



Local and National News

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“And Ye Shall Know The Truth...”

September 19, 2018



NHA's Doni Miller

A Celebration of Doni Miller's 25 Years Leading NHA

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With Strong Voter Turnout, Africans Americans Have a Chance to Make History in Ohio This Year

By Congresswoman Joyce Beatty

The right to vote is essential to the many rights, liberties and freedoms we all hold so dear as Americans. We need to be active participants in order to make our democracy work for us.

This is why I believe every eligible person should vote in every election. It's the only way we can get the representation we deserve.

In 2018, we have a tremendous opportunity not only to shape the future of our state for many years to come but also to send a message to the rest of America and the world.

On Nov. 6, 2018, we have the chance to declare that we reject the politics of division, corruption and chaos we are seeing in America today, and that we embrace fairness, and inclusion, and opportunity for everybody.

If we can turn Ohio blue, retake the governorship, win Ohio's other four statewide offices, re-elect U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, and make gains at the Ohio Statehouse and in Congress, it will send a signal that Ohio is a state that will take the lead and make change happen.

This is in our hands. It cannot happen without you -- your hard work, your dedication, your voice being heard at the ballot box. But I'm going to ask you for a little more than that. I'm going to ask you to help make sure others are making their voices heard as well.

Early voting in Ohio starts Oct. 10. Over the four weeks between then and Election Day, you can cast your ballot and bring your friends and neighbors, your aunts and uncles, your brothers and sisters to cast theirs, too.

Here's why we all need to be doing that:

In 2016, 64 percent of currently registered African-Americans in Ohio voted, but in 2014, only 26 percent of currently registered African-Americans voted in Ohio.

But there are 1,074,705 African-Americans of voting age in our state,

and the power we share together, working together, lifting our voices as one, can transform our state and our lives. We have this power; we only must use it.

If we set a goal of 70 percent of African-Americans registering to vote, that would require 60,997 newly registered African-Americans statewide.

If we set a goal of 50 percent of African-Americans participating in the 2018 election, that would require 345,649 African-Americans to vote.

So please visit IWillVote.com to check the status of your registration, update it if need be, and make a plan to cast your ballot and make your voice heard this election. Then go out and get your friends and family to do the same.

The momentum is on our side, and we can celebrate a great triumph over the forces of ill-intent in November if only we put in the effort, stand hand-in-hand, lock together arm-in-arm, and make our voices heard.



Rep. Joyce Beatty

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Community Calendar

September 22

Flanders Road Church of Christ Clothing Give-away: 10am to 1 pm; For men, women, children of all ages

October 13

Calvary MBC Annual Cancer Awareness Workshop: 11 am; Agencies and vendors with helpful information; Free lunch after workshop

October 21

Toledo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists 2018 Scholarship Auditions: 3 pm; Open to students 7th through 12th grades and young adult organists; Hope Lutheran Church: 419-473-1167 ext 230

Dear Readers

An employee from one of my companies that does janitorial work for the Toledo School Board was dumping the paper trash into the garbage bins and some papers flew away.

When the employee retrieved them, below is what he read. Out of concern for its contents, he handed the papers over to me for final disposition.

I was dumbstruck by what was written but also thought it best to let my readers draw their own conclusions about the ruminations of this highly visible public employee.

Mr. School Board President:

It is with great regret that I must forthwith tender my resignation as superintendent of the Toledo Public Schools.

I do so with a heavy heart and can only hope that my severance package will be pretty sweet!

As you know, I have spent considerable effort in displaying the coolest ever embroidered shirt collars with the letters, "TPS" boldly monogrammed on them.

And even though I was the best, Rah-Rah! cheerleader for TPS, I am disappointed that the school board did not have the wisdom to make me superintendent for life!

I deserve it! I earned it! I want it!

To my astonishment, the State of Ohio Department of Education report card (what do they know about educating kids!) states that our recent educational endeavors merits a current grade of, "F"!

What is wrong with those dolts? Did they not read the full page Blade ad of last week Thursday issued by the school board and on which the taxpayers spent some serious bucks?

