



Volume 44, No. 7 "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..." May 10, 2017

2017 Breakfast for M'Lady



Maya Jones, Jasmine White, Kendall Edwards

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Beyond Blame-Shame Politics

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

The Truth Contributor

Instead of always looking at the past, I put myself ahead twenty years and try to look at what I need to do now in order to get there then.

- Diana Ross



With several fresh faces equipped with party endorsements for the 2017 local elections, I get the sense that Toledo voters are sick and tired of the traditional blame-shame politics of the past.

Instead, I surmise, the public is strongly desirous of candidates who cross racial, social and cultural lines but bring effective concrete proposals for rebuilding our city and community.

One such candidate is Sam Melden, a Toledo-born millennial with a background in the nonprofit world. Recently, I had a conversation with Melden to discuss his agenda and message.

Perryman: I've been told that you like Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough ice cream. When it comes to coffee that you will "drink it in a box with a fox, on a train or on a plane." What other favorites does "Sam I Am" Melden have that readers might not know about?

Melden: Well, two albums I had on the record player most recently were Ray Charles and Paul Simon. Paul Simon, Graceland is a good one to dance to with the children. They really like Graceland and then Ray Charles, I mean he's just phenomenal.

I graduated from Lake High School in 2002, which means I followed the NFL in the 90's when the Dallas Cowboys were America's team and won the Super Bowls and Emmitt Smith, so I picked up the sport when they were amazing and very much a fan.

Perryman: Okay, I ain't mad at you. I'm a Pittsburgh Steeler fan and they've got some history with Dallas, but I think we may have the advantage anyway.

Melden: I think that's right.

Perryman: Favorite foods?

Melden: Oh my gosh. Balance Grille is my favorite restaurant. I know the owners over there, but then I like a lot of really good healthy local food, like an Asian grill type thing. But pizza, I'll take pizza from Calvino's in West Toledo with some red wine any day.

Perryman: Okay, great. Let's shift to the topic at hand. You are a candidate for an at-large seat for Toledo City Council. Why should Toledo voters elect Sam Melden and what differentiates you from the other candidates?

Melden: Well, I think that it's time for Toledo to have some fresh representation and people with a new voice and a new perspective. I don't have a nostalgic view of the city, I have a present-tense and future-oriented perspective. I'm thinking about what is this city going to be like when my kids are my age. I don't have this sense of different parties being held downtown in 1980s and so

I'm looking forward to what type of city my children and my grandchildren are going to inherit.

And so, I think Toledoans should vote for me because I'm thinking about the future. I'm also thinking about everyone's kids. I'm thinking about all the different types of families we have in our city and what types of challenges they're facing now and what types of opportunities they want for their kids and grandkids moving forward. So that's one thing that differentiates me.

The other thing I would say is that knowing the non-profit world, I have a lot of experience in trying to figure out how to do more with less, and I think that the city government and local elected officials have to figure that out, so we need people who can balance and be financially wise, and also rally a community in a grassroots fashion, and that's what I've been doing. So those would be a few reasons.

Perryman: Let's talk about your agenda.

Melden: Sure. So first of all, I want to say that I think that the role of a city council member is to respond to what comes across their desk every day. So we can have agendas, we can have ideas moving forward, but really it's about how we respond and what will be our approach to the issues that come up that we didn't even see coming. My approach is to frame that as three simple questions. The first question is: Is this the best option? Sometimes we get stuck in this either/or, A or B type thinking but the truth is, there might be a different option out there and the role of the city council member is to really do the work looking at all these different cities in a similar position and what they've done and what struggles have they had.

The second question is: Is it the best option for everyone? Not just one group

... continued on page 5

The Sojourner's Truth

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Community Calendar

May 13

Catholic Club Block Party/Open House: 11:30 am to 2:30 pm; 1601 Jefferson; Face painting, bounce house, picnic: 419-243-7255

May 15

Blemished Butterfly Lupus Foundation's Peer Support Group Ice Breaker: 6 to 8 pm; Celebrating Lupus Awareness Month; Kent Branch Library; Refreshments will be served; Free & open to the public; Minorities are strongly encouraged to attend.

Blemished Butterfly Lupus Foundation is a local charitable organization committed to confronting Lupus in the minority community through raising awareness, providing education and peer-to-peer support.

May 17

Phillips Temple CME Monthly Food Bank: 10:30 am to 12:30 pm; All are welcome

May 20

Josh Project Splash Bash: 10 am to 2 pm; St. Francis de Sales; Lots of activities including Ohio DNR Jet Ski simulator and Toledo Safekids Fire Prevention Smoke House: 419-574-2799
Search Lite CBC 3rd Annual "Women in Purple" Ceremony and Service: 10 am to noon; "Healing Hearts and Mending Souls"

May 21

Braden UMC 93rd Annual Women's Day: 10:30 am service and luncheon; Guest speaker Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson; "But a woman who fears the Lord shall be praised"

May 28

Ebenezer MBC Women's Day Service: "Christian Women with Inner Beauty;" 11 am service - guest speaker Min. Latasha Henderson of St. Marks - Mattison, IL; 4 pm service - guest speaker - Min Yvonne Traywick of Minneapolis: 419-242-2581
United Church of God Free Fish Fry Community event: After 10 am service: 419-810-6335

Wade Kapszukiewicz Announces Mayoral Run

Sojourner's Truth Staff

On Tuesday, May 2, Lucas County Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz announced his plans to enter the race for mayor of Toledo. In a press conference at the Anthony Wade Solar Field, Kapszukiewicz said he would bring “fresh ideas, new energy and an outsider’s perspective” to the mayor’s office.

