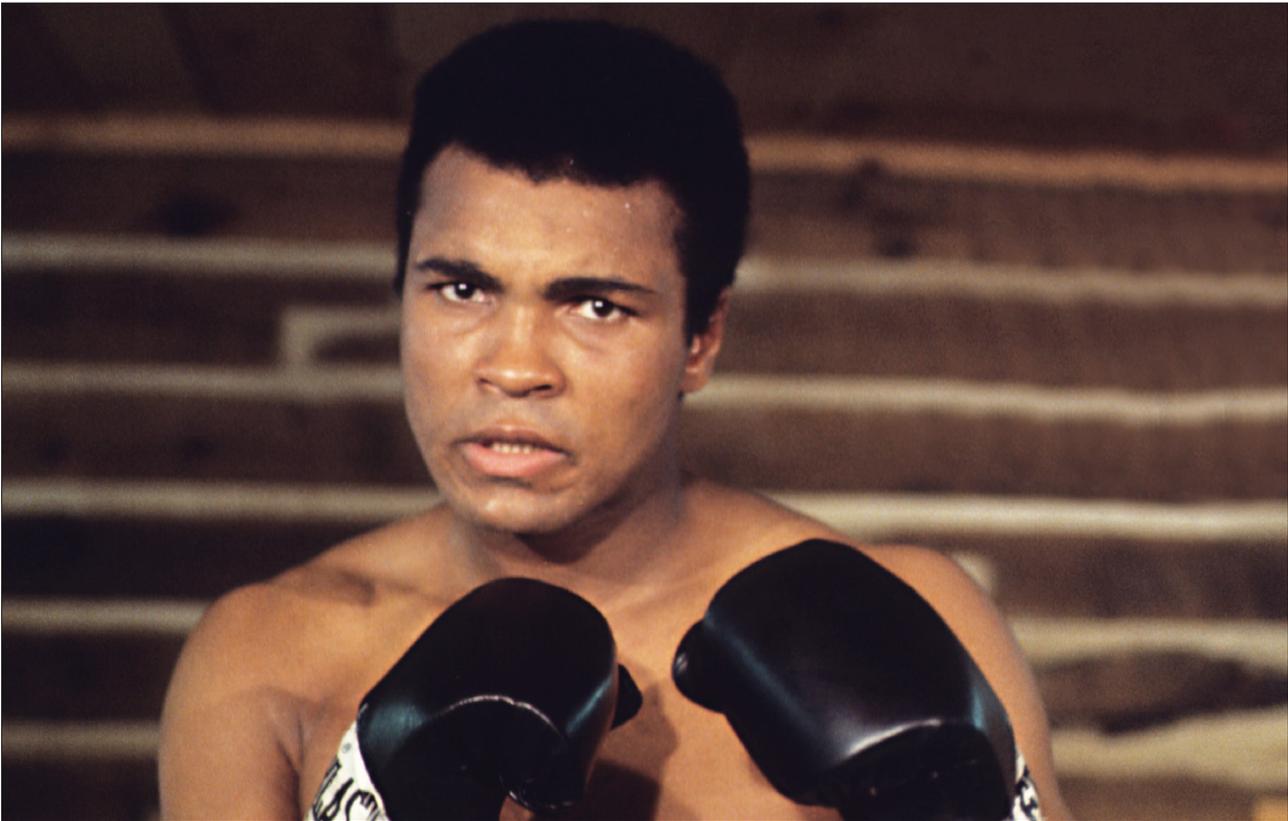




Volume 39, No. 5 *"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."* June 8, 2016

Greatest Of All Time



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"Impossible is just a big word thrown around by small men who find it easier to live in the world they've been given than to explore the power they have to change it." - Muhammad Ali

“Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee. The hands can't hit what the eyes can't see.”

The Blessedness of Resistance

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.

The Truth Contributor

Count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens.

– Matthew 5:11 (MSG)



He knew, just as most of us have known for as long as we can remember, that fire burns. So, when a young Cassius Clay won the world heavyweight boxing title in February 1964 and soon thereafter announced that he had joined the Nation of Islam and changed his name to Muhammad Ali, that he would feel the intense heat of societal backlash.

The Champ made it clear that he was declaring an emphatic NO to the prevalent mainstream, popular and white-value system. He refused to perpetuate demeaning stereotypes or cooperate with unjust structures that robbed his people of their personhood.

Resistance and the moral courage to say “I will not” wounds the pride of those in power and thus brings a retaliative mandatory sentence in the fiery furnace of oppression, ostracism, misrepresentation and difficulty.

So just three short years later, the government turned up and things got very, very hot.

Ali, now a Black Muslim minister and a captain of Elijah Muhammad's elite guard, refused induction into the U.S. army based upon his professed conscientious objector status. The white draft board had denied the claim and Ali's lawyers had exhausted all appeals up to the Supreme Court. He was therefore swiftly indicted, convicted and sentenced to five years in prison and had his titles stripped by the boxing authorities.

However, Ali would never serve time in prison. The black community and the African diaspora throughout the world, according to biographer Stewart Burns, “felt the assault on their hero as an assault on them all.” The Supreme Court overturned his conviction for draft refusal and Ali would subsequently become the only three-time world heavyweight champion in history.

The Champ would also become an esteemed minister and sage, speaking out widely against the Viet Nam war and other injustices and would gain extraordinary notoriety as an ambassador and humanitarian. He was The Greatest, a title he had given himself before he even knew he would be exactly what he had proclaimed.

Ali's legacy?

Muhammad Ali is a testimony to the “blessedness of resistance.” His life is a political manifesto that teaches us that “no person who cannot stand in the face of injustice and human callousness and, with moral courage, say ‘I will not bow’ - will do his or her part in the day to day struggles in life.”

Ali showed us how to fight injustice, social insults and politicized retaliatory humiliation without being transformed into the very evil we are

fighting. Too often, we are either passive in the face of evil or we become the very thing we hate.

Yet, we can, in the words of Walter Wink, “find a way by which evil can be opposed without being mirrored, the oppressor resisted without being emulated, and the enemy neutralized without being destroyed.”

Ali's guiding principle seemed to be “Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” And that is what made him not only great, but blessed.

Only when we refuse to let evil dictate the terms of our opposition, can we turn persecution into blessing.

