



Volume 46, No. 2                      *"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."*                      August 9, 2017

# Clara Petty



*Executive Director - Monroe Street Neighborhood Center*

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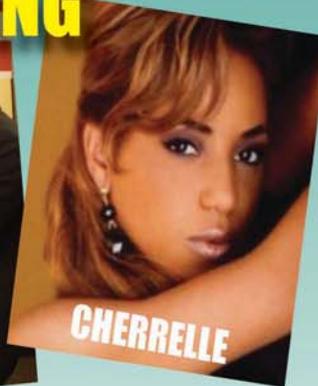
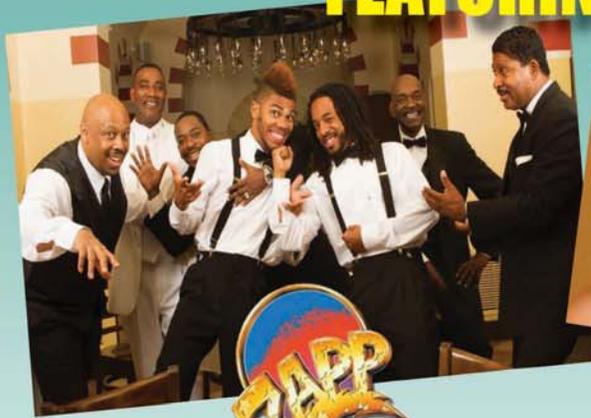
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# Compassion and Politics, an Unhealthy Break-up

By *Dominque Warren*  
The Truth Contributor

As I sat and watched the roll call for the U.S. Senate to open debate on the repeal and replace of the Affordable Care Act, I reflected on how much different our government is from a year ago and whether the public servants who have been elected understand their role and the decisions they make.

My understanding public service and compassion began when I was 16, working in the office of Mayor Jack Ford. There I learned that those with the ability and power to do so must protect the most vulnerable of our communities. The political is personal and as leaders govern they must be compassionate of individuals and recognize people's humanity.

In 2002, Jack Ford brought together service providers and leaders to establish CareNet, created to give health access to poor and uninsured residents of Lucas County.

Working in his office as a teenager, I didn't quite understand lack of access for many individuals in the county and the role Medicaid has in these communities. It was with CareNet that Ford and other leaders in the public and private sector showed that public service was about compassion for people who needed to live healthy and pain-free lives. With CareNet, the elderly, impoverished and addicted could get assistance to live normal lives. A compassionate view of politics saved the lives of many.

My daughter, Lois Marie, was born in 2015 at 25 weeks weighing less than two pounds and unable to breathe or eat on her own. I was to be laid off two week later and my insurance coverage would be cancelled.

Before the passage of The Patient and Affordability Act of 2010, better known as Obamacare, premature birth was a pre-existing condition that would have denied my child insurance or charged enormous rates for her right to exist. As a father, I cannot imagine what health insurance and life outcomes for my child would be like without Obamacare.

Like CareNet, Obamacare provided access to quality healthcare to my daughter and millions of families. When politics contain compassion, lives can be improved for the better and progress can be made.

As we watched last week's debate in Congress and kept our ears to the ground to the Ohio General Assembly, we must ask if the public servants that we elected are governing with compassion.

Almost 50 percent of births in the United States are paid for by Medicaid. Individuals suffering with opioid addiction depend on this funding for treatment, and low-income families would be at risk for lost coverage with these budgetary cuts.

The funding for school nurses and special-needs students depends on Obamacare. Outside of Medicaid, we are debating the protection of women's health provisions, mental health services and cancer treatment with the insurance coverage mandates. If the policy surrounding healthcare does not show compassion, we can expect that it will fall short of protecting individuals that require it the most.

We expect our elected leaders to govern with compassion and an open heart on all levels of

government. It is not just for the people to petition their Congressional representatives to act, but state and local leaders must be vocal and amplify these voices.

We see advocacy groups such as Indivisible on the forefront of this activism and local elected officials such as Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson speaking out on the important of healthcare. If our leaders in Washington and Columbus show compassion, it will be felt in Toledo. If they don't show compassion, local communities will be overwhelmed and will need to come together to soften the blow and initiatives like CareNet will be needed even more.

We must choose to protect existing mandates as well as reform the Affordable Care Act to make sure insurance is more accessible and affordable for the consumer. We cannot choose to have politics without compassion for the sake of our community.

*Dominque Warren is a former first grade teacher turned legislative staffer on Capitol Hill. A graduate of Scott High School and Morehouse College with graduate studies in public policy from the University of Michigan, Dominque focuses on education, criminal justice and the 21st Century Economy. Follow him on twitter @DomoWarren.*



Dominque Warren

## PANCAKES, POLITICS & JAZZ

PANCAKES, POLITICS & JAZZ will be held at Our Brothers Place, 233 N. Huron Street, in downtown Toledo on Sunday, August 27, 2017 and Sunday, October 29, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Current elected officials will be on hand to discuss their perspectives and respond to probing questions from the participants. The public is invited to participate in these events for a cost of \$20.00 per person for each event which includes, breakfast, listening to and questioning elected officials and enjoying smooth jazz.

Come and hear from Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson, City Council Members Cecilia Adams, Yvonne Harper, Tyrone Riley and Larry Sykes. This is your opportunity to meet and interact with current elected public servants—and the food will be delicious and the jazz will be smooth featuring our own "Lady K" (Karen Harris) and C.J. Manning.



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# Pancakes, Politics & Jazz Coming Soon to Our Brothers Place

On Sunday, August 27, 2017, a program featuring Pancakes, Politics & Jazz will be happening at Our Brothers Place - 233 N. Huron Street in downtown Toledo. The program begins at 1:00 pm. And will end around 4:00 p.m.

Breakfast will be served between 1 and 2:00 p.m. Immediately following breakfast Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson will spend a few minutes offering remarks and discussing issues of concern that she has for the city. Council members Cecelia Adams, PhD; Yvonne Harper; Tyrone Riley and Larry Sykes will also spend a few minutes addressing such issues.

The audience will have an opportunity to ask questions of the elected officials and provide opinions on topics of interest. Following the question and answer session comes the jazz portion of the afternoon as vocalist Karen "Lady K" Harris entertains with her smooth jazz stylings.

The cost for audience participation is \$20 per person. Pancakes, Politics & Jazz is an effort to educate the public about current political issues while enjoying good food and smooth jazz. This is an opportunity to have fun and also learn about local matters affecting our community.

