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Between a Rock and a Hard Place
By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.
The Truth Contributor

One does not fight to influence change and then leave the change to someone else to bring about.          - Stokely Carmichael

Politicians are in campaign mode and fanning out throughout Toledo with an eye to the 2017 local elections. As they approach Toledo’s urban core, many are encountering an electorate that has lost patience with the political status quo.

Black voters are frustrated from being trapped between what is perceived as “irrelevant black leadership” on one hand, and a white “colonial institutional structure” on the other.

Their concerns are valid.

The Irrelevance of Black Leadership:
Electoral politics have yielded little or no change as local black elected officials, despite their numbers and elevated positions of authority, have been powerless to produce substantive benefits targeted specifically for the black community. The black political establishment has also been silent on the topic of race and the electorate has been unable to distinguish black political themes from the generalities of white political rhetoric.

The Colonization of Black Poverty and Pain:
The face, as well as the purse strings, of the institutions charged with the social and economic well-being of Toledo’s black community are all, or nearly, all-white. With no representation or voice, the black community continues to receive negligible benefit in the form of positive outcomes from the social or economic “plantations” that provide economically disadvantaged people with services rather than income while providing wealth and stability to those who run the plantation.

Enter Black Millennials:
Recently black millennials have burst onto the local political scene with a bang and their emergence has created shockwaves throughout the political establishment. They are candidates for political office as well as activists who are more likely to use agitation than the “Can’t we just all get along” strategy of their baby boom predecessors.

Although the generational boundaries are somewhat fluid, their ages are generally between 18 and 36. Black millennials are also more politically engaged than their white counterparts. Employment, education, gun violence, healthcare and incarceration and police are the major influences of their worldview. They are also less likely to be connected with traditional black institutions such as the church or NAACP than previous generations.

What do Black Millennials want?

Black Millennials want just and fair representation and inclusion. They want equity in the administration and allocation of resources in minority business, social services and public institutional matters. Millennials also want to bring our repressed discussions on racial and socioeconomic inequality into the open. In addition, black millennials want solutions to the high rates of violence from guns in our community as well as for disparities in employment, health and criminal justice.

And, black millennials have made it known that they will not go away “quietly.”

My Take:
Politicians, political parties and organizations must not sleep on black millennials. It is apparent that the tactics of status quo leadership have not worked. Real change is more likely to come from contemporary organizations and individuals that are “more plural in terms of class, sexuality, and even concern about various racial groups,” says Duke University scholar Eduardo Bonilla-Silva. Other groups or individuals, he adds, “are in the slow march of extinction. They may remain alive but eventually, like the Communist Party, will ultimately become a relic.”

Therefore if the black community is to be liberated from the equally unwelcome outcomes of the irrelevance of black leadership and the colonization of black pain and poverty, it will come from individuals or organizations that are “radical, open, populist, and militant.”

These are traits that the current leadership structure with its middle-class focus is unable to possess.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org
The African American Sports Legends will induct its first group of athletic standouts on Saturday, June 24 2:00 p.m. on the campus of The African American Legacy Project at 1326 Collingwood Blvd., Toledo. The induction, presented by First Federal Bank, is free and open to the public.

“Northwest Ohio – especially Toledo, has been home to exceptional athletic talent. We want to salute the individuals who have made achievements in both their sport and community,” said Johnny Hutton, chairman of The African American Legacy Project’s Sports Legends committee. “We want to preserve the beauty these athletes shared with us and celebrate their legacy”, according to Robert Smith Director of The African American Legacy Project of Northwest Ohio.

Twelve men and women will be inducted into the Hall of Fame including: Brenda Morehead-Campbell, (Jesup Scott High School ’75), 1976 and 1980 Track Olympian and runner in the 1976 and 1975 Pan American World Games and Ericka Haney (Central Catholic High School ’98) former WNBA player, who played for the 2001 National Championship winning University of Notre team and was a collegiate coach for six seasons.

“It is a privilege to play a part in honoring these all-stars, said Reggie Temple, Director of Community Development at First Federal Bank. “We are proud that this hall of fame not only takes into account the notable performance of athleticism but also weighs the impact that these athletes have on our community. As a community focused bank, we believe strongly in rewarding these values.”

