



Volume 50, No. 2

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

April 18, 2018

# Fair Housing ... Or Not?



**"Now the Negro families no longer suffer the humiliation of being turned away because of their race," Johnson told the crowd in the East Room of the White House as he signed the bill into law on April 11, 1968, one week after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.. "It proclaims that fair housing for all — all human beings who live in this country — is now a part of the American way of life. We all know that the roots of injustice run deep. But violence cannot redress a solitary wrong, or remedy a single unfairness."**

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# Redlining: Modern-day discrimination

By U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown

Ohioans looking to buy a home shouldn't have to worry that their mortgage applications will be turned down because of the color of their skin. But a new report from the Center for Investigative Reporting shows that this is still the case for far too many Americans.

This form of discrimination is called "redlining," and it dates back to the early 1930's, when surveyors with the federal Home Owners' Loan Corporation intentionally drew maps with lines around many African American neighborhoods, colored them red, and designated these areas as "hazardous" for bank lending. That blatant discrimination kept families of color locked out of entire neighborhoods and preserved segregated communities across the country.

This month marks the 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act of 1968, which for the first time made it illegal to discriminate in the sale, rental, or financing of housing. But today, as we recognize National Fair Housing Month, the outlines of decades-old discrimination are still too visible.

Earlier this year, the Center for Investigative Reporting released a study on modern-day redlining in 61 U.S. cities, and the evidence is clear: people of color still face discrimination when they apply for mortgages to buy homes.

Sadly, the City of Dayton was among those cities listed. The report found that black applicants in Dayton were more than twice as likely to be denied conventional home mortgages as white applicants. African Americans are being unfairly turned down for mortgages based on their race and the neighborhoods where they are hoping to buy, even when you take into account factors like their income and the size of the loan.

While the origins of redlining are rooted in the past, this evidence reveals that modern-day redlining is still very much a problem. That's why after the 2008 financial crisis, we amended the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act to require banks and other lenders to report additional data, including data on race, so we can better identify and stop discrimination. And we created a new Consumer Protection Bureau, to monitor this data and go after lenders that are breaking the rules, discriminating, and cheating consumers.

Our ability to collect that crucial data, and shine a light on the ways people of color are locked out of the housing market or overcharged on their loans, is now under attack. In March, the Senate passed a bill that would exempt 85 percent of banks that are currently reporting data. This would undermine the Consumer Protection Bureau's ability to spot and go after racial discrimination. At the same time, the Department of Housing and Urban Development has taken steps to downgrade its anti-discrimination efforts.

Congress created the Consumer Protection Bureau to combat predatory mortgage lending practices targeted at racial and ethnic minorities that led to families losing their homes, and that helped fuel the housing market collapse. This predatory lending made inequality worse across racial and ethnic lines, destroying almost half the wealth in communities of color during the financial



Sen. Sherrod Brown

... continued on page 12

## Community Calendar

### April 17-20

Ohio North First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Women's Convention Crusade 2018: Rock of Praise Church; Guest speakers: April 17 - Mother Thelma Giles Butts, Jurisdictional Supervisor, April 18 - Bishop Pat McKinstry, Worship Center, April 19 - Lady Karen Clark Sheard, Greater Emmanuel Institutional COGIC, Detroit, Mi., April 20 - Bishop Edward T. Cook, New Life COGIC, Toledo, Oh.

### April 27-28

Calvary MBC Women's Ministry 21st Women's Retreat: Holiday Inn in Lima on Leonard Road: 419-531-9443 or 419-865-0019

### April 28

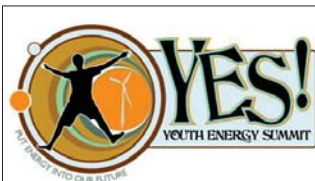
*But What Does It Pay? Music Distribution in the Age of Streaming* : 4:30-6:00 pm; The Attic on Adams side room; The Arts Commission will present a free community workshop facilitated by local musician, attorney and Arts Commission board member Larry P. Meyer. The workshop will discuss topics including: licensing, potential revenue streams, and distribution tactics. The workshop is recommended for start-up record companies, or area musicians with self-released product, interested in a better understanding of how Spotify pays and strategies to maximize that payment. Come prepared to ask questions or to share your personal insights in a casual setting. The workshop will conclude with a brief informational session on Arts Commission accelerator grants, available to visual, musical and literary artists alike: [www.theartscommission.org/forartists](http://www.theartscommission.org/forartists). 419-254-2787, ext. 1015, [mcarlson@theartscommission.org](mailto:mcarlson@theartscommission.org)

### May 2 & 6

United MBC 15th Pastoral Anniversary Celebration: Pastor Robert and First Lady Anita Bass; May 2 - Pastor Robert Lyons and Greater St. Mary's MBC at 6:30 pm; May 6 - 10:45 am service with guest Pastor Dana Darby of Detroit and 5 pm service with guests Pastor Floyd Smith and Calvary MBC congregation: 419-242-1455

### May 5

The Toledo Plant Exchange, in its 14th year, begins with plant drop-off from 8:30 to 10 in the parking garage of Main Library downtown. Bring labeled, weed-free plants and gently used gardening paraphernalia. There will be informational booths and experts to answer questions. Plant giveaway begins at 10 and continues until about 10:45. Attendees will receive five free plants, while those who bring items to share will receive more. Enter the garage from Adams off of 11th street, and drive to the garage's far end. It's a collaboration of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, OSU Extension Lucas County Master Gardener Volunteers, and community gardeners. FREE. Facebook and 419-578-678



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11:45 Mr. Keith Jones, Removing the filters & Getting a Real Picture of living in a Drug Culture Society

12:30 Mrs. Natasha Baker, The Importance of Total Health & Wellness

1:15 Mrs. Brittanu Jo KeyBank Emerging Leaders Living on Your Own

# Help ... All I See Are Black People!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq  
Guest Column

It has been reported that a recent white witness before the grand jury in the District of Columbia which is being used to investigate any possible criminal ties with the Trump campaign and/or evidence of political collusion with the Kremlin interfering with the recent 2016 federal elections, complained to the media of too many blacks on the grand jury!

The Huffington Post newspaper reported that the witness related to New York Post columnist Richard Johnson that the members of the grand jury in Washington D.C., "Looked like they came from a Black Lives Matter protest."

This same disgruntled white witness purportedly said that the grand jury room looks "Like a Bernie Sanders rally" or that, "These jurors were found from central casting".

It is to be noted that grand juries draw their members from the immediate surrounding community and in D.C. where the population is overwhelmingly black, the grand jury that Mueller is using is composed of 11 minorities out of a total of 20 persons.

Now think about this: this white witness said that there was only, "One other white male in the room and that was the prosecutor."

Can't you just feel his angst? This bugged-eyed white witness was both seemingly amazed and concerned or maybe even frightened that he was only one of two white males in a room full of, "those people."

Taking his observations from a vantage point of white privilege, this beleaguered male was taken out of his comfort zone and placed in a situation in which he was the minority; and probably being a minority for the first time in his life... and he did not like it one bit!

This white witness was, for a moment, thrust from his position of entitlements and perks and privileges due to his white skin and America's legal cocooning of those privileges initially designed for white males in particular.

To be placed as a white male minority in a sea of brown and black people was uncomfortable to this witness and from his statements one can infer that somehow such a composition of grand jurors would mean that they are not favorable to Trump.

Oh? Nothing was said about their ability to take an oath of office and to be fair and to hear and see the evidence and make a decision according to their life experiences and the instructions of the law.

