



Volume 39, No. 7

*"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."*

June 22, 2016

## Young, Gifted and Highly Educated



*Artie Mitchell II, Autumn and Amber Mitchell, Veronica Mitchell, Artie Mitchell III*

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# The Viability of Black Family Life III: Infidelity

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

The Truth Contributor

*... You must polish your marriage every day.*

— Elleni Amlak



African Americans have been described as the “most unpartnered and isolated group of people in America and possibly the world” (Patterson, 1998). If true, what are the causes and implications of the fractured relationships?

I spoke with noted intimacy expert, Ebony Utley, concerning the growing alienation between black men and women. Part three, the conclusion of our discussion, deals with the intersection of infidelity and technology.

**Perryman:** You’ve spoken broadly about digital infidelity, a topic which takes “relationship interruptions,” to use your term, and relationship drama to new heights.

**Utley:** Yes. So the root causes are the same for why people commit infidelity and it’s just that the machinations have gotten more sophisticated, so there are new technologies to help you cheat and there are new technologies to discover people cheating.

There are apps on the phone that can play background sound effects so if you need to convince your partner that you are at the baseball game or wherever you can play baseball game sound effects or traffic sound effects when the truth is that you are chilling at your other person’s house. So that’s a thing that technology can now help you do.

Also, you can use apps like Whisper or Secret to message things to other people, messages that self-destruct. All of that makes it a little easier, but at the same time technology is giving us tools that can help discover someone’s infidelity.

Instagram, Snapchat and others. Sometimes couples are now having more problems because they follow each other’s accounts and who is this person that liked your picture and why are you liking these person’s pictures, and it kind of requires a whole new set of communication that we didn’t have to do before we had social media. Before Facebook, if you moved out of the town where you went to high school you’re not in touch with those people, and now the internet brings them right back into your living room, and you’re like “Oh, that high school sweetheart, maybe we still have things in common. He said he’d always love me.” And you’re already in this relationship, you are perfectly happy until you got this new attention or even if I give it, because there’s so much access to people to date that you don’t have to commit anymore.

This happens more so with men than it does with women, but it’s a real thing for men, across races. It’s like, “Well, I don’t have to be with you, I can be with anybody. Do you see all these women on Tinder?” And so that’s another thing that’s making commitment harder to come

by because there’s so many options and I think we’ve got a whole generation of people that are growing up with options. On all those levels technology is definitely changing the game, on meeting people, on the actual finding of new ways to cheat and then also on discovering infidelity.

**Perryman:** You have talked somewhere about obsessions. Can you elaborate for Truth readers?

**Utley:** Yeah, so before, without the technology if you thought your partner’s cheating you would hire a Private Investigator and then you had to wait for your pictures to come through, but now you can be your own private investigator and you can set up dummy social media accounts to follow your person and find out what they’re doing and who they’re with. You can log onto your friend’s social media account that are friends with your partner and get even more access that you wouldn’t get before. You can spend all your time on the Internet going through bank accounts, cell phone bills and phone numbers and doing the reverse lookup and the time of day. You can track travel arrangements when your partner is out of town. You can use the phone Locator apps to track exactly where their phone is and if it is where it’s supposed to be, and this can turn into a full-time job. One of the women I interviewed said that she wasted so much of her life becoming obsessive about her cheating husband’s whereabouts when she should’ve been focusing on herself and her kids, but the technology makes it so much easier now in so many senses to basically track your



*Ebony Utley*

*... continued on page 4*

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## Community Calendar

### June 20-26

Greater St. Mary's MBC 91st Church Anniversary: 7 pm nightly – Monday through Friday; 4 pm Sunday guest preacher I.J. Johnson of St. Mark MBC

### June 24-25

20th Annual NFL Pro Football Camp: Friday morning grades 2-6 only; Friday afternoon grades 1-12 only; Saturday all day grades 7-12 only; Registration at 8 am and 1 pm;

### June 25

“A Celebration of Fatherhood: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm; UT’s Nitschke Hall; A community services resource fair

### June 25-26

Calvary MBC Men's Day Weekend: Saturday Prayer Breakfast at 9 am – guest speaker Pastor Robert Bass of United MBC; Sunday service at 10:45 am – guest preacher Elder JL Jordan of Ebenezer MBC: 419-242-8379

### June 26

Indiana Avenue MBC Annual Concert Service: “Music Is Our Ministry;” 5 pm; Presented by the church Music Ministry: 419-246-3850

### June 28

Ohio Department of Transportation DBE: Noon to 2 pm; Contractors and general public invited to review 2015-16 Disparity Study and DBE Methodology for 2017-19; 1301 Monroe Street

### July 4

Happy Independence Day!

Braden United Methodist Church Community Festival of Faith: 6:30 to 10 pm; Music, food, fireworks, horse rides

# Get The Facts Straight

By Lafe Tolliver

Guest Column

Absolutely and without a doubt what recently happened in Orlando at the Pulse nightclub was reprehensible and horrendous and was a slaughter and a massacre...no if's, and's or but's.

But...to call that horrific shooting THE worst mass shooting in American history is an outlier of huge proportions.

When such a statement is made by the media (and they should know better if they had done their basic 101 research into recorded American history), it circulates around enough times so that such a shooting at the gay nightclub becomes "baked" into our collective consciousness that we tend to assume that what was said is true.

Not so fast.

If you use the term, "THE" worst massacre shooting in American history, you are not even a good amateur historian and I can surmise that reading is not your forte insofar as you would want to dig behind that proffered statement and make up your own mind that it is factually true.

It is not. By far. By a mile. Even how the crow flies, it is grossly inaccurate and misleading, and the reason why?

Wait for it...here it comes. Because there are four other massacres that are recorded in American history but those other massacres/slaughters involved, black people and indigenous people (aka: Indians).

As you are aware, matters involving people of color (including Native Americans) and they getting proper "credit" in the history books that for the most part are written by white authors and are fed to the American educational system is often twisted, forgotten or explained away as of being of no consequence or of no value.

So, if you are going to subscribe to the bandied about "fact" that the Pulse nightclub massacre was "THE" worst in American history, are you feeding into a historical narrative that is (a) inaccurate (b) misleading (c) wrong. Answer: all of the above.

Now, let us venture into the world of race relations and peel back the covers and discover the other recorded incidents of America's shame and hate and greed that involved people of color.

Before I elaborate, am I playing the "race" card? No, it was always thrown down and monstrously played out in the next four incidents that I will bring to your attention or for some, back to your remembrance.