In that ad, it was deftly demonstrated that we know how to shuffle the deck and make ourselves look good!

Why, if you did not know it, you would think that we were talking about Toledo Public Schools being an "A" plus performing district! Numbers don't lie! (only people do!).

Well, it has been a good run. I am a little amazed that I was not shown the door years ago when our district was consistently pulling down straight "D" s' and "F" s' on its report card from the state education department.

Yeah, I crossed my fingers when I was first interviewed for the job. I was convinced that the school board would eventually tap an outside person for this coveted job, but I was wrong.

It still appears that Toledo Public likes to promote from within and not venture out of their comfort zone and hire a gifted administrator from a large urban center.

Oh well. Their myopic visioning was good for me! I ain't complaining...just explaining.

Ok. So you finally looked behind the curtain and tagged me! But what about the others in my administration? Why are they being allowed to hang around and rake in the big bucks?

They were in collusion in getting this "F" grade! It was not just me! Come on...we were a team!

And what about the hundreds of teachers who draw a paycheck from Toledo Public but send their kids to private, parochial schools or schools in the toney burbs?

Why aren't they being penalized? If they teach in Toledo Public, they should be required to both live in the city and send their kids to public schools!

Hmmm. I wonder if all of the past school board members and supers and administrators put their kids in public schools in Toledo?

Just wondering out loud. If they didn't, they did not have any faith in the quality of their work product! So much for Toledo Proud!

Well, that is it for now. You got me. I will go quietly into the night and will apply elsewhere for a superintendent job. I hope I will find another school system that starts with the letter, "T" so that I will be able to wear all of my monogrammed shirts with the letters, TPS.

Hey! How about giving me a good reference? After all, I was Toledo's best supporter! Doesn't that count for something?

(Long pause)...You know. Come to think of it, I am not going to resign! Matter of fact, I saw a sale on gold and silver TPS cuff links and I am going to load up on them and come back with a vengeance!

Hey, what's in a, "F" letter grade anyway? It just means that the sky is

... continued on page 6

Fedor: 2018 Ohio School Report Cards fail to account for local perspective

Last week, the State of Ohio released the 2018 annual Ohio School Report Cards. State Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo), the House Democratic Caucus education lead, believes we need a new state report card system to assess student performance and other measures for school districts.

"Local control and the local perspective is needed to adequately determine the success or growth opportunities for Ohio's students and educators," said Rep. Fedor. "Ohio has many different communities. There is no one size fits all approach. We need to be more responsive and responsible in issuing grade cards."

According to the Ohio Association of Comprehensive and Compact Career Technical Schools (Ohio CCS), Ohio has 91 Career



Rep. Teresa Fedor

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State Controlling Board Approves Funds for Higher Education Investments, Says Ashford

State Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) last week announced approval of Ohio Controlling Board items sending state funds to upgrade infrastructure at the University of Toledo (UT). A total of \$495,610 in state funds were released for mechanical system and plumbing upgrades to improve indoor air quality, reduce maintenance and reduce campus utility costs.

"These updates are incredibly important for the health, safety and comfort of University of Toledo students and will ultimately save the state money in repairs," said Ashford. "It's important that we continue to invest in maintaining infrastructure on campus so that UT continues to be a hub for innovation,

research and education in our community."

The project will replace a portion of the university's underground steam and condensate loop, 25+ year old building automation systems, portions of piping, HVAC systems, air handling units and exhaust fans. Most of the buildings undergoing maintenance updates are on the university's main campus, with the exception of the Lake Erie Research Center.



Rep. Michael Ashford

Keith Faber, Again, Fails to Condemn NAFTA

GOP Auditor nominee fails to join over 30 legislative colleagues in bipartisan letter condemning NAFTA ISDS provision

Last week, a bipartisan group of over 30 members of the Ohio General Assembly co-signed a letter to U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer condemning the investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) provision in the North American Free Trade Agreement, which provides greater procedural rights to foreign companies than American companies in investor/state disputes. State Rep. Keith Faber declined to add his name.