No, the image that will be put out to the general media is that Bob Mueller, the special prosecutor, is stacking the deck against President Trump by having these so called liberal black people decide against Trump!

Isn't it always amazing about the gall of certain white people when they are placed in situations by which or in which they are not the puppet masters but must patiently wait for the acts of those "other people" to decide something?

This white witness is very comfortable complaining about what he may perceive as bias against his fellow white citizenry but he has no clue or historical knowledge about the reverses of this same grand jury or legal system in America.

One of the most sordid times in the history of American jurisprudence has been and still is in some cases, the total lack of due process (fairness)

and justice that was not meted out to people of color in courts across the land and especially so in the South.

How many tens of thousands (that we know of) black people were wrongly accused and put to death, lynched or imprisoned due to a grand jury hearing the biased testimony of prejudiced white people and which black people had no recourse or appeal from such mean spirited and race baited trials?

What historian could have enough books to fill the pages of the gross miscarriages of justice that black people daily faced in their centuries old struggle to make America work for them via the court, the judges and the all white grand juries?

You could run 24/7 specials on the gross injustices done to people of color via juries who did not think blacks had any rights to be respected (The Dred Scott decision) and as such those oppressed people were routinely and systematically denied medical care, housing, jobs, travel rights, marriage rights, voting rights and access to basic rights to get a foundational education.

No, the above did not cross this white witness's mind. He did not give a second thought to those deprivations since he was not under the nail boot of those raw decisions. He only saw that he was not in the driver's seat and that did not make him happy in the least.

He further did not understand the limited role of a grand jury which is only to present indictments

and whose final fate is determined by a judge or a sworn jury.

How wonderful it could and would have been if black people from the time that they arrived in ships hundreds of years ago could have been afforded basic human decency and fairness in their plight as chattel and slaves.

No, this white male witness, whom I shall now name as, "Mr. White America" saw only himself greedily eating all of the goodies that America offered to those who voluntarily came to its shores as immigrants or indentured servants.

If you were black, Indian, brown or poor, your designation was, "other" and as we know, "others" do not sit at the grownup's table and equally partake in the conversations.

Rather, our Mr. White America seemingly took offense that justice could be colored with a crayon other than white and that black and brown crayons were now coloring in the pages of America judicial history via the Mueller investigation.

Our Mr. White America was forced (albeit for only a brief moment), when he was a witness in that room with the "only other white male", to come to terms that justice is supposed to be color blind and regardless that if all of the twenty persons on that grand jury were black, that should not make a wit of difference in justice weighing the scales evenly, even if your last name may be Trump.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com

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# ECODiversity™ Announces Inaugural “African Americans in Conservation & Environmental Justice” Award Winners

*Awardees were selected for their leadership and trailblazing efforts to bridge diversity and inclusion and environmental stewardship through innovative programming and solutions.*

ECODiversity last week announced its inaugural awards recognizing African-American professionals who have demonstrated a commitment to the advancement of diversity and inclusion and environmental stewardship through innovative programming. Selections are based on a review of nominations submitted by community members, environmental leaders, and members of our editorial board.

“These awards recognize the importance of bridging diversity and inclusion and environmentalism stewardship,” said Noemi Lujan Perez, ECODiversity co-founder and vice president of government and media relations. “These individuals lead by example through their work and are influencing industries for the greater good.”

The 2018 ECODiversity Top African Americans in Conservation and Environmental Justice recipients are:

**Lisa Jackson, Apple Vice President of Environment, Policy and Social Initiatives**, was selected for her leadership overseeing Apple’s efforts to minimize its carbon footprint and leading the corporation’s efforts to address climate change. A trained chemical engineer, she leads the charge to invent new ways to preserve precious resources and use greener materials. This includes serving as a key figure in the company’s talent pipeline efforts to increase diverse and inclusive representation in the company’s development of new innovation.

**David Albritton, General Motors Executive Director, Product Development & International Communications**, was selected for his work amplifying General Motor’s eco-sustainability message globally to diverse audiences and communities. An outdoors enthusiast, he has a penchant for technology and environmental sustainability. He is responsible for the development and execution of communication strategies for driving reputation for advanced engineering, vehicle design, quality, safety, propulsion systems, purchasing, supply chain and underlying tech-

nic leadership in new product development. He also has responsibility for aligning internal and external communications for all of GM’s global regions, including China, South America, Asia Pacific, Europe, Canada, and Mexico.

**Urban American Outdoors TV founders Candice Price and Wayne Hubbard**, were selected for their trailblazing work creating the nation’s first diverse outdoors television show highlighting outdoors recreation from an “urban” perspective. Their television programming has provided a broadcast blueprint to connect and inspire diverse communities to nature and outdoor recreational activities benefiting America’s conservation efforts. Wayne and Candice have both advised State and Federal Government agencies on best practices and policies on conservation outreach to diverse and under-represented youth. They also founded the Urban Outdoor Summit to bring communities to the table with Conservation and Environmental Leadership to discuss issues, solutions, and job opportunities. Their Urban Kids Fish program hosts recreational fishing events around the country.

**Rev. Lennox Yearwood, Jr., President and CEO of Hip Hop Caucus**, was selected for his trailblazing work building a more inclusive and powerful green movement through culture. His organization is committed to ensuring under-served and vulnerable communities impacted first and worst by climate change are at the forefront of advocacy and driving their own solutions. For more than a decade he has been organizing for positive change and fighting environmental injustices at the front-lines, including Hurricane Katrina, Standing Rock, and Flint. He has also helped launched numerous programs to expand the green movement, including People’s Climate Music, a project that organizes diverse and influential artists to create music and culture that inspires action to solve climate change.

**Rue Mapp, Founder and CEO of Outdoor Afro**, was selected for her trailblazing work engaging African Americans in outdoor recreation and building an organizational formula that has spurred similar efforts in other communities. Her vision for community-focused outdoor activities has incentivized outdoor recreation brands and corporations to engage in outreach practices that support adventures in nature while promoting diversity and inclusion business ethics. She is also a leading voice for nature and public access for all through her coalition work at the state and national level.

**Volt Energy Co-Founders and Managing Partners Gilbert Campbell and Simon Antonio Francis**, were selected for trailblazing efforts establishing one of the nation’s largest minority-owned and solar energy development companies. Volt Energy builds and maintains innovative renewable energy systems for commercial, educational, and government institutions. Their work and success in the energy industry serves as an example to other minority-owned enterprises seeking to venture into eco, green, and conservation industries.

**William Lowery, Founder and President of Talo Management Group**, was selected for his trailblazing work creating a model that leverages public-private partnerships in the development of multi-million dollar eco-sustainable/LEED structures to benefit under-served communities. He works with city, state, and public works agencies to create energy and water efficient structures and reduce environmental impact. Of note, these development projects are created with community “set-asides” that include transitional housing support for indigent mothers, workforce development training offices, and cultural centers.

... continued on page 6

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# NAACP: The Struggle Continues - The Impact of Racial Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace!

By Lunette Howell and Betty Valentine

Toledo NAACP Editorial Team

Our country has taken a turn back in time to the civil rights movement. Racism and discrimination are on the rise within our own community. As leaders in the White House continue to express displeasure with people of color and to label us as being violent, murderers and rapists, our society increasingly thinks it's OK to display hatred.

Phone calls into our NAACP office are increasing with reports of racial tension and unsafe hostile work environments throughout our city, within our schools, hospitals, plants and other places of employment. It is time that people step up to defend their jobs and their dignity. Understand your rights and document your concerns. Companies cannot continue to allow negative and non-productive behaviors. They must provide employees with mandatory diversity training and help them to understand how harassment and discrimination of any kind impacts their company's \$\$\$\$ bottom line.

