

The *Sojourner's* Truth

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"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

April 21, 2021

A Conversation To Halt Gun Violence



In This Issue...

Perryman
Page 2

A Community Conversation
on Gun Violence
Page 5

How to Pay for Infrastructure
Rebuild
Page 8

Taxpayer Assistance
Page 11

Classifieds
Page 14

Tolliver
Page 3

Connecting Kids to Meals
Page 6

Social Security Info
Page 10

Book Review
Page 13

TARTA Reroutes
Page 15

Access To Vital Health Care: A Creative Approach

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, Ph.D.

The Truth Contributor

If you have but one wish, let it be for an idea.

- Percy Sutton



"Whenever life doesn't seem to give an answer we create one," said the late famed dramatist Lorraine Hansberry. She was speaking of the brilliant inventiveness of the human mind and spirit.

Hansberry's illustrious words are also germane to Tina Butts and The Movement's creative response to COVID-19's ongoing impacts on Toledo's black community. The indefatigable activist has reached out to the minority community and placed approximately 10,000 shots in arms as part of a local equity vaccination project.



Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett



Dr. Tomeka Suber

Hospitalizations and infection rates associated with the coronavirus have recently surged to dangerous levels in Lucas County. Yet, the number of people receiving vaccines has suddenly fallen off, causing the supply for vaccinations to exceed the demand by nearly tenfold in some instances. Increasing vaccine hesitancy is taking root, particularly in Black and other communities of color, despite the presence of prominent Black scientists and activists at every step of the COVID-19 response.

Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett with the NIH Vaccine Research Center is credited by Dr. Anthony Fauci for leading the development of the Moderna vaccine.

Dr. Tomeka Suber, a pulmonologist and expert in acute respiratory distress syndrome, is also on the front lines of the COVID battle. Dr. Christopher Barnes, a post-doctoral scholar at the California Institute of Technology is also a leader on the pandemic's front. Barnes led the team that captured the first-ever images of antibodies, purified from the blood plasma of people who recovered from COVID-19, according to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAS-EM).



Tina Butts

Yet, homicides are at record levels. Mass shootings occur on a nearly daily basis. Hate crimes surge; mental health worsens; jobs disappear, and food insecurity deepens. All interconnected with the pandemic's devastating impact on the Black community and related racial disparities in health care.

Butts is attempting to redress these issues by locally leading the way to improve access to vaccinations in the Black community dramatically. However, there is a gap between the availability of resources and her ability to access those resources.

It appears as though Sean Savage and the V Project have contributed funds to enable Butts to begin a door-to-door neighborhood campaign to increase vaccinations.

The promised funding will pay for 20 canvassers at \$15/hour, plus two supervisors and a coordinator. Funds are also needed to provide food, music, and other resources to create an exciting cultural experience in the community that people will come to.

The campaign will then go door-to-door with a mobile vaccine unit and set up stations at barber and beauty shops, food markets, and other community venues.

Also planned is an instant vaccination center at the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union where shots are accessible on demand without a prior appointment.

Yet, more resources are necessary to ensure that COVID-19 does not continue to burden or restrict black access to care disproportionately.

Please petition City and County government leaders and elected officials to participate by providing the necessary funding.

A major pat on the back goes out to Tina Butts of the Movement for her creative and culturally relevant COVID-19 and health equity response!

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Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org

Ooops! My Bad Sorry You Are Dead

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

One, Two, Three! Let's all believe the Okey Doke! Can you believe the embattled, and now resigned Chief of Police of Brooklyn Center (outside of the hotbed city of Minneapolis) telling reporters with a straight face, that a 26-year veteran of his police force mistook her heavy side arm gun for a lightweight, differently configured and colored (partly yellow) Taser Gun? Updated note: The shooter cop has also resigned.

I would respect you more if you harbored sincere beliefs that the country of France is really located next to Hawaii!

If you are a 26-year veteran of any police department that employs Tasers, you are beyond dumb, blind and foolish if you think that you can snuff out a life and invent a cover story that you did not know you were using a gun and not the Taser.

I have heard numerous police experts state in light of the killing of Mr. Daunte Wright that it is nigh impossible to make such a mistake and especially so when the shooting officer repeatedly, yelled, "Taser" and still did not understand (?) that she was holding a real gun.

C'mon people! Stupid is as stupid does! This police shooter now wants to act all contrite and mournful for killing a black man due to either warrants out for his arrest (misdemeanors) or that he had air fresheners hanging from his rear-view mirror!

Either way, the police culture of approaching practically everything with deadly force as the first choice was a death sentence waiting to happen for the late Daunte Wright. As one police expert said, where could he go after breaking free and hopping back into his car? They knew who he was and where he lived, and he would not get three blocks away before he would be cornered and captured again.

So many White cops, when they meet a Black male, their implicit biases kick in with a vengeance and they go for a gun as their first impulse to protect and serve.

Common sense would tell you that the shooting officer knew what she was doing and when you observe the holster of police officers who also carry a Taser, the gun and the Taser are opposite each other on the hips of the officer.

Confusion as to which is what? Not in a million years. This officer drew down on the late Daunte Wright with the expectation that if she made a "mistake," a white grand jury would give her the benefit of the doubt and exonerate her.

White grand juries have a built-in bias for cops, rogue or otherwise. The grand juries see these officers as their last line against the onslaught of the Hordes, the Vandals, the Goths, the Dangerous Black Man and they are not willing to chastise cops for any aberrant behavior.

They would rather turn a blind eye and ear to any charges of police misconduct rather than rebuke them or convict them for clear errors of bad shoots and killings.

These white grand juries will swallow hard and make peace with a mangled conscience rather than send a cop to a prison cell; and in the culture of the cop world, they supremely know it.

Confusion! the shooting cop says? Mistake!... the shooting cop says.

Tell you what, take my below quiz to find out about your confusion or mistakes:

...continued on page 4

Black history is an essential part of the history of our nation, our communities, and our company. Black associates have been key members of the Rudolph Libbe Group team since our earliest years. In a series of articles this year, we are celebrating the contributions of current associates and retirees and expressing our gratitude to them for being a part of the Rudolph Libbe Group.

—Bill Rudolph, Chairman, Rudolph Libbe Group

Ellsworth Hall, general electrician foreman at GEM Inc., was born in Toledo and grew up in a predominately Black neighborhood. "It wasn't until I attended high school at Macomber/Whitney that I experienced a diversity of students and faculty," he said. At Macomber, he developed an interest in electricity, but chose radio and TV over construction as his main study focus.

"One of the great parts of attending Macomber was that during my senior year, I was involved in a paid co-op program that allowed me to alternate between work one week and school the other."

After high school, he attended the University of Toledo with the goal of becoming an electrical engineer. "To help with tuition, I worked a couple of low-paying jobs which became a struggle. So with the help of two grandfathers who retired from Dana, I was able to get a job at the Bennett Avenue plant. Less than a year later, I was laid off, which was the first of several layoffs there that shortly closed that plant."

Another opportunity, which would take him all the way to retirement, was waiting. "That's when a long-time family friend and electrician, Tom Cavanaugh, directed me to the Toledo Electrical Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC) program. I was a little hesitant because most of my family were successful with factory jobs."

