Sports Legends Honored

Sports Legend and Hall of Fame Inductee Emerson Cole, escorted by Joe Sansbury

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A Charge to Keep
By Staci Perryman-Clark, PhD
Guest Column

Our children are in trouble because we adults are in trouble.
- Camille Yarborough

The Swahili proverb “One hand does not nurse a child,” or its Nigerian equivalent “It takes a whole village to raise a child” both demonstrate the long held African-American principle that child upbringing is a community responsibility. At no other time in history, then, are these ancient proverbs more timely and relevant than for our situation in today’s America.

This week I present an essay by my friend and colleague, Froswa’ Booker-Drew, PhD, who reminds us of our historical obligation to nurture and protect our children, a charge our fractured community has failed to keep.

Commentary: We Might Not Have Justice, but We Still Have The Village
by Froswa’ Booker-Drew

Our children are not safe, and the village is no longer paying attention.

In the last few months, there have been endless stories of young people being violated: the teenage girl being gang-raped while others watched live on Facebook; the teenage boy bullied to the point of suicide; the 16-year-old girl who died following a fight in a high school bathroom; the stepfather killing the daughter he impregnated; the teacher who had sex with her former student in her car.

In many of these instances, people were aware, watched and did absolutely nothing. Co-workers at Dairy Queen knew the young boy was being bullied; they often joined in. Other young girls videotaped the bathroom death of the high schooler but did nothing to help. Several people watched the Facebook live stream of the girl being raped and many threatened her life after she reported it.

These young people were not safe in environments where they should have felt safe, and their lives apparently did not matter to those who watched them being victimized. A large part of the problem is that we have become isolated in our communities. Many of us don’t know our neighbors or trust many people. This limits our circle of support.

Our communities and our children do not thrive when we live in fear, hide and are isolated from one another. Research shows the well-being of our communities is suffering because of it, especially our children.

It was not always this way. When I was growing up in Shreveport, LA, there were many people outside of my family — teachers, neighbors, and church members — who looked out for me, made sure I was safe and cared for. They offered advice (even when I didn’t want it) and intervened when other children, or even other adults, behaved inappropriately. Today, many of our young people do not have reliable safety nets.

Community has been sacrificed to our busy lives, limited conversations, information overload and unwillingness to get involved. When it comes to the well-being of our children, we need to reconstitute “the village.”

The village is not just a neighborhood of homes. It is filled with people of various backgrounds, life experiences and ages who all want better for their families and recognize that there is strength in unity. The village understands that if one succeeds, all succeed; that collective knowledge and resources are necessary for growth and support. It is a place of protection, safety and care. Relational theorists maintain that when the village listens and welcomes different opinions, those who live there have a sense of worth, mutual empathy and empowerment, authenticity and growth-fostering relationships. It isn’t Mayberry and Andy Griffith isn’t the sheriff, but it is a place where we work and play together, where we say hello and acknowledge each other by name. We sometimes grab a penny and just sit and talk. It’s scary, but we should be willing to take the risk of building community.

Protecting our children is essential. To change the tide of abuse, neglect and disconnection, we must return to building the basic blocks of community, creating spaces where everyone belongs. It isn’t about whether I like you or not. It is about respecting the life and dignity of every human being. We all deserve to be safe and confident that others will come to our aid when we need it.

Our communities have missed the opportunity to work together and protect our children, a charge our fractured community has failed to keep.

... continued on page 5
Rep. Ashford Honors Young Toledo leader at Statehouse

Northwest Ohio native Keyaunte Jones named Ohio Youth of the Year

Special to The Truth

State Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) last week honored recent St. John’s Jesuit High School & Academy graduate Keyaunte Jones, who was named Ohio youth of the Year by the Boys and Girls Clubs of Ohio. The lawmaker yesterday presented Keyaunte with House Resolution (HR) 149, which commends the Toledo native for his high achievements in leadership, academics and service to both the city of Toledo and the state of Ohio.

“I’m always proud to have the opportunity to recognize Toledo’s youth for their outstanding achievements,” said Ashford. “Mr. Jones is a proven leader and is well-deserving of this high and prestigious honor. I cannot wait to see what he accomplishes in the future.”

As the Ohio Youth of the Year, Jones will receive a $5,000 college scholarship from the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and serve as an ambassador for all teens in the state of Ohio.

