Mayors Stump for Clinton

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Mayors Bus Tour Comes to Toledo
The 46th annual Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Conference was held in Washington, DC at the Convention Center September 14 through September 18, 2016. The week’s final official event was the dinner during which President Obama gave the keynote address.

The president’s speech centered on his eight-year legacy as the chief executive of the United States. He began his address by thanking the citizens of the United States for allowing him and his wife Michelle serve as the nation’s First Family. He talked about how he and Michelle have been role models for black boys and girls.

He then spoke about the 15 million new jobs that have been created during those eight years and how dramatically the unemployment rate has been lowered.

Both high school and college graduation rates have increased during his administration. The average family income has grown by $2,800 and millions of people now have health care who did not have it before Obamacare.

During these past eight years, the black prison population has decreased, college students have received more assistance with their student loans, sentencing laws have been made more equitable for black folks and crime has decreased in general.

The stock market is healthy again. The big three auto industry, where thousands of black and Hispanic employees work, has been saved. The gross national product has increased. Troops have been brought home from the wars and U.S. banks have been saved.

His administration is also working to decrease college female rapes and K to 12 bullying.

He discussed what has been done for the gay community, how the wages of female employees have risen so that they are fairer and about his administration’s concerns about family leave.

The president then spoke about how the Republicans are trying to reduce the black vote this November with the new voter ID laws, the purging of voters and other requirements that have been implemented. He said “a person can get a permit to buy a gun in some states easier than getting a permit to vote.” He added that if black people don’t vote then this is an insult to his legacy.

President Obama then discussed the history of the Civil Rights Movement starting with the Underground Railroad, the civil rights marches, the speeches by Dr Martin Luther King and others, then the voting rights act, a black First Family in the White House and, now, the new African American Museum in Washington DC. He described these occurrences as being links in a chain and indicated that we should not break the links by failing to vote this November.

The Honorable Marcia Fudge from Cleveland received the Barbara Jordan award for her work in Education.

Secretary Hillary Clinton received the Trailblazer Award for being the first woman to be nominated by a major political party. She also gave a major political speech at the dinner.

There were also major social events sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha, the Links, Boule, Michigan Caucus as well as other states’ caucuses, Trusted Health Care, and some of the various congressional and senate staffers. There were also seminars, luncheons and breakfasts, and panel discussions on all the social issues.

It was also very refreshing to see thousands of African-American youth and young adults participating in the week of activities.

Ed. Note: Paul L. Hubbard is the former president of New Detroit, the former director of the City of Toledo Department of Neighborhoods and the former chairman of the Greater Toledo Urban League.
Solidarity II: Rebuilding After the Storm

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

Guest Column

Cultural pluralism: it’s the air we breathe; it’s the ground we stand on.

- Ralph Ellison 1871-1951 U.S. Congressman

Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken possesses a unique “brand relevance” in Toledo politics. Gerken has used the yin and yang of his own life experiences to remain “down with the peeps” and occupy a niche that allows him to remain relevant in shifting political climates or economic conditions.

Mr. Gerken is running for re-election on the November 8, 2016 ballot. I spoke with him about his specific accomplishments and the County’s vision for the African-American community. This is the finale of our two-part conversation that focuses on rebuilding the post-recession black community.

Perryman: The black community has been hardest hit by unemployment and a transitioning economy. What is the state of job readiness supports that the Lucas County Commissioners put in place to prepare people for current or new jobs?

Gerken: Well, we have a national award for the Work Ready Lucas County and a partnership with the ACT Program. We’ve had that about a year and a half now, but basically that is one of 19 counties in the country that allowed us to offer certificates for work levels, and that prepares people to walk in the door with and say ‘I’m certified to do this job, I’m what the job may call for’. It’s a powerful tool. Much of our clientele at Ohio Meets Jobs comes from the minority community. We realize that sometimes educational and economic processes in the county have left some of them a little bit behind. We’re looking to catch people up where their trades or skills are deficient. And we actually have national certified programs that 90 employers in this community recognize our certificates. So, our job is to connect through Ohio Meets Jobs to those certificates and then to those jobs.

The other thing is that we just got part of a major grant for healthcare opportunities called H5, which is health professional opportunity grants that allow people with economic support, it doesn’t cost them anything, to get trained and get jobs in the healthcare field. We have to do 250 people a year in that program and that prepares people to walk in the door with and say ‘I’m certified to do this job, I’m what the job may call for’. It’s a powerful tool. Much of our clientele at Ohio Meets Jobs comes from the minority community.

What Have You Got to Lose!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

With the recent spate of black males losing their lives in questionable traffic stops and the resulting police shootings, I have been inundated with ideas to stop this modern-day lynching of black males. Knowing the seeming propensity of police officers to use deadly force when lesser degrees of subjugation are available, I came up with some scenarios that will, I hope, show a gun-happy officer that he need not be the angel of death.