Pancakes, Politics & Jazz is sponsored by Paul L. Hubbard, Keith L. Mitchell and The Sojourner's Truth Newspaper. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Hubbard at 419-471-9719, Attorney Keith Mitchell at 419-255-4480 or Publisher Fletcher Word at 419-243-0007.

# Area Office on Aging's Billie Johnson Wins Most Prestigious National Aging Award

The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) last week presented Area Office on Aging President/CEO Billie Johnson with its most prestigious honor for the positive impact she has made in the lives of older northwest Ohioans.

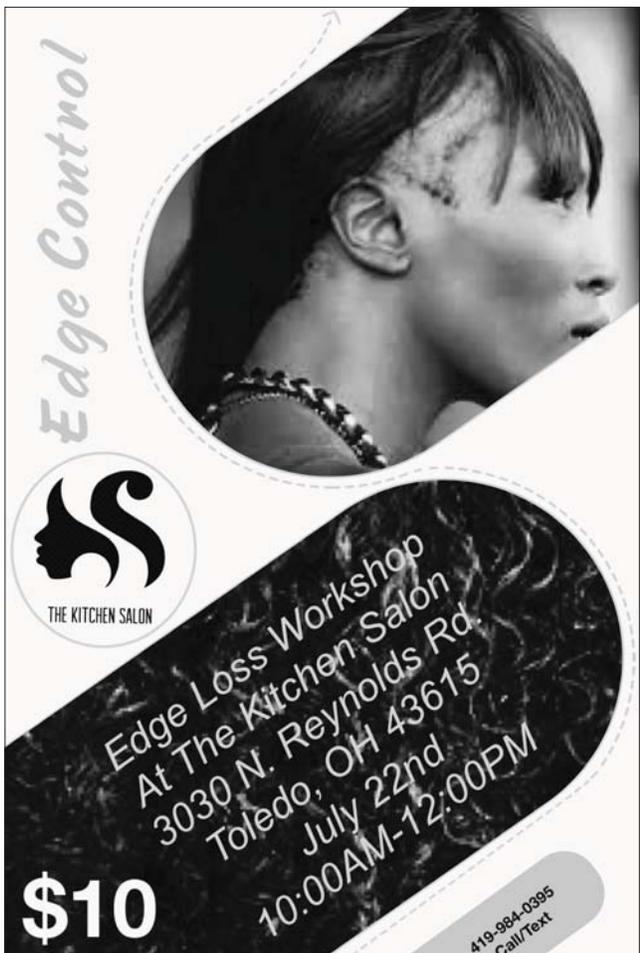
The President's Award was presented to her at the organization's national conference in front of over 1,000 national and local aging leaders, policy decision makers and business executives in attendance. Previous recipients of the award include United States senators and representatives as other national leaders.

Under her leadership, the Area Office on Aging has been growing to meet the needs of older northwest Ohioans. During her tenure, the agency has grown from its infancy as an organization with a few employees and a small budget to today being an organization with an annual budget of \$32 million and 150 employees serving 40,000 northwest Ohioans a year. Additionally, Johnson started three wholly-owned senior housing subsidiary corporations and formed a supporting foundation for the Area Office on Aging.

The Area Office on Aging is one of the 618 Area Agencies on Aging across the country. The Area Office on Aging is locally known and nationally recognized.

At the Conference, the agency also received its 11th national award for its innovative programs and services under Johnson's leadership. This year's program recognized the Area Office on Aging's partnership with Toledo Public Schools.

The Area Office on Aging promotes the health, well-being and safety of older adults, persons with disabilities and family caregivers to foster independence.



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National Association of Area Agencies on Aging Board President Kathryn Boles and Area Office on Aging CEO Billie Johnson

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# A Fundraiser for Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson's Campaign

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

ProMedica President and CEO Randy Oostra organized a fundraiser for Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson at the Inverness Country Club on Tuesday morning, August 1, 2017, and several dozen Hicks-Hudson supporters turned out for a light breakfast and some serious political speeches.

"A major concern in moving downtown is the city leadership," said Oostra whose health care system has committed millions of dollars towards several major moves into the downtown area. Some of the moves started during the short tenure of Mayor D. Michael Collins and have continued, without apprehension or skipping a beat, he noted, during Hicks-Hudson's term in office.

"We think about leadership and the way the city works, the progress the city has made and you have to think very positively about [Paula Hicks-Hudson's] leadership," he told the supportive audience as he introduced Hicks-Hudson. "We have been really pleased with the great things going on in the city, thanks to [the mayor]."

The mayor began her own remarks by noting that over \$300 million is currently being invested in downtown-area Toledo and over 3,000 individuals are moving into the area. While she is pleased with the downtown progress, Hicks-Hudson said that the city's attention now needs to turn more intently to improving neighborhoods.

"How do we add to this story?" she asked. "People from the business community, the arts, the non-profits – all us coming together for that shared vision. All of the pillars of our community coming together for all of the neighborhoods."

Hicks-Hudson, who ascended to the mayor's office upon the death of Mayor D. Michael Collins in February 1915 and won the right to complete his term in a special election held in November of that year, is starting her campaign to serve a full four-year term in this year's election. Her chief opponents in the September 12 primary will be Lucas County Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz and Toledo City Councilman Tom Waniewski. The top two finishers will face off in the November general election.

"How can we as a community help neighborhoods come together?" she asked.

Hicks-Hudson offered a two-part answer to improving the condition of the city's neighborhoods. First, "make sure the neighborhoods are safe." Second, "take the opportunity to ensure young people are prepared when they enter school."

With respect to the first part, the mayor mentioned the importance of reclaiming vacant properties and making sure that people can move about their neighborhoods safely.

As to the second part, Hicks-Hudson stressed the importance of those pillars of the community working with school districts to ensure kids are ready to enter school and, from a health standpoint, she noted that her office is working with the federal government to address issues such as lead poisoning abatement.

The City of Toledo last year became the first city in Ohio to pass a lead safe ordinance and the enforcement of that ordinance starts this summer. Sever-

al other Ohio cities, such as Cleveland, seem poised to follow that example.

"I intend to bring everyone to the table, my office is the center to bring everyone together," she said of the vision she holds for Toledo. "Moving our city forward is a vital part of what I am."



