & Salt Your Walkways

Sadly, in Michigan you don't have to be a good neighbor. In slip and fall cases concerning Black Ice the victim almost always loses in a court of law. Under Michigan Law landowners are duty bound to protect pedestrians on their property from an unreasonable risk of injury caused by dangerous conditions. Unfortunately, there is an exception to this rule. It's called the open and obvious doctrine. In other words, if it rained early in the day, and the temperature fell below freezing later on that day. You should know, it's obvious, ice would form. Therefore, it's your duty to keep yourself safe by being on the lookout. In Michigan even invisible Black Ice is protected by the Courts. In the Slaughter vs. Blarney Castle Oil Company case, the Michigan Court of Appeals stated: Black Ice can be construed as open and obvious if there is "evidence that the black ice in question would have been visible on casual inspection before the fall." Or, another "indicia of a potentially hazardous condition." In Michigan, we must BE ALERT while walking and driving in suspected icy conditions. Many of us are home and business owners. If we are good neighbors our brethren will be safe and injury free. Look out for the other guy. Maintain your property. Shovel snow. Then salt.

THIS IS WHAT COULD HAPPEN WHEN WE DO NOT UTILIZE ROCK SALT TO SECURE OUR WALKWAYS







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BEFORE and AFTER

2025



2025



There is usually, at least, a 30 year gap between our before and after photographs. In this issue we are privy to a dynamic event. The demolition of the Federal's department store on the southeast corner of Grand River and Greenfield. The Federal's store was built in 1949. The store always had the redolent smell of fresh popcorn. What an intersection that was. In circa 1972 there was a Meyer Jewelry store on the southwest corner. Cunningham's Drug store sat on the northwest corner. Montgomery Wards sat on the northeast corner. There was a Sanders Bakery and Cancellation Shoes on BOTH sides of Grand River, as well as Kresge's and various stores that catered to women such as Leyton's and Baker's. The bridge that connected Federal's and Ward's was built around 1980. We thought they would construct a new stairway and keep it, but the construction manager told The Monthly Standard the bridge is being demolished too. Unlike the Ren Cen, THIS PROPERTY WOULD'VE LEGITIMATELY QUALIFIED FOR Tax Increment Financing. It's too bad a developer was not interested in immediately redeveloping the property. That's temporary. This area will thrive again.



Herb Jeffries: The Black Singing Cowboy Was Born in River Rouge

He was Black America's answer to Gene Autry. In addition to being movie star he had multiple hit records. In a time when some blacks passed for white, He was a white Sicilian who passed for black & was proud of it. His amazing story is our Movie of the Month. Page 9 & www.themonthlystandard.news

THOUSANDS ATTEND THE 9TH ANNUAL VETERANS RESOURCE FAIR



Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree is dedicated to helping Veterans. He understands some Vets fall on hard times after active duty. At the resource fair Veterans have access to health care, hearing aids, wheelchair ramps, and much, much more. The event was held at the Northwest Campus of Wayne County Community College District. We will keep you posted about next year's event. **Seated at the table from R-L are: Willie Donwell, Karl Burnett, Treasurer Sabree, Zaneta Inez Adams, and Kees I. Betserai.**

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SCRIPTURE -May you have undeserved kindness and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I always thank my God whem I mention you in my prayers. Philemon 1: 3 & 4

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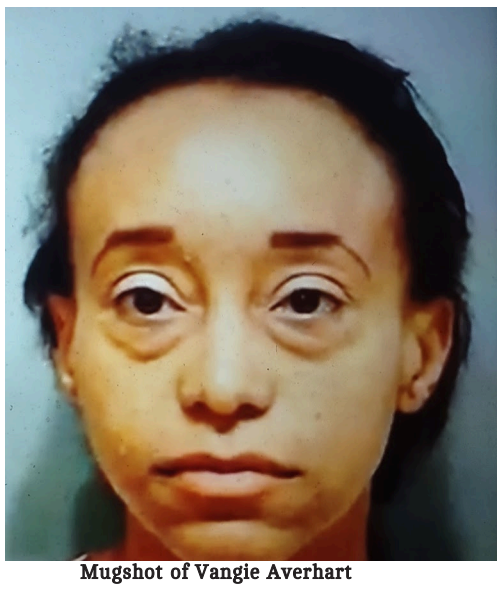
THE MURDER OF KYLEE CLARK

