



# The Sojourner's Truth

Volume 51, No. 5

“And Ye Shall Know The Truth...”

July 18, 2018



Councilman Gary Johnson



Candidate for Ohio Auditor Zack Space and Rep. Michael Ashford



Joe McNamara



State Rep. Teresa Fedor



Lucas County Auditor Anita Lopez



Paula Hicks-Hudson

## 14th African American Festival Begins with Breakfast and Parade

Sojourner's Truth Staff

For the 14th year, the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union (TUFCU) hosted a prayer breakfast and parade to kick off its annual African American Festival. This year's breakfast was held at Mt. Nebo Baptist Church and the parade, as is the custom, started at Dorr and Smead Streets, next to the

TUFCU building, headed towards Collingwood Ave, turning onto City Park before winding down.

The prayer breakfast, held on Friday morning, June 13, featured Bishop

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# Safety First

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

The Truth Contributor

*I believe there are some sincere white people. But I think they should prove it.*

- Malcolm X



Expect veteran firefighter Brian Byrd to be named Chief of the Toledo Fire Department (TFD), replacing Luis Santiago who is set to retire during the first week of August 2018.

Regarded as the best candidate for the job, Byrd was selected over Karen Marquardt, a Santiago protégé and David Hitt, a TFD administrator who is also African American. It is my understanding that the outspoken Hitt, while a favorite of many in the black community, faces an upcoming mandatory retirement in a little over one year whereas Byrd's required retirement date is December 31, 2021, which exactly coincides with the end of Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz' elected term.

Byrd's upcoming appointment comes just as racial tensions are beginning to rise between the community and safety forces. The "lily white" Toledo Fire Department has long struggled with diversity issues and Byrd, through his annual African American Male Wellness Walk and other initiatives, has an exemplary record of involvement in the black community.

While the mayor has been extraordinarily busy addressing diversity challenges in the Fire Department, issues between the community and the Toledo Police Department (TPD) are threatening to spiral out of control despite police Chief George Kral's best efforts to maintain a visible presence in Toledo neighborhoods.

Shootings are up and there have been 25 homicides in Toledo so far this year. Evidence, according to Kral, indicates that much of the violence has to do with drug dealing and retaliation shootings as gangs continue to fight primarily amongst themselves.

How can we make the community safe?

Chief Kral is convinced that the availability of good jobs, a structural issue beyond his control, would solve a lot of the violence. Technology such as Shot Spotter, a high tech solution used in Chicago, could also be helpful but the \$250,000 purchase price plus \$75,000 per month for each three-mile stretch of Toledo makes the initiative cost prohibitive.

In addition, last week's viral video of TPD's arrest of a young African-

American man amidst an angry crowd of neighbors and passersby has complicated matters by highlighting the growing mistrust of police by many in the community.

After viewing the video, I am not competent to comment on whether TPD followed protocol or if the procedures were fair or just. However, the willingness of police personnel to get into a back and forth argument with bystanders and engage in "one-up" interactions with residents indicated a lack of cultural competency or sensitivity of some in the department.

Will more black police officers help?

Forty-four percent of the Toledo Police Department has less than 10 years seniority, according to Chief Kral. Ninety nine percent of the current force is college educated and nearly 50 percent of the officers live within the city of Toledo.

While minorities only comprise 15 percent of the force in a city that is nearly 26 percent black, the new class set to begin late July is 25 percent African American, 10 percent Latino and 44 percent female, "one of the most diverse classes we've had in a while," says Kral.

Yet, a black presence, both among the rank and file and safety force leadership, though helpful in providing relevant cultural awareness, is not enough to either bridge the trust gap or to reduce violence in Toledo.

Where Do We Go From Here?

The answer lies only in a joint approach to violence that includes the community, law enforcement and the criminal justice system as equal and mutually respected partners.

This arrangement cannot happen where there is no community buy-in or authentic relationships that transcend the superficial associations of existing initiatives.

Finally, strong leadership and direction must come from the 22nd floor. Mayor Kapszukiewicz must become a champion for the new partnership and ensure that the safety director and the police and fire chiefs are sincerely engaged. The example of the chiefs will inspire their subordinates to do their job to help make this community safe.

They had better. We all must. And soon!

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min. at [drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org](mailto:drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org)

## The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African American  
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## Community Calendar

**July 21**

Sixth Annual Free Universal Health Clinic: Wayman Palmer YMCA; 9 am to 1 pm

**July 29**

Ebenezer MBC 100 Women in White Service: 4 pm; "Come on, Let's Go Higher;" Speaker Linda Ransey of Upper Room Tabernacle

**August 11**

Youth Explosion: First Church of God; 11:30 am to 2 pm; Food, music, giveaways; Bring your own chair: 419-843-1434 or 419-255-0077

# The Angry White Voter Is on The Move

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

It is more than just a plain ol' case of angst. It is more than just frustration. It is more than just a "phase".

It is on the seismic meter scale of a crashing nine out of 10. A political tsunami would be the polite way to say it in mixed racial company.

It has been building since Brown v. Board of Education and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Its tentacles have reached into practically every state house and now infests a cowardly but determined Congress and a spasmodic nation that is feeling the ground shift and tremble under its feet.

The groundswell is building and building and promises to erupt into a cathartic roar if the midterms turn the Congress blue and that newly colored Congress attempts to impeach or remove its darling hero and cult like figure, Donald Trump.

In a nutshell, many, many white folks are mad and they are not taking it anymore! And what is the "it"?

The "it" refers to any people of color (including babies and infants and young teens) who try to grab a hold of the American Dream for themselves via either seeking legal asylum or illegal entry into these distraught United States.

The roar you hear at any Trump rally is the cry of the angry white voter who is feeling empowered by the racial and racist antics of Donald Trump.

Now, certain white people no longer have to feign or fake it when it comes to their animosity towards anything darker than a snowflake. Donald Trump has given them implicit and explicit permission to come out in the open and display their phobias of racial animus; and if that animus includes taking brown infants from their crying mothers, well...so be it.

For the Trumpettes, such brutality and injustice against brown families is collateral damage to the bigger plan of they not even thinking about coming to the United States unless they have a PhD, a medical degree or are engineers. In other words, send us the crème de la crème and we will greet you with open arms.