“Why should voters think that I’ll be able to bring new leadership and proven results they so desperately need?” asked the candidate. “Because I’ve done it before. In my public life I’ve always looked for ways to move the community forward through innovation and reform.”

Kapszukiewicz, raised in west Toledo, is the son of a police officer and a school teacher. For the past 12 years, he has served as Lucas County Treasurer – first elected in 2004, following almost seven years on Toledo City Council representing District 6.

Kapszukiewicz, a Democrat, will be running against endorsed Democrat, incumbent Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson, and Republican City Councilman Tom Waniewski, among others yet to declare.

“Toledo is at a crossroads,” said Kapszukiewicz during his press conference. “In many ways, we are seeing a rebirth of optimism that hasn’t been seen in 30 years, maybe longer. The private sector has stepped up. The Metroparks have embraced the exciting potential of our river. The social service community is playing an important role. The philanthropic community is leading the way. The one missing piece of the puzzle is our city government.”

Promising to “bring fundamental change to the way our local government operate,” the mayoral hopeful said, I elected, his administration will consolidate “significant portions of city and county government;” work with the

city’s neighbors “to develop a regional water system that is fair;” join the lawsuit to ensure that Lake Erie is clean; fight blight and strengthen neighborhoods; provide tools to police and fire fighters to make the city safer; embrace the arts and landscape for a more beautiful city and take on “aspirational challenges” to build a framework “to ensure a universal pre-K education to every child living in the city of Toledo.”

All the mayoral candidates will compete in a September 12 primary. The top two vote finishers will face off in the November 7 general election.



Ohio House Rep. Alicia Reece Issues Statement on US House Repealing ObamaCare

Special to The Truth

Ohio House Rep. Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati) released the following statement in response to the Republican passage of Trumpcare in the U.S. House of Representatives by a razor thin margin yesterday:

“The House Republicans’ push to roll back the Affordable Care Act is a dangerous step toward cutting off millions of Americans – including one-million Ohioans – from lifesaving healthcare. I am especially outraged by the irresponsible actions of Congressional Representatives from southwest Ohio, who voted for a bill that jeopardizes their constituents’ health and well-being. In the wealthiest country in the world, people should not have to go bankrupt or mortgage their future to access the care they need. Trumpcare threatens the health, safety and economic stability of millions of Americans young and old, especially people with pre-existing conditions. I hope yesterday’s vote will motivate Americans to come together and send a

strong message to the Senate to do the right thing and put a stop to these unhealthy and unsafe restrictions.”

The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office has yet to fully analyze the latest version of Trumpcare, but healthcare experts expect it to be similar to the previous version of the bill, under which 24 million Americans had little or no access to affordable healthcare. Under that version, Ohio also lost some \$26 billion in federal healthcare funding, while one out of four Ohioans would have seen reduced healthcare eligibility and services. Costs also skyrocketed for the average Ohio enrollee by nearly \$3,000, and by over \$5,000 for older Ohio enrollees in 2020.

The Republican bill could also cause schools in Ohio to lose millions of dollars that fund special education and behavioral services, according to the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The bill now moves to the Senate, where it is expected to receive some pushback from moderate Republicans.



Alicia Reece

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Mental Health and Recovery Services Fourth Annual Recognition Ceremony

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (MHRSB) of Lucas County held its fourth annual Recognition Ceremony on May 1 at the Park Inn honoring seven individuals and one agency for "contributions resulting in a more productive society, safer neighborhoods and happier and sober individuals," stated Board Chairman Neema Bell.

Additionally, one awardee was inducted into the Advocate Hall of Fame.

Honored on Monday were: Crisis Intervention Team Officer of the Year Toledo Police Department Lt. Hank Everitt; Consumer Involvement of the Year Dan Rogers; Mental Health Professional of the Year Dustin Smith; Alcohol and Other Drug Professional of the Year Candace Garmon, Advocate of the Year Matt Bell; Leader of Diversity and Inclusion Rev. D.L. Perryman and Teen Leader Manuel Mathis.

The Zepf Center received the Spirit Award for Critical Incident Response and Larry Wanucha was inducted into the Advocate Hall of Fame.

"We are stronger together than we are apart and today's ceremony is one way of recognizing that fact," said Board Executive Director Scot Sylak in his introduction of the awards program.

Lt. Everitt was recognized for his efforts on the TPD Crisis Intervention Team for improving officer safety, redirecting individuals who need mental health help away from the judicial system and increasing peace officers' awareness of alternatives for those in need of such help.