Only then, can we come safely through the fire of oppression – an experience that not only generates personal praise and testimony, but also enables us to witness the praise of the same individuals and structures that sought to shame, denigrate and destroy us.

Only then, can we discover that God works in mysterious ways; that God can cause us to come out of the fire stronger, wiser, better, more free and more liberated – than we were before we went in.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdlperryman@centerofhope-baptist.org

Community Calendar

April 11 – June 20

Mott Mane Mondays: A 5-week series providing participants with resources to aid in the care, styling and maintenance of African-American hair; Light refreshments provided at no charge; Mott Branch Library; Register at ToledoLibrary.org; Topics include 04.11 – Films and Forums, 04.25 – DIY Den, 05.23 – Natural Hair Salon, 06.06 – Expressions of Naturalism (poetry), 06.20 – SWAP & Shop; 419-259-5230 or 419-984-0395

June 8

Mt. Nebo 23rd Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor Cedric Brock and First Lady Debra Brock; 7 pm service guest Pastor Tim Pettaway of Walk the Word

June 11

True Vine MBC Career and Health Fair: Noon to 3:30 pm: 419-726-7148

June 12

New Prospect Baptist Church 51st Church Anniversary: 4 pm; Guest preacher Rev. Anthony Reed and Shiloh Baptist
St. Paul SME Zion Church Concert: Praise and worship with musician Lesley Talley; 5 pm
Joshua Generation Family Worship Center Friends and Family Day: 2:30 pm; Dinner served after worship
Mt. Nebo 23rd Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor Cedric Brock and First Lady Debra Brock; 9 am service guest Bishop TI Winfree of The Body of Christ Refuge; 11:30 am service guest Bishop Marshall of Smyrna Baptist of Columbus, OH; 4 pm service guest Pastor Kenny Flowers of Greater Mt. Moriah of Detroit
St. Stephen AME Annual Pew Rally: 3 pm: 419-625-3725

June 13

TUSA (Toledoans United for Social Action) Annual Nehemiah Action Meeting: 7 pm; Braden United Methodist Church

June 17-18

St. Philip Lutheran Church The Hope Experience: 6 to 8 pm nightly; Friday night guest preacher Rev. Chris Bodley; Saturday night gospel jazz band; Fellowship, music, food: 419-475-2835

June 18

United Church of God Women's Retreat: 10 am to 2 pm; “Revitalized by God's Spirit;” Guest speaker Mary J. Wood; Lunch included: 567-316-7360 or calvinucc@yahoo.com

The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African American
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Fletcher Word – Publisher and Editor

Becky McQueen – Business Manager

Tricia Hall – Reporter

Rev. D.L. Perryman – Columnist

Megan Davis – Columnist

Zahra Aprilii – Columnist

Robin Reeves – Columnist

Mary Louise – Columnist

Jennifer Retholtz – Webmaster

Jessica Crans – Layout

A Certified MBE

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“Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee. The hands can't hit what the eyes can't see.”

Ali...A Portrait In Courage

There are always seminal events that when they enter into your life, you either compromise your principles for the sake of expediency or you stand your ground and take on the challenge knowing that whatever may come, you will have wrestled with moral authority and your conscience is clear.

When you decide to weather the storm and hold to your core beliefs knowing that right eventually makes right, you win.

You win where it counts. In your spirit. In the recesses of your consciousness which informs you that your stance challenges the impolitic of the status quo which would rather silence you than hear your song or your speech which condemns them for their arrogance or cowardice.

Muhammad Ali was such a person who in his life informed those around him that complicity with wrong or slighting the truth was not a honorable choice but a dark bargain with the devil.

When Ali resisted the Vietnam War draft on grounds that he would not kill people of color, like him, just because a racist white government said he should, Ali spoke truth to power and the powers that be wanted to silence him.

They sought to imprison him and strip away his boxing title and orchestrated a vile campaign of slander against him for not wearing battle fatigues and sending him thousands of miles to fight the Viet Cong.

Viet Cong people he never met and who had no beef with him and Ali had no truck with them.

For a black man of his stature to stand against the formidable US government and be willing to go to jail for his beliefs was practically unheard of.

Ali became a rallying point for people to re think the war and the nonsense of a post-colonial war being conducted under the guise that if we do not stop the Viet Cong in Hanoi, they will be at your local VFW meeting hall in a matter of time.

Ali knew of the woefully disproportionate number of black men, especially black men from the urban centers of America who were dying in stinking rice paddies or being impaled on hidden bamboo shards as they stalked the enemy through the jungles in Vietnam.

And all the while, white college men could get multiple deferments and avoid military service altogether. The war was not fair. It was racially biased and unjust and Ali knew that and he made a stand and took on the railings and mockings of a scorned US government.

Ali believed the phrase that, “Service is the rent you pay to live with others.”

By his courageous acts and statements, Ali made it possible for

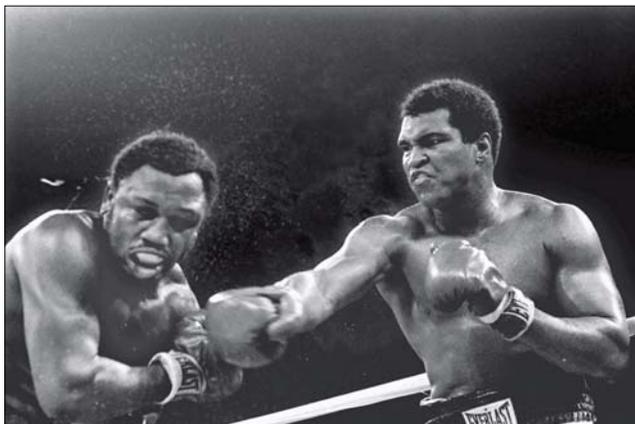
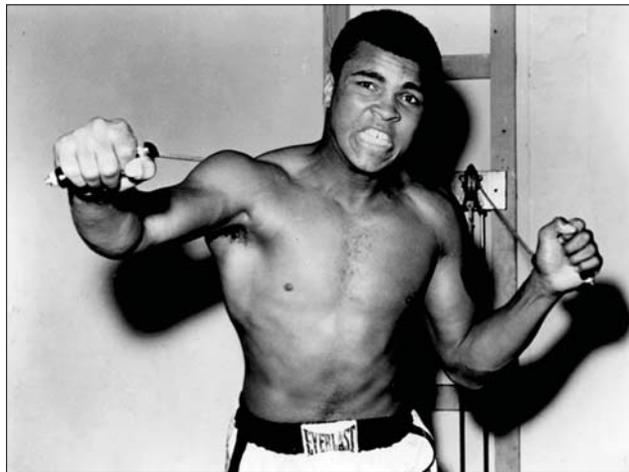
many black men to straighten up and walk without a limp when it came to expressing what needed to be said and to be said without fear of retribution.

