

# The Sojourner's Truth

Volume 60, No. 2

“And Ye Shall Know The Truth...”

February 12, 2020

## Collingwood Green Phase III Opens



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# Kaptur Statement on President Trump's FY2021 Budget Request

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-09), Chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, released the following statement on President Trump's Fiscal Year 2021 budget request:

"Budgets are more than just fiscal documents, they are a reflection of our values," said Rep. Kaptur. "Unfortunately, and unsurprisingly, President Trump's FY2021 budget request was not written with working people in mind – instead, it is a laundry list of conservative priorities and corporate handouts that literally leave working people in the cold."

"The President's budget request calls for massive cuts to vital domestic programs over 10-years, including \$24 billion from Social Security, \$478 billion from Medicare, \$920 billion from Medicaid – almost a tril-

lion dollars. It also slashes projects that make healthcare more affordable, strengthen public education, improve access to affordable housing, protect our Great Lakes, invest in our infrastructure, and help low-income Americans heat their homes in the winter. All of this while proposing a full repeal of the Affordable Care Act, billions more for the ill-conceived border wall, and a 10-year extension of his disastrous Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, his unprecedented bailout for corporations and the wealthy."

"As Chairwoman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, I will work to ensure that President Trump's outlandish requests are rejected, and that Congress instead works on a bipartisan basis to fund programs that improve people's lives, strengthen our national security, and protect our environment."

## The Congressional Black Caucus Outraged at Trump's Budget

The new fiscal budget by President Donald J. Trump ignores the needs of working-class Americans and reduces funding for healthcare and social safety net programs.

The Congressional Black Caucus is appalled by President Trump's proposed budget, which includes callouts to social safety net and healthcare programs in exchange for increased defense spending and a border wall. This is from a President representing a "fiscally conservative" party while adding almost \$1 trillion in deficit spending.

By targeting the social safety net and healthcare, the President has singled out programs designed to provide support for American families in the greatest need. The President's proposed budget would cut healthcare spending, including Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program, by \$844 billion. His budget would also cut SNAP (formerly known as food stamps) by \$182 billion, and cut social security disability benefits by \$70 billion. In addition to significantly slashing the budget for these programs, President Trump intends to make access to these programs harder, which will disproportionately affect the minority communities who access these programs.

Other disastrous cuts include a 9% decrease to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the middle of a global Coronavirus outbreak, leaving low income communities in America the most vulnerable.

While Americans will lose out on critical economic, social, and healthcare support, the President's budget depends on unrealistic economic predictions to make ends meet. So, what can we be sure of? President Trump's budget will lead to higher deficits, a weaker economy, and a widening wealth gap.

President Trump has shown Black America once again that we are not his priority. The Congressional Black Caucus vehemently opposes this budget and will fight for policies and programs that improve the lives of hard working Americans by closing the wealth gap, instead of increasing it.

### Community Calendar

#### February 16

The Movement on the Move: 2 pm; Over the Top Occasions (formerly Garden Lake); To inspire and energize young adults in the voting process: 419-304-2733 or 419-283-8369

Indiana Avenue MBC 74th Church Anniversary: "My Church, My Rock;" 4 pm; Guest Rev. Jerry Boose

#### February 22

St. Marks Baptist Church Sounds of Black History: 4 pm; Dramatically inspired works in honor of those who fought and died for a unified country

#### February 22-23

The Toledo Museum of Art (TMA) will host two free events in February as part of Black History Month: Organized by soprano, educator and community organizer Margaret Barron and visual artist and educator Yusuf Lateef, this two-part program focuses on conversation and spoken word in celebration of Black History Month. The spoken word event will take place Saturday, Feb. 22, at 2 p.m. in the Great Gallery. The music event will take place Sunday, Feb. 23, at 3 p.m. in the Great Gallery.

Both events will explore this year's theme of African Americans and the Vote..

#### February 23

Indiana Avenue MBC 74th Church Anniversary: "My Church, My Rock;" 4 pm; Guest Rev. WL Perryman

Calvary Missionary Baptist Church 31st Pre-Anniversary of Pastor Floyd Smith Jr: 4 pm; Fellowshiping with Bishop Duane C. Tisdale and Friendship Baptist Church

#### February 28

Braden UMC's Annual Black History Month Soul Food Potluck: 6 pm; "African Americans and the Vote:" 419-386-2700

#### February 29

Calvary Baptist Church Planning for the Expected and Unexpected Forum: 11:am-1:pm; Topics of Discussion are: Insurance, Hospice Care, Living Wills, Wills, Medical Power of Attorney and Preplanning Funeral Arrangements  
Warren AME Church "Let's Talk About Cancer:" 11am to 1 pm; Free lunch to discuss the impact of breast, colon and prostate cancers in the black community

#### March 7-8

St. Paul MBC Men's Day Weekend: 9 am Saturday Breakfast with Guest speaker Rev. Floyd Smith of Calvary MBC; Sunday 10:45 am service with Guest speaker Rev. Kenneth Wayne Coleman of Canaan MBC of Dayton: 419-246-2886

### The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African American  
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Fletcher Word – Publisher and Editor

Becky McQueen – Business Manager

Tricia Hall – Reporter

Rev. D.L. Perryman – Columnist

Megan Davis – Columnist

Jennifer Retholtz – Webmaster

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A Certified MBE

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# An Open Letter to Romules Durant

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

Dear Dr. Durant:

Giant kudos to you and your organization for getting a fat plum dropped in your school basket. You know, the giant monetary gift that billionaire Peter Kadens blessed the Toledo Public Schools these past two weeks.

Wowsa! Talk about a Mama Mia Gift! Wouldn't you say? Now, after all the hoopla has died down and the cameras have left the building, what is left to discern from the glitter and tinsel left on the celebratory floor?

Allow me to share with you some observations, if I may.

The gift was good, no doubt about it but...what would have happened if Mr. Kadens met with you and said, "You know, Romules, let's put this gift on ice for four years so that I can announce it to the incoming freshman class at Scott. That way, they will have four years to prep themselves and really educationally 'muscle up' for the rigors of a college education."

What would you have said to that proposal? I hope your answer would have been, "Great, that will give me and my staff a head start to beef up our support systems for the kids and to make sure that each incoming freshman can start running out of the gate, knowing that there is a humungous prize awaiting them at the finish line."

Now, I say that to say this. As you are acutely aware, the report cards on the TPS in the last many years as to scholastic achievement and graduation rates have not been impressive but quite the opposite.

For when I constantly see evaluations of D's and F's on the state report card on the quality of the education given to the students in the Toledo Public schools, I hope that you and your administration will not be caught flatfooted when it comes to real programming that gives the students and their parents real confidence that they are adequately being prepped for a two-year or a four-year degree.

I mean, why give hope, false hope to any student if in fact the infrastructure is not in place so that each student can master college-related materials with the confidence that going to college is not something to dread or fear because he or she feels inadequately prepared?

Am I making sense?

Also, as part and parcel of the need to revamp what is not working at TPS, the "do-over" will necessarily include working with the teachers' union so that nonproductive teachers are spotted and are either retrained or shown the door. No ifs, ands or buts on this one.