*ProMedica's Randy Oostra and Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson*

## Community Calendar

### August 11-13

The True Church of God 60th Church Anniversary: "Except the Lord Build the House;" Friday – Youth Explosion and Bon Fire Blast, 6 pm; Saturday – food, bouncy house, games – 10 am to 2 pm, semi-formal dinner; Sunday – 10 am service: 419-243-4948

### August 12

Elegant Beauty Salon 4th Annual Bookbag Extravaganza: 9 am to noon; Free bookbags, free haircuts, food, games, school supplies: 419-930-5823  
Calvary MBC Community Bookbag Giveaway: Noon to 3 pm: 419-464-6703  
Change 4 Kids and End Time Christian Fellowship Music Fest and School Supplies Give Away: Noon to 3 pm; 2902 Auburn; Games, refreshments, music

### August 13

Warren AME Praise and Worship Funday: Free community picnic; 11:30 am to 3 pm; Drawings, bouncy house, face painting, musical performance: 419-450-0165 or 419-243-2237

### August 18

New Prospect Baptist Church Appreciate Month: 7 pm; Guests Pastor John Williams and Eastern Star Baptist Church

### August 18-19

Ninth Annual Sacred Strings Showcase Concert: Featuring African-American steel guitar players; First Alliance Church; 6:30 to 9:30 pm on Friday; 3 to 7 pm on Saturday 419-243-0564

### August 26-27

Trinity Faith Tabernacle 54th Church Anniversary: Saturday 5:30 – Old Landmark Meet and Greet; Sunday services at 11 am and 4:30 pm

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# Moving Forward: The Next Steps of Lucas County's Aspire Program

By Mariah Hicks  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

An interactive community meeting was held last Monday at the United Way of Greater Toledo for Lucas County's Aspire program. Members from the community assembled to discuss the next steps of the program's agenda for their Kindergarten Readiness and Graduation Networks.

The meeting consisted of highlights of the program's efforts, an update on the program's assessment, overview of the data collection process, examination of two areas from the data and an engaging discussion of identifying problems and solutions for those areas.

Aspire was introduced to Lucas County in 2012 as an offspring of Cincinnati's Strive Together program. In partnership with Strive Together, about 70 cities throughout the country are bouncing off of the program's work in order to strengthen the success rates in children's education.

Aspire was introduced to Toledo because community leaders realized that residents continue to suffer educationally because of poverty and

lack of resources despite the efforts of agencies intended to help families within the community.

Aspire generally holds the same value as Strive Together, which is to advance educational and economic outcomes for children within the community. As stated on Aspire's website, "Our objective is to build transparency into the system to ensure that we are doing the right things for our children and families -- establishing the right support structure to allow kids to learn, grow and thrive in Toledo."



Katie Enright

Aspire is a collaboration of United Way of Greater Toledo, The Toledo Community Foundation and Lucas County Commissioners.

A main goal of the meeting, as noted by Aspire's Executive Director Katie Enright, was to get people of the community to come together and focus on common outcomes.

"You'll see the kind of expectations that's become of the networks is really how information coming from these assessments and coming from some of the data that's going to be gathered here, and we're really looking at where are the bright spots, where are there gaps, where do we need help," said Enright. "Maybe there's things we need to offer in terms of parent engagement to lift the programs up, maybe there's things we need to offer in terms of cultural competency to help lift programs up and in turn lift families up in the community, so that's kind of some of the work we're going to start doing today."

A video from Jeff Edmondson, founder and former executive director of Strive Together, was displayed in order to highlight the importance of taking personal action. "The number one insight after 12 years is this: collective impact ironically depends more on the individuals than it does on the collective," Edmondson said in the video.

Before moving forward to the next part of the meeting, Enright summarized Edmondson's overall moral of the video, which she described as asking oneself "What personal action can I take?" and "What can I do to help drive something forward?"

Kristen Kania, Aspire's Data and Outcome Network Manager, then discussed the assessment overview. Forty early childhood and school-age programs participated in a voluntary assessment where they were graded on four core secondary indicators; program evaluation, parent engagement, cultural competency and program supports.

As explained in a Powerpoint shown by Kania, the used program assessment tool was created to provide a clear, common language for assessing outcomes, secondary indicators and contributing factors while it relied on the use of qualitative and quantitative data to measure results, direct program improvement and inform overall decision making. The assessment consisted of weighted questions, which affected the overall performance of the programs.

"The thought is, if we can lift up the programs and improve the programs

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# Clara Petty: Bringing the Freedom School to Some Fortunate Toledo Students

By Fletcher Word  
Sojourner's Truth Editor

Now in her 10th year as executive director of the Monroe Street Neighborhood Center (MSNC), Clara Petty oversees a number of programs and services designed to strengthen families and offer children a safe environment outside of the home. The Center's most recent addition to these services – the Children Defense Fund (CDF) Freedom School, a six-week summer literacy program which premiered this year – helped the Center take its mission a step further by offering children a nationally recognized creative curriculum with a proven track record of success.

Over the course of the six-week program, the teaching staff and community volunteers enriched the lives of 56 students through morning readings, the Integrated Reading Curriculum that the CDF has developed and afternoon activities such as art, theater, music and dance.

The Freedom School enhanced an already rich variety of programs and services offered by the MSNC. The list includes Adventure Camp (a nine-week camp filled with learning and exploration); The Bridge (providing emergency food, clothing and transportation); Dress Right for Men and Women (providing professional clothing for those entering the job market); Documents Matter (assistance with securing a birth certificate or state ID) along with assorted wellness programs for seniors such as Zumba Gold, Tai-Chi, cardio dance and a walking class.

This is not the first time Toledo students have benefitted from the presence of Freedom School. The Center of Hope has had a Freedom School in



... continued on page 8

Clara Petty



## Enroll Now for the 2017-18 School Year

### Thursday, August 17th First Day of School

- High School – Freshmen only – full day
- Elementary – half-day

### Friday, August 18th All students report

### Wednesday, August 23rd Kindergarten students report



### Elementary Open Houses

Wednesday, August 16th 5:30 – 7 p.m.