Rogers was praised for his ceaseless efforts in advocating for others and addressing the needs of those seeking help.

Smith, a mental health professional since 2012, was honored for his ac-

tions "above and beyond for all the clients he interacts with," noted presenter Tim Goyer of the Board staff.

"It has always been my passion to help individuals who are struggling with the illness of addiction," said Garmon accepting her award as the Alcohol and Other Drug Professional of the Year.

Just 19 months ago, Bell was homeless and in need of help to overcome a nine-year heroin addiction. Today he reaches out to thousands of students and family members in an effort to educate on the perils of drug ad-



Manuel Mathis receives award from Jenni Hoffman

... continued on page 5



(Left to right) - Larry Wanucha, Manuel Mathis, Hank Everitt, Dustin Smith, D.L. Perryman, Candace Garmon, Matt Bell, Dan Rogers



Candace Garmon receives award from Amy Priest, Board Staff



Amy Priest, Manager of Treatment Services and Kristal Barham, Community Engagement and Outreach Manager

Photos courtesy ABYRDSEYPHOTO PRODUCTIONS



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Mental Health.... continued from page 4

diction.

In 2015 Perryman, a member of the MHRS Board of Trustees, implemented a review of the way the Board provides assistance through its system of care. Through his vision, the Board "took the bold step to address the disparities of mental health," he said in his acceptance speech.

MHRBS is a community safety net for uninsured, underinsured and indigent persons needing mental health, addiction, prevention and/or support services. In that role, the board assesses community needs, plans systems of care for individuals, collaborates with families, consumers, law enforcement stakeholders and organizations, funds and promotes local support for community care, monitors contract providers and evaluates cost effectiveness and the quality of care.

The Board, which has an annual budget of almost \$25 million, works with more than 20 area care agencies to fulfill its mission.



Matt Bell



Rev. D.L. Perryman receives award from Deloris Williams, Board Staff



TPD Lt. Hank Everitt receives award from Robert Kasprzak, Board Staff

Perryman... continued from page 2

of people, not just one neighborhood, but is it the best option for everyone? I think a lot about the common good and I think it's important that different issues that we think about, is this really going to move us forward for everyone in our city, all of the City of Toledo.

And then the third one is, as I alluded earlier: Is this solution really lined up properly with the day and time that we're in? We can't be making decisions based on how this city should have been 15 or 20 years ago or what we think should've happened 10 years ago. We have to be making decisions based on what the city should look like 10 or 20 years from now.

So that's how I'm going to approach those issues. And those issues would be certainly water, that's obviously a really important, a crucial issue in our community and not just safe and clean, but affordable. Also, we can't take our focus off the lake. It's our greatest resource that we take for granted all the time, and so we have to be thinking about that. The other thing I would say that is an important piece of my agenda is being forward thinking relative to our economic development success in our community, jobs, like real good living wage viable jobs in our community. That goes back to the future orientation that I have on these different things, so I think that that's a big piece of it.

The last item would be neighborhoods. I have a real thorough vision for how we have more engaged neighborhoods that are more about being neighbors than being watchdogs. We have certain neighborhoods who are doing well and other neighborhoods who aren't, and the role of a city council person is to connect, create better efficiencies and effectiveness in our neighborhoods, help address

issues.

Perryman: You have frequently used the terms common interest, common good and common ground. I am intrigued.

Melden: For me, it really begins with my faith personally. I'm interested in local politics for the same reason I'm interested in non-profit work, and the same reason I was really interested in being involved in ministry and leading a church, but not in the sense of trying to dictate the way people lived in the privacy of their own home. We have this really unhealthy relationship between faith and politics, but because I see these similarities, and the church, just like a city government structure, and elected body and neighborhood organization, the central question they're trying to answer is how to we share life together? How do we do that? How do we organize ourselves along the path in sharing life together? What are our values? How do we organize that pursuit? And so, for me, it's really important to remember the "we" and the "together" in that.

So the reason I'm drawn to elected office and then running for this is because I think we need more elected officials and people leading in our city that remember that their job is to represent everyone in the community, those who voted for me, those who didn't vote at all and those who voted against me. Once I'm in that seat, my job is to represent all of the community. And so for me, you have to think about what we hold in common. What is this pursuit as we organize life together? And that plays into issues like water or like Kroger. There are ways that you can break open all of these really politicized issues and ask how is this serving the whole of our community, not just one piece? And so that's a guiding principle in my life and it's certainly a driving source of motivation for me as I get into office.

It's because we're all human beings trying to organize and pursue this life together - whether that's called the City of Toledo, whether that's called St. Andrews Episcopal Church where my wife and I attend, or whether that's call the Neighborhood Association that you're a part of. They're just different ways that we're trying to organize life together.

Perryman: Thank you very much, Sam.

Melden: Okay, it's always good to talk with you.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org

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What's In a Name? Everything!!

By Tamunodiyepriye Ngo

Guest Column

My name tells a story. I did not always listen to or embrace the story; sometimes, I even tried to deny it.