Family Called Children's Protective Services, After a Brief Investigation they Did Nothing



Mugshot of Vangie Averhart

Olivia Averhart, the sister of accused murderer Vangie Averhart looked upon her niece Kylee Clark and she didn't like what she saw. Olivia noticed Kylee trapped behind a locked door, wearing clothes too small, her hair unkempt, and appearing to be malnourished. Based upon what she saw Olivia knew that her niece needed immediate help so she contacted the State of Michigan's Department of Health and Human Services. In June of this year the State responded by sending Alex Filimon of Child Protective Services (CPS) to investigate. By July, just a month later, Kylee Clark was dead.

When Alex Filimon of CPS closed the case Kylee's maternal grandmother Vivian Averhart was dumbfounded. *I truly did not understand why he didn't escalate this matter. When he interviewed us* (Olivia & Vivian) *we told him about bruises on her arms. (I know he had to see them). We told him about dried fecal matter in her underwear, we told him about how she was locked inside of her room all day, and we also told him about our concerns concerning Vangie's relationship with Daniel Arquette. There is something about him I do not trust.* The prosecution feels differently than Vivian Averhart. The only person charged in the murder of Kylee was her daughter Vangie. Not Arquette. Even still, Vivian wonders why CPS closed Kylee's case and she wants answers to these questions:

-Why didn't CPS escalate this matter?
-Why did CPS close the case so soon knowing that Kylee was non-verbal and had bruising injuries on her body?
-Why didn't CPS confiscate the lock from Kylee's door? (Kilimon removed the lock, but did not take it with him. Somebody in the home put it back on the door after he left).

Those questions may never be answered. At least not publicly. CPS stresses confidentiality and does not speak to the press. On the other hand, they could honor a still grieving Ms. Averhart and answer her questions concerning her granddaughter. Was CPS derelict of duty concerning the Kylee Clark case? The Monthly Standard (TMS) says: YES! A child died. There was enough credible evidence to escalate the case.

A National Story

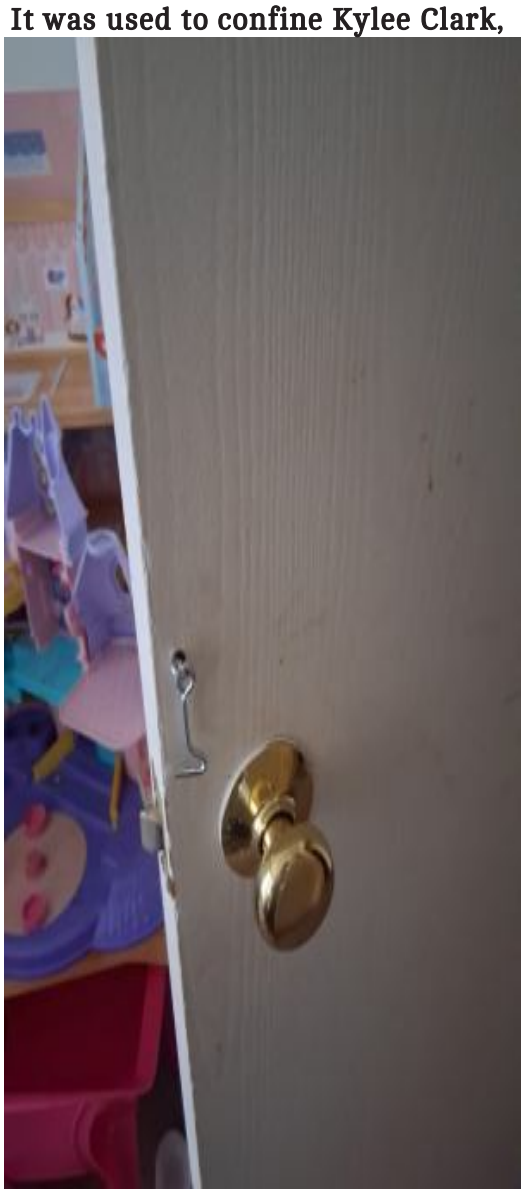
TMS broke this story in our Sept. / Oct. '25 edition. Our reporting caused an arrest to be made in this case. We continued in our Nov. / Dec. '25 edition. Now news outlets across the USA report this story. Stay with us for accuracy.

