Who’s On First?
By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.
The Truth Contributor

If it wasn’t for baseball, I’d be in either the penitentiary or the cemetery.
- Babe Ruth

“They must not like each other,” whispered Wanda Butts, daughter of storied former little league baseball coach John Butts, who piloted Toledo’s young, all black Lincoln School Tigers in the late 1950s and early 60s.

Toledo City Council Recreation Committee Chairman Cecelia Adams, PhD, was being bombarded with one verbal brush-back pitch after another, apparently designed to intimidate and send a clear message.

In an age of rising youth violence and absence of participation in positive summer recreational activities, Adams was advocating for the City’s participation in a Little League sanctioned Tee-Ball program for the central city. The program would replace a pipeline to prison or gang membership with teamwork, skills development and a conduit for higher levels of youth baseball.

Adams assured the committee that there would be no financial costs to the City and asked only that it serve as a repository for registration fees and donations.

However, instead of support, Adams received only shade and steeled resistance as one by one, committee members ganged up to pummel her with political “chin music.”

Council President Steven Steel wondered aloud if there would be enough interest and community participation. Councilwoman Yvonne Harper worried whether her constituents would “construe” that some of the recently passed 0.75 percent income tax levy receipts would be applied to tee-ball. Councilman Larry Sykes complained about not getting the informational packets in time to adequately prepare and whether it was proper to place the issue on the agenda of a budget hearing.

Why such vigorous pushback on the topic of bringing back kid baseball, once embraced by the black community because of its styles for the game and ability to direct black youth away from negative neighborhood activities?

A Foul Ball?
Perhaps Councilwoman Theresa Gabriel, who is not on the committee but attended the hearing, provides the best clue to the source of the acrimony. “...I cannot see supporting an ordinance in the fashion it appears that for the time being, then, there will be no little league or tee-ball in the central city.

A Dropped Ball Error, an Attempted Stolen Base or Who Gets the Credit?
Ohio State Senator and Minority Whip Edna Brown initially presented the issue, obtained bylaws and assembled pertinent information, council members say privately. When Brown could not attend an organizational meeting because of legislative priorities in Columbus, meetings were changed from the Police Athletic League on Manhattan Boulevard to the 21st floor City Council offices and Brown was not notified, they add.

Adams, in the view of other council members, then, has since been making unilateral decisions rather than seeking consensus. Various council members view this Adams’ perceived “solo efforts” to get the... continued on page 3

Community Calendar

January 12
Discover TPS Night: 5 tp 7:30 pm at each TPS high school: Meet students, staff and counselors – tour the school, hands on demonstrations, musical performance, raffles and games; Bowsher, Scott, Woodward, Start, Rogers, Waite, TTA and Jones Leadership Academy

January 13-15
Prayer Revival “Revive Us Again:” Family of Faith Church: Friday at 7, Saturday at 6, Sunday morning at 11; Guest speaker Pastor Terrence Moore of Detroit: 586-260-5951

January 16
MLK Unity Day: 9 to 11 am; UT Savage Hal; Guest Speaker ESPN’s Jemele Hill: 419-245-1565

January 28
2017 Annual Gospel Extravaganza: “I Will Change the World;” Open to all youth artists; Vendors 3-4 pm; Music at 4; Warren AME: 419-450-0165 or 419-381-1558 or darlenesawyer25@yahoo.com Toledo Excel 33rd Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth; 8:30 am to 1 pm
New Year, New Format for Foster Care and Adoption Training
New format helps prospective caregivers complete pre-service training in two three-day weekends!

Special to The Truth

Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) is responding to requests for more flexible foster care and adoption training by offering a new and unique configuration of classes in January 2017, in addition to its traditional schedule of Saturday training classes starting in February.

The new schedule of classes takes place on two consecutive three-day weekends: Friday, Saturday and Sunday, January 13, 14 and 15, and January 20, 21 and 22. LCCS then offers its traditional six-week series of Saturday-only classes, February 4 through March 11.

All classes take place from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the agency’s offices at 705 Adams Street in downtown Toledo.

“Interested applicants told us they were looking to complete the training process more quickly, even if it meant attending classes through the weekend, so we’re glad to offer that opportunity,” explains Yvette Muhammad, LCCS supervisor of licensing, training and recruitment.

Information and registration for either session is available by calling 419-213-3336 or visiting. Additional training sessions are planned for Monday and Wednesday evenings, April 3 through May 10, and as a one-week program, June 19 through 24.

Qualifying to be a foster or adoptive parent is easier than you think. You...
• Must be at least 18 years of age to adopt; 21 to become a foster parent
• Can be married, single or in a relationship; all adults in the household must attend training
• Can own or rent a home with at least two bedrooms; that home must pass a safety inspection
• Can work outside the home
• Must demonstrate a source of income sufficient to care for yourself
• Agree to a background check
• Receive free training
• Receive financial support, based on your child(ren)’s needs

About Lucas County Children Services
The mission of Lucas County Children Services is to lead the community in the protection of children at risk of abuse and neglect. This is accomplished by working with families, service providers and community members to assess risk and coordinate community-based services resulting in safe, stable and permanent families for children.

Perryman...continued from page 2

COSTLY ERROR FOR THOSE AT-LARGE COUNCIL MEMBERS

By drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org

Adams, however, disputes this. “I was contacted by a man [Willie Copeland] who is very ill and his wife is gravely ill,” she states. “This is a broad-based community partnership with a board and the idea was to have a council member from each district to serve on the board. I have met several times to discuss the legislation with my peers. So the effort was not for my glory, but to help people and to keep their dream moving. I was merely trying to help someone by pulling in various players who could bring in the resources possible to make a resident’s dream a reality,” Adams says.