Anxiety hits me. It engulfs seventh-grade me as I ride in the car. I start feeling sick to my stomach. It's my first day at a new school. I arrive at school and instead of being excited, I am nervous. I walk quickly to my class. I sit. I wait. Other kids walk by me. Finally, the teacher arrives with a bright smile on her face welcoming everyone with the usual new teacher introductions . . . then she starts to slowly recite every child's name for attendance. My tummy starts to get butterflies as she approaches my name. And then it happened.

The same inaudible gasp that everyone has when they read my name escapes her lips and I feel... ashamed. Everyone in the class turns to look at me with pity on their faces, as if my name is a disease that I am forever infected with. I feel frustrated and slowly open my lips to respond, the same way I respond to everyone, with a sigh and a fake laugh to make the situation less awkward; then I sadly state: "It's fine you don't have to pronounce it correctly." I sit in my chair defeated and frustrated.

My name is Tamunodiyepriye. When I was younger, I always got upset when people would constantly ask me questions about it. "Why would your parents EVER name you that?!" or a condescending, "Wow, don't you wish you had a different name?" The shame and discomfort I constantly suffered because of my name started

to seep into my daily life and I noticed myself becoming more reserved as the years went by. My 13-year-old self was being drained of what little self-esteem I had.

As I grew older and visited different places around the world, I started to notice that in many cultures, a name is a critical part of a person's identity and is selected carefully after much thought and sometimes even rituals. As a Nigerian-American, I am stuck between two cultures. I am too Nigerian to be American and too American to be a true Nigerian.



Tamunodiyepriye Ngo

I came to realize that this was why I struggled with my name. I disliked it then because it was different when all I wanted was to blend in. Being exposed to different cultures, I soon began to realize the true importance of my name – it tells the story of my identity; as an intrinsically motivated young woman filled with energy, curiosity and potential. I slowly began to actually embrace my name and my culture.

My name unlocks a plethora of information about my life, my rich culture and family history. Its uniqueness heralds my story and provides a glimpse into my personality. My name reveals my Nigerian heritage. It commemorates the joy that my parents had when I was born. My birth was a true miracle because of all the complications along the way. Yet, I was born healthy and smiling. My grandmother shouted out in gratitude and jubilation, "Tamunodiyepriye," which in the Kalabari language means "gift from God."

It is ironic that I never thought of my name as a gift until I started to appreciate its significance and a huge impact it has made in my life. The once shy girl who barely made a peep in class became the confident girl who's always curious to find answers to the whys of the world. I finally learned to embrace my name instead of constantly trying to hide it.

Today, my rich heritage symbolizes who I am and I am proud of it. Now, anytime someone asks me my name, I stand tall and confidently say "I am Tamunodiyepriye." People still gasp in shock, but I just tell them that my name has meaning and that it signifies my true identity.

Ed. Note: Tamunodiyepriye Ngo is a senior at Notre Dame Academy. She submitted this essay with her college applications this year. She has been accepted at Vanderbilt, Northwestern, Washington University, Boston University, Boston College, Case Western, Ohio State, Michigan State and Ohio University. She will be attending Northwestern University in the fall.

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Education Section • Education Section

Center of Hope Family Services ELEVATE Program Holds Closing Ceremony

Sojourner's Truth Staff

On Wednesday, May 3, the Center of Hope Family Services ELEVATE Program held its year-end closing ceremony at Old Orchard Elementary School as several dozen students, from kindergarten through third grades, enthralled parents and guardians by presenting a tribute to Stevie Wonder.



Second graders singing Superstition

The students performed several musical numbers to pay tribute to the musical artist and activist who has overcome his blindness to make a creative contribution to the world.

Second graders got the ball rolling by singing to Wonder's "Superstition" backed by the Overton Project band.

Third and fourth graders took the stage and danced to "Pastime Paradise."

Then the youngsters took center stage – the kindergartners and first graders – and treated the audience to Wonder's version of "Happy Birthday."

The ELEVATE Program (Engage, Learn, Empower, volunteer, Achieve, Teach, Enrich) is part of the Center of Hope Family Services' Positive Youth Development Division. Center of Hope Family Services, established in 1997, has the mission of improving the life outcomes of individuals and families living in urban settings.

Since its inception, CHFS has operated a number of successful educational enrichment programs in Lucas County – one of which is the Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools which was first introduced to Toledo by CHFS in 2007.

Since 2012 CHFS has partnered with Toledo Public Schools to provide educational enrichment in the district's elementary schools. In partnership with TPS and the WSOS Community Action Planning Agency, CHFS has expanded the ELEVATE and was selected by the Ohio Department of Education as a 21st Century Community Learning Center.

"Center of Hope does a very great job in developing unique programming, from whether it's educational, whether it's socio-emotional support, and the other is just straight character," said TPS Superintendent Romules Durant, EdD. "I mean, they literally develop and customize these things for these individual students, and so one of the ones that they really bring relevance to is their cultural awareness, and to truly make young men and young women, particularly of minorities, to be culturally aware of their ancestry and where they come from and who they stand to be today.