"Keith Faber has spent his entire political career abetting corporations and serving 'powerful interests rather than working Ohioans,' so

it's no surprise he won't support Ohio workers by condemning NAFTA," said Zack Space for Ohio Campaign Manager Matt Hennessey. "While Faber has been busy in Columbus advancing his extremist partisan agenda, 'free' trade deals like NAFTA have cost Ohioans hundreds of thousands of jobs and hollowed out our communities."



Zack Space

"Faber is an enemy of Ohio working families, and his failure to co-sign this bipartisan letter condemning NAFTA's ISDS provision further proves that he'll do anything to advance his political career at the expense of working Ohioans."

Just last year Faber declined to support House Bill 245, which would have punished corporations for shipping Ohio jobs overseas.

Faber has long supported so-called "Right to Work" legislation -- a top priority of Ohio's wealthiest corporations and special interests -- and has consistently voted to cut taxes on Ohio's wealthiest citizens at the expense of local government funding.

Last month, former U.S. Congressman and Democratic nominee for Auditor of State Zack Space released his Working Families First plan to investigate the effects of NAFTA-era free trade policy on Ohio's working families and communities. Faber "vigorously" agreed with the idea.

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NAACP – Elections Have Consequences

By Betty Valentine, NAACP Editorial Writer
The Truth Contributor

Since its founding, the United States has systematically disenfranchised African-American citizens. This painful legacy has continued in the wake of the 2013 U.S. Supreme Court decision in Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder, Attorney General, that allows all states, including those with a history of white supremacy and voter suppression, to manipulate their voting procedures without federal oversight.

Since then, lawmakers in states across the country, including Ohio, have expanded efforts to suppress African-American voters. The 2018 Supreme Court decision in Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Institute compounded these efforts by giving all states the green light to purge registered voters from their rolls. Making matters worse, lawmakers have consistently neglected their responsibility to listen and actively engage with the African-American community. This undermines trust in government and stifles voter participation in one of the most important rights given to the citizens of the United States.

There has been a continued effort to register Americans to vote both locally and nationally. Overall, registration has been successful, however, when it comes time to vote, most “newly registered” people do not vote.

So why this reluctance to vote? Elections serve very important functions in our political system. **First**, they are the way we select most of our leaders. **Second**, they are a kind of public referendum on the incumbents and their policies, revealing public approval and disapproval. They may also reveal public desires for change. **Third**, they are a way of involving the people in the government.

They keep people tied to the system without letting them interfere in daily decision making. As the nation outgrew the ‘town hall’ method of electing politicians, they switched to representative democracy. In this system, most decisions are made by officials who are elected at regular intervals by the people and who represent the people when they make decisions for them.

As we look into our past and the struggles we have encountered to obtain the right to vote, the question becomes why are eligible voters so reluctant to vote. After all, if those in power fought that hard (and continue to fight) to keep us from voting, there must be something very important to the voting process.

Wealthy, college-educated, older whites vote at the rate of 91 percent, whereas young, poor, minority group members who did not finish high school are estimated to vote at the rate of 22 percent. The clear implication here is that the successful white middle-class are the power brokers in the electorate and their interests get a disproportionate amount of attention from politicians.

So why do people vote? Based on the outcome from the 91 percent who is estimated **did vote**, the answer speaks for itself.

Does non-voting matter? The answer is YES! If those dissatisfied with the elected officials running the country, voting at the primary level to elect the candidates who best reflect our interests will eventually place those



Kelly Westmoreland, Cerssandra McPherson, Councilwoman Yvonne Harper open the voting in 2016

candidates at higher levels in government and insure the voting process is more fully utilized to our advantage.

Become an NAACP member - \$30/adult; \$15/youth annually and receive a Crisis magazine. Join our meetings every second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. The October, November and December meetings will be held at the African American Legacy Project building, 1326 Collingwood.

View our website at www.naacptoledo.org. Call us at 419-214-1551.