### High School Open Houses

**Bowsher High School**  
Wednesday, August 30  
5-6:30 p.m.

**Jones Leadership Academy**  
Wednesday, August 30  
5-7 p.m.

**Rogers High School**  
Wednesday, August 30  
6:30-8 p.m.

**Scott High School**  
Wednesday, August 30  
5:30-7 p.m.

**Start High School**  
Thursday, August 24  
5-6:30 p.m.

**Toledo Early College**  
Friday, August 18  
5-6 p.m.

**Toledo Technology Academy**  
Friday, August 18  
5-6 p.m.

**Waite High School**  
Tuesday, August 29  
5:30-7 p.m.

**Westfield Achievement**  
Tuesday, August 29  
5-6 p.m.

**Woodward High School**  
Wednesday, September 6  
5:30-7:30 p.m.



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Clara Petty... continued from page 7

Toledo for almost a decade ago and, if funding is available, will bring back its Freedom School in 2018.

The MSNC's Freedom School was the brainchild of Gloria Layson, a member of the Braden United Methodist Church, who approached Rev. Larry Clark, pastor of Monroe Street United Methodist Church (which houses the MSNC) with the concept. Then Clara Petty came into the picture and a partnership was formed with the church, the MSNC and the Maumee Watershed District – the region's 25 Methodist churches.

"A church can't be a Freedom School," said Petty who became the program's administrator. "It needs to be a 501c(3) so Pastor Clark came to us and said we should do it."

Money needed to be raised, of course. The Center had to come up with \$65,000 to cover the Freedom School expenses such as training, staffing and testing. After a failed first attempt last year, the partnership of the 25 churches in the Maumee Watershed District, the Monroe Street church and the Center and a grant from the Toledo Rotary Foundation resulted in a successful fundraising effort.

"We could not have done Freedom School without the support of the 25 Methodist churches of the Maumee Watershed District that poured financial and spiritual help into the school," said Petty.

Petty then enlisted the aid of Pastor Elizabeth Rand, who would be program director, and retired Toledo Public Schools principal Deborah Washington, PhD, who would be site coordinator – essentially serving as the principal of the Freedom School.

Rand coordinated the activities that are so critical to the success of the Freedom School concept – bringing in volunteers (especially from the 25 churches) to oversee breakfast, read to the children, sit with them in the lunchroom and lead enrichment activities. Diverse groups such as the Toledo School for the Arts and Lucas County Courts were brought in as part of the enrichment activities programs.

Individuals like Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson and former University of Toledo men's basketball coach Stan Joplin were part of the group of guest readers who volunteered their time.

Washington set about mastering the Freedom School curriculum and put in about 250 hours prior to the opening of the summer session – without pay – researching, organizing and training "because she really believed in the program," said Petty. "You have to have a commitment in order to give

away that amount of time."

Student Leader Interns (SLI) – teachers – were also brought on board prior to the summer opening to undergo training to master the Freedom School concepts and curriculum.

All that preparation notwithstanding, the summer was not without its challenges. The SLIs quickly discovered that a number of the five-year-olds, who are slated to enter kindergarten this fall, weren't ready for the Freedom School curriculum. The SLIs "had to refocus" on the fly, said Petty, and lower their expectations of the youngsters' capabilities.

Nevertheless, "overall Freedom School was a success," said Petty. "We did it right, we implemented a lot of things that children might not be exposed to." That said, Petty is ready to do bigger and better things in the future. She would like to expand the program into the academic year and she would like to raise even more money in order to pay the staff better wages.

Petty is now awaiting the results of the post-session testing that the Freedom Schools performs as part of the process – the students were subjected to testing before the summer as well in order to measure outcomes.

The Children's Defense Fund grew out of the Civil Rights Movement and was founded by Marian Wright Edelman in 1973. Edelman, the first black woman admitted to the Bar in Mississippi, had served as the director of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund's office in Jackson, MS. The CDF mission is to ensure that children, particularly minorities and the poor, are healthy, educated, safe and given a fair chance to achieve adulthood.

The Freedom Schools began in 1995 with a focus on literacy, parent involvement, conflict resolution and social action.



Deborah Washington and guest reader Lenora Barry

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# Back-to-School Tips to Save You Time and Money

Special to The Truth

From shopping for school supplies to lunch meal prep, getting ready for the first day of school can be overwhelming.

To help relieve some of the stress, the discount experts at Dollar General are offering a few money and time-saving tips.

## Start with the Supply List

When deciding what school supplies to purchase for the new school year, start with the list provided by the student's teacher. Begin attacking the list by determining what is reusable from the last school year. Some states offer tax-free incentive weekends or periods, so check before purchasing the remaining supplies, for additional back-to-school savings.

## New Year, New Style

Purchasing new clothes can be an additional back-to-school expense that doesn't have to break the bank. Just like some school supplies, many clothes from the last school year can be reused. Consider donat-

ing gently used clothes to a local charity and purchasing new ones, by shopping out-of-season to take full advantage of clearance sales.

## Lunch Prep Made Easy

Preparing lunch and snacks for students can be time consuming. Instead, spend more time with family by setting aside one day each week to prepare meals for the week ahead. For quick and easy lunchtime recipes, check out free online resources like Dollar General Easy Meals.

## Discounts and Deals

For additional savings on back-to-school items and clothes, discover if your favorite stores offer digital coupons and in-store discounts. For example, Dollar General Digital Coupons allow customers to save both in-stores and online. You can download Dollar General Digital Coupons and upload coupons through the online account or the Dollar General coupon app.

Back-to-school shopping doesn't have to be overwhelming. With a few easy strategies, families are sure to have a smooth transition at the start of the new school year.

Courtesy StatePoint

# How to Help Your Child Prepare for Kindergarten

Special to The Truth

Kindergarten is an exciting time for children, but it can also be a stressful time of change -- not just for little ones, but for parents, too. Although each child is unique and develops at his or her own pace, most educators and experts agree that four key areas of development are essential for further growth and achievement in school.

To help your child prepare for kindergarten and make a smooth transition, here are a few ways to support these key areas of development at home:

- **Vocabulary and Oral Language Development:** Encourage your child to communicate through words. Have your child tell you a story, asking questions that invite description. For example, if your child says a dog was chasing a stick, ask what color was the dog? Did he run fast or slowly? Was the stick big or small? In public, give your child opportunities to speak for him or herself or make requests. If he or she is asked what they want to eat and drink at a restaurant, let your child reply, even if you know the answer.
- **Social-Emotional Skills:** Children will use social-emotional skills every day once in kindergarten, whether they're asking a teacher for help, being polite to classmates or following instructions. Scheduling a fun, unstructured play date is a great way to let children interact with peers, helping them

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# Toledo Native Performs at WNBA Game

Special to The Truth

Ziynne – Kid of Pop, a native of Toledo, performed the halftime show at the Atlanta Dream vs. Washington Mystics WNBA game in Atlanta, GA.