"These kids are learning about math and reading but, more importantly, learning about themselves, and that's the biggest value that I appreciate about the program," Durant added.

Since 2014 CHFS has provided after school and summer services to 150 Old Orchard students. Students receive daily educational enrichment, guided homework assistance, cultural enrichment, recreation, arts enrichment, social emotional development, parent engagement programming and daily meals.

As a result of CHFS' efforts, in 2017, for example, 50 percent of students have made over five months gains in reading and math after three quarters and have achieved an attendance rate of 87 percent, according to Park-Martinez Consulting LLC, an independent evaluation firm.

"The Center of Hope works about making dreams come true. That's actually what the Toledo Community Foundation does; that's our mission," said Keith Burwell, CEO of TCF one of CHFS' main funders. "Our mission is to translate philanthropy into positive change into a positive community, and that equals or is very much in line with what the mission of the Center of Hope is about, which is what encourages us.

"We look at where you can put philanthropic dollars that don't just put a band-aid on something, but actually make change occur in a positive way that brings those dreams and hopes that we all talk about into fruition, into actuality. And so for us, we look at the programs they do around education and workforce development, juvenile justice and education. They're working for results that show positive change, not just for the individual, which is the first critical piece, and not just a family, which is part of that critical

piece, but for the entire community because it translates for each and every one of us."



Family and friends enjoy the closing ceremony



Willetta Peryman and Tracee Peryman, PhD



First graders singing Happy Birthday



Third and fourth graders dancing to Pastime Paradise

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Education Section • Education Section

The Cotillion 52nd Annual Mother-Daughter Luncheon

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Toledo Club of The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc, held its annual Mother-Daughter Luncheon on April 29 at the Inverness Country Club as part of its run-up to the 2017 Cotillion.

This year the Toledo Club is presenting 25 young debutantes to society on Saturday May 27 at the Stranahan and the Mother-Daughter Luncheon is a perennial prelude to the main event.

This past weekend, Luncheon Chairman Karen Jarrett opened the event and served as mistress of ceremonies. Club President Denise Black-Poon offered the welcome and after the preliminaries and lunch, all of the debutantes and their mothers, or guardians, were introduced and asked to describe their relationships.

After the tearful expressions of mutual love and gratitude, the young women were apprised of the next step in the Cotillion event – the talent show – by Talent Co-Chairmen Deborah Carlisle and Beverly Tucker.

Closing out the luncheon, Cotillion General Chairman Wilma Brown, who has helped to guide the event since the onset 52 years ago, addressed the attendees on some of the issues they will face this year.



Debs and mothers



NANBPWC Officers and Cotillion Committee members



Debs and mothers

25¢ bus fare for bicyclists May 15-21.

May is National Bike Month and when riders "Bike-N-Bus" using the TARTA on-bus bicycle racks, fare is just 25¢ Monday, May 15 through Sunday, May 21, 2017. For a complete list of Bike Month activities, please visit TMACOG.org/BikeMonth



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Education Section • Education Section

Delta's Annual Breakfast for M'Lady Honors Students and Mother of the Year

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated welcomed over 300 attendees to the 39th annual Breakfast for M'Lady on Saturday, May 6, 2017 at The Pinnacle in Maumee.

Wanda Terrell-Galloway, event chairman, opened the program by delivering warm greetings and introducing this year's master of ceremonies: the irrepressible Montrice Terry, The Voice of the CityPark League

The features of this program include the scholarship acknowledgements, fashion show and announcement of the mother of the year. "Today we will honor four ladies for their outstanding academic excellence and of course the mother of the year. I urge everyone to come back next year and support academic excellence," said Angela Siner, president of the Toledo Alumnae Chapter.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc, Toledo Alumnae chapter, award-

... continued on page 12



Delta officers and committee chairmen



Mother of the Year Frankie Glover with family and Delta committee members



Scholarship Committee - Stephanie Teamer, Shannon Tisdale, Stacey Jackson-Jones, Cheryce Burton, Mea Burton, PhD

The 2017 YMCA Storer Camp Scholarship Awarded to Four Third Graders

Special to The Truth

The 2017 Lesley Harper Sr. Memorial YMCA Storer Camp Scholarship was awarded to four third graders at Ella P. Steward Academy for Girls on April 28, 2017. Kyla Griffith, Emma Miller, KeiAsia Midcalf and NaShanda Lee all received a scholarship for one week of summer camp

... continued on page 11



(Front row) -Stewart students Keiasia Midcalf, Nashonda Lee, Kyla Griffith, Emma Miller, Mayor Paula Hicks Hudson; (Back row) - Shauntae Isaac, Nathaniel Lee, Paul Thomas, Katina Jones

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Education Section • Education Section

Rep. Michael Ashford Meets with University of Toledo Student Advocates

Lawmaker, students discuss ways university prepares graduates for success

Special to The Truth

State Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) last week met with University of Toledo student leaders to learn more about their personal stories and how the University of Toledo has helped prepare them for success after graduation.