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In Memoriam

Freeman W. Hudson – June 30, 1946 – September 12, 2018

Freeman W. Hudson, a radio host and a retired maintenance worker who was supportive of his wife's legal and electoral careers, died Wednesday in the Cleveland Clinic. He was 72.

He suffered from kidney disease, said his wife, Paula Hicks-Hudson, the former mayor of Toledo.

Hudson attended public events for his wife - speeches, celebrations, and rallies - and was more than satisfied to give her all of his support. His wife said: "He believed that was something I wanted to do. He would help me at home and keep me sane.

"He was my partner. My heart is heavy because the love of life has been transformed from his mortal body to his spiritual one. I definitely will miss him but I know he is at peace."

The family moved to the area in 1982 when Hicks-Hudson became an attorney for the Toledo Legal Aid Society. She later became a Lucas County assistant prosecutor. In 2011, she was appointed to fill the District 4 City Council seat when her predecessor, Michael Ashford, won his election for the Ohio General Assembly. Hicks-Hudson won election to the district council seat later in the year. She eventually was elected council president by her peers and became mayor in February, 2015, upon the death of then-Mayor D. Michael Collins. In November of that year, she was elected to complete the remainder of the term.

She currently is Democratic candidate for Ohio House District 44. He felt pride in the positions she attained, but "it didn't matter. He would be proud of any accomplishment - what I did, or the kids did, that was making the world a better place."

Freeman Hudson was born June 30, 1946, in Hamilton, Ga., to Ruby and

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Willis Hudson, the first of what would be seven children. He was a graduate of Booker T. Washington High School and attended Morris Brown College, both in Atlanta. He had military police duty while serving in the Air Force during the Vietnam War. He later studied broadcasting at Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio, and while there called basketball games on the radio.

He and his wife met in Atlanta, while she was at Spelman College. As she continued her education - a master's degree in Colorado and a law degree from the University of Iowa - Hudson took to the airwaves in those locales and as "Hud" played the current hits. In Toledo, he had a show on WVOI radio. He was host of the evening Quiet Storm program for WRVF, 101.5-FM, playing requests from lovelorn or in-love listeners.

Freeman Hudson also connected with residents of the Darlington House nursing facility as he took charge of floor maintenance while working for Toledo Building Services, said Lawrence Friedman, the firm's chairman.

"He was very classy. He carried himself like the fine gentleman he was," Friedman said.

Mr. Hudson retired in 2016 from Holland Inc., where for 11 years he was a day porter, doing maintenance and cleaning at an area commercial facility.

Surviving are his wife, Paula Hicks-Hudson, whom he married Sept. 8, 1973; daughters, Denise Hudson, Andrea Tossa Garfield, Patricia Hope Hudson and Leah Hudson; sons, Timothy Hudson and Lamont Vasquez; brother, Randolph Ferguson, and 12 grandchildren.



Freeman Hudson and former Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson

Dear Readers... continued from page 3

the limit on going from the bottom to the top!

It simply means that kids who get a regular diploma from TPS will just have to hit the books a little harder and longer than that pampered kid from Ottawa Hills or Perrysburg.

Matter of fact, if you look at it from another angle, if you just add a leg or a line to the other side of the "F" letter, you will get a squared letter, "A"!

Now we are on to something! I believe that this "F" grade is FAKE NEWS! and you should not believe anything that you read or hear about it!

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Community Solidarity Response Network Announces Support for Prisoners

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Community Solidarity Response Network of Toledo held a press conference on Monday, September 17 near the site of the Toledo Correctional Institution to express the group's solidarity with and support for several inmates who are part of the current national prisoners' strike against inhumane conditions within prison walls, including the use of inmates as an underpaid work force.

"We are trying to bring awareness to the national prison strike and make people aware of the challenges people have behind bars," said Washington Muhammad, the co-founder of CSRN, at the onset of the press conference.