My late law colleague, David Taylor, III used to quip that,

"There are no students that cannot learn but only teachers that cannot teach!"

One of the tell-tale markers of the success of this endeavor instituted by Mr. Kadens will be the evaluations of the students who go on to college under this gift; and how did they fare at their chosen college or trade school in the next two to five years.

If there is great success, there is the likelihood that this generous program could be extended to additional graduating Scott High School seniors.

But, if it shows that the college bound students missed the mark and failed to make the cut after the first year (which is the hardest year for incoming students) or failed to graduate, things will look bleak for the program and for your future as head of TPS.

One piece of advice is to contact those urban educational leaders across the country who have done marvelous jobs in their cities with kids coming from single parent homes or who are labelled as socio-economic disadvantaged and find out how they got stellar results in their school environments.

If you do not reach out and bring in those tried and true urban leaders and teachers you are doing yourself a grave dis-service and are cheapening the generosity of Mr. Kadens.

I think Mr. Kadens has unwittingly thrown you a lifeline as to helping you turn around a public school system that is punch drunk with low achievement scores and lower expectations from the business community and the white community in general regarding the quality of the Toledo Public Schools' end product.

I know.... I know, it is still unfair to have to perform to the expectations of white folks when they have had the perpetual advantage of money, opportunity, access and political power to situate themselves

... continued on page 12



## Starting Jan. 1, 2020, Toledo Public Utilities is:

### Offering Bill-Paying Assistance for Low-Income Customers

Toledo Public Utilities will provide up to \$500,000 a year to assist low-income customers pay their utility bills. Households at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level will be eligible for assistance coordinated through ProMedica Ebeid Institute's Financial Opportunity Center. Please contact ProMedica Ebeid FOC at 567-585-0059 to schedule a confidential appointment.

### Eliminating Minimum Water Charges

Toledo Public Utilities has eliminated minimum water charges to allow customers to reduce utility costs based on actual water consumption.

### Starting Monthly Billing

Monthly billing is in place for all Toledo retail customers. Billing by the month also allows Toledo customers to participate in the Federal Emergency Food and Shelter Program.

### Offering Lead Service Line Replacement Assistance

Toledo Public Utilities allocates up to \$300,000 annually for private lead service line replacement loans on private property. Loans of up to \$2,000 at zero percent interest will be offered to private homeowners, regardless of income, with up to a ten-year term, payable through the utility bills.

### Offering Water Conservation Education

"Conservation Kits" with low flow shower restrictors, toilet leak detection kits, and conservation information for inside and outside the home are available for the public at community events and the Toledo Customer Walk-In Center, 420 Madison Ave.

For more information, visit our website, [toledo.oh.gov/water](http://toledo.oh.gov/water), call 419-245-1800 from 7 a.m. to 6 a.m., Monday through Friday, or email [dpucustomerservice@toledo.oh.gov](mailto:dpucustomerservice@toledo.oh.gov).



# Jlin

🕒 THURSDAY, FEB. 20: 8 P.M.

Jlin grew up in Gary, Indiana, and is one of the most prominent electronic musicians and producers of the current generation. Her albums "Dark Energy" (2015) and "Black Origami" (2017) were widely acclaimed on their release. Jlin will be sharing her startlingly original approach to making music in the intimate setting of the GlasSalon.

TICKETS.TOLEDOMUSEUM.ORG

# Letters to the Editor

## AFFIRMATION

As I watched the movie "Joker" I thought, "this isn't the Joker I grew up watching on the Batman and Robin series, back in the day." If anyone watched "Joker" and thought it was too violent, well it was. If you watched "Joker" and felt that enough is not being done, in regards to mental health issues, you are right. If watching "Joker" made you think gun laws, gun ownership, background checks need an overhaul, I had those same feeling.

I watched "Joker" and felt sorry for a person who was lonely, bullied, lied to by his mother. He was different and felt demoralized, disrespected, depressed, by society. Jackie Wilson's song "To Be Loved" expressed everything Joker needed in his life. We want others to care about us, affirm us. When a person receives respect, understanding, from others, it

speaks volumes! We all want to be validated, even people with mental health issues! The power of love is so amazing! Just by saying I love you can mean a lot, it can make a big difference in a person's life.

People with mental health issues aren't the only victims of ridicule. Overweight individuals, elderly people, homosexuals – the list goes on and on. I don't condone violence, but somewhere in the Joker's mind, he felt justified to take lives, because no one showed him love. Watch "Joker" and look beyond the obvious, see the real message. Be kind to one another, realize "there's only one happiness in life, to love and be loved." (G. Sand)

Sincerely  
Cora L. Jones  
Toledo, OH

On December 21, 2011, Rev. Perryman wrote a prophetic column in The Sojourner's Truth entitled "Black Toledo's SocioPsychosis" that in my opinion - now applies to the white evangelicals of America's White Church.

Specifically, Rev. Perryman used the following quote by local business man Glenn Johnson who said: "In addition to the economics, there's a sociological factor that is more difficult to pin down and it centers around how Toledo's African-Americans have been conditioned."

The background realities that Mr. Tolliver wrote of in his February 5 column entitled "Kadens 1 - Black Church 0; reflects the fact that the Black Church lacks "a liberation theology." It has lacked such a theology since Emmett Till's murder; the infamous terrorist bombing of the 16th Avenue Church in Birmingham, AL and when white supremacist/terrorist Army veteran Timothy McVeigh killed 168 U.S. citizens by bombing the Oklahoma City federal building and last but not least, when Dylann Roof attended and killed the Charleston Bible Study Nine.

While the collective Church of Black America can forgive these terrorist acts, we must be cognizant that the vast majority of the overwhelming white males in the United States Senate have now embraced the ethos of the non-college educated white males with diminished

spiritual consciousness with the personas of one who possessed a racial psychopathic personality.

Thus, I reiterate along with Mr. Tolliver - "the aggregate shame and discredit of black churches in Toledo...could devise a plan by which a black high school graduating class could be blessed" as Mr. Kadens blessed the Scott High School Class of 2020.

In conclusion, I remind The Sojourner's Truth's readers of Malcolm X's quote: "The way you control a people is how you educate them."

Best regards,  
Clarence Gafaney, Armed Service Chair,  
NAACP Executive Committee, Toledo Branch  
2420 Valentine Street  
Toledo, OH 43605  
Email: Clarenianforveterans@gmail.com

## In honor of African-American History Month, ACT presents "The Mountaintop."

Actors Collaborative Toledo announces a staged reading of *The Mountaintop*—the acclaimed play by **Katori Hall**. This intimate play is directed by **Rick Clever**. The play stars **Natalie Bostelman** as Camae and **Jesse Duckworth** as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It is a powerful story that is simply not to be missed.

The reading will take place at Trinity Episcopal Church, 316 Adams

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# Project Runaway – A Collaborative Effort to Bring Kids Home

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

A number of Lucas County agencies and organizations have collaborated to form a project to take a regional approach to curbing sex trafficking. The endeavor, Project Runaway, will re-inforce the work of the Toledo Police Department.