This was the Dream Pink game for the Atlanta Dream as they partnered with the Grady Health Foundation in a quest to bring awareness to Breast Cancer.

Before the game there were several activities such as face painting, as well as opportunities to purchase Atlanta Dream merchandise. The first 2,000 fans received Dream Pink T-Shirts.

After the game, the Grady Health Foundation in conjunction with the Atlanta Dream held their Dream Pink auction.

WNBA fans had the opportunity to bid on items that included experiences with WNBA players, trips, as autographed memorabilia.

Ziynne – Kid of Pop also autographed merchandise and donated them for the Dream Pink auction as well. He personally presented his autographed items to the bid winner after his halftime performance.

There were many celebrities in attendance to support this worthy cause including WNBA All Star Chastity Melvin, NBA All Star Dwight Howard, and WNBA League President Lisa Borders.

All proceeds from both the live and online auctions will be donated to the Grady Health Foundation in support of raising awareness in the fight against Breast Cancer.



The NBA's Dwight Howard with Kid of Pop

Kindergarten... continued from page 9

learn to share and express themselves through play.

- **Small Motor Control:** Developing small motor skills can be as easy as coloring with your child and cutting with scissors -- anything that gets those fingers and toes moving! Other great activities include putting puzzles together, building with blocks, throwing, catching and kicking a ball, riding a tricycle as well as activities like running, jumping and climbing.

- **Attention to Sensory and Visual Detail:** Paying attention to one's senses is a mindful practice that can help prepare children for the academic world of kindergarten. Noticing textures, smells and tastes, and using language to describe these details, fosters vocabulary development and encourages children to compare and contrast their experiences. At snack time, ask your child to describe the food with words like sweet or sour, crunchy or juicy, rough or smooth. When playing with puzzles, ask your child to sort the puzzle pieces and then describe what colors, patterns, edges, or other visual details the pieces share.

Parents may find certain tools useful towards helping children learn core school and life skills. For example, LeapFrog's LeapStart Learning System gets kids excited about counting, learning to read, problem solving and more with fun, re-playable activities. An ergonomic stylus reads invisible dots on every page, triggering questions, challenges, songs, jokes and more. Engaging new content featuring popular children's characters and the availability of LeapFrog's acclaimed Learn to Read series give children the tools they need to build tomorrow's skills today.

Don't worry if your child hasn't mastered all his or her letters, sounds and numbers by the time school starts. Children come to kindergarten at many different levels. The teacher will practice these skills with your child throughout the school year, but you can help by continuing to reinforce them at home.

Courtesy StatePoint

**September 2nd | Labor Day Weekend | Club Evolution**

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*Education Section - Back to School • Education Section - Back to School • Education Section - Back to School • Education Section - Back to School*

*Aspire Program... continued from page 6*

in meaningful ways based on best practices, based on the qualitative data that we gathered here in this community, then we will deliver higher level programming to our kids and those outcomes that we're looking at across that cradle to career spectrum should start to improve," said Kania.

During the joint meeting, attendees went over two areas of the assessed data, which were parent engagement and cultural competency. Out of the four core secondary indicators, these were the areas that showed the largest gaps, as explained by Enright. Definitions for the two areas were provided, as well as the questions that the programs were assessed on and the data that was collected in the process.

Each question was graded on a color scale; green representing the best practice, yellow highlighting the need to emerge and red implementing the need to improve. Table leaders were given the task of leading discussions after their table observed the collected data.

The working definitions for the two observed areas are shown as follows:

**Parent Engagement**

- Tracking of parent participation and efforts toward continuous improvement (at least twice during the program delivery cycle; quarterly is preferred)
- Collection of parent satisfaction data, used to improve the program
- Evidence of parent inclusion in a valued decision-making role (on agency board, program oversight committee and/or parent advisory group)
  - Regular, two-way interactive communication between the program and parents
  - Education of parents about child development/parenting skills
  - Tools empowering parents to participate in student learning at home (e.g., replication of successful program strategies in home as applicable)
  - Parent social connection opportunities

**Cultural Competency**

- Agency policy that reflects the value of cultural inclusivity, respectfulness and safety
- Culture that fosters inclusivity and positive identity development of children/youth/families
  - Program evaluation, including cultural competency assessment
  - Written staff development plan that includes trainings, follow-up meetings, and implementation to build multicultural competence in teaching and/or social development and to address poverty, language, and homelessness
  - Leadership team and staff who are inclusive and representative of the population served
  - Staff able to demonstrate culturally appropriate responsiveness
  - Knowledge and responsiveness to children/families regarding concrete supports
  - Flexibility required to meet the needs of the population served

After attendees concluded their observations and table discussions, the room was brought back to a group discussion led by Kania. Members of the audience were able to share their thoughts on the assessed data of parent engagement and cultural competency.

Many people realized that in both areas, early childhood programs were doing better at things that school-age programs were slacking on, and vice versa. A general curiosity arose among the attendees on how the programs could help each other improve and participants wondered how they could bring the programs together and get them to share what they were doing in areas where they showed best practice.

Recognizing that there are successful programs and wondering how to take the steps to tap into them was a factor that was mentioned throughout the discussion. Multiple attendees realized that though some programs had areas where they were red and yellow, it didn't make sense to reinvent the wheel where there wasn't much success when they could be

looking at the models of green that have been working in the community already.

Concerns arose as attendees pointed at areas where they located problems and gave some of their ideas of solutions.

Many people pinpointed parental engagement as an important factor in being able to reach more children. Questions that arose about the assessed data were if the programs supported deep parental engagement or just surface requirements to the level of engagement.

"Parent engagement is a soft target, a soft thing to fund. But it's really powerful. And parents need to feel like they really are a partner and we're treating them like a partner and we're just not trying to tell them what to do. They don't need another person telling them what to do," Enright said.

Cultural competency showed questionable areas as well. Attendees were concerned with the working definition provided for this area and pondered on how to understand the operational meaning on a groundwork level that could be applied within agencies. Learning and understanding the difference between diversity and the complexity of cultural competency was something that people stressed needed to be implemented with agencies.

After further discussion amongst the group, the meeting was closed out as Kania announced the plans for the next steps. She also provided a sign-up sheet for those who wanted to meet with her with further concerns on Aspire's work.