The focus of the group's attention is on inmates James Ward and David Easley who started striking on August 21 "in solidarity with the nationwide prison strike and to draw attention to the lack of medical care and violence from Cos," said Muhammad. The two, who are incarcerated at the Toledo Correctional Institution were isolated as punishment for their action but resumed their hunger strike on Friday, September 14.

The CSRN also addressed the case of inmate Siddique Abdullah Hasan, a prisoner on death row who was accused of masterminding the Lucasville Uprising of 1993 in which nine inmates and one corrections officer were killed.

Hasan has recently been charged with inciting a riot and a work stoppage.

"Siddique Abdullah Hasan has been a part and will continue to be a part of our planning here in Toledo," said Muhammad. "He is an humanitarian and a scholar, we value his advice and insight as well as his compassion and patience in bringing hope and faith to our community of social activists."

The CSRN was formed in November 2014, the day after it was announced that the officer who killed Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri would not be charged with an offense.

"We bring awareness to the injustices experienced by black men, women and children who are disproportionately murdered, attacked, provoked and harassed by law enforcement," said Jodie Summers, secretary of CSRN. "Police brutality has to end. We bring awareness to the fact that most often – police brutality goes without consequence and accountability."

The group called for Toledo residents to support and honor the struggle of inmates Ward and Easley by donating to their accounts and to support Hasan by logging onto <http://freeohiomovement.org> for information.



Washington Muhammad, Mary Wilson, Angelle Stanley, Joe Dewey, Gwen Wilson, Jodia Summers, Kumasi El



Leaders Across the State to Gather for Ohio Fair Housing Summit

The Fair Housing Center and the Ohio Diversity Council to Host All-Day Summit Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act

The Fair Housing Center and the Ohio Diversity Council are hosting the Ohio Fair Housing Summit on Friday, September 21, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Hotel in Toledo, OH. The all-day summit will draw stakeholders from various sectors across the state to highlight the role of fair housing in fostering truly inclusive communities. Representatives from key organizations in Ohio served on a planning committee, providing input to ensure the event focuses on relevant issues happening throughout the state.

2018 marks the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Lu-

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St. Paul MBC's Annual Women's Day Celebration

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The congregation of St Paul Missionary Baptist Church held their annual Women's Day weekend fellowship activities on Saturday, September 15, 2018 and Sunday, September 16, 2018 on the historic grounds of St. Paul's located on North Detroit in Toledo.

The theme, "A woman who fears the Lord is to be praised," was inspired by Proverbs 31:30. Women of the church wore white, silver and royal blue over the two-day fellowship weekend.

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Daisy Fisher, Sharon Hubbard, Jenai Hicklin, First Lady Linnie Willis, Pastor James Willis



Sharon Hubbard, Rev. Anita Britton-Bass, Elder Jenai Hicklin, First Lady Linnie Willis



Saturday's attendees



Women's Day Choir



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Doni Miller: 25 Years of Improving the Lives of Toledo Residents

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

Dozens of friends, family members, elected officials and staff members gathered on Saturday, September 15 to pay homage to Doni Miller and celebrate her 25 years at the helm of the Neighborhood Health Association.

Twenty-five years ago, when Doni Miller was considering the opportunity she had to take over the troubled Cordelia Martin Health Center, she received some advice from an acquaintance, a prominent Toledoan who was all too familiar with such non-profit agencies in general and the Cordelia Martin in particular.

"Don't do it," he advised her. The financial troubles are too vast to overcome, he told her, the staff will put obstacles in your way, you will never make a go of it.

She decided not to follow his well-intentioned advice.

And she made a go of it.

In fact, she didn't just make a go of it, she knocked it out of the park.

Over the next 25 years, she nurtured the ailing Cordelia Martin Center back to health and greatly expanded its services.