He decided to head in that new direction and in 1982 was accepted into the JATC, a four-year program with on-the-job training during the day and school at night. He finished his last year of apprenticeship at GEM Inc. and worked his first two years as a journeyman at the Davis-Besse Nuclear plant.

"When work got slow, I bounced between contractors and time off. By being a member of IBEW of Local 8, I was able to travel to other locals to seek employment," he said.

"After returning to GEM Inc. in the mid-nineties, I was given the opportunity to supervise various electrical construction projects which ranged from nuclear plants to the Big Three auto plants and various commercial sites. Some of those projects had very long hours; however, with the support of Tina, my wife of 35 years, we were able to make it all work with three children—Eric, Natasha and Jennifer," he said.

"It was challenging and sometimes frustrating to attend training sessions, job meetings and job sites with few or no other persons of color. I did not allow that to deter my goals; that is why I try to convince young men and women of color to choose the construction trades as a student loan-free alternative to college. The electrical trade is not just a job. It is a career with high pay, good benefits and opportunities to advance."

He now has 39 years in the Local 8 union, and 30 of those years have been with GEM Inc. "Over the years, I was able to accumulate a pension which will allow me to retire and live comfortably. During retirement, I plan on getting in plenty of fishing and going to see my favorite football teams. Go Buckeyes and Steelers!"



Rep. Sobecki Calls for Repeal of Ohio's "Shoot First" Law

Says no duty to retreat will make deadly confrontations more common

State Rep. Lisa Sobecki (D-Toledo) last week called on Statehouse leaders to repeal Ohio's new no duty to retreat law, which passed in December 2020. Democratic-sponsored legislation, House Bill (HB) 38, would repeal the new shoot first law that takes effect Tuesday.

"Ohioans want common-sense gun safety regulations like universal background checks, not this. The 'no duty to retreat' law does not make Ohio safer and disproportionately harms minorities and Ohioans of color," said Rep. Sobecki. "Ohioans already have the right to defend themselves when their lives are threatened. 'No duty to retreat' discourages responsible gun ownership and is a step in the wrong direction. Ohio laws should be focused on reducing gun violence and the opportunities for violence. 'No duty to retreat' does the opposite."

HB 38 would repeal the recently passed Shoot First law that permits the use of deadly force by individuals who believe their lives are endan-

gered anywhere in the state. The measure was added as a last-minute amendment to Senate Bill (SB) 175 in December 2020, and the governor signed the bill into law even after suggesting he would veto the extreme legislation.

A recent report found that shoot first laws may have led to an increase in total homicides and firearm homicides in states which have enacted them.

During discussion of the bill on the House floor in late December, multiple Democratic lawmakers argued that the new law will disproportionately affect Black Ohioans and other communities of color. In the 2012 shooting of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin, a similar law on the books in Florida was invoked because the shooter claimed self-defense.

Ohio's no duty to retreat law takes effect April 6. No hearings have been scheduled on HB 38 to date.

Tolliver... continued from page 3

(1) On the dinner table, there is the saltshaker and there is the pepper shaker. You reach for the pepper shaker but somehow your fingers find the saltshaker. Is that realistic?

Yes or No.

(2) You are dressing to go out on the town. Your shoes are before you. Do you place your left foot inside the right shoe and the right foot inside the left shoe? Yes or No.

(3) You are at the meat counter at your store. You need three pounds of ground beef

but you inexplicably reach for the packaged bacon. Yes or No.

(4) You are about to boil some water for rice. In the cupboard you see a pot and you see a skillet. Yet, somehow you reach for the skillet to boil

the rice? Yes or No.

(5) It is winter. About 20 degrees. You are in your closet. Do you reach for the long pants or do you reach for the lightweight short bathing trunks to wear outside. Which one?

(6) You are at the gas station. You open your gas cap. Do you fill it with gas or do you

look around and fill it with transmission fluid? Which one.

(7) You are about to do a load of laundry. On the shelf you have washing powder and

(8) You are at a pickup game of basketball. You choose up sides and instead of a choosing a basketball, you choose another ball... a ping pong ball. Don't you know the difference?

(9) You are about to enter a 10K run. You have a choice of a pair of running shoes or you can choose to wear foam rubber flip flops. What do you choose?

(10) You have a splitting headache. You go to your medicine cabinet and can choose either an aspirin or a quick acting laxative. Which one do you choose?

Now, notice in all the above questions, it involves a choice...a clear and unambiguous choice and you know the difference between the choices but yet, you choose the wrong remedy for the situation at hand.

This is what the killer of the late Daunte Wright did. She had clear choices. Choices that she has used for the past 26 years yet, she knowingly chose the wrong remedy. She selected deadly force instead of temporarily stunning the then surrounded Daunte Wright.

So, when I hear the public relations team start blowing smoke on her behalf that somehow she is some innocent babe in the woods not knowing a gun from a Taser, you must shut down that discordant noise and do not fall for the Okey-Doke!

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



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Community Townhall Meeting to Discuss Gun Violence

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Community residents of all ages discussed the causes and solutions of gun related violence within the city of Toledo. The two-hour hybrid townhall meeting was held at Scott High School and virtually on the GoToMeeting platform on Saturday, April 18 starting at 2:00 p.m.

The activity was organized and facilitated by City of Toledo Commissioner JoJuan Armour and co-facilitated by community activist and City Park League organizer Montrice Terry. A moment of silence opened the townhall meeting and immediately followed by a prayer facilitated by Reverend Rick Morris of Hope Glory Church. "Lord, put into action what the people need and hear our prayers Lord," shared Morris.

The townhall meeting implemented social distancing and mask requirements for all attendees. The facilitators briefly explained the safety guidelines before starting the focused presentations about holistic approach, definitions of gun violence, community survey and community risk factors.

"I want to thank everyone for joining this conversation, the people attending virtually and all of you here today. This is our first townhall during the pandemic. There are those who believe that there is hope and opportunity," said Terry.

The holistic approach explained the benefits of medical, physical, emotional, educational and spiritual when interacting with youth. "If we work together it's powerful. Toledo is a beautiful town and we as adults need to set aside our pride to benefit these kids. Churches in the black community are pillars and spiritual development is a benefit in the development of young people. Now they go from arguing to shooting. If we can do more, we can impact change. We can reduce gun violence. I remember the last vigil that I attended because nobody cried. Death, murder and violence have become normalized. We want



JoJuan Armour

...continued on page 7



Presenters huddle before conversation begins



Montrice Terry

Are We All on the Same Page?

By Rev. Benjamin Green

Guest Column

All right Toledo, here we go again, and I'm not talking about the Isley Brothers!!

On April 17, there was a town hall meeting at Scott High School, regarding "Gun Violence" in Toledo area.

Unfortunately or fortunately, I was unable to be there because the doors were closed, both physically and via the virtual Zoom. However, while I am not trying to be a naysayer at all, the outcome of what I expected from the gathering happened and, in fact, it was below my expectations, and my expectations were low.



Pastor Benjamin Green

But before I appear to be arrogant and not a positive team player, let me say that this is nothing personal against JoJuan Armour or any of his associates, whom I assume are very serious about what they are doing or are about to do.