Memorabilia from these distinguished athletes will be on display at the event including Morehead’s Olympic uniform and Haney’s jersey, worn during the University of Notre Dame’s Women National Championship win. Other accomplished athletes will have their memorabilia on display as well.
Over 30 Bicycles Will Be Given Away During the Rebuilding Community Day Celebration

Special to The Truth

At the third annual Rebuilding Community Day, over 30 bikes will be raffled to celebrate a safe, healthy and fun summer for Toledo’s youth courtesy of First Federal Bank, Buckeye Health Plan and Seaway Marketplace.

The free event will be held on June 17 from 11:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m., at the Seaway Marketplace located at 1707 Cherry St., Toledo, Ohio. In addition, to the bikes provided by First Federal Bank, Buckeye Health and Seaway Marketplace, Mercy Health Partners will be providing each child with a free bike helmet, while supplies last.

“ Toledo has a lot to offer to keep children happy, safe and healthy,” said Crystal Jordan, community development officer for First Federal Bank. “ We are proud to support many of these life-changing organizations and help host this event that gives families the opportunity to discover their options in a convenient and fun setting.”

Children of all ages can enjoy bounce houses, free hot dogs, beverages and ice cream along with giveaways from several vendors. Visitors will have the opportunity to learn about bike safety, compliments of the Toledo Police Department.

New Website “ToledoGO.TV” Created to Increase Voter Engagement in Local Elections

Special to The Truth

Melden Campaign Works with Local Developers to Help Register Voters, Update Registrations and Remind Toledoans of Election Dates

On June 11 at Willys Park in West Toledo Sam Melden, endorsed Democrat for Toledo City Council, announced a new website designed by local developers called ToledoGO.TV. This website will help citizens register to vote, update their registration, find their polling location and sign up for reminders leading up to Primary and General Election dates.

“This is the first year citizens can register to vote or update their registration online, but the website isn’t easy to find, and there is a separate website to find your polling location - so we wanted to consolidate that into an easy to use tool,” said Melden.

“Our goal in creating this website was to increase voter turnout and encourage more engagement in the democratic process. Young people are more likely to register to vote using ToledoGO.TV on their phones than by more traditional means. I’m excited about that.” said Melden.

Melden was joined by campaign volunteers and after announcing the launch of the website they went out in the adjacent neighborhood to register voters using their phones.
Neighborhood Car Show and Picnic Features Community Services, Muddy the Mud Hen

Special to The Truth

NeighborWorks TOLEDO REGION presented Unity in the Community: Neighbors Helping Neighbors at Grace Community Center, 406 W Delaware Ave, on Saturday, June 10, from noon to 3 pm.

Various community service organizations were on-hand to answer questions about buying a home, saving on home utility costs, home energy savings, and more.

... continued on page 12

Scott Graduate and NFL Super Champion Willie Harper to Deliver Morning Sermon at Third Baptist Church
10:00 a.m., Sunday, June 25, 2017

Minister Willie Harper

Minister Harper graduated from Scott in 1968. He was All-City and All-State and was recruited by the University of Nebraska. During his sophomore year, he helped the Huskers to their first National Championship. As a sophomore, he was First Team All-American, Big Eight Offensive Lineman of the Year, and earned the Outstanding Offensive Lineman Award at the 1971 Orange Bowl. His junior year would be the same ending with Nebraska earning its second National Championship, and First Team All-America honors from AP, and was also an unanimous First Team All-Big Eight performer. After a great senior year in 1972, he was named All-American, Minister. Drafted by the San Francisco 49ers, he Harper played for eleven years, from 1973 to 1983. He would win a Super Bowl ring in 1981. In Super Bowl XIX, As a key member of the San Francisco 49ers.

Ministering for more than 30 years Pastor Harper returns to Toledo to deliver the Word 10:30 a.m. Sunday, June 25, 2017.

You’re Invited...

Third Baptist Church, 402 Pinewood, invites Scott Alum and the entire community to join us and welcome Pastor Willie Harper home. Then join us for refreshments immediately following service.