"When I came to the Neighborhood Health Association," she recalled several years ago in an interview with The Truth, "we faced a number of problems including the risk of closing. The IRS was poised to padlock our doors the very day I started. Had it not been for Mercy Hospital, who pro-

...continued on page 10



Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz and Doni Miller



Councilwoman Yvonne Harper, Celeste Smith, Cernel Smith, Suzette Cowell



Doni Miller and Pastor Jerome Graham



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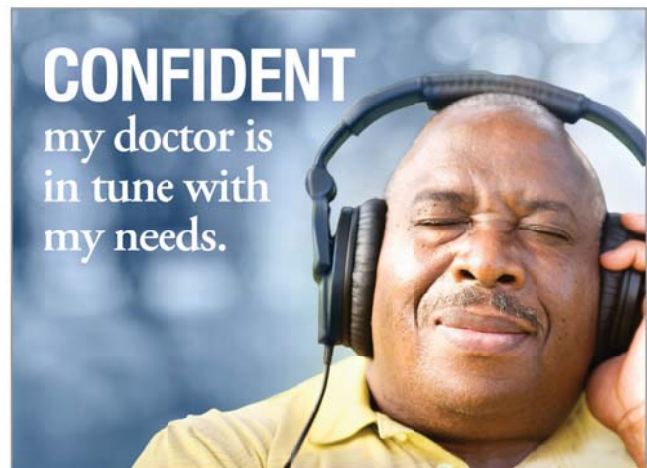
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Doni... continued from page 9

vided \$15,000 in emergency funding, we would probably not exist today.”

After that very frightening beginning, Miller stabilized NHA's financial situation and began adding facilities to the operation. The expansion culminated in Nexus, a \$12 million, 43,000 square foot health care facility, which opened in October 2016. NHA now operates 14 facilities, with a staff of several hundred while servicing as many as 45,000 residents annually.

In her spare time, Miller has been involved with a host of activities including hosting her own television program, Bridges, since January 2006, along with membership in numerous political and social activist groups.

It may not be possible to accurately total all of Miller's recognitions and awards, from local, state and national groups but it is entirely possible that she may be the single most honored individual in the state of Ohio – hard to imagine how anyone else has been so honored over the past two and a half decades.

At her 25th recognition part last Saturday, Miller received several more recognitions. U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur brought one from Congress, Toledo City Council Members Peter Ujvagi and Yvonne Harper brought one from City Council and Miller's NHA staff presented her with an impressive commemorative plaque.

She was lauded by others such as Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz, NHA's chief medical officer Dr. John Uche, MD, NHA's chief financial officer Miranda Hoffman and her longtime assistant, Mary Beth Steele, the organizer of the event.

Miller was born in Louisville, MS and was raised, for a time, in Philadelphia, PA. When she was 12, she moved with her parents to Detroit. She attended the University of Detroit (University of Detroit-Mercy) and then moved to Toledo where she received her JD from the University of Toledo College of Law.

Miller started her career at United Way of Greater Toledo as assistant director of Allocations in 1982 and two years later became special assistant to the CEO and director of Program Development/Legal Assurance at the

Toledo Mental Health Center. In 1990 she became assistant hospital administrator of the Medical College Hospitals, leaving that position in 1992 to join NHA.

Twenty five years later, she has taken that agency to previously unimaginable heights and has provided health care services to countless thousands of area residents. There have been so many accolades along the way but, perhaps, not nearly enough.



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Tues-Fri 12-3:30

Sat 10-4

Hours are subject to change due to weather conditions and availability of time.

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*Leaders... continued from page 7*

ther King Jr. and the subsequent passing of the Fair Housing Act, presenting an opportunity to examine the persistent barriers to equal opportunity, explore the connection between ZIP Codes and life outcomes, and share solutions for creating more diverse, vibrant neighborhoods.

The all-day summit will feature keynote speaker Richard Rothstein, author of “The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How our Government Segregated America.” A research associate of the Economic Policy Institute and a senior fellow (emeritus) at the Thurgood Marshall Institute of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Rothstein is the author of many articles and books on race and education. His presentation will explain how segregated neighborhoods and racial disparities are the result of deliberate government policies, the effects of which can be seen decades later and must be proactively addressed in order to generate more equitable living conditions.