But, if you are tired and poor and without funds and do not have a sufficient grasp of the English language, the word to you with a balled fist is, "Stay Out and Stay Away!"

The recent charade at the Mexico and US border is only a harbinger of things to come when it regards people of color and that includes black people.

Donald Trump has already aligned himself with Neo-Nazis and has denigrated all African nations to shithole countries and has labeled all Haitians as having AIDS.

Herr Trump has repeatedly shown America and the world that he is not kindly attuned towards anyone who color (black or brown) make up the majority population of the non western world.

When you see the shenanigans at a Trump rally and view the faces of his supporters, you quickly get the feeling that you would not be welcomed at such places and you could be a target for some yahoo who would see it as his or her white nationalistic duty to put a lump upside your nappy head.

Herr Trump foments discord and chaos. That is what he is good for and that is what he seemingly enjoys...to rile up his base with lies and falsehoods that they will only believe what comes out of his fact defying fog machine.

His recent pick for the Supreme Court ostensibly shares a view of the law that dove tails with Trump's view regarding presidential powers and that is the reason he was selected.

Trump's white base including over 80-percent of those who identify as white Christian evangelicals have no qualms in swallowing his lies and at the same time trying to ease their indecision regarding his abhorrent moral behavior as saying that they elected a president and not a minister to the White House.

Unless you are able and willing to understand how and why so many white evangelical Christians can be double minded, you would have to accept the premise that all that say that they are Christians are not in fact Christians but in name only.

Trump is attempting to get the feckless GOP and his rabid supporters to throw off all restraint and to have him alone feed them his diet of what is right and what is wrong and if someone contradicts what he says, they are to be deemed as "Fake News!"

This is how despots take power. They cut and divide and lie and shade the

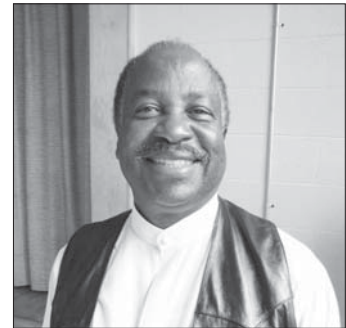
truth and denounce those institutions and personalities that say "No!" to his extreme views and aberrational thinking.

The angry white voter who put Trump in office is totally clueless as to the harm that Trump's policies are affecting his bottom line and quality of life but for reasons that defy common sense and logic, he is happy with his choice and will treat at the enemy anyone who says a word or two against his champion.

Democracy is a fragile butterfly that requires constant protection and nourishment from its defenders so to enable it to thrive and prosper. Anytime anyone of a malevolent nature attempts to swat the butterfly because of their own internal demons, the protectors (the media, informed voters, an engaged Congress, The Supreme Court) must rally and depose any upstart despot who is spoiling for a fight.

The many angry white voters have been taken for ride by Herr Trump and until they come to their senses and understand that they are only pawns to Herr Trump for his own nefarious goals, America will remain in gridlock and a national community will suffer long term damages.

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# Statement from Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz:

I have seen the video of yesterday's arrest, and I have discussed it with Chief Kral, members of City Council and various community leaders. We are going to take the time necessary to make sure the incident is reviewed thoroughly and fairly.

I understand that some people feel unjustly targeted by law enforcement, and yet I also know that police officers have among the most difficult jobs in America. There is plenty of room for an honest exchange

of views on how best to police our neighborhoods, but that is only possible if we take the time to talk to each other.

Mutual trust between police officers and the community they serve is crucial to making Toledo a safe and livable city. Over the upcoming days and weeks, I will be reaching out to community leaders to discuss strategies on how best to build this relationship and work toward the common goal of a safe Toledo.

# Statement From Councilman Tyrone Riley

I regret the incident at Andy's Bar and Grill on Tuesday night and directly conveyed my regrets to the owners. We have resolved our misunderstanding about the payment for food and beverages, to the satisfaction of all parties.

I sincerely apologize to the citizens of Toledo for the manner in which I handled the situation at Andy's Bar and Grill. It was not my intention to cause any negative feelings or inconvenience. As a public official I

owe a responsibility to my constituents and my family to avoid situations that place my judgment at issue. As a city councilman, I must hold myself to a higher standard. I have learned from this experience and, as a result, this kind of conduct will not occur in the future. I will work hard to regain your confidence and, as always, I will continue to do my best to serve you.

Councilman Tyrone Riley

# Senator John McCain's Statement on Trump's Meeting with Putin

"Today's press conference in Helsinki was one of the most disgraceful performances by an American president in memory. The damage inflicted by President Trump's naiveté, egotism, false equivalence, and sympathy for autocrats is difficult to calculate. But it is clear that the summit in Helsinki was a tragic mistake.

"President Trump proved not only unable, but unwilling to stand up to Putin. He and Putin seemed to be speaking from the same script as the president made a conscious choice to defend a tyrant against the fair questions of a free press, and to grant Putin an uncontested platform to spew propaganda and lies to the world.

"It is tempting to describe the press conference as a pathetic rout – as an illustration of the perils of under-preparation and inexperience. But

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# New Heritage Village Apartments Grand Opening

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

A grand opening celebration was held on Monday, July 16, in the yard of 1207 Superior Street, one of 41 buildings that have been renovated by the Vistula Management Company.

The \$33 million project started four years ago, said John Kiely of the Vistula Management Company. Kiely first started working on renovating properties in the Vistula District in 1977. This most recent project involved the renovation of 250 units, all for low income families, with about 500-to-600 residents.

"They get to live in the nicest buildings on the block," said Kiely. All told, the company Kiley formed decades ago has brought over 70 buildings back to life in the historic neighborhood – Toledo's first neighborhood.

The money for the project was raised through the help of Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing, the Ohio Housing Finance Agency, Rose Community Capital, LLC and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development with support from U.S. Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. Kaptur and representatives from all those entities spoke during the ceremony.

"This is Toledo's first neighborhood," said Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz during the ceremony. "The beginning of our city. There is so much history in this neighborhood .It will ibe in neighborhoods like this that our city must rebuild."



*Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur*



*1207 N. Superior*

# Rep. Ashford Applauds State Support for Local Government Center Parking Garage Upgrades

State Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) announced the release of \$134,256.88 last week for parking garage upgrades at the Lucas County's Michael V. DiSalle Government Center in Toledo.



*Rep. Michael Ashford*

"Essential equipment at the DiSalle Government Center parking garage as reached its expiration date, but I'm happy to see the state invest in innovative technological equipment that will ensure our patrons' safety while providing a solid structure for many years to come," said Ashford.

The project will replace the parking garage's current PARCS system equipment. The new equipment will also feature innovative and upgradable software, factory support, readily available parts and will provide for local repair and maintenance services.

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# Janet P. Eaton Appointed Athletic Director

*Special to The Truth*

Lourdes University president Mary Ann Gawelek, Ed.D., is pleased to announce the appointment of Janet P. Eaton as Athletic Director. Having worked in athletics and education on the collegiate and high school levels, her coaching career spans 15 years with nearly 10 years' experience as an athletic director.

The Lourdes University Athletics program sponsors 19 sports and is a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). The Gray Wolves are members of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC). Since establishing the athletics program in 2010, Lourdes teams have won four WHAC championships and made 16 NAIA National Tournament appearances.

Janet P. Eaton comes to Lourdes University from Indiana State University, a NCAA member institution, where she was the Assistant Coach of Women's Basketball from 2014-2018. She served in the same role for Lamar University in Texas from 2004-2008.

"I am pleased to join the Lourdes University Athletics Program and proudly serve and represent the Gray Wolves. My experience and dedication to student success will be at the forefront as we continue NAIA's tradition of providing character-driven intercollegiate athletics," says Eaton.

"The Lourdes Athletics Program will do well under Ms. Eaton's leadership. Her diverse background in coaching, administration and teaching will prove beneficial to our students, coaches and staff," adds President Gawelek.



Janet Eaton

A seasoned administrator, Eaton served as the athletic director for Wiley College, an NAIA Division I institution in Texas from 2011-2014. During her tenure at the historically black college affiliated with The United Methodist Church, she also served as head coach of Women's Basketball and the associate director of Athletics. While at Wiley, she also taught classes as an adjunct professor.

Ms. Eaton earned an associate degree from Jones Junior College in Mississippi, a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dillard University and a Master of Education degree from The University of Phoenix, both in Louisiana. Appointed to the National Administrative Council for NAIA in 2014, she has received several Coach of the Year Awards and two Athletic Director of the Year Awards. She will assume her role on Friday, July 13.



## Making the Most of Local Produce

*Special to The Truth*

Fresh, local produce is in its prime, making now the perfect time to take part in the farm-to-table movement. Whether you join a community supported agriculture (CSA) group or shop at your local farmers' market, it's easy to taste the elevated flavor profile of just-picked fruits and veggies.

Make the most of the season with these tips for storing, cooking and savoring fresh produce.

**Plan, Prioritize, Prepare**

Plan what produce you will purchase ahead of time. Many farmers' markets and CSAs distribute eNewsletters or flyers that highlight what's available. You can also search for seasonality charts in your region to get an idea of what items are at their peak, and plan accordingly.

*... continued on page 10*

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NAACP - The Struggle Continues

# The Negro Holocaust - Lynching and Race in America - Part 3:

By Lunette Howell and Betty Valentine, NAACP Editorial Team  
 The Truth Contributors

In April of this year, the Equal Justice Initiative opened the Legacy Museum and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama. The memorial is constructed of hundreds of floating columns on which the names of lynching victims from over 800 counties across the U.S. are inscribed.

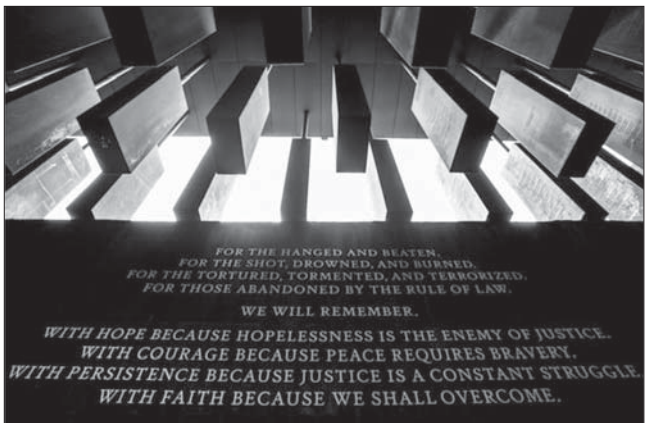
The museum examines the connections between past and present and the lingering legacy of racial injustice. The memorial remembers the victims of a sustained domestic campaign of terror and the thousands of African-Americans who were lynched to maintain white supremacy.

Script on one of the walls reads: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration. This statement makes a direct connection to the past, and in particular, the lasting effects of lynching. During the period of lynching, blacks were psychologically scarred and forced to learn survival tactics that allowed them to rebel against inaction.

Blacks understood the consequences of being powerless and sought to defy their fate. The civil rights movement brought a rise of militant groups designed to physically and emotionally reclaim their manhood. These new tactics are now manifested in all forms of violence and they are no longer aimed at just the white oppressor. The spray has now widened to include anyone threatening the black man's sense of masculinity. This violence has resulted in one in three black men between the ages of 20 and 29 being incarcerated. Many have lost their right to vote.

There is a process in place often referred to as the Inferiorization Process that is described as the systematic attack involving the entire complex of political, legal, educational, economic, religious, military, and mass media institutions controlled by whites; designed to produce dysfunctional patterns of behavior among blacks in all areas of life. Through this process blacks are socialized to be incapable of solving or helping to produce solutions to problems posed by the environment. For whites, however, the process is designed to facilitate their development as functional superiors.

As a direct effect of their disenfranchisement, black men are then subjected to joblessness and the inability to contribute to their house-



The National Memorial for Peace and Justice is located a few blocks from the museum. It is dedicated to the more than 4,000 documented lynching victims. The six-acre site contains 801 six-foot monuments constructed of corten steel to symbolize their brutal deaths. The names of the victims are carved into the steel columns that dangle from beams, much like the lynched bodies dangled from trees.

holds. Many can no longer vote due to felony convictions so they remain unable to effect social change. While they are no longer physically lynched, they are psychologically separated from their manhood and expected to cope in society's vacuum.