For more information call: 757-681-2771

“Once a bulldog, always a bulldog.”
The Arts Commission’s Art Loop Presents
Summer Spectacular

The Arts Commission is proud to present the June 15 Art Loop—Summer Spectacular. Celebrate the start of summer in downtown Toledo as the Art Loop partners with the Toledo Mud Hens and Toledo Warehouse District Association to present an evening of family fun, local art, baseball, history, and live music and entertainment.

ART LOOP INFORMATION
The Art Loop is Toledo’s signature monthly arts experience. Explore the downtown creative community through self-guided tours of the art, artists, and spaces that inspire a vibrant Toledo. The Loop is a program of The Arts Commission, presented in partnership with the artists and participating venues who make it possible. Art Loop takes place each third Thursday of the month April–December, 5:30–9pm.

To build a map, find parking, see up-to-date gallery offerings, and more visit: www.theartscommission.org/artloop. Be sure to bring $1.25 exact change if planning to ride the Art Loop bus.

JUNE FEATURED EVENTS

UPTOWN

Main Library Toledo’s premiere improv troop, Unfiltered, returns to the Library for live performances! Plus, The Art Loop Mini-Parade culminates at the Library with a brief press conference celebrating the Art Loop bus and partnerships at 5:30 pm.

Adams Street—Art Loop Mini-Parade The Art Loop salutes the start of summer and with a happy hour mini-parade in Uptown celebrating our Art Loop bus wraps! Designed by Joe Pinciotti and arranged in concert with AIGA Toledo, Off Contact, and TARTA, the Loop buses offer a fun, safe, and easy transit option for exploring the Art Loops each month. The Art Loop Mini-Parade will take place from 5:00-5:30 pm down Adams Street, from Handmade Toledo (18th Street) to The Truth Art Gallery at 1811 Adams Street to the Main Library Loop Hub. Enjoy the featured buses, the B’tch Thunder live drum corps, TSA Puppet Club, Bubble Sharks, and surprise guests and local artists! The Art Loop Mini-Parade culminates with a celebratory press conference featuring Loop Bus and Event partners, and 2017 Art Loop Title Sponsor, ProMedica.

WAREHOUSE DISTRICT

HENSVILLE and Fifth Third Field—Kids Zone Join us at HENSVILLE for the heart of this month’s Summer Spectacular activities leading up to the Mud Hens game at 7:05 pm! Bird’s Eye View Circus brings a live tight wire performance to St. Clair Street, with a dazzling show and a fun chance for kids and families to try their hand at walking the line. Hop down the street and take a whirl on a Toledo Bikes ‘mutant bike,’ a freaky, silly take on everyday cycling! Be sure to stop by Maura Amato’s community coloring station near Fleetwood’s to try your hand at a life-sized paint-by-number of Toledo’s beloved Sandpiper boat, and enjoy a coloring station with selections from the artist’s Toledo Coloring Book. If that weren’t enough, enjoy roaming entertainment from the Art Loop’s favorite Bubble Sharks, the B’tch Thunder drum corps, and the Toledo School for the Arts’ Puppet Club!

Inter/Active: Community Sandbox Mobile Casting Presented by The City of Toledo’s 1% for Art Program and Art In Public Places 2017 will see the roll out of Toledo’s first Inter/Active projects. These projects were funded by the City of Toledo’s 1% for Art initiative through The Arts Commission’s Art in Public Places program. Inter/Active was an open call competitive grant challenging local artists to create public art projects that encouraged public and community interaction. In June, artists Peter Koelsch, Cameron McLeod, and J.C. Christy present the “The Community Sandbox.” This work is a self-contained, pedal-powered, mobile metal casting facility that is designed and engineered to facilitate a communal, hands-on experience in the process of creating a cast metal sculpture. Anyone may participate, regardless of age, ability, experience, or degree of familiarity with the process. The project is transported by a 2-3-person cargo tricycle, identical in scale and configuration with a street vendor’s hot dog cart, complete with umbrella and signage relevant to the interactive event. Join in the fun and find the rolling hot shop on St. Clair Street near Hensville Park, across from Fifth Third Field.