Before I share those ideas with you, isn’t it amazing that whenever there is a post mortem on what happened on a “shoot” it invariably shows that the first line of “defense” is for the officer to use his gun even in situations where a gun should be the means of last resort?

I mean, whatever happened to the use of the billy club or the Taser or shooting someone (if it comes to that) who is unarmed in the leg or arm? Why is it always deadly force even when the officer is not in any danger whatsoever?

Remember the shoot in Chicago where the young and walking black man was shot 16 times while on the ground! Yes, while on the ground. But yet, somehow, the shooter cop was going to go with the tried and true bosh explanation of... “I felt threatened or he posed an imminent threat to me or to my colleagues.”

How can a person, who is unarmed and is on the ground, pose such a threat that you continue to pummel his body with 16 gunshots?

That, my friends, is pure evil and hatred. That is not defensible police work.

Now, we have a shoot in Tulsa where apparently the chief of police is reworking the police story to say that maybe no gun was involved.

So, if not a gun, why was the black man executed in cold blood?

My theory? Simple. Too many cops have been inculcated with the image that black men are animals and are unpredictable and only by the use of brute force are they able to be contained. The defective training that some cops get in the academy and from the urban legends coming from their cop pals seemingly supports a police worldview that when you meet up with a black male, it is, “either you or him!”

In the Tulsa shoot, even the cop in the circling overhead helicopter was using the phrase which was heard on the airwaves, that he was a “big bad dude.”

Community Calendar

October 1
Indiana Avenue MBC Kick Off Celebration for Annual Youth and Young Adult Day: Noon to 2 pm; “What to do when stopped by police;” Live demonstration
Calvary Baptist Church Cancer Awareness Luncheon: 11 am; Cancer agencies will present information about many types of cancer – informational gifts and pamphlets; Vendors such as Avon, Mary Kay, D-Scents; Lunch also

October 2
Owens Community College Fall Band Concert: 2:30 pm; Center for Fine & Performing Arts; Free to the public; Marimba solo, music of the Beach Boys, medley of marches and more: 567-661-7081
Jerusalem Baptist Pre-Homecoming Service: 4 pm; Guests Rev. James Willis and St. Paul MBC

October 11
Last Day to Register to Vote: Lucas County Board of Elections, public libraries, public high schools, Heatherdowns AAA, UT Student Union, Bureau of Motor Vehicles
Toledo Branch NAACP Meeting: Nominations will be held for branch president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and assistant secretary; 7 pm

October 12
Early Voting Begins: 1301 Monroe Street; 8 am to 5 pm

October 16
Indiana Avenue MBC Youth and Young Adult Day Service: 10:50 am; “Watch M Worship Him in Praise;” Speaker Rev. Michel Wilpon of Indianapolis
Calvary MBC 87th Church Anniversary; Guest Pastor Cordell Jenkins and Abundant Life Ministries; 4 pm

October 29
Calvary MBC 87th Church Anniversary: Gospel musical; 6 pm

October 30
Calvary MBC 87th Church Anniversary; NWA Moderator Elect B. Lamont Monford of Philippians MBC of Lima; 4 pm
Voter Registration Information

Who Can Register to Vote
You can register to vote if you are a U.S. Citizen, are at least 18-years old on or before the day of an election and a resident of your state, county and precinct for at least 30 days. If you will be 18 on or before a general election, you may vote for candidates in the primary. Must not be currently incarcerated for a felony conviction under the laws of this state, another state or the United States. (However – ex-offenders may vote) Must not have been declared incompetent for voting purposes by a probate court. Must not have been permanently disfranchised for violations of the election laws.

When to Register
To vote, you must register if you have not registered before, are a new county resident or have not voted at least once in the past four years. Registrations are taken throughout the year, but you must register 30 days before an election to vote in that election. This year the last day to register is October 11, 2016.

Where to Register
You can register at the Lucas County Board of Elections at One Government Center; municipal buildings in Maumee, Sylvania, Oregon, Waterville, Whitehouse and Ottawa Hills; the Heatherdowns AAA; UT Student Union Building; public high schools; public libraries; at the office of any Bureau of Motor Vehicles; during Voter Registration Drives or by mail upon requesting a registration form from the Board of Elections and 1339 Dorr Street. The form must be returned 30 days before an election.

How to Change Your Name
You can report a name change to the Board of Elections by mail or at the polling place when you vote.

How to Change Your Address
To change your address within a precinct, report in advance by mail or in person to the Board of Elections or on election day at your former polling place. If you move from one county to another in the state, you may report your address change by mail 30 days before an election. You may report the change and vote the day of the election at the Board of Elections.

Want to Know if You Are Still Registered?
Visit the Lucas County Board of Elections – www.lucascountyboardofelections.gov or the Lucas County League of Women Voters to find out if you are registered.