Jones has chosen to attend Grambling State University, where he will pursue a degree in biology and play baseball. His long-term goal is to start his own sports medicine company.

Statement from Governor John Kasich on GOP Health Plan

Gov. John Kasich: “I have deep concerns with details in the U.S. Senate’s plan to fix America’s health care system and the resources needed to help our most vulnerable, including those who are dealing with drug addiction, mental illness and chronic health problems and have nowhere else to turn.

“Sustainable solutions to the many complex problems facing our health care system will never be solved with a one-party approach that’s developed behind closed doors, without public discussion and input.

“I’m encouraging Senators to step back and take a good, hard look at this important issue -- and to reach across the aisle in working toward solutions. That’s the only way to address the flaws of Obamacare that we can all agree need to be fixed.”
On Friday, June 23, Ohioans rallied outside Senator Rob Portman’s Toledo office to voice their concerns about the Senate version of the American Health Care Act (AHCA) which was partially revealed last week – a bill Sen. Portman and his colleagues are expected to vote on this week with no public hearings or bipartisan discussion.

This rally and “die-in” are part of a state-wide effort by Indivisible and Action Together groups to target Sen. Portman’s offices across Ohio and force him to confront the devastating effects the AHCA would have on the lives of his constituents.

Information is still forthcoming about the effects of the Senate draft currently being discussed; the CBO score released for the House Bill which was passed in May showed that in Ohio alone, over 539,000 people would lose their health insurance coverage under the AHCA, with those most affected being those who are elderly, pregnant, or living in poverty.

An extended phase out of funding for the ACA’s Medicaid expansion, a policy Portman has voiced support for, would devastate Ohio’s most vulnerable citizens, many of whom are victims of the state’s opioid crisis. The Senate bill proposes a longer time frame for the phase-out but, in the end, even deeper cuts than the House version.

Further, Cleveland.com reported that 81,000 Ohio healthcare jobs over the next five years are at risk if the AHCA passes. With so many families’ health care and livelihoods on the line, the groups demanded that Sen. Portman ensure that the Ohio residents he represents will not lose quality, affordable coverage.
Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority Names Demetria Simpson as President and CEO

Special to The Truth

During a meeting last week, the board of commissioners of Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority named Demetria Simpson to the position of president and chief executive officer. Simpson was serving as interim president and CEO after the resignation of Martin LaMar in May. The board felt that under LaMar’s leadership, LMHA had reduced opportunities for success.

Simpson’s passion for making a difference in underserved communities goes beyond her career obligations. She has worked in Housing and Community Development for 20 years. A Mississippi native, she led the redevelopment efforts of affordable housing on the Mississippi Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina.

She has worked for LMHA since September 2015, in the role of director of Real Estate Development and Modernization and most recently as chief operations officer. Simpson holds a bachelor of science degree in Community and Regional Planning from the University of Southern Mississippi and graduated from the John F. Kennedy School of Government Executive Program at Harvard University.

Hugh W. Grefe, board chairman, stated: “The appointment of Demetria Simpson is a strong step forward for LMHA and our community. She is passionate about serving and the board is sure that her leadership will make a difference.”

The housing authority is responsible for more than 7,600 homes in Lucas County.

The appointment will take place immediately.

City of Toledo offers Free SENIOR SPLASH Adult Aquatic Exercise Programs

June 24 – August 5

New this year, the City of Toledo will host a series of water exercise classes called “Senior Splash” starting June 24 and ending August 5. The hour-long sessions for adults 55 years-old and up will be held at Willys and Roosevelt Pools from 11 am to noon as listed:

Willys Pool – 1375 Hillcrest Ave. Tuesdays & Fridays, 11 am – Noon

Roosevelt Pool – 910 Dorr Street, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11 am – Noon

Certified Instructors from the Toledo YMCA will lead the sessions that take place in shallow water and do not require the ability to swim. The free program is being offered to promote agility, flexibility, range of motion, and cardiovascular endurance. Reservations are not required.

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A Walk in His Garden: The Journey of a Local Urban Agriculturalist

By Mariah Hicks

Toledo area residents gathered in the McMaster Room of the Main Branch Library last Thursday evening to hear speakers discuss urban agriculture laws on behalf of local urban farmer, Thomas Jackson.

Over the past few years, Jackson has had a goal of growing organic foods. With about 30 vacant lots throughout the city under his possession, he set out to fulfill his vision. Unfortunately for those plans, he has been met with conflict.