His smile was contagious. His boxing skills beyond comparison. His wit was spot on. His life was exemplar as to encouraging others to live without regret or fear of the adversary's counterpunch.

His life was a shimmering example of black manhood gracing America.

Lafe Tolliver, Attorney

Comments to: Tolliver@Juno.com



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2016 DRIBBLING with Dads

SATURDAY, JUNE 18 • 10 am-1:30 pm
Wayman D. Palmer Community YMCA
2053 N. 14th St., Toledo, Ohio

You are invited to attend Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority's 2016 Fatherhood Initiative Celebration HONORING FATHERS throughout our communities who are the primary caregivers of their children. Enjoy a FREE family day of prizes, fun, and festivities on Saturday, June 18, 2016 at the Wayman D. Palmer Community YMCA.
2053 N. 14th St., Toledo, OH from 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
For more information or for family reservations call 419-259-9455.

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To enter, download the coloring page, print out the page, color it in however you like, and return your entry to your LMHA Site Manager's Office and deposit in the entry box marked **KIDS INITIATIVE CREATIVE CONTEST**.

All entries may also be mailed to:
LMHA KIDS INITIATIVE CONTESTS
211 S. BYRNE ROAD, TOLEDO, OHIO 43615
Be sure to include child's name and age and/or grade, plus a parent or guardian's street address, phone number, and e-mail address so that winners may be notified.

Coloring Categories: Grades Pre-K - 6th
Essay Categories: Grades 6th - 12th

Judging: All entries for both coloring and essay contests will be judged at contests and prizes will be awarded at the Fatherhood Initiative Celebration on **Saturday, June 18, 2016**. Entries will be judged on the basis of creativity.

Decisions are at the discretion of LMHA and are subject to change at any time. We reserve the right to award multiple winners and prizes, or no winners and prizes.

Winners: All winners will be notified by email, phone, or postal mail. The winner of each age group will receive a prize. Specific prizes will be chosen by LMHA, at our discretion.
All entries and **Monday, June 13, 2016**, or as otherwise posted on LMHA's webpage, www.lucasmha.org.

For a complete list of winners, write to LMHA 211 S. Byrne Rd., Toledo, OH 43615, and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or visit us online at www.lucasmha.org.

Kids INITIATIVE Creative contest

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES JUNE 13TH, 2016!

Kids Enter Today For a Chance To Win Cool Prizes!!!

- Kids, write an essay, short letter, poem or create artwork to express the impact that a male or father figure has made on your life.
- All entries may be neatly handwritten or typed and free of grammatical errors. All artwork must not exceed 11 x 17 in size and should be mounted on black matte board with a 2" border on each side. Please include your name, grade, parent or guardians' street address, phone number and email address so that winners may be notified.
- Completed essays and creative works may be returned to your LMHA Site Manager's Office and/or deposited in the entry box marked **KIDS INITIATIVE CREATIVE CONTEST**.
- All written or typed entries may also be emailed to: **Enmays@lucasmha.org**

"Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee. The hands can't hit what the eyes can't see."

And, He Was Also a Boxer

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

We will be talking about Muhammad Ali's sacrifices during the Vietnam War, his devotion to humanitarian causes, his charm and charisma, his work as an ambassador for peace. We can, and will, praise his leadership and courage for years to come. As time passes, however, we might be tempted to forget that he was also a boxer at one time in his life.

And not just an ordinary boxer, Muhammad Ali was by some measures the best boxer anyone has ever seen in the ring. Not necessarily the best pound for pound boxer, Sugar Ray Robinson still lays claim to that title but as a heavyweight in his prime – and we saw him only for a few flashes during his prime – it's simply impossible to imagine anyone beating the champ.

Ali's career is easily defined as two chapters – pre and post exile. During his pre-exile period, when he fought in his early twenties, Ali indeed floated like a butterfly and stung like a bee. He was devastatingly fast on his feet and with his hands. He moved, especially in this early period, like a lightweight with hand speed that was measured as 25 percent faster than Robinson's.

His foot speed enabled him to circle his slow-footed opponents and frustrate their attempts to pin him against the ropes or in the corners.

He was equally fast with his head. Ali would avoid punches by pulling his head backwards leaving his opponent grasping at air, then he would counterpunch with that hand speed connecting over and over again.

"He was just so damn fast," said heavyweight George Chuvalo of the young Ali. "When he was young, he moved his legs and hands at the same time. He threw his punches when he was in motion. He'd be out of punching range and as he moved into range he'd already begun to throw the punch. So if you waited until he got into range to punch back, he beat you every time."

Ali's superior speed and reflexes helped to overcome the size advantage that most of his opponents had over him. In his first professional

fight, he weighed only 192. When he fought the formidable Sonny Liston in 1964, he weighed only 210 to Liston's 218. Ali, by the way, was a seven to one underdog in that fight.

Even later in his career, during phase two, after he lost some of that marvelous speed, he was still almost always at a weight disadvantage.

In 1966, Ali was drafted and refused to report as ordered. He was, in his mid-twenties, entering what should have been the prime years of his athletic career. He would not fight again until he was almost 29.

Phase two of the Ali career featured the fights that established his ring legend and his rating as the greatest heavyweight of all time. Past his prime, he fought Joe Frazier three times and George Foreman once. His Rumble in the Jungle against Foreman in 1974 at the age of 32 was as improbable a victory as could have been imagined. No one, not even those closest to him, thought he had a chance against the seemingly invincible Foreman.

Foreman had claimed the heavyweight title by knocking Frazier down seven times in their fight, on several occasions hitting Smoking Joe so hard with uppercuts that he lifted the former champ into the air.

Ali invented the rope-a-dope on the fly, surprising his trainers, and forcing the much younger and heavier Foreman to wear himself out. Ali knocked Foreman out in the eighth round in a fight that has been dubbed the greatest sporting event of the 20th century.