For more information
You can reach the Lucas County Board of Elections at 419-213-4001, write to Board of Elections, One Government Center, Suite 300, Toledo, OH 43604 (Fax: 419-213-4069) or visit the Lucas County Board of Elections.

Tolliver... continued from page 3

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Mayors Join “Ohio Cities Together” Bus Tour in Support of Hillary Clinton

Sojourner’s Truth Staff

Mayors from around Ohio and beyond embarked on a four-day tour of the state last week to urge voters to come out and vote for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton. The “Ohio Cities Together” bus tour stopped in Toledo last Wednesday at the Clinton campaign headquarters in downtown Toledo.

“She favors small businesses, her platform continues to be one of investment in small businesses,” said Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks Hudson during the tour’s Wednesday stop. “We cannot go backwards and with the other candidate that is exactly what we will do.”

Joining Hicks-Hudson in Toledo were Mayor Nan Whaley of Dayton and former Mayor Alvin Brown of Jacksonville, Florida.


The Ohio mayors participating in the multi-city tour were: Cincinnati’s John Cranley, Chillicothe’s Luke Feeney, Riverside’s Bill Flaute, Springfield’s Warren Copeland, Lima’s David Berger, Oak Harbor’s Joe Helle, Lorain’s Chase Ritenauer, Cleveland’s Frank Jackson, Warrensville Heights’ Brad Sellers, Independence’s Anthony Togliatti, Parma’s Tim DeGeeter, Akron’s Daniel Horrigan, Cuyahoga Falls’ Don Walters, Warren’s Doug Franklin, Massillon’s Kathy Catazaro-Perry, Steubenville’s Domenick Mucci, Jr, Athens’ Steve Patterson, Columbus’ Andy Ginther.

They were joined by former Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman along with a handful of out-of-state mayors – Kansas City’s Sly James, Pittsburgh’s Bill Peduto, in addition to Brown of Jacksonville.

“We have the most qualified person running for president in the history of our country,” said Brown addressing campaign staffers and press. “We need a committed leader who will build an inclusive economy. This election is really about the American people. [Trump] has no vision for this country but himself. [Hillary] believes in this country, she loves this country. We will all move forward together.”

The mayors’ tour is one of many such tours that are blanketing the state of Ohio for Clinton as Election Day approaches. Educators, state legislators and a host of Hollywood celebrities are also on the road drumming up support for the Democratic candidate.

Cast of The West Wing Stumps for Clinton in Ohio

Sojourner’s Truth Staff

Former President Josiah Bartlet’s senior staff toured the Buckeye State over the weekend and made it clear that their choice for president is none other than Democrat Hillary Clinton.

On Saturday, the cast of The West Wing arrived in Toledo, after stops in Cleveland and Sandusky, to help open the latest Clinton “Ohio Together” campaign office on Reynolds Road and to urge supporters to get to the polls. Several hundred fans and voters attended the rally.

The six actors – Richard Schiff (Toby Ziegler), Bradley Whitford (Josh Lyman), Allison Janney (C.J. Cregg), Dule’ Hill (Charlie Young), Joshua Malina (Will Bailey) and Mary McCormack (Kate Harper) – praised Clinton’s accomplishments, asserted that the time has come for a woman president and denounced Donald Trump as being unfit for elected office. Each of the six addressed the crowd.

“I’m with her because she wants to build an economy that’s not just for the select few at the top,” said Hill, who went on to star in the television series Psych after The West Wing had run its course.

Before the cast arrived, the crowd was treated to a rousing warm-up speech by Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken, who is also on the ballot this fall. Gerken led the audience in chants and also urged the crowd, in heavily Democratic Lucas County, to get out in numbers that will tilt the balance for Clinton.

Mohamed Gula, a Clinton organizer, stepped up after Gerken to speak about issues close to his heart. Gula’s father was an immigrant in the mid-70’s who came to this country on a student visa and was not able to return home due to conflicts in his homeland. He lived in limbo for years, unable to work because of his status. Gula spoke of the need for immigration reform and drew cheers from the audience when he mentioned his Muslim heritage.

Then came the cast, joking with one another, each of them explaining why they support Clinton, thrilling the crowd both because of their Hollywood celebrity and their calls to elect Clinton.

On Sunday, the six traveled on to Columbus and Dayton (Janney’s hometown).
KOOL2DO & Mpressive Sounds present, “EARGASMS” ...where Good Music is a turn-on!

Sun., Oct. 2 at The Peacock, 2007 Monroe, St. 43604
DJ Mpress spins new, old and underground hip-hop, jazz, R&B, neo-soul, house, funk and soul.
It’s a kool setting to enjoy good music that you don’t typically hear when you go out. Come have a drink and enjoy a relaxing & mature ambiance of positive vibes & sounds. 7 p.m. – 12 a.m. Cover charge is only $5.