Senator Edna Brown, allegedly, wants to make tee-ball her own signature effort for 2017 and Councilman Sykes reportedly still bears open wounds over payday lending legislation he feels was co-opted by Adams.

So, at the root of the acrimony may lie a “Who gets the Credit?” dispute which could be a costly error for those at-large council members running for re-election in 2017.

Extra Innings?
What can be done to get central city tee-ball back in the game?

Councilwoman Sandy Spang’s understated questions perhaps provide the best way forward to a reasonable conclusion of the contest.

“Is it required that there be a city sponsor to begin a league,” she asked the Little League representative? To Department of Parks and Recreation’s Commissioner Lisa Ward, Spang also asked, “Does the City play any role beyond simply giving permission to use the parks for games and practice in any of the 50 baseball and softball leagues in Toledo?”

Municipalities are occasionally involved in baseball leagues, but not always. Of the 50 or so ball leagues in Toledo, there is only one, according to Ward, that the city provides “a little bit more management,” by helping to assign referees.

Yet, perhaps, the only consensus seems to be that an independent nonprofit should drive the effort without City of Toledo involvement. The City does not have the desire, the staff, the finances and, “everything they touch turns to crap,” according to a person familiar with the program.

As for me, my conclusion is “Who’s on first, What is on second, and I Don’t Know is on third.” What we now need, is just someone to step up to the plate.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org
In December the world celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ and in January the world will celebrate the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. But many don’t know that although the two men were separated by 2000 years, Jesus of Nazareth and Martin Luther King Jr. lived similar lives. Both men represented oppressed peoples.

Both stood up to power. Both preached peace and love. Both were killed. The careers and ministries of Jesus and Martin Luther King Jr. both represented a non-violent liberation movement which led to their violent deaths.

Jesus of Nazareth attacked the Temple and attempted to bring in outsiders. He reached out to lepers, prostitutes, the poor and other outsiders. Religious leaders looked down on the people Jesus appealed to. Additionally, if Jesus united the outsiders, the Temple’s power might have collapsed. That made him a threat and subversive.

As Christ tried to mainstream outsiders of his time, Dr. King represented America’s oppressed. African-Americans became second-class citizens during the late 17th century and never regained the rights and privileges enjoyed by some of the first Africans to come to America.

By the time of the U.S. Brown vs. Board of Education decision outlawing school segregation, Blacks had experienced nearly two centuries of slavery and an additional century of Jim Crow.

King’s crusade made him dangerous and subversive. Many whites opposed King’s efforts because of racism, fear of job competition, and other assorted fears.

By the time of his death, King looked to expand the movement to the poor which brought him into conflict with the middle class.

To achieve their goal of inclusion, both Christ and King used non-violence to promote their beliefs.

Christ preached love thy neighbor. He disappointed first century Jewish revolutionaries. They believed in a fire and brimstone messiah. They expected someone like Spartacus as opposed to someone like Gandhi.

As with Christ, King disappointed some black radicals. By the time of the March on Washington, cracks began appearing in the Civil Rights Movement.

Radicals wanted to indict and attack white America. By the time of King’s death, these radicals engaged in violence as opposed to King’s non-violent protest.

To his credit, King refused to abandon his policy of boycotts, marches and other methods of non-violent protest.

In addition to being peaceful men, both Christ and King could move people with words.

Both were gifted orators who delivered speeches, or sermons, which have motivated and inspired and will survive the ages.

Christ’s “Sermon on the Mount” is probably a collection of Jesus’ speeches pieced together for dramatic effect.

Although it is unlikely that the address was delivered as recorded, it does not obscure the message nor the apparent ability of Christ to inspire.

He had to have great oratorical skills as he spoke of the oneness of heaven. Unfortunately, recording technology did not exist in the first century A.D.

Unlike Jesus, recordings of King survive. He was a dynamic and charismatic speaker. His “I Have a Dream” speech is the greatest address of the twentieth century.

It presents a uniquely American vision and is quoted to this day. It speaks of inclusion and the oneness of America as opposed to separation.

Both men used their oratorical skills on the eve of their deaths. Jesus held a last supper. There he spoke of his blood and flesh. Apparently, he also knew of his impending arrest and its meaning. Arrest meant death.

Two millennia later, King delivered his last speech during a raging thunderstorm. The “Mountaintop” speech predicted his early death, but also equality.

In every real sense, he foresaw the election of Barack Obama.

Like Christ at the Last Supper, King knew he was a dead man. Unlike King, Jesus was not assassinated. He was executed for treason. The Romans thought he might have been another Spartacus.

Christ appealed to society’s outcasts, played the role of messiah, and even disrupted the money changers at the Temple. As a result, he received a traitor’s death on the cross.

While Christ was executed, King was assassinated. The day after the “Mountaintop” speech, James Earl Ray shot and killed King.

Ray attempted to flee to white South Africa. After his arrest, Ray pled guilty to avoid the death penalty. He died in prison.

After his death, the Jesus movement turned their rabbi into a god. Ironi-

... continued on page 8

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Seven Ohio individuals and organizations will be recognized for their efforts to advance nonviolent social change at the 32nd annual Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Celebration. The free event, sponsored by the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, will be held at noon Thursday, Jan. 12 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 125 E. Broad St., Columbus.

The annual event also will feature speeches from the following winners of the 2016 Statewide MLK Oratorical Contest held last April: Elena Earley, now a third-grader, Columbus; Mackenzie Lewis (who also is receiving the Governor’s Humanitarian Award), now a fifth-grader, Columbus; Playon Patrick, now a third-grader, Columbus; and Ivy Holley, now a 10th-grader, Lima.