Ali's last great fight was a year later when he faced Frazier for the third time. In the Thriller in Manila, Frazier and Ali went toe-to-toe over the course of 14 rounds. Frazier could not come out for the 15th. It was a fight that had Ali with the advantage for the first five rounds while Frazier summoned up his resolve to dominate the second five. Ali had the advantage during the last four rounds in a fight he would later describe as "like death – closest thing to dying that I know of."

... continued on page 5



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Rep. Ashford: Auto Insurance Bill Disproportionately Harms Low-Income Families

Sojourner's Truth Staff

State Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) last week decried the passage of House Bill (HB) 279, legislation that prohibits uninsured motorists from collecting noneconomic damages as the result of an auto accident, saying it disproportionately affects low-income and minority citizens.

"This bill wages economic warfare against families who are struggling to make ends meet," said Ashford. "We already have penalties in place for those who drive uninsured. Ohio should be focused on protecting everyone's right to be treated equally and fairly, not allowing individuals to continue to

cycle through the justice system because they cannot afford basic necessities."

Under HB 279, uninsured drivers who are victims of an automobile collision would be prohibited from collecting intangible damages, such as compensation for pain, suffering and mental anguish. Rep. Ashford and critics of the bill argue that the legislation unduly punishes struggling Ohioans just because they are unable to afford automobile insurance.

The bill now moves to the Senate for further consideration.



Rep. Michael Ashford

ZOOtoDO Fundraiser on Friday, June 17

It is time for the Toledo Zoo's annual black tie and tennis shoes affair, PNC ZOOtoDO presented by MassMutual Ohio. One of the region's premier social events, ZOOtoDO boasts glitz and glamour with a fun twist and an amazing array of delectable edibles on Friday, June 17, 2016 from 6 p.m. until midnight.

Each year, the Zoo's biggest fundraiser, PNC ZOOtoDO presented by MassMutual Ohio features more than 50 restaurants and caterers and attracts nearly 2,000 guests. During the evening, ticket holders can mingle throughout the party tents and Zoo grounds, including the Africa! Overlook, while enjoying gourmet food samples from our area's favorite restaurants and chefs before dancing the night away to live music on multiple stages.

The elegant evening of grown up fun begins at 6 p.m. as guests are greeted with complimentary champagne and invited to take a train ride and view the new Expedition Africa! Aerial Adventure Course presented by Mercy Health. ZOOtoDO hosts multiple full service cash bars, serving specialty drinks, beer and wine to quench guests' thirst throughout the evening. At 7:30 pm, guests make their way to the historic side of the Zoo for more food, music and fun.

Your Zoo calls it "a party with a purpose" because the net proceeds provide essential funding for many of the Zoo's community and educational programs, plus state-of-the-art care and exhibits for the animals. Successful events like PNC ZOOtoDO help ensure that kids of all ages can enjoy one of the region's historic treasures for generations to come.

PNC ZOOtoDO is presented by MassMutual Ohio with additional sponsorship from Lexus of Toledo, Comfort Line, LTD., Hollywood Casino and media sponsors Cumulus Media, Lamar, 13abc and The Blade. Additional support for PNC ZOOtoDO provided by Al Peake & Sons Food Service, The Andersons, Block Communications, Inc., Communica, EFFEN Vodka, Fifth Third Bank, Glazers, Kroger, NBS Commercial Interiors, NewFax Corporation, NOIC, Inc., Owens Corning, RG Designs, Rudolph Libbe, Inc., Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP, Toledo Refining Company, Toledo Tent & Party Rental, Valley Plastics Co. and Yuengling.

Tickets are \$150 per person and must be purchased in advance. Please visit toledozoo.org/zootodo or call 419-385-5721/419-385-5721 ext. 2091 to reserve your ticket. Guests must be 21 or over and IDs are required. PNC ZOOtoDO is a rain and shine event.

Muhammad Ali... continued from page 4

Ali continued to fight for another five years, losing the title and reclaiming it, although well past his prime and taking blows that might have led to the Parkinsons disease that afflicted him for the rest of his life. Professional sports teams mercifully cut players when their athletic gifts are on the wane and the value of their contributions to the teams decline. Unfortunately, individual athletes rarely know when to cut themselves.

Boxing would never be the same after Ali retired.

Babe Ruth, Michael Jordan, Ali, Jim Brown, Wayne Gretzky, Jim Thorpe ... it's a short list of those who might be considered the best athlete of the 20th Century. Most lists place Ruth and Jordan at the top, with

Ali in third place. Of course, all those other athletes were able to play during the entirety of their prime years.

In the aftermath of the Thriller in Manila, Joe Frazier sat in the dark of his room, nursing his wounds, awestruck over his most recent encounter with a fighter for the ages. In spite of his pain, he eloquently described his long-time nemesis.

"Man, I hit him with punches that would bring down the walls of a city," said Smoking Joe. "Lawdy, lawdy, he's a great champion."







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TPS Students Building Toward the Future During Summer Camps

Special to The Truth

Toledo Public Schools has once again partnered with the Associated General Contractors of

Northwest Ohio (AGC of NW Ohio) to offer a summer Construction Camp for students who are interested in the fields associated with construction. During the week-long session, 25 students will have the opportunity to visit local jobsites to learn more about what it takes to become a successful skilled tradesperson.

Mary Gregory, executive vice president of the AGC of NW Ohio, knows how important it is to engage students early so they get a true understanding of the construction field. "Experts have declared that for every 10 jobs that are currently available, one requires an applicant to have a master's degree or higher, two require a bachelor's degree and the remaining seven jobs require credentials and skills that are better developed in practical programs such as an apprenticeship, a two-year associate degree or certificate program."

Students will spend the week of June 6 visiting several local construction sites including the new ProMedica Toledo Hospital Generations Tower project and a renovation job at Bowling Green State University. These visits will feature jobsite tours and lunch with crew members, as well as hands-on construction activities. The goal is to help interested students understand the math and science skills, as well as the mechanical aptitude, needed for these jobs.

Don Huss, Secretary/Treasurer Ohio/Kentucky Bricklayers Local 3, helped coordinate the Construction Camp visits and projects. "It requires many industry resources to offer construction jobsite visits to high school students," Huss explained. "The more students and educators are exposed to the vast number of career paths available in the construction industry, the more local skilled tradespeople we

can develop."