Kool Comedy presents, “THE L.O.L. LOUNGE” ($5 Comedy Show)

Thurs., Oct. 6 at The Peacock, 2007 Monroe, St. 43604
Comedian Kool Keith is your host for this fantastically funny show held every first Thursday! Enjoy some of the best seasoned amateur and veteran professional comedians from the Midwest and beyond. Doors open at 8 p.m. with DJ Big Trav’s music video show. Comedy show begins at 9 p.m. “Joke Juice” is the signature drink poured by the best bar staff in Toledo! 8 p.m. – 11 p.m. Cover charge is only $5.
Comedians Featured Oct. 6: Chris Harvey & Martez Jackson.

WHPR TV DETROIT LIVE & PRODIGAL SON PRODUCTIONS present, “Keeping It Klean” Comedy Series

Sun., Nov. 13 at Toledo Funnybone, 6140 Levis Commons, Blvd., 43551
Comedians Featured: Shawn Showtime, Jeff Horste, Mark Gregory, Darrell Banks and BoBo Lamb
Bring the family and friends to enjoy an afternoon of funny, clean comedy! Show begins at 3 p.m.
For more information call: 419.699.4877 or visit www.fakefriendsonthenewdanceshow.com

African Safari Wildlife Park
267 S Lightner Rd
Port Clinton, OH
43452

Drive-Thru Safari
Feed the animals and enjoy fun shows!

$3.00 Off Adult Ticket (7 years +)
$2.00 Off Children’s Ticket (4-6 years)
$55.95 Carload (Up to 6 people)

Some animals exhibit in pens

africansafariwildlifepark.com
“I’m lucky,” said Tamara Bumpus. “I made sure I got my mammogram.”

By “lucky” Bumpus means that her breast cancer was discovered at an early stage. Early enough that she has options moving forward.

Bumpus, a family nurse practitioner by trade with a long history of breast cancer in her family, was recently diagnosed and made the decision to have her breasts removed rather than submit to a prolonged period of treatment with no guarantee of ultimate success.

On September 24, the Bumpus family commemorated the decision by hosting a gathering for family and friends – the Tamara Boob Voyage – “Tah Tah to the Ta Ta’s.”

The party, which featured a live band in the Bumpus backyard, was more than just an occasion to feast on barbecued goodies and listen to tunes. The Boob Voyage was a fundraiser – for all those women whom Bumpus realizes are not as lucky as she is. Especially women of color.

“One in eight women is diagnosed with breast cancer,” said the health care professional. While most of the women who are diagnosed are not black, most of the women who die from the disease are black, she noted. One of the major obstacles for women in lower-income families is lack of transportation, said Bumpus.

“If you can’t get to your mammogram, you can’t have the mammogram,” she said. “A lot of my patients do not have reliable transportation.”

... continued on page 8
Therefore, Bumpus is planning on raising funds — starting with the Boob Voyage — to buy a Mammo-Van. Helping with the fundraising project is Jim Webb, a photojournalist originally from Toledo, now in the Tampa, Florida area, who has returned to Toledo to film a documentary on Bumpus journey. That journey includes breast removal and reconstructive surgery on November 9 at the Cleveland Clinic.

The Bumpus fundraiser was timed perfectly to be held on the eve of the Race for the Cure, an annual walk which brings together thousands of area marchers to voice their support for breast cancer funding and research.

Call (419)-213-2070 for questions or visit our website at www.LucasCountyVotes.org

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**LUCAS COUNTY IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING**

for the November 8, 2016 General Election will be at the “Ohio Means Jobs” Building (former Veteran’s Services)

1301 Monroe Street (between 13th and 14th)
Enter on the 13th Street side

Beginning Wednesday, October 12th, 2016

**OCTOBER 2016**

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Call (419)-213-2070 for questions or visit our website at www.LucasCountyVotes.org
Lucas County Children Services Hosts Campaign Events for Upcoming Levy

On Tuesday, September 13 and Thursday, September 15, supporters of Lucas County Children Services and the upcoming levy request hosted fundraising events – on Tuesday at Our Brothers Place and on Thursday at Pam’s Corner.

LCCS is asking Lucas County to approve a renewal of the current 1.4 mill levy in addition to a 0.4 increase. The agency which works with children in distressed circumstance, in foster care and those seeking adoption has been deluged with additional children in its care over the last two years – partly due to the heroin and opiate epidemic.

Tina Butts and Richard Mitchell organized the Our Brothers Place event and Deborah Barnett hosted the 10 Women event at Pam’s Corner.

Aneurysms can take you by surprise — that’s why The Neuroscience Institute connects you to proven treatment.