Neighbors and the City have filed complaints about the way in which he tended to the lots. These action have led to days in court, 30-plus violations from the city and a $3,000 fine to close the case.

Jackson’s interest in growing organic foods started when concerns about his children’s health arose. After visiting the doctor, it was recommended that his children adopt healthier eating habits. In attempt to better their health, Jackson decided to utilize the lots that he possessed. He started taking classes and eventually ended up with 13 growing certificates that gave him greater knowledge of what he was getting into.

To avoid the issue of the present soil being toxic, Jackson used a method to create new soil. He had tree companies dump woodchips on the properties to begin the foundation for his gardens, a process that many wouldn’t understand. Woodchips break down into their own organic soil between the time span of one and two years. To dodge the possibility of contaminating his food, Jackson decided to start fresh.

The problem that arose came from the woodchips. To those who complained, they were deemed a nuisance because of the growing odor and cause of rodents. “Most people don’t understand that there’s like 150 neighbors that... continued on page 13
Fros Fashions and Finds: Common Natural Hair Mistakes Defined

By Megan Davis

Natural hair is a growing trend and people are making the transition to chemical free hair more now than ever. With the growth of the trend, there are also many issues that arise due to the lack of knowledge that can lead to bad hair days, lower self esteem, hair thinning and hair loss.

There are common practices that are poor choices for the care and maintenance of natural hair. Most often, these practices are done with little to no information on what the right steps are. With the Summer season in full effect, naturals want to rock their curls and twists with confidence. In doing so, it’s important to avoid these common mistakes.

The Wash n Go. There is nothing wrong with a “wash n go” unless you wash n go, go, go. In other words, when you do a wash n go, often the hair is simply shaken out after it has been washed. If you clean the hair, it should still be detangled to release the shedding hair, stimulate the blood vessels, and promote growth and prevent other damage. An issue that occurs often is that one can over shampoo, causing severe dryness and brittle hair. Doing this may create lifeless, flat hair.

C-Washing. Co-washing, means using conditioner only. It is important to keep the hair conditioned but over conditioning can occur. Too much conditioner can build up an excessive amount of protein in the hair and cause the hair to harden and break off. Co-washing may also weigh heavily on strands, creating a grey film and will dull the hair. While co-washing is great to help “tame” curls, it can be overused. Try a leave-in conditioner that can be used more frequently and encourages you to moisten the hair regularly without leaving the buildup and weight on the hair.

No Manipulation. There is such a thing as over manipulating the hair, but no manipulation is a recipe for disaster. If you don’t comb, brush or detangle your hair at all, it may become matted and locked in ropes. The locs form because the hair that is to shed isn’t being released and winds up tangling with outer curls, creating the locs. This is true even for those who only finger comb their hair. If your hair locks and you don’t have the patience or someone who knows how to take the locs apart, you may be forced to cut your hair, possibly leaving your hair uneven and without a flattering shape.

Over Protective. Wearing protective styles is meant to give the hair a break from a lot of pulling, stretching, heat and styling, but you can be over protective. If you choose to wear a weave or extensions, it is possible to have them in too long. If you wear them for a prolonged amount of time, you are apt to thinning, breakage, matting and hair loss. Extensions should be left in no longer than their recommended time as directed or as advised by a stylist.

Neglect. It is easy to neglect our hair. When the hair is relaxed and you may go days without coming or brushing it, it is less likely to tangle up or matte because of the texture that will not intertwine with others straight strands. Having no elasticity makes straight hair fragile but curly hair can become more fragile if it’s not being cared for.

Hair must be cleaned and conditioned at the least, but finding motivation to create styles keeps your natural journey from being uneventful and causing you to second guess your decision. Maintaining a good hair care regimen both day and night, will promote healthy hair growth. Neglecting the hair includes not washing or conditioning; not detangling; and leaving protective styles in too long.

Natural hair isn’t more complicated, but it requires a plan of care and a routine to encourage an overall healthy head of hair. It is a journey, complete with rest stops, alternate routes and extended stays in certain seasons. But once you become well acquainted with your hair, you will be able to establish a healthy regimen that can make your hair grow and flourish in the summer sun.