After reading these real historical facts, when you now see the media constantly stating that the Pulse shooting was, "THE" worst massacre in American history, you can say, "yeah right!"

And, by the way, if you want to screen out what is about to be read by saying that the Pulse shooting involved terrorists and that is why it qualifies as, "THE" worst massacre/terrorist shooting in America, understand what terrorism does.

Terrorism causes extreme fear and fright amongst its victims and to send a message that such could be your fate if you continue in your present ways.

Yes, it can also cause death and mayhem and loss of property.

All four of the below incidents, involved terrorism and terrorists, whom are either described as citizens or the government or even the US military engaging in acts of terror against people of color and for the purpose of inflicting hurt, mayhem and harm.

Terrorism also sends a message that we will suppress you and kill you if need be in order to keep you out of power (political or economical) because you are hated or despised and you are not, "one of us!"

**MASSACRE ONE:** In 1923, in the small city of Rosewood, Florida, from eight to up to 150 black men, women and children (depends on what source you take as being credible) were killed by an enraged white citizenry due to their perception that black people were prospering a little too much for their liking and they needed to be taught a lesson that being uppity is not a good thing. The perpetrators were white American born and bred white terrorists acting against black citizens.

The entire town was burned down and blacks were not allowed to return.

Need more data on this mass murder? Go to the library and "Google" Rosewood, Florida, 1923.

**MASSACRE TWO:** On December 29, 1890 at or near Wounded Knee Creek on the Lakota Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, 44 women and 18 children were killed by the U.S. government military. It is also reported that approximately 84 men were also killed.

Their crime? Being Indians. Again...go ahead and Google for more detailed data.

**MASSACRE THREE:** In 1917, 250 men, women and children were slaughtered by angry white folks who rioted in the East St. Louis Massacre. Their crime? Being black and being the object of rumors about blacks getting out of their "place" and upsetting white folks' sensibilities and com-

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# Get the Facts and the History Straight, My Friend

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

"Yes, it's absolutely a shame but ..."

Then you know what's coming next, don't you? It's not really that big of a shame, goes the rest of the argument. And, generally, it's not that big of a shame because there are bigger shames – much bigger shames, so quit your whining.

Take for example, the case of 49 people murdered and 53 wounded by a madman, in a gay nightclub no less. Yes, 'it's oh so terrible, no ands, ifs or buts' our arguer argues. Then he says: "but ..."

Then come the opinions, cloaked as facts, in an attempt to convince the unconvinced that the argument makes sense. Then the arguer inexplicably mangles or disregards the facts and tosses in an emotional appeal designed to excite, inflame and, above all, to confuse.

Sound familiar? If you read the previous article and still believe the so-called facts within, let me take a few minutes to clarify.

Our columnist asserts that the Pulse mass shooting was not, contrary to media reports, the largest mass shooting in this country's history and presents us with four massacres that he thinks prove his case. And, he further implies that white America, using the media as its messenger, is trying to glorify the Pulse shooting and neglecting those previous ones of people of color.

The first problem with our columnist's list of facts is a fact that he has neglected to mention. That fact is, all of the victims of the Pulse shooting, save one, were people of color. Our columnist did glibly happen to

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Perryman... continued from page 2

partner 24/7.

**Perryman:** How does it affect men when women cheat on them?

**Utley:** So much of this is anecdotal because I haven't done interviews with men. I have really focused on women's experiences because there were so many men that get to give their apologies in the media, like I'm sorry, blah, blah, blah, and then their wives stand behind them and then that's it. I was super curious about how those women feel when you're standing behind him at his press conference talking about he's sorry for x, y, z. So never anything against the men, it was just a story that wasn't getting told and I was super interested in it.

So, if a woman does cheat on her husband and gets pregnant by someone else, that generally seems pretty devastating for most men for obvious reasons. If she got pregnant when you were dating or she had a kid before, for most men it's just kind of like it's another kid, we're fine, bring it into the family. But if she's got a kid with someone else while you were married, that's usually an interruption that doesn't take things back to normal, so that's super devastating for most men.

The social abuse can also be a thing, especially if your partner is a serial cheater and everybody knows about it. If your woman is out there in the streets and everybody knows that, you're the dude that's still with her, men being men, are giving you the side eye, like why can't you get your woman in check. Sometimes I ask my guy friends in general, "Hey, so let's say you met this woman and she's the love of your life, but let's say that everyone knows that she's also been super promiscuous and had relationships with most of the men in your town, how do you feel about that?" And the answer that I love the most is for men that are really playing the game with me, is like "She's the love of my life, can we leave town? I don't really care who she's been with. I don't really want all those other men giving me the side eye, so her past is not a problem, but can we just leave town?"

**Perryman:** So what is the outcome of all this? Does infidelity lead to more mental health issues or more violence? Where does this take us?

**Utley:** It will remain to be seen in the grand scheme of things. I'm working on another piece about infidelity's coexistence with intimate partner abuse (IPA). I didn't even ask about IPA in my interviews, but it kept coming up over and over and over again. So does that mean that abusers are more likely to cheat? I can't say that there's a correlation, but I can say that they kind of coexist.

Infidelity hurts people's feelings, breaks people's hearts, destroys their faith in another person and sometimes in relationships at large, and all of that is terrible. Experiencing infidelity can also lead to depression and self-esteem issues. Some people even have Post Traumatic Syndrome Disorder-like symptoms after experiencing infidelity. However, none of that covers this physical, sexual abuse aspect where your partner was out having unprotected sex with someone else and they bring home an STI to you.

Two hundred and five of the women in my study had contracted STIs from their husbands. One woman in particular, her husband would say when they would fight, "Oh you can't leave me cause I fixed it so no one else would want you." She's like, "I had no idea what he meant. She was really sick in the hospital and the doctors were trying to figure out what was wrong, they ran a bunch of tests and they were like, "We're sorry ma'am, but you have HIV." That's what the husband meant.

So for me, the public health issue has always been my main emphasis behind infidelity. Your partner is out there telling everyone that you're cheating on him as opposed to the other way around so you don't want to show your face around your family or your friends. He's such a serial cheater and everyone knows he's cheating on you and you're still together, but you feel like you can't go out anymore because everyone's judging you when you go out because they know about your business.

That's also a form of social abuse. It's keeping you from your network and your support system. And then there's financial abuse, all the hundreds of thousands of dollars that go out of households, especially if you're married and your partner has kids with someone else. So not only is he cheating on you, but he's also in your pockets, and now his other woman, who is the mother of his children, is also in your pockets because you're married? Those are all kinds of things that we don't really think about going along with infidelity, but they do, and they impact women's lives in ways that they will never be the same again.