The region’s first Neuroscience Institute is only at Mercy Health.
Sheila Gibson – Back in Toledo – A Positive Force Once Again

Special To The Truth

On November 7, Sheila Gibson will be inducted into the Toledo City Athletic League Hall of Fame. This is highly prestigious award to outstanding citizens of Toledo who have made major contributions and strides in various fields of athletics and other special areas of life.


Her noted accomplishments include: 1988-1996 – owner and artistic director of Giselle’s Dance Theater; 1991 – received choreography honors for Vala Productions Musical “Die Amsterdammerung”; 1992 – honors for Clarence Smith’s Community Chorus for “Black Nativity”; 1993 – cast member for the Center Stage Productions rendition of the Broadway play Guys and Dolls; 1996 – choreographed for the Dance Team and Flag Line for the International Bands of America; 1993-2005 – instructor of Jazz Dance for the University of Toledo, choreographer for the University of Toledo Marching Band Dance Team (Rocketts), ballet instructor for Hillsborough Community College Tampa, FL; 2002-Present – owner and director of Positive Force School of Dance (Toledo, Ohio).

Noted awards: 2003-2004 – listed in Who’s Who among Teachers; 2013 – received Toledo Merging Leadership Award; 2015 – received a Proclamation from the City of Toledo; 2015 – received tribute with honors from the Ohio Senate.

During Gibson’s high school years as a competing athlete she was the most versatile and accomplished athlete for Rodgers High School as a member of the girls’ track team. She competed in 10 different events and was a member of the 1977 State Championship Team.

Her teams won four city championships, sectional championships, Ram Relays championships and went undefeated in dual meets. She was a state champion her freshman and senior year, she was a city champion in seven different events over a four-year career. She received MVP Honors for her high school accomplishments. She went on to compete for Bowling Green State University and later on the European circuit.

Gibson is the proud mother of three grown children: Timothy, Trevor and Giselle Hunt. She also holds the prestigious title of grandmother. Her grand twins, grandson Charles Dixon, granddaughter Chanel Dixon, age 10, (Toledo, Ohio), granddaughter, Tatum Hunt, age 1 (Detroit, MI), granddaughter Lyric Hunt, 5 months (Tampa, FL).

Sheila is the middle child with two brothers, Raymond Gibson (St. Augustine, FL) and Angelo Gibson (Toledo, Ohio). She credits her success first to her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who governs and guides her life. Her parents, Navarro and Virginia Gibson, both retired educators, have played a pivotal part in her accomplishments with all the love and support they have gave.

Currently she is the owner and director of Positive Force Christian School of Dance located in Toledo, Ohio. On October 19, 2016 she will be having a Grand Gala Opening Dedication ceremony. The theme is: Romans 8:28 “All things work together for the good to those who love the Lord and are called according to His purpose.”

The address for the ceremony is 5810 Southwyck Blvd, suite 107 beginning at 7pm. The invitation is for former, present and possible new students who are interested in learning classical ballet, jazz, and praise dance under the tutelage of a master dance instructor whose expertise is sought out all over the United States.

If you need further information call 567-315-6976.
We are indeed honored to announce that on November 5, 2016 the Jamaican Social Club will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary as a Non-profit (501)- (C-3) Multi-Cultural Organization in the State of Ohio.

We are also honored to recognize you as one of those individuals with the vision, who at the time when this Organization was organized and/or because of your dedication, loyalty has continued to promote and support of our programs.

We are pleased to report that because of your patriotic support, during the past 40 years, the Jamaican Social Club was able to provide the following goodwill services:

a) On August 6, 1977 the Hon. Harry Kessler, Mayor, City of Toledo, proclaimed the first week in August “Jamaican Independence Week” and called upon citizens of Toledo to join us in our celebrations.

b) At the devastation of hurricane Gilbert in Jamaica, the Jamaican Social Club, through its support from General Mills, has donated one trailer load of cereals to hurricane victims in Jamaica.

c) Two truck-loads of hospital beds and equipment, donations by Toledo area hospitals, were shipped to two hospitals in Jamaica.

d) Four computers were donated to Trench Town school in Kingston and one to Harry Watch school in Manchester, Jamaica.

e) Athletic uniforms and equipments, books and pencils have been donated to several schools in Jamaica.

f) Several scholarships were awarded to High School students, in the Toledo area for excellent achievements.

g) Periodic donations are made to Toledo’s homeless shelters.

h) The Jamaican Cultural center is available to members, in good standing, to host their private functions at a reasonable fee.

i) From time to time, the Jamaican Social Club will perform complimentary services to those individuals whose passports and other travel documents need to be renewed.

j) Assist newly arrived immigrants to get adjusted in their communities.

k) The Jamaican Social Club serves as a liaison between the Citizens of Toledo and its authorities and the people and Government of Jamaica.

l) The Organization has hosted several Jamaican Diplomats including a Barbadian Diplomat to the City of Toledo, Ohio. Several visitors in the United States and the Provinces of Canada support our functions.

m) Launched a “Dreams for Teens” TV Talent show to enhance students ability to perform excellently.

n) Received several Awards and Proclamations from the City of Toledo and Congressional Representatives.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us in our efforts as we celebrate this our 40th Anniversary milestone of volunteered services to our community. Program information is forthcoming.