It will take the courage of ALL Americans to step up and support the fight for equality and justice. The efforts and struggles of our ancestors cannot be forgotten. Our families cannot be attacked. We must VOTE to get the right people in office! We must speak up! We must educate ourselves about the issues and people running for office in order to eliminate racial discrimination and social and economic disparities.

Become a NAACP member - \$30/adult; \$15/youth annually and receive a Crisis magazine. Join our meetings every 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. The August meeting will be at the Mott Branch Library at 1085 Dorr Street.

SAVE THE DATE – NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet, Saturday, October 27, 2018, at the Stranahan Great Hall. Call for details at 419-214-1551. View our website at [www.naacptoledo.org](http://www.naacptoledo.org).



More than 800 jars of soil from lynching sites across the country are exhibited in the museum that traces the history of enslaved black people in America from the horrors of slavery to the terrors of lynching, the humiliation of Jim Crow and the current crisis of police violence against blacks.

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# Notre Dame Academy Eighth Graders Chosen for University Scholarship Program

*Special to The Truth*

Notre Dame Junior Academy eighth graders Jordyn Bailey and Niah Lee were both accepted into the TOLEDO EXCEL Scholarship Incentive Program. This program targets academic achievers from underrepresented backgrounds and provides college prep programming throughout high school with a scholarship to the University of Toledo upon completion.

"I heard about the program from my mom and I pursued it because I was intrigued!" Jordyn said.



Niah Lee and Jordyn Bailey

"I feel honored to be accepted because only 50 eighth graders were accepted."

Both girls are excited about the week-long residency on The University of Toledo's college campus. "I know other students who went through this program and they had a great experience. I am looking forward to meeting other students in the program." Miss Lee said.

TOLEDO EXCEL is a scholarship incentive program at The University of Toledo that strives to prepare students for success in college. TOLEDO EXCEL involves students in pre-college academic programs to increase their self-esteem, cultural awareness of diversity, and civic involvement. Students in the program also receive opportunities for summer institutes, tutoring, academic retreat weekends, campus visits, and financial aid.

In addition to the intensive academic year programming, each TOLEDO EXCEL student also performs a minimum of 25 hours of voluntary community service each year, providing assistance to various organizations and agencies.

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**Volunteer Information Meeting**

Sanger Branch Library  
3030 Central Ave., Toledo  
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Heatherdowns Branch Library  
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For more information about CASA visit [www.casatoh.org](http://www.casatoh.org)

*Make a Difference in a Child's Life*

*John McCain... continued from page 4*

these were not the errant tweets of a novice politician. These were the deliberate choices of a president who seems determined to realize his delusions of a warm relationship with Putin's regime without any regard for the true nature of his rule, his violent disregard for the sovereignty of his neighbors, his complicity in the slaugh-

ter of the Syrian people, his violation of international treaties, and his assault on democratic institutions throughout the world.

"Coming close on the heels of President Trump's bombastic and erratic conduct towards our closest friends and allies in Brussels and Britain, today's press conference marks a recent low point in the history of the American Presidency. That the president was attended in Helsinki by a team of competent and patriotic advisors makes his blunders and capitulations all the more painful and inexplicable.

"No prior president has ever abased himself more abjectly before a tyrant. Not only did President Trump fail to speak the truth about an adversary; but speaking for America to the world, our president failed to defend all that makes us who we are—a republic of free people dedicated to the cause of liberty at home and abroad. American presidents must be the champions of that cause if it is to succeed. Americans are waiting and hoping for President Trump to embrace that sacred responsibility. One can only hope they are not waiting totally in vain."

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## Monitoring Your Earnings Record Can Really Pay Off

*By Erin Thompson, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Toledo, OH*

You work hard for your money. You're saving and planning for a secure retirement. Now you need to make sure you're going to get all the money you deserve. Regularly reviewing your Social Security earnings record can really pay off, especially when ev-

*... continued on page 12*



# ProMedica: Reshaping the Healthcare Delivery Model Through Its Social Determinants Health Institute

By Fletcher Word  
Sojourner's Truth Editor

According to the World Health Organization, by any measure the United States spends more money on health care than any other nation. That translates to more spent money per capita (\$9,403), for example, and the largest percentage of GDP (17.1 percent in 2014). So, what could possibly go wrong with the nation's health care system?

Practically everything, it turns out. According to statistics compiled by the WHO, for example, the United States has the worst overall health care among similar (developed) countries. That includes a life expectancy rate that is 42nd among all 224 nations; a similar rate of infant mortality and at the bottom or near the bottom in obesity rates, heart and lung disease, sexually transmitted diseases, injuries and homicides.

The fact that the United States lags far behind similar nations in the rate of health care coverage of citizens – about 27 million are still uninsured – is an important contributing factor. However, clinical and medical care, ProMedica has determined, is only one part of the critical factors in a person's health and well-being – only about 20 percent, in fact.

The rest of the contributing factors in a person's well being include the physical environment, social and economic factors and health behaviors.

"The non-clinical things that impact health are: where you live, your job, your school – the social and economic factors," says Kate



Sommerfeld, president of the Social Determinants of Health Institute for ProMedica. Social Determinants was formed about three years ago to advance the health system's commitment to improving the quality of life for residents and investing in neighborhoods and communities of northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan.

... continued on page 10



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*ProMedica... continued from page 9*

The first task the Social Determinants group undertook in 2015 was to ask residents, those who came into facilities, "are you hungry?" The staff screened patients for food issues, set up a food clinic in Toledo Hospital and assembled a three-day bag of food for families, says Sommerfeld.

Then the department took a look at infant mortality in Lucas County and the racial disparities within those statistics – among African-Americans the infant mortality rate is 16.5 deaths per thousand births. Among Caucasians, the rate is 1.6 per thousand. Accordingly, ProMedica began to change the way it monitored the progress of pregnant women – providing proper food and security and assigning them community health workers. Approximately 20,000 moms have undergone these enhanced procedures since 2015.

