



# Fair Housing's 40th

## In This Issue...

Perryman Fair Housing's  
Page 2 40th  
Page 4

### The Soulcial Scene

June Boyd's  
80th Black  
Page 6 Lives  
Matter  
Page 11

ASSETS Toledo  
Page 7

Myrtice  
Walker's  
Cover Story: 100th  
Cotillion Page 15  
Page 8-9

Mfinity  
Page 16  
Ashford  
Fundraiser  
Page 10

Book  
Review Page 13  
Classifieds  
Page 14



HUD Assistant Secretary Gustavo Velasquez; National FHA Exec. VP Lisa Rice; Toledo FHC Executive Director Michael Marsh

In 1975, the Fair Housing Center was founded on the principles of community, tolerance, and justice. It was a commitment to these principles that ignited ... concerned citizens and community groups to establish an organization that would combat discriminatory housing practices.

# Proactive and Progressive Crime Policy

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.  
The Truth Contributor



*Most of our problems can be solved. Some of them will take brains, and some of them will take patience, but all of them will have to be wrestled with like an alligator in the swamp.*  
- Harold Washington

Freddie Gray's funeral and ensuing massive protests in Baltimore this past Monday highlight black frustrations near the boiling point in nearly every city in America. Toledo is no exception. My prayers go out to the Gray family, the Scott family in North Charleston, South Carolina, the Pope family in Toledo, and the families of black men and women who are dying in epidemic numbers across the country as a result of encounters with police.

It is time for a multi-pronged strategy that halts the killing of black citizens by police, including working together with law enforcement and local government to shape the criminal justice system in a manner that fosters accountability and trust as well as delivers justice to all of its citizens.

I brought my concern that, statistically, unarmed black men, women and children were being killed by law enforcement at extraordinary rates compared to others, to Sheriff John Tharp in August 2014. We discussed potential local policy changes to improve relations between law enforcement and the community.

My recommendation was that body cameras be mandated for all

patrol deputies, according to best practices and standard operations. It was an opportunity for Tharp to be simultaneously proactive and progressive in a town that has been politically sluggish in addressing the needs of its citizens of color. The Sheriff promised that he would implement my recommendation.

Currently, the Lucas County Sheriff's department patrols eight housing sites operated by LMHA within the city of Toledo along with Monclova, Jerusalem, Springfield, and Providence townships. The 33 officers that patrol the Toledo sites include seven black males and three black females, and are under the command

... continued on page 3

## Community Calendar

### April 26

Second Baptist Women's Day Program: 11 am, "All the King's Daughters;" Guest speaker Min Gloria Mather; Men's Day Program at 4 pm; Guest speaker Pastor Derrick McDonald of Prophet Baptist of Pontiac, MI

### May 1

United Church of God Free Jazzercise Class: For women; 5:30 to 7 pm: 419-810-6335

### May 3

Melanoma/Skin Cancer Screenings: Free at Mitchell Dermatology; 9 am to 1 pm; 900 W. South Boundary, Perrysburg; 419-872-4673  
United MBC 12th Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor Robert Bass and First Lady Anita Bass; 10:45 am - guest speaker Settles Townsend of Auburn Ave Baptist in Bellefontaine; 4 pm service - guest speaker Calvin Sweeney of Pinewood Tabernacle

### May 10

St. Paul MBC 98th Anniversary Service  
United Church of God Pampering Day for Mothers' Day: 11 am to 4 pm: 419-810-6335

### May 13

Bethlehem Baptist Church Project Homeless Connect: 9 am to 2 pm; A one-day, one-stop shop for the homeless providing services, support and quality of life resources: 419-241-9360

### May 16

Free Beginner Swimming Lessons: For seven-16 years old; Sponsored by The Josh Project; St. Francis de Sales High School: 419-530-8590

### May 17

United Church of God Spring Cleaning Clothing Drive: Collecting unwanted clothes, toys, shoes: 567-312-7360

### June 20

Annual Block Party/East Side Reunion: Edgar Holmes Park; Free food, family games, entertainment, vendors and raffles; All day - opening ceremony at noon: 419-309-4021 or 4567-395-0363

*Toledo Urban Foundation Inc.*

*And*

*Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union*

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*Sunday May 3rd, 2015*

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# Winners Named at Statewide MLK Oratorical Contest

## Special to The Truth

Ohio students inspired by the lessons and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. presented original speeches on his teachings during the 16th Annual Statewide MLK

Oratorical Contest held this month in Columbus.

Twenty-two regional contest winners from grades kindergarten through 12 spoke before family, friends and judges at the King Arts Complex.

Speakers were judged on performance, originality and composition.

The following speakers placed first, second and third in their respective divisions:

**Senior Division (grades nine through 12)** First place – Holly Warthem, 15, 10th-grader, Lima Senior High School, Lima; second place – Teccorra Bracy, 17, 11th-grader, Harding High School, Marion; third place – Ayobami Balogun, 16, 11th-grader, Eastmoor Academy High School, Columbus.