The awards and their recipients are as follows:

**Governor’s Humanitarian Award criteria:** The recipient of this award has acted independently of associations and organizations. The recipient has given his or her time and service freely to those in need without question and often without recognition. This award honors quiet soldiers who promote the welfare of humanity and elimination of pain and suffering through their own selfless service.

**Winner: 10-year-old Mackenzie Lewis, Columbus.** Concern over the Flint, Mich., water crisis sprung Lewis into action last year. She spent hours planning and executing drives and a fundraiser to collect safe water and other supplies for the people of Flint. In two trips, she delivered 1,330 cases and 320 gallons of water. Lewis’ other initiatives include collecting more than 200 T-shirts for children in Haiti and more than 150 stuffed animals for her Berwick Cares Bear Project at her school, Berwick Alternative K-8 in Columbus, for children going to foster or adoptive homes.

**Community Building Award criteria:** The recipient selected in this category has made significant contributions toward building a sense of unity among Ohio citizens. The recipient has demonstrated the ability to build safer communities through various activities and programs that help to revitalize areas and make our communities a more wholesome and desirable place for living, learning and loving. The recipient has used Dr. King’s vision of nonviolent social change in his efforts to successfully bring people from diverse backgrounds together to build a better community.

**Winner: Wayne McLaughlin, Chillicothe.** has dedicated his life to the service of others. Professionally, he recently retired from serving as executive director of Ross County Community Action, a social service delivery agency in Chillicothe. During his 11-year tenure, McLaughlin was diligent in securing funding for the development of a homeless shelter for men; he implemented a support program for individuals with lupus; collaborated with Chillicothe City School District to bring a minority student leadership program to Ross County; and partnered with Ohio University-Chillicothe to enhance the Head Start program for children. Relatively to the community, McLaughlin is an ordained minister who has been active in the prison ministry. He has been instrumental in the Chillicothe-area Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebrations, Black History Month celebrations and health events for minorities. In addition, he has served on more than 20 boards, commissions and other organizations.

**Cultural Awareness Award criteria:** The recipient selected in this category has demonstrated an appreciation for diversity and evidenced skill in building and maintaining harmonious cross-cultural relationships. The recipient’s achievements foster Dr. King’s vision of unity among people of diverse cultural backgrounds.

**Winner: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Lima.** During the past 26 years, the Sigma Mu Omega chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) sorority has served the Lima community in numerous ways. A non-profit international service organization, AKA is the oldest Greek letter sorority for African American women in the United States. The Lima chapter provides a college readiness program for students. They also host the largest MLK breakfast in Lima with 500 to 700 attendees, where they raise funds for programming and scholarships. Other projects include giving bags of food to youth for weekend meals and serving as reading buddies.

**Economic Opportunity Award criteria:** The recipient in this category may be an organization or individual who seeks to improve the quality of life for its citizens in economically challenged areas through economic incentive programs. The recipient has demonstrated accomplishments in one or more of the following areas: workforce development programs; upgrading skills of existing workforce; infrastructure improvements; creation of community partnerships; housing assistance programs; energy efficiency programs; environmental programs; encouragement of new business startups; or ability to take advantage of state and federal aid to provide economic opportunity.

**Winner: JumpStart, Inc., Cleveland.** is a venture development organization making many positive contributions to improve the quality of life for citizens in economically challenged areas. JumpStart and its partners in northeast Ohio have helped more than 1,150 early-stage entrepreneurs raise more than $2 billion in risk capital, generate more than $1.7 billion in revenue and create more than 10,000 total jobs. The organization also was the first major venture development organization to launch a fund specifically for minority and female entrepreneurs. JumpStart’s pioneering efforts to focus on traditionally underserved communities has achieved international recognition, and now serves as a model for other communities to leverage investments for economic revitalization. In addition, JumpStart leadership has helped spearhead national efforts to increase diversity in the venture capital investing community.

**Educational Excellence Award criteria:** The recipient selected in this category has demonstrated a high level of achievement in the education field.

**Winner: Lima City Schools.** Now a 64-member organization, the Lima chapter of the Sigma Mu Omega chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) sorority has served the Lima community in numerous ways. A non-profit international service organization, AKA is the oldest Greek letter sorority for African American women in the United States. The Lima chapter provides a college readiness program for students. They also host the largest MLK breakfast in Lima with 500 to 700 attendees, where they raise funds for programming and scholarships. Other projects include giving bags of food to youth for weekend meals and serving as reading buddies.

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Northwest State Community College’s Scott Park Location Filling Skilled Tradesmen Void

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner’s Truth Editor

In March 2016 Northwest State Community College opened a satellite location at the University of Toledo’s Scott Park Campus. The Scott Park location is a manufacturing training center whose purpose is to replenish the ranks of skilled tradesmen as their numbers are depleted through retirement, says Director David Conover.

The new location, a 22,000 square foot facility provides offers three types of training programs, or buckets. The first bucket trains existing employees of customers in subjects such as business computers, hydraulics and automotive production, for example.

ProMedica uses NSCC for computer training and NSCC is the sole provider of computer training for General Mills worldwide.

In the second bucket, NSCC provides training across a broad spectrum in an apprenticeship program. And in the third, NSCC brings in students for 32 weeks or less for certification in such areas as IT, robotics and industrial automotive maintenance. The third bucket also includes a pilot program, funded by United Way, which prepares students for entry level positions in basic operation for automated plants.

The Scott Park location is housed in a building that had been put

...continued on page 7

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REV. CECIL JEROME GRAHAM, PASTOR
to a variety of purposes over the years. In recent years, the State of Ohio cleared the way for the expansion of NSCC and provided a grant of almost $2 million for renovation of the facility and the Ohio Chamber of Commerce provided funds of $900,000 for programming.