Dealing with hair thinning or loss? Register for the upcoming workshop “Edge Control” on July 22, 2017 from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM at The Kitchen Salon located at 3030
Toledo Sports Legends Honored, Inducted into Hall of Fame

Sojourner’s Truth Staff

The African American Sports’ Legends of Northwest Ohio, a component of the African American Legacy Project (AALC) of Northwest Ohio, inducted its first class of Toledo-area sports legends into its Hall of Fame on Saturday, June 24 in an outdoor ceremony on the grounds of the AALC.

A dozen honorees were introduced to the audience and presented with their individual kente cloths, strips of interwoven cloth in the tradition of the Akan ethnic group of south Ghana.

The induction ceremony was a culmination of the work of Roland Jones, a Toledo native who passed away in 2011 at the age of 91. Jones, an avid golfer and bowler, spent many years documenting the accomplishments of Toledo’s African-American athletes from the early 1900s to 1950. When Jones died in 2011, his family bequeathed his vast collection to the AALC.

The African American Sports’ Legends committee was formed a year ago to put Jones’ work into action and honor outstanding local legends of the 20th century.


Allen-Jackson, a soccer and basketball player in high school, was a pioneer in the world of women’s football. Allen-Jackson started playing for the Toledo Troopers in 1971 as a middle guard. She played for six seasons serving as co-captain of a team that would win seven straight championships while amassing a record of 61 wins and four losses during their nine-year history.

Allen, a star third baseman for Woodward High School, played baseball after his military service ended in 1957 with the North Toledo Arrows among others.

Cole, a Swanton High School graduate, still holds the University of Toledo Rocket’s gridiron record for rushing yards in a single season with 1,162 and is second in career touchdowns and touchdowns in a single season – these records have stood for almost 70 years.

Crosby, a DeVilbiss High School basketball and football standout, was recruited by colleges for both sports ultimately settling on basketball with the University of Tennessee where he averaged 19.7 points as a junior and was drafted by the Kansas City Kings in 1979. He played professional hoops in Europe for 14 years once scoring 73 points in a game.

Haney, an all-star athlete in both track and basketball at Central Catholic High School, was recruited to play basketball by the University of Notre Dame. She helped the Fighting Irish win their first national championship in 2002 and was drafted by the WNBA’s Detroit Shock. She is still involved with basketball as a coach and director of player development.

Harper, a Scott High School graduate, played college football at the Harper, a Scott High School graduate, played college football at the University of Nebraska and helped the Cornhuskers to two national championships while being named first team Sophomore All-American; Big 8 Sophomore Lineman of the Year and the Outstanding Lineman of the 1971 Orange Bowl. He was drafted in the second NFL round in 1973 by the San Francisco 49ers with whom he played for 11 years, winning a Super Bowl in the 1981 season.

... continued on page 11...
AKA Holds “In Her Shoes” Fundraiser

Special to The Truth

Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, sponsored a fundraiser to help women and families in crisis called “In Her Shoes.” This fundraiser assisted those living in Rebekah’s Haven and Family House Shelters by providing them with basic household items as they start to rebuild their lives.

Since you can never truly appreciate a woman’s journey until you have walked a mile in her shoes, guests wore their “most fabulous” shoes and purchased gifts from a gift registry to be donated to the shelters.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® is a non-profit, service-oriented organization, which was founded at Howard University in Washington D.C. in 1908, with a current membership of more than 250,000 throughout the world. Our current multi-faceted goals are to promote economics, family values, service, scholarship, health, cultural awareness and entrepreneurial support in communities worldwide.

Prior fundraisers have permitted Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter to provide over $180,000 in community service contributions and scholarships for area students. Upcoming fundraising events include the AKA Community Bowling Challenge in August and the Fall Back to the 70s, 80s, 90s Dance which will be held in October. All events and information about the local chapter can be found at www.zetaalphaphomega.org.

The In Her Shoes Committee consisted of Chapter President Felicia R. Dunston, Chairman Clara Petty, Paula Martin, Richelle Watkins, Lisa McDuffie and Deborah Washington.

Sixth Annual SmithFest Features Sunshine, Smiles and Laughter

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner’s Truth Reporter

Bright sun shine, smiles and laughter describe the sixth annual SmithFest, held on Saturday, June 17, starting at 9:00 a.m. at Smith Park in Toledo.

Toledo area youth and their families participated in free health and education activities, including: tennis, basketball, archery, golf, swimming, horseback riding, boxing, free age-appropriate books, boxing and more. The event provided free lunch and shirt to attendees.