**Junior Division (grades six through eight)** First place – Bre'Anna Walker, 13, seventh-grader, Columbus City Preparatory School for Girls, Columbus; second place – Morayo Obayemi, 14, eighth-grader, Columbus City Preparatory School for Girls, Columbus; third place – Cydney Platt, 11, sixth-grader, Columbus

Academy, Columbus.

**Intermediate Division (grades three through five)** First place – Marlin Yarborough, 10, fifth-grader, Mansion Day School, Columbus; second place – Mia Kraus, 10, fifth-grader, Clinton Elementary School, Columbus; third place – Alyssa Warthem, 10, fourth-grader, Heir Force Community School, Lima.

**Primary Division (grades kindergarten through two)** First place – Ezell Matchett, 7, second-grader, Heir Force Community School, Lima; second place – Nathan Edwards, 7, second-grader, Emmanuel Christian Academy, Akron; third place – Elena Earley, 7, first-grader, Clinton Elementary School, Columbus.

First-place finishers are invited to speak at the 2016 Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Commemorative Celebration on Jan. 14 in downtown Columbus. The celebration and oratorical contest are sponsored by the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission. The commission is housed in the Equal Opportunity Division of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services.

“Just like Dr. King, these young people showed courage and determination. The way they hopped on stage showed they are the leaders of their generation,” said the Rev. Joel L. King, Jr., vice chairman of the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission.

## Perryman... continued from page 2

of Captain Thomas Walker, an African American.

On April 21, 2015, Sheriff Tharp fulfilled his promise when he and the Lucas County Commissioners became the first in Toledo to pull the trigger on what is expected to become the “new normal” for 21st century policing by announcing receipt of 17 new body cameras and a policy for their usage.

How does this affect the community?

For certain, the technology will provide increased transparency and accountability. Both citizens and sheriff's deputies are likely to be on their best behavior, knowing that they are on camera. Elsewhere, the implementation of body cameras has resulted in a reduction of abuse and excessive force. The prospect of losing a pension due to the “objective testimony” of technology is a risk that even many of the most sadistic law enforcement officers are not willing to take and thus acts as a strong deterrent. The objectivity of the cameras will also provide evidentiary benefits to both officers and citizens whenever they encounter one another.

However, the body cameras are not a panacea for rebuilding the hope that justice will be served for all members of our society.

Lucas County Sheriff Department personnel will still be in full control of the re-

cordings. Things can get dicey if a deputy shuts off the body camera prior to a citizen encounter, claim equipment failure, or fail to record an incident properly. Currently, the cameras buffer (record but not save) for the first 30 seconds after it is activated upon contact with citizens.

Recordings will be stored at evidence.com, which could become an expensive budget line item. The footage, according to Tharp, will be available via public records request if not a part of an ongoing investigation and will be kept for only 30 days after a criminal case concludes, or for six months otherwise.

Yet, both Eric Garner's strangulation in New York and John Crawford's shooting death in Beavercreek, Ohio were captured on video with no resulting indictment in either case.

Just as important as the cameras, then, is a competent, diverse, transparent and accessible staff that is committed to authentic engagement with the citizens of our community. We have that in John Tharp and the Lucas County Sheriff's Department, who are trained to approach residents to “get to know and help them solve problems, rather than merely responding to a situation in order to make an arrest.”

The implementation of the body cameras, along with this progressive community approach, whereby deputies are “trained to handle people and to deal with diverse cultures,” are what sets the Lucas County Sheriff's Department apart from its law enforcement peers in Toledo.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at [drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org](mailto:drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org)

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# Toledo Fair Housing Center's 40th Anniversary Gala

*Special to the Truth*

The Toledo Fair Housing Center held their 40th Anniversary Gala and WGTE Toledo Stories Documentary Premiere April 23 at the Valentine Theatre.

Gustavo Velasquez, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity was the featured speaker for the event.

Cocktails and grazing stations were provided by Georgio's Cafe International, and guests enjoyed the world premiere of the WGTE Public Media documentary of Toledo's continued struggle for housing equality and a glimpse into what's to come for the organization.

In 1975, the Fair Housing Center was founded on the principles of community, tolerance, and justice. It was a commitment to these principles that ignited the Women of the Old West End Neighborhood Association and several other concerned citizens and community groups to establish an organization that would combat discriminatory housing practices.

Over the past 40 years, the Center has carried out its mission through the investigation of over 11,500 complaints, resulting in awards of over \$30 million for victims of discrimination. During this time, the Center has also demonstrated a talent for setting national precedents in the enforcement of fair housing laws and expanding housing opportunities for millions of Americans.

The Center conducts multiple educational outreach programs, provides housing and foreclosure prevention counseling services, advocates for the rights of victims, investigates and litigates allegations of housing discrimination. The Center's staff is one of the best in the country, and their achievements have been recognized at the local, state and national levels.