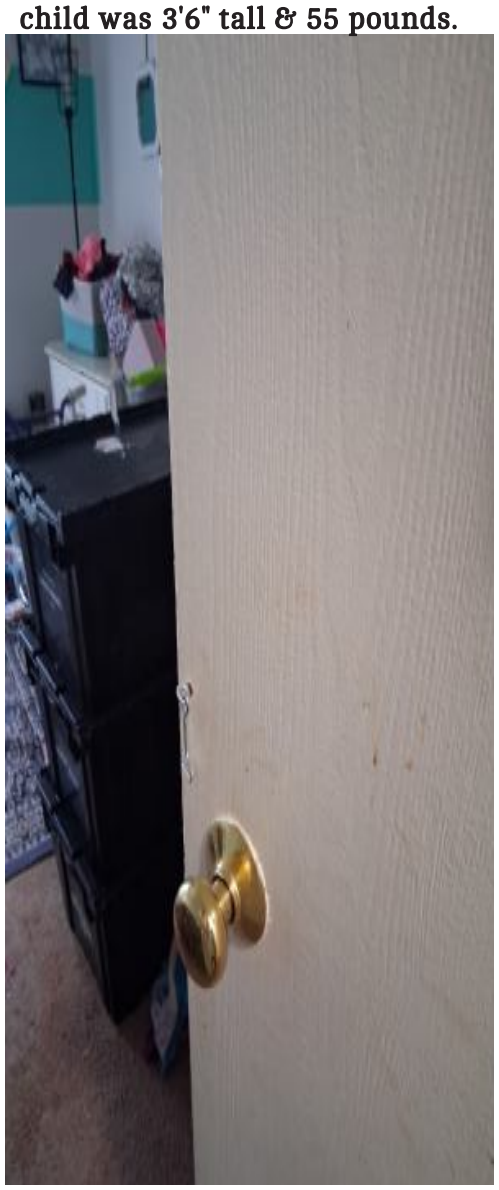


Kylee Ilene Clark

These pics allow you to peek into her world. The special needs child was 3'6" tall & 55 pounds.

Exclusive Pictures of the Screw Hook Eye Latch lock on the Door! It was used to confine Kylee Clark,





COVER STORY

FIVE REASONS IT WOULD BE STUPID TO TEAR DOWN REN CEN TOWERS 300 & 400

#1-DETROIT IS HOT!

Finally, after over 50 years of being a national punchline. Detroit is the place to be! Not the suburbs, but Detroit itself. Outgoing Mayor Mike Duggan did a fantastic job of promoting the city. The empty downtown storefronts of a decade ago now house many national brands such as: Apple, Gucci, and Nike. Additionally there are too many new restaurants to count in the downtown area. Ten years ago you could shoot a cannon down Woodward avenue and not hit a soul. Today, Woodward avenue is packed all year round. Detroit is a destination. People are moving in downtown and all over the city. Now is not the time to tear down two towers from the iconic structure that define our city. The statements of General Motors and Dan Gilbert's Bedrock must be challenged. The incoming Mayor would be smart to understand HER POWER, and put the brakes on their proposal. Reason #2 breaks it down.

#2-WE CANNOT ALLOW CORPORATE ENTITIES TO MANIPULATE US!

General Motors (GM) and Bedrock are lying. Their plan has no public benefit, their focus is saving million$. First let's talk about BROWNFIELDS. Please pay close attention to this section. We are going to write it in **BOLD TYPE** because it's very important.

***Please read the definition of a TIF in Michigan below:**

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) in Michigan is a tool for local governments, primarily through Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities (BRAs) and Downtown Development Authorities (DDAs), to capture future property tax increases (increments) from redeveloped properties to fund improvements, infrastructure, and revitalization efforts, especially on blighted or underutilized land, protecting existing tax revenue for schools while stimulating economic growth and housing development. See what's going on here folks? They are trying to get the government to sanction the demolition of Towers 300 & 400 of the Ren Cen. Normally a municipality has the idea of redeveloping a dilapidated property for tax purposes. Not a property owner! If that were the case we would ALL do it. Right? This has NEVER been done before! Do not allow them to pull the wool over your eyes. WAKE UP! The Ren Cen towers 300 and 400 are structurally sound, are not blighted, and do not sit on contaminated land. Additionally, demolition has NEVER been classified as an improvement. Therefore, they cannot rightfully qualify for Tax Increment Financing (TIF) reimbursement. Towers 300 & 400 look barren right now because that's a part of their nefarious plan. The structurally sound Ren Cen is not an under utilized property. GM & Bedrock want the Ren Cen to look empty so they can tear down two towers AND get future construction costs for free. Yes free. The TIF agreement INCREASES TAXES! That increased tax revenue IS HOW THIS "REDEVELOPMENT" PROJECT WILL BE FINANCED. Unless, We the People, stop this travesty. Mary Sheffield are you listening?