Northwest State Community College was founded in 1968 when the Ohio Board of Regents approved the formation of the Four County Technical Institute. In 1972 the college moved to its present location in Archbold, Ohio and was renamed the Northwest Technical College. Northwest became a community college in 1994 which enabled students to earn associate of arts and associate of science degrees.

Today NSCC offers over 70 degree and certification programs. The enrollment of over 4,000 students and almost 2,500 others in workforce development also have the ability to take nearly 90 online classes and the tuition is only $157.33 per credit hour.

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More Parents Saving More Money for College

Special to The Truth

The number of parents saving for college and the amounts they are saving are both at four-year highs, according to “How America Saves for College 2016,” a recent national study by Sallie Mae and conducted by Ipsos.

The new report reveals that 57 percent of today’s parents are saving for college, up from 48 percent in 2015, and the average amount saved is $16,380, up from $10,040 the year prior.

In this climate of increased savings, over half of all parents feel confident they’ll be able to meet college costs, and the vast majority of parents who have set a savings goal are confident they’ll meet their goal.

“These higher levels of optimism, confidence, and savings correspond with other economic trends we’re seeing, such as declines in unemployment and increased optimism about the economy among the U.S. public,” says Julia Clark, senior vice president, Ipsos Public Affairs.

Here are some of the reports key findings:

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Toledo Ballet Awarded Grant from Toledo Community Foundation’s Walleye Wishing Well Fund

Special to The Truth

Toledo Ballet has received a grant from the Toledo Community Foundation’s Walleye Wishing Well Fund to implement a dance program at the Boys and Girls Club of Toledo in the fall of 2017. The program will take place at the Boys and Girls Club’s Homer Hanham facility.

The program will run weekly one-hour classes for 24 weeks, from October 2017 – May 2018 for BGCT members ages nine -12. Designed to be accessible to students of all skill levels, participants will sample a wide variety of dance forms from ballet to hip hop and build on lessons from previous weeks, emphasizing the importance of physical exercise as well as improving balance, motor skills, strength, and agility.

The program will be taught by Toledo Ballet faculty member and company principal dancer Domonique Glover. Glover, the valedictorian of the Scott High School class of 2004, is a graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta with a B.A. in mathematics. He currently teaches math at Horizon Science Academy.

The generous grant covers expenses for equipment necessary to execute the program, including portable dance barres, mirrors, and a “fat head” of American Ballet Theater’s first African-American principal dancer, Misty Copeland, that will be installed on the wall of the gym where the club’s athletic activities and the dance program will take place.

“I am so pleased that the TCF Board of Trustees sees the inherent value of this dance program,” said Toledo Ballet Executive Director Mari Davies. “The fact that the nation’s most famous ballerina, Misty Copeland, was first exposed to ballet at a Boys and Girls Club speaks to the amazing opportunities such exposure lends. We can’t wait until next fall to see this program take flight.”

SOLFUL MUSIC AND ROMANTIC SPOKEN WORD!

Join us on Friday, February 10 at 9 p.m. for an intimate evening of SOULful music and romantic spoken word poetry that is sure to groove and move your SOUL. Featuring playwright John Scott and other amazingly gifted artists. Those in attendance will be entered into a drawing to win tickets to Valentine’s Love Affair featuring Joe, Ro James, Chrise and significant others. Save the date and plan on attending this SOULful and romantic candlelit Valentine’s Day weekend event.

Log on to www.eventbrite.com, type “Art & SOUL at The Truth Gallery: For Lover’s Only” in the search bar, and purchase your tickets in advance.

**Friday, February 10 at The Truth Art Gallery, 1811 Adams Street.**

Tickets: $10

Light refreshments will be served.

Share the post. Spread the word. Bring your lover. Bring a friend. Be there!

MLK Day... continued from page 4

cally, they copied the Roman model.

After Caesar’s death, his heir, Augustus, saw a comet and claimed it was Caesar’s soul.

He declared the former Roman dictator a god. This made Augustus the son of a god.

The early Christians followed suit. They created a resurrection story which served as the comet and Jesus became the son of God.

King did not become a god, but he did enter the American pantheon. This is as close to deification as an American can come.

He also became a Christian martyr to a number of churches. Like Jesus, King even has his own holidays.

While Christ has Christmas, the U.S. made King’s birthday a national holiday. While Christ has Easter, the Episcopal Church of the United States has a feast day in King’s honor.

Although separated by two millennia, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Jesus Christ had similar careers and lives.

Both men tried to mainstream the outsider. Both used their oratorical gifts to push their agendas. Both preached non-violence and knew they would die young. After their deaths, both were deified.

A man’s body dies but his spirit lives forever! Case in point, Jesus and Martin knew their purpose in life and it was not for their happiness but to be useful and to make a difference in the world and the lives of other people!

God gives us all a certain talent and how we use that talent speaks to how we serve God. See God doesn’t pick you unless he equips you! God has a purpose for your pain, a reason for your struggle and a reward for your faithfulness so don’t give up!
Lourdes University Offers Ava DuVernay’s 13th Documentary showing is free and open to the public

On Thursday, January 12 at 7 p.m., Lourdes University offers a free showing of 13th, an original Netflix documentary directed by Ava DuVernay. A Critics Choice Documentary Award winner, 13th provides an in-depth look at the prison system in the United States and how it reveals the nation’s history of racial inequality. The documentary will be shown in the Franciscan Center, 6832 Convent Blvd., in Sylvania.

The documentary showing is free and open to the public. A discussion will follow.

“We are pleased to offer this poignant and relevant documentary to our students and all citizens in the northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan region. It is our hope that the discussion promotes open dialogue on topics that affect our society daily,” says Rachel Duff Anderson, dean of Student Life. The discussion will be moderated by Therese Hoffman, Ph.D, Sociology & Justice Studies Professor.