"Since its inception in 1872, the University of Toledo has strived to be a leader in higher education in Ohio, and these students are a testament to what the university has to offer," said Ashford. "I'm proud of these student advocates and I know they are in good hands at UT. I look forward to what lies next for them."

The University of Toledo students visited the Statehouse as part of the Inter-University Council (IUC) of Ohio's Advocacy Day. The IUC day at the Statehouse allowed students the opportunity to meet with their state legislators to discuss university policies and to hear more on how legislation may affect them and their university. Ashford heard first-hand testimonies on how student and campus life, university policies and successes in the classroom have prepared UT students for a bright and prosperous future.



Rep. Ashford and UT students

NDA Students Receive Monsignor Jerome E. Schmit Youth Foundation Scholarship

Special to The Truth

Notre Dame Academy sophomores Maria Horn and Megan Del Vecchio each received the Monsignor Jerome E. Schmit Youth Foundation Scholarship.

The dinner to celebrate and introduce the winners featured guest speaker Bishop Daniel Thomas.

"Catholic education has helped me recognize social justice issues and encouraged me to volunteer with kids who have disabilities and the elderly," Maria said. "By having spiritual studies alongside regular academic courses I get to experience things that would not be possible in other education systems."

"Not only are my classmates and I able to talk about our faith, we are able to support one another on our spiritual journeys," Megan wrote in her essay.

The Youth Foundation was established in 1991 to perpetuate the work of Monsignor Jerome E. Schmit who worked with the young people of the Toledo diocese. Through the Monsignor Jerome E. Schmit Youth Foundation, scholarships are presented to eligible Metro-Toledo Catholic High School students who demonstrate financial need, as well as keeping a solid grade point average.

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Maria Horn



Megan Del Vecchio

Education Section • Education Section

ACT-SO Winners Headed to Baltimore for National Competition

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Nearly 40 of Toledo's talented youth vied for gold medals on Saturday, April 29, at the Toledo NAACP's annual ACT-SO competition at the Toledo School for the Arts.

The youngsters competed in the areas of dance, vocals, film, drawing, photography, essay, drama, oratory, poetry and storytelling, among the variety of disciplines.

Nine of the students won gold medals that qualified them to advance to the national competition that will be held in Baltimore, MD July 20-23. The following nine students will advance: Lyricka Robinson-Smith – photography; Courtney Draper – modern dance; Clifton Williams – classical instrument; Keyara Edwards – performance poetry; Terri Draper – written poetry; Jennasis Savage – filmmaking; Jamaia McKinley and Malaikah David – contemporary vocals; Arthur Bishop – contemporary instrumental and Terri Draper – short story.

In addition gold medals were awarded to the following youth who will not be advancing in these categories: Jennasis Savage – dramatics; M'yan Hudson – traditional dance; Courtney Draper – original essay and Nick Stewart – drawing.



Courtney Draper

YMCA Storer Camp... continued from page 9

with horseback riding lessons at YMCA Storer Camps in Jackson, Michigan.

The annual scholarship was founded by Paul Thomas in 2004 in memory of Lesley Harper Sr. Harper was a local general contractor who employed, trained and mentored many young men and women from the central city area of Toledo, many of them went on to become very successful in business and construction.

Thomas was one of those lucky individuals that Harper trained and mentored. Thomas has been a member of the Carpenters Union for 31 years and is currently a retired senior representative from the Indiana/Kentucky/Ohio Regional Council of Carpenters. Thomas sits on the Board of Directors for YMCA Storer Camps and is also a member of the YMCA Storer Camps Scholarship Committee.

Thomas chose Ella P. Stewart Academy for Girls because he attended Ella P. Stewart before it became an all-girls school. He chose third graders because he felt it is a great entry age for summer camp at Storer and his first experience at Storer was as a third grader.

The selection was made based on academics, citizenship, attendance and an essay contest.

Kyla, whose mother also attended the camp as a child, wrote that she wants to learn how to canoe. Emma wants to experience something new and learn how to swim. KeiAsia is anxious to learn more about the environment since she loves the outdoors. NaShanda wants to share the cabin experience with others and learn to ride horses.

Just how much of a good time the girls can expect was explained by Stewart fourth grader Jayda Duncan who, as a 2016 recipient, also wrote an essay about her experience at Storer last summer. Jayda, one of two winners last year, wrote that she enjoyed the swimming, the canoeing and the rock climbing. "Anyone would be lucky to go," wrote Jayda.

The sponsors of the YMCA Storer Camp Scholarship are Laborers' Local 500 and Lucas County Sheriff John Tharp. This year's contributors are the Northwest Ohio Building and Construction Trades Council, People's Missionary Baptist Church, the Ella P. Stewart Alumni Association, Howard's – N – Co, Debbie Gallagher and Jane Duross



Kyla Griffith and mother Katina Jones



Nashonda Lee and father Nathaniel Lee



Shauntae Isaac and daughter Keiasia Midcalf



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Delta Breakfast... continued from page 9

ed three scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each:

Kendall Edwards, a senior at Toledo Early College High School will be attending the University of Toledo in the fall where she has already qualified for the Dean's List with her college credits earned at TECHS. During her high school career, in addition to her outstanding academic accomplishments, Kendall has been active in volleyball, cheerleading and a host of community service projects.