*The Sojourner's Truth article April 4, 2018 regarding "discriminatory practices at GM Powertrain Plant" is another example of management not taking immediate actions to a hostile workplace. We thought we would ask Toledo NAACP President Ray Wood a few questions about his recent filing of a discrimination lawsuit against General Motors.*

**Betty Valentine** - The Ohio Civil Rights Commission has determined that General Motors is guilty of maintaining a workplace that condones harassment. What was the frequency of the workplace infractions that were used to intimidate employees?

**Ray Wood** - On March 22, 2017, May 2, 2017, and June 2, 2017 nooses were found in various areas of the plant. In addition, swastikas, white power and white only signs along with racial slurs were posted on the walls.

**Betty** - To the best of your knowledge, were there postings and guidelines for reporting harassment posted in areas of the plant visible to everyone at General Motors?

**Ray** - NO

**Betty** - As the UAW Union President, it was your responsibility to report the incidents of harassment to management. Do you feel the company took your reports seriously?

**Ray** - It took three weeks for the company to put out a letter to the membership about the first noose. In a subsequent conversation with the Human Resources Manager, he stated that he felt overwhelmed. He did not get support from the Plant Manager or the Operations Manager. As a result, it left people on the floor with no means of communication.

**Betty** - How many people were included in the discussions between the union and management? And how often did you meet?

**Ray** - The meetings were held frequently and included a group called The Key Four. It consisted of two union employees, the president and the chairman, and

two management employees, the Plant Manager and the Human Resources Manager.

**Betty** - After repeated reports, did management tell you what was being done to address the incidents or give you a time frame for action?

**Ray** - They didn't have a plan.

**Betty** - What prompted your action to go to the Ohio Civil Rights Commission with your complaint?

**Ray** - My intent was to expose the behavior of General Motors and some UAW members. Management has the obligation to secure a safe and non-hostile work environment. The UAW members and General Motors acted in collabo-

ration by their delayed and lack of response to the entire situation. Their failure to respond quickly and decisively allowed the incidents to escalate and the environment to become toxic.

**If you feel your civil rights have been violated. Know your rights!!**

Harassment is a form of employment discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The Equal Employment Commission (EEOC) defines harassment as unwelcome conduct that is based on race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information. Harassment becomes unlawful where 1) enduring the offensive conduct becomes a condition of continued employment, or 2) the conduct is severe or pervasive enough to create a work environment that a reasonable person would consider intimidating, hostile, or abusive.

The Federal Government requires that companies with more than 15 employees post information about Title VII in areas visible to all employees along with guidelines for reporting complaints.

Contact information for questions:

Ohio Civil Rights Commission - 419-245-2900

Toledo Unit NAACP - 419-214-1551 - fill out a complaint form on our website at [www.naacptoledo.org](http://www.naacptoledo.org)

Become a NAACP member - \$30/adult; \$15/youth annually. Join our meetings every 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Our May meeting location is the African American Legacy building at 1326 Collingwood. June through December meetings will be held at Mott Branch Library at 1085 Dorr Street.

Don't forget to vote in the primary on Tuesday, May 8!



Ray Wood

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ECODiversity... continued from page 4

**Tiffany White, Master Falconer and Co-Founder of Sonoran Desert Falconry Inc.**, was selected for her trailblazing work in falconry-based abatement in the agricultural industry and for being the nation's only African American woman master falconer. A trained biologist, she has collaborated with corporations and the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension in Yuma, Arizona to establish scalable models of abatement to decrease food safety risks posed by birds on agricultural farms where fresh produce is grown. She is also helping to introduce a new generation of Americans – including diverse youth – to the desert habitat and wildlife preservation, and falconry as an outdoor recreational sport.

Jerome Ford, Assistant Director for Migratory Birds for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, was selected for his work overseeing the nation's Migratory Bird Treaty Act and leading the charge to expand birding and migratory bird conservation to diverse audiences. Under his leadership, strategic engagement through the Urban Bird Treaty grant program has amplified conservation awareness to diverse urban communities and engaged Latino influencers in shaping the blueprint to an eco-sustainable America. Additionally, his vision initiated the creation of the Agency's first partnership with a national African American fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

Audrey Peterman, Founder & President of Earthwise Productions, was selected for an unapologetic voice on conservation and environmental justice issues and championing diversity and inclusion in the national park system. She founded the Diverse Environmental Leaders network and speakers' bureau to engage advocates from across diverse races, ethnicities, and experiential backgrounds to serve as voices for nature. She drives awareness about the parks system through her blogs and books including *Legacy on the Land: A Black Couple Discovers Our National Inheritance and Tells Why Every American Should Care* (2009.), and *Our True Nature: Finding A Zest for Life in the National Park System*, (2012). She is also a tireless advocate of diversity and inclusion business ethics in the governing of the nation's public lands.

George McDonald, Chief of the Youth Programs Division for the National Park Service, was selected for his role developing innovative youth pipeline opportunities to increase diversity and inclusion in the National Parks Service. His trailblazing work in key signature programs includes the creation of numerous diversity initiatives including, the Asian American Legacy Program, the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Intern Program, the Latino Heritage Intern Program, and the Mosaics in Science Program; and, supported the expansion of

the Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps Program for Native Americans, and the American Sign Language Conservation Corps Program for the deaf and hard of hearing. He had a leadership role in the effort to develop the Agency's national partnership to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Of special note, he was the Project Manager for the Presidential Commission for the establishment of the National Museum for African American History and Culture, now a Smithsonian Museum.

About ECODiversityTM

ECODiversityTM was launched in 2016 to give a voice to champions of diversity in conservation and environmental justice; and to drive diversity and inclusion as a business imperative in the eco, green, and conservation industries. A diversity-run and operated social enterprise, we produce the ECODiversity Top 50 Diversity Leaders Awards; ECODiversity Magazine, a national, online and print publication; and, signature programs. For more information, log on to [www.eco-diversity.com](http://www.eco-diversity.com).

## Jazz at the Valentine

The Toledo Jazz Orchestra is proud to present one of its own, saxophonist **Mark Lemle** and his jazz group at Registry Bistro, located in Downtown Toledo's historic Secor Building. Mark is the only member to have played continuously with the TJO since it began in 1980. Joining Mark for this performance will be local musicians **Eric Dickey** on piano, **Scott Potter** on trumpet, **Kevin Eikum** on bass, and guest artist Bob Breithaupt, percussionist and Professor of Music from Capitol University in Columbus. The concert will feature music from great jazz saxophonists, including **John Coltrane, Charlie Parker, Joe Henderson, Michael Brecker, Cannonball Adderley, and Kenny Garrett**. Of particular note: The original grand piano used at the famous Rusty's Jazz Café in south Toledo, now owned by Mark and his business, Lemle's Piano Service, will be moved to the Bistro for this special evening.

The Bistro Series is sponsored by **Black and White Transportation** of Northwest Ohio. Tickets are \$30, which includes light hors d'oeuvres. Tickets may be purchased in advance by calling the **Valentine Theatre at (419) 242-2787**.