Steven M. Johnson, President of The Lathrop Company, and Dr. Romules Durant, CEO/Superintendent for Toledo Public Schools, made a joint announcement prior to the tour that is geared to provide job opportunities for the students who are part of the district's "School To Work" program.

St. Francis Introduces Students to College-Level Courses

Special to The Truth

An estimated 80 percent of students change their major course of study at least once after entering college, with many switching majors two or three times before determining a career path that fits them. Now, in partnership with The University of Toledo (UT), the College Board and school alumni, St. Francis de Sales School (SFS) is launching myPREP, a first-of-its kind academic program designed to expose students to potential career paths and hopefully eliminate some of the emotional and financial costs indecision can cause college students.

Juniors and seniors at SFS will now have the opportunity to take four college-level courses at UT. The course offerings include Intro to Law, Intro to Business, Intro to Health Care Professions and Intro to Engineering. In addition to these courses, SFS is also offering students the opportunity to earn newly created College Board designations in computer science and engineering.

... continued on page 7



Save the Date!
July 16, 2016

The 12th Annual African American Parade

Make plans now to
Meet us on Dorr Street
Saturday, July 16th at 10AM

If you are interested in participating in this year's PARADE please call DeLise @419.255.8876. Space is limited!






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Education Section • Education Section

Nourish Your Mind *and Body* this Summer at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library

Last year, the Toledo Lucas County Public Library assisted Feed Lucas County Children, by serving as a distribution site – helping to provide 13,526 lunches to at-risk, hungry children within the Toledo Community during the summer. The library strongly supports FLCC’s mission and saw its branch model as an ideal way to blanket community coverage and an excellent opportunity to help serve our customers at their point of need. The number of attending children provided hot, nutritious lunches, far exceeded the Library and FLCC’s expectations, and they are looking to build upon that number this year with the addition of 3 new locations.

Lunches will be provided from **June 6 – August 7th at noon** at the following Library locations:

Birmingham, Heatherdowns, Kent, Lagrange, Locke, Main Library, Mott, Point Place, South Branch, Toledo Heights, Washington, and West Toledo

For more information visit Feed Lucas County Children: www.feed-lucaschildren.org

Or contact the Library: 419.259.5200

St. Francis... continued from page 6

“myPREP builds upon our already strong Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program,” said Rev. Geoffrey N. Rose, O.S.F.S., president of SFS. “Building on that foundation, our Advanced Placement program, the largest in the area, offers 21 courses taught on-site and in person. Then, our juniors and seniors can explore different college level courses at UT. There is no ceiling for learning at St. Francis.”

According to Rose, the myPrep program begins even prior to high school. For the first time, students in eighth grade can take Design and Modeling and Automation and Robotics, classes that integrate problem solving, critical reading, math skills and teamwork. The skills acquired in these classes help students succeed academically as well as socially, supporting the SFS mission of developing well-informed, well-formed individuals.

“The cost of college can be quite high,” said Rose. “At SFS, we are able to expose our students to a wide variety of fields early in their education. We hope this exposure helps them think about their courses of study early on and, ideally, eliminate some of the indecision that college students experience.”

According to John Adams, with UT’s Dual Credit and Early Outreach, the opportunity to take courses that examine the many options within a specific field of study can be critical to a successful college experience.

“We want these courses to save students time and money, but we also believe the courses can be critical to helping students make informed decisions about their future. UT is proud to partner with SFS on this initiative to help these young men begin to make their mark on the world,” said Adams.

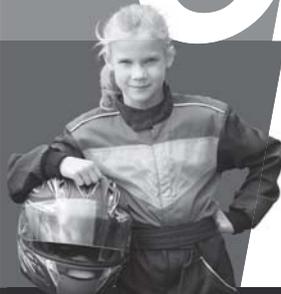


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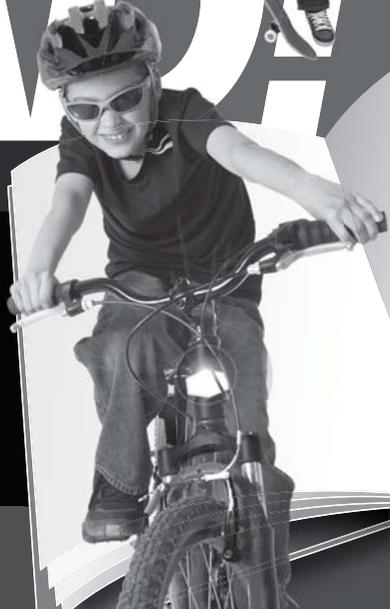
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Education Section • Education Section

It's a Family Success as Mother and Daughter Celebrate Graduation

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

Graduation day at Jesup W. Scott High School on June 2 was a mother/daughter celebration in every sense of the word. Scott Principal Treva Jeffries presided over the joyous event in which 100 seniors marched on into the next phase of their lives. Jeffries'

daughter, Blake Minter, the class valedictorian, led the march.

Blake will be entering Bethune-Cookman University in Florida later this summer to major in business administration.

...continued on page 10



Scott Valedictorian Blake Minter and Salutatorian Kamaria Glover

TPS Superintendent Romules Durant, EdD, and Scott Principal Treva Jeffries



Families and friends attend 2016 Scott High School graduation



Scott graduates waiting for the ceremony




thejoshproject

SURVIVAL SWIMMING AND DROWNING PREVENTION

The Josh Project is conducting Swim to Survive lessons for Toledo area youth ages 8-12.

Lessons will be held at St. Francis High School.

A 3 day programs will be offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays of each week in June and July from 9am-11am and 11am-1pm. First session begins June 7th, 2016.

Enrollment is limited!
In order to reserve your spot, please call: 419-530-8590.



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Young and In Charge: AAU Basketball in Toledo, Ohio

By Silas Tsang

Special to The Truth

The sixth grade team for the Toledo Wildcats is a glimpse of perfection for northwest Ohio sports, with a gaudy 42 win and four loss record to date.

Affiliated with the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU), these 12 year olds play across the nation, and are ranked number one in the state by Buckeye Prep Report and ranked 11th nationally by Coast to Coast for their grade level.

Players hail from as far out as Grand Rapids, Michigan to the Old West End in Toledo, with eight African-Americans and a player of mixed race. A universal goal among the players is to eventually compete on the court in high school.