*... continued on page 5*



*Cassandra Parker with Mayor Paula Hicks- Hudson and Katie Warcol*



*Cecelia Adams, Ph.D; Rachel Richardson and Yusuf Lateef*

## African Art Has Arrived!!

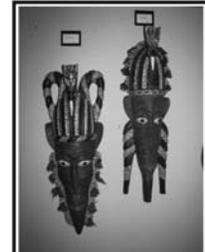
**Hundreds of wood carvings from Ghana have recently arrived at  
The Truth Gallery – masks, statues, village scenes!  
All at unbelievably low prices!**



**The Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM**



**See more art online at  
[www.thetruthtoledo.com](http://www.thetruthtoledo.com)**



**The Truth Gallery  
1811 Adams Street  
419-242-7650**

Toledo Fair Housing... continued from page 4

Members of the Center's staff have given presentations at conferences sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, the Ohio Fair Housing Congress, the Federal Reserve Bank, the Center for Community Change, the Alliance of Allied Insurers, the National Association of REALTORS®, the Ohio Housing Finance Agency, and the National Fair Housing Alliance.



Councilwoman Theresa Gabriel, National FHA CEO Shanna Smith and Marcia Fein



Cheryl Riley and Wanda Addie



Debra Porter, Kerry Emery and Tony Rider



Diane E. Citrino and HUD Assistant Secretary Gustavo Velasquez



Cameron Parker with Courtney Bryant



Brian Hayward Sr. and Monica Davis



Eunice Glover, Fannie Hall and Caren Hinton



Jani Groza and Frank Corrino of Westfield Insurance with Assistant Secretary Gustavo Velasquez and General Counsel Diana Patton



Fran Johnson and Gloria Rice



HUD Assistant Secretary Gustavo Velasquez; National FHA Exec. VP Lisa Rice; Toledo FHC Executive Director Michael Marsh



Keshawn Corggens with Laneta Goings and Jason Johnson



Ronata Robinson and Caleb Bryant

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*Dr. John W. Williams, Pastor*

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# June Boyd Celebrates Her 80th with Family and Friends ... Lots of Friends

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

June Boyd, former Toledo City Council member, Democratic Party activist, Lucas County Board of Elections member, among many other accomplishments, celebrated her 80th birthday in April at the Gesu Banquet Hall surrounded by hundreds of family members, friends and colleagues for the special occasion.

Boyd, a trailblazer in the Toledo community, began setting the pace as a teenager when she attended Buckeye Girls' States, was crowned Miss Sepia

City and was the first African American to graduate from St. Ursula Academy.

She was one of the founding members of the Toledo Club National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club and helped organize the Democratic Business and Professional Women's Club of Lucas County.

In 1993, Boyd, along with current State Sen. Edna Brown, were the first two African-American women elected to City Council.



*June Boyd and Family*

CELEBRATING 12 YEARS



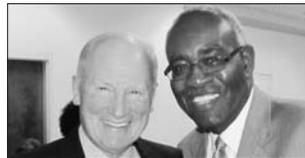
*Pastoral*  
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CELEBRATION BANQUET  
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**WILLIAM L. LUCAS, SR.**  
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CHILD (15 & UNDER) \$20  
INDIVIDUAL ADULT TICKET \$30  
HUSBAND & WIFE \$55

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:  
Dr. Pat McKinstry

TICKET DEADLINE IS APRIL 14, 2015.  
PLEASE CONTACT FIRST LADY LUCAS AT (419) 450-6876

*Carty Finkbeiner and Art Jones*



*Bishop Chester Trail and First Lady Donna Trail*



*Johnny and Tamara Mickler*



*June Boyd and Marlis Davis*



*Patrici McLemore, Lonni Ollison, Wanda Branford*



*Paul Hubbard and Diane Flaggs*



*State Rep. Michael Ashford, Ruth Ashford, Giselle Jordan-Savage, Harvey Savage*



*Shannah and Newlove Dogoe*

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# Welcome Brian Collins: Columbia Gas of Ohio, Operations Center Manager

*Special to The Truth*

ASSETS Toledo hosted a Networking Reception April 23 at Our Brothers Place to welcome Brian Collins, the first minority to lead Toledo Operations for Columbia Gas.

Brian Collins, in his 32nd year of service at Columbia Gas of Ohio, was hired in 1984 as a meter reader. He has spent the majority of his career as a service technician specializing in large industrial customer account service, maintenance and inspection.

In 2006 Collins was awarded a leadership position advancing to Leader of Field Operations for the North Pointe Operations Center near Cleveland Ohio.

In 2012, he was promoted to Operation Center Manager of the Columbia Gas of Ohio's Great Trail office located in Salem, Ohio. In April of 2014, the move to Toledo Operations Center made him the first minority to lead Toledo Operations and the second minority to lead a major city for Columbia Gas of Ohio.

As a manager, Collins is responsible for regulatory compliance and safety of all Toledo Operations, employees and 170,000 customers in the Toledo Metropolitan and outlying areas. He currently serves as co-leader of Columbia Gas of Ohio's Inclusion and Diversity State Steering Committee and he is also on the Columbus Ohio Chapter's Board of Directors for AABE (American Association of Blacks in Energy).

AABE specializes in promoting the advancement of minorities in the energy business and awards scholarships to minorities that excel in academics. Collin's interests include a love and study of science especially Quantum Physics, completing a degree in electrical engineering and inventing.