Members and volunteers will be recognized for their services to our Organization at this function.

Sincerely yours,
E.B. Mitchell
Earl B. Mitchell
President, Jamaican Social Club of Toledo, Inc.
We Need Your Help to Save Ohio Babies. Join the Movement to Reduce Infant Mortality

Too many babies in our state are dying every day. Nearly 1,000 babies die each year before age one. African-American babies are dying at nearly three times the rate of white babies.

Why Is this Happening?

Babies born too soon is the number one cause of baby deaths in Ohio.

Support Healthy Pregnancies in Ohio

“Our Babies Count” supports healthy pregnancies in Ohio. We encourage women to go to the doctor as soon as they think, or know, they are pregnant. By knowing this on this basis, we know prenatal care can help prevent premature births and baby deaths!

Our Babies Count is a grassroots movement working to inform all Ohioans about the issue and to provide simple ways people can help. The campaign also supports the many local programs working around the state to lower infant mortality rates.

One Baby Lost Affects Us All

Ohio is a great place to live, but we’re all impacted by this health challenge as Ohio is only as healthy as our tiniest citizens. In addition to a lower chance of survival, babies born too soon are at risk for poor health later in life due to mental illness, obesity and breathing problems according to the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. They may also have a harder time in school or be unable to work when they grow up.

Keeping babies from being born too soon will save Ohio families from heartache.

Connection and Education

There are local programs working to reduce baby deaths and improve pregnancy outcomes for women. Many women also don’t realize their health insurance company has great pregnancy programs AND offers free rides to the doctor. They also connect women to resources for basic living needs like paying for food and bills.

Our Babies Count was created by Ohio’s five Medicaid managed care plans (Buckeye Health Plan, CareSource, Molina Healthcare, Paramount Advantage, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan), the Ohio Departments of Medicaid, Black Doctors Ohio and the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics to empower women, families, communities…all Ohioans….with steps we can all take to help our moms-to-be have healthy pregnancies and babies.

You Can Help

- Drive a pregnant woman to her doctor (or midwife) appointment
- Watch her children so she can go stress-free
- Volunteer with local programs working to reduce baby deaths
- Like and follow “Our Babies Count” on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter
- Use #ourbabiescount to share personal experiences and encourage

Spread the Word About the Importance of Pregnancy Care

- Visit OurBabiesCount.org for materials.
- Order FREE information cards, magnets, stickers and posters
- Use video, article, web ad, social media graphics, more

Get involved! OurBabiesCount.org • Like and Follow “Our Babies Count” on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

Perryman... continued from page 3

the sheriff on DART (Drug Abuse Response Team) and these are not incarceration programs, these are diversion programs. We signed a historic agreement two weeks ago with 20 judges, all from Sylvania, Maumee, Oregon, the county and the City of Toledo, and they all agreed to reduce their beds at Stryker by 128 beds alone.

Perryman: And still keep the community safe?

Gerken: And what we know, is, that we now have everybody looking on a database system, not a racially profiled system, about who gets put in jail and who doesn’t. We’ve started to take the profiling out of incarceration by having the data risk assessment tool that says it’s not the charge, it’s your flight risk. We have a whole new set of eyes and it’s already with results.

Perryman: You were not only instrumental but also invaluable. And other counties have been innovative in bringing body cameras to the Lucas County Sheriff’s department.

Gerken: Sure, let’s not forget about the body cameras. The commissioners and the sheriff, we are the first local law enforcement, first body of government to demand and outfit our law enforcement officers with body cameras, and by the way, you were the one to push this on them.

Perryman: Correct. So how do your agenda address the devastating toll that mass incarceration has taken on individuals, children, women and families of color?

Gerken: We continue to look at the disproportionate rate of those that remain in our jail. The way we address it is to continue to use some of the MacArthur money and our resource money making sure people don’t end up in jail. We did the first ever Getting Ahead Looking Out Program that actually targeted people that were being released to the community with the skills to, the minute they got off the bus, not to return to prison. We’re the second county in Ohio to do that. So the way we’re fighting disproportionality is very easily, number one fighting recidivism, which is a large contributor, and we continue to do that through programs like Getting Ahead. We are also working through the Reentry Coalition to sponsor African-American men mentoring other African-American men when they get out of prison from minute one to make sure they don’t go back. Everybody knows the first 72 hours when you’re released will dictate whether you go back or not. We are invested right now to end that cycle.