Community Coloring Book—Artist Maura Amato Invites All To Help Color Toledo Local artist Maura Amato will lead Toledoans in a fun, participatory display celebrating Toledo’s history in the invention of Paint-by-Numbers. Art Loop guests are invited to lend a hand to help color in a life-size image of downtown’s beloved Sandpiper cruise boat. The outline will be displayed on several large-sized panels with colors and numbers ready to go! Right next to the large-scale version, find a coloring station with selections from Amato’s You Will Do Better in Toledo Coloring Book featuring iconic landmarks throughout the city. Jump in and make Toledo brighter! Free for all, kids and families welcome!

For additional featured venues and updated event highlights and information, visit www.theartscommission.org/artloop or www.theartscommission.org/featuredloop.

The 2017 Art Loop is presented by ProMedica with support and sponsorship from TARTA, Toledo Blade, Toledo.com, and the Ohio Arts Council.
State Renews Grant to Support UT Minority Business Assistance Center Program operations

Special to The Truth

The state awarded The University of Toledo a $330,000, two-year grant to continue to host the Minority Business Assistance Center Program that serves the 17-county region.

The program, which supports economic development in northwest Ohio by providing resources for minority-owned, early stage businesses, is housed in the UT Minority Business Development Center on Scott Park Campus and funded through the Ohio Development Services Agency Minority Business Development Division.

“The University of Toledo Minority Business Development Center is once again glad to be selected an award site for this important grant,” said Shanda Gore, Ed.D, associate vice president of the Minority Business Development Center and the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women. “We are one of the few incubators in the country that focuses on minority businesses. This award supports our commitment to the community, our students and research to support business growth and economic development.”

The program offers no-cost counseling, state certification support, and trainings focused on creating jobs and increasing sales.

“Through our partnerships across the state, minority-owned businesses will be better supported in their growth and development,” said Jeffrey L. Johnson, chief of the Minority Business Development Division at the Ohio Development Services Agency.

The grant will be used in Toledo to hire a regional director and an operations manager.

Last year the Minority Business Development Center, which houses the Minority Business Assistance Center Program, and its 11 member companies and 11 affiliate companies supported 97 jobs and generated $15.5 million in sales.

Since receiving the state grant in 2015, the Minority Business Assistance Center Program in Toledo engaged 211 new clients. It helped 33 companies earn minority business certification and helped 37 earn EDGE certification, which recognizes workplace gender equality.

In two years, $2.3 million in capital was awarded in approved state bonds to minority-owned businesses that grew with the help of the program. The companies also were awarded 649 public sector contracts valued at $22.3 million. In the first grant-cycle period, 2,400 jobs were retained, and 110 jobs were created.
“Steppin’ in the right direction” was the theme of the Perry Burroughs Democratic Women’s Club 2017 Tribute to Father’s Day Style Show held on June 10 at the Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church Stephenson-Roberts Hall.

The style show, as befits a political organization, featured a number of local political candidates on the fashion run-way. In addition to the style show, five fathers were honored for their strong family ties and their work in the community.

... continued on page 9
Saturday’s program opened with a welcome by Toledo City Councilwoman Yvonne Harper, president of PBDWC, who urged the audience to vote the straight Democratic-endorsed ticket, singling out Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson.

Prescilla Hutchens, the mistress of ceremony, then began the style show’s first two scenes. Among the runway models were Toledo City Councilman Larry Sykes; council candidates Nick Komives, Sam Melden and Kurt Young, all endorsed by the Lucas County Democratic Party; Willie Ward, assistant principal of MLK Academy for Boys; Maynard Porter; Nikiyle Fitzgerald; Brandon Moore; Demeco Lewis and Marvin March.

After the first scenes – Laid Back Style and It’s a Family Affair – the group, under the direction of De’Lisa Moore, recognized the five fathers: Keith Cook, Willie Knighten, Jr; Shawn Mahone, Sr; Marcus Matlock and Brandon Moore.

The third and fourth scenes were titled Urban Swag and Turnin’ Heads.

The Father’s Day Committee consisted of Dorine Mosley, Angela Rivers, Melody Curry, Prescilla Hutchens, Barbara Kyles and De’Lisa Moore.

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*Northwest Ohio Hearing Clinic is an independent contractor and not an employee of Neighborhood Health Association.
How to Best Cope with Summer Heat: Be Weather Ready

Special to The Truth

Summer can be hot, sticky and downright uncomfortable. It can also be dangerous if you are not prepared.