“My son and I enjoy attending each year, great father and son time,” ... continued on page 12
The women of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Club, Incorporated (NANBPWC. Inc.) held an “New Officer Induction Ceremony” for the upcoming term – 2017-19 years – on June 6, 2017. The newly elected officers and committees will continue to follow the national theme which is “Moving Forward with a Purpose: Empowering Communities and Shaping Lives while Strengthening Business and Professional.”

The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Club was formed in July 1935 and the local Toledo Club started in 1965 with 52 years of working with the Toledo community.

The newly elected officers for the NANBPWC, Inc. Toledo Club will be:

Frances Collins, PhD – President
Denise Black-Poon – 1st Vice President over Programs
Alexii Collins 2nd Vice President over Youth
LuCynthia Jones – Recording Secretary
Mironda Harris – Corresponding Secretary
Wilma Brown – Treasurer
Barbara Tucker – Financial Secretary
Marquita Scott Chong – Director of Membership

Outgoing Officers and Members
Denise Black-Poon, president 2011-2017; BJ Tucker, first vice president and programs chairman; Frances Collins, second vice president and youth advisor; Ethel Scott, director of membership; Wanda Terrell, corresponding secretary; Clara Brank, recording secretary and chaplain; Barbara Tucker, parliamentarian and financial secretary; Wilma Brown, treasurer and Cotillion chairman; Delores Bates, Sarah Burkes, Denise Cardwell, Deborah Carlisle, Alexii Collins, Mary F. Dawson, Crystal Harris-Darnell, Mironda D. Harris, Karen Jarrett, Tommie McGhee, Iris Pat Page Jones, LuCynthia D. Jones, Sherry Reed, Marquita Scott Chong, Tyra Smith Gabriel, Donna Todd, Beverly Tucker, and Lillie Watkins

Membership has its privileges and the Toledo Club membership has enabled the local club members to move to higher levels in the North Central District as district officers over the years.

Elected to North Central District positions: Barbara Tucker- NCD Governor 2006-2008; Barbara Tucker- NCD Vice Governor 2004-2006; Ottabee Sims, Recording Secretary 2002-2004; Wanda Terrell– Galloway Recording Secretary 2008-2012; BJ Tucker District Nominating Committee 2015


...continued on page 11
Sports Legends... continued from page 8

Hopson, a Bowsher High School graduate and was a two-time All-State, two-time All-City and City League Player of the Year in basketball. At The Ohio State University, he averaged 29 points a game in his senior years and finished as the Buckeyes all-time leading scorer. He was part of the Chicago Bulls 1991 championship team. This is his fifth induction into a Hall of Fame – including those of Bowsher, OSU, City of Toledo and State of Ohio Basketball.

Jefferson, a Libbey high School standout in track and basketball, also played for the Toledo Troopers, from 1972 to 1979. Rushing for 1,967 yards in 1977 on 132 carries and scored 35 touchdowns. At the time of her retirement she had scored more touchdowns than Jim Brown, Walter Payton or Marcus Allen.

King, a Scott graduate and a standout in football, basketball, baseball and track, earned All-State honors in all four sports and All-American in baseball in 1949. He completed his college athletic career at Loyola University in Los Angeles and competed semi-professionally in various baseball leagues. He later became the first certified black bowling instructor in Toledo in 1961.

Morehead-Campbell, a Scott graduate and track star, in 1975 won the first ever State of Ohio’s girls track meet competitions in the 100 and 200 yard dashes, the long jump and was the anchor on the winning 800 yard dash relay team. She attended Tennessee State University and was a member of the 1976 and 1980 U.S. Olympic teams.

Parker, also a Scott graduate, excelled in both basketball and football and, after entering OSU, was a member of the Buckeyes’ national championship team in 1957. Drafted by the Baltimore Colts, he anchored their offensive line for 11 years. He was inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame in 1973.

Thames, a Waite High School graduate where he excelled in both basketball and tennis, attended UT and set the scoring record for one season as a senior during the 1995-96 season. He is the last Rocket to average more than 20 points a game and is second on the all-time scoring list with 1964 points. He is the all-time steals leader and is third in career three-pointers made. He is already in the UT Hall of Fame, the City of Toledo Hall of Fame, the Waite Hall and the Birmingham Hall.