Ranked number one among sixth graders nationally is Emoni Bates, a 6'4" phenom, who happens to play for the Wildcats. Coast to Coast calls Bates the nation's "best kept secret." Said Head Coach Tony Kynard: "We started to make a splash when we played in Chicago with Emoni."

View Emoni's YouTube highlight reel online for the scoop. He can "dribble, shoot and play all five positions," remarked Kynard. In Bates, the Wildcats have what ESPN college basketball analyst Dick Vitale would refer to as a budding "diaper dandy." Nonetheless, a supporting cast must be in place for a team to rank in the top 15 nationally.

The sixth grade Wildcats fit the bill and are therefore both dominant and fun to watch. At Arbor Hills Junior High for the Sylvania Classic, the Wildcats went toe to toe with a Great Lakes team whose players were a grade higher.

Wildcats took an early 19 to 1 lead. After half time, rather than trying to win by 50 points, Kynard was cognizant of teaching moments, and instructed his players to run a set plays. They didn't score as much in the second half, but scoring is not the point. Execution and discipline rule the day. "Right now it's about reinforcing plays to prepare for nationals," said Kynard.

Currently, Coach Kynard is seeking a major brand endorsement so as the sixth grade athletes become seventh and eighth graders, basketball shoes and travel expenses can be financed through a sponsor. Until then, either parents, or Kynard himself, pay each player's way.

One can recognize the essence of family within the Toledo Wildcats. Players, coaches, and family are all-in for the Wildcats AAU teams (they also field third, fifth and seventh grade squads).

Perhaps, in the near future, they can collectively call themselves national champions. In Coco Beach, Florida, July 11-16, these youngsters will shoot for that goal.



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Education Section • Education Section

The Josh Project Teaches Water Survival Skills

Special to The Truth

The Josh Project was founded in memory of John-Joshua Butts, (Josh) who never had a swimming lesson, could not swim and drowned on August 6, 2006. The Josh Project is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and has been serving Toledo for more than eight years. The organization prides itself on providing affordable survival swimming lessons and water safety education to children and their families to prevent drowning and other water-related injuries.

This year The Josh Project collaborated with the Royal Lifesaving Society (RLSS) to offer a three-day Swim to Survive® program. Participants will learn the minimum skills needed to survive an unexpected fall into deep water: rolling into water, treading water and swimming 50 meters

Sadly, drowning is the second leading causes of accidental death among children ages one to 14. African-American children drown at higher rates than white children. This is due, in part, to lack of finances and experiences in and around water. The Josh Project strongly believes

that all children need to learn how to swim to survive. So please take advantage of this rare opportunity and help spread the word – affordable swim lessons!

Children ages eight-12 can learn to how to survive an unexpected fall into deep water this summer! Swim to Survive® lessons will be held at St. Francis de Sales High School starting June 7.

Sessions will be offered weekly. Each session consists of three two-hour classes. One hour is spent learning water safety techniques in the classroom and the second hour is spent practicing in the pool for a total of six hours.

Each session is spread over three days and will be offered weekly through June and July. Student's only need to attend one three-day session but may re-register if space allows. A registration fee of \$25 per student, per session will be charged to attend this program.

Please call 419-530-8590 or visit the Josh Project on Facebook to reserve your spot. Enrollment is limited, so don't delay!

Equipment to Quality Time Daycare

First Federal Bank has donated 10 gently-used computers and accessories to Quality Time Care Center, located on Dorr Street.

"We're delighted to find a home for our gently used equipment," said Reginald Temple, Business Development Officer for First Federal Bank. "With this donation, Quality Time administrators and teachers will be able to put our computers to good use, freeing up more time to devote to their students."



Reginald Temple



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3/16 Some animals exhibited in pens

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africansafariwildlifepark.com

Mother and Daughter Graduation... continued from page 8

For her part, the Scott principal was not in the least bit surprised by the valedictorian's success. "I didn't expect anything less, no matter where she went to school," says Jeffries. "In the eighth grade I told her that. I told her about grades and test scores."

That advice was well heeded. "She has an awesome work ethic," says Jeffries of Blake. "Her work ethic is just off the charts." As a result of that work ethic, Blake received a full tuition scholarship to Bethune-Cookman and with the local scholarships and grants she received, her path to a college diploma will come at relatively little expense to the family.

However, life at Scott High School for the daughter of the principal was a not always easy. Living directly in the shadow of a parent never is, especially when that parent runs the joint.

"For the first two years, I didn't see her in school," recalls Jeffries. "She stayed pretty much under the radar. She doesn't want much attention."

Of course as other students found out that Blake's mother was the principal, she sometimes received that unwanted attention.

... continued on page 11

On Your Mark, Get Set...READ!

Special to The Truth

Book Your Summer at the Toledo Lucas County Library! From outdoor music concerts and yoga sessions, to storytimes and passport services, the Library is your ticket to summer fun and adventure! Whether you're checking out a GoPro camera to capture all the summer action, looking for your next beach read, or cooling off at our indoor programming, we've got you covered! Sign-up for the Summer Reading Challenge and get started!

Dates: Wednesday, June 1– Saturday, August 6, 2016

Registration now! www.toledolibrary.org or in-person at any Library location

Theme: Sports, Health and Wellness. We are using the kids and all ages graphics/theme from CSLP.

What's new?

- Every age group will track minutes spent reading
- ^a Participants earn points for reading, completing learning activities, finding secret codes and more
 - 1 minute of reading = 1 point
 - Registration = 10 points
 - Secret codes = 10 points
 - Games & Challenges = 2-200 points

Read to Me (Ages 0-4)

- Game Cards may be picked up at library or printed online.
- Registration prize: Activity Book
- 300 points= Magnetic Photo Frame
- 500 points=Board Book

Kids (PreK-entering 5th grade):

- Game Cards/reading folders may be picked up at library or printed online.
- Registration prize: Activity Book, Chipotle coupon, TARTA pass
- 100 points= Pencil
- 300 points=Flying Disk
- 500 points=Water bottle

- 1000 points=Book
- Each additional 500 points=prize from the Treasure Box
- Branch Grand Prizes: Gift cards from Mud Hens (\$40) and Barnes & Noble (\$30), Metroparks gift pack
- System Grand Prize: iPad Air

Teens (entering 6th-12th grade):