His true joy and gifts are his wife and children. Collin's philosophy is simple, "The higher you go up in leadership, the more of a servant you must become."



Operations Center Manager (Columbia Gas) Brian T. Collins with wife Melicent



Arron Woods and Fionne Wright



Keva Fisher and Celina Ward with Krista King



Shanda Gore, Ed.D, and Olivia Holden



Shanda Gore, Ed.D, and Ardelia Shuler-Freeman



Valerie Thompson and Quinn Griffin



Winnie Adams and Nadine Jessup

## VOTE for RUTH ASHFORD - Toledo District 4 City Council!!!

My life has been devoted to public service. I have served as an accounting and financial expert for state government for years; as a volunteer for various agencies and organization; as a volunteer on numerous political campaigns. As your elected representative on Toledo City Council protecting the interests of both the citizens in District 4 and all of the City of Toledo, I pledge to:

1. Foster economic development by working to create jobs for our citizens, by working with agencies and companies to enhance business development and to increase residential opportunities in our district;
2. Ensure that our most precious possessions, our children, are given every possible opportunity to obtain the best possible education'
3. Ensure that our children are provided within their own neighborhoods, the ability to take advantage of every possible recreational opportunity; and
4. Ensure that our neighborhoods are made as safe as possible by providing the best protection our safety forces can summon.

*Paid for by the Committee to Elect Ashford; 2910 Collingwood Blvd, 43610; Kristopher Ball, Treasurer*



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# 50th Annual Mother-Daughter Luncheon

## Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Toledo Club of The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. celebrated the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the Cotillion with its annual Mother-Daughter Luncheon on April 25 at the Inverness Country Club.

This year the Toledo Club is presenting 17 young women to society on Saturday May 23 at the Stranahan and the Mother-Daughter Luncheon is a perennial prelude to the main event.

This past weekend, Club member Karen Jarrett, luncheon chairman, opened the event and served as mistress of ceremonies. Club President Denise Black-Poon offered the welcome and after the preliminaries and lunch, each of the debutantes and their mothers, or guardians, were introduced and asked to describe their relationship.

After the tearful expressions of mutual love and gratitude, the young women were apprised of the next step in the Cotillion event – the talent show – by talent co-chairmen, Deborah Carlisle and Beverly Tucker.

Closing out the luncheon, Cotillion Chairman Wilma Brown, who has helped to guide the event since the onset, addressed the attendees on some of the issues they will face this year.

Next Saturday, as part of this year's celebration of the Cotillion's Silver Anniversary, a reunion of past debutantes is on the calendar.



Carol and Deriana Sanderfer



Ausha Sallee' and Rita Watkins



Wilma Brown, Sha'Ron Shelton and Denise Black-Poon



Deandra Ward and daughter Deonne Williams - Mother Daughter Luncheon



Christa and Selah P. Cunningham



Delise and Shalise Simmons



Debbie Johnson and Taylor Riggs



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*A celebration of women opening our hearts to God and one another*

Worship service followed by brunch

**Wear purple in honor of faithful Lydia, dealer of purple cloth**

**Saturday, May 9th**  
**10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**  
**The Chapel**

Sign up at FPC office 419-893-0223  
or Search-Lite office 419-936-0119

All ages welcome Child care provided in church nursery

200 E. Broadway Street, Maumee, OH • Guest Speaker Ruby Radford of Cass Rd Baptist Church

... photos continued on page 9

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Mother-Daughter Photos... continued from page 8



Felicia and Taylor Lonas



Gabrielle and Raychelle Skibinski



Mia and Aloe Jackson



Shontrell Flanagan and La'Shay Mason



Latesa Callaway and Djhream Carter



Robin and Kyndra Gaines



Sheila and Shayna Brooks



Jalynn and Molly Hicks

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**Registration forms due by May 15, 2015**

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# Ruth Ashford's Davis Building Fund Raiser

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Ruth Ashford, candidate for Toledo City Council's District 4 seat, held a fund raiser in April in the Dais Building in downtown Toledo. The building is the site of a number of businesses such as Sophia Lustig, Pam's Corner and Salon Onyx. Salon Onyx and owner/founder Alina Dunbar hosted the occasion.

Michael Barringer, spoken word artist, provided the entertainment for the event.

Ashford, a longtime state government financial and accounting expert, is making her first run for elected office in the district in which she has long resided.



Mumbi Carter and Audrey Johnson



Diane Gordon, Angela Cassidy and Kim Highsmith



Joy and Brandon Harris

**INTERDENOMINATIONAL MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE (IMA) PRESENTS:**  
**2015 SPRING CONFERENCE**  
 Pastor Cedric Brock, IMA President  
**Warren AME Church**  
 915 Collingwood  
**MAY 6 - 8**  
**7:00 PM NIGHTLY**  
 WITH TOLEDO COMMUNITY CHORUS  
 LEAD BY GIBBY BYRDE & DEBRAH BROCK  
 Wednesday @ Noon  
 Sponsors Luncheon  
 Wednesday @ 5:30  
 Pastors & Ministers Session: Homiletics from Roman  
 -Dr. Robert G Birt Jr.  
 Glass City Church of Christ