"What we're going to do is, we're going to have more network meetings obviously and focus on those indicators as well, but now this will become where we have a network where we can share those values, share those best practices about the parent engagement. That's an easier section. The cultural competency is always going to be hard. It's not comfortable to tackle, but it is so needed. People are excited to see that we're going to tackle it and not leave it alone," Enright said.

Aspire plans to have more joint network meetings in the future with the understanding that parent engagement and cultural competency are two factors that need to be observed on a deeper level. To keep up with the program's next steps, you can visit their website at <http://www.aspiretoledo.org/>.



African American Leadership Caucus (AALC)



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# *It Won't Be Easy* by Tom Rademacher, foreword by Dave Eggers

Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

Reading, writing, and arithmetic.

Those were the basics you were supposed to have learned at school: how to make sense of groups of letters, how to make those same letters legible, and how to add and subtract numbers. That was how you spent your school days eons ago, but in *It Won't Be Easy* by Tom Rademacher, oh, how things have changed.

Seven hours a day. And about nine-and-a-half months.

Give or take, that's roughly how long your local teachers have to teach. In that time, they have "standards" to follow, they have (and know that parents have) expectations, and they must also "give [kids] something useful to understand and remember." Inside that ponderously messy assignment, says Tom Rademacher, many people forget that school is "unfair" and "unimportant," and that teaching is "completely full of humans."

His book is for the older humans: the talented, passionate ones who try to mesh with their peers to give kids the best education they'll ever get. And it's for those abrasive jerks who are detrimental to students. Use it, he says, as a handbook or a "book-club book for teachers." Let it serve as a good reminder, in the first year of teaching "and probably every year after that... [to] swear to yourself to do no harm."

Then, know that that's a vow you'll break.

Another vow: don't get caught up in drama – whether it's student-driven or that "of the adults around you." It's an easy trap to fall into, but one you'll be glad to avoid. Never yell at students or anyone; although you probably will, it's unnecessary. Use compassion in your classroom and with your fellow teachers, and work hard for those administrators who show you the same. "Read with your kids," to validate their interests and build trust. Never say "because we're supposed to"; everybody knows that's a lame answer and it won't work with kids today. Finally, know that "Teaching is just really hard" and though "You asked for this... you're not alone."

Here's a book every parent of every school-age child should read.

Here's a book every teacher in every school should read.

In both cases, *It Won't Be Easy* offers another side of the education-coin. For parents, this behind-the-scenes gives you a peek at what may go on in the faculty lounge at your child's school. It's not for the faint of heart; Rademacher is profane and provocative, but you'll end up hoping your child's teacher is more like him.

Rademacher, however, will resonate most with his fellow teachers.

He writes of clashing personalities, finding the best co-workers, and failing the kids. He mentions irritations and what fixed them, he writes of good ideas and bad, and he pokes holes in "standards" and new-teacher training. He's

c. 2017  
University of  
Minnesota Press  
\$17.95 / higher in Canada  
191 pages

funny, and he's eye-opening.

In his introduction, Rademacher says his tales may give teachers "yet another excuse to drink." He also gives parents an understanding of why they might. And that's why both will want this book: because *It Won't Be Easy* altogether adds up right.

# It Won't Be Easy

An Exceedingly Honest  
(and Slightly Unprofessional)  
Love Letter to Teaching



Tom Rademacher | Foreword by Dave Eggers



## Bus Trip to: Chicago

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Chicago at 5:00pm to watch the play and see one scene of 5 other plays, the award ceremony and a musical performance by RES.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

August 9, 2017

Page 13

## TO APPLICABLE AGENCIES

Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board will release and review grant project applications for FY 2017 Department of Housing and Urban Development Continuum of Care Program for NEW projects at 10 am and for RENEWAL projects at 1 pm both on Wednesday, August 9th in 4th Floor Conference Room B at 1946 N. 13th Street, Toledo, OH (Toledo Business Technology Center). ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY FOR PROJECT APPLICANTS. More details at [www.tlchb.org](http://www.tlchb.org). Contact Sue Brown, Grants Administrator, at [sbrown@tlchb.org](mailto:sbrown@tlchb.org) to register.

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## TOLEDO LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Several Assistant Public Defender positions are now available. In addition, the newly created Toledo Legal Aid Society Fellowship Program is now accepting applications. Please see <http://www.nlada.org/node/10696> for more detailed descriptions.

Also, two Opportunity Project Case Manager positions are available. LCDC II, LSW, LISW, LPCC, preferred. Please see <http://www.nlada.org/node/10996> for more detailed descriptions.

The University of Toledo Department of Foreign Languages invites applications for a Visiting Assistant Professor in the area of Latin American Literature and Culture. The position will involve teaching at all undergraduate levels within the Spanish program. Applicants must have native-like fluency, and hold a Ph.D. in Spanish, although ABDs will be considered. Teaching experience of upper level courses is preferred, and interest in teaching writing is a plus. The teaching load will be a maximum of 24 credit hours. The position is a one year contract, renewable up to two additional years. Screening of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Applicants may apply for this position at <https://jobs.utoledo.edu>. Applicants must include a cover letter, CV, three recommendation letters, and a statement of teaching philosophy. The University of Toledo is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V.

## CASE MANAGER M3 PREVENTION

F.T.E. (Salaried) \$23,000-\$30,000 annually, plus benefits. Education: Bachelor's Degree from a recognized college or university. Also, prefer at least, 2-5 years experience working; in social work and/or an Alcohol/Drug Prevention Program.

Also, computer expertise in Word Processing; Ability to work some evening and weekend hours as needed; Ability to write clearly and concisely; And to work independently. Also, recruit and enroll youth from a diverse background.

**If interested, please send resume and cover letter by August 15, 2017 to: [jmickler@bbbsnwo.org](mailto:jmickler@bbbsnwo.org)**

Toledo Edison is now hiring Servicemen in the Holland and Northwood regions. Responsibilities include repairing faults, restoring and maintaining service on transmission and distribution lines, and diagnosing and determining extent of trouble. Must have at least two years of experience as Lineman A or equivalent, be a high school graduate or equivalent, and have a valid CDL Class A. Must have a clean background and MVR, and pass a drug test. Apply online at FirstEnergy's career website: <https://www.firstenergycorp.com/careers>. FirstEnergy proudly supports workforce diversity. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, status as a protected veteran, or status as a qualified individual with a disability. No recruiters or agencies without a previously signed contract. Unable to sponsor or transfer H-1B visas at this time.