- Game Cards/reading folders may be picked up at library or printed online.
- Registration prize: Chipotle coupon, TARTA pass
- 100 points=Pen
- 500 points= Water bottle
- 1500 points=Book
- Branch Grand Prizes: \$25 Visa and \$25 movie gift cards (2 winners/branch)
- System grand prizes: iPad Mini 2 (1 winner), FitBit Charge (1 winner), \$50 Dick's gift card (1 winner), Super Fitness Gift Pack (5 winners),

Adults

- Game Cards/reading folders may be picked up at library or printed online.
- Registration prize: Chipotle coupon
- 100 points=Pen
- 500 points=Water Bottle
- 1500 points=Free gently-used book from FOL Book Center or Classics Gift Shop
- Branch Grand Prizes: Season pass for Authors! Authors! (1 winner/branch), \$25 movie gift card (1 winner/branch)
- System Grand prizes: iPad Mini 2 (1 winner)

Additional incentives

Special WWE Smackdown ticket contest running through June. If you sign-up for SRC you may be entered to win one of 19 pairs of tickets to WWE SmackDown at the Huntington Center on July 5th, or a Grand Prize pair of tickets to WWE Raw in Detroit at the Joe Louis Arena on July 7th. Ask your librarian to enter you after you sign-up for SRC!

Mother and Daughter Graduation... continued from page 10

"With her getting the grades, sometimes it got worse," says Jeffries. "Sometimes she got discouraged, but she always kept her eye on the scholarships. I used to get a little upset because she could get bullied."

By the time she was a senior, Blake had clearly overcome her reluctance to draw attention to herself. She ran for Homecoming Queen and won, working just a little harder, says Jeffries, than any other student might have. "Everything she did, she had to do

a little harder." Blake also was a Debutante this year in the annual Cotillion.

Now Blake is off to Florida, not an easy weekend visit for the proud mom. It's part of the plan, however.

"She wants to be her own person, so she can be Blake Minter," says Jeffries. "I support that."

U.S. Department of Education Civil Rights Data Finds Persistent Racial Disparities in School Discipline and Policing

A Press Statement from Advancement Project, the Alliance for Educational Justice and the Philadelphia Students' Union

The national racial justice groups Advancement Project, the Alliance for Educational Justice, the Philadelphia Students' Union and the Urban Youth Collaborative today urged decisive action to address stubbornly persistent racial disparities in school discipline. Their remarks follow new data from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) on school discipline and trends in school policing for the 2013-2014 school year. Despite a 20 percent drop in overall school suspensions, Black and Brown students continue to be over-policed and excessively punished through suspensions and other exclusionary discipline. New data also reveals schools in communities of color are more likely to house robust police presence than those with majority white student populations.

"The Department of Education data shows persistent racism in our schools," said Judith Browne Dianis, executive director of Advancement Project. "Black children are over-suspended and over-policed. Detailed data shows Black children are subjected to aggressive disciplinary practices and criminalized for their behavior. Schools must change policies that allow for subjective decisions on the basis of race and move toward police-free learning spaces."

"The OCR data confirms what the community has long assessed; there is a war on Black youth through increased police presence and occupation of their schools," said Jonathan Stith, national coordinator for the Alliance for Educational Justice. "There is much work to be done to address the criminalization of children in their classrooms. It is deeply unfortunate that the OCR data fails to document school-based police brutality like the assaults of students at Ben Franklin High School and Spring Valley High School that were recorded and documented by Black youth."

"Sadly, neighborhood schools are overly and unjustly policed," said Luke Risher, a student at Science Leadership Academy in Philadelphia,

Pa. and a member of the Philadelphia Student Union. "There is no justification for excessively policing Black and Brown students since we know from years of research that children of color aren't behaving any worse than their white counterparts, but are disproportionately punished due to implicit, and sometimes, explicit bias. Philadelphia's magnet and special admission schools like Science Leadership Academy and Julia R. Masterman School have minimal police presence. At my magnet school, we have one-on-one conversations, use restorative justice tactics, and as a result, have a school climate based on trust and care."

Key findings from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights data collection reveal:

- Black students in grades K-12 in public schools are 3.8 times as likely to receive one or more out-of-school suspensions as white students.
- While Black students represent 19 percent of preschool enrollment, they account for 47 percent of preschool children receiving one or more out-of-school suspensions.
- Most of the preschool students in public schools who are suspended are boys, meaning the criminalization of Black boys starts when they are toddlers.
- American Indian or Alaska Native, Latino, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, and multiracial boys are also disproportionately suspended from school. They represent 15 percent of K-12 students, but 19 percent of students receiving one or more out-of-school suspensions.
- Students of color are more likely to be identified as having a disability and face harsher discipline than their white classmates.

"Schools must end the practice of criminalizing the behavior of Black and Brown and children," said Kesi Foster, coordinator for the Urban Youth Collaborative. "We should divest from policing and invasive and oppressive security measures and invest in proven practices such as restorative justice and trauma and healing informed practices."

Neighborhood Car Show and Picnic to Feature Community Services



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Camps run from 10:00-2:00 each day, with free lunch.

Vote for Jesus! Vacation Bible School	June 6-10
Vote for our Environment! (Care of earth through gardening)	June 13-17
Vote for our Fellow creatures! (Animals are fun)	June 20-24
Vote for Peace!	June 27-July 1
Vote for travel—Trips to be announced	July 5-8
Vote for our Health	July 11-15
Vote for an Active Life (Sports)	July 18-22
Vote for Art	July 25-27

CHILD'S NAME _____ GRADE _____
PARENT'S NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____
Please return to The Padua Center 1416 Nebraska Ave.
one week before camp begins to receive the full registration form.
Also visit us and register on the web: www.thepaduacenter.org

NeighborWorks TOLEDO REGION presents Unity in the Community: Creating Community Partnerships at Grace Community Center, 406 W Delaware Ave, Saturday, June 11 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Various community service organizations will be on-hand to an-

... continued on page 13

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I Almost Forgot about You by Terry McMillan

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

In every love life, there's always The One That Got Away.

He got away because you were both too young, too scared, too broke, or too different. Things were said that couldn't be unsaid, done that shouldn't have been done. It just didn't work out then, but now...? In the new novel, *I Almost Forgot about You* by Terry McMillan, he'll never get away twice.

It should have been an ordinary run-of-the-mill Monday.