All of this increased attention to the overall living conditions of patients has led to, in this first phase – or "bucket" – as Sommerfeld terms it, closer scrutiny of patients during the screening process. That scrutiny includes questions about the incidences and impact of domestic violence, the availability of transportation, living conditions and jobs, for example.

Then came the second phase, or bucket: "How are we driving meaningful change in the community?"

During this phase ProMedica has brought in Kendra Smith, director of Social Determinants of Health, who came aboard earlier this summer. Smith has over 10 years of experience in real estate development, urban planning, housing policy and community organizing.

The second phase brings ProMedica into the community "to look at a comprehensive approach and doing it in a neighborhood way," says Smith. That includes partnering with organizations such as The Arts Commission or Toledo LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation) to examine all aspects of neighborhood life and activities. In Toledo's UpTown area, ProMedica has established a presence with the Ebeid Neighborhood Promise (ENP) to begin the process of creating a model for neighborhood revitalization.

The Ebeid Market at the corner of Madison and 18th Streets is part of that project as is the financial coaching program in the same building. "The goal of the neighborhood revitalization initiative is to create and implement a viable infrastructure that will support long-term neighborhood health and growth," says ProMedica literature on the project. UpTown, according to Smith, will be the model that can be replicated in other areas around the city and the region.

Some of the revitalization, says Smith, "is bricks and mortar de-

velopment since 60 percent of the land in UpTown is vacant."

"How do we use our voice and our influence to help the neighborhood," adds Sommerfeld.

Phase three is the research and data analytics part of the equation – a look at outcomes, the financial costs and benefits of such approaches. "We want to see the outcomes," says Sommerfeld. On a micro level, those would be the outcomes for individuals and, on a macro level – for the neighborhoods. The return on investment has to play a part in the research as it would for any large, financially responsible organization.

It's not just lip service ProMedica has committed to this venture. Between ProMedica and LISC, \$25 million has been put assembled for the pre-development phase – primarily in the form of loans to community groups. ProMedica has purchased numerous buildings in the UpTown area that are waiting to be developed. The Social Determinants department has a total of 51 full time employees including those in the market, five financial coaches and community health workers striving to fulfill the ProMedica mission of developing "a vibrant, healthy community that supports social, financial, physical and mental health."

*Local Produce... continued from page 6*

Once you've shopped, prioritize your goods. Use tender greens and any ripe fruits and veggies right away. Roots, bulbs and squash tend to last longer and can be saved for later in the week.

Next, properly store produce to help to extend its life. If fridge space is limited, consider cooking down greens by either partially boiling or sautéing prior to putting them away, depending on what recipes you've selected for those items.

*Smoothies, Sauces, Soups*

Smoothies are a delicious, easy way to pack a lot of produce and nutrition into a meal. And if you're processing the toughest whole foods, like dark, leafy greens, be sure to use a high-powered blender such as the Ascent Series A3500, which offers five program settings, including one for smoothies. A recipe for the "Everything Smoothie," which incorporates a wide variety of produce found at your farmers' market, is available at [vitamix.com](http://vitamix.com).

Take advantage of tomato season, preparing pasta sauces to enjoy now or freeze for those months when they aren't readily available from local growers. Try adding red and green bell peppers, and even carrot shavings, to boost the nutritional value of a veggie Bolognese.

Soups make use of veggies now and later. Warm weather calls for cool concoctions like gazpacho or cucumber dill soup. A cabbage soup that combines hearty potatoes, onions and carrots can be made for cool fall nights or stored in your freezer for winter.

*Use it Up*

Remember that nearly all parts of produce are usable. Vegetables like beets, carrots, kohlrabi and turnips have edible greens that make an excellent addition to morning smoothies or a nutrient-rich stir-fry. Compost any remaining scraps.

Don't be afraid of bruises or dents. Greens with slightly wilted leaves can be blended with a bit of water and frozen in ice cube trays for future use in soups or smoothies. If you see a great deal on fruit like strawberries or cherries, buy them and combine with sugar and pectin for an easy freezer jam, or dry them out for on-the-go snacks.

Shopping for whole foods at farmers' markets or joining a CSA is an opportunity to help local farmers and explore your culinary interests. The availability of specific fruits and vegetables ebbs and flows; capture each at its peak to enjoy the bounty throughout the year.

*Courtesy StatePoint*

## Walls Memorial Chapel AME Zion

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# Social Security Questions and Answers

By Erin Thompson, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist  
 Guest Column

**Question:**

I applied for disability benefits, but was denied. I'd like to appeal. Can I do it online?

**Answer:**

Yes. In fact, the best way to file a Social Security appeal is online. Our online appeal process is convenient and secure. Just go to [www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal) to appeal the decision. For people who don't have access to the Internet, you can call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to schedule an appointment to visit your local Social Security office to file your appeal.

**Question:**

It's hard for me to get around because of my disability. Can I apply for disability benefits from home?

**Answer:**

Yes. In fact, the best way to apply for disability benefits is online. Our online disability application is convenient and secure. You can apply for benefits over the Internet at [www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability). If you do not have access to the Internet, you can call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to schedule an appointment to visit your local Social Security office to apply. However you decide to apply, begin by looking at our Disability Starter Kit at [www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability). It will help you prepare for your application or interview.

**Question:**

I currently receive Social Security disability benefits. I now have a second serious disability. Can my monthly benefit amount be increased?

**Answer:**

No. Your Social Security disability benefit amount is based on the amount of your lifetime earnings before your disability began and not the number of disabling conditions or illnesses you may have. For more information, go to [www.socialsecurity.gov/disability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability).

**Question:**

Is there a time limit on how long you can get Social Security disability benefits?

**Answer:**

No. Your disability benefits will continue as long as your medical condition has not improved, and you cannot work. We will periodically review your case to determine if you continue to be eligible. If you are still receiving disability benefits when you reach your full retirement age, your disability benefits will automatically be converted to retirement benefits. The amount you receive will remain the same. Learn more about disability benefits at [www.socialsecurity.gov/disability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability).

**Question:**

I am very happy that I was just approved to receive disability benefits. How long will it be before I get my first payment?