**Dr. E.L. Branch, Pastor**  
 Third New Hope Baptist Church  
 Detroit, Michigan

**Rev. William V. Green I, Pastor**  
 Tabernacle of Glory Baptist Church  
 Nashville, Tennessee

**Dr. Doran Mitchell**  
 Trinity AME Zion Church  
 Greensboro, North Carolina



Supporters enjoying poetry from Spoken Word Artist Michael Barringer

DENTAL HYGIENE

ACCOUNTING

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY



Ruth Ashford and Spoken Word Artist Michael Barringer



Salon ONYX owner, Alina Dunbar with City Council candidate Ruth Ashford and Kim Highsmith

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# Black Lives Matter418 Rally

By *Carla Yvette*  
Society Editor

The Community Solidarity Response Network of Toledo held a Black Lives Matter418 Rally, April 18 at the Frederick Douglass Community Association.

The group, which formed in November following a grand jury decision not to indict Officer Darren Wilson in the shooting death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo., works to "facilitate progressive community-based events that help to foster self-development, and discuss measures to hold local leadership accountable to their sworn duties. Over 200 community members as well as several local organizations came out to show support.

The crowd was entertained by singer Paige Jenkins, Touch A Dream Dance Studio, Imagine Clay Ave. Step Team, DJ Lyte-N-Rod and Cuntry of 97.3 FM.

Speakers for the event included, Washington Muhammad; Comedian Darrell Banks; Gerald Rose, founder/CEO of New Order National Human Rights Organization and Mayor Paula-Hicks Hudson.



Coach Tyrone Cleveland and the Imagine Clay Ave. Step Team



Elgin Rogers, Kenneth Johnson, TFD Deputy Chief Brian Byrd with Julian Highsmith, Willie Knighten and Juan Liggons



Callie James with Terrance Smith Sr. and daughter Lilliana Smith



DJ Lyte-N-Rod of 97.3 FM



Sisters Quranah, Zakiyah, Madeenah and Anayah Muhammad



Earl Mack and Lorinda McCaleb of the Toledo Buffalo Soldiers



Gerald Rose, Founder New Order National Human Rights Organization and Chris Adams, men's advocate for New New Order



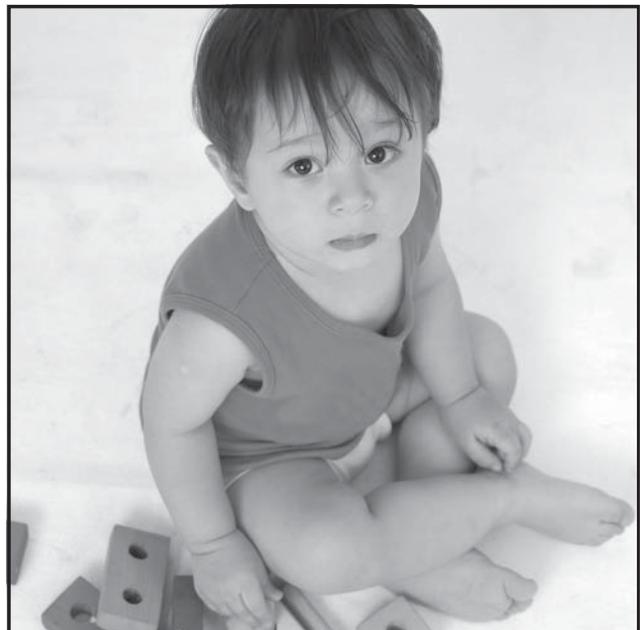
Paige Jenkins singing Lift Every Voice and Sing



Sha'nez Henry Allen and Darrell Banks



Touch A Dream dancers with community supporters, Julian Mack, Sha'nez Henry and Cuntry of 97.3 FM



**Lucas County Children Services responded to 4,271 reports of suspected child abuse in 2014.**

**Nearly half of them were for children under the age of five.**

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. If you believe a Lucas County child is at risk of being abused or neglected, call LCCS at 419-213-2273 (CARE).



# Three Steps to Improve Your Credit

*Special to The Truth*

Good credit is a key ingredient in succeeding financially; yet building a strong foundation takes time. If you are new to credit or are working to improve it, there are many steps you can take to put you on a path to stronger credit.

Here are three essential steps that help you get started:

- **Check your credit report:** Experts recommend checking your credit report at least once a year. Your credit report contains details of your credit history, including balances, credit limit and payment status. Lenders, apartment managers and some employers may check your credit report to see how responsible you are with money.

When you check your report, make sure it contains current and accurate information. If you find errors, correct them as soon as possible because they may negatively impact your credit score and even indicate possible identity theft. You can request a free copy of your credit report from each of three major credit reporting agencies -- Equifax, Experian and TransUnion -- once each year at [www.AnnualCreditReport.com](http://www.AnnualCreditReport.com) or call toll-free 1-877-322-8228.

- **Make sure you're paying your bills on time:** Life happens and you may find yourself forget-

ting to pay a bill on time. Because your payment history is one of the biggest factors in your credit score, it's important that you stay organized and keep track of all your bills. This applies to more than just credit card bills, but also when it comes to rent, utilities and cell phone payments.