## SEPTEMBER EVENTS AT THE TOLEDO ZOO

It may be back to school time, but it is also back to the Zoo time!

Sept. 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 23, 29 Overnights and Snooze at the Zoo Spending the night at the Zoo is a wildly good time for families, groups and schools. During the overnight adventure, guests make enrichment for our animals, tour the Zoo, meet animals up close and enjoy delicious meals. Each Snooze lasts from 6:30 p.m. - 10 a.m. the next day. Separate fee. Pre-registration required. For more information, including pricing and available dates, visit [toledozoo.org/zoo-snooze](http://toledozoo.org/zoo-snooze).

Saturdays, Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30 Namaste for Nature Help support the Zoo's native prairie and horticultural programs while getting your Zen on at yoga at the Toledo Zoo. Classes will be held from 9-10 a.m. on four consecutive Saturdays in September and led by certified yoga instructors from Toledo-area studios. Participants are asked to wear comfortable clothing and bring their own yoga mat and bottle of water. Advanced registration is required and is limited to 90 participants per session. Participants must be at least 16 years of age. For more information or to register, please visit [toledozoo.org/yoga](http://toledozoo.org/yoga).

Sunday, Sept. 10 Grandparents' Day Celebrate the grandest of them all with a family trip to the Toledo Zoo! Grandparents receive free admission when accompanied by at least one grandchild.

Sunday, Sept. 10 Day of Honor Join us in this annual salute to all those who keep us safe. All military, police, firefighters and EMTs receive free admission with badge or professional ID. An array of safety vehicles will be on display in the Main Plaza for visitors to enjoy. Day of Honor is supported by Marathon Petroleum Company and HCR Manor Care. For more information, please visit [toledozoo.org/honor](http://toledozoo.org/honor).

Sunday, Sept. 10 I Do at the Zoo The Zoo's annual bridal show, in conjunction with Sounds of Music DJs, will help make wedding planning easy with over 100 wedding professionals in attendance and door prizes, discounts and giveaways to help make that special day absolutely perfect. For more information -including tickets- please visit [soundsofmusicdjs.com/bridalshow](http://soundsofmusicdjs.com/bridalshow).

Tuesday, Sept. 12 Garden Tour: Trees Please! Wander under the canopies of the Zoo's mature trees and learn how to choose the correct tree for a space, properly prune and provide general care for the trees in your yard. Discover the benefits trees can provide for you! Tour meets at Ziem's Conservatory at 10:30 a.m. Separate fee, pre-registration is required. Member discounts apply. Tour is rain or shine. Please visit [toledozoo.org/gardentours](http://toledozoo.org/gardentours).

Saturday, Sept. 16 Public Monarch Release sponsored by Medical Mutual Zoo visitors of all ages are invited to enjoy butterfly-related activities, including an informational program and a release of beautiful monarch butterflies to begin their migratory flight to Mexico. Activities and program will take place from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Zoo's Main Plaza.

Tuesday, Sept. 19 Live Nation Concert: Matchbox 20 with special guest Matt Nathanson For more information, please visit [toledozoo.org/concerts](http://toledozoo.org/concerts).

Wednesday, Sept. 20 Homeschool Open House Homeschool families! Explore the Zoo and enjoy special programs, tours and activities just for homeschoolers. Guests will get a chance to preview lessons from the Amazing Adaptations Series for 2017-2018 while meeting live animals up close. The cost to participate is \$10 per family. Activities run from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and are held in an open house format. (Zoo admission and parking rates apply.)

Saturday, Sept. 23 Enrichment Day: Play the Animal Way Learn how we encourage natural behaviors among our animals. It's not just a toilet paper tube- it's a game of hide and seek! Join us for keeper talks, enrichment demonstrations and more. For more information and a schedule, please visit [toledozoo.org/enrichment](http://toledozoo.org/enrichment).

Tuesday, Sept. 26 Garden Tour: Growing Foliage Plants With cold weather right around the corner, it is the perfect time to turn your attention to indoor plants. Join us as we walk through some of our interior landscapes and learn how to properly care for foliage plants by providing the proper lighting, watering and soil mixes. Tour meets at Ziem's Conservatory at 10:30 a.m. Separate fee, pre-registration is required. Member discounts apply. Tour is rain or shine. Please visit [toledozoo.org/gardentours](http://toledozoo.org/gardentours).

Wednesday, Sept. 27 Live Nation Concert: Sammy Hagar & The Circle with special guest Collective Soul For more information, please visit [toledozoo.org/concerts](http://toledozoo.org/concerts).

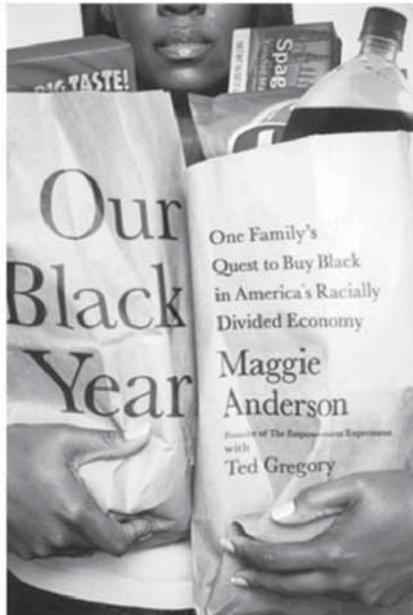
Friday, Sept. 29 Luminous Nights Opening Night Chinese lanterns illuminate the Zoo during this new after-dark fall festival! Come see and experience the number one Zoo in the nation in a whole new light! Luminous Nights is open September 29 - October 29! More details, including admission prices, hours and activities can be found at [toledozoo.org/luminousnights](http://toledozoo.org/luminousnights).