#3-THERE'S ENOUGH ACREAGE TO BUILD "NAVY PIER" WITHOUT RAZING THE TOWERS. WE HAVE PROOF!

Look at the "Conceptual Rendering" picture created by the confederates belonging to General Motors and Bedrock. Their own picture proves this fact: You do not have to tear down Ren Cen Towers 300 & 400 to build an entertainment / amusement type of attraction on Detroit's riverfront. Look at the pic on the next page. You can clearly see ALL the action is on the riverfront. They even have a ferris wheel. Now look at where the demolished towers 300 & 400 sat. Is there anything significant in that space? NO. There's absolutely nothing there that contributes to fun on the riverfront. It's time for GM and Bedrock to start telling the truth! They have given us lie, after lie, after lie. NOTE TO GENERAL MOTORS AND BEDROCK: The people aren't stupid. GM & Bedrock say the Ren Cen is a barrier that separates the Riverwalk from the rest of downtown. That's simply not true. They NEVER said that before. They say it now because they are attempting to manipulate the public to get what they want. The Riverwalk is one of the most popular destinations in Downtown Detroit. (Even without attractions). Last year more than 3.5 million people visited the site to enjoy the fresh air, cool breezes, and spectacular river views. Tearing down towers 300 and 400 of the Renaissance Center is the dumbest of dumb ideas. The reason they want to tear them down boils down to MONEY. They don't want to pay utility costs. The rich and greedy few want to ruin the skyline of Detroit which is adored by millions of people. The towers can easily be renovated. We have the brain power to make it happen. What we need in this instance is some good ole Detroit ingenuity. There's no city in the USA hungrier than Detroit. Mayor Sheffield could create a new (self sustaining) department dedicated to selling Detroit around the world. Contact The Monthly Standard (TMS) Mrs. Mayor. We have a Strategic Plan that will rebuild and repopulate Detroit. Jobs will increase in all sectors.. In the end, you'll be glad you listened to the people and saved the Ren Cen.

COVER STORY

COMMENTARY: LEAVE REN CEN ALONE

#4-CAN'T COME BACK FROM DEMO.
We the People cannot allow corporate entities to demolish the symbol of Detroit simply because they want to save a buck. The core of GM is manufacturing automobiles. They know nothing about rehabilitating properties, but Bedrock does. Instead of being idealistic, they want to be cheap. Don't forget, Detroit is hot! Many companies around the world could be enticed to relocate here to occupy the towers. Detroit desperately needs hotel rooms. The towers can be redeveloped. In the near future Detroit will be attracting big and BIGGER conventions. We are going to need large spaces like towers 300 & 400. One thing is certain, once the towers are gone you cannot bring them back and opportunity will be lost. FOREVER! They can still build the pier without tearing down the Ren Cen, but, we're sure GM & Bedrock will abandon the Navy Pier plan because, as stated, financing the project will come from YOUR TAXES. If they have to pay for it, the project is a no go. Which is fine with TMS. We've always thought it was an unoriginal plan from the start.



You can clearly see all the action is on the riverfront. There's no need to remove towers 300 & 400 to build a "Navy Pier" type of attraction. It looks terrible without 300 & 400.

#5- IT'S UGLY!
If GM & Bedrock get their way it will be the biggest travesty and bamboozling in the history of Detroit. They will leave ALL OF US with an ugly edifice. The only thing people will say is: "they ruined what used to be there." A perpetual feeling of regret and heartache will ensue, if, we let them get away with their iniquitous scheme. I do not want that bad feeling. Do you? Of course you don't.
CONTACT THE NEW MAYOR! The Ren Cen is NOT a brownfield. Thus, GM & Bedrock shouldn't receive Tax Increment Financing. If they do, it means they manipulated our leaders. Mayor Sheffield do not allow these billionaires to ruin your administration before it starts.