**Answer:**

If you're eligible for Social Security disability benefits, there is a five-month waiting period before your benefits begin. We'll pay your first benefit for the sixth full month after the date we find your disability began. For example, if your disability began on June 15, 2015, your first benefit would be paid for the month of December 2015, the sixth full month of disability, and you would receive your first benefit payment in January 2016. You can read more about the disability benefits approval process at [www.socialsecurity.gov/dibplan/approval.htm](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/dibplan/approval.htm).

## After Years of One-sided State Cuts and Restrictions, Major Ohio Cities Face Steep

After almost a decade of one-party rule, a slight rebound from the global recession, and at least \$2 billion in state budget cuts to local Ohio communities, a new analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data from 2010 to 2017 shows Youngstown (No. 19), Toledo (No. 12) and Cleveland (No. 5) are leading the nation in population decline.

"This staggering population loss in key urban economic engines of our state is an indictment of Republican policies of the last decade," said state Rep. John Bocchieri (D-Poland). "You can push the responsibility of raising revenue to the lowest layers of government while sending more and more to state government. As elected officials, we have a duty to work together to get things done – regardless of who is in charge. But it seems clear there are political motivations behind the Republican policies that have crippled Democratic communities."

Citing reports\* from the Brookings Institution and Greater Ohio The Youngstown-area lawmaker says policies based on facts have been largely been shelved in the Ohio General Assembly to make way for state policies that show local, political favoritism.

...continued on page 12

### 14<sup>th</sup> FESTIVAL

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# Boys & Girls Clubs of Toledo to Collaborate with Local Restaurants for Summer Programming Event

*Boys & Girls Clubs of Toledo members will be welcoming in local restaurants for "This Is Why You Do It" summer programming event*

Boys & Girls Clubs of Toledo (BGCT) is having an event called "This Is Why You Do It" on Thursday, July 19, 3:00– 4:00 p.m., and Friday, July 20, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Local restaurants that participate in BGCT's premier fundraiser, Barefoot at the Beach, will come by the Club for an hour with the Club members. Bob LaClair, President at Fifth Third Bank Northwestern Ohio and honorary chair of Barefoot at the Beach 2018, will also be in attendance for the event.

Thursday from 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. will be the organized press display with a few words from both Dave Wehrmeister, executive director of BGCT, and LaClair followed by a cooking sequence with the members, a guest chef and LaClair.

The Club members are reading a book called "This Is How We Do It" this week as a part of their Summer Brain Gain program to prevent summer learning loss. In the book, families from around the world explain their lifestyles from what they wear, what they eat, where they work and more. Bringing in chefs and restaurateurs to interact with the Club members will both coincide with the book, but also show the restaurants why they participate in Barefoot at the Beach and what BGCT is all about.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Toledo is one of the oldest youth-serving organizations in the Toledo area. Founded in 1892, the Clubs provide program opportunities for more than 6,000 boys and girls each year. The Clubs are open to

boys and girls age 7-18, and have four locations in the central city. Those interested in donating to the Clubs or to learn more, please contact Billy Mann at [Billy@bgctoledo.org](mailto:Billy@bgctoledo.org) or visit [www.bgctoledo.org](http://www.bgctoledo.org)

Summer Brain Gain is comprised of one-week modules with fun, themed activities for elementary school, middle school and high school students that are aligned with common core anchor standards. Supported by Disney, each module takes a project-based learning approach: youth engage in a process of learning through discovery, creative expression, group work and a final project or production. As a result, kids develop higher-order thinking skills through the Sum-

mer Brain Gain modules while staying on track for the coming school year.

One of the largest fundraisers in the Toledo area, Barefoot at the Beach raises critical money to support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Toledo and its programs for central city Toledo children. Since its inception in 2002 Barefoot has grown to attract nearly 2,000 guests and become the largest event of its kind in Ohio. The evening includes signature dishes from local and national restaurants, bonfires, fireworks and lively entertainment. All funds raised remain local, to support the programs and services that impact youth in Toledo, Ohio. For more information, please visit [www.barefootatthebeach.org](http://www.barefootatthebeach.org).

## Major Ohio Cities... continued from page 11

"Ohio's metro areas constitute a majority of the population, but that hasn't stopped the state legislature from favoring crippling policies that will leave Ohio behind for generations," added Boccieri. "After years of these policies, the governor sits on two-and-a-half billion dollars in the Rainy Day Fund and billions in school facilities construction dollars. Taxpayers deserve a refund – give us our money back."

The reports also show state policies have incentivized creating new communities over reinvesting in older urban centers, and the that misplaced state investments have prevented cities from leveraging their assets.

## Monitoring Your Earnings... continued from page 8

ery dollar counts in retirement.

If an employer did not properly report just one year of your work earnings to us, your future benefit payments from Social Security could be close to \$100 per month less than they should be. Over the course of a lifetime, that could cost you tens of thousands of dollars in retirement or other benefits to which you are entitled. Sooner is definitely better when it comes to identifying and reporting problems with your earnings record. As time passes, you may no longer have easy access to past tax documents, and some employers may

no longer be in business or able to provide past payroll information.

It's ultimately the responsibility of your employers – past and present – to provide accurate earnings information to Social Security so you get credit for the contributions you've made through payroll taxes. But you can inform us of any errors or omissions. You're the only person who can look at your lifetime earnings record and verify that it's complete and correct. So, what's the easiest and most efficient way to validate your earnings record?

...continued on page 13

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# What Truth Sounds Like by Michael Eric Dyson

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

"We have to talk."

It's never good when someone tells you that. Even if it's said with a smile and a pat on the back, you can feel doom in those words. "We have to talk" never helps anyone except when, as in *What Truth Sounds Like* by Michael Eric Dyson, it does.

c. 2018  
St. Martin's Press  
\$23.99 / \$32.50 Canada  
294 pages

In late May of 1963, Robert "Bobby" Kennedy, Attorney General for President John Kennedy, did something remarkable enough to make the front page of *The New York Times*: he had a "secret" meeting with a group of black leaders to discuss "an 'explosive situation'" that could impact the nation.