Weekdays in Sept. & Oct. Senior Discovery Days presented by Welltower, Inc. Every Tuesday, seniors are treated to free admission, great perks and fun activities during the Zoo's Senior Discovery Days, plus great discounts during the rest of the week. For more information, please visit [toledozoo.org/seniors](http://toledozoo.org/seniors)

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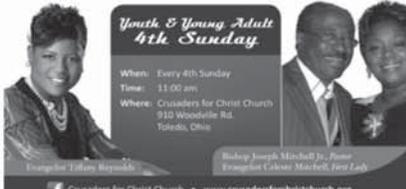
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# Toledo Branch NAACP Members Attend National Convention

*Special to The Truth*

The NAACP held its national convention July 22 – 26, 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland. The Association was charged with establishing policies and programs of action for the next year. The NAACP's Board of Directors, officers, and delegates from all branches reviewed and voted on resolutions during these sessions. Leon W. Russell, chairman, NAACP Board of Directors and Derrick Johnson, interim president and CEO opened the convention with the theme "Steadfast & Immovable."



Twenty seven people from the Toledo Branch were in attendance which included NAACP Branch President Ray Wood, NAACP National Security Team, Theresa Gabriel and the ACT-SO Chairperson Beatrice Daniels.

Nine ACT-SO students competed in the categories of modern and contemporary dance, short story, written and performance poetry, vocal-contemporary, photography, filmmaking, instrumental and classic music. The students performed well and four of the Toledo-area students were selected to perform in the closing ACT-SO ceremony.

The Toledo Branch was represented by 13 delegates who participated in workshops addressing the areas of inequality facing African Americans that are the focus of NAACP's work. These are legislative priorities for the 115th Congress. The five core "game changers" are:

- **Economic Sustainability:** Every person will have equal opportunity to achieve economic success, sustainability, and financial security.

- **Education:** A free, high quality, public education for all. Every child will receive equitably-funded, public pre-K and K-12 education followed by diverse opportunities for accessible, affordable vocational or university education.

- **Health:** Health equality for all Americans including a healthy life and high-quality health care. Everyone will have equal access to affordable health care and racially disparate health outcomes will end.

- **Public Safety and Criminal Justice:** Equitable dispensation of justice for all. Disproportionate incarceration, racially motivated policing strategies, and racially biased, discriminatory, and mandatory minimum sentencing will end. Incarceration will be reduced and communities will be safer. The death penalty will be abolished at the state and federal level, as well as the military.

- **Voting Rights and Political Representation:** Protect and enhance voting rights and fair representation. Every American will have free, open, equal, and protected access to the vote. By protecting democracy, enhancing equity, and increasing democratic participation and civic engagement, African Americans will be proportionally elected to political office.

The Toledo Branch will receive Action Alerts on matters that are expected to come before the House or the Senate in the near future and on issues that may arise over the course of the Congress that will impact our com-



Women of Toledo Branch attend the NAACP Women's Empowerment Luncheon

munity. Chairman Russell and interim President Johnson have charged all branches to become more relevant as they schedule forums and town hall meetings across the United States to address issues of concern for African Americans.

In addition branches will be charged to engage the youth and college branches to participate and help lead the way to resolve issues. The Toledo Branch has established youth and college board members to reach out to colleges and universities within and around our community. Meetings will begin soon.

For more information follow the Toledo Branch on Facebook @ naacp-toledo for updates on these topics. Toledo Branch holds monthly meetings every second Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. in the African American Legacy Project building at 1326 Collingwood.



NAACP Executive Committee attends the National NAACP convention in Baltimore

ALUMNI ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

*The 8th Annual*

## SCOTT BULLDOG ALUMNI WEEKEND

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 70's • Our Brothers Place • 233 N. Huron • 7pm - until (cover charge)  
 80's & 90's • The Agenda Sports Bar • 159 Matzinger Road  
 8pm - until (cover charge)  
 00's & 10's • The Lions Den • 2814 Lagrange • 9pm - until (cover charge)

**HEALTH FAIR SATURDAY AUG 12TH**  
 Scott HS Cafeteria 10am - 1pm Come out & get your check-up!

**BULLDOG SCHOLARSHIP SOCK HOP SATURDAY AUG 12TH**  
 (A Party With a Purpose) Scott HS Field House 7pm - 11pm \$5/\$10  
 Proceeds go toward scholarships for Scott HS students

**ALUMNI PICNIC SUNDAY AUG 13TH**  
 Detwiler Park • 3899 Manhattan Blvd. Toledo, OH 11am - 7pm  
 This is a B.Y.O.P. (Bring Your Own Picnic) event. You will need to bring your own tables, chairs, grill, tents... everything!!!

*Once a Bulldog Always a Bulldog!*

For more information contact John Glover, 419-806-7296 or Tyrone Cleveland, 567-322-9007

DESIGNED BY KIMBERLY CARDELL 419.654.4914

MAUMEE | OTTAWA HILLS | ROSSFORD | SYLVANIA | SYLVANIA TWP | TOLEDO | WATERVILLE

## Fall 2017 updates effective August 20

On Sunday, August 20, 2017, the TARTA fall route schedule will begin.

As some routes will be affected by routing and time changes, new timetables and maps are available at

[TARTA.com/Fall2017](http://TARTA.com/Fall2017)



- **3 North/South Crosstown**  
- schedule adjustments
- **10 Rossford Call-A-Ride**  
- downtown Toledo routing changes
- **10L Rossford via Hollywood Casino**  
- Rossford and downtown Toledo routing changes
- **16 Alexis via Meijer**  
- routing and schedule adjustments
- **27H Nebraska/Hill-Reynolds**
- **27N Nebraska/Angola-Wenz**  
- weekday schedule adjustments; weekend timepoints clarified
- **28 Indiana/Smead**
- **28/30 City Park/Indiana/Oakwood**  
- weekday schedule adjustments  
- routing adjustments include the use of S Summit St, Broadway St, and Newton St via downtown Toledo and Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza  
- direction change of the City Park/Hamilton St/Collingwood Blvd/Tecumseh St loop at the Hamilton Building



**TARTA Mobility Management**  
ACCESSIBLE  
TRANSPORTATION  
NETWORK

## NEED A LIFT TO SCHOOL? WE'LL TAKE YOU THERE AND BACK WEEKDAY MORNINGS AND AFTERNOONS.



TARTA route schedules for Toledo area parochial, private, and public schools are available online at [TARTA.com/Schools](http://TARTA.com/Schools)

**PLAY IT SAFE WHEN YOU GET OFF THE TARTA BUS!**

**NEVER** cross the street in front of the TARTA bus! **Let the bus go... then you go.**



**TARTA**

419-243-RIDE (7433) | [TARTA.com](http://TARTA.com) | [TARTAtacker.com](http://TARTAtacker.com)



100% wheelchair-accessible and bicycle rack-equipped.