2017 Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration
Lourdes University is offering two weeks of programming and outreach activities in January in recognition of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The documentary showing of 13th is one of the chosen programs. For a list of all Lourdes MLK, Jr. events, visit www.lourdes.edu/mlk.

The Franciscan Center Announces January Events

The Franciscan Center of Lourdes University is pleased to announce its January 2017 slate of events.

Thursday, January 12
The Lourdes University Parent Institute will hold an advisory board meeting at 8:30 a.m. For more information, contact Parent Institute Coordinator Michelle Rose at mrose@lourdes.edu or 419-824-3822.

Sunday, January 20
The Lourdes University Lifelong Learning program presents the lecture “Healing the Hate: Can We All Get Along in a Post Obama, Donald Trump World?” with Dale Lanigan, PhD, Lourdes University Chair of Sociology and Criminal Justice; and Thomas Estrella, Lourdes University associate professor of Psychology. Sparks are sure to fly when Lanigan’s progressive perspective meets Professor Estrella’s libertarian views. The lecture is at 10 a.m. with refreshments offered at 9:15 a.m. Free for members and first-time visitors.

The Lifelong Learning Hot Topic is “Technology: Stimulus or De...

Discover TPS Night
Thursday, January 12 from 5 – 7:30 p.m.

- Meet students, staff and counselors
- Tour the school
- Hands-on demonstrations
- Discover...
  - academic offerings, including foreign language, the arts and classes through our distance learning labs
  - post-secondary options, including College Credit Plus, AP courses and an associate's degree track
  - Career Technology programs
  - extracurricular activities, including an array of athletic options and student organizations
- Enjoy musical performances from the band, chorus, performing arts
- Raffles and prizes
Mid-Year Motivation for Students and Educators

Special to The Truth

The school year can seem long for students and educators alike. However, a mid-year infusion of new technology and tools can provide just the motivation needed to ace the rest of the year.

Here are several tools and technologies that can pave the way to better, more enthusiastic learning at home and in the classroom.

Social Media

Teachers are increasingly communicating with students and parents over social media, whether it is tweeting updates about today’s lesson or field trip or using Pinterest to share ideas and student work.

Seventy-one percent of teens use more than one social media site already, according to recent Pew research. However getting comfortable using these tools in a more formal capacity can have real world implications for students, as more industries and professions require social media proficiency.

Making Music

Students and teachers of music know the varied benefits of a high-quality arts education. Learning music can help develop math and pattern recognition skills, increase coordination and foster left brain development, according to the National Association for Music Education. Be sure your tools of the trade are up to the task.

For students learning to play a keyboard, be sure their instrument features the same sound quality as a traditional piano, but with the additional benefits a higher-tech option brings.

For example, the Privia PX-160 from Casio, an 88-key digital piano that boasts the sound of a 9-foot concert grand, features left and right audio outputs, making it easy to connect to other devices for external amplification or recording purposes. Additional features include dual headphone jacks, 18 authentic piano tones, duet mode, a USB port and a two-track recorder. Whether you are outfitting a home or a classroom with musical instruments, additional information can be found at CasioMusicGear.com.

Noise Canceling Headphones

Peace and quiet are not always available during crunch time, particularly for students with many siblings, or college students living in a dorm room. Help scholars achieve greater serenity with a good set of noise canceling headphones that don’t compromise the quality of the audio.

Classroom Revamp

Many schools are looking to go green and save some money while upgrading technology. By combining a laser and LED light source, Casio’s LampFree projectors are a unique, high-brightness, mercury-free tool that uses half the amount of power per unit than its traditional lamp-based counterparts. They save educators time and money because they require minimal maintenance and eliminate the cost of replacement lamps, as they have a 20,000 hour lifespan.

The XJ-F210WN model features Intelligent Light Control, which senses ambient light in the room and automatically adjusts the projection brightness accordingly. This can be particularly beneficial to teachers, who may be using their projectors in classrooms with a lot of natural sunlight.

You can help make the school year feel new again with educational tools that revamp learning.

Courtesy StatePoint
Toledo Zoo Recognized for Conservation Efforts

Special to The Truth

The Toledo Zoo has been recognized by two organizations for its on-going commitment to educating the public about conservation efforts.

On Monday, December 12 the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency awarded an Ohio EPA Education grant to the Toledo Zoo to create 10 acres of demonstration rain gardens throughout the city. The $44,300 grant will also help to educate area residents about issues in the Lake Erie watershed by providing for monthly educational workshops at the Zoo on making a difference in local and regional water quality. According to the grant’s press release, visitors to the workshops will receive complimentary Clean Water Garden seed packets and the opportunity to register their own Clean Water Garden through the Wild Toledo website.

Toledo Zoo was also recently honored by the local Oak Openings Region chapter of Wild Ones with the 2016 President’s Award. This award was given to the Zoo and signed by the chapter president, Hal Mann, in appreciation of the Zoo’s support of the Wild Ones Oak Openings Chapter and promoting local biodiversity through establishing and educating about native plant communities in our local area.

The Toledo Zoo is proud to be a conservation leader and contributing member of the northwest Ohio community. The Zoo extends its sincerest thanks the Ohio EPA and Wild Ones Oak Openings Chapter for their continued support of the Zoo’s mission to inspire others to care for animals and conserve the natural world.

Parents Saving Money... continued from page 7

Millennials Most Committed

Millennial parents -- age 35 or younger -- feel more confident than other generations about meeting college costs, and they’re more committed to saving for college. More Millennials are saving (65 percent, vs. 50 percent of Gen X parents and 61 percent of Baby Boomer parents), and Millennials have saved more money ($20,155, on average, vs. $12,428 for Gen Xers and $18,323 for Baby Boomers).