Using free online tools, often available through your financial institution's online banking, can help you develop a budget and create an automatic bill payment schedule. Many financial institutions also allow you to change your payment due dates for one that is convenient for you. If it helps, you can organize all your payments to be due on the same day of the month.

- **Make a budget and stick to it:** One of the best ways to keep up with your bills is to closely monitor your spending. Creating a budget can help you decide when to use credit and when to hold off on a purchase. Keeping a budget is also helpful because lenders look at the amount of

debt a consumer has compared to their income.

As an important rule of thumb, keep debt at no more than 35 percent of your income or lower. This will tell lenders that your debt is at a manageable level relative to your income, and you are likely to have money left over for saving or spending after you pay your bills.

In addition to the steps listed above, there are many free resources available that can help you improve and manage your credit. Wells Fargo recently launched Path to Good Credit, a new website that offers videos, tips, quizzes and infographics that illustrate how good credit can help consumers succeed financially. For more information, visit [www.wellsfargo.com/build-credit](http://www.wellsfargo.com/build-credit).

Take steps now to improve your credit for a solid financial future.

*Courtesy StatePoint*

## Lucas County Commissioners Announce Resolution Urging Congress to Oppose "Fast Track" Trade Authority

*Congresswoman Mary Kaptur Joins Lucas County Commissioners in Opposition of "Fast Track" of Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement*

The Board of Lucas County Commissioners held a press conference this morning to announce a resolution calling upon members of the U.S. Congress to oppose granting "Fast Track" authority to negotiate the Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement. The Commissioners were joined by Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur and Bruce Baumhower, President of United Auto Workers Local 12 who discussed the status of this legislation and the potential impact the Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement will have on workers and jobs here in Lucas County.

Lucas County Commissioners Tina Skeldon Wozniak, Pete Gerken, and Carol Contrada urged Congress to oppose granting the Office of the United States Trade Representative "Fast Track" authority to expedite congressional consideration of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement (TPP). Trade Promotion Authority, also known as "Fast Track," delegates Congress' authority to set terms of international commerce to the Executive Branch. This type of policymaking severely impedes the democratic process of lawmaking and

cuts legislators out of important legislative procedures. In the past, "Fast Track" authority has resulted in NAFTA-style trade deals that have shipped local jobs overseas and closed manufacturing facilities while giving financial breaks to multinational corporations.

The Board of Lucas County Commissioners offered this statement: "There is no room to repeat the mistakes of so-called "fair trade" deals of the past. It is vital to our democracy and our economic interests that Congress has the opportunity to review and amend provisions in proposed trade deals. We ask Congress to oppose "Fast Track" to ensure our labor force is protected here at home and support fair trade that promotes American job growth and environmental stewardship."

"We have seen the consequences of Fast Track trade agreements that have dismantled Northern Ohio industries and shipped our jobs overseas," said Congresswoman Kaptur. "Decades of bad trade policy have outsourced good jobs, closed manufacturing facilities, hobbled our economy and abandoned countless working families here and around the country. This is the legacy of our current U.S. trade policy. Fast-Tracking another bad deal with another blank check is irresponsible and will dig us deeper into deficit. We need a new model for U.S. trade, and we need to renegotiate the bad trade deals of the past. I proposed legislation earlier this year called the Balancing Trade Act of 2015 to do just that. We need to stop selling out America's working families and never again Fast-Track another bad trade deal."

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# CLASSIFIEDS

April 29, 2015

Page 14

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## New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

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Attention or Subject: Pulpit Committee



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Ohio State University is hiring an Ohio 4-H Youth Development Educator position in Lucas County. Experience with leadership, teaching, evaluation, teamwork, committees, and collaboration with diverse clientele needed. Master degree required. OSU offers a competitive salary with excellent OSU benefits.

For complete position description and online application instructions, please go to [www.jobsatosu.com](http://www.jobsatosu.com) and search by requisition # 407345 to assure consideration you must apply by **May 10, 2015**. The Ohio State University is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity, national origin, disability status, or protected veteran status.

Call to place your ad

419-243-0007

[www.TheTruthToledo.com](http://www.TheTruthToledo.com)

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA), located in Toledo, OH, is seeking experienced applicants for an Information Technology Manager. For complete details of the position and to apply, visit our website at [www.lucasmha.org/employment](http://www.lucasmha.org/employment). **Only online application received at the above website will be accepted.** This is a Section 3 covered position and HUD recipients are encouraged to apply. Please note on your submittal if you are a LMHA Public Housing resident or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. **NO PHONE CALLS.** Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, religious creed, sex, military status, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin.



**Notice to Bidders:** Inquiry # FY15-56, (Project # 1030-15-102) for East/West Garage Repairs 2015 for the University of Toledo. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 12, 2015. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$40.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Tom Stuckey of Poggemeyer Design Group at 419-352-7537. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, **May 5, 2015** at 10:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 12.5%. Project Estimate: \$897,385.00; Break-down: General Const: \$897,385.00.