The Sports’ Legends committee, led by Chairman Johnny Hutton and co-chairmen Leroy Bates and Joe Sansbury, have worked for the past year to sort through a list of hundreds of outstanding athletes of the 20th century to arrive at the first 12 inductees. The committee was also comprised of Doug Allen, Jojuan Armour, Robert Bates, Lan Battles, Robert Gorce, Bill Griffen, Wes Harper, Bill Hayes, Willie Loper, Robert Smith (AALC president) and Bill Stewart.

Jacqueline Allen-Jackson
Linda Jefferson

Terry Crosby
Willie Harper

Former Mayor Carty Finkbeiner, Rev. John Roberts, Steve Kemp, Kitchen of the Poor’s Harvey Savage, BCSN’s Tom Duncan

MCs Charlie Mack and Tom Cole with Robert Smith

New Officer Induction... continued from page 10

Other program areas for chairmanships are (LET’S) Leadership (Chairman Wanda Terrell- Galloway), Entrepreneurship, Technology (Chairman Alexii Collins), Service (HEED) = Health (Chairman - Sarah Burkes), Education / Scholarship (Chairman- Wilma Brown), and Employment and Economic Development.

National Projects address issues that are currently within the country such as triple negative breast cancer, heart disease, domestic violence, emergency preparedness and community policing.

Other programs such as Vocal Arts, Women’s History, Founders’ Day, and collaborations with other organizations are also part of the programs that the Toledo Club participates in. The community is always welcome to attend and support the Toledo Club and these programs.

The benefits of membership are:
- Mentoring with business and professional leaders, networking
- Global networking opportunities to Grow your businesses,
- Exciting travel events both nationally and internationally
- LET’S Institute Training online instructors and instructor
- Technology
- Membership is open and welcome and has several categories for everyone.

Adult membership for active and retired business and professional women Member At Large for members who reside in a city where there is no organized club Beta Psi is for students who are attending college, university or technical institution Youth Clubs are for young men and women who are ages 12-18 International is available for members who reside outside of the USA

Associate Members is open to women who wish to support NANBPWC, Inc. on a National Level Ombudsmen is the men’s auxiliary comprised of husbands, relatives or friends of the adult club members.

Frances Collins, BJ Tucker, Dee Bates, Barbara Tucker, Wanda Terrell Galloway and Sherry Reed are the Toledo Club’s six Life Memberships.

The new officers and committees and chairmen will meet in August at the Annual Toledo Club Leadership Retreat to make plans for the coming year, attend workshops and to discuss changes in programs.

Current President Denise Black-Poon said: “The Toledo Club members appreciate all the support, financial contributions, participation, and collaborations and love that the Toledo Community has given to us as we continue to do new things with each of our programs, projects and events. It is because of the community, businesses and friends that our success has been made because of everyone who has been there for us over the years. Please continue to attend at any opportunity and bring friends with you as we continue to try to educate everyone on the issues and concerns of the Toledo Area and the surrounding communities.”

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the NANBPWC, Inc. - Toledo Club should contact the Membership Committee Chairmen at 419-304-3871 or 419-944-3406.
Stephen P. Coker Sr.
January 5, 1942- June 14, 2017

Stephen Pierre Coker Sr. was born January 5, 1942 in Decatur, Illinois. He was nurtured and lovingly reared by his parents, George Coker, and Minerva Sweet. He was united in holy matrimony for 41 years to Patricia Ann (White) Coker and was a loving husband and father to their five children. Stephen departed this life surrounded by his loving family and friends on Wednesday, June 14, 2017.

Stephen attended Edward Drummond Libbey High School where he met his wife. Though celebrated for his world class boxing abilities, Stephen's employment career largely began in 1982 as a drug case manager at three different locations: Toledo Hospital, Substance Abuse Services, Inc., and the Drug Abuse Outreach Program. Through the SASI Program he met, then City Council president and future mayor of Toledo, the late Jack Ford. Ford was quoted in a 1994 article written about Stephen's contributions to the community by saying, “He is one of those rare guys who reaches a point where his greatest joy is doing things on behalf of the community.” His work helped people from all walks of life throughout the years by warning them of the dangers of drug addiction.