"We all know what needs to be done," said Lucas County Sheriff John Tharpe at a press conference on Thursday, February 6, to announce the project. "We needed to get more feet on the street ... to get our children back and it's a matter of having the money to do it."

Present at the press conference to express participation and support in the Project Runaway were: Toledo Police Chief George Kral, State Sen. Teresa Fedor; Lucas County Prosecutor Julia Bates; Lucas County Commissioner Tina Skeldon Wozniak; UT Professor Celia Williamson; Judge Connie Zemelman, Lucas County Court of Common Pleas; Patrick McColley, Ohio Department of Transportation; John DeBruyne, RESCUE president; Kevin Dalton, Toledo Federation of Teachers and John Henry, OBS Financial, President/CEO and D.A.R.T board facilitator.

The plan, as Tharp described, is to raise enough funding to bring on six retired police officers, who already have the experience and the expertise to search for runaways and bring them back home. Once home, the appropriate agencies, such as RESCUE, among others, are ready to provide the long-term services to work with the kids.

"Agencies have said that if we can get these children back to Lucas County, we can find out why they are leaving," said Tharp. According to researchers, he added, runaway and homeless youth are 2.5 times more likely to get molested or get addicted if they are away from home for two weeks or more.

With the funding that has been provided already to the Project, five retired police officers have been brought on board – one more will complete the goal set by the collaborative, said Tharpe.

Celia Williamson, whose work was cited by many speakers at the press conference as the inspiration for the collaborative effort, also took a turn at the podium. Named one of the top 30 most influential social workers alive today, distinguished professor, Williamson has over 25 years of anti-trafficking experience. She is a professor of social work at the University of Toledo where she has received 13 years of federal and state funding to study sex trafficking and prostitution and hosts the oldest and largest international academic human trafficking conference in the world.

"You have to go where the risk is and make a significant difference there," she said.

She applauded the various member groups of the collaborative and their cooperative spirit.

"Everyone said 'yes,'" she said. "We always had the willingness – we just needed the coordination. Everyone is coming together to say this is important – we love our children ... go find them and link them up to long-term



Sheriff Tharpe opens the press conference



Celia Williamson at the podium

services."

The keys to success of Project runaway, noted the various representatives of the collaborating agencies, are finding Toledo-area runaway kids in their various locations around the country, bringing them back to this area and getting them into the appropriate programs that can deal with why they left – family situations, abuse, foster family troubles, for example – and work out the difficulties they have encountered since leaving – abuse, trafficking, addiction.

Robin Reese, executive director of Lucas County children Services will of course be one of those individuals who will be deeply involved in this program.

"We take protecting our children seriously," she said. "This leadership – we are going to lead the nation in prevention. This is what we do in Lucas County, we came together to help."

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# TARTA's Big Plans for the Future

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Kimberly Dunham, newly appointed general manager of the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority, certainly has a lot on her plate – passing levies, upgrading the fleet, updating the technology, and, most importantly, convincing the community at large that TARTA is a valuable asset and worth saving.



Given the tumult at TARTA that she encountered, it was necessary to hit the ground running – a tax renewal levy is on the ballot for March 17, the surrounding communities need to be convinced about the virtue of investment in public transit and people everywhere need to find their way back on board.

So, on Dunham's wish list is a goal to “get everyone thinking about working towards the future – to break the paralysis and get some synergy and energy going,” she says.

As desperate as the TARTA situation might seem to naysayers, Dunham is optimistic and “has a great hope for the future.”

First task, among so many tasks that might be considered to be priorities, is getting the renewal 1-mil property tax levy passed in the March 17 primary. The 10-year renewal is absolutely vital for TARTA to maintain its current level of funding.

At the same time, a lot of buses are getting old and need to be replaced and there is a fundamental lack of modern technology in the fleet to meet the needs of riders. For example, fare boxes need modern technology, says Dunham, to accept cash, cards, smart phone payment.

The challenges are in building community support, upgrading the product and raising more operating and capital monies, all in the immediate future. Fortunately, Dunham knew what she was getting into before she

accepted the position. She's spent the past 30 years in mass transit systems in Connecticut, the last five and a half years leading New Haven's systems and before that in Hartford. She speaks of the value for a community that a good mass transit system can deliver – the economic development; the mobility for the community for work, for food, for education; the enhanced quality of life.



That added value of a good mass transit system is the message she is delivering to the various neighborhoods that comprise the transit system. Dunham, faced with some immediate needs also has to look long-term, especially as far as raising funds is concerned. The long-term plan is to place another levy on the ballot during this upcoming November general election.

This levy request will ask the voters to approve a replacement – a replacement for the property tax levy presumably approved in March – for a sales tax levy. To place such a request on the ballot, TARTA needs the support and approval of all of its member communities and, over the past few years, that approval has been lacking from the Sylvania Township Board of Trustees, who haven't even allowed the voters in their township to voice their opinions.

Should the trustees in Sylvania Township relax their opposition, the sales tax has a reasonably good chance of succeeding, according to polls taken months ago. Should the sales tax levy pass, TARTA can look forward to the major capital improvements to move the system into the modern age.

For the Toledo area community, the benefits of a well-funded TARTA system are boundless, says Dunham. At the moment, for example, TARTA and Toledo Public Schools are trying to reach an accommodation in which high school students who hold TARTA passes permitting them to get to and from classes, can also use such passes for any and all occasions – sports, recreation, community activities and so forth.

That's among the quality of life issues that TARTA can bring to the community, says Dunham.



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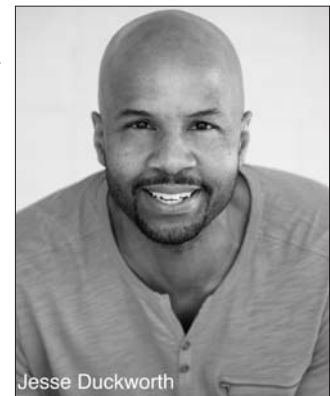
*The Mountaintop... continued from page 4*

Street, on February 15 at 8 p.m. and February 16 at 3 p.m..

A gripping re-imagining of events the night before the assassination of the civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. On April 3, 1968, after delivering one of his most memorable speeches, an exhausted Dr. King retires to his room at the Lorraine Motel while a storm rages outside. When a mysterious stranger arrives with some surprising news, King is forced to confront his destiny and his legacy to his people.

What the critics have said about *The Mountaintop*:

“Even before the first flash of lightning—and there will be plenty of that before evening's end—an ominous electricity crackles through the opening moments of *THE MOUNTAINTOP*.” —NY Times. “[*THE MOUNTAINTOP*] crackles with theatricality and a humanity more moving than sainthood.” —NY Newsday. “...as audacious as it is inventive...[a] thrilling, wild, provocative flight of magical realism...Hall keeps her audience guessing...This is playwriting without a net, a defiant poke in the eye of all historical conventions and political correctness...The King that is left after Hall's humanization project is somehow more real and urgent and whole.” —Associated Press.