Maya Jones, a senior at Roy C. Start High School will be attending Kent State University. An honor roll student for three years with a current GPA of 4.0, Maya has been involved with basketball, women's Choir at her church and community service projects also.

Jasmine White, a senior at St. Ursula's Academy, will also attend the University of Toledo. She has earned First Honors, the Dean's List and the President's List during her high school career. Jasmine has also been involved in Model United Nations, Women in Science & Health Professions along with numerous community service activities.

Kennedy Parker, a senior at Central Catholic High School who will attend UT in the fall, was awarded the \$500 Bobbie Burks Gilmore Book Scholarship. An honor roll student, Kennedy has been active in the Spanish Club the African American Club and track and field.

The 2017 Mother of the Year honor was awarded to Frankie Glover. Glover was praised for her work in the community over the decades with nursing homes and the less fortunate among us. Her concern for others has extended beyond the local community, however. Glover has traveled abroad to Haiti as part of a missionary team to care for the poor by distributing clothing and food. She has also financially supported a school for the children in Haiti.

As part of the Mothers' Ministry at her church, she visits the sick and shut-ins, hospitals and nursing homes. According to her extended family, "She has been working and serving our community and communities abroad all her adult life, but most importantly, she is a faithful servant of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

The history of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. dates back to 1913

... continued on page 13



Mother of the Year presentation - Bessie Mack, Frankie Glover, Billie Lothery and Angela Siner

OMESSP Minority Engineering Scholarship Applications Open

Special to The Truth

Applications are available now for the 2017 Ohio Minority Engineering Student

Scholarship Program (OMESSP) sponsored by CT Consultants, Inc. in collaboration with Ohio Legislative Black Caucus (OLBC), the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), and New Visions Group, LLC.

The purpose of the OMESSP is to foster minority students majoring in civil engineering through mentorship and financial assistance and possible internship opportunities.

The 2017 application process is currently open on a rolling basis with award cycles beginning in May, August and January. Applicants can view program details, past recipients and complete the application form online at <http://www.ctconsultants.com/about-us/scholarship>.

"CT Consultants is continually looking for talented engineers. The OMESSP provides opportunities for talented minority students seeking careers in engineering while connecting CT Consultants with prospective young professionals. With a history of more than 90 years of serving clients in Ohio and beyond, CT's success depends on developing talent to meet client needs in the delivery of excellent service. The firm is committed to investing in and nurturing civil engineering talent and assisting students with outstanding potential who are looking to participate in the engineering field," Chris LeGros, vice president at CT Consulting, said.

The Ohio Minority Engineering Student Scholarship Program offers four \$2,500.00 scholarships on an annual basis to students enrolled in accredited Ohio colleges or universities in a civil engineering program. Since its establishment in 2008, the program has awarded 23 scholarships totaling \$57,500.00 to undergraduate students from seven Ohio colleges and universities.

The program is open to black/African descent freshman and upper classmen (not graduate students). To be eligible for the OMESSP, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Students must be declared as an engineering major and focus on civil engineering.
- All scholarship recipients must maintain a reasonable standard of conduct as defined by the OMESSP selection Committee, expected of scholarship students.

Students can maintain multi-year scholarships if they continue to fulfill program requirements and re-apply each year. Recipients may be eligible for internship and mentoring opportunities.

For additional requirements and information visit <http://www.ctconsultants.com/about-us/scholarship>.



MC Montrice Terry and 2014 scholarship awardee Tinae Bluitt



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Super Freak: The Life of Rick James by Peter Benjaminson

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

Your feet sometimes have a mind of their own.

You see your favorite foods, and they carry you toward lunch before you even realize you're hungry. When you're faced with danger, they take you in the right direction, away and safe. And when you read *Super Freak: The Life of Rick James* by Peter Benjaminson, your feet just gotta dance.

James Ambrose Johnson Jr. was born in Buffalo, New York, on February 1, 1948, into a family filled with talent and power: little Rick (no explanation for the nickname) was related to politicians and journalists, actors and performers. Even his mother had once been a dancer, and was said to have transferred her desire for fame onto her talented third-born child.

Though the family was often fatherless, Rick's mother ran a tight ship and worked as a numbers runner to feed and clothe her children, who later remembered being well cared-for. She also insisted that her children attend Catholic Mass, but Rick was a perpetual troublemaker. A former alter boy, he was kicked out of the program for being "too hyper," started running away from home at age five, lost his virginity at age nine, and began experimenting with drugs. As for school, it was something he "tried to avoid entirely."

At 16, Rick joined the U.S. Navy, but he skipped out on his obligation and slipped into Canada in 1964. There, he found other musicians who let him perform with them, and his talent "was blazingly obvious." He founded bands, found sponsorship, and set his sights on Motown, where he was turned away at least twice before he was finally accepted to work as a producer and songwriter.

c. 2017
Chicago Review Press
\$28.99 / \$38.99 Canada
354 pages

With his talents so openly on display, Rick began to work his way toward his goal of having a best-seller with Motown. He wrote, performed, got that hit, and was hired to produce for Diana Ross, a gig he turned down to work with Teena Marie.