With that being said, let me now begin with my complaint. The first thing that I read in the Blade right off the bat that indicated that the beginning of this endeavor, if I can call it that, was the headlines. "Toledo holds its first gun violence town hall meeting."

There are several things wrong with this statement. First of all, if the mayor and city officials are truly concerned, after all these years, why is it the first? After all these deaths, why is it the first?

Secondly, the past conversations have implied that we have a youth problem. Why are we solely talking about guns, when the primary problem that we have is: what should we be doing for our youth?

The third problem that I have from reading about the meeting is that somebody decided that it was time to put the entire blame on our police. Are you kidding me?

And last, but not least, the statement that, "Everything that you address here will be put into action, or we will attempt to put into action. What that looks like, we don't know."

You are kidding me right? Tell me that you are not making a public statement that clearly says, "We don't have a clue nor a plan."

Now for clarity's sake, I would like to know what page we are all on,

...continued on page 7

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Connecting Kids To Meals Completes Critical Refrigeration Upgrade to Answer the Summer Feeding Demand

Connecting Kids to Meals has recently completed a \$40,000 remodel of its Walk-In Refrigeration thanks in part to the generosity of local donors. The need for this critical upgrade in equipment grows significantly in the coming months as the number of meals the non-profit provides over the summer increases dramatically.

The extensive remodel and upgrade of the Walk-in Refrigeration enables Connecting Kids to Meals to continue to fulfill its mission of providing healthy meals at no cost to at-risk kids in low-income and underserved areas of our community. The hunger-relief organization has been feeding hungry kids for 18 years and last year served more than 875,000 meals.

"We are so grateful to our funders who have stepped up to help us with this remodel to ensure that our thousands of milk cartons and other cold food items that we distribute daily, stay cold. As we enter into our busiest season - the summer months - we expect to see more kids outside and active. Assuring access to well-balanced meals for kids when they are already challenged in so many ways - especially as we've experienced over this past year - is critical," stated Wendi Huntley, president, Connecting Kids to Meals.

This project involved several local organizations that are committed to the health and wellbeing of our most precious asset - our kids and youth. The generosity of the Owens Corning Foundation, Mercy Health, Fifth Third Bank, Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo and the Anderson Foundation made this necessary upgrade possible.

"Connecting Kids to Meals fulfills an essential need in our community - providing nutritious meals for children who might otherwise go hungry," said Owens Corning Foundation President Don Rettig. "We were eager to help to ensure that this important work continues so that no child goes hungry in our community."

As the community continues to navigate through and out of the COVID-19 pandemic, Connecting Kids to Meals expects the daily meal counts the or-

ganization provides to be about 7,000 per day this summer. The agency collaborates with a wide array of partners who provide educational and enrichment programming for kids in our area. With about 60,000 kids qualifying for free or reduced meals at school (meaning the families live near or below the poverty level), when school is out, Connecting Kids to Meals becomes the largest provider of healthy meals to kids in our area.



Wendi Huntley

Connecting Kids to Meals has been feeding hungry at-risk kids for 18 years. Some of the trusted partners where meals are served include schools, libraries, churches, community centers, and other locations where kids gather during out-of-school time. Connecting Kids to Meals has served more than 7 million meals to kids. To learn more about CKM visit <https://www.connectingkidstomeals.org/>. Contact - Wendi Huntley - 419-720-1106 - Wendi@ConnectingKidsToMeals.org

Lucas Metropolitan Housing to Hold Vaccine Clinics for Residents

Beginning on Saturday, April 17, 2021, LMH will make COVID-19 vaccines available, for LMH residents, in clinics near their communities. Partnering with LMH in this effort are the Area Office on Aging, the Ohio Department of Aging, Neighborhood Health Association, Health Partners of Western Ohio, and Agape Second Chance.

The Vaccination Clinics scheduled for April include:

- April 17, 2021 Spencer Township Neighborhood Center, 330 Oak Terrace Blvd., Holland, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- April 21, 2021 McClinton Nunn Community Room, 432 Nebraska Avenue, Toledo, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- April 27, 2021 Harry Hansen Terrace Community Room, 300 Erie St., Toledo, 9 a.m. to Noon

Robert Dorrell Manor Community Room, 5836 Southwyck Blvd., Toledo, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. (to serve Dorrell Manor, Flory Gardens and Glendale Court communities)

At Lucas Metropolitan Housing, we serve our residents with a sense of compassion. Their health and well-being are vital to sustainable and vibrant communities. We appreciate and thank our partners for helping us keep our communities safe from COVID-19; said Joaquin Cintron Vega, LMH President and CEO.

For more information on how to register for clinics and locations please call 419-259-9400 or go to <https://www.lucasmha.org/coronavirus>.

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Are We All on the Same Page... continued from page 5

because so far, the beginning of this things sounds like a recipe for miscommunication. Are we talking about gun violence, which would include everyone in the entire city?

Are we talking about saving our youth, which would mean that this thing would need to be much more intensive?

Are we talking about gun confiscation? Are we talking about creating programs or are we talking about creating a process, something that will be ongoing, measurable, repeatable and profitable, because if you are not, don't waste your time starting off on the wrong foot.

Another thing that I would like to know is who were the main stakeholders who were there, beside parents and concerned citizens? Were there people in attendance whom one could consider to be movers and shakers? Who were the people with the critical resources for an undertaking of something of this magnitude? Talk to me if you can!

Gun Violence... continued from page 5

to see kids smiling and laughing in our community," explained Armour.

Moms Demand Action representative Judy Harbaugh delivered a verbal and visual presentation that defined gun violence that includes suicide and domestic violence. "Everyday Americans are shot and killed by guns. Suicide is gun violence and there is an increase of 56 percent in the last ten years for individuals between 10-24 years of age. Domestic violence is gun violence, there are 4.5 million women who report being threatened with a gun [every year]. Gun violence can be prevented by requiring background checks on all gun sales and addressing other concerns mentioned in this presentation," said Harbaugh.

Commissioner Armour presented the results of a community survey that collected results from 180 Toledo-area youth in 2020. The results concluded that a high percentage of youth feel violence has affected the community, have had a negative interaction with police and feel racially targeted by police officers. "We want to provide resources for our kids," said Armour.

Tracy Johnson, managing partner of SheRay's & Associates LLC, conducted a brief presentation about the four community risk factors that indicate problems. The presented information drew connections between availability of drugs, family history behavioral problems or conflict, and lack of commitment to school as indicators of youth violence. "Focus on what the individual is doing, the kids, their families, the school they attend and the community," said Johnson.

The townhall concluded with volunteer-led discussion groups that requested community input and group report-out on seven questions.

- What are you seeing in the community around violence?
- What are the reasons for the increase in violence in the community?

Were City Council members there? Was the mayor and his entourage there and engaged? Were union officials, teachers, principals and school administrators there? Was the police department there as stakeholders? What business representatives, owners and CEOs of companies were there? Are you including clergy and what general expectations do you have for the stake holders?