Stephen was no stranger to the challenges that life can bring, sometimes taking for granted God’s blessings. Those challenges proved as much 15 years ago when Patricia, the love of his life, passed away. Stephen Pierre Coker, an already good man, became an even greater man. He was a role model for the community, his family, especially his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Showing them how to lead and take pride in their accomplishments, even if they stumble along the way. The way he carried himself at all times to be that example in the community has solidified him as a living legend.

He leaves to cherish his loving memory two sons, and three beautiful daughters. As well as a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, brothers, sisters, and more family and friends alike, he will truly be missed.

Visitation was held Saturday, June 24, 2017 at 10:00 AM followed by the funeral at 11:00 AM at Glenwood Lutheran Church located at 2545 Monroe St. Toledo, OH 43620. Arrangements were provided by Dale-Riggs Funeral Home www.dalefh.com
You can do it.
Yes, you can. You just need to take a deep breath and then blow it out. Find the courage inside yourself. Think of something else and do it. Don’t be scared. As you’ll see in Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall, good things come to those who get brave and take the leap.

Jabari loved to swim.
He was really good at it, too. He’d gone to all his swimming lessons and he passed every test. He was so good at swimming that he was ready to jump off the diving board. He even told his dad about it.

The diving board was “high and maybe a little scary…” There were a lot of rungs to climb to get to the top - Jabari could tell that from the side of the pool. Other kids on top of the diving board looked tiny from below as they sprang up and splashed down into the water. It was a long, long way to dive, but Jabari thought it looked like fun – and besides, he was a “great jumper.”

As he stood by the ladder, he looked up. Way up.

Then he turned around and looked at the other kids in line. They’d been standing there awhile; maybe they should go first. In fact, maybe a “tiny rest” was a good idea before tackling such a huge thing. And oh, Jabari forgot to do his stretches before swimming – that’s very important. Maybe tomorrow would be better for diving off the board.

But then Daddy said something that Jabari never thought about. Daddy knew exactly what Jabari was thinking, and he had some helpful advice. There were many ways to dive off a board and into a pool. You can jump feet-first or with your arms above your head, backwards or forwards, straight or flipping head over feet, but there was only one way to get to the top to do it.

And so Jabari did...
More than three out of five Americans don’t know how to swim. In the African-American community, that number is considerably higher. Jabari Jumps may help fix that.

It’s okay to love swimming, according to author Gaia Cornwall’s energetic little main character. It’s okay to get all wet and take swim lessons. It’s actually fun, and Cornwall’s illustrations make it seem so.

But, as your child will see, it’s also okay to be scared of doing something you’ve never done before. In this, Cornwall makes it clear to even the smallest youngster that Jabari’s faux-bravery is wavering even as he brags about his big plans in the pool. There’s plenty of reassurance here, though. Jabari’s father is a great supporting character, understanding and calm with no belittling.

In the end, well, I’m sure you know where this book goes. Kids might, too, and it’s a joyous finale that will leave young readers with a smile and maybe an urge to learn to swim. If that’s what you want to foster in your child, then give him Jabari Jumps. Do it.
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Elegant Hats - Name Brand Shoes
Open 10:00 a.m. - Tuesday thru Saturday
4071 Monroe Street - Toledo, Ohio
419.472.4648
EMLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA), located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for the following position(s): Maintenance Coordinator; Family Self-Sufficiency Specialist (Homeownership). For complete details, visit www.lucasmha.org/Careers. Deadline: 07/07/17. This is a Section 3 covered position(s). HUD recipients are encouraged to apply and are to indicate on the application if you are a LMHA Public Housing client or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. NO PHONE CALLS. Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin.

CLASSIFIEDS

June 28, 2017

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

TOLEDO, OHIO

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sealed Bids will be received by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority for all labor, material, insurance, and equipment necessary for the Terminal Roof project located at Toledo Express Airport in Swanton, Ohio 43558, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. The engineer’s estimate for the project is approximately $1,700,000.00.

Bids will be received at the Port Authority’s administrative offices at One Maritime Plaza, 7th floor, Toledo, Ohio 43604 until Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 11:00 AM, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Plans, Specifications, Instructions to Proposers, and Forms of Proposal and Contract may be obtained by Apex Micrographics, Inc., 5973 Telegraph Road, Toledo, OH 43612, (419) 476-6535 during normal business hours, at a non-refundable price of $28.