For many reasons, Civil Rights among them, 1963 was a "landmark." Since taking the oath of office, Jack Kennedy had walked a fine line between politics and social justice. He and Bobby were "villains in the eyes of... white bigots" for their support for African Americans and Martin Luther King, Jr., in particular, though Jack really only "tiptoed around the prospect of equal rights for Negroes." Still, in Dyson's telling, Bobby almost seemed smug in what he thought he knew about 1963's simmering atmosphere when he met with James Baldwin, Harry Belafonte, Lena Horne, playwright Lorraine Hansberry, and activist Jerome Smith.



He wanted acknowledgment and gratitude for what was being done on behalf of Black Americans. Instead, the "Negroes" gave Kennedy a verbal trouncing.

Smith said Kennedy

"... don't have no idea what trouble is..."

Hansberry threatened to give guns to people on the street ("poetic license," Dyson muses). Baldwin fanned the flames, Smith dismissed the meeting as "cocktail-party patter," and Kennedy fumed before Hansberry dropped a final bombshell and Kennedy's guests stalked out.

In the days after this seminal meeting, Kennedy had chance to ruminate. He'd heard "unvarnished truths in ways white ears... were unaccustomed to." It changed his life and altered his political career with a lesson that still resonates, especially for liberals and those who are trying this year to capture Congressional seats.

"It's a lesson we must learn today," says Dyson, "if we are to overcome our differences and embrace a future as bright as our dreams allow."

*What Truth Sounds Like* is both the first book you should want this summer – and the last.

Absolutely no one would ever mistake this for a beach read; it's too serious and thought-provoking for vacation frivolity and it's absolutely not skimmable like a novel.

Conversely, considering what's going on in the nation and in the world, this may be the most important book of the season. Author Michael Eric Dyson shows how a meeting held so long ago actually offers a sort of blueprint for anyone concerned about current issues of race. That includes "artists" and entertainers who seem to oppose what Baldwin would've advocated, and activists who need to know their history.

Give yourself plenty of time with this book. Pick it up, put it down, read anew, and it may help you to change minds. For sure, *What Truth Sounds Like* holds ideas you'll want to talk about.



What Truth Sounds Like author  
CREDIT Nina Subin

WHAT  
TRUTH  
SOUNDS  
LIKE

RFK, JAMES BALDWIN,  
AND OUR UNFINISHED  
CONVERSATION ABOUT  
RACE IN AMERICA

MICHAEL  
ERIC  
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OF TEARS  
WE CANNOT  
STOP

Monitoring Your Earnings... continued from page 12

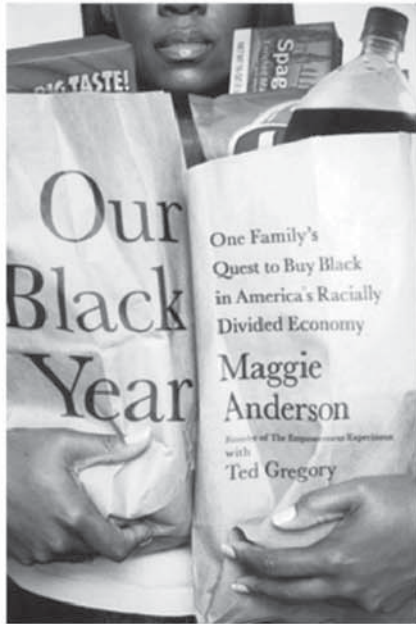
- Visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount) to set up or sign in to your own my Social Security account;
- Under the "My Home" tab, select "Earnings Record" to view your online Social Security Statement and taxed Social Security earnings;
- Carefully review each year of listed earnings and use your own records, such as W-2s and tax returns, to confirm them;
- Keep in mind that earnings from this year and last year may not be listed yet; and
- Notify us right away if you spot errors by calling 1-800-772-1213.

More detailed instructions on how to correct your Social Security earnings record can be found at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10081.pdf](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10081.pdf). Securing today and tomorrow requires accuracy and diligence on our part and yours. You'll be counting on Social Security when you reach retirement age. Make sure you're getting every dollar you've earned. You can access us any time at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

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## TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONAL

The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (MHR SB) of Lucas County is seeking to acquire the services of a training and development professional with capacity to inform the development of clinical behavioral health curriculums to support select initiatives under its diversity and health equity plan and strategic goals. Additional information is available at <http://www.lcmhrsb.oh.gov/publicnotice>. Proposals must be received by July 27, 2018 at 4:30pm.

## PARK MAINTENANCE

Metroparks Toledo Area is looking for qualified individuals for Park Maintenance at Wildwood Preserve Metropark. High school diploma or equivalent and valid driver's license required. Moderate level of specialty maintenance experience required. Perform a broad spectrum of maintenance duties, including building equipment, maintenance, grounds maintenance, landscaping and construction. 40 hour work week. \$17.69/hr. Go to [www.metroparkstoledo.com](http://www.metroparkstoledo.com) for complete job requirements and to apply by July 24th. EOE.

## JULY ART LOOP

The Arts Commission is proud to present the July Art Loop I Summer Spectacular + Jeep Fest Preview to take place Thursday, July 19, 2018 from 5:30-9:00 p.m. Celebrate summer in downtown Toledo as the Art Loop partners with the Toledo Mud Hens, Toledo Warehouse District Association and Jeep Fest to present an evening of family fun, local art, baseball, history, and live music and entertainment.

Art Loop is free and open to all. Wristbands to ride the Art Loop bus are \$1.25 and include unlimited bus rides all evening. There are over 50 creative spaces, galleries and restaurants that participate in the Art Loop each month. For additional information and complete July Art Loop offerings, see the attached release or visit [www.theartscommission.org/artloop](http://www.theartscommission.org/artloop).

Questions may be directed to Ryan A. Bunch, Communications & Outreach Coordinator, 419-254-2787 x1013, [rbunch@theartscommission.org](mailto:rbunch@theartscommission.org) or Natalie Tranelli-Jacobs, Event & Volunteer Coordinator, 419-254-2787 x1017, [njacobs@theartscommission.org](mailto:njacobs@theartscommission.org)

## TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART RECRUITING FOR DOCENT PROGRAM

Toledo Museum of Art (TMA) is opening recruitment for its docent program. Those who have a passion for teaching and sharing the arts with children are encouraged to apply to the upcoming docent training class.