When it comes to paying for college, a greater percentage of Millennial parents believe the parent should be solely responsible compared to their Gen X and Baby Boomer counterparts.

More 529 College Savings Plans

While use of 529 college savings plans among parents rose to 37 percent, up from 27 percent the prior year, these tax-advantaged plans still lag far behind general savings accounts, despite the fact that those who use 529 plans save roughly 25 percent more, on average.

More Parents Making Plans

The proportion of parents with a plan to pay for college rose to 51 percent in 2016, up from 42 percent in 2015. Parents with a plan save significantly more: $18,389, on average, compared to the $10,468 reported by parents without plans.

Additionally, nearly three-quarters of parents agree that students are more likely to attend college if they know savings have been set aside for them.

“Preparing for college requires significant personal and financial commitment, and it’s gratifying to see so many parents, and especially younger parents, taking proactive measures to make college possible,” says Raymond J. Quinlan, chairman and CEO, Sallie Mae.

The full “How America Saves for College 2016” report and a related infographic are available at SallieMae.com/HowAmericaSavesForCollege. Join the conversation at Facebook.com/SallieMae or #HowAmericaSaves.

If your family is currently saving for college or planning to get started, the experts at Sallie Mae recommend the 1-2-3 approach: first, open a savings account; second, set a goal and make deposits regularly; and third, explore tax-advantaged options such as 529 college savings plans.

“Above all, these study results provide tangible evidence of the value parents continue to ascribe to higher education,” says Quinlan.

Courtesy StatePoint

VICTIMIZED BY PREDATORY LENDERS?

Have you been victimized by loan sharks, pay day lenders or paid exorbitant interest rates to unscrupulous retailers? We are interested in hearing from you. Give us call at 419-243-0007 or email at thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com

Job Opportunity

Available

Customer Service Representatives

First Federal Bank is seeking Customer Service Representatives for our Cherry Street office in Toledo. Candidates must be able to work Saturday hours.

This position requires previous customer service experience, cross-selling ability, cash handling and must enjoy working with the public.

First Federal offers a friendly, professional work environment, competitive products and excellent customer support, plus competitive pay, quarterly bonuses, and more.

If you would like to be considered for these positions, please apply online at www.first-fed.com, requisition numbers: 16-0167 and 16-0168.

No phone calls please.

First-Fed.com

EOE M/F/Disability/Vet
J.T. Williamson of Toledo, OH was born in Huntingdon, TN to the union of Leslie Williamson and Linnie McClerkin on September 19, 1927.

Surrounded by his loving family he peacefully passed away on Thursday, December 29, 2016 in Hospice of Northwest Ohio, Perrysburg, OH.

It was in Huntingdon at Webb School where J.T. attained his education. Upon completing his education, his next step in his life was when he was drafted into the United States Army where he proudly served and was awarded an honorable discharge.

On August 15, 1952 J.T. made the ultimate decision and married the love of his life Jane Chinneth. J.T. and Jane were blessed to have celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary on August 15, 2016. He retired from Melink Steel & Safe Company after 39 years of employment, during his employment he also held the position of Union Steward.

His accomplishments and affiliation are endless, he was most fond of being a member of Amazon Lodge #4, where he served as a past Wishful Master, and he was a member of Mecca Temple No # 43.

J.T.’s proudest moments, and his fondest memories came when he retired and became owner and operator of the Golden Fox Inn, at Fox Lake in Angola Indiana. The Golden Fox Inn provided the home away from home getaway for many of his colleagues, friends, and families.

He was affectionately known as “Grand-daddy” to the grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He so loved imparting wisdom and knowledge into them, and making them laugh uncontrollably at every encounter.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Leslie and Linnie; his brothers, Argyle, Louis, and Pressley; sister, Lucille; and his daughter, Diane M Cowell. He leaves to cherish his memory, wife, Jane; sons, Richard (Colleen) McCray, Kevin (Ida), Rodney (Barbara) of Findlay, Mario Williamson; daughters, Suzette (George) Cowell Jr., Tina (Tommy) Butts, and Schnell Sanders; grandchildren that he raised Reggie, Garnett, Anthony Cowell, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Theodore R. Patton, Sr. – November 18, 1927 – December 31, 2016

Theodore R. Patton, Sr., 89, of Swanton, OH, departed this life, December 31, 2016 at the Hospice of Northwest Ohio, Toledo. He was born, November 18, 1927 in St. Louis, MO, the son of Moses and Luzinka Patton, he attended Patterson High School in St. Louis, and Davis Business College.

He worked for the Toledo Public Schools, 36 years from 1965-2001 as a boiler operator. He was a member of AFSMCE Council 8 as a regional vice president and state treasurer, Local 272 where he held various offices and a member of the Coalition of Black Trade Unions Community Project-Called Second Chance which helped felons get their records expunged. He was an honorable discharged U.S. Army Veteran where he served from 1953-1955 and received the Medals of Conduct, National Defense and Occupation of Germany.

His Masonic affiliations included Past Master of Composite Lodge No. 108 F&AM PHA, Past Worthy Patron of Pride of Composite No. 81, Past Worthy Joshua of Ruth Court #6, Most Worthy Grand Joshua of the Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court Heroines of Jericho – State of Ohio, Past Thrice Illustrious Master Zabud Council #2, Royal and Select Masters, PHA, Past High Priest of Maumee Chapter #6, Royal Arch Masons, PHA, Past Eminent Commander of St. John’s Commandery No. 5, Knights Templar, Past Commander In Chief St Matthews Consistory #24, AASR, PHA, Excellent Grand Principal Sojourner of the Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Ohio Royal Arch Mason, Eminent Grand Lecturer (North) Ohio Prince Hall Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, Past Potentate of Mecca Temple #43 AEAMNS, Deputy of the Oasis Emeritus of Mecca Temple #43 AEAMNS, and, Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the United Supreme Council,33* of Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Northern Jurisdiction U. S. A. Inc.