**Perryman:** Thank you.

*Ebony A. Utley, Ph.D. is an intimacy expert and associate professor of communication studies at California State University Long Beach. Her research explores intimacy interrupted by infidelity and beliefs about marriage. Dr. Utley's expertise has been featured on The Oprah Winfrey Network and other radio, print, and online outlets.*

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# A Fathers' Day Message: Who's Your Daddy?

*When Fathers Walk Away It Leads to the Destruction of the Black Family*

By Larry Sykes, Toledo City Councilman

Guest Column

When my son was about three years old, I brought him along with me to a men's accountability group meeting. At the start of the meeting, I noticed how close to me my son was sitting.

In an unfamiliar place surrounded by a room full of strange and scary looking men, he felt frightened and insecure. So he held on tightly to the only familiar person in that room...his father. As long as dad was near he felt safe.

The way he clung to me made me think about the importance of our clinging to God.

Second Kings, chapter 18, describes Hezekiah as a righteous King.

He was successful and prosperous. But more important, Hezekiah clung to the Lord. I believe that is the secret to unleashing the spiritual power in our lives

Clinging to God may sound simple, but it is not as easy as it may seem. Humans have a propensity to be independent. After about 30 minutes, my son slowly loosened his grip on me as he became more comfortable.

But when we become comfortable spiritually, we may begin to depend on ourselves and our abilities and loosen our grip on God.

We find ourselves working more and praying less. The secret to unleashing spiritual power in our lives is to maintain constant dependence on God... cling to God as if our lives depended on it, never let go.

Men, there comes a time when we as Christians must render to Jesus that which is Jesus.

We live at a very critical hour, a very dangerous time in history! Our mission is to save our children, to save our children from an imminent and impending doom that has been prepared for them by the children of a lesser god!

To save them from their ignorance of themselves and of those of whom they have voluntarily entrusted their destiny.

Our black children seemed to have gone insane and inhuman, raping, robbing, shooting and killing their very life support system.

Black children seems not only to be captivated but seems to be captives of their own oppression!

It seems that they have a psychological oppression that apparently leads them to self-hate, to self-denial, self-degradation and eventually to self-destruction.

Brothers n Sisters we need to save them from the systematic activity that attempts to control their behavior and that of an entire race of people.

To the extent that they are no longer able to recognize subjugation and in so doing find themselves so self accusing that they are unable to render the resistance necessary to counter the situation.

This is the condition of some of our African-American children living in the United States of America!

I believe the greatest relational longing that an African-American child has is the need for a "HEART CONNECTION" with his or her father.

When that connection is gone – whether it has been severed or was never established-it launches them into a passionate search for the love, approval, and affirmation of a father.

African-American children sometimes end up searching in the wrong place to fill that gap.

Gangs, ambivalent feelings about their manhood or womanhood, sexual conquest, anger, insecurity and uncertainty, the inability to establish wholesome relationships and a host of other challenges batter their minds and threaten the emotional security of their lives without the "HEART CONNECTION" "with a father.

The tragedy, or the blessing, is that we tend to raise our children the way we were raised. More often than not we become the end result of what has been DONE to us more than of what has been said to us.

If we grew up without a "HEART CONNECTION" "to our fathers, we'll battle a seemingly irresistible inclination to be disconnected from our children.

What we live we learn, what we learn we practice, what we practice we become, and what we become has consequences.

We need God to connect our hearts to our children. Only he can break the cycle of distance and disconnection and empower us to begin a new legacy of love and tenderness bursting forth from our households.

We can equip our children so that they don't have to long for the heart connection. They will have it.

It is interesting that the very last verse in the Old Testament, Malachi 4:6, is a promise from God to "restore the hearts of the children to their fathers.

"Even though the primary application of the text has to do with God's dealing with the nation of Israel during the end times, we can't ignore the powerful application and implication for our families.

God wants to, and can reestablish the heart relationship between a father and his children. The word "restore" as used here suggests that other priorities have caused our hearts to drift from home.

Time and attention have been given to other things, and those things, practically speaking, have become more important than our families.

We didn't intend for this to happen. In fact, we often justify the shift in our attention by saying that we are doing these things in our families' best interests.

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# New Report Shows 750,000 People with Disabilities Behind Bars; Offers Specific Recommendations to Include Disability Lens in Justice Reform Process

Special to The Truth

As the White House and lawmakers on both sides of the aisle consider criminal justice reform, a new white paper, **"Disability & Criminal Justice Reform: Keys to Success"** was released today by the nonprofit disability organization, RespectAbility. The report uses public data previously available but never before assembled and analyzed. It makes a series of recommendations to reduce the school-to-prison pipeline for people with disabilities, to enable incarcerated individuals with disabilities to receive the literacy and life skills they will need when they exit the justice system as well as have access to their human rights, and to help returning citizens become productive members of their communities.

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, 32 percent of federal prisoners and 40 percent of people in jail have at least one disability. Using such sources and limited data, RespectAbility estimates that more than 750,000 people with disabilities are behind bars in America. This includes 140,000 who are blind or have vision loss, approximately the same number who are deaf or have significant hearing impairments and more than 200,000 who have mobility issues. The largest group, which includes more than half a million people, has cognitive impairments.

"We need to acknowledge and accommodate for the full range and large numbers of people with diverse disabilities who are incarcerated as well," said Janie Jeffers of Jeffers and Associates, who is one of the report's authors and an expert on crime and prisons. "Failure to adequately and appropriately deal with these disability issues expands the cycle of failure, crime and recidivism."

The authors, who include Jeffers as well as returning citizen Eddie Ellis Jr. and RespectAbility's Jennifer Laszlo Mizrahi and Philip Pauli, argue that for criminal justice reform to succeed, every stage and effort must take into account the specific realities and needs of people with disabilities who are in the school-to-prison pipeline, the justice system or returning to our communities.

For decades, stories about criminal justice have focused on race and poverty alone. But this story misses the lens of what happens to people with disabilities whose parents do not have the resources to ensure they have correct disability diagnoses, IEPs and accommodations.

The majority of people behind bars is functionally illiterate and did not complete high school. Many have repeatedly been victims of assault, sexual vio-

lence, bullying and low expectations – experiences that can lead to committing crimes.