And speaking of cycles that the formerly incarcerated can’t recover from, let’s not forget about the ban on the box, you know the story.

Perryman: Please tell us your story.

Gerken: Alright, we were the first county in Ohio to realize if we’re going to be real about recidivism, you can’t have an opportunity to help people get a job. We took the felony question off our applications. Not to say that at some point people won’t get a records review, but we think people need to have a chance to apply for a job without their application going directly into the wastebasket because the box is checked. So if we’re going to talk about giving people a chance to reenter, then we have to take down barriers and that first barrier was to ban the box and we’re the first county in Ohio to do it.

Perryman: Finally, how would you describe the state of race relations or the relationship between the community and law enforcement in Lucas County?

Gerken: I think race relationships and police relations in Lucas County are better than the average in the United States. Both leadership in the African-American community and some leaders of the police side have opened up the dialogue. We haven’t had the events that other communities have had. We’ve come a long way forward. We have things like Baldemar Velez’s treaty, basically between the police and Latino youth, I think that Black Lives Matter voices have at least been heard in my office, and what’s been heard in my office we try to ring into everybody else’s office, too.

Perryman: And so, by having an open door policy, with, what are perceived sometimes as “protest groups,” allows you to be proactive rather than reactive and can prevent a social crisis from occurring down the road?

Gerken: Right. I’d rather talk about the problem than fight about the problem. We may get to fighting sometimes, but we certainly are going to have a community where listening is valued first. So far, the leaders of the minority community and most leaders of the police community have stepped up to try that solution.

Perryman: Do you believe in the principle that the real answers to the problems in the black community can only come from the black community itself rather than having the solutions pushed from others?

Gerken: Yes, I believe in self-determined solutions. But being self-determined you’re going to have to have the availability of resources to make this determination. So absolutely, there’s nobody going to come into anybody’s neighborhood and tell them what we think they ought to do. What we’re going to do is solicit and see what resources they tell us they need to determine what their problems are and fix them.

Perryman: Lastly, please talk about where you’ve been, where you are now and where you are headed as far as your agenda for the African-American community.

Gerken: I am a product of the 60’s and the UAW Movement in the early 70’s, which was a great friend to the civil rights community. Where I’ve been is on the side of voting rights and reforms along equality. I am questioning a lot of my time in jobs, housing, voting rights and equal opportunity. Where I’m going to now is to continue those processes. What you’ve seen in the past you’re going to get more of in the future.

We get loud every once in a while about things when they’re wrong. I think now as the world becomes more complex and angry, it’s time to get loud again about those issues that were on the forefront in the 60’s and 70’s. I think it’s time to get loud about that.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org
Dream a World Anew by the National Museum of African American History & Culture

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

There’s so much you wish you’d kept.

Of course, you never thought of that when things were thrown out: your grandmother’s favorite skirt, a poster your uncle hung on his wall, an autographed picture of a minor star from the 1920s. You’d cherish them today, but they’re gone forever – or are they? In Dream a World Anew by the National Museum of African American History & Culture, you’ll find those kinds of things – and more.

The new Smithsonian Museum began, in essence, with slavery.

In looking at the world’s history, slavery was nothing new; it was even practiced in Africa in earlier centuries. This time, however – beginning with Portuguese slave ships in about 1440 – it would lead to the largest forced migration of humans, ever: more than 12 million “Africans of enormous cultural diversity” were shackled, marched cross-country and transported across the Atlantic Ocean. The numbers were so high that, just three-and-a-half centuries after it began, “black people formed 20 percent of the population of the new United States.”

Those new citizens fought on behalf of America in the Revolutionary War and, because of the “chaos of war,” were often freed after service. Slaves, in fact, often fought easier than whites (or in racially-divided military companies) in other wars, then, a “First Emancipation” that didn’t last long; by the early 1800s, the plantation system ensured that slavery continued.

Freed at the end of the Civil War, black citizens formed schools, started businesses, created products and founded small towns, despite the onus of Southern sharecropping. Many migrated north, where discrimination still existed but Jim Crow laws weren’t quite as burdensome as they were in the South and lynchings weren’t nearly as common. They fought the same battles alongside whites (or in racially-divided military companies) in other wars, then they came home to more discrimination – which ultimately, in part, led to a national fight for civil rights. And through the centuries, African Americans left a trail of culture: songs from Africa; unique dance “styles and techniques;” minstrelsy and vaudeville acts; music, literature, art and poetry.

I have to admit: at first, I was a little disappointed in Dream a World Anew. What’s inside – the narrative – seemed like everything I’d heard before. So I flipped the book over and started paging through it again…

While it’s true that familiar names are everywhere in this book – Wheatley, Turner, Douglass, Truth, Tubman – readers will also be absolutely treated to stories and mini-biographies from regular people throughout history. The familiar names are rightfully here, but it’s those everyday tales that I couldn’t get enough of.