Jesse Duckworth

# Milestones Awardee, Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, PhD, Is at the Height of her Career

By Asia Nail

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

She is a Toledo treasure serving as associate professor of Medicinal and Biological Chemistry at the University of Toledo and presently as dean to the College of Graduate Studies. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, PhD, was named the 2020 YWCA Milestones Honoree for her outstanding leadership qualities in the field of science.

"It was a huge surprise to me! I was both delighted and shocked as I had no idea I was being considered," smiles Dr. Bryant-Friedrich during our chat.

The YWCA Milestones Award was established in 1996 to honor northwest Ohio women who, through their efforts and accomplishments, have opened doors for other women to achieve their potential. Honorees are recognized for their contributions in the following seven areas: Arts, Business, Education, Government, Sciences, Social Services and Volunteerism.

"I have worked very hard in science all of my career, and to be recognized for the work I do in my community, is huge to me. I appreciate accolades from my professional peers, but this is different...this is at the heart of why I get up every day and do what I do."

Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich's earliest memories of an interest in science began at home on her family farm. "It was fascinating to watch my father prepare the chemicals he would use on our crops. My mother could not help much, she was very ill when I was growing up. I remember wanting to create a new and better medication for her so she would get better faster."

At the age of 22, Bryant-Friedrich graduated with honors from North Carolina Central University, receiving her bachelors in chemistry. She decided on Duke University for her graduate studies, later earning a master's degree in the Department of Chemistry.

"Many things had happened in my academic career up to that point. I went to an HBCU (historically black colleges and universities), where I graduated with honors. Next, I attended Duke University and in contrast it was a very difficult experience. I had one of those moments, like I'm sure many of our ancestors have had before me, when I realized I needed to continue my study in Europe."

Historically, Europe has been where people of color go to free themselves of U.S. discriminatory attitudes and policies while evolving in their respective fields. When asked about the experience of studying abroad, Bryant-Friedrich states, "In Europe I had the freedom of not being a black person in America. Looking back on the experience it was in alignment with more freedom. In Germany my colleagues welcomed me and I was embraced in

that environment."

After meeting her husband during her graduate studies in Germany, she moved to Switzerland in pursuit of her postdoc education. In 1993, Bryant-Friedrich began her doctoral research at Heidelberg University and completed her PhD in 1997, followed by postdoctoral training at the Universität Basel, Switzerland until 1999. From 2000-2007 she held the positions of assistant and associate professor at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan before moving locally to the University of Toledo.

In a society, fueled by technology and science, STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Math) education represents the future. Among the number of black, white, Asian and Hispanic students, however, blacks represent the lowest percentage of students earning degrees in STEM majors. Unfortunately, many STEM majors of color don't stay the educational course like Bryant-Friedrich.

When asked why people of color (and women in particular) are underrep-  
...continued on page 12



## Honor Black History Month by EXERCISING YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!

Early Voting for the March 17th Primary begins  
Wednesday, February 19th



- ✓ Assoc. Degree - Criminal Justice from Owens Comm. College
- ✓ University of Toledo graduate in Business & Technology
- ✓ Completed Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA)
- ✓ 30 years of service with the Lucas County Sheriff's Office
- ✓ 30 years sworn Ohio Peace Officer
- ✓ Qualified by the State of Ohio & the Courts
- ✓ 30 years Business & Administrative Experience
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- ✓ Chair - Toledo City Council's Public Safety & Criminal Justice Reform Committee

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\* Joan Lunden, journalist, best-selling author, former host of Good Morning America and senior living advocate.



## Wayman Palmer YMCA Expanding Programs and Membership

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Eric Williams, director of the Wayman Palmer YMCA is entering his sixth year at the helm of the inner-city Y and he is as optimistic as ever about the organization's future. Critically important programs are either growing in participation or, in some cases, being restructured; membership is growing and a capital campaign is being planned to renovate the facilities.

Williams is especially proud of the ongoing day care program that currently has an enrollment of more than 80 school-aged kids and about a dozen and a half pre-schoolers. The Wayman Palmer building has recently been modified, he noted, to provide more security and prevent non-participants from intruding. A separate entrance and a walled off section of the building have been implemented.

"Sports are coming back," said Williams of the increased interest and participation in the Y's athletic programs. As many as 100 youngsters are often playing weekend basketball and soon, as spring approaches, t-ball, soccer

*... continued on page 12*



*A Wayman Palmer Christmas Party*



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# Rogers 1977 Undefeated Girls Track Team Added to School's Hall of Fame

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

In 1977, the Rogers High School Girls' Track Team won it all. They won every invitational, every dual track meet and every competition leading to the AAA State Championship. Then they won the championship itself, earning the first state title for Rogers High School in any sport.

Seven members of the team went to the state meet – seniors Jane Guilford and Karen Lebens; junior Robin Wilson; sophomores Cindy Davis and Yolanda Johnson and freshmen Sheila Gibson and Sherri Perry – under the guidance of Coaches Bev and Ron Martin.

This year, the team was finally recognized by the school and inducted into the Hall of Fame, along with Alvin Stephens II, football and wrestling coach; Kelli (McCarthy) Ratcliffe, class of 1985, for volleyball and basketball; Larry Olszewski, class of 1965, for football; Rashod Johnson, class of 1994, for basketball and Byron Rhodes, class of 1967 for wrestling.

For senior Guilford, the 1977 was the capstone to a brilliant high school career – she would later be inducted as an individual into the Rogers Hall of Fame and the City of Toledo Hall of Fame.

However, for freshman Gibson, the 1977 championship was just the beginning of her stellar athletic accomplishments. Gibson, and teammates, won the 1600-meter relay championship at the state meet again in her senior year after earning runner-up trophies in her sophomore and junior years.

Gibson anchored that 1980 relay team, joined in the first three legs by Sherri Perry, Mary Butler and Celena Williams – their time of 3:55.8 broke the state record and was held for more than 10 years. As an individual and as a team member, she never loss in dual or invitational meets or in district or sectional meets.

Gibson was a city champion in seven different events over the course of her four-year high school career.

She went on to Bowling Green State University on a four-year track scholarship and later competed on the European tour where she blended her love of dancing, modeling and athletics. Gibson continued her love of dancing and become an acclaimed choreographer. She is the artistic director of Positive Force Cristian School of Dance here in Toledo.

Of all those adventures, the ones she speaks of most fondly are the ones she had with her Rogers teammates and coaches.

“We were like a small community, like a family – we considered ourselves to be sisters,” she recalls. And the parents – at least when they were away from home – were the Martins, their coaches. Their “track parents.”

“We were like their daughters – they taught us humility, compassion and respect. It was an honor to be on that team back then.”

Like Guilford, Gibson also has been inducted as an individual into the



Members of the Rogers 1977 Girls Track Team – standing left to right: Cindy Davis, Jane Guilford, Sheila Gibson, Sherri Perry, Karen Lebens, Yolanda Johnson, Kim Penn and Karen Stephens Seated: Team Coaches, Ron and Beverly Martin (Not Pictured): Robin Wilson

Rogers Hall of Fame (2004) and the City Hall of Fame (2016). This spring she is scheduled to be inducted into the African American Legacy Projects Sports Hall of Fame.