Cope with the heat this summer and stay healthy and safe with these helpful tips.

• Maintain your air conditioner. The last thing you need is a broken air conditioner on a hot day. Regular maintenance of your unit can help ensure it will work all summer long. The easiest, and perhaps most important, maintenance task you can perform yourself is to clean or change the filter routinely. For more complicated tasks, you may wish to hire a professional technician. Likewise, you’ll want to be sure your car’s air conditioner is in good working order, particularly before a major road trip or heat wave.

• Stay informed with accurate weather information. Accurate weather information is one of the best ways to make informed decisions and be prepared for daily outdoor activities, family vacations and travel plans. Consider a source recognized for its superior accuracy – the AccuWeather app can be a good go-to resource not only this summer, but year-round, to help keep you safe. It features AccuWeather MinuteCast, an exclusive minute-by-minute precipitation forecast for the next two hours specific to your exact GPS location. Plus, the app’s AccuWeather RealFeel feature lets you know how it actually feels outside so you can properly plan for outdoor summer activities and the day ahead – from what to pack to what to wear. If you’re constantly on the go, don’t worry, because the app delivers severe weather push alert notifications that can help keep you safe and better prepared for anything that comes your way. The award-winning AccuWeather app is available on all of Android mobile devices, as well as on iOS, for free.

• Know what to wear. During the summer, lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing can make all the difference to your comfort. The less fabric you have actually touching your body, the cooler you will be.

• Schedule outdoor activities carefully. During periods of intense heat, stay indoors and, if at all possible, remain in an air-conditioned location. If your home does not have air conditioning, consider going to a shopping mall or public library for a few hours – spending time in air conditioning will help your body stay cooler once you go back out into the elements. Limit your outdoor activities to morning and evening hours when it’s cooler.

• Stay hydrated. Summer fun often means being outdoors, but listen to your body and take breaks to rest, rehydrate and cool off. Bring water or a sports drink with you when you are exercising, at the pool or even just making your way around town. Make sure to avoid alcohol and caffeine, as they can quickly dehydrate you.

With up-to-the-minute knowledge at your fingertips and the right preparation, you will be ready to cope with heat and all weather conditions the summer season brings.

Great Outdoors Month: Tips to Make the Most of Your Next Adventure

Special to The Truth

Spending time enjoying nature is good for the body and mind, helping to reduce stress, increase focus and provide opportunities for physical activity, say studies. Unfortunately, our busy schedules sometimes don’t allow us to get outside as often as we would like.

Great Outdoors Month, celebrated in June, is an excellent opportunity to go on an outdoor adventure. As you make your plans and enact them, consider these tips for making the most of your trip.

Get Informed

Visiting a new place? Learn more about the area, investigating its natural and social histories before you hit the trail, river route or campsite. You’ll be more likely to identify rock types and plant and animal species with a bit of knowledge. This can also help you understand and appreciate what you are experiencing with greater depth.

Use Tech Tools

New tech gear is augmenting the outdoor experience for both casual adventurers and hardcore enthusiasts. For example, the Smart Outdoor Watch WSD-F20 from Casio has a rugged build, low power consumption GPS, is water resistant and features dedicated apps for outdoor activities. If downloaded prior to your journey, full color... continued on page 12
You’ve changed your mind.

That’s allowed, you know. You can go in a different direction, pick something else, try another thing, have do-overs, or have two. Pencils come with erasers, few things are forever, and in Once a Cop by Corey Pegues, change may be good.

Born the second-youngest with four “much older” sisters, Cory Pegues grew up in a middle-class, mostly-black neighborhood in Queens, New York. Though his father was largely absent, Pegues basked in the affection of an extended family and he was secure, until his mother began moving her children from home to more-run-down home.

At age 13, Pegues knew they were poor; he “was going around with holes in my shoes….” when he was taken under the wing of an older boy who was well-regarded in the neighborhood, and who taught Pegues to pedal “loosies.”

“Selling weed was easy,” Pegues says.