Look at both renderings. There is literally NOTHING of significance in place of towers 300 and 400

Dana Redd



Is The CD/DVD Hustle Over?



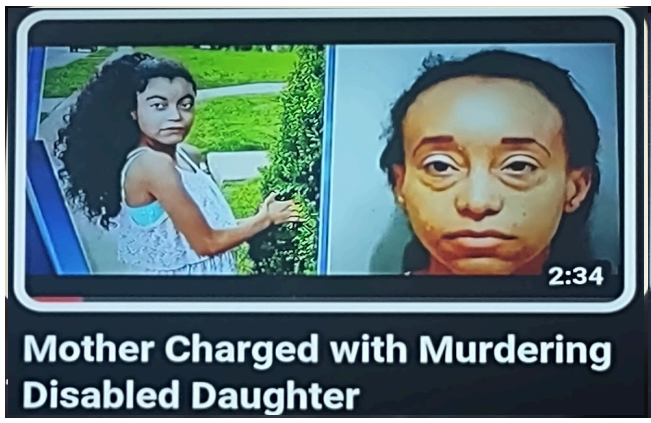
It hasn't been that long ago when we saw people hustling cd's and dvd's outside the corner stores, the gas stations, inside laundromats and many other hot spots. Some (well, probably most) were bootlegging the merchandise, but some were recording artists getting their music out there. Whatever the case, there was a lot of money being made in the streets. Lots of people were making a living from this hustle. The corporate world has been doing everything possible to eliminate the hard copies. One of the first things they did was taking the cd player out of vehicles. But they actually made a move before that when they took the cassette recorder out of the portable radios so people couldn't record music off the radio any longer. Then all of a sudden, the cd/dvd drawers in the new laptops disappeared, causing you to pay monthly subscriptions for music, movies and software. Now, they're making you pay for the same music and movies you already bought. The biggest loser is probably the recording artists, who were doing everything legal (except maybe not paying their taxes) and forced many of them to settle for a new career. That's because this thing called "Streaming" came into play. Recording artists used to pop the trunk and sell cd's to the local record shops, in addition to setting up shop at music festivals, nightclubs and many more places. And if you believe the media, cd's and dvd's don't even exist anymore - but they still do – and that's a whole different story.

Streaming has taken over and recording artists are upset. They claim they're only getting pennies on a dollar – if that. There's no way for them to know how many streams they're getting on when it comes to these profitable platforms like Apple Music, Spotify, etc. An older artist said in an interview that you only make about $40,000 for one million streams. Where's the money going? Where else? (The pockets of executives). Plus, they make you agree to their terms, where they take more from you, including your publishing and other money-making sources. With A.I. emerging, the situation is going to get tougher for a lot of people in the music industry, not only the recording artists, but the writers, studio engineers and musicians to just name a few. Why do you think Snoop Dogg and Master P are selling cereal and potato chips? You need something tangible. Something you can touch and count. Meanwhile, to this new generation of recording artists and street hustlers, you may want to pick up a trade. That appears to be the best road to a brighter future. Oh yeah, but you'll need some money since they snatched the trades from most of the urban high schools in America. But with all this said, don't toss out your cd/dvd players or the thousands of discs you may have around just yet because there is still a powerful underground network, although the greedy corporate folks will tell you otherwise. Ride it until the wheels fall off. In the meantime, study the game, understand the game and carve out your niche.



YouTube

The Monthly Standard is an interactive newspaper. Most of our articles have a corresponding video attached to to give YOU a better perspective. To view our video content log on to www.themonthlystandard.news.



Vangie Averhart Accused of Murder



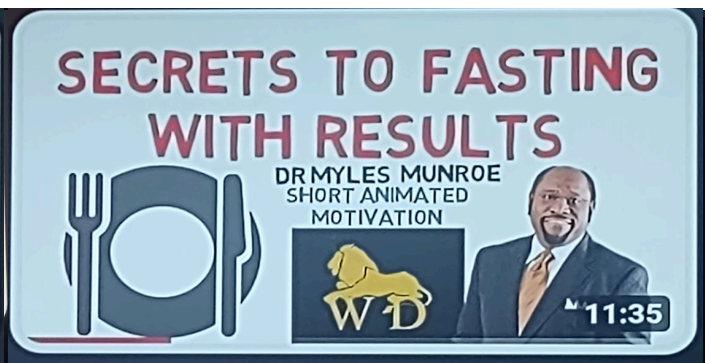
MUST SEE-Super Scary & FUN!