He was a staunch member and a trustee of the St Paul Missionary Baptist Church and a member of Matthew Circle. He led by example and had a special way of connecting with people, he shared his wisdom, support and friendship. He reminded Masons of two things, your time and your money!

He was a very devoted husband and father. His favorite teams were the Ohio State Buckeyes and Pittsburgh Steelers. He is survived by loving wife of 15 years, Jacquelyn Allen-Patton; children, Ted Patton, Jr., Dr. Manzetta Jackson, Alice Webb, Denisha Boyd, Geraldine (Gene) Woodson, Donna (Robert) Marshall, Ruth (Edward) Bowie, Wanda Taylor, Thurman James Patton, Dwayne Harmon and Denise (Jemarr, Sr.) Kendrick; numerous grand, great grand and great, great grandchildren; sisters, Charlene Tatum and Ariie Smith and a host of other loving family and friends.
Your needs are very simple.

Food, shelter, water. Those are the essentials, but then there are the things you need for yourself: family, good friends, a warm bed, a good book, and a place of welcome. You wouldn’t die without them, but those things spice your life. And if you were Maurice White, author of My Life with Earth, Wind & Fire (with Herb Powell), you’d add one more: music.

Born in Memphis at a time when Jim Crow ruled the south, Maurice White was four years old when his mother told him that she needed to go to Chicago to find a job. She left him with a friend who became White’s “Mama,” and who raised him with strength and wisdom.

He was a quiet boy, a born introvert, but Mama taught him by example to love God, Mahalia and Ray Charles, though he was in junior high when he fell “deep under the spell of music.” White and his best friend pulled together a band then, and one of the members encouraged White to find his spiritual core and think in different ways.

At 18, not long before his Mama died of cancer, White headed for Chicago to live with his “Mother Dear,” his birth mother, who’d remarried and was raising six children. She offered him a place to stay, but he wanted to be his own man; he also wanted to emulate his stepfather and attend medical school, but music had such an allure that he told “Dad” that he’d been called to a different vocation. White became “a sponge” to soak up all he could learn about the music business.

By early 1970, he knew what kind of music he wanted to play. He’d been a bandleader before, and he was eager to do it again. An astrologer had even handed him a “piece to my puzzle,” an astrological chart filled with “only fire, air, and earth signs.”

Which brings us to page 77, almost the quarter-point of this memoir. That means My Life with Earth, Wind & Fire is one very wordy book.

That’s not to say it’s bad – at least not the first half of it, anyhow. The late author Maurice White (with Herb Powell) tells of Jim Crow from the point of view of a child, of the Civil Rights Movement, and what it was like in the early days of Motown, Chess Records and a new kind of rock & roll. Because White and Powell are so casual in their storytelling, those memories feel like a conversation with readers.

At roughly the part where White switches gears musically, so does the book. There’s where we get a lot of detail about the band, players, gigs and such – valuable info if you can follow along. Musical mud, if you can’t.

Therefore, the audience for this book, I think, is with a professional musician or a die-hard EW&F fan. Pass on it, if you’re not – but if you are, My Life with Earth, Wind & Fire could be elemental.

MLK Awards... continued from page 5

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission recognizes the personal commitment and example that Dr. King provided for academic achievement. Therefore, the recipient has demonstrated a personal commitment to scholarship and/or attainment of educational goals despite significant barriers or obstacles. The recipient also has demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in eradicating systemic barriers that impede the attainment of academic excellence.

Winner: Jill Ackerman, Lima, has spent her entire 29-year education career dedicated to the Lima City Schools, where she has served as superintendent since 2012. Ackerman has a strong dedication to helping students succeed inside and outside of the classroom. For example, Ackerman was instrumental in bringing the Closing the Achievement Gap program to Lima. The program helps at-risk students move in the right direction and toward graduation through various activities and adult mentors. The program was initially implemented for African American male high school students, but the success of the program resulted in it expanding to females and then middle school students because Ackerman and her team saw the need to intervene at an earlier age. The program has led to improved grades, confidence, attendance and behavior.

Health Equity and Awareness Award criteria: The recipient selected in this category offers exemplary community outreach and educational programs that serve an underserved population in the state. These services increase the accessibility of health care for the under-served while providing a high quality of customer service.

Winner: Katie Potter, Brook Park, is the manager of the women’s house of the Ed Keating Center located in Brook Park. The Ed Keating Center, headquartered in Lakewood, provides recovering alcoholic and drug-addicted men and women a chance for sober living. Potter provides guidance and support to residents while also maintaining order and accountability for the business side of the house. She also embraces empathy without enabling destructive behavior. Potter also provides support for relatives who need help understanding how to live with an afflicted alcoholic/addict. She is on call 24/7 and maintains the same open-door policy for alumnae and community members.

Social Justice Award criteria: The recipient selected in this category has made significant contributions to achieving justice for individuals or communities, including contributions made through the legal, legislative and governmental systems as they apply to the more vulnerable elements of our society.

Winner: Phillip Morton, Lima, is the past chair of the Lima affiliate of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the administration of criminal justice. A goal of the organization is to achieve equal justice for blacks and other minorities. Members include criminal justice professionals and students as well as community leaders. Under Morton’s leadership, the Lima affiliate raised money for college scholarships for students studying criminal justice and other related fields. Members also have adopted a school where they tutor and mentor students. The affiliate also has supported many community programs, including crime victim services, Salvation Army and Family Promise, an organization helping homeless and low-income families.

The commission is housed in the Equal Opportunity Division of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, which provides centralized support for state agencies.