"The process starts young, as youth with disabilities only graduate high school at a rate of 61 percent, compared to 81 percent for people without disabilities – a 20-point gap in outcomes," Mizrahi said. "In addition, children with disabilities, like myself as I am dyslexic and was raped when I was 12, are three times more likely to be victims of rape or sexual assault than children without disabilities. Victims of assault are more likely to commit crimes."

Once individuals with a disability are in the system, they face significant problems including access to counsel, a lack of accommodations, complex rules, systematic abuse and solitary confinement. Many are abused behind bars. For example, people who are deaf or blind are put in solitary for years as an "accommodation;" however, evidence shows that this can cause them to have significant mental health problems.

Eddie B. Ellis Jr. received a dyslexia diagnosis as a child but did not receive the support he needed in school, leading to him dropping out and engaging in crime. While incarcerated, Ellis was never given accommodations or treatment for his dyslexia or epilepsy.

"I remember having my first seizure in Youngstown, Ohio, in 1997 after being jumped on by some correctional officers and from that time until I was released, I was never given any medication or test to see what was happening to me," said Ellis, who spent 10 years in solitary confinement for manslaughter. "Years before, some fellow inmates told me that I would be talking to them and them go into a daze-like state, which I found out later could have been signs of epilepsy. I had a bad seizure around 2009, and I was taken to the hospital and was told that I do have epilepsy and they see it in my frontal lobe."

Upon release, Ellis found ways to educate himself and is now a productive member of the community serving as a mentor to other returning citizens in the Washington, D.C., area.

While 95 percent of incarcerated people will be released, the programs and communities waiting for them are not yet prepared to provide appropriate supports. Without appropriate support, two-thirds will end up being re-incarcerated, with new crime victims in their wake. The majority of the stories do not end with success like Ellis.

The White House has been pushing for criminal justice reform from reducing recidivism to meaningful sentencing reform. White House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett will be discussing the issue with America's mayors at their upcoming annual meeting this weekend. They will be exploring best practices that mayors can use in their cities.



Eddie B. Ellis, Jr

The Coalition for Public Safety – a bipartisan group from left to right that includes the ACLU, Americans for Tax Reform, Center for American Progress, Faith and Freedom Coalition, Freedom Works, The Leadership Conference Education Fund, NAACP and Right on Crime – is addressing what they call the U.S.'s "over-criminalization" and "over-incarceration" problem. More than 60 percent of the people in prison are now racial and ethnic minorities, according to the coalition.

But while the Senate is attempting to pass sweeping criminal justice reforms, not everyone is on board. At a speech to the Hudson Institute last week, Sen. Tom Cotton said the U.S. is suffering from an "under-incarceration problem."

As groups push for reform with support from the White House and many in Congress, RespectAbility is working to ensure that people with disabilities are not left out of the discussion.

"We are deeply concerned that so many Americans with disabilities, especially those of color, are in the criminal justice system and how many victims this system creates on all sides," Pauli said. "Only when the rights and realities of people with disabilities are recognized and addressed will they be able to succeed in our communities. People of color and others from vulnerable populations are especially at risk because of the intersecting and compounding effects of racism, ableism and other forms of discrimination. Criminal justice reform will not succeed unless and until disability is addressed in all stages of the criminal justice system from early intervention to reentry and reintegration."

For more information, contact:

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*Get The Facts and History Straight.. continued from page 3*

mention that Pulse is a gay nightclub but inexplicably forgot to include the fact that the victims were black and brown. I'm sure there was no hidden agenda in this omission but facts, as he notes, are critical.

The Pulse is not the worst mass shooting, claims our columnist, as he recounts four incidents from the past that all claimed a larger number of victims, so he tries to convince us: the race riots of Tulsa, East St. Louis, Rosewood, during which black communities were attacked by white mobs and the Native American massacre at Wounded Knee.

The problem with our columnist's argument is, regrettably, in his facts. Not the facts, but his facts. His version of the facts.

The number of the murdered in the Tulsa, East St. Louis and Rosewood riots have never been ascertained to any degree of certainty. The official counts in all three place the number of dead at figures lower than those in the Pulse mass murder. We just will never know. In the Rosewood riot, for example, for years the survivors, those who moved to other parts of Florida and the country, were too intimidated to speak of that horror.

While the official counts are placed at lower than the Pulse mass shooting, legend has it in all three incidents that the totals may have been in the hundreds. We don't have accurate counts.

What we do know is that none of these were mass shootings. The victims were killed by lynchings, bludgeonings, knifings, being burned to death in their homes and, some perhaps, by guns. But the fact is, we have no information on how many were shot. None can be classified as mass shootings simply because we don't know how many, if any, were actually shot in any of these riots.

Massacres? Yes. Riots? Yes. Mass shootings? Not without some evidence – or some of those facts that our columnist so cherishes.

The Wounded Knee battle is entirely a different matter. The record is pretty clear as to how many people were actually killed and we can presume that most were indeed shot.

However, to classify Wounded Knee as a mass shooting is to misinterpret the term. Wounded Knee was part of the Indians Wars, a series of wars that ultimately lasted over 300 years. The reason the Wounded Knee battle has gained so much attention and notoriety over the last century is because it was the last battle of the war, the last time that either Native Americans or soldiers were killed in any significant numbers during that war.

Mass shootings are in an entirely different classification from wars. If this were not so, our intrepid columnist would have taken us back into the battles of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Civil War and, yes, the Indian Wars and given you hundreds of examples of battles in which more than 49 combatants were killed.

One might ask at this point if the innocent people slaughtered at Wounded Knee were combatants? Certainly a number of them were because they managed to kill 29 soldiers. However, that is hardly the point. Many, many unarmed civilians – women and children in particular – were killed at Wounded Knee but it was still part of a war.

Was the war just? Was it fair? No it was not. War never is. All wars are unfair, unjust, brutal affairs in which innocent people die in horrific numbers. In every war at least one party is clearly in the wrong and is usually wrong because they want to unjustly take something from another party. That's what war is. That's how wars start and why they continue to plague the human race.

Let's be clear, however. A mass shooting is a term used by law enforcement to categorize a small number of individuals (one to three, typically)

who use guns (not baseball bats, tire irons, knives or ropes) to kill a larger number of people – generally more than three.

When you kill an unprecedented number of black and brown people in a gay nightclub in Orlando with guns, that act qualifies as the worst mass shooting in American history.

That's a fact.

*Tolliver.. continued from page 3*

peting for scarce jobs.