And then there are the items you’ll see here, and in the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture: a skirt worn by someone’s enslaved grandmother. Handbills, photographs, pottery, and medals, ships logs and shoes, quilts and posters and bric-a-brac that all tell a story.

No more disappointment. I loved this book, and I think you will, too. If you enjoy history or if you’re planning a visit to our Nation’s capital, Dream a World Anew is a souvenir you’ll want kept.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com
Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY17-19, (Project # 1020-15-14) for Engineering Campus Chiller/Boiler Plant Improve 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 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 11, 2016. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 3:05 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 $70.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Scott Hoffman of AGM Energy Services at 419-491-1030. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 11:00 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: 15%. Project Estimate: $2,635,870.00; Breakdown: HVAC: $1,000,000.00, Electrical: $451,307.00, Fire Protection: $66,778.00, HVAC/Plumbing: $395,014.00, Commercial/Industrial Electrical Construction: $451,307.00.

Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY17-15, (Project # 0034-17-742) for Academic Technology and Renovation (Carlson Library Renovation, Phase 3) 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, October 18, 2016. 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 $60.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from John Koss of Design Engineers & Consulting Associates at 419-891-0022. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 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: 15%. Project Estimate: $2,635,870.00; Breakdown: General Const: $1,722,771.00; Fire Protection: $66,778.00; HVAC/Plumbing: $395,014.00; Electrical: $451,307.00.

**NORTHGATE APARTMENTS**

610 Stickney Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43604

“Now Accepting Applications for 1 and 2 Bedroom Apartment Homes”

Senior Community for persons 55 years and older. Rent is based on income. Our Activity and Service Coordinators are on site. Heat included. Chauffeured transportation to nearby shopping and banks available.

**HOUSING SPECIALIST**

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA), located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for the position of Housing Specialist – **Deadline 10/07/16**. For complete details, visit www.lucasmha.org/Employment. This is a Section 3 covered position. HUD recipients are encouraged to apply and are to indicate on the application if you are a LMHA Public Housing resident or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, religious creed, gender, military status, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin.

**RENASCENE OTTAWA AREA RESIDENCES**

3 AND 4 Bedroom Single Family Homes with attached garages. Many homes newly remodeled and available immediately. All appliances included. Please call 419-389-0096 or visit our office at 1258 Rockcress Drive, Toledo, OH 43615 Voice/TTY 1-800-553-0300. Equal Housing Opportunity.

**GARDENVIEW HOMES**

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**POLICE OFFICER**

The Village of Ottawa Hills is accepting applications for the position of full-time Police Officer. Required training and experience: Minimum two year college degree or equivalent, from an accredited college. Must be commissioned Peace Officer according to the rules of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council. Testing must be conducted through the National Testing Network (www.national-testingnetwork.com) and completed no later than November 04, 2016. For more information visit www.ottawahills.org/employment or email police@ottawahills.org. Pay range: $50,235 - $60,235. The Village of Ottawa Hills is an equal opportunity employer.

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**GRANTS ADMINISTRATOR TOLEDO LUCAS COUNTY HOMELESSNESS BOARD.**

Send cover letter and resume to jobs@tlcb.org. For complete job description please visit endinghomelessness Toledo.org. Application deadline October 10, 2016.

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**CLASSIFIEDS**

**THE SOJOURNER’S TRUTH**

Heat included. Chauffeured transportation to nearby shopping and banks available.

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Detroit Cycle Clubs Hold Ride to Glory for Fallen Riders

On Sunday, September 18, a number of Detroit-based motorcycle clubs hosted a “Ride to Glory” that ended in Toledo at Ruby’s Kitchen.

Members of Kings and Queens of Harley, Harley Boys and Girls and Rare Breed, among others, participated in the event.

Headliners Holds Easter Victory Party

On Saturday, September 24, Toledoans celebrated a hometown hero, Robert Easter, Jr, now an IBF world champion, with a victory party at Headliners. The party was hosted by Gerry Porter and DJ Fresh provided the tunes for the partygoers.

Ohio, We Need Your Help

Too Many Babies Are Dying

Find out what you can do to support healthy pregnancies. Because one baby lost is one too many.

Positive Force Christian School of Dance
The Second Annual Great Lakes Art Festival

On Sunday, September 18, Toledo residents had the opportunity to bring their lawn chairs, blankets, coolers and kids to Ottawa Park to enjoy a day’s worth of jazz. The Great Lakes Jazz Festival, sponsored by TARTA, Music Go Round, Harold Jaffe Jewelers and the University of Toledo featured the Latin Jazz Players, Jerome Clark, Trio Cantino, Damen Cook and Katch.

The festival organizer and master of ceremonies was Hugh Ross.

Assisting with the effort were the students from the American cultural Exchange Service (ACES)