In addition to the 1977 seven state championship team members, an additional three team members, 10 in all, participated in the City League Championships – Janet Bade, Karen Stephens and Pam Wise – and were crowned champions in the 12-team league meet. In addition to those 10, Kim Penn, Katrina Coleman and Chris Dunbar were part of the Rams Relays Champions.



The 1977 State Champions Women's Track team with Coach Bev and Ron Martin

## HONING IN ON TRIPLE NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER



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Despite lower incidence and the steady improvement in screening, women of African ancestry are more likely to die of breast cancer than Caucasian women due to being at greater risk for triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC). Unlike other breast cancers, TNBC is a much more aggressive disease - recurring and metastasizing more often than other kinds of breast cancer, without tumor-specific treatment options. Join us for a forum to learn more about TNBC and to explore the latest treatments in precision medicine for improving health outcomes for women of African Ancestry.

Free parking in front of the Health Education Center.



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# TPS Foundation Receives Funding from PNC

Special to The Truth

The Toledo Public Schools Foundation will receive \$150,000 from the PNC Foundation to fund a program that will introduce families and their young children in Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) neighborhoods to high-quality early learning.

Pathway to Pre-K, powered by PNC Grow Up Great® and funded by the PNC Foundation, is hosting free educational classes in the Weiler Homes neighborhood through May 2020. The goal is to educate parents on the importance of teaching children age birth to 5, and to prepare these children to enter preschool. Pathway to Pre-K was designed to help children become accustomed to learning outside of the home.

"It has been proven that children who begin learning early are better prepared to succeed in school and life, yet more than 900 children living in LMHA communities do not participate in early learning programs for a variety of reasons," said Romules Durant, EdD, superintendent of Toledo Public Schools. "The grant from the PNC Foundation will help us fill the learning void between birth and kindergarten, giving Toledo's youngest residents a head start on life."

The \$150,000 grant from the PNC Foundation was provided as part of the 15th anniversary celebration of PNC Grow Up Great, a multi-year, bilingual

initiative to support high-quality early education.

"We wanted our grant to really make an impact, so we worked closely with the schools and the housing authority to determine the greatest need in the Toledo community," said Bill McDonnell, PNC regional president for Toledo. "We found there was a significant need to help young children begin learning in a friendly, non-intimidating environment, so they're ready for preschool and beyond."

Pathway to Pre-K officially launched in November with a handful of pilot classes offered at Weiler Homes. Each session is held twice monthly for two hours, during which parents are encouraged to engage in educational activities with their children.

Each class begins with a variety of play activities available to the families, such as puzzles, story time and outdoor play. This is followed by a healthy lunch and a lesson in life skills, such as teeth brushing, hand washing and other basic lessons critical to young learners. Parents will be encouraged to help their child continue learning outside of the classroom by taking home educational materials such as crayons, scissors, puzzles, and other items de-

...continued on page 11

# John Scott Book Signing at The Truth Art Gallery

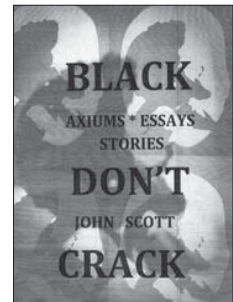
A prolific playwright, poet, fiction writer and director, John Scott has taught creative writing, theatre and ethnic studies. He received a B.A. from South Carolina State College and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Bowling Green State University (Ohio).

His plays and other works have been produced in universities, regional theatres, off-Broadway (New York) and on Public Television (PBS).

He has held appointments as Professor, Chair of Theatre/Ethnic Cultural Arts and Director of programs and plays at Historically Black Colleges

and Universities (HBCU) Benedict (SC), Florida Memorial (Miami), Dillard (New Orleans), and Jackson State (MS). He is a *Distinguished Professor Emeritus* at Bowling Green State University. Dr. Scott is available as a guest speaker, to conduct writer's workshops and as a visiting writer-director.:

Dr. Scott will appear at The Truth Art Gallery on Friday, February 28, 1811 Adams Street, for a book signing featuring his two new works: *Dr. J: Literary Visions of John Scott* and *Black Don't Crack*



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# School Choice School Fair for Grades K-8 Held in Sylvania

The Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund presented a School Choice School Fair for Grades K-8 on Saturday, January 25 at the Franciscan Center to kick-off National School Choice Week. Over 500 people attended this one-day event and learned about the different educational options available in Northwest Ohio including private schools, public schools, magnet schools, charter schools and homeschooling as well as tuition scholarships.

Representatives from 37 area schools and homeschooling co-ops participated and provided materials to share. Schools included Academy of Educational Excellence, All Saints Catholic School Rossford, Cardinal Stritch Catholic High School & Academy, Central Academy of Ohio, Chase Stemm Academy, Christ the King, Emmanuel Christian School, Holy Trinity, Hope Learning Academy, iLead Spring Meadows, Islamic School of Greater Toledo, Lial Catholic School, Maumee Valley Country Day School, Most Blessed Sacrament, New Horizons Academy, Northwest Ohio Classical Academy, Notre Dame Academy, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Queen of Apostles, Regina Coeli, Rosary Cathedral Catholic School, Saint Joseph Parish School Sylvania, Springfield Local Schools, St. Benedict Catholic School, St. Francis De Sales, St. Joan of Arc, St.

John's Jesuit high School and Academy, St. Patrick of Heatherdowns, St. Richard Catholic School, St. Ursula Academy, Sylvania City Schools, The Bounty Collegium, Toledo Christian School, Toledo Islamic Academy, Toledo Preparatory and Fitness Academy, and Trinity Lutheran School.

James Ragland, Director of Provider Outreach at School Choice Ohio, was there to provide information on the different state-funded scholarships available for special needs and private education including the EdChoice Scholarship Program. The Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund also had information on its need-based scholarship for private schools and homeschooling.

NOSF Board member Jan Tidd said of the fair, "As a board member, parent and grandparent, I know how important it is to make the right choice for your child's education. The fair offered parents and guardians an opportunity to see all the many choices our area has to offer. It was wonderful seeing the parents taking a Saturday to learn about their options."

For more information about the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund visit or call the NOSF office at (419)720-7048.

## TPS Foundation... continued from page 10

signed to improve hand-eye coordination.

"Children are ready to begin learning at birth," said Demetria M. Simpson, president and chief executive officer of Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority. "We want to give parents the tools they need to start developing their child's mind right away, so they develop a love of learning long before they go to school."

### Pathway to Kindergarten

Learning will continue each of the next two summers at the LMHA McClintun Nunn Homes through the Pathway to Kindergarten program. For nine consecutive weeks, parents and children who will enter kindergarten in the fall will be invited to attend two-hour sessions through which they will be introduced to the expectations of kindergarten and the school experience. The classes will focus on literacy, productive play with peers and adapting to school norms, such as navigating the cafeteria. All activities will include conversational prompts to guide parents in having an open-ended dialogue with their children, which will help children grow their language skills.