And where were the youth, if in fact we were expecting youth to show up? What were the demographics of the people there? Were blacks, whites, Hispanics, Asians all included? Does this issue affect the entire city? It certainly does when it comes to the budget.

These are just a few questions, but I have many more and I can guarantee you that the questions can get much harder, much harder. I'm finished for now but there will be another round of questions and concerns and, trust me, I am prepared to help, but I'm not going become engaged, unless I see more than crumbs thrown to the side for a few disgruntled citizens to play with. I want to hear some serious talk about a serious problem that has existed not just in Toledo, but across these United States for years.

I said it before, and I'll say it again, "I do have a vision and a plan!"

- What has been done in the past around violence?
- How can the police and community relations be strengthened in the community?
- What do you think or feel should be done regarding the violence?
- Are there opportunities for members of the community (youth and adults) to be positively engaged in the community?
- What are some of the opportunities that should be put into place?

Several group responses recommended conducting in-school classes on gun violence, organizing a city-wide gun buy-back program, reducing access to illegal guns, meeting youth where they are emotionally and mentally, creating year-round or seasonal programs or sports for youth, and increasing foot or bike patrol of officers to increase opportunities for positive interaction.

The townhall was entitled, "Community Townhall Meeting on Gun Violence: A Conversation with Commissioner JoJuan Armour, the Mayor's Initiative to Reduce Gun Violence. The townhall meeting was streamed live on 13abc Facebook page.



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Infrastructure Growth Bonds: A Proposed Solution without a Further Stimulus Program Utilizing the Authority of the Federal Reserve Bank and the United States Treasury.

By Frank Cihak

Guest Column

The purpose of this memorandum is to initiate a conversation regarding funding the nation's infrastructure. It is understood that modifications to any suggested approach will be made. The methodology described herein is to consider a funding mechanism that will not increase taxes nor add to the national debt.

Preamble.

As of April 1, 2021, the United States Treasury's official figure for the national debt of the federal government was \$28.1 trillion (\$28,081,128,042,931.00). At the beginning of the day, April 19, 2021, the national debt has increased to \$28,187,133,815,925,027.00. This translates to about \$85,307.00 per citizen or \$224,748.00 per taxpayer.

The national debt dramatically increased because of the economic problems of 2008, quantitative easing monetary responses, and prosecuting wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Then, Covid-19 happened. The pandemic stimulus payments, including the most recent \$1.9 trillion stimulus program are the reasons for the unprecedented surge in the debt totals.

For example, at the end of fiscal year 2000, the national debt was \$5,674 tril-

lion. The various quantitative easing and stimulus packages are not indicators of fiscal policies that invested in economic growth; but rather emergency actions taken to provide short term aid to qualified business entities and citizens. This was spending assistance rather than investment.

Such spending programs were necessary to provide a lifeline to the country's population. Now, however, funding the nation's infrastructure projects is the prescription for tangible growth coupled with a surge in employment.

What is the National Debt? The National Debt ("Debt") is simply the net accumulation of the federal government's annual budget deficits. It is the total amount of money that the federal government owes to its creditors. Generally, the cause for the upward momentum in the "Debt" is because Congress continues to use deficit spending to fund federal programs while also approving tax cuts. The only method to reduce the "Debt" is to develop structural solutions that will stimulate economic growth.

Coincident with these facts, the Federal Reserve Bank ("Bank") has a balance sheet of approximately \$7.795 trillion in assets as of April 14, 2021. In order to cope with current and prior economic problems, the Bank has employed monetary policy that has effectively flatten the yield curve to unprecedented low interest rates levels for all maturities. Since coordinated monetary and fiscal policy has been absent due to the polarized political climate, the Bank's balance sheet is bloated by necessity.

The current balance sheet total assets would have been unthinkable in past generations. However, a \$10 trillion balance sheet total is not outside the range of possibilities given the prospect of the administration's \$2 billion infrastructure proposal. In fact, if Federal Reserve Bank Governors and their chairpersons of past generations could be apprised of the Bank's current asset total, they might have considered ritual seppuku. Congress, a divided Congress must bear responsibility for the complete abandonment of fiscal policy to address the myriad of infrastructure projects.

Nevertheless, the core requirements of the Bank is to promote financial stability by regulating the money supply and managing interest rates. The by-product of these actions should be to minimize inflation and encourage a stronger demand for goods and services; thereby, resulting in economic growth and more jobs. Therefore, could the Bank consider a new initiative in conjunction with the Treasury (monetary policy working with fiscal policy) that would fund the nation's infrastructure projects without increasing the Debt burden nor increasing the money supply?

The Federal Reserve Bank Funds Infrastructure Growth Bonds.

Why not consider having the U.S. Treasury issue "Infrastructure Growth Bonds" that would be funded by the Bank? A partial lists of necessary infrastructure projects, such as bridges, dams, the power grid, ports, roadways and public transportation, is supplemented by increasing broadband capacity as well as additional security features for a vulnerable internet (minimizing hackers orchestrated by foreign governments).

All the states have identified infrastructure that are absolutely required to be fixed in order to avoid further deterioration. The federal, state, and local projects could be coordinated by the Departments of Transportation, the Department of the Interior, the Commerce Department, and the Department of Labor by creating a joint task force with underwriting approval by the Treasury and the Bank.

For each project, infrastructure bonds (with a maturity of 20-years, subject to renewal) would be issue having the features of a project financing bond. Repayment of the "Bonds" could occur by imposing a use tax. The concept is that repayment comes from the parties that use or benefit from the project. For example, the repair or construction of a new bridge, may require the imposition of a

... continued on page 12

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OhioMeansJobs Lucas County to Hold Virtual Resume and Interview Classes to Prepare Job Seekers for In-Demand Jobs Week

The economy is strengthening as the number of COVID-19 cases continue to drop and more and more people get vaccinated. OhioMeansJobs Lucas County soon will be participating in In-Demand Jobs Week (May 3 – 7, 2021), which is a state-wide celebration of jobs, industries, and skills that are in demand in Ohio.

To help job seekers take advantage of job opportunities, OhioMeansJobs Lucas County is offering virtual online resume-building resources to help people find jobs or transition to a new industry or line of work. The well-written, up-to-date resume may be the single most important tool for job seekers to search for employment. It should clearly communicate to employers the experience and qualifications of job seekers.

OhioMeansJobs Lucas County staff is ready to help job seekers who are without computers or internet access. Resources can be accessed over the phone by calling 419-213-5627 (JOBS). Staff also can assist with employment needs and questions by sending email to omjlucascounty@zefpcenter.org.