Contact: Toledo Jazz Orchestra 567-280-0856 or [toledojazz@comcast.net](mailto:toledojazz@comcast.net)

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ABLE: Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc.	NAACP
Area Office on Aging	The National African American Wellness Walk
Brothers United	Neighbor Works Toledo Region
Cherry Street Mission	NHA (Neighborhood Health Association)
City of Toledo Department of Neighborhoods	Toledo Elected Officials
Connecting Kids to Meals	Toledo Fire Department
Fifth Third Bank	Toledo Health Department
First Federal Bank	Toledo Public Schools
Flowers Disability Law	Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union
Frederick Douglass Community	The Urban Minority Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Outreach Program (UMADAOP)
IMA (interdenominational Ministerial Alliance)	Whittington Group Realty
IRS –VITA Program (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)	YMCA-Youth Opportunity Program
Lucas County Children Services	

We hope to see you there!

if you have any questions please contact Regina Whittington at 419.255.8876.

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# The Fair Housing Act 50 Years Later – Still a Work in Progress

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

According to the Federal Reserve, white families today in America have nearly 10 times the net worth of black families and more than eight times that of Latino families. The disparity isn't shrinking and the cause for the vast difference in wealth among communities is due to a decades-long pattern of housing discrimination established initially through a joint effort of government and the banking industry and maintained over the years by the same banking industry's discriminatory practices abetted by government inaction and collusion.

"Homeownership is the number-one method of accumulating wealth," said John Taylor, president and CEO of National Community Reinvestment Coalition, a consumer advocacy group. In the United States, "wealth and financial stability are inextricably linked to housing opportunity and homeownership," said Lisa Rice, president of the National Fair Housing Alliance, an advocacy group. Rice is the former president of the Toledo Fair Housing Center and her thoughts are echoed by her successor here in Toledo and the current president, Michael Marsh.

In the past, Marsh notes, housing discrimination "increased the wealth of whites at the expense of African Americans and created opportunities for them that excluded African Americans, those opportunities are tied to zip codes."

That past included the practice of redlining – a practice that the Center for Investigative Reporting said in February of this year persists in metro areas – extensively in 61 such areas – even when taking into account the applicants' income, loan amount and neighborhood.

The practice of redlining began in the 1930s when government surveyors graded neighborhoods in 239 cities and color-coded them from green ("best), to blue ("still desirable") to yellow ("definitely declining") to red ("hazardous"). The redlining of certain neighborhoods was due to the residents' racial and ethnic demographics – African American neighborhoods most certainly, but also, in the 1930s, Catholic and Jewish neighborhoods and those comprised of immigrants from Asia and southern and eastern Europe. After World War II, Jews, Irish Catholics, Italians and the rest of the previously undesirable white immigrants started to become upwardly mobile as the end of the Depression and the post war boom leveled the playing field for Caucasians in general. Black Americans remained in the red-lined neighborhoods since they did not have the option to flee to the suburbs or to nicer city neighborhoods.

"Zip codes can be more important than genetic codes in predicting our outcomes," says Marsh.

Government-sanctioned redlining continued

through the 1950s and 1960s. As other notable pieces of his domestic social legislation were passed in the 1960s, such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, President Lyndon Johnson found himself stymied on the issue of providing equal opportunities in attaining homeownership. It wasn't until the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. on April 4, 1968 and the ensuing civil disturbances that LBJ was able to piece together the votes in Congress to enact the Fair Housing law he wanted. The bill was signed on April 11. The law would forbid discrimination. The mission statement would read, in part, "to build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination."

Fifty years after the enactment of the law, a new secretary of HUD, Ben Carson, would amend the mission statement and omit the word "discrimination." Given the act's ineffectiveness over five decades and the decision to pretend that discrimination in housing doesn't exist, the 50-year celebration seems bittersweet. The new mission statement reads: "to ensure Americans have access to fair, affordable housing and opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency." The new statement ignores the fact that discrimination has existed and still exists.

Whether racial discrimination exists or not, the fact is that the homeownership gap, according to the Center for Investigative Reporting, had been shrinking since the 1970s but has increased dramatically since the housing bust and is now wider than it has been since the Jim Crow era.

According to the report, the most disturbing "pattern of troubling denials for people of color

across the country," exists in 61 major metropolitan areas such as Atlanta, Detroit, Philadelphia, St. Louis and San Antonio. The analysis shows that black applicants were denied access to loans at much higher rates than whites in 48 cities, Latinos in 25 cities, Asians in nine and Native Americans in three. In Washington, D.C., ironically enough, all four groups were denied at a significantly higher rate.

Toledo is not on the list of the 61 most troubled cities.

If government and elected officials have been reluctant over the past 50 years to enforce the Fair Housing Act, and they certainly have been starting with the obstructionism of the government under President Richard Nixon, LBJ's immediate successor, ("the United States government has been a major impediment to meeting the goals of the Fair Housing Act," says Marsh), non-profit agencies have helped to continue the struggle even if they have not had the clout to fully eliminate the homeownership gap or discrimination. Perhaps there is no better example of this activism than in Toledo.

Shanna Smith headed the local Fair Housing Center for 15 years and during that time she gained a reputation for her fearlessness in trying to uphold the tenets of the Fair Housing Act and ending discrimination in housing



Shanna Smith

...continued on page 8



Michael Marsh

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*Fair Housing... continued from page 7*

and eliminating segregated living patterns.

Her aggressiveness led to a federal court decision in the landmark case, Shellhammer vs. Lewallen, in which Smith and her team investigated a tenant's complaint against a landlord of sexual harassment and argued, with attorney C. Thomas McCarter, that such harassment should be covered in the FHA. Eventually, after moving up the hierarchy of federal courts which had initially denied that sexual harassment was included in the Fair Housing Act, Smith and McCarter prevailed and over 70 victims were granted relief – most of them black and poor.

Smith would leave Toledo 26 years ago to found the National Fair Housing Alliance and Lisa Rice would succeed her in Toledo until being called herself to join Smith at the NFHA. Smith retired as CEO in the last several weeks and Rice has been named CEO. Following this stellar line up of local presidents is Michael Marsh who has led the agency for the past five years. During his time at FHC – he first joined the agency in 1996 as a volunteer and was hired a year later – he has led the agency to take on the big insurance companies and has seen a “change in the way homeowners insurance has been underwritten,” he says. The agency has reached a \$3.3 million settlement with KeyBank to correct their lending patterns and has reached a settlement with Wells Fargo when “we found them doing a poor job of maintaining and marketing homes in poor neighborhoods after doing a great job in white neighborhoods [after the housing bust]” says Marsh.

The \$1.4 million Wells Fargo settlement has created funding for the Lucas County Land Bank's roof replacement program, chair lifts for the disabled, and a foreclosure prevention program.

Such successes are not easily attained. Funding is an ongoing issue for the non-profit agency. Public funding has decreased, causing the agency to drop its staff from a high of 16 to its current 10 members. Raising private funds, says March, a certified fundraiser himself, is difficult for such an abstract, policy cause.

The demographics of discrimination have shifted, says Marsh. “Disability has replaced race as the largest number of complaints as baby boomers age,” he says. The agency is preparing to file a case in federal court involving disability discrimination and is involved in a good deal of education and outreach on the subject.

And testing, of course. Shanna Smith demonstrated 45 years ago the effectiveness of testing – getting out into the community, taking a proactive approach in talking to people and uncovering examples of discrimination is



Lisa Rice

an important follow-up to the calls and inquiries the agency receives. “We do testing to ferret out complaints,” says Marsh. “We are the only group that does testing.”

## How Parents Can Help Boost Kids' Financial Literacy

April is Financial Literacy Month, providing the perfect opportunity to actively engage kids on the topic of money.

“Even young children should learn about basic money concepts, like saving for a goal and spending only what you can afford,” says Alison Summer-ville, business administration executive and head of Corporate Citizenship at Ally Financial. “Building an understanding of basic money skills and good savings habits at a young age can positively impact your children by giving them a solid foundation that they can use to manage their finances at every phase of their lives.”