### About PNC Foundation

The PNC Foundation, which receives its principal funding from The PNC Financial Services Group ([www.pnc.com](http://www.pnc.com)), actively supports organizations that provide services for the benefit of communities in which it has a significant presence. The foundation focuses its philanthropic mission on early childhood education and community and economic development, which includes the arts and culture. Through Grow Up Great, its signature cause that

began in 2004, PNC has created a bilingual \$500 million, multi-year initiative to help prepare children from birth to age 5 for success in school and life. For more information, visit <http://www.pncgrowupgreat.com>.

### About Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority

Established in 1933, Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) continues to provide affordable housing to adults, seniors and children in its Public Housing, Housing Choice Voucher, Mixed-Income and market rate housing units. LMHA also provides a myriad of programs and opportunities designed to improve the total quality of life for our residents, with the ultimate goal of achieving self-sufficiency.

The programs and services are the result of successful collaborations with numerous community partners. Our current housing portfolio consists of 2,633 Public Housing units; 4,657 Housing Choice Vouchers; 322 Low-Income Housing Tax Credit units; 198 Market Rate units; and, 107 Homeownership Properties. There are approximately 17,500 people who reside in LMHA properties. Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority partners with ALL people and organizations willing to exchange ideas and efforts to enhance Toledo, Lucas County, and the world.

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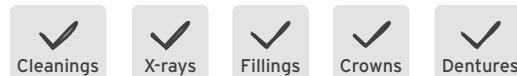


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*YMCA... continued from page 8*

and flag football will also be part of offering. Williams is working with the other Y branches in the area to set up year-round competition in the various sports.

Several programs, of different sizes, are on the schedule.

Silver Sneakers – low impact exercises – already has about 50-60 participants; a high impact program featuring stepping and aerobics is also underway. Other programs include a Mercy-St. Vincent's workshop on nutrition; family night once a month; the annual Christmas party; Angel Tree – during the holidays; a Thanksgiving dinner giveaway and a trunk or treat at Halloween.

The Wayman Palmer building is a bit of a hodgepodge – seemingly built at different times blending offices, classrooms and a basketball gym. A renovation, which is in the planning stage, would enhance the appearance and the usefulness of the space.

*LMHA... continued from page 7*

ing list is now 2,000 applicants long, she said speaking of the “aggressive approach” the local housing authority is taking to solving the crisis.

The Phase III project brought together \$19 million in funding from various partners such as Low Income Housing Tax Credits, City of Toledo HOME Funds, HUD FHA 221 (d)(4), LMHA Capital Fund Program and Turnkey funds.

Phase I of the Collingwood Green project began in 2012 with 65 units for senior citizens; Phase II in 2015 with 68 two and three-bedroom family units

Soon to come is Phase IV which will include a mixture of commercial space, play area for children, a community building – the “wraparound support” system, as Simpson described it.

“We’re building a community here,” said Bill Brennan, LMHA board president, during his remarks, “an urban village with everything anyone would need.”

*Milestones Award.. continued from page 7*

resented in STEM, and how to bridge the gaps, Bryant-Friedrich suggests, “In order for you to be able to dream to do something, you must first be aware that it exists.”

“It is very important to me that I live very publicly as a scientist. I want young women to see that they can do this kind of thing. I spend a lot of time at places like The Imagination Station doing experiments in front of young people so they can see that science is something they can do, too.”

In academic circles, Bryant-Friedrich goes the extra mile to encourage students based on their strengths. For example, when she sees a young African-American student who is really good at calculus, she says, “You’re great at calculus, have you ever considered majoring in civil engineering?”

“No one consistently has these types of conversations with black students. I believe it’s because they don’t feel connected to the student on an individual level when they don’t share similar backgrounds.”

Despite the many forces at play stifling diversity in STEM fields, there are many ways to break the cycle. One way, Bryant-Friedrich suggests, is to promote curiosity by helping children learn how to be critical thinkers at a young age.

“Our Science Center downtown is a great place to start. If you have small kids, take them to Imagination Station. They will get an early introduction to playing in an environment that is all based in science.”

Bryant-Friedrich is also an advocate for closing the mentoring gap, stating,

“My graduate students come from all over the world. I love mentoring them and seeing how their background and culture changes the way they look at science. I always say, winning the Nobel Prize is one thing, but creating scholars who can

actually win the Nobel

The success of such a fundraising campaign, however, will depend largely on the perception that individuals and organizations, especially organizations with funds to donate, have of the operation.

“We have to get the word out and let people know what we’re doing and what people can take advantage of,” said Williams.

That word is certainly out amongst potential members. Over the last year alone, membership has doubled at the Wayman Palmer. The membership rates are indeed appealing, as low as \$25 for a family – children included – for those residents who are in the Wayman Palmer’s residential eligibility zip codes – 43604, 43606, 43607, 43608, 43610, 43620.

The Wayman Palmer is also committed to an extensive involvement in the community it serves. “We will continue to open up to the community,” said Williams describing how the facility’s space is open to organizations like “fire, police, neighborhood block watch meetings ... and anyone trying to do the right thing.”

Pamela Ashby, field director for HUD, noted that public housing complexes everywhere are similar in appearance and easy to spot. However, the newly designed Collingwood Green complex is strikingly different from the typical public housing complexes, many of which are seven to eight decades old.

“How wonderful to see such a development as this,” she said.

“This is truly a remarkable development,” said U.S. Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur as she echoed early sentiments about how difficult it is for so many to find affordable housing. She pointed to the issues facing families and children during such a housing crisis.

“It is a terrible burden our youth bear in this community,” said Kaptur.

LMHA was established in 1933 and currently has 2,633 public housing units, 4,657 housing choice vouchers, 322 low income housing tax credit units, 198 market rate units and 107 homeownership properties, housing approximately 17,500 residents.

Prize is much more rewarding.”

Bryant-Friedrich adds she has had different mentors, advocates, champions and challengers for all areas of her life and is grateful to be honored this year at the Milestones Luncheon.

“Many times we just don’t see enough of ourselves in underrepresented environments to dream about becoming like our role models. I hope someone sees themselves represented at this event.”

The 25th Annual Milestones Awards will take place at 11:30 a.m. on March 12, at the Seagate Center in downtown Toledo. All proceeds from the luncheon will benefit more than 23,000 women and families who utilize the social service programs of the YWCA. For more information and to purchase tickets to the luncheon, go to: the YWCA’s website.

*Tolliver... continued from page 3*

and their kids in the right lanes of achievement due to white skin privileges.

That is just a given of this American system. You know it and I know it.

But you can rain on their parade if you do less cheer leading and be more demanding on the TFT (school union) and on your staff and on yourself to realize that when all is said and done, what matters and what’s left is: Did I get the job done?

Just imagine, not having to run full page ads touting the record of TPS the day or two before the report card comes out from Columbus giving TPS another D or F, because this time, the report card could read: Well done and keep on doing it!

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# Driving While Black: African American Travel and the Road to Civil Rights by Gretchen Sorin

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

Seat belt's on.