For more information about the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, visit das.ohio.gov/mlk.
BREAKFAST COOK
Ruby’s Kitchen is seeking an experienced breakfast cook as it expands its hours in its new location. Apply in person at 805 N. Reynolds Street.

SPECIAL NOTICE
RE: Examinations for Journeyman Wireman
Applications for the Journeyman Inside Wireman test will be accepted January 3-6, 2017 at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 8, 807 Lime City Road, Rossford, Ohio between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The qualifications to be eligible for this examination are:
1. Must be 18 years of age or over,
2. Must live in the jurisdiction of Local 8 for one year prior to application,
3. Must have proof of 4 years employment in the commercial/industrial electrical construction industry.

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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.

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Responsible and reliable person needed for part-time (approximately 20 hours per week) custodial, mail processing, courier and general maintenance. Previous experience needed providing basic building maintenance services: electrical such as changing light bulbs and ballasts, repairing outlets and switches, etc.; and plumbing such as repairing/changing faucets, toilet repair, cleaning drains, etc. Must have valid driver’s license and be able to work days. Send your letter and resume to: Human Resources, P.O. Box 30, Toledo, OH 43614 or employment@wgte.org. EOE/ADA

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3 AND 4 Bedroom single family homes with attached garages.
All appliances included.
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Or visit our office at 1258 Rockcress Dr., Toledo, OH 43615
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MENTAL HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES BOARD OF LUCAS COUNTY
CLIENT RIGHTS OFFICER
Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County is accepting applications to fill the positions of Client Rights Officer until position is filled. Additional information regarding the duties is available on the Lucas County web site (www.co.lucas.oh.us). Click on “Apply for a Job” and then select Client Rights Officer from the list to read more or apply.
An Equal Opportunity Employer

PUBLIC NOTICE
The City of Toledo announces the availability of federal funding for:
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
and
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
(Grant Period: July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)
Interested nonprofit agencies are welcome to apply for eligible activities through this competitive process.
A MANDATORY review session will be held for all applicants after which online applications will be available.
APPLICANTS MUST ATTEND THE REVIEW SESSION TO APPLY.

*CDBG REVIEW SCHEDULE
for Non-Homeless Service Providers
Friday – January 27, 2017
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
United Way of Greater Toledo (Rooms A & B)
424 Jackson Street, Toledo, OH 43604

**ESG/CDBG REVIEW SCHEDULE
for Homeless Service Providers
Friday – January 27, 2017
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Toledo Business Technology Center (Conference Room B, 4th Floor)
1946 N. 13th Street, Toledo, OH 43604

*For information on eligible CDBG activities for Non-Homeless Service Providers, please visit the City of Toledo website at: http://toledo.oh.gov/services/neighboors

**For information on eligible ESG/CDBG activities for Homeless Service Providers, please visit the Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board (TLCHB) website at: http://endinghomelessnesstoledo.org

For additional information or reasonable accommodations, please contact:
Department of Neighborhoods at (419) 245-1400
and ask for Administrative Analyst II, Monica Brown.

Call to place your ad
419-243-0007
www.TheTruthToledo.com
NANBPWC, Inc.-Toledo Aurora House Holiday Project

Christmas is the time of year to give thanks and share joy and happiness to others. The women of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Clubs Inc (NANBPWC, INC ) Toledo Club delivered gifts to the Aurora House on Tuesday, December 13, 2016. Each year these women adopt a family.

The Aurora House provides a safe haven and nurturing environment for women and their children as they move from homelessness to self-sufficiency.

NANBPWC, Inc-Toledo Club members are passionate about the Aurora House Project and how they assist families each day with the services and in-house programs that are provided.

Some of the women’s programs that are offered are:

- Intensive Care Management
- Life Skills
- Parents education
- Relapse prevention
- Nutrition Education
- Computer Skills Lab
- Job Seeking / Job Readiness Skills
- Financial Management
- Creative Exploration

The Aurora House provides children programming like infant massage, after school tutoring, drug prevention for school children, support to help children understand homelessness and not to blame themselves etc.

More services assist families to services on Healthcare, mental health treatment, counseling, employment opportunities, GED and college classes, drug and alcohol treatment and vocational training.

The residents set goals and make changes in their lives that will lead toward reaching their full potential and to achieving self-sufficiency and independence.

The programs focus on three essential elements:
1. Family Stabilization
2. Achieving employment and educational goals
3. Obtaining and maintain permanent housing.

Marquita Scott Chong was the Economic Development chairman this year who worked to customize the Christmas gifts that were given this year. Helping others is what this organization is about. The “Adopt A Family Program” falls under (HEED) Health, Education, Economic Development and Employment which is the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Clubs, Inc National Program initiatives. Chong worked with Molly Steck - Holiday Coordinator for the Aurora House Adopt a Family Project in fulfilling the family gift wish list.

Denise Black-Poon, Toledo Club President, said “Family is important not just at Christmas, but every day of the year. This is one of the projects we continue to work with each year because of our Toledo Club members value the program and support all the wonderful benefits that the Aurora House gives to their families through programs that they offer. It’s important to keep a safe, caring environment for each family member, it becomes healthy mentally and physically. Everyone has the opportunity to serve the community and help others in various ways. We just need to help and not just sit back and think about it. ”

The community can make a donation with gifts of personal care items, household products, and women’s or children’s clothing. Non-perishable food donations are always welcome, gift cards, financial donations as well as possibly considering a remembrance in your will.

The community can also volunteer to spend an evening cooking with the families, reading to the children, tutoring, landscaping, painting, and various home improvements.

NANBPWC, Inc Toledo Club thanked the Aurora House for letting organizations like theirs help in any way possible. Community support is necessary and needed every day as well as love and support.