The next step was even easier: he sold crack and joined a larger group of dealers, some “serious players” who made crazy money but thought little of killing someone for small reason. It didn’t take long for Pegues to know that he “needed an exit plan, and I needed to move on it fast.”

For him, the army “was perfect,” so he contacted a recruiter. Three weeks after he left for basic training, his old dealing grounds were raided.

The army, however, was a means to an end: Pegues knew that what he really wanted was to work for the NYPD. He tested, was approved, left the military and tested again. He was a father twice over by that time, and he was determined to be a cop, though many departments then oozed with racism.

Still, Pegues persevered. He took on the worst assignments, so he could study for higher positions. He climbed in the ranks, paying his dues and finding mentors to help him be the best policeman he could, to “protect and serve” the people in various precincts.

He made history, until the day he spoke “against the wrong people.”

Once a Cop seems like two books that were accidentally glued together in the same cover. One good, one meh.

In the beginning, you’ve got author Cory Pegues’ story of life in poverty and crime, which is wild, violent and almost movie-like. That ultimately segues into Pegues-as-policeman, and is filled with names, numbers, and an undercurrent of anger.

It’s perhaps because of the rage in the latter half that the books’ first half is more readable and, though filled with harshness and profanity, more accessible. It feels engaged, while the story’s final part seems to be, surprisingly or not, more like a police report. This may leave readers with a sense of disappointment; it’s as if our race horse is taken away and replaced by a bad-tempered Shetland pony.

And yet, fans of this genre still might enjoy seeing both sides of the streets, as told by one man who’s lived them. Try Once a Cop and see what you think.

You can always change your mind.

Once a Cop: The Street, The Law, Two Worlds, One Man by Corey Pegues

Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

You’ve changed your mind.

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You can always change your mind.
State School Board Votes to Force E-Charter to Reimburse State for $60M for Ghost Students
Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow Has Fought Tooth and Nail to Avoid Accountability

Special to The Truth

The State Board of Education this week voted overwhelmingly to force the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow (ECOT) — a for-profit e-charter school that the Columbus Dispatch highlighted as having the worst graduation rate in the country — to repay $60 million that the for-profit e-charter school overbilled Ohio taxpayers during the last school year.

“The Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow isn’t a school — it’s a scam, enabled for years by failed Republican leadership,” said Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper. “They have finally been dragged, kicking and screaming, into repaying Ohio taxpayers for the millions they bilked from the state for ‘ghost students.’ The state school board — Democrats and Republicans, elected and appointed members — voted today to force ECOT to give back the money they wrongfully took for students that never actually attended their school. This is just the first step. Now we need the state to audit ECOT for previous years, so we know the full extent of fraudulent payments made to the e-charter school. Finally, ECOT should stop with the lawsuits and stop wasting Ohio tax dollars.”

“The overpayment of $60 million to ECOT is an egregious abuse of taxpayer dollars,” said State Board of Education Member Stephanie Dodd. “Even worse, it was done at the expense of our children.”

Since last summer, ECOT has fought tooth and nail to avoid any accountability. First, it filed suit to avoid an attempt to audit their students’ attendance. After an enrollment audit revealed ECOT overbilled Ohio taxpayers by padding its enrollment numbers with 9,000 “ghost” students, the state to audit ECOT for previous years, so we know the full extent of fraudulent payments made to the e-charter school. Finally, ECOT should stop with the lawsuits and stop wasting Ohio tax dollars.”

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Today’s decision follows years of inaction by state officials. In 2016 the Columbus Dispatch revealed that Auditor Dave Yost’s office failed to crack down on ECOT when a whistleblower “made allegations that ECOT was cooking its attendance books.” Instead of conducting an audit of ECOT, Yost’s office negotiated an agreement with the charter school that effectively tied the auditor’s hands from fully examining the allegations.

In January 2016, Yost awarded ECOT his ?Auditor of State Award with Distinction,” and Yost spoke at ECOT?s graduation in 2014 and 2015.

Great Outdoors...continued from page 10

maps can be used offline. And because it offers a range of tools that can be used independent of your smartphone, including an altimeter, barometer, thermometer and compass, it frees up users to fully enjoy their adventures. Other features include a Location Memory app, which enables you to customize maps with markers and text so you can revisit otherwise unmarked spots, such as a great viewpoint or fishing spot.