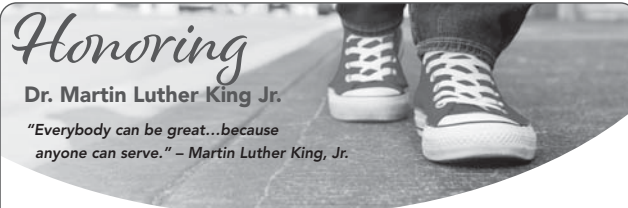
The online Resume Writing webinar will be held on the following dates and times:

- Tuesday, May 4 – 11 a.m. to noon
- Tuesday, May 18 – 11 a.m. to noon
- Tuesday, June 1 – 11 a.m. to noon
- Tuesday, June 15 – 11 a.m. to noon

To register, please go to <https://bit.ly/3wCN0Fh> In addition, OhioMeansJobs Lucas County is hosting webinars to help job seekers improve their job interviewing skills. The online What to Do and Not Do of In-Person and Virtual Interviewing webinar will be held at the following dates and times:

- Wednesday, April 21 – 11 a.m. to noon
- Wednesday, May 5 – 11 a.m. to noon
- Wednesday, May 19 – 11 a.m. to noon
- Wednesday, June 2 – 11 a.m. to noon
- Wednesday, June 16 – 11 a.m. to noon

To register, please go to <https://bit.ly/3rSkQIN>



State Bank GIVES

State Bank GIVES (Gathering Individuals to Volunteer, Empower and Serve) is a Volunteer program created to provide local nonprofit organizations access to State Bank employees who volunteer their time to make a difference in the lives of the people and communities where we live, work, and play.

Request volunteers at YourStateBank.com/GIVES



Subject to credit approval.



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For registration or for more information, call Customer Service at 419-407-9700.

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Social Security Column

Faster Processing of Disability Claims for People with Alzheimer's Disease

By Erin Thompson

Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Toledo, OH

Guest Column

Today, more than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease. Since the onset of Alzheimer's can occur in people before they retire, it may strike during an individual's working years; preventing gainful employment as the disease progresses.

As a result, people must come to grips with a devastating diagnosis while losing their salary and benefits. People with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers must figure out how they'll pay for care. Our benefits and services are vital to people with early-onset Alzheimer's who are unable to work and have no other source of income.

For over a decade, Social Security has included Alzheimer's disease in our Compassionate Allowances program. The Compassionate Allowances program identifies debilitating diseases and medical conditions so severe they obviously meet our disability standards. Compassionate Allowances allow for faster processing of disability claims for individuals with Alzheimer's disease, mixed-dementia, and Primary Progressive Aphasia.

You can read more about our Compassionate Allowances program at www.ssa.gov/compassionateallowances. To learn more about how Social Security disability insurance works, visit our disability page at www.ssa.gov/disability. Please share these resources with friends and family.

Financial Literacy Month, A Perfect Time to Plan for your Future

April is Financial Literacy Month, a time focused on educating people about the importance of planning for a secure financial future. Social Security is a vital part of any financial plan. We have online tools to help you understand your potential Social Security benefits and how they fit into your financial future.

You should periodically review your Social Security Statement with your per-

sonal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Your Statement is an easy-to-read summary of the estimated benefits you and your family could receive, including potential retirement, disability, and survivors benefits.

Additionally, our Plan for Retirement tool in your my Social Security account allows you to run various benefit estimate scenarios. You can compare different future earnings and retirement benefit start dates for how they could affect your benefit amount.

Start improving your financial literacy today by logging in to your my Social Security account. If you don't have an account, create one at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

Social Security's Many Online Services

There's probably been a time in your life when you've wondered, "Can I do this online instead of visiting a Social Security office?" The answer is more than likely yes, and you can find more information about our online services at www.ssa.gov/online. Online, you can apply for retirement and disability benefits, appeal a decision, and do much more.

We've organized our Online Services webpage into four popular categories for easy navigation:

- **Review Your Information.** You can access your secure, personal information and earnings history to make sure everything is correct.

- **Apply for Benefits.** You can apply for retirement, disability, and Medicare benefits without having to visit a local Social Security office.

- **Manage Your Account.** You can change your direct deposit information and your address, if you are receiving benefits, online.

... continued on page 11



Open through Aug. 29, 2021

The Art of Conservation

The conservators at the Toledo Museum of Art cordially invite you to view the fascinating work they do to preserve artworks for future generations to enjoy.



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Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP)

Want to improve the IRS? SPEAK UP

Andrea Price, TAP member representing Ohio

Guest Column

The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel is comprised of civic-minded citizen volunteers from all walks of life representing each state, D.C., Puerto Rico and an international member (citizens living, working or doing business abroad). TAP is a Federal Advisory Committee whose mission is to listen to taxpayers, identify taxpayers' issues and make suggestions for improving the IRS service and customer satisfaction.

Everyone has something to say about taxes and the IRS. Please take a moment to give us your suggestions for TAP to consider by contacting one of the following:

TAP Ohio member: tapohioandreaprice@gmail.com

Call Toll-free at: 1-888-912-1227

Website: www.improveirs.org

This month I would like to answer some frequently asked questions.

How do I apply to serve as a volunteer TAP member representing Ohio?

They are accepting applications for the 2022 – 2024. The TAP announcement has been posted to USAJobs. Applications to serve on the TAP will be accepted through May 14, 2021. They are seeking Members or Alternates in the following locations:

Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, International, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, Nevada, Oklahoma, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

For additional information about the TAP application process, visit the website or call the toll-free number listed above and press 5 or email taxpayeradvocacypanel@gmail.com.

I heard that paying taxes is voluntary and not a law?

This notion comes from reading the IRS 1040 Form instructions booklet that the tax system is voluntary. The word voluntary refers to allowing taxpayers initially to determine the correct amount of tax and complete the appropriate returns, rather than have the government determined tax for them upfront. The requirement to file an income tax return is not voluntary and is clearly set forth in sections 6011(a) and 6072(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and Treasury regs. 1.6011-1(a). The courts have upheld this fact. Failure to file a tax return could subject the noncompliant individual to civil and or criminal penalties, including fines and imprisonment. Examples are *Flora v. United States*,

United States v. Tedder, *United States v. Richards* among others. Congress passes tax laws and requires taxpayers to comply. The IRS role is to help taxpayers with the tax law and collect taxes.

What is a Taxpayer Assistance Center?

It is your local IRS office. In Toledo, it is located at Four Seagate Center, 433 N Summit St, 2nd Floor. The telephone number is 419-213-5165. To make an appointment call 844-545-5640.

I cannot pay my taxes due to financial hardship and I have tried working with the IRS, where can I get free help?

You can request a payment plan or contact your Local Taxpayer Advocate Office and they will help you free of charge. Ohio has two offices: one in Cleveland and One in Cincinnati. You may call toll-free at 1-877-777-4778 to make an appointment or fill out Form 911, Request for Taxpayer Advocate Service Assistance (found on irs.gov) and fax it or mail it.

The IRS is taking me to Tax Court, and I cannot afford a lawyer. Is there any free help?

If you are a low-income taxpayer who needs assistance in resolving a tax dispute with the IRS and cannot afford representation, you may qualify for help from a Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic (LITC) that provides free or low-cost assistance. You must meet income poverty guidelines to qualify. For example: Family size 1: \$32,200 or less; Family size 2: \$43,500. Family size 3: \$54,900 and family size 4: \$66,250. For each additional person add \$11,350. These are the ceiling amounts.

The local LITC is Toledo Tax Controversy Clinic. The telephone number is 419-684-8822. English and Arabic are spoken. In the State of Ohio, there are five additional LITC clinics. Columbus has two clinics. Akron, Cleveland and Cincinnati each have one clinic.