This month and beyond, consider the following lessons:

### Money Basics

Conceptualizing how money works can be challenging for kids, who may see you using credit or debit cards, buying things online, and even purchasing movies on televisions and mobile devices. Since many consumers rarely use cash, children may not realize when you are actually spending money.


Discuss the prices of various products and services. Explain how money can be spent only once, and that after buying something, a person needs to earn more money in order to buy something else. To teach this concept, play “grocery store” or other games that involve buying and selling items. Take turns being the cashier and the customer.

### Start Saving

An allowance can be an opportunity to teach kids how to save. Having “give,” “save” and “spend” piggy banks is a simple but effective way to il-

...continued on page 12

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# Art Jones: Jefferson Award Winner and Advocate for Domestic Violence Victims

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

On April 5, 2018, Arthur Jones, former Toledo city councilman, was recognized for his public service when he received a Jefferson Award. His public service covers a range of activities, noted the panel, including youth, church and minority business service. His dedication and work to raise awareness of the problem of domestic violence and his advocacy for its prevention was the most significant aspect of what he has accomplished over the years. For Jones, the award was the culmination of 25 years of combating the problem – since his daughter fell victim to an act of domestic violence in 1993.

“When I lost my daughter, I joined the Victim Witness Program (coordinated by Joan Coleman) and went into churches and schools and talked about violence. But the funding ended,” recalled Jones. He went on to join the Lucas County Domestic Violence Task Force, comprised of shelter staff, law enforcement, government employees and agency leaders. He also joined the board of Bethany House, the only long-term shelter in Lucas County for victims of domestic violence and their children. He served on the board for 10 years, eight as the chairman. During his tenure, the shelter evolved from a place featuring dormitory-styles housing for victims into a facility with apartments for women and their families.

Last year, the Task Force, with the assistance of the Toledo YWCA, joined the national “No More” campaign in order to persuade victims of domestic violence, and others, to start talking about domestic violence.

“My focus is to make woman and young girls aware there is an avenue out,” says Jones of his work with the Task Force. “If I talk about it – victims know there is help.”

The impediment to getting the word out to everyone who needs or might need help is money. “Truly the need is financing for an awareness campaign,” Jones notes. “It we don’t get the funding, nothing is going to happen.”

To that end, the Task Force holds a dinner fundraiser titled Waiters Night Out (April 23 at Real Seafood) and a walk (July 14) – events Jones pushed as a means to reach out to the public.

Recently Jones has raised about \$4,500 from a variety of sources such as the Lucas County Commissioners, the Lucas County Sheriff, Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz’ campaign, among others, to further his awareness efforts. As he increases the fundraising, he intends to use it for media, billboards, printed material, and so forth. His fundraising goal is \$25,000 per year.

There is clearly a need for raising awareness of the issue of domestic violence. As Jones notes, in 2016 of the Toledo Police Department’s more than 213,000 calls for assistance, 14,903 were domestic violence-related and there were 11 domestic violence-related homicides.

The national “No More” campaign provides resources and guidance to those who have experienced sexual assault or domestic violence. Locally the campaign has established its own hotlines to provide such help. The Domestic Violence Hotline is 1-888-341-7386; the Sexual Assault Hotline is 1-866-557-7273; the Human Trafficking Hotline is 1-888-373-7888.



Art Jones with a photo of his daughter Katrina Cooper

## Discover TPS KINDERGARTEN

Registration is Now Open for Kindergarten!

**Discover TPS Registration and Open House**  
Please join us! This is an opportunity for you and your student to ‘discover’ everything about the Kindergarten program through Toledo Public Schools. You’ll meet teachers, the principal, tour the school and have the opportunity to register for Kindergarten.

**Kindergarten Open House and Registration to be held at ALL TPS Elementary Schools**  
Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm–7:00pm  
Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 9:00am–11:30am & 12:30pm–2:00pm  
Visit the TPS elementary school in your neighborhood to register or ask questions.

**Who is Eligible for Kindergarten?**  
Any child who turns five-years-old on or before September 30, 2018 is eligible to attend Kindergarten at Toledo Public Schools. Children who have a birthday after that cutoff date are encouraged to enroll in a TPS Early Childhood program. Call 419.671.9100 for more information.

**How do I register my child for Kindergarten?**

- Obtain a TPS enrollment packet from your neighborhood elementary school or download one from [tps.org](http://tps.org)
- Completed registration packets can be returned to your neighborhood elementary school

**What do I need to register my child for Kindergarten?**

1. Birth Certificate
2. Parent identification
3. Custody papers (if applicable)
4. Immunization or shot records
5. Three (3) proofs of residence, including:
  - Lease agreement or mortgage deed (mandatory)
  - Two from the following list:
    - Source of income, utility bill, telephone bill,
    - US Post Office change of address form,
    - Driver’s License

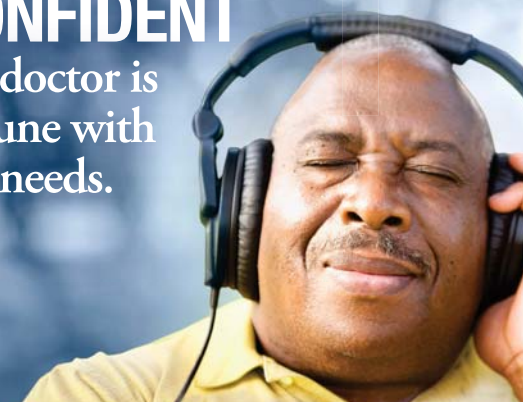


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# Beta Gamma Chapter Hosts ‘Because We Care’ Community Forum

Sojourner's Truth Staff

On Saturday, April 14, the women of Beta Gamma Chapter of Phi Delta

Kappa Sorority, Inc held a free, informational forum to provide families with the resources and tools to enable them to care for themselves and their loved ones.

The sorority invited representatives from organizations or companies to speak about caring for the elderly, about Medicare and Medicaid and about estate planning.

Arcelia Armstrong of the Area Office on Aging spoke to the attendees about health care for the dependent, ill or handicapped elderly.

Pastor Arthur Battles, Esq, addressed the issue of estate planning – benefit programs, probate matters, final arrangements and wills, living trusts and other necessary legal documents.

The national sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. was founded in 1923 by eight young educators with high ideals for the teaching profession who wanted to found a sisterhood for African-American women. The members of the sorority are dedicated to the task of training and mentoring the youth of the community to cope satisfactorily and effectively with today's problems.



**\*\*\*CHOIR MEMBERS WANTED**

**Rehearsal Times**  
**@ First Church of God (3016 Collingwood Blvd.)**  
**Monday, April 16th - 6:00 p.m.**  
**Monday, April 23rd - 6:00 p.m.**  
**Monday, April 30th - 6:00 p.m.**




Arcelia Armstrong and Pastor Arthur Battles (seated) and members and guests of Beta Gamma (standing)

## MINORITY HEALTH SUMMIT

**When: Saturday, April 28th**  
**Where: Scott High School (2400 Collingwood BLVD 43620)**  
**Time 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

April is National Minority Health Month. Join us on Saturday, April 28TH for the Minority Health Summit. This event is dedicated to raising awareness about the health issues and health disparities that exist within the minority community.  
Funding provided in part by Ohio Commission on Minority Health

**Event includes:**

- Youth Forum
- Health checks
- Guest speakers
- Community Wide Baby Shower (1pm-3pm)
- Health & fitness tips
- Local community partners



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# Social Security- Questions and Answers on Disability

By Erin Thompson, Public Affairs Specialist, Toledo, OH

**Question:**

How do I apply for disability benefits? And, how long does it take to get a decision after I apply for disability benefits?