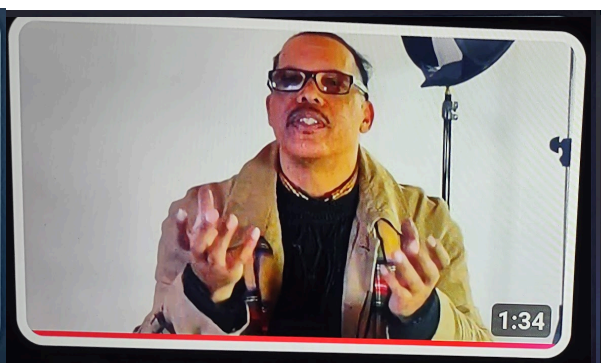
Movie of the Month-A Colored Life



Amaze your friends with art!



How To Lose Weight

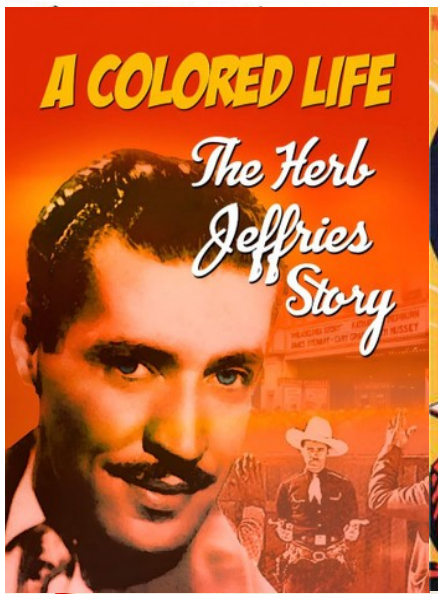


WATCH: See Secret to Detroit Growth

MOVIE OF THE MONTH

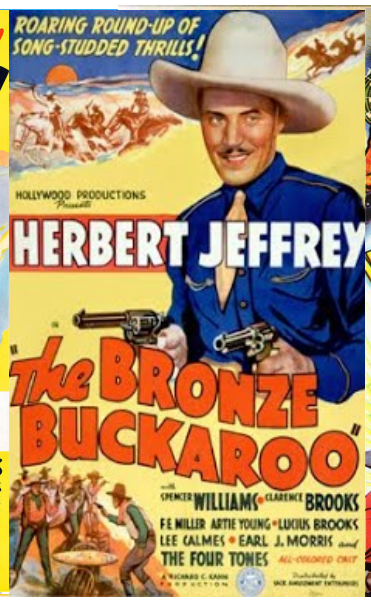
"A COLORED LIFE: The Herb Jeffries Story"

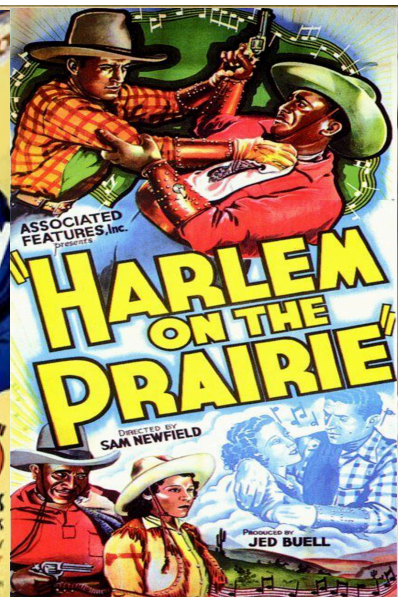
After you watch this documentary film you will become a fan of Herb Jeffries. He was a true humanitarian. Jeffries is interviewed throughout the film. It shows entertaining film clips that depict his life. You'll see his movies, his time as lead singer with the Duke Ellington Orchestra, and his guest appearances on many TV shows. Through it all, you can see how his youthful years in a racially diverse Detroit neighborhood molded him. The man born Umberto Balentino said, *I lived in the ghetto among many races, and we got along great, with no money.* Go to our website. Click on this movie to see a man who truly judged people on character, not skin color.