Docents are trained Museum volunteers who engage with visitors to facilitate enriched experiences with works of art and create a warm and welcoming Museum environment. These "gallery teachers" encourage visitor inquiry and enjoyment of the arts.

**The 2019 docent class will include:  
A calendar year worth of training**

Becoming a docent gives the opportunity to participate in a thorough training process. Training will take place from January through December 2019 and will include mentorship from experienced docent peers.

### Training for specific groups

Participants will attend classroom and gallery training sessions to become familiar with the TMA collection and gain skills to connect PreK-8 students with works of art. The training program includes specific training for the PreK-8 school tour program.

### Convenient training hours

Training sessions will be held weekdays to coincide when school tours take place.

For further information, please visit [www.toledomuseum.org](http://www.toledomuseum.org) and attend an information session on Aug. 9, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Applications are now being accepted and interviews will take place late August and early September. Classes will officially begin January 2019.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) is preparing to submit its Annual Plan 2019 to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2019.

The Annual Plan 2019 is available for review at LMHA's Website ([www.lucasmha.org](http://www.lucasmha.org)). LMHA invites you to submit comments during the next 45 days. Please submit comments to [cmorgan@lucasmha.org](mailto:cmorgan@lucasmha.org).

**You are invited to a public hearing on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 4:00 p.m., McClinton Nunn Community Bldg., 425 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604.** Interested citizens will be provided pertinent information regarding strategic goals and program activities of the LMHA. Citizens are encouraged to attend this public hearing and provide additional comments on the Annual Plan 2019.

Should attendees require auxiliary aids due to a disability, please contact LMHA at 419-259-9457 or TRS 711, at least one week prior to hearing date.



Hugh W. Grefe, Chair  
Demetria M. Simpson, President & Chief  
Executive Officer

## THE ARTS COMMISSION ACCELERATOR GRANT INFORMATION SESSION

Monday, June 25, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

The Arts Commission offices – 1838 Parkwood Ave. Suite 120, Toledo OH 43604

The Arts Commission is proud to present the second year of the Accelerator Grant program, offering financial support with quick turn-around for area artists to advance their creative projects and careers. Upcoming 2018 deadlines are June 25, July 23, August 27, and September 24. The first round of Accelerator Grantees from the May deadline will be announced later this month.

The Arts Commission will present an information session on June 25, 2018 to detail guidelines for eligibility and review the online application process. The session is recommended for artists across all media-literary, performing and visual who live or hold a studio or creative space within 25 miles of downtown Toledo. Attendees should come prepared to ask questions. Artists who applied for an Accelerator Grant in 2017 are also encouraged to attend.

Find more details in the attached media release or on our website. Questions may be directed to Michelle Carlson, Artist and Youth Services Coordinator, 419-254-2787 x1015, [mcarlson@theartscommission.org](mailto:mcarlson@theartscommission.org)

**TOLEDO OPERA**  
seeks children for *CARMEN!*

We need boys & girls ages 9 - 14 with unchanged voices to sing in the chorus of *Carmen* (performances February 8 & 10, 2019).

**AUDITIONS: Saturday, September 8 from 11-3 pm**

Vocal rehearsals will begin October 21  
Staging rehearsals will begin January 28

Contact James Norman for more information or to schedule an audition  
[jnorman@toledoopera.org](mailto:jnorman@toledoopera.org) or 419.255.SING

Call to place your ad

419-243-0007

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

African American Festival... continued from page 1

Randall Parker III as master of ceremonies and opened with a solo worship song by vocalist Darius Coleman. Rev. Cedric Brock, pastor of Mt. Nebo, offered the opening prayer, which was followed by a prayer for the City and its leaders by Rev. Jerome Graham, pastor of True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, and a prayer for the churches, by Pastor Sylvester Rome of Tabernacle MBC.

Then TUFUCU Founder and CEO Suzette Cowell presented a special tribute, recounting the reasons for the founding of TUFUCU and acknowledging those in the community who have had a special history with the financial institution. Honored this year were: Rev. Stanley Clark, Sr, founder of United Vision Baptist Church; Michelle Cooke, founder of Ladies of Academic and Athletic Excellence; Robert Kendrick, Jr., a firefighter and volunteer with Glass City Black Brothers United; Mark McBee, a firefighter, paramedic and fire instructor for the state of Ohio; Christopher McBrayer, chaplain at the Toledo Correctional Institution and Kaye Williams, long-time member of TUFUCU.

The spectacular white and yellow décor for the breakfast was designed by Aletha Braswell.

After the tributes, Coleman performed again, followed by a prayer for TUFUCU by Sis Virginia Wels of St. Martin de Porres, a prayer for the youth by McBrayer and a prayer for the festival by Rev. Robert Birt, pastor of Glass City Church.

Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz stopped by to offer his compliments to the credit union and its handling of the Festival.

Saturday morning's parade, the largest in the 14-year history, featured a number of schools, businesses, horses, mini cars, Corvettes and elected officials. The parade has become such an important part of the summer festivities that two candidates for statewide office had a presence this year. Judge Melody Stewart of the Court of Appeals for Ohio's Eighth District, vying for the State Supreme Court, had a contingent. Zack Space, candidate for the office of Auditor of the State of Ohio, came in person to march.

Next up is the third leg in the trio of summer festival activities – the actual African American Festival itself this upcoming Sunday, July 22 at Promenade Park in downtown Toledo. This year's headliners are The Dramatics, featuring L.J. Reynolds. Other featured acts are the Jerusalem Mass

Choir, the United Voices of United Vision Baptist Church, the Friendship Baptist Church Choir, the First Church of God Combined Choir and a disco party with special music by DJ Ellery. The gates are open at noon – the music starts at 1 p.m.



Aletha Braswell



Suzette Cowell and Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz



Councilwoman Yvonne Harper addresses Breakfast audience



"The real estate agent said we might be more comfortable living in a different neighborhood."



419-243-6163 toledofhc.org

If you suspect you are being steered because of your race, religion, or ethnicity, contact us.



Emory Whittington



TUFUCU Assistant Manager DeLise Simmons (left); TUFUCU's Lorraine Mitchell (seated); TUFUCU Board Member Frances Smith



Prayer Breakfast Crowd