Keys in the ignition, rear view mirror's been adjusted, steering wheel is set for maximum comfort. You're ready to go, ready for this trip to get started. In *Driving While Black* by Gretchen Sorin, you're heading back in history.

Few things in America have altered the cultural scene more than the automobile. Not only has it changed the way we move, it affected the way we dress, talk, and eat. But, says Sorin, for black folks, the automobile has "meant something different" – mainly, "the automobile made it more difficult... to enforce racial apartheid while cruising along the highways at forty-five miles per hour."

Once was a time that black people couldn't travel far, if at all. Moving about from plantation to plantation allowed opportunities for slaves to escape or, at the very least, to learn the lay of the land, neither of which was desirable for a slave's owner. Even free blacks were restricted from too much movement then.

After the Civil War ended, former slaves began to head north for work and to escape Jim Crow laws, a Great Migration that didn't preclude the occasional trip back South by rail or by bus to visit friends and relatives. There was still segregation in travel but the bigger fact was that travel itself was no longer restricted.

Starting around the 1920s, automobile ownership began to be a

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possibility for mobile (and upwardly-mobile) African Americans. This meant even more freedom – a road could lead almost anywhere – but it could also mean danger, if you accidentally went where you weren't welcome. On the other hand, you could sleep in the car, depending on the kind you bought; some vehicles were faster, and could outrun violence; others meant fewer fill-ups. Restroom stops, if you were black, were still an issue.

By the 1970s, Sorin says, this was all mostly a moot point.



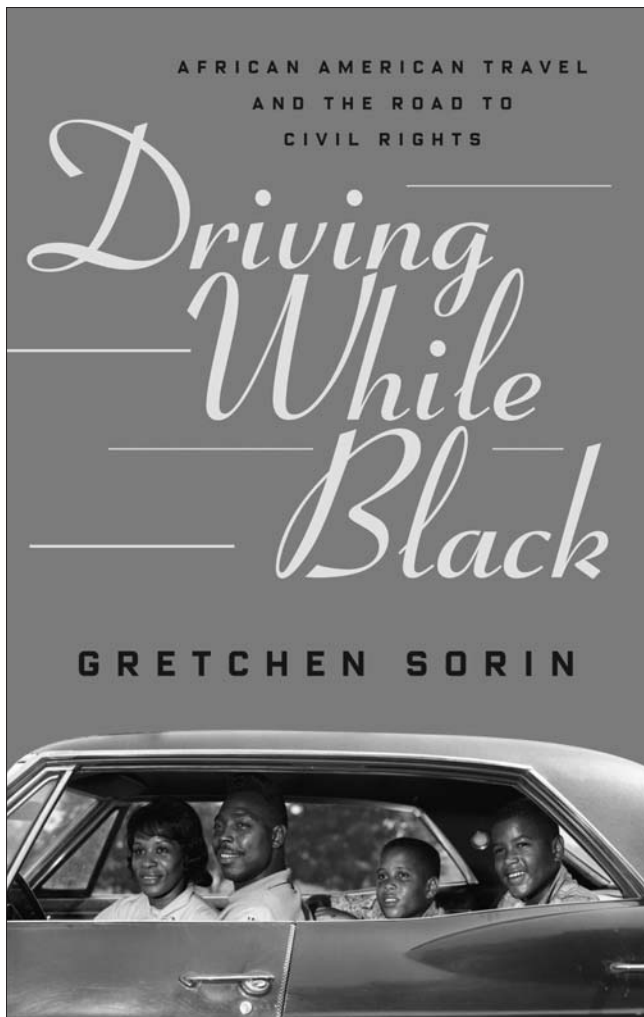
Author Gretchen Sorin - courtesy Richard Walker

The Civil Rights Movement had changed the country, and segregation at hotels and gas stations was a thing of the past. And yet today, once again, DWB comes with a whole different set of dangers...

Here it's not even spring, and you already know where you're going on vacation this year. If you haven't packed a book yet, *Driving While Black* is the right one to take.

You won't be sorry if you travel with this travel-history book. Author Gretchen Sorin's all-encompassing in her information, beginning with slavery and moving at a good clip into the 20th century with, like any decent road trip, a few side-stops along the way. If this seems like old news, it's not: Sorin also shows us things we don't often consider, including tales of black musicians' reliance on freer travel, how sports were changed by fewer restrictions, and how black drivers accidentally taught white business owners a lesson or two.

Sorin even adds personal anecdotes to the openings of her chapters, making *Driving While Black* a great vacation (or anytime) read. If you're needing a smart, comprehensive look at the history of travel, grab it and buckle up.



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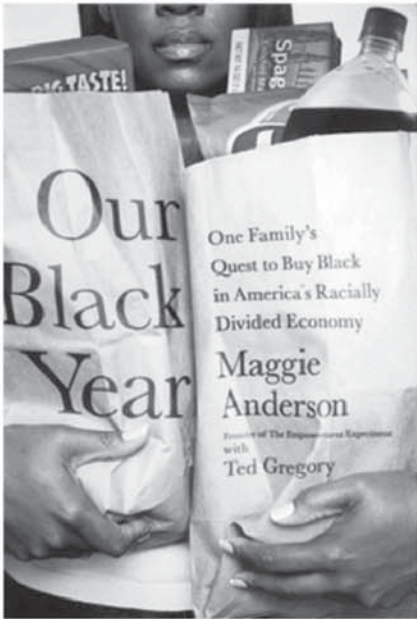
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**BOOK YOUR EVENTS NOW!**

# CLASSIFIEDS

February 12, 2020

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## STAFF ATTORNEY 2

Lucas County Children Services is seeking a Staff Attorney 2. If you are interested review additional requirements and apply at [www.lucaskids.net](http://www.lucaskids.net). EOE Valuing Diversity

## REGISTERED NURSE

Lucas County Children Services is seeking a RN, 3:00pm - 11:00pm, Monday – Friday shift. If you are interested review additional requirements and apply at [www.lucaskids.net](http://www.lucaskids.net). EOE Valuing Diversity

## POLICE OFFICER

The Village of Ottawa Hills is accepting applications for the position of full-time Police Officer.

### Required Training and Experience:

Minimum two year college degree or equivalent, from an accredited college. Must be a commissioned Peace Officer according to the rules of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council at time of appointment.

Testing must be conducted through the National Testing Network ([www.nationaltestingnetwork.com](http://www.nationaltestingnetwork.com)) and completed no later than **March 1, 2020**. Lateral entry applicants may bypass testing and complete an employment application for consideration. For more information, please visit [www.ottawahills.org/employment](http://www.ottawahills.org/employment) or email [police@ottawahills.org](mailto:police@ottawahills.org).

**Pay Range:** \$60,370-\$71,760

*The Village of Ottawa Hills is an equal opportunity employer.*

## START 2020 BY READING MORE

A frequent New Year's resolution people make is to read more books. Let the Library help you resolve to read more in 2020 – join the inaugural Winter Read!