**MASSACRE FOUR:** In 1921 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, aka: The Black Wall Street, 300 black people were murdered and their prosperous part of town (35 city blocks) was set ablaze. Again, you can "Google" various accounts of this organized mayhem.

Their crime? Being black and prosperous and the murders fueled by rumors that black people were acting uppity with white people.

Again, all of the above massacres can be investigated and read in order for you to have personal knowledge of the details that lead to these mass shootings of people of color.

So, if white America wants to revise history and make the Pulse shooting "THE" worst terrorist/massacre in US history and deny their own sordid history of mass killings against people of color, you now know better and that lie won't take you by surprise.

Note One: These above four massacres do not include a host of other mass shootings of Indians when America was engaged in its Manifest Destiny doctrine of expanding to the West.

And if by chance, Indians were in their way of grabbing their lands and possessions or getting control of their valuable grazing lands, timber or minerals, you simply devise a diabolical ploy that would allow you to wreak havoc on them and take over!

Note Two: If you want to avoid being called a historical revisionist, you can claim that the Pulse shooting was the worse ever massacre in "modern" history (anything after 1950) done by a "solo" person; and thus you can avoid explaining yourself about the above massacres and others not being included when we do body bag counts of massacres.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



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# SmithFest 2016 Brings Families Together for a Summer Celebration

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Toledo City Councilman Tyrone Riley and SmithFest Committee Chairman Ethel Parker hosted the annual SmithFest on Saturday, June 18 at Smith Park on Dorr Street – next to Martin Luther King Jr Academy for Boys.

SmithFest 2016 offered a wide variety of activities for the children in attendance including: swimming, basketball, horseback riding, archery, golf and more. Young people received lunch and a t-shirt and 125 bicycles were given away during a raffle.

The Gold Sponsors for the event included United HealthCare and the Toledo Lucas County Public Library. The Silver Sponsor was Full Circle to Completion.



Jazzlyn and Officer Garrett



Aaron Jones with Braylon and AJ Jones

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Eldon Payne and  
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SmithFest Committee



# Dribbling with Dad Impacts over 100 lives

By Tricia Hall

The Sojourner's Truth reporter

Dads, with their sons and daughters, participated in the annual Fatherhood Initiative celebration sponsored by YMCA Fatherhood Initiative program, Wayman Palmer YMCA, and LMHA on Saturday, June 18 at Wayman Palmer YMCA from 10:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

"This is my second year attending and supporting, I'm always pleased by the number of vendors that support. I'm excited to be here. This partnership and initiative is important because we provide affordable housing, it's all about families. We want to invest in fathers, impact the families, because often time's fathers don't receive the appreciation they deserve. So we're stepping up to celebrate fathers who have stepped up as fathers or father-figures," said Willie C.H. Garrett, HUD director of field monitoring and evaluation.

As in previous years, Toledo-area youth participated in coloring and essay contests and received prizes from event sponsors and supporters which included bikes, gift cards, roller skating tickets, bowling tickets, movie tickets and more. The program began with

...continued on page 10



## YOUTH ADVOCACY ALLIANCE

**ATTENTION YOUTH SERVING PROFESSIONALS AND PARENTS OF YOUTH**  
The Youth Advocacy Alliance (YAA) has a goal of raising community awareness and providing professional development on issues related to positive youth development in Lucas County. Your input is needed to determine the most critical issues affecting youth.

Please take a few minutes to complete a brief survey at the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VVWVPLF>

If you would like more information or to become involved in YAA please email  
David Kontur, Director, Lucas County  
Family and Children First Council at  
dkontur@nwoca.net.

**PENNY TULLIS**  
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The Josh Project  
is conducting Swim to Survive lessons for  
Toledo area youth ages 8-12.

Lessons will be held at  
St. Francis High School.

A 3 day programs will be offered on Tuesday,  
Wednesday, and Thursdays  
of each week in June and July from  
9am-11am and 11am-1pm.  
First session begins June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Enrollment is limited!  
In order to reserve your spot, please call:  
419-530-8590.

*Dribbling With Dad... continued from page 9*

a quarter mile walk, family orientated activities, basketball camp and skills training, plus free shirts and basketballs.

"I want to thank the vendors, we had great vendors this year. We have more fathers and families in attendance over last year and we expect bigger and better for next year. I appreciate all the volunteers and everyone who came out to help. If you're interested in volunteering next year contact LMHA family self-sufficiency department or resident services department," explained Tonya Crawley, LMHA director of Housing Choice Voucher program.

Event supporters were: The Home Depot, Fifth Third Bank, Tarta, Walmart, Toledo Area Metroparks, Toledo Fire Department, Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Dairy Queen, Splash Universe, Toledo MudHens, Toledo Walleye, Boy Scouts of America, Skyway Financial Group LLC, Comexx Consulting Inc., Rave Cinemas, Old Navy, The University of Toledo, Toledo Zoo, The Butterfly House, Sportsway, Jimmy Jones and Buckeye Express.



## Music Under the Stars at the Toledo Zoo

Picture it... the sun setting on a warm summer evening, sitting in your lawn chair, popcorn in hand, enjoying the soothing live sounds of classical favorites, bopping to the beat of all-American hits and strolling down "The Great White Way" while surrounded by family, friends and...the entire animal kingdom!

The Toledo tradition, Mercy Health Music Under the Stars presented by The Andersons, a free concert series at the Toledo Zoo featuring the Toledo Symphony Concert Band returns for the 2016 season! The season is also supported by Huntington, Taylor Automotive Family and Welltower Inc.

Join us for these fantastic free community concerts beginning at 7:30 p.m.

*July 10- American Portraits*

*July 17- Fun & Games*

*July 24- Just Dance*

*July 31- Broadway Showstoppers*

The Zoo's gastropub "The Beastro" will be open from 5 - 7 p.m. for sit-down dinner service. Select concessions, including hamburgers, burritos, ice cream and popcorn will also be available. The Amphitheatre will open for seating at 6:30 p.m. Zoo parking rates and policies apply.

Again this summer, it's all about the bass...sharps, flats and even some treble at the Mercy Health Music Under the Stars presented by The Andersons free concert series at your Toledo Zoo. To learn more, please visit [toledozoo.org/music](http://toledozoo.org/music).

The Zoo is open daily at 10 a.m. and is located on the Anthony Wayne Trail (US 25), four miles south of downtown Toledo. For more information, please visit [toledozoo.org](http://toledozoo.org) or call 419-385-4040. Lucas County residents are admitted free of charge on non-holiday Mondays from 10 a.m. - noon. Valid ID showing proof of residency is required.