Please note that there will be a pre-bid meeting for this project for all prospective bidders on Thursday, July 6, 2017 at 2:30 PM at the Port Authority’s administrative offices at One Maritime Plaza, 7th floor, Toledo, Ohio 43604. Attendance is suggested, but not necessary. Please submit all questions to the Port Authority, Gilda Mitchell at gmitchell@toledoporic.com on or before July 10, 2017.

NORTHGATE APARTMENTS

610 Stickney Avenue

Toledo, Ohio 43604

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

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

LEGAL NOTICE

Proposals will be received by Lucas County Department of Job & Family Services (LCD-JFS) until 4:00 p.m., July 27, 2017 for the selection of a Provider to provide Work Experience Program (WEP) Site Development and Client Participation Services for eligible participants. Submitted proposals must be completed according to the specifications and provisions outlined in the Request for Proposals (RFP). The contract period will be from approximately October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018.

No proposals will be accepted after 4:00 p.m., July 27, 2017; proposals that are submitted via any method other than that described in the RFP will not be accepted.

The Request for Proposals will be available on June 28, 2017. It will be available for potential bidders to download by going to the site: http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx.

An Electronic Question & Answer (Q&A) process will be from June 28, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. to July 11, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. PARTICIPATION IS OPTIONAL, BUT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED. Questions for the Q&A must be submitted in writing via PlanetBids, which may be accessed at http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx, on the Q&A Tab for this RFP. All questions must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on July 11, 2017; the posting of the Q&A will be on July 14, 2017. If any changes are made to the RFP as a result of the Q&A, an addendum to the RFP will be posted at the website address noted above.

This notice is posted as of June 28, 2017 at http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx.

The right is reserved to reject any and all proposals.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Pete Gerken - President

Tina Skeldon Wozniak - Commissioner

Carol Condrada - Commissioner

Bld: 48-18-RFP-01

Special Notice

RE: Examinations for Journeyman Wireman

Applications for the Journeyman Inside Wireman test will be accepted July 3-7, 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.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

TOLEDO, OHIO

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sealed Bids will be received by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority for all labor, material, insurance, and equipment necessary for the Access Bridge Repair project located at Facility Three in Oregon, Ohio 43616, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. The engineer’s estimate for the base bid for the project is approximately $51,115.00.

Bids will be received at the Port Authority’s administrative offices at One Maritime Plaza, 7th floor, Toledo, Ohio 43604 until Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 10:00 AM, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Plans, Specifications, Instructions to Proposers, and Forms of Proposal and Contract are on file and may be obtained by either (1) obtaining hard copies from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, OH 43615, phone 419.385.5303, during normal business hours, or (2) ordering from Becker Impressions, via their website www.beckerplanroom.com at a non-refundable price of $25.

Please note that there will be a pre-bid meeting for this project for all prospective bidders on Tuesday, July 6, 2017 at 10:00 AM at the Port Authority’s administrative offices at One Maritime Plaza, 7th floor, Toledo, Ohio 43604. Attendance is suggested, but not necessary. Please submit all questions to the Port Authority, Gilda Mitchell at gmitchell@toledoporic.com on or before July 10, 2017 at 2:00 PM local time. Additional information can be found at www.toledoporic.com

Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority

Paul L. Toth, Jr., P.E., President & CEO

Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority

Paul L. Toth, Jr., P.E., President & CEO
Spectacular ZOOtoDO Fundraiser Brings out Eclectic Styles

Sojourner’s Truth Staff

Perfect weather greeted the more than 1,500 attendees during the 2017 ZOOtoDO fundraiser held on Friday, June 16 at the Toledo Zoo. The annual black tie and tennis shoes event was anticipated to raise more than $250,000 for Zoo operations.

As usual, dozens of local restaurants participated in the event offering virtually every type of food in the area—shrimp, beef tips, barbecue, pastries, nachos, stuffed pasta, fruits and sushi, among other delicacies.

Guests were dressed in a wide array of formal and informal wear—often mixed together and a variety of bands offered live music and dancing.

A Tribute to Leon Whittington

On Monday, June 5, dozens of local entertainers gathered at the Peacock Lounge for a tribute to the late Leon Whittington.

Whittington, 55, “Mr. Entertainer of Toledo, OH”, passed away on Tuesday, May 30, 2017, peacefully in his sleep in Rockford, IL. Leon attended Scott High School and graduated from Hollywood High in California. Shortly thereafter he began singing/acting professionally for over 40 years.