Is there a place where I can get my taxes done free?

The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs offer free tax help for taxpayers who qualify. VITA has been offering free tax services for over 50 years for people who make \$57,000 or less; persons with disabilities; and limited English-speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. TCE is offered in partnership with AARP and offers free tax help for people 60 years of age and older, specializing in questions about pensions and retire-

ments related issues unique to seniors (no income limit). For locations near you, go to IRS.gov or for VITA locations call 1-800-906-9887 and for TCE locations call 1-888-227-7669.



Andrea Price

Alzheimer's Disease... continued from page 10

Find Help and Answers. You can find answers to your most frequently asked questions, as well as links to publications and other informational websites.

You can also access personalized information with your my Social Security account. This is a useful resource even if you are not receiving benefits. You can:

- Request a replacement Social Security number or Medicare card.
- Get personalized retirement benefit estimates.
- Get estimates for spouse's benefits.
- Print proof that you do not receive benefits.
- Check your application or appeal status.
- Read your Social Security Statement.
- If you are receiving benefits, you can:
- Request a replacement Social Security number or Medicare card.
- Set up or change direct deposit.
- Print a Social Security 1099 (SSA-1099) form.
- Opt out of mailed notices for those available online.
- Print a benefit verification letter.
- Change your address.

Please let your family and friends know they can do much of their business with us online at www.ssa.gov.

New Fact Sheets Added to Your Online Statement

Your *Social Security Statement* tells you how much

... continued on page 12

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Five Tips to Protect Seniors from Financial Scams Right Now

Special to The Truth

Social isolation among seniors is not only linked to numerous negative health consequences like depression and cardiovascular disease, but it's also a primary contributing factor in financial exploitation and scams. Estimated to affect one in 10 older adults and cost billions annually, the threat of elder financial fraud is pervasive, and especially so right now.

With seniors more isolated than ever due to the pandemic and stimulus checks being sent to millions of Americans nationwide, experts suggest that seniors and their families be extra vigilant.

"Scammers look for key time periods where money and private financial information are in motion. Not only is IRS fraud one of the most common and successful types of scams that exists, as a general rule, additional money equates to additional fraud," says Ron Long, head of Aging Client Services at Wells Fargo.

"Scammers are banking on the fact that many seniors are apart from families and friends due to COVID-19. When someone is alone, physically or socially, they often miss out on the added benefit of a second pair of eyes and ears."

Compounding the risks associated with isolation is the number of seniors who feel their chances of falling victim to a financial scam is unlikely. According to a recent Wells Fargo study conducted by The Harris Poll, 69 percent of all seniors age 60 and above believe they're not likely to be susceptible to a financial scam, despite nearly all seniors (97 percent) acknowledging that older people are very or somewhat susceptible to becoming a victim. When asked about their peers, the poll found that 47 percent of all seniors knew someone who had already fallen victim to a scam.

"The results indicate what most of us want -- the ability to age relatively unaffected from the realities associated with aging," says Dr. Marti DeLiema, a gerontologist and consultant for Wells Fargo's Aging Client Services. "The problem is that when someone doesn't feel they're at risk, they're unlikely to take precaution."

To better protect seniors from elder financial fraud and abuse, consider these tips from Wells Fargo:

1. Don't wait for a crisis. Seniors should speak with trustworthy family members about financial plans, as well as consult them when something doesn't feel right.
2. Stay up-to-date. Seniors and families should draft and periodically update legal documents such as wills, healthcare directives and powers of attorney.
3. Automate. Seniors should consider signing up for direct deposit, automatic bill pay and large transaction alerts.
4. Prioritize security. Seniors should keep checks and credit cards locked

Infrastructure... continued from page 8

toll. Essentially, if you use it, you pay for it. It is recognized that such a payments can be regressive.

The projects could be segmented into three tiers:

1. Those projects that are absolutely necessary now;
2. Those projects that are required but are not deemed immediately urgent;
3. And finally, those projects that are on a "wish list".

The determination of the merit and classification of projects would be independent and nonpartisan, conducted by an entity like the Army Corp of Engineers.

By definition, the Bank has the funds. Therefore, there is no need for deficit spending nor increased taxes to fix infrastructure, nor an increase in the money supply. The infrastructure projects would provide economic growth that would simultaneously aid business and fuel employment. These functions (economic growth and employment) are existing duties of the Bank. The jobs would be good paying jobs that would increase the tax base. A portion of increased tax revenues collected from business and individuals could additionally be used to retire the "Bonds" as well as reducing the national debt (with more tolls or other use taxes).

After the passage of time, there will be projects that fail to meet the repayment criteria, (the obligation to repay the "Bonds"). What is the answer? Potentially, there are several possibilities; however, the following items are enumerated:

1. The given project "Bonds" are restructured (perhaps grouped into like pools akin to mortgage-backed securities);
2. The given project could be leased or sold to a third party using the proceeds to pay the "Bond" debt;
3. The projects in default (an aggregate amount of "Bonds") could be written off. The Treasury could essentially cancel the Bonds, and in tandem, the Bank would reduce the money supply by an equal amount. There could be a tick up in

away, and update passwords when information is compromised. They should also carefully review credit reports, account statements and bills for unusual activity or charges.

5. Be aware. Families can help seniors stay aware of the latest and most common scams, as well as help them identify potential red flags, including:

- Alleged emergency situations involving family members, often grandchildren, requiring immediate payment.
- Lottery winnings requiring upfront cash payment for taxes and other fees.
- Phone calls from alleged government agencies, such as Social Security, threatening arrest or penalties.

For more information on fraud prevention, visit wellsfargo.com.

"Aging resiliently requires planning ahead and not shying away from difficult conversations," says Long. "We have to talk with our older loved ones about the risks, the warning signs and prevention -- and we have to keep talking."

Courtesy StatePoint

Alzheimer's Disease... continued from page 11

you or your family can expect to receive in disability, survivors, and retirement benefits. It also provides a record of your earnings history and other valuable information. And now it's even better!

We've added new fact sheets to accompany the online Statement. The fact sheets are designed to provide clear and useful information, based on your age group and earnings. They can help you better understand Social Security programs and benefits.

The new *Statement* fact sheets cover the following topics:

- Retirement readiness for workers in four age groups.
- Workers with non-covered earnings who may be subject to the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset.
- Social Security basics for new workers.
- How people become eligible for benefits (for people who have not earned enough work credits).
- How additional work can increase your future benefits.
- Medicare readiness for workers age 62 and up.

The best way to get access to your Statement and the new fact sheets is by using your personal my Social Security account. If you don't have a personal my Social Security account, be sure to create one at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

To learn more, visit our Social Security Statement webpage at www.ssa.gov/myaccount/statement.html. Please share these resources with your friends and family.

interest rates resulting in a more normal yield curve. This would mean monetary and fiscal policy has started to return to historical normalcy.

The result would be the country's infrastructure projects would be upgraded and completed. The companies doing the work would be financially restored. Also, additional employment (construction and manufacturing) would provide a multiplier effect that would yield more consumer and retail jobs resulting in an overall increase in the tax base.