“Twentieth century civil rights movements abolished segregation in education, public accommodations, employment, and elsewhere, but left untouched the biggest segregation of all, that every metropolitan area is residentially segregated by race,” stated Rothstein. “Neighborhood segregation causes educational failure, racial health disparities, tragic confrontations between police and young men, and political polarization. Yet while we may consider this segregation unfortunate, we feel powerless to end it, partly because we’ve adopted a national myth that it developed privately and by accident. In truth, residential segregation was and is government created; we can begin to remedy it once we understand its origins in public policy.”

... continued on page 11

Women's Day... continued from page 8

Saturday's activities kicked off with a worship hour, followed by a salad and dessert smorgasbord. Rev. Marcia Dinkins served as the mistress of ceremony, and warmly reminded all members and guests that today is the first day of the two-day celebration of women. "I thank God for this woman's day. We're here, no matter how your day started, you're here. We're all here to join hand and hand, with heart to heart."

J'Vann Winfield officially delivered welcoming words, then Deaconess Marvinne Brown presented a word of prayer, and Carmen Miller delivered two powerful selections. The service continued with a scripture reading by Dawn Scotland, introduction of the speaker by Joyce Wilson, and featured speaker Rev. Anita Britton-Bass.

Rev. Anita Dawn Britton-Bass was born in London and moved to Columbus as a child. She earned a Bachelor of Science from Franklin University

*Leaders... continued from page 10*

Other notable presenters and panelists include Terrell Strayhorn, PhD, professor & founder/CEO of Do Good Work Educational Consulting LLC; Lisa Rice, president and CEO of the National Fair Housing Alliance; Stephen Dane, partner at Relman, Dane & Colfax PLLC; and Michael Marsh, president and CEO of The Fair Housing Center in Toledo.

The event will also feature the launch of a state-wide initiative called Welcome In My BackYard, or WIMBY, a grassroots movement to foster more welcoming communities, raise awareness of diversity and inclusion, and encourage people to speak out against acts of intolerance. Attendees will be invited to take the WIMBY pledge and will receive signage and other materials to help spread the WIMBY message across the state.

"This is a unique opportunity to look at how far we've come in 50 years, and how far we still have yet to go to achieve real equality in housing," stated Michael Marsh, President and CEO of The Fair Housing Center based in Toledo. "Every industry plays a role in fair housing, and it is only by working together that we can make a real impact. The neighborhood where you live determines your access to vital resources and your ability to thrive. By embracing fair housing, we can build stronger communities, where the door to opportunity is open to all."

"Fair housing is, at its core, the most fundamental building block of a successful corporate diversity & inclusion plan," stated Daniel Juday, director of Ohio Diversity Council. "All of our strategies and policies to help employees feel valued and included at work are only, at best, playing catch-up if those employees do not feel like they belong or are wanted in their communities. Business leaders must educate themselves around this essential work, engage in conversations about it with those 'on the ground,' and seek to leverage their influence across their communities to make them better places to live and work for everyone."

Organizers are expecting hundreds of attendees from the financial, insurance, healthcare, housing, nonprofit, real estate, government, and human resource sectors to participate. The summit will be an inspiring, informative event around all facets of fair housing. Attendees can expect to leave more informed about the issues, more connected across relevant networks, and more eager to be a part of the solution. Registration and more information can be found at ohiofairhousingsummit.org.

and teaching certificate in 1993. Her career journey began with teaching kindergarten from 1995 to 2002, teaching prenatal care in 2002, serving as the First Lady of United Missionary Baptist Church and completing 15 years of service as the business manager of Leona Group in Toledo.

Her sermon focused on the power of womanhood and the scripture text provided by the theme. "This scripture is powerful. We want to praise, but the right kind of praise. We want to receive praise, but the right kind of praise. This scripture talks about a different kind of praise, one that represents God."

Fellowship immediately followed, as the smorgasbord was held in the lower level of the church and highlighted an all-donation menu provided by the Women of the church. The menu offered variety of salads and desserts: chicken salad, tuna salad, shrimp pasta salad, spaghetti salad