Be Prepared

It’s hard to be at one with nature when nature itself is making you miserable. So be prepared for all kinds of weather and climate conditions. If you are camping, patch or replace tents that are worn or torn and bring a tarp for extra protection. Check the weather report for temperature, precipitation and other factors and pack the proper clothing and sleeping bag accordingly. Make sure socks and shoes or hiking boots are in good shape so that long hikes don’t cause you any undue pain. And of course, don’t leave civilization without a first aid kit, water, sunscreen and insect repellent.

With a bit of extra preparation, you can take your outdoor adventures higher and farther than ever before.

Car Show...continued from page 5

The event featured door prizes throughout the afternoon, Muddy the Mud Hen, an on-site music DJ, TIP TOP the Clown, planned children’s activities, a car show by the Competition Corvette Club and food with refreshments served at no charge.

The Old West End Neighborhood Initiatives (OWENI) and Cherry Street Legacy were also sponsors of the Unity in the Community event.
I Can’t Make This Up: Life Lessons by Kevin Hart

Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

You can pretend all you want.

Hide your head in the sand and say it ain’t so.

Cover your ears and yell “LaLaLaLaLa” until everyone thinks you’re five years old. You can deny, deny, deny, but listen up: some things are factual, so read I Can’t Make This Up: Life Lessons by Kevin Hart, and you may learn something.

When Kevin Hart was born, his parents might’ve said “oops.”

Neither parent ever denied that Hart’s birth was the result of his father’s broken promise. Hart knew he was “a mistake,” and that nobody was happy. Still, his parents stayed together awhile – long enough for him to note his father’s unusual parenting style and his mother’s strength in raising two sons, mostly alone.

The older boy eventually sold crack and went into the military to avoid jail.

The younger son, well, he wrote this book.

Throughout his life, Hart paid attention to the lessons he got from keen observations; Number One was that things change. Number Two was that shrugging one’s shoulders and moving on is the best way to deal with Number One.

There was no shoulder-shrugging, though, when Hart got a post-high-school job selling athletic shoes. He set a goal of being the store’s best salesman, and found a mentor who encouraged him and a group of people who showed him what being a grown-up was like. He worked long hours and made the job fun – so fun, that his co-workers encouraged him to try an open mic night for amateur comedians in the Philadelphia area.

And people laughed.

Hearing their laughter was like being on fire. Hart created a fake-stage name for himself and begged for as many gigs as he could get; the first ones were performed for free, then he started making enough to pay the bills and quit his day-job. He met someone who taught him the fundamentals of being a comedian, and he became a husband and father on his way up the fame ladder. On his (temporary) way down, he never lost sight of his career or his strongest lesson: Always be your best. Somebody might be watching.

While, obviously, as evidenced from comedy performances and TV shows, author Kevin Hart is a talented writer, I Can’t Make This Up is a little clunky at the outset. It takes a few pages to settle in and get comfortable – and you will.

You might expect to LOL while you’re reading – and, again, you will – but remember, this isn’t a comedy club. There are chuckles here, but you probably won’t find doubled-over belly-laughs. Instead, taking advice that he was given all those years ago, Hart tells his own personal story with humor, just the right touch of embellishment, and a full dose of the flip-side of funny without forcing anything. That’s good comedy, as he says… and it makes for a wonderful memoir.

Pay close attention to the chapter titles here. Read the introduction (it’s “mandatory”). Look for the “lessons” and laugh. I Can’t Make This Up is a treat, for real.
ASSISTANT MANAGER OF HUMAN RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

Lucas County Children Services is seeking an Asst. Mgr. of Human Resources and Administration to assist in creating a work environment that promotes personal growth and excellence of LCCS employees. Additional requirements can be viewed at www.lucaskids.net. No Phone Calls Please. EOE valuing diversity.

CORRECTIONS OFFICER - LUCAS COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

The Lucas County Sheriff’s Department has openings for Corrections Officers. For more details, please visit our website at www.co.lucas.oh.us and click on the “Apply for a Job” link to review the job description, minimum requirements, salary and to apply online.