CLASSIC GANGSTER COMICS



top ten

MOST PLAYERS DRAFTED BY NFL*

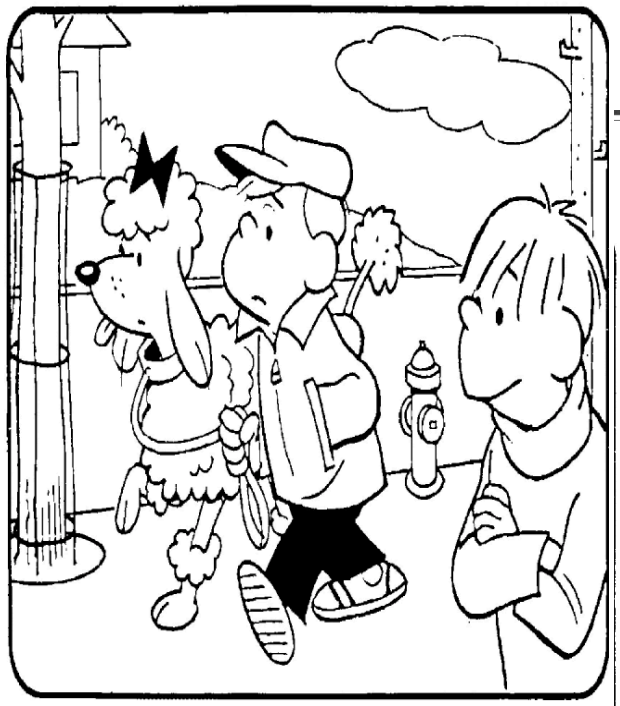
1. Florida State
2. Ohio State
3. Southern Cal
4. Miami (Fla.)
5. Florida
6. Georgia
7. Tennessee
8. Alabama
9. Nebraska
10. LSU

*past 20 years

Source: Tech Sideline

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Tree guard is missing. 2. Bow is smaller. 3. Tail is shorter. 4. Cloud is different. 5. Fireplug is missing. 6. Crossed arms are switched.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

L	E	S	S	■	R	E	F	■	C	O	D	E
E	M	I	T	■	I	C	U	■	A	N	E	W
I	S	T	A	N	B	U	L	■	N	I	C	E
■	■	■	B	U	S	■	F	A	C	T	O	R
A	D	U	L	T	■	A	I	D	A	■	■	■
N	O	N	E	■	I	S	L	A	N	D	E	R
T	E	D	■	I	M	P	L	Y	■	E	V	E
I	S	O	T	O	P	E	S	■	B	A	I	N
■	■	■	O	W	E	N	■	W	O	R	L	D
B	E	G	G	A	R	■	K	E	W	■	■	■
L	U	N	G	■	I	S	A	B	E	L	L	A
O	R	A	L	■	A	P	T	■	R	E	E	L
T	O	T	E	■	L	A	Y	■	Y	E	T	I

Stickelers Answer

The answer is **1. aunt.**

CryptoQuip

answer

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Eric R. Sabree
Wayne County Treasurer

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If you need to make a payment it's easy to pay online by visiting pta.waynecounty.com. Or, if you need to visit our Downtown Office you can make an appointment by logging on to treasurer.waynecounty.com.
What if you need a payment plan? There are many payment plans available to fit YOU! Contact the Wayne County Treasurer's Office to inquire about one of the beneficial plans listed below.

1. STIPULATED PAYMENT AGREEMENT:
Puts you on a schedule to avoid foreclosure. (As long as you maintain your payments).

2. DISTRESSED OWNER OCCUPANT EXTENSION:
For those suffering financial hardship. (Must prove hardship, occupancy, and ownership).

3. PAY AS YOU STAY AGREEMENT:
Apply for Poverty Tax Exemption in your city. (If approved, county will reduce your payments).

4. INTEREST REDUCTION STIPULATED PAYMENT AGREEMENT:
If eligible, this plan reduces your interest rate from 18% to 6%.





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Upcoming Date: (Wednesday)

JANUARY 21, 2026

Join Meeting Via ZOOM - 6 PM
Meeting ID-812 1577 4048
PASSCODE -415440
No Computer? Participate By Calling
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