## Search-Lite Community Baptist Church

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or search-lite10@bex.net

Attention P. Williams: Church Administrator

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY TOLEDO, OHIO

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Directors that Sealed Bids will be received by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority for:

### TOLEDO EXPRESS AIRPORT Parking Lot Equipment Upgrades 11013 Airport Highway Swanton, Ohio 43558

This contract is for all labor, material, insurance, and equipment necessary for the TOLEDO EXPRESS AIRPORT Parking Lot Equipment Upgrades located at 11013 Airport Highway in Swanton, OH 43558, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications, to the Port Authority at One Maritime Plaza, Toledo, Ohio 43604.

Bids will be received at the Port Authority's administrative offices at One Maritime Plaza, Toledo, Ohio 43604 until Thursday, May, 14th, 2015, at 2:00 PM, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The project "TOLEDO EXPRESS AIRPORT Parking Lot Equipment Upgrades" is for removal of existing equipment and installation of new automated revenue control equipment at all access points for the long and short term parking lots. Project includes removal of existing and installation of about 10 barrier gates, 6 ticket dispensers, and 3 pay in lane devices. All network and computer equipment to be supplied for a complete working system as part of this project. The engineers estimate for the base bid and alternate 1 of this project is \$280,000.

Plans, Specifications, Instructions to Proposers, and Forms of Proposal and Contract are on file and may be obtained by contacting Gilda Mitchell with the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority at either 419-243-8251 or [gmitchell@toledoportauthority.org](mailto:gmitchell@toledoportauthority.org).

Please note that there will be a pre-bid meeting for all prospective bidders on Tuesday, May 5th, 2015 at 10:00 AM in the office of the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority at Toledo Express Airport, 11013 Airport Highway, Swanton, Ohio 43558. **Attendance is helpful, but not mandatory.**

**TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY**  
Paul L. Toth, Jr., P.E., President & CEO

# The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Soulcial Scene • Toledo's Soulcial Scene

## Myrtice Walker Celebrates Her 100th Birthday with Friends

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Myrtice Walker was born in Macon County, Georgia – probably Montezuma, GA – and moved to Swanton, OH as a child with her family. That birth took place 100 years ago and on Friday, April 24 – two days before her birthday – she celebrated the event at the Spencer Township Neighborhood Center in Holland, OH.

The actual birth place is uncertain because her records are incomplete. It is known that she had 12 older siblings. It is also known that she received no formal schooling in the segregated South but taught herself to read and write. She still reads from her favorite book, the Bible, every night.

Walker married Oscar “Peter” Walker during World War II whom she met while she was working in an airplane parts factory. Oscar Walker died in 1978. He built the home in Swanton where his widow still resides.

Myrtice Walker is a member of Love



Myrtice Walker

Baptist Church in Swanton and has served in a number of church ministries for more than 50 years.

LUCAS METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY

# THE GREAT SMOKE OUT

Beginning Friday, May 1st, Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will implement Phase II of The Great Smoke Out — converting all of its housing properties to smoke-free living.

Following the new Well2unity! Initiative, LMHA is proud to provide residents with new health and wellness opportunities in addition to quality, affordable housing. We hope you will join us in celebrating Phase II of **THE GREAT SMOKE OUT!**

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. • Port Lawrence Community Room

201 Belmont Ave. • Toledo, OH



“APRIL IS MINORITY HEALTH MONTH”

Minority Health Month (MHM) was created in Ohio in April 1989. Minority Health Month was designed to be a 30-day inclusive, high visibility, wellness campaign. In 2000, MHM became a national celebration. The goals are to provide crucial information to allow individuals to practice disease prevention. This article is being provided to bring awareness to our most vulnerable population! **THE BABIES!**

**WAKE UP TOLEDO, OUR BLACK BABIES ARE DYING**

By Celeste Smith, April Snelling, Carly Miller

The priority here should and can be that **EVERY** Toledo/Lucas county woman has the opportunity to deliver a healthy full-term baby who lives to celebrate a first birthday. Disparities in health outcomes by race and ethnicity and by income status are very difficult to reduce. For a long time infant mortality rates have been 2 to 3 times higher among African American populations. This along with other disparities have remained despite the recognized realization that inequities cost our economy billions of dollars per year. Currently, Ohio ranks 47th in the country in Infant Mortality, but ranks 50th (dead last) in Black Infant Mortality. Current data reflects being Black, regardless of socioeconomic status or education level puts you at a higher risk of having a baby be born preterm, at a low birth weight, or even dying before the age of 1. You ask, Why are Babies Dying? Most of the cause is related to the “Social Determinants of Health”, which are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, shaped by the distribution of money, power, and resources at global, national and local levels which are themselves influenced by policy choices. In other words where you live, work, play and pray makes a tremendous impact on your health.

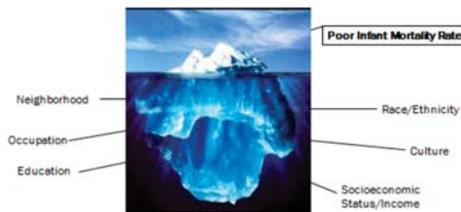
Some of the risk factors that contribute to having a poor birth outcome are having had a prior poor birth outcome, chronic medical condition, being African American, low income, uninsured, homelessness, domestic violence, late entry into prenatal care, no transportation, substance use, smoking/tobacco use, and being less than 17 years of age or over 35.