What if new legislation was required to implement such a proposed solution. Since every state would benefit, bipartisan legislation should occur. A negative vote by a legislator would require an explanation to voters about why new jobs cannot occur; especially, without increasing the debt or taxes. This would not be popular irrespective of party affiliation.

This alternative funding mechanism would allow the proposed tax increase to be considered separately. The ultimate goal is to restore fiscal integrity by generating annual budget surpluses; thereby, beginning to get our economic house in order. It is not simple. There is the need to maintain financial discipline.

Why not a test? The suggestion is to fund \$250 - \$300 billion worth of projects. This would be less than four percent of the Bank's total balance sheet assets. The reality is \$2.0 trillion infrastructure projects will not all start at once. A phased approach means that the proper analysis and sequencing of infrastructure projects will be accomplished. A phased approach means the Bank can have an orderly sale or liquidation of treasury securities and mortgage back securities in order to purchase the infrastructure bonds. This alternative does not preclude the sale of infrastructure bonds to qualified third party buyers.

Frank Cihak is a retired 79 year old who amassed over 50 years of work experience in financial institutions.

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The Son of Mr. Suleman by Eric Jerome Dickey

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

The sins of the father shall be visited upon the son.

That's what's said, that a son pay for his father's misdeeds, but maybe the old man didn't intend to leave a negative legacy. Maybe he tried his best, but something went wrong. Maybe, as in the new novel *The Son of Mr. Suleman* by Eric Jerome Dickey, Pops meant well.

Adjunct Professor Pi Suleman didn't want to be at his employer's event. He had better things to do, better places to be than a room at UAN, but his boss, the white woman who hired him, the wife of a powerful judge, demanded that he be there or else.

Like a fool, he'd taken gifts from her, things given in what he understood was an effort to make his job easier. She was helpful to him but it came with a price: whenever she wanted to sexually assault him, she did, and when she threatened to say that he was to blame, there was little a Black Man from Memphis could do.

Meeting Gemma Buckingham was the only good thing to happen at that UAN event.

She was one of the most beautiful women Pi had ever seen, this child of London and Africa, and he wanted to know her better. Even when she mentioned that she was a fan of his father, a man who impregnated Pi's mother and then disappeared, a famous man, a writer Pi had never met but hated, Pi still wanted to know Gemma Buckingham.

She was coy with him, teasing him with information and curves. She was apparently well off and she didn't care that Pi wasn't yet tenured, didn't have the salary he needed, drove an old car. Yes, she had secrets – but then, so did he and the White one who was blowing up his phone with demands

c.2021
Dutton
\$27.00 / \$36.00 Canada
560 pages

and traps and tricks was the secret who was going to pay...

There is an old rule for writers that says, "kill your darlings," meaning that a good writer should eliminate unneeded passages and overused phrases. If you've ever read anything by the late author Eric Jerome Dickey, you know that he generally ignored that advice; *The Son of Mr. Suleman*, filled as this brick-sized novel is with "darlings," is no exception.

And yet, it's hard to even slightly dislike a story that makes its characters tackle DWB, racism, classism, white supremacy, ill-placed power, and a dozen other societal issues between bodice-ripping erotica and page-ripping thrills. It's hard to let go of a book that makes you absolutely, 100 percent need to know what happens next. The surprise is that Dickey does all this as he pushes readers to accept a degree of discomfort: unlike with his past novels, the sex isn't always sexy here, and the thrills are more threatening than thrilling.

Be prepared to be turned every which way with this book. Be set to let *The Son of Mr. Suleman* eat up your weekend. Just be ready, because missing it would be a sin.



Eric Jerome Dickey

NEW YORK TIMES Bestselling Author of *BEFORE WE WERE WICKED*

The Son of
Mr. Suleman
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CLASSIFIEDS

Page 14

April 21, 2021

COMMUNITY HUB DIRECTOR

The Community Hub Director is responsible for leading the coordination of the majority of activities, programs and supplemental services implemented at the Wayman Palmer YMCA site. This position is a full time position and often requires hours outside the traditional work day for programs and services inside the center and also outreach throughout the community. Candidates must possess a 4-year college degree in a related field and at least 3-5 years of related experience in youth development, community development, or family service. For application instructions please visit www.ymca-toledo.org/main/employment/ or email Debbie Frison at dfrison@ymcatoledo.org.

Call to place your ad:

419-243-0007

www.TheTruthToledo.com

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR—LUCAS COUNTY GSB

The Lucas County Guardianship Services Board ("GSB") is currently seeking applicants for the position of Executive Director. The GSB administers a public, adult guardianship program serving mentally incompetent and/or developmentally disabled wards of Lucas County as provided under Chapter 2111 of the Ohio Revised Code.

The Executive Director is accountable to the GSB for the accomplishment of the Board's goals, ensuring that the Board's operation is compliant with all Federal, State & local laws, effectively managing the Board's resources, & supervising Board staff.

Lucas County GSB is an equal opportunity employer.

For job description and information for application please see the following website: <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/Jobs>

BOOKKEEPER WANTED

St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church is seeking a part-time bookkeeper. This position will be approximately 10 hours a week with an adaptable schedule. The Bookkeeper will have excellent skills in QuickBooks accounting. Previous work with the Catholic Diocese of Toledo would be helpful. DEADLINE to apply April 15, 2021. Job description available upon request. Send resumes to Search Committee, St. Martin de Porres Parish, 1119 W. Bancroft St. Toledo, Ohio 43606 or email to: stmartindeporrestoledo@gmail.com

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY TOLEDO, OHIO

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sealed Bids will be received by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority for all labor, material, insurance, and equipment necessary for the Remove Runway, Shift/Realign Taxiway C, and Rehabilitate General Aviation Ramp project located at Toledo Executive Airport at 28331 Lemoyne Road, Millbury, Ohio 43447, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. The engineer's opinion of probable construction cost is approximately \$1,914,000.00.

Sealed bids will be received at the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority's administrative offices, 1st floor reception area at One Maritime Plaza, Toledo, OH 43604 until Thursday, April 29, 2021 at 11:00 AM, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud via conference call. Conference call-in information will be shared in addendum no. 1.

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

Please note that there will be a pre-bid meeting for this project for all prospective bidders on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 1:00 PM, this meeting will be held online via Zoom Video Conference. Prospective Bidders interested in joining in the Pre-Bid meeting should contact Russell Boroski (Russell.Boroski@rsandh.com) at RS&H Ohio, Inc. for a copy for the meeting invitation to be used. This meeting invitation will include a link to the video conference as well as separate call-in numbers to join either by video or by phone. Attendance is suggested, but not mandatory. Please submit all questions to RS&H Ohio, Inc., Russell Boroski at Russell.Boroski@rsandh.com by Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 10:00 AM local time. Additional information can be found at www.toledoport.org Thomas J. Winston President and CEO Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority.

Thomas J. Winston
President and CEO
Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority

Anne Grady SERVICES

Anne Grady Services an Organization founded on compassion, integrity, and commitment; working to enrich the lives of those we serve and our staff. We provide services to individuals with intellectual disabilities. We are seeking caring, dedicated employees to join our team!!!