RN/LPN - LUCAS COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

The Lucas County Sheriff’s Department has openings for Registered Nurse & Licensed Practical Nurse. For more details, please visit our website at www.co.lucas.oh.us and click on the “Apply for a Job” link to review the job description, minimum requirements, salary and to apply online.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER CONSULTING SERVICES RFP#17-R008

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for Chief Operating Officer Consulting Services/RFP#17-R008, Received in accordance with law until June 23, 2107 at 3:00 PM ET. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Proposers are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. Sec. 3 Compliance Applicable.

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Desktop Server Support Specialist

For additional information regarding position requirements, please visit our website at www.unisonhealth.org. If you are not able to make our Career Fair and are interested in these or other employment opportunities, please contact us directly at 419-936-7576 for an application or email your resume to hr@unisonhealth.org.

Equal Opportunity Employer
The Wayne State School of Social Work celebrated a $125,000 gift from Detroit entrepreneur, philanthropist and former Social Work faculty member William F. Pickard, Ph.D. at a June 5 ribbon cutting and naming ceremony for four spaces in the school’s new building. The event, which was open to the public, took place from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at 5447 Woodward Avenue.

President M. Roy Wilson joined Social Work Dean Cheryl Waites in thanking Pickard for his donation, which was given to the school by the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan from the Pickard Family Fund, which it administers. In recognition of the gift, the school has named four spaces in honor of individuals who have encouraged and inspired Pickard throughout his life and career:

• The Paul L. Hubbard Conference Room was named for the past director of economic development for the City of Toledo, past president of New Detroit and currently a consultant at Trivium Partners LLC. Hubbard earned his Master of Social Work from Wayne State in 1971 and serves on the school’s Board of Visitors.

• The William H. and Victoria Pickard Lounge was named for Pickard’s parents, who nurtured and inspired their son’s success. They moved their family to Flint, introducing their son to the automotive world. While they worked on the assembly line at General Motor, Pickard attended school and began what was to become a long and successful road leading to multiple advanced degrees, great success in the business world and a lifelong interest in giving back.

• The Mariobodine Robinson Doctoral Research Room was named for the women’s suffrage and civil rights activist. In 2015, at the age of 105 and just months before her passing, Robinson received the Distinguished Warrior award from the Urban League of Detroit and Southeastern Michigan. She received a Bachelor of Science and a master’s degree in chemistry from The Ohio State University, where Pickard earned his Ph.D.

• The Nick Scheele and Gary L. White Technology Conference Room and Research Lab was named for Scheele and White, both former executives at Ford Motor Company as well as friends and mentors to Pickard. Sir Nicholas Scheele, who passed away in 2014, was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2001 for saving the Jaguar brand. Gary L. White was director of minority business development at Ford.

Author of the recently published “Seven Principles of Entrepreneurship,” Pickard has owned McDonald’s franchises, established the Global Automotive Alliance, LLC, invested in Real Times Media and is a co-managing partner of MGM Grand Casino Detroit and one of the owners of the Michigan Chronicle. As chairman and CEO of both Global Automotive Alliance LLC and Vitec LLC, Pickard is an industry leader both nationally and internationally whose entrepreneurial endeavors have focused on innovative business development and long-term strategic planning. Pickard was named the first chairman of the African America Development Foundation by the United States Senate after receiving a nomination from President Ronald Reagan. Pickard was honored as Michiganian of the Year for his mentorship of entrepreneurs and leadership of Global Automotive Alliance in 2002.

Gary White and Paul Hubbard both expressed their admiration and respect for Pickard.

“Dr. Bill Pickard has demonstrated, as an entrepreneur, the true purpose of America’s corporations’ efforts in setting up a diversified supplier base and searching for ways to support urban communities where the minority population has access to training and good, taxpaying jobs,” White said. “My associates at Ford Motor Company and I are proud to have played a role in Bill Pickard’s success and his ‘giving back’ to the community as demonstrated in his latest activity at Wayne State University.”

Hubbard called it an honor to be represented at the university that both “prepared and propelled” him toward success.

“The profession of social work is more important now than ever before. Social workers are needed to solve social problems but also to empower people to solve them on their own.”

Approximately 100 people attended the ribbon cutting event including the Rev. Jesse Jackson.