**ALL HOPE IS NOT LOST...TOLEDO THERE IS HELP!**

Toledo is working with 8 other cities across the state of Ohio on a project called the Ohio Equity Institute. This three year statewide collaborative of key partners is working to promote the work of local public health departments in Ohio and their multi-sector, community partners. The project is currently in the second year. In 2014, The Toledo-Lucas County Ohio Equity Institute team (also known as Getting to One) has accomplished many tasks. By examining the data on infant deaths in our community, it was determined that the main root causes of infant mortality in Lucas County stemmed from three issues – unsafe sleep environments, poor preconception and interconception health (health of the mother before she gets pregnant and between pregnancies), and racism as a social determinant of health. In order to more effectively develop initiatives targeting these areas, our community coalition split into subcommittees. Some of the great work that has evolved includes securing a safe sleep grant from the SIDS Network of Ohio to train safe sleep ambassadors in zip codes most affected by infant mortality in Lucas County, a five week series on infant mortality on channel 13 ABC/WTVG television show Bridges with Host Doni Miller, and adding safe sleep informational brochures in with every birth certificate for babies 0-24months. Lastly, the Toledo-Lucas County team added a new co-lead, Celeste Smith.

The Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, in collaboration with the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio and the University of Toledo was awarded a Healthy Start grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration. This is a 5 year grant that will work to decrease disparities in Infant Mortality in Lucas County by focusing on African American women of childbearing age. **The burning question that you are currently asking yourself “How Do I Get Involved?”** Become an active member in the Toledo-Lucas County Commission on Minority Health Advisory Committee. The meetings are held monthly on every third Wednesday of the month. Become an active member of the Getting to One Initiative. Join one of the two Subcommittees, Preconception and Safe Sleep, or Racism as a Social Determinant of Health. For more information regarding this article or to get involved, please call the Office on Minority Health 419-213-4095.

### The Problem Runs Deep



In Toledo/Lucas County our highest infant mortality rates are in neighborhoods with a high concentration of minorities.

### Infant Mortality Rate Ohio vs. Lucas County

	2011		2012	
	Ohio	Lucas County	Ohio	Lucas County
<b>Overall</b>	7.87	7.26	7.57	8.98
<b>African American</b>	15.96	12.36	13.93	13.52
<b>Caucasian</b>	6.41	5.59	6.37	7.05

Source: [http://www.cdh.ohio.gov/~media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/cths/Infant%20Mortality/collaborative/2014/2002\\_2012%20IM%20BY%20RACE%20%20COUNTY.pdf](http://www.cdh.ohio.gov/~media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/cths/Infant%20Mortality/collaborative/2014/2002_2012%20IM%20BY%20RACE%20%20COUNTY.pdf)



# From Mfinity and Beyond: The Culp Sisters

By Carla Yvette

The "M" in Mfinity stands for Monika, Marisa and Merce' Culp. The three talented sisters produced their first annual Mfinity Fashion Show held at the Artomatic 419! April 25, One Lake Erie Center downtown. The runway exhibition featured all original artwork from photographs, digital graphics, paintings, and sketches through textile and consisted

of 630 original images. Hundreds gathered to watch models from John Casablancas and P. Marie Talent Management model apparel for men and women from the sister's individual collections.

The event also launched their new brand MMMprint FASHION that includes their latest artistic apparel and accessories.

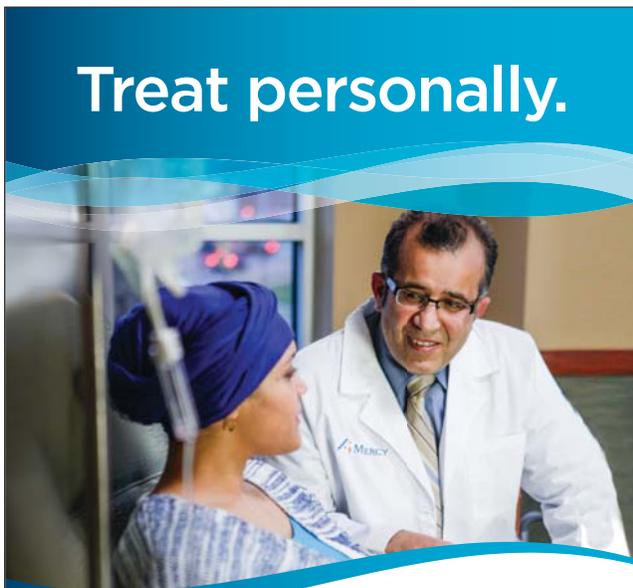
DJ Money Mike opened the show and provided music for the runway exhibition.



The Culp sisters, Monika, Marisa and Merce' of Mfinity with models from the Mfinity Fashion Show



Marisa, Merce' Marcia and Monika Culp of Mfinity



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