Available Openings

Direct Care Workers – Various Locations and Shifts
Housekeepers First & Third shift
Maintenance Workers
Dietary Aide – Part-time, typically second shift

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED, ability to lift 50 lbs. A valid driver's license, proof of auto insurance and acceptable driving record required for some positions.

Excellent Benefits include: Competitive Wages, Medical/Dental/Vision, FREE Life Insurance, Paid Time off, Paid Training, Tuition Reimbursement, and Personal Success Coach

Apply at: Annegrady.org/careers

Position Available

Grants and Contracts Manager



Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), a non-profit regional law firm that provides high-quality legal assistance to people and groups living in poverty in western Ohio, seeks a Grants and Contracts Manager.

The Grants and Contracts Manager will be responsible for all aspects of grants management for ABLE and Legal Aid of Western Ohio (LAWO) and covering our 32-county region. This includes all activities related to research, cultivation, proposal preparation, tracking, award processing, outcome reporting, and grant closeout.

Bachelor's degree or relevant work experience including a minimum of 5 years' experience in grants management in a non-profit environment with proven record of success is required. Experience with federal grants preferred. Computer proficiency required. Must have outstanding interpersonal, organizational, project management, and oral and written communication skills. Must be able to work collaboratively in a team-based environment and committed to the firms' missions and the principle of equal justice for all. Some travel required. Compensation is commensurate with experience. Excellent annual leave, holiday leave, and fringe benefits.

To Apply: Send resume and cover letter electronically by COB on April 15, 2021, to: jobs@ablelaw.org with the Subject: Grants and Contracts Manager

ABLE is an Equal Opportunity Employer and places a high value on diversity in our workplace, including diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, and physical ability. We strive to create an environment welcoming to all individuals and we encourage applications from individuals traditionally underrepresented in the legal profession. Equal access to ABLE's Toledo office is available. Applicants requiring accommodation for the interview/ application process should contact the recruitment coordinator at the address listed above.

TARTA Enhances Customer Features at Downtown Transit Hub

The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) has announced an enhancement of the customer experience at its downtown Toledo Transit Hub through a pavement improvement project and installation of four new bus shelters and trash cans.

Beginning April 14-28, new concrete pavement slabs will be installed along the east side of Huron Street between Orange and Cherry Streets. Concrete will also be added on some of the current grassy areas to provide a customer

Parking meters will be temporarily bagged during this time and only available for TARTA buses. TARTA ambassadors will be onsite this week to assist our customers with this alternative line-up and to ensure little disruption to local businesses and customers.

"When the project is completed, our customers will enjoy safer sidewalks and an outdoor waiting plaza to replace the current grass," said Chief Communications and Customer Experience Officer Laura Koprowski. "Later this year, we will install several modern, covered bus shelters and matching trash cans. It should provide enhanced amenities for our customers and elevate the look of the Hub as a downtown property."

At TARTA's upcoming Board of Trustees meeting on Thursday, April 15, the agenda includes review and approval of purchasing a total of 10 newly designed, modern bus shelters. Four of the shelters will be erected at the Transit Hub.

According to Koprowski, plans to re-open the Transit Hub's inside customer center are being discussed and dependent upon being able to provide a safe environment for TARTA customers and employees as the region continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

TARTA's Rider Information Line is available to answer questions about the project and alternate bus line-up at 419-243-7433 Monday through Saturday. Details are also available at www.tarta.com.



2-2-2

INFORMATIONAL MEETING AND OPEN HOUSE

PLEASE JOIN US! This is an opportunity for you and your student to 'discover' everything about the Kindergarten program through Toledo Public Schools. You'll meet teachers, the principal, tour the school and have the opportunity to register for Kindergarten.

WHERE: All TPS elementary schools

WHEN: Tuesday, April 27th. 5:00PM – 7:00PM

WHO: Children who are 5 on or before September 30, 2021 are eligible for Kindergarten enrollment

NO RSVP NEEDED
QUESTIONS:
419-671-9101

WHAT DO I NEED TO REGISTER MY CHILD FOR KINDERGARTEN?

1. Birth Certificate
2. Parent Identification
3. Custody Papers (if applicable)
4. Immunization or Shot Records
5. Three (3) Proofs of Residence, including:
 - Lease agreement or mortgage deed (*mandatory*)
 - Two from the following list:
 - Source of income, utility bill, telephone bill, US Post Office change of address form, Driver's License

HOW DO I REGISTER MY CHILD FOR KINDERGARTEN?

- Obtain a TPS enrollment packet from your neighborhood elementary school or download one from tps.org
- Completed registration packets can be returned to your neighborhood elementary school



[Facebook.com/TPSProud](https://www.facebook.com/TPSProud)

[Twitter.com/TPSProud](https://twitter.com/TPSProud)

tps.org



Author Therza Clark and Sister to Celebrate 40th

My name is Therza Cox. My sister, Tiffany Cox- Marney, and I will be celebrating our 40th birthday on May 23. Mental illness runs in my family. I was diagnosed with a mental illness when I was 16 years old, in my junior year of high school. As I reflect on my life, I remember embracing positive self esteem as a young adult. The way a person views themselves is crucial.

Personally, I believe that having a daily routine as well as positive self maintenance creates a sense of well being. I am a beautiful, full figured African American woman, an author, egg donor, and also a woman of God. My faith has gotten me through many challenging obstacles.



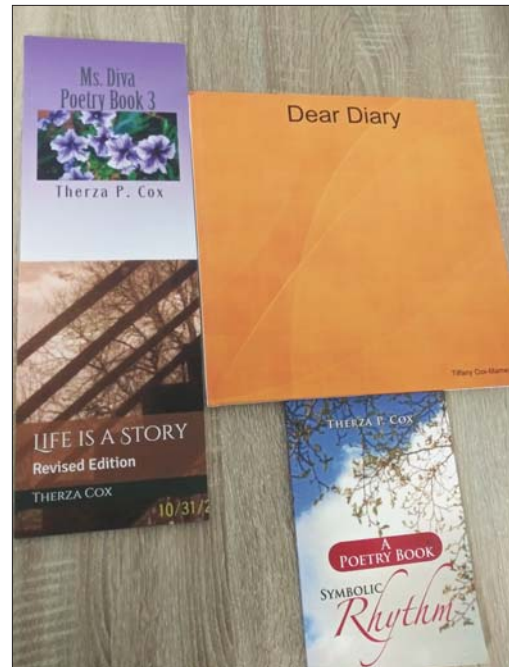
Therza Cox

I believe that my love for God and Jesus Christ are the reasons that I have a bright outlook on life. Even though the world is facing COVID-19, I have the joy of the Lord. And nothing can take His joy away from me. There are moments in which I celebrate my life and the victories that I've won, even when it's not my birthday month.

I've written three poetry books. They are available online as a paperback and ebook, at www.amazon.com.

The books are titled *Life is a Story: Revised Edition*, *Symbolic Rhythm: A Poetry Book*, and *Ms. Diva: Poetry Book 3*.

My sister, Tiffany Cox-Marney, also has a picture book available online at www.lulu.com. It is available as a hardback. And it is titled *Dear Diary*.



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Medicare.
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