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Teresa Jeffries, Educational Enrichment Chairman  
Felicia Denson, President, Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter

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For tickets contact (419) 367-9765 \* Ticket Location: Jack's Men's Wear  
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*Father's Day Message... continued from page 5*

Case in point: We work harder and longer hours to make more money so that we can improve "the life styles" of our families.

Although we may improve their life styles, I wonder if we are improving their lives. Fathers are the most important commodity to their children.

For the promise to restore the hearts of the fathers to their children's in Malachi 4:6 to be realized, as fathers we must understand the truth that, to our families, our presence is more important than anything else-including extra money.

**MONEY CAN NOT REPLACE YOUR PRESENCE, THE ABSENCE OF YOUR PRESENCE AS A FATHER CAN NOT BE BOUGHT.**

Seventy four percent of African-American households in America are headed by single females.

The question that I ask most African-American men is a simple one: are you a father or a dad?

Dads just donated a (D.A.D) Drop!

Fathers are Forever Around To Help Educate and Raise (F.A.T.H.E.R) their children.

A boy can make a baby, but it takes a man to raise a child, if you can't feed them don't 'breed them.

What you live you learn and what you learn you practice and what you practice you become and what you become has consequences.

It's not where you come from, but where you want to go! It's not who you are it's who you want to be. Your zip code doesn't determine your success or your area code. It's not where you live it's how you live, you may live in the ghetto but the ghetto doesn't have to live in you!

Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go, they state only where you started.

It was a Greek philosopher who said: look at a child the way that

he is and he only becomes worse, but look at child as if he is what he could be, and he becomes what he should be.

Challenge yourselves. Someone said adversity is that particular something that introduces people to themselves

Example, There was a white male who was born in Arkansas and raised by a single mother and his father was not in his life. In his own words he stated that growing up he was considered poor white trash.

On the other side of the world in Hawaii, there was another young boy who was biracial whose father was not in his life and he too was raised by a single mother.

Guess what? Both of these young boys grew up to be successful men, successful politicians and ended up living at the same address: 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. President Clinton and President Obama.

Rejection lends to directions, sometimes we jump other times we are push into success. That is why I believe in the five P's that is Proper Preparation Prevents Poor Performance on your part.

A successful person is one that can lay a firm foundation with bricks that others have thrown at them.

How do you accomplish that? You have got to be committed and not just involved. The difference between being involved and being committed is sample.

The next time you sit down to breakfast and have bacon and eggs look at it: the chicken was involved but the pig was committed.

To the young people, remember your history. Rosa Parks sat down so that Martin Luther King could walk. Martin walked so that Obama could run and Obama ran so that you could fly!

As long as you have God in your life you have a FATHER the ultimate FATHER. He will never leave you or forsake you and will always be there when you need him even when you think you don't need him!

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# Lucas County to Receive A Half Million For Highway Safety on Interstate Route 75

*Lawmaker says funds will help maintain safe passage for travelers during construction*

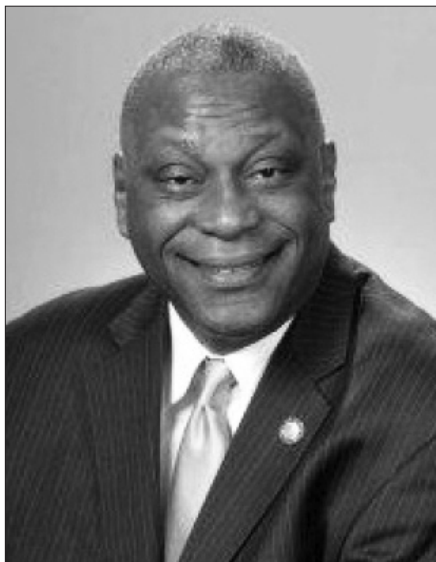
*Special to The Truth*

State Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) this week announced the release of \$529,953 in state funds to help maintain safe passage for travelers and prevent vehicle collisions during the major widening project on Interstate Route (IR) 75 in Lucas County. The funds will help pay for permanent concrete barriers along the interstate.

"Safety has to be the number one priority during any major construction project," said Ashford. "I am pleased that the state has invested wisely to ensure Northwest Ohioans can continue to travel safely along our major highway."

The safety barriers are part of the \$62.6 million highway project, which consists of improving Interstate Route 75 in Lucas County by reconstructing and widening IR-75 between Lagrange Street and Chrysler Drive. The overall project will reconstruct seven steel beam structures with reinforced concrete decks and remove one steel beam structure with a reinforced concrete deck.

The latest funds approved for release represent a correction to the quantity of concrete safety barriers required by the project. The current project completion date remains May 9, 2018.



Rep. Michael Ashford

## NHA Seeks a Few Good People

The Neighborhood Health Association is hoping to acknowledge the contributions of past board members and volunteers. If you were a board member or volunteer in the past with NHA, the Cordelia Martin Clinic or the Mexican-Americans United for Health, give us a call. 419-720-7883, ext 216.

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# First Dads: Parenting and Politics from George Washington to Barack Obama by Joshua Kendall

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

Ah, Dear Old Dad...

He can fix almost anything, make something from nothing, and he tells great bedtime stories. He's the Workshop King, Master of the TV, Lord of the Grill, The Yard Czar, and he likes to think he rules the house, too. Or, as in the new book *First Dads* by Joshua Kendall, he might rule a different House.

c. 2016  
Grand Central  
\$27.00 / \$32.50 Canada  
392 pages

George Washington, the Father of Our Country, was not.

He wasn't a father, that is, and that, according to Joshua Kendall, is one of the "key" reasons why Washington was "unanimously elected as our first President." Yes, George helped raise Martha's children, which apparently didn't count among his peers.

"Of the forty-three men" who've become President, says Kendall, "thirty eight have produced progeny." He classifies them in groups according to their parenting styles, which sometimes reflected their leadership styles.

Because Franklin Delano Roosevelt, for example, "was simply too busy to provide much guidance to... his children," he was a "preoccupied" First Dad. It probably didn't help that, for much

of their early lives, he was fighting polio; still, being a father "did not come naturally" to the charming FDR.

Ronald Reagan also fell under the "preoccupied" category, as did Zachary Taylor, Jimmy Carter and Lyndon Johnson.

Kendall says that Ulysses Grant and Teddy Roosevelt were both "Playful Pals." They were permissive fathers who were happiest with their children around. Woodrow Wilson, despite his "dour" reputation, was lighthearted with his kids, too.