Unfortunately, he didn't turn down the drugs that had become a part of his life, nor did he turn down the many women who clamored for his attention on the road.

In the end, it was the former that contributed to his death.

Though it often reads like the combination of a novel and a supermarket tabloid, *Super Freak* isn't bad. It's not great, either.

Like so many biographers of music stars, author Peter Benjaminson includes too much here: too many names dropped, too much minutiae on performances and, when it comes to Rick James' private life, *too much information*. Indeed, Benjaminson's occasional lack of discretion and his explicitness are cringe-worthy.

And yet, there are some nice surprises here: Benjaminson doesn't try to gloss over James' problems, legally, or with drugs or women. This book's early chapters set up a good story, which is readable even when the telling of it falters.

Overall, while it may be browse-able by anyone who loved music, circa 1969-1980, the audience for this book is much narrower: *Super Freak* is probably more for super fans.

Delta Breakfast... continued from page 12

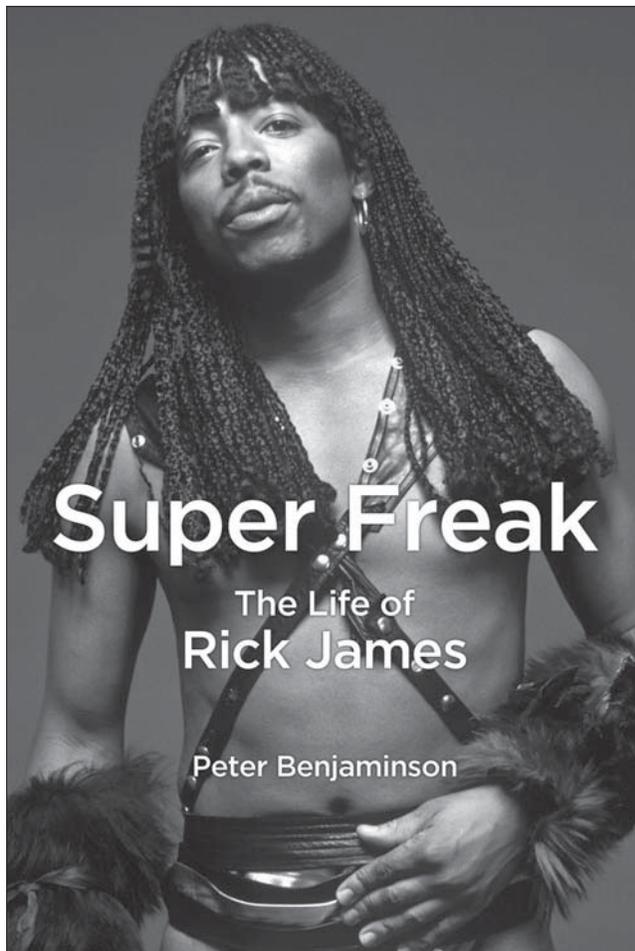


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Breakfast committee chairmen: Wanda Terrell-Galloway, chairman; Kaylene Miller, souvenir program; Kendra Stabler, door prizes; Trevor Black, decorations; Bessie Mack and Regina Vincent-Williams, PhD, publicity; Bonita Johnson, vendors; Cheryce Burton, financial coordinator; Sue Fletcher, Billie Lothery, and Sandy Strong, ticket committee; Bessie Mack mother of the year committee; Stacey Jackson-Jones, scholarship committee.



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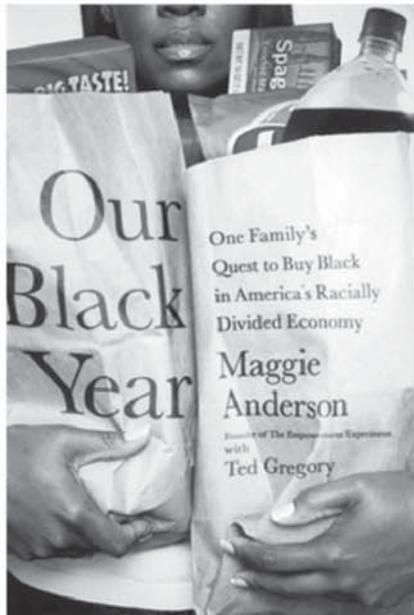
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Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for **Marketing & Public Relations Svcs.** Received in accordance with law until **May 12, 2017 at 3PM ET.** For documents: www.lucasmha.org, 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604 or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246) and Sec. 3 Compliance Applicable.



Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY17-64, (Project # 1130-17-169) for Accessibility / ADA Improvements 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., Tuesday, May 23, 2017. 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 \$75.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Mary L. Glowacki of Mary L. Glowacki, AIA Architect, LLC at 419-360-9820. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 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: \$400,000.00; Breakdown: General Const: \$400,000.00.

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