Everyone who logs at least one book will receive one-size-fits-most Toledo Library touch screen gloves for adults and kids or red mittens for little ones (while supplies last) and will be eligible for grand prizes such as:

- Two round-trip airline vouchers to Florida from Toledo Express Airport
- One overnight guest room stay at Maumee Bay Lodge
- \$100 Sylvania Playland gift card
- \$50 Cinemark movie gift card (2 winners)

## PARK RANGER

Metroparks Toledo has openings for part time Park Services Rangers and a full time Deputy Ranger for community policing and some park maintenance. Part time averages 16 to 20 hours per week, \$14.67 per hr. Deputy ranger is 40 hour work week, \$18.09 per hr. Certification as a Peace Officer in the State of Ohio is required. Go to [www.MetroparksToledo.com](http://www.MetroparksToledo.com) to view detailed position description, job requirements and to apply.

## EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETER

Metroparks Toledo is looking for a qualified individual for Environmental Education Interpreter at Wildwood Metroparks to develop and present high quality park programs and experiences. Bachelor's degree in biology, environmental science, communication, education, outdoor recreation or related field, or equivalent combination of education and work experience. Moderate level of experience in educational program development, presenting public or educational programs and producing special events. Valid driver's license required. 40 hour workweek. May include evenings, weekends, and holidays. \$18.09/hr. Employees who are interested in applying, must submit an online application and resume at [www.MetroparksToledo.com/careers](http://www.MetroparksToledo.com/careers) by February 13. EOE

## PARK SERVICES ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR

Metroparks Toledo is looking for an individual to fill a Park Services Assistant Supervisor position at Swan Creek Preserve Metropark. Associate Degree or equivalent work experience in Parks and Recreation services, Natural Resources, Grounds Management, Criminal Justice Services or related field. Park or outdoor operations experience including leadership responsibilities. Horticultural, arboricultural and project management preferred. \$21.75/hr. 40 hour workweek. Go to [www.metroparkstoledo.com](http://www.metroparkstoledo.com) for complete list of position requirements and duties; must submit online application and resume by February 13. EOE

## INVITATION FOR BIDS LAWN CARE SERVICES – AMP COMMUNITIES

- IFB20-B001 AMP 111 Communities
- IFB20-B002 AMP 112 Communities
- IFB20-B003 AMP 121 Communities
- IFB20-B004 AMP 122 Communities
- IFB20-B005 AMP 131 Communities
- IFB20-B006 AMP 133 Communities

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive sealed bids for **Lawn Care Services – AMP COMMUNITIES**. Received in accordance with law until **February 27, 2020, 3:00 PM ET**. See documents: [www.lucasmha.org](http://www.lucasmha.org); 201 Belmont Ave., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246). This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



## INVITATION FOR BIDS LAWN CARE SERVICES – AMP SCATTERED SITES

- IFB20-B007 AMP 111 Scattered Sites
- IFB20-B008 AMP 112 Scattered Sites
- IFB20-B009 AMP 121 Scattered Sites
- IFB20-B010 AMP 122 Scattered Sites
- IFB20-B011 AMP 131 Scattered Sites
- IFB20-B012 AMP 133 Scattered Sites

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive sealed bids for **Lawn Care Services – AMP Scattered Sites**. Received in accordance with law until **February 27, 2020, 3:00 PM ET**. See documents: [www.lucasmha.org](http://www.lucasmha.org); 201 Belmont Ave., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246). This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



## MOVE TO AMEND IS SEEKING NATIONAL INTERNS FOR SPRING 2020!

Move to Amend national interns work remotely from around the country with board and staff on a variety of projects including grassroots organizing, volunteer retention, writing, research, lobbying, legislative tracking, donor retention, and other hands on projects to support the functions of a national, grassroots amendment campaign.

Interns can be any age and work from anywhere in the country. Our wonderful interns receive a monthly stipend to help cover costs like phone and internet.

Please see more details and learn about the application process and email me, [jessica@movetoamend.org](mailto:jessica@movetoamend.org) for questions.

Call to place your ad:

419-243-0007

[www.TheTruthToledo.com](http://www.TheTruthToledo.com)

# LMHA Announces Opening of Collingwood Green Phase III

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) announced the grand opening of Collingwood Green Phase II on Monday, February 10 with a press conference in the mixed income community near the Toledo central business district. The development will add 55 additional 2-, 3- and 4- bedroom family apartments within eight new buildings.

Twenty-eight of the apartments are HUD Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Transfer of Assistance rental units. The RAD program allows public housing authorities to convert public housing units to Project Based Rental Assistance (PBRA) or Project Based Voucher (PBV) rental units. The remaining 27 units are Low Income Housing Tax Credit rental units.

Thirty-four apartments and five of the eight buildings have been completed since construction started in November of 2018. The remaining 21 units are scheduled to be finished this spring.

"There is an affordable housing crisis," said LMHA President and CEO Dementia Simpson, as she opened Monday's press conference. The LMHA wait-

*... continued on page 12*



*Seated Left to Right: Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken, Councilwoman Yvonne Harper, Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, HUD Field Director Pam Ashby, LMHA Board President Bill Brennan*



**Have you or someone you know served as a Board Member, Executive Director or Auxiliary Member for Neighborhood Health Association?**

**We Need Your Help!**



If you or someone you know has served as a Board Member of the Neighborhood Health Association (including the former Aurora Gonzalez Medical Clinic, Guadalupe Medical Center, East Toledo Community Health Center, South Toledo Community Health Center, and Cordelia Martin Health Center), or are a former Executive Director, Auxiliary Member or Volunteer, please let us know.

2020 marks our 50<sup>th</sup> year of service to this community and we'd like to say "thank you" for your service to this community and for helping to ensure that affordable health care is available to everyone in our community.

Please send your name and contact information to :  
Lisa Matthews at [lmattews@nhainc.org](mailto:lmattews@nhainc.org) or call her at 419-720-7883 x214. We will contact you shortly after with more information. All information should be submitted to Ms. Matthews no later than June 1, 2020.

Thank you for all you have done in service of the community.

**Lisa Matthews**  
Marketing Communications Mgr.  
Neighborhood Health Association  
419.720.7883 x214  
[lmattews@nhainc.org](mailto:lmattews@nhainc.org)



## NANBPWC Ladies Wear Red to Support Healthy Hearts

Each year on the first Friday in February the women of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club Inc. Toledo Club kick off "GO RED" Heart campaign in support of a healthy heart by wearing RED throughout the month of February.

The Toledo Club of NANBPWC Inc. wants to bring awareness to the community about heart disease and stroke.

The women would like to encourage everyone to:

- \*Get checkups for blood pressure and cholesterol.
- \* Don't smoke
- \* Eat right, watch your weight and exercise
- \* Know the risk factors and signs of a heart attack
- \* Teach your family and love ones about why it's so important to stay active
- \* Developed a heart health plan

This disease claims millions of American women each year and also affects more men as well.

Sarah Burkes, NANBPWC, Inc. Toledo Club Health chairman, and the members thank the community for their support of the health programs and the help given by spreading the word on how important it is to take charge of our health.

Frances C. Collins, PhD, Toledo Club president, says that it is important to know your numbers: blood pressure, blood sugar, BMI (Body Mass Index) and cholesterol.