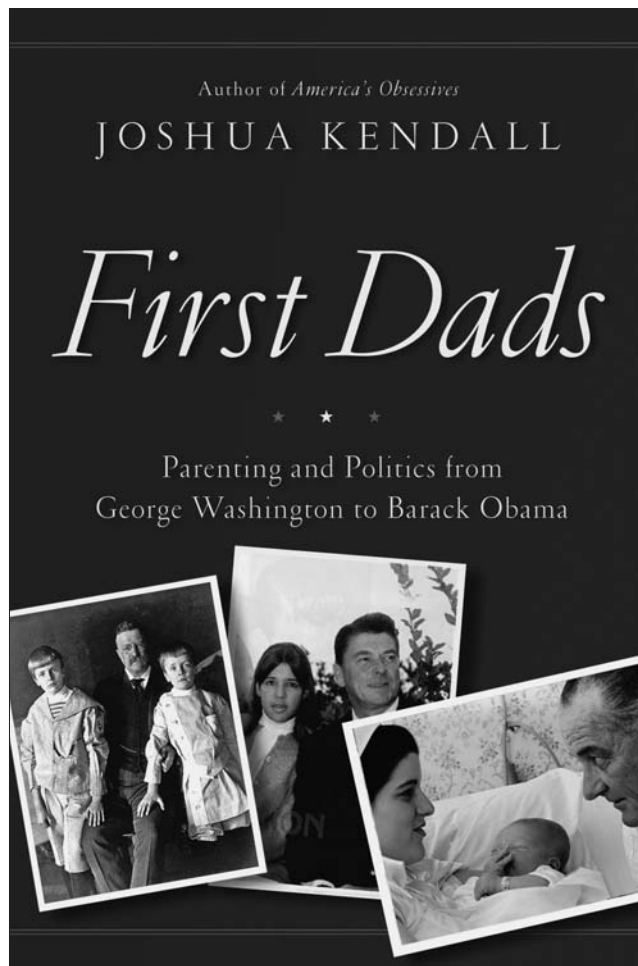
John Tyler was an example of a "Double-Dealing Dad." He had nine children with his first wife, seven kids with his second wife, and a rumored 52 children by slaves and free black women. He didn't publicly acknowledge any of the latter, nor did Warren Harding, Thomas Jefferson or Grover Cleveland publicly acknowledge their illegitimate offspring.

John Quincy Adams, his son John Adams, and Dwight Eisenhower were "tiger dads" who demanded exceptional behavior from their children. Harry Truman, Rutherford Hayes and Barack Obama go in the "nurturer" category. And Franklin Pierce never recovered from the death of his youngest son, nor has George H.W. Bush, the death of his preschool daughter decades ago.

Imagine having a family of your own... and then being responsible for 124 million more families. Some presidents have done well at both and some, as you'll see in *First Dads*, were real duds.

Much of that, of course, is a matter of conjecture and history but author Joshua Kendall takes things a little further in this book. Here, we get an idea of the parenting the presidents *received* and the childhoods they enjoyed (or didn't) which, perhaps, affected the kind of parenting they gave their own children. Kendall also reveals what it was like for the wives of these men, the emotional legacy they left their children, and what became of those sons and daughters.

This is a great book for Dad the Historian or Grandpa, who's a political animal. It's an absorbing summer read, too, so if you need a book that'll last awhile, *First Dads* could be very dear.



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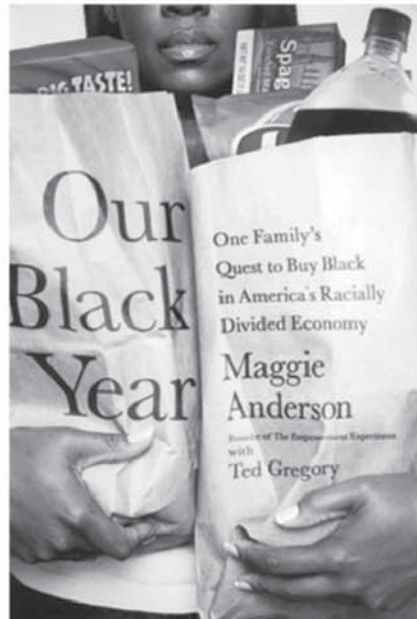
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# CLASSIFIEDS

June 22, 2016

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## FULL TIME SUPPER CLUB/PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST

This position includes planning healthy menus, weekly shopping, prepping, cooking, serving & clean-up for meal on Friday afternoon and engaging adults living with mental illness in activities. Candidate in mental health recovery preferred. Food service experience required. \$12.00/hr plus benefits. Go to: [www.wernertcenter.org](http://www.wernertcenter.org) for info on center. Send resume, cover letter and professional references by July 8 to: [kskinner@wernertcenter.org](mailto:kskinner@wernertcenter.org) or Thomas M. Wernert Center  
*For Mental Health Recovery and Support*  
208 W. Woodruff Toledo, OH 43604  
EOE

## EFNEP PROGRAM ASSISTANT (ADULT OR YOUTH)

OSU Extension, Lucas County is hiring for a Program Assistant (Adult or Youth) position with the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program (EFNEP). The position will work **40 hours** per week. This position will teach food and nutrition topics to low income adult or youth in a variety of community settings. This person should be indigenous to the community.

For a complete position description, minimum qualifications, and application instructions, please go to [www.jobsatosu.com](http://www.jobsatosu.com) and click Search Postings. Under Job Opening Number, type **418946** click Search. The Ohio State University is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation or identity, national origin, disability status, or protected veteran status.

## EFNEP PROGRAM ASSISTANT (ADULT OR YOUTH)

OSU Extension, Lucas County is hiring for a Program Assistant (Adult or Youth) position with the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program (EFNEP). This position will teach food and nutrition topics to low income Adult or Youth in a variety of community settings. This person should be indigenous to the community. This position works **30 hours** a week and is eligible for all of the same benefits as a full-time employee of Ohio State. You will find that many of your benefits are subsidized or even free to you as an important part of your total compensation package.

For a complete position description, minimum qualifications, and application instructions, please go to [www.jobsatosu.com](http://www.jobsatosu.com) and click Search Postings. Under Job Opening Number, type **418945** click Search. The Ohio State University is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation or identity, national origin, disability status, or protected veteran status.

## TRONAIR

Tronair, a leading manufacturer of ground support equipment in Holland, OH, seeks to hire 1st and 3rd shift experienced Welders/Fabricators. To apply, send a cover letter, resume, shift and salary expectations to [hr@tronair.com](mailto:hr@tronair.com).