**Answer:**

You can apply for disability benefits online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi/apply.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi/apply.html). To get a decision on your disability application usually takes three-to-five months. The time frame can vary depending on

- The nature of your disability;
  - How quickly we can get your medical evidence from your doctor or other medical source;
  - Whether it's necessary to send you for a medical examination; and
  - Whether we review your application for quality purposes.
- Learn your claim status at [www.socialsecurity.gov/claimstatus](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/claimstatus).

**Question:**

I am expecting a child and will be out of work for six months. Can I qualify for short-term disability?

**Answer:**

No. Social Security pays only for total disability — conditions that render you unable to work and are expected to last for at least a year or end in death. No benefits are payable for partial disability or short-term disability, including benefits while on maternity leave.

**Question:**

I have been getting Social Security disability benefits for many years. I'm about to hit my full retirement age. What will happen to my disability benefits?

**Answer:**

When you reach "full retirement age" we will switch you from disability to retirement benefits. But you won't even notice the change because your benefit amount will stay the same. It's just that when you reach retirement age, we consider you to be a "retiree" and not a disability beneficiary. To learn more, visit our website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

**Question:**

I need to apply for disability benefits. Where do I start?

**Answer:**

Begin by looking at our Disability Starter Kit. You can find it online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/disability\\_starter\\_kits.htm](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/disability_starter_kits.htm) or you can request a copy by calling 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). The Disability Starter Kit will help you prepare for your application and interview. When you are ready, you can apply online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability) or make an appointment to apply in person at a local Social Security office. And remember, our online disability application is convenient and secure. Don't stand in line, go online at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

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**Question:**

My husband has been in poor health for some time, and doctors have recently diagnosed him with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) – commonly referred to as Lou Gehrig's Disease. I've heard Social Security has a "fast track" for some people who are disabled. Can you tell me about it?

**Answer:**

We have two processes to "fast track" applications for disability benefits. Our Compassionate Allowances initiative allows us to fast track certain cases of individuals with very severe disabilities. There are dozens of different types of disabilities that qualify for this expedited decision, including ALS, and that list continues to expand. Learn more about Compassionate Allowances and see the full list of conditions at [www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances).

Another way we speed up decisions is with our Quick Disability Determinations initiative, which uses technology to identify applicants who have the most severe disabilities and allows us to expedite our decisions on those cases. Read more about Quick Disability Determinations at [www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityresearch/qdd.htm](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityresearch/qdd.htm).

**Question:**

I am 57 years old and I currently receive Social Security disability benefits. Can I still get my regular Social Security retirement benefits when I reach full retirement age?

**Answer:**

If you are still receiving Social Security disability benefits when you reach your full retirement age, we will automatically switch you from disability benefits to retirement benefits at that point. The money amount will remain the same. For more information, visit our website on disability benefits at [www.socialsecurity.gov/disability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability).

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*Financial Literacy... continued from page 8*

illustrate the three main uses of money and teach them about giving. Kids can practice math skills by tracking the amount saved for future spending on the things they want.

To maximize the benefits your child receives from saving money, you may want to consider a Uniform Transfers to Minors Act (UTMA) or custodial bank account. For example, those offered by Ally Bank, Member FDIC, require no minimum balance to open, and offer competitive interest rates and no monthly maintenance fees. When opening such an account, take time to discuss interest and other basic banking concepts.

**Needs vs. Wants**

Help your children learn the difference between needs and wants. Explain how you have to pay for needs like food, shelter and heat, before buying items that you want, such as toys and electronics. Help your children come up with a plan to save and spend their own money that takes into account their needs and wants.

**Helpful Resources**

Turn to free resources that your family can use to help teach kids financial concepts. For example, Ally, a digital financial services company, released "Planet Zee and the Money Tree," a book for parents and educators that uses a fun and futuristic story line to teach kids ages 6-10 basic financial literacy. Parents can visit [allywalletwise.com](http://allywalletwise.com) to download the book and play "What's Zee Answer?" an interactive game where players answer questions based on the concepts covered in the book. Additional resources for all ages are also available at [fdic.gov/moneysmart](http://fdic.gov/moneysmart).

This April, take the time to plant the seeds of money mindfulness and boost your children's financial knowledge.

*Courtesy StatePoint*

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*Senator Brown... continued from page 16*

Youth of the Year Award. Every year, Ohio Military Kids presents this award in partnership with the Ohio National Guard to an outstanding military child.

"Travis' devotion to helping others and bettering the community despite the challenges of growing up in a military family speaks strongly of his character," said Brown. "He has proven himself worthy of this distinction through both his academics and volunteer experiences." Meyers currently volunteers for the Jerusalem Township Volunteer Fire Department. Previously, he held a position with Vail Meadows, a therapeutic riding center for people with disabilities. "Travis is a true role model and reminder of the many ways our lives are enhanced by the dedication and determination of our young adults and particularly our military youth," said Brown.

*Redlining... continued from page 2*

crisis. Weakening the Consumer Protection Bureau's fair lending enforcement would diminish protections and put people of color at higher risk of being preyed on by shady lenders.

When the Senate voted to roll back Dodd-Frank, I voted against scaling back those protections and will fight against any effort to slash consumer protections that could result in the predatory mortgages we saw just a decade ago. Ohioans should have access to affordable, safe mortgages and not have to worry about unfair or deceptive lending practices.

Buying a home is one of the most important decisions a family will make in their lives. Last year, the author Mathew Desmond scribbled a note to me in the front of his book on housing. He wrote, "home = life." For so many, owning a home can change their lives. A good, standard mortgage provides equity and financial stability. And Ohioans choose their homes with care – they look for safe neighborhoods and vibrant communities; good schools and parks for their kids. The opportunity to chart your own destiny in life often begins with choosing where you live. And too many families of color are being denied that opportunity.

No Ohioan should ever be denied access to a home loan, or become the target of predatory lending, because of the color of her skin. It's clear now more than ever that we need the Consumer Protection Bureau to protect Ohioans from modern-day redlining and hold financial institutions accountable for their actions.

*U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) lives in Cleveland. He is the top Democrat on the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.*

<h1>7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BUSINESS &amp; HEALTH EXPO</h1> <p>SAVE THE DATE – SPRING 2018</p> <p><b>WHEN:</b> Saturday, April 28th 10:00am - 4:00pm</p> <p><b>WHERE:</b> Indiana Ave MB Church The Stephenson - Roberts Fellowship Hall</p> <p>640 Indiana Ave. Toledo, OH 43604</p>	<p><b>FREE EVENT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC</b></p> <p>Come enjoy free health screenings, exclusive shopping, and networking opportunities.</p> <p>SPONSORSHIP &amp; VENDING OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE NOW!!</p> <p><b>Corporate Sponsors</b></p> <p>Toledo Family Pharmacy Woodforest National Bank Area Office on Aging Buckeye Health Plan The Truth Newspaper Tyrell L. Betts Productions Mercy Health OMG Productions – Tracy Roberts Paramount Toledo Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau Adventurous Travels</p> <p><b>CONTACT</b> Ms. Donnetta Carter Phone: (419) 367-9765 E-mail: <a href="mailto:donnetta_c@msn.com">donnetta_c@msn.com</a></p>
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# Bad Men and Wicked Women by Eric Jerome Dickey

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

Blood is thicker than water.