That's the way it started for optometrist Georgia Young: new prescriptions, return clients, follow-ups, and one new Monday-morning patient who – big surprise! – turned out to be the daughter of a man Georgia dated in college and had fallen for. She never told the guy she loved him, though, and she never would... because he was dead.

Shaken to the core, Georgia began to think about all the men she'd slept with, and the ones she'd fallen in love with. How would life have changed if she'd stayed with any one of them? She'd been divorced twice; would that number have been higher or lower? Would she have more than her two daughters, live somewhere other than San Francisco, travel, cook for two?

At nearly 55 years old, she figured she'd never find love again, but she at least needed closure. With the urging of her BFF, Wanda, Georgia made a list of the men she'd once loved, and she promised herself she'd find them - not because she wanted to rekindle anything, but because she had so many questions for them and for herself.

Finding her ex-husbands was easy. Michael happened to be moving back to California, and Niles was out of jail for his white-collar crime; both were happy and had moved on with their lives. Georgia was even able to stop hating them.

But Abraham wouldn't be easy to find. Neither would Lance. There were two Jameses, two Harolds, Thomas, Horace, and others, and one white guy that Wanda remembered, and added to the list. Georgia knew she'd never find them all, especially since she had a business, a busy family, and a life to live.

Still, they were all men she'd remember forever. But would they remember her?

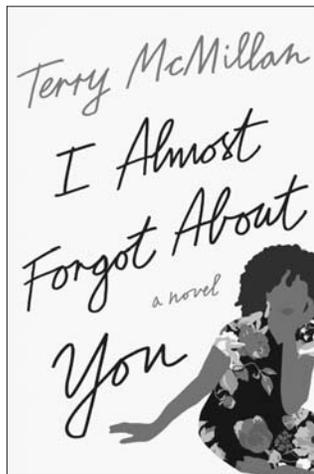
Show of hands: who hasn't spent girlfriend-time taddling about boy-

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358 pages

friends? Probably nobody, so *I Almost Forgot about You* is a comfortably familiar story.

That's not to say that it's same-old, though. Like she did in many of her other novels, author Terry McMillan gives readers a cast of strong-minded, smart women who lean on other strong-minded, smart women. In this book, however, we see a few more bruises from living, rather than from relationships: Georgia and her friends are looking toward retirement, a little less stress, and no more drama. Even so, they get drama anyhow, and you'll be glad for it.

Definitely, this is a novel for anyone who's lost a love and wondered, "What if...?" It's a book you'll want to share with your BFFs. *I Almost Forgot about You* is a book you shouldn't let get away.



Author Terry McMillan courtesy
Matthew Jordan Smith

Car Show and Picnic... continued from page 12

swer questions about buying a home, saving on home utility costs, home energy savings, and more.

The event will feature prizes announced every hour beginning at noon, an on-site DJ playing music, planned children's activities, a car show by Toledo Corvette Club, and food with refreshments served at no charge.

The event is free and open to the public.

Rain date: Saturday, June 25, 2016, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Grace Community Center, 406 W Delaware Ave.

Sponsored by: NeighborWorks TOLEDO REGION Community Leadership Institute

Hosted by: Old West End Neighborhood Initiatives (OWENI) and The Cherry Street Legacy Project

About NeighborWorks:

NeighborWorks America is the country's preeminent leader in affordable housing and community development. They work to create opportunities for lower-income people to live in affordable homes in safe, sustainable neighborhoods that are healthy places for families to grow. The NeighborWorks Network delivers many of its community-focused programs and services through the National NeighborWorks network - 235 independent, community-based non-profit organizations serving more than 4,500 communities. Together with its national and local partners, NeighborWorks provides grants, programmatic support, training and technical assistance to its national network.

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CRUSADERS FOR CHRIST CHURCH Presents **Youth & Young Adult 4th Sunday**

Have you been feeling the nudge to develop your life more spiritually but aren't quite sure how to begin? If so, this theme-enriched and spirit-filled experience is designed just for you. Visit us on Facebook - I have a special video message for the serious pursuer!

Youth & Young Adult 4th Sunday

When: Every 4th Sunday
 Time: 11:00 am
 Where: Crusaders for Christ Church
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Bishop Joseph Marshall Jr., Pastor Evangelist Culture Marshall, First Lady

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CLASSIFIEDS

June 8, 2016

Page 15



INTAKE AND CLIENT RELATIONS SPECIALIST

Toledo Fair Housing Center (TFHC) is accepting applications for an **Intake and Client Relations Specialist** to assist with its intake, referral, investigative, outreach, and administrative activities. Previous fair housing or other related experience preferred. Demonstrated ability to operate databases and perform grant reporting also a plus.

This is a full time position which includes a competitive salary and benefits package.

Interested applicants should provide their cover letter and résumé to zacharyhillier@toledofhc.org by 5:00pm on Friday, June 17, 2016.

TFHC is an equal opportunity employer.

ABUNDANT LIFE OF PERRYSBURG ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Abundant Life of Perrysburg is accepting applications for its subsidized apartment facilities. Abundant Life #1 offers independent living for senior citizens 62 years of age or older and individuals 55 or older with a physical impairment. Abundant Life #2 is a supportive living complex for people 62 and older. To apply individuals must meet the age requirement and an annual income requirement of no more than \$21,350.00 for one person or \$24,400.00 for two people.

We are located in the Three Meadows subdivision near the Manor of Perrysburg. Our garden apartments offer one bedroom, private patios, with individually controlled thermostats for heat and air conditioning.

Abundant Life #1 offers bathtubs, while Abundant Life #2 offers walk-in showers and pull cords for emergencies.

We have a bus that transports all residents to area grocery stores and monthly outings. We offer exercise, worship services and a variety of opportunities for our active and not so active seniors. Please call (419)874-4371 to find out more about our fabulous facilities and our availability for apartments. You may also visit us on the web at abundantlifeperrysburg.org.



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NHA Seeks a Few Good People

The Neighborhood Health Association is hoping to acknowledge the contributions of past board members and volunteers. If you were a board member or volunteer in the past with NHA, the Cordelia Martin Clinic or the Mexican-Americans United for Health, give us a call. 419-720-7883, ext 216.



Volume 39, No. 5

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

June 8, 2016

Scott High School Graduation



Scott Valedictorian Blake Minter and Salutatorian Kamaria Glover