## NORTHGATE APARTMENTS

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Voice/TTY 1-800-553-0300.  
Equal Housing Opportunity.

## BOY SCOUTS ~ SCOUTREACH DISTRICT

Scoutreach District BSA is looking for individuals to fill two Program Specialists positions. Must be bilingual (Spanish) with basic verbal and written communication, have a valid driver's license or reliable transportation, auto insurance, pass background check, at least 18 years of age, and have basic computer skills.

There is also three Program Aide positions, and three Substitute positions. Ideal applications must have basic verbal and written communication, valid driver's license with auto insurance, pass a background check, at least 18 years of age and basic computer skills. Sign on bonus for licensed educators or daycare providers.

These are all entry level positions. Visit council website for more details ([www.erieshorescouncil.org/files/7906/Scoutreach-Jobs](http://www.erieshorescouncil.org/files/7906/Scoutreach-Jobs)), must submit resume by July 3, 2016. EOE

Equal Opportunity Employer

## GARDENVIEW HOMES

3 AND 4 Bedroom  
Single Family Homes with attached garages. Many homes newly remodeled and available immediately.

All appliances included.  
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Voice/TTY 1-800-553-0300.

Equal Housing Opportunity.

## EFNEP PROGRAM ASSISTANT (ADULT OR YOUTH) BILINGUAL

OSU Extension, Lucas County is hiring for a Program Assistant (Adult or Youth) Bilingual position with the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). The position will work **40 hours** per week. This position will teach food and nutrition topics to low income adult or youth in a variety of community settings. This person should be proficient in English and Spanish and indigenous to the community. Excellent benefit programs.

For complete position description and online application instructions, please go to [www.jobsatosu.com](http://www.jobsatosu.com) and search by Job Opening Number **419226**. To assure consideration you must apply by **July 3, 2016**. The Ohio State University is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation or identity, national origin, disability status, or protected veteran status.

**Notice to Bidders:** Inquiry # FY16-59, (Project # 0047-15-103) for University Computer Center Renovations for the University of Toledo. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 6, 2016. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$85.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Roger DeBelly of JDRM Engineering at 419-824-2400. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 15%. Project Estimate: \$1,020,500.00; Breakdown: General Const: \$185,000.00; Fire Protection: \$65,000.00; HVAC: \$190,000.00; Electrical: \$580,500.00.

Call to place your ad

419-243-0007

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

# Young, Gifted and Black University of Toledo Graduates Celebrate Accomplishments

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Dozens of family members, educators, and friends gathered on June 11, 2016 to celebrate the commencements of Amber and Autumn Mitchell, the high-achieving daughters of Veronica and Artie Mitchell II. The hall was decorated in silver, black and gold; the event also featured a live DJ, candy table and personalized centerpieces.

Guests dined on a scrumptious soul food dinner and the highlight of the gathering was a recognition by the graduates of those who were of such help in their success along the way. Chief among those the Mitchell sisters thanked was their late grandmother, Margaret O'Neal, who passed away in 2010. Granny O'Neal was their biggest cheerleader.

Amber and Autumn also singled out: Vernon and Trina Hickman, Verdell and Julie Franklin, Gloria Mathis (their eighth grade teacher), University of Toledo professor Marilyn Preston, Sana Jones, Marlise O'Neal, Norma King sixth grade teacher). They thanked as well, Mike's Auto Worl and Toledo Excel.

In 2012 Amber Mitchell earned her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toledo in School Psychology. She received her Master in Arts in August 2014, and Education Specialist degree in May 2016. Amber served the community through Camp Adventure, which allowed her to teach children on U.S. military bases how to swim in Italy, German, Alaska, and Hawaii. Amber will relocate to Columbus in July to begin her career as a school psychologist for Zanesville City Schools.

Autumn Mitchell earned her Bachelor's degree in political science with a concentration in Public Administration on December 15, 2015. Autumn will begin her term of service as Americorps Vista at the University of Toledo starting July 26, she then plans to apply for law school. Her career objective is to work at the Department of Justice in the Civil Rights Division.

"This night is about honoring my beautiful, God-fearing daughters, Amber

and Autumn Mitchell. This woman right here, my wife, brings out the best in me. I give glory to God, because she provides the best example for our daughters," said the proud father, Artie Mitchell II.



Mitchell family, with 6th grade teacher Norma King and TPS board president Bob VasquezMinter Scholarship Committee Chairman Ed Dixon

## Summer 2016 updates effective June 5.

On Sunday, June 5, 2016, TARTA's summer route schedule will begin. As most routes will be affected by time changes, new timetables and maps are available at [TARTA.com/Summer2016](http://TARTA.com/Summer2016)



- **1/4 Ottawa Hills/Spencer Twp/Sylvania/Sylvania Twp Call-A-Ride**  
- routes 1 and 4 merging also adds weekend and holiday service in Ottawa Hills; timepoint at Franklin Park Mall only
- **2C Sylvania-Centennial/Franklin Park Mall** - schedule adjustments
- **3 North/South Crosstown** - morning schedule adjustments
- **8/29 Maumee/Waterville Call-A-Ride**  
- timepoint adjustments at Southwyck Blvd; Saturday hours adjusted for Maumee
- **15A Summit/Suder/Alexis** - schedule adjustments
- **15E Summit/Point Place via Alexis** - schedule adjustments
- **16 Alexis via Meijer** - schedule adjustments
- **17B Lagrange/Bennett via Miracle Mile** - schedule adjustments
- **17E Lagrange/Eleanor via Miracle Mile** - schedule adjustments
- **24 Delaware/Kenwood via Westgate** - afternoon schedule adjustments
- **28 Indiana/Smead**  
- routing diverted from Dr Martin Luther King Jr Dr to Emerald Ave to serve the relocated Greyhound bus station
- **28/30 City Park/Indiana/Oakwood**  
- routing diverted from Dr Martin Luther King Jr Dr to Emerald Ave to serve the relocated Greyhound bus station
- **34 Detroit/Byrne/Western via UTM**  
- routing changes at UTM; stops added to the north side of Area 46 and Hospital Dr near the Emergency Department
- **39M Monroe/Centennial-Sylvania** - schedule adjustments
- **43 Maumee-Arrowhead/Western via UTM**  
- routing changes at UTM; stops added to the north side of Area 46 and Hospital Dr near the Emergency Department



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

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