That's what they say: your relationship with family – blood – is stronger than any connection you'll have with someone unrelated. Blood is thicker than water – except, perhaps, as in the new novel *Bad Men and Wicked Women* by Eric Jerome Dickey, when the blood shed is your own.

Fifty thousand dollars is a lot of money.

But that's how much Ken Swift's estranged daughter, Margaux, suddenly demanded of him. She claimed that it was payback for all the years he was absent. She said it was a small price to pay for abandoning her. And then, just in case he had no plans to give her the cash, she uttered a name that he never wanted to hear again.

It was a name that went far into his history, one that tied him to his boss, San Bernardino, who told Swift what to do and where to be. San Bernardino was why Swift put Margaux off: he had business to take care of on the swanky side of town. Richard Garrett owed somebody some money that he wasn't paying, and Swift and his best friend, Joe Ellis, were told to take care of the problem.

But a quick visit to Garrett's mansion opened a world of issues that Swift didn't need. Joe Ellis, an "instigator" and woman-magnet, flirted with Garrett's wife, which spun Garrett into a rage. Though Garrett promised to have the money to San Bernardino by that night, Ken Swift sensed that that wasn't the last they'd see of him.

It wasn't as if Swift couldn't use more money himself. Without that

c. 2018  
Dutton  
\$27.00 / \$36.00 Canada  
371 pages

50 grand, Margaux was threatening to take the secret name to the police. Margaux's mother was back in the States from Africa, and Swift realized that he was still in love with Jimi Lee. All this made him forget his girlfriend's birthday, and Rachel Redman was threatening to return to her Russian lover. Swift was up to his neck in women with problems – a neck that was stuck far enough out to be vulnerable to attack...

One strong indicator of a good book is how eager you are to return it. *Bad Men and Wicked Women* surely fills that bill.

Don't expect that feeling immediately, though. Author Eric Jerome Dickey takes his time getting to the point here; there's plenty of fluff-dialogue in this tale that doesn't do much but fill pages, and some that screams "TMI."

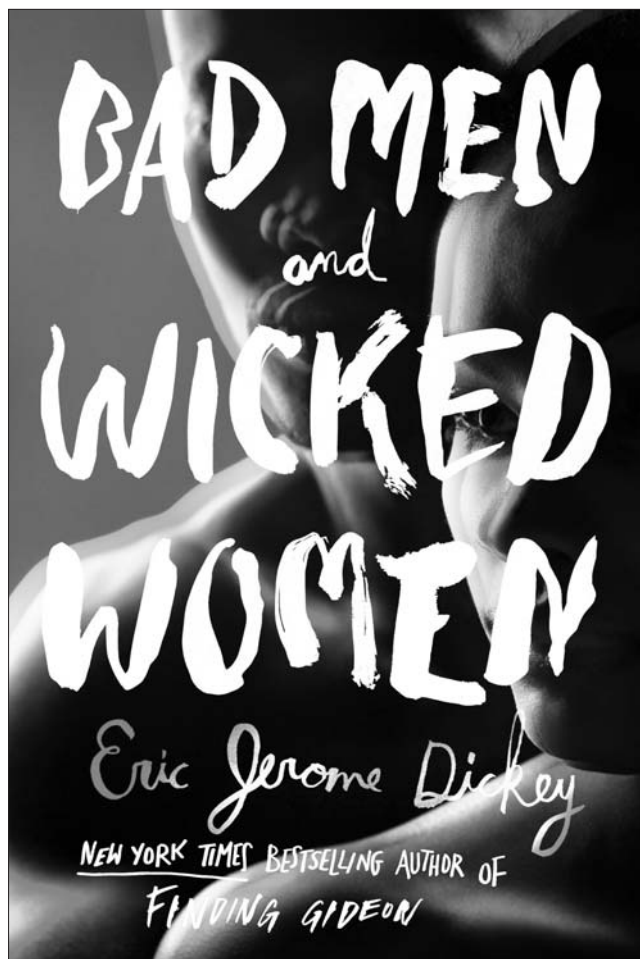
We don't, for instance, need several pages on one character's intestinal problems.

What we do need is action, and it arrives in a page-turning fury that handily douses the superfluousness that precedes it. Its presence is like getting your back scratched: it puts you in a mood and you don't want it to end. Indeed, larger-than-life scenarios are near-hallmarks in a Dickey novel, and nobody does them better.

Yes, there's trash, flash, and violence in this book but you shouldn't be surprised. You wouldn't want it any other way, in fact, because *Bad Men and Wicked Women* is thick with thrills.



Eric Jerome Dickey - Photo courtesy Joseph Jones Photography



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# CLASSIFIEDS

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April 18, 2018

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Labor Relations Services

RFP#18-R006

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for Labor Relations Services.

Received in accordance with law until April 26, 2018 at 3PM ET. For documents:

[www.lucasmha.org](http://www.lucasmha.org), 201 Belmont Ave., Toledo, OH 43604 or 419-259-9533 (TRS: Dial 711).

Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246).

This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



## NORTHGATE APARTMENTS

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## MENTAL HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES BOARD OF LUCAS COUNTY

### OPIATE HUB PLANNING SPECIALIST

Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County is seeking applicants for AmeriCorps Vista Member. Additional information regarding the duties is available on the Lucas County web site ([www.co.lucas.oh.us](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us)). Click on "Apply for a Job" and then select Opiate Hub Planning Specialist from the list to read more or apply.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Proposals must be received no later than **4:30 PM on Monday, April 30, 2018**

## REAL ESTATE AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER LUCAS COUNTY

Lucas County Planning & Development Agency is accepting applications to fill the position of Real Estate and Development Manager until filled. Additional information regarding the duties is available on the Lucas County web site ([www.co.lucas.oh.us](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us)). Click on "Apply for a Job" and then select "Real Estate and Development Manager" from the list to read more or apply.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

## HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEMBERS NEEDED

Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz today asked members of the Toledo community to consider applying to become a member of the newly-created Human Relations Commission.

"Thirteen commission members are needed to serve the community in this very important role," the mayor said.

Anyone interested should submit a resume and a letter of interest to the mayor's office at [mayor@toledo.oh.gov](mailto:mayor@toledo.oh.gov).

Membership as defined in the Toledo City Council ordinance creating the commission is as follows:

1. The Commission shall consist of fourteen members. Thirteen members shall be citizens appointed by the mayor and subject to confirmation by council in accordance with the composition requirements set forth herein. The remaining member shall be a member of council who shall sit on the commission in an ex-officio capacity. The council member of the commission shall be the chairman of the council committee with oversight of the commission as determined by the president and members of council. The councilmember of the commission shall be non-voting. Initially the composition of the thirteen citizen members of the commission will include four members appointed to one-year terms, four members appointed to two-year terms, and five members will be appointed to three-year terms. Members appointed after the initial members are appointed shall be appointed for three-year terms.

2. To the greatest extent practicable, the commission shall be comprised of members who represent the racial and ethnic diversity of the men and women of Toledo, and who have demonstrated in their words and actions a sensitivity to the need to end discrimination and ensure equal opportunity for all. In order to ensure representation of a broad range of community perspectives, the commission will include one labor representative, one religious affiliation representative, one education representative, one business or economic development representative, one youth representative, one member of the legal community, one neighborhood representative, one LGBT representative, and five at-large appointments. The at-large appointments include the four members and the board chairman who make up an executive committee.

Its mission states: "The Human Relations Commission shall endeavor to support a safe, energetic, and livable city. The commission will support residents working to overcome prejudice and build mutual respect."

## ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

The University of Toledo Department of World Languages and Cultures invites applications for a full-time, tenure-track position, at the rank of Assistant Professor, in the area of Latin American Literature and Culture, to begin in Fall 2018. The position will involve teaching at all undergraduate as well as graduate levels within the Spanish program. Applicants must have native-like fluency in Spanish and English, and hold a Ph.D. in Spanish by August 20, 2018. We seek a candidate with a commitment to teaching excellence, and experience teaching upper level courses is preferred. An interest in teaching writing and experience mentoring underrepresented minority students is a plus. Area of research is open, but must be related to Latin American literature or culture. Screening of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Applicants must apply for this position at <https://jobs.utoledo.edu>. Applicants must include a cover letter, CV, three recommendation letters, and a statement of teaching philosophy. Teaching evaluations must be available upon request.

The University of Toledo is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. The University is dedicated to the goal of building a culturally diverse and pluralistic faculty and staff committed to teaching and working in a multicultural environment and strongly encourages applications from women, minorities, individuals with disabilities, dual-career professionals and covered veterans.

**Notice to Bidders:** Inquiry # FY18-30, (Project # 5003-18-1855) for Health Education Building 110 Classroom Renovation for the University of Toledo Health Science Campus. 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, Main Campus, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 1, 2018 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 Rd., Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$50.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Andy Knopp of Thomas Porter Architects at 419-243-2400. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the Health Education Building, Room 227, at the University of Toledo, Health Science Campus, 3000 Arlington Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43614. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 15%. Project Estimate: \$359,000.00; Breakdown: General: \$359,000.00..

Call to place your ad  
419-243-0007  
[www.TheTruthToledo.com](http://www.TheTruthToledo.com)

# Toledo Symphony Performs All-Jazz Concert Featuring Music from Duke Ellington and World Premiere

Special to The Truth

On April 20 & 21 at 8 p.m. at the Toledo Museum of Art's Peristyle Theater, Sara Jobin will conduct the Toledo Symphony Orchestra (TSO) for two ProMedica Classics Series performances of Classical Ellington, exploring the orchestral world of Duke Ellington and works inspired by jazz.

The city of Toledo is known for its rich and flourishing jazz scene. Some of the greatest jazz artists began their journey in Toledo, such as Art Tatum, Jon Hendricks and Ramona Collins, and have left a legacy that will forever be part of its history.

Classical Ellington showcases several works written by the jazz king himself, Duke Ellington, a jazz-inspired work that was commissioned for the TSO 35 years ago, and a work that will make history as a world premiere on Friday and Saturday evening. Duke Ellington has a unique connection to the Toledo Symphony, as he was the first non-classical artist to perform on the Peristyle stage on January 9, 1956.

The program will open with Ellington's version of The Nutcracker and close with his own tone poem, Harlem, a piece that illustrates the complex diversity of Harlem, New York in 1950. Russian-born American pianist Natasha Paremiski will join the TSO on stage to perform Four Parables by Toledo composer Paul Schoenfeld, a work for piano and orchestra that was commissioned for the TSO 35 years ago on May 13, 1983 for the 1982-1983 performance season.

Inspired by real-life situations, each movement in Four Parables musically depicts different environments and states of mind. "Four Parables is a beautiful and complex work whose fundamental tonal language is the blues, but you will also hear echoes of Mozart, Bolcolm, Messiaen,

and burlesque!" said Jobin, resident conductor of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra.

The TSO will make history with the world premiere of Latin Jazz Suite by Alice Gomez, a work inspired by the Cubop jazz movement of the 1940s and 1950s, when many artists incorporated elements of Cuban popular music into their jazz compositions, altering the course of American musical history forever. This piece features the TSO's very own Principal Trumpet, Lauraine Carpenter.

"Jazz is America's greatest export, and Ellington is one of America's great composers. It is my honor to conduct this concert which explores three different 'flavors' of jazz in the concert hall - big band, Latin, and Schoenfeld's amalgam which is influenced by Mozart and Messiaen. I'm sad it's one of the last concerts of my tenure, but happy to be conducting this fabulous music!" said Jobin.

Classical Ellington concludes the Toledo Symphony's North Star Festival, which celebrates the musical contribution of black Americans throughout history from the 1850s to 1960s. Two performances of Classical Ellington will take place Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21 at 8 p.m. at the Toledo Museum of Art's Peristyle Theater. Tickets are available at toledosymphony.com or by calling the Toledo Symphony Box Office at 419-246-8000.

For more information, please contact Felecia Kanney, director of Marketing for the Toledo Symphony at fkanney@toledosymphony.com.

**T.C.C. WELCOMES YOU TO**

**A Community Forum**

**Changing Minds & Changing Lives:**  
**Your zip code should not determine your Health**

Please join us as The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity helps our community navigate the issue of community health inequity and how we overcome it TOGETHER.

**Sponsored by**  
 The Toledo Community Coalition, Advocates for Basic Legal Equality Inc., NAACP, Multifaith Council of Northwest Ohio, Lucas-County Health Dept. Toledo-Lucas County Getting to 1, U.S. Catholic Assoc. of Priest, Reentry Coalition, O.C.R.C./United Way of Greater Toledo, and The Blade

**6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 26**  
**at Bowsher High School,**  
**2200 Arlington Ave., Toledo**

Funded in part by Toledo-Lucas County Getting to 1 with funding from Ohio Department of Medicaid.  
 Secured parking provided

For more information go to: [fcogtoledo.com](http://fcogtoledo.com)  
 or call 419-255-0098, ext. 204

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**CALL 419 241 5293**

# Rep. Fedor Announces Support for School Safety Bill

*Legislation seeks to expand officer safety training, mental health resources in Ohio schools*

State Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) last week announced her support for House Bill (HB) 318, which allocates \$10 million for school resource officer (SRO) training, purchasing school safety equipment, and providing educational and mental health resources to Ohio schools.

"Standardizing and funding school resource officer training and mental health services for students are critically important methods of protecting our students, teachers and school staff," said Fedor. "This legislation will better prepare our school resource officers as it seeks to prevent violence by supporting mental health resources. This is the multi-pronged approach to school safety Ohio needs."

While state law currently allows school districts to hire school resource officers, there are no standards in place to regulate the official duties and responsibilities for these officers. HB 318 would require SROs to complete an approved training program, with an additional 40 hours of instruction specific to performing in school envi-

ronments, including classroom management, de-escalation techniques and a focus on communication skills to facilitate positive student interactions.

HB 318 also allocates \$10 million for noncompetitive, one time grants to be used for SRO certification training, the purchase and installation of school safety devices and educational and mental health resources for all grade levels.

"Our children should not be living in fear that they may leave for school one morning and never return home to their loved ones. School should be a safe space where children can learn and grow to reach their full potential," said Fedor. "I look forward to the positive changes this bill will bring to not only Toledo students, but all Ohio students."

After passing the House 89-1, the bill now moves to the Senate for consideration.

# Senator Brown Recognizes Travis Meyers as 2018 Military Youth of the Year

Last week, state Senator Edna Brown (D-Toledo) presented Travis Meyers with a resolution honoring him as the recipient of the 2018 Military

*... continued on page 12*



Sen. Brown

2018 Opening Day is Thursday, April 12



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Rides are only \$1.25 per person—60¢ for seniors 65+ and persons with disabilities—each way, payable when boarding the bus. Children under age 6 are free (limit two children per paid adult). No game ticket is required to use Game Shuttle service.

Return trips leave 20 minutes after the end of the game on the first base side of Fifth Third Field; when post-game fireworks are featured, return bus trips leave 20 minutes after the fireworks.

**Visit TARTA.com or call 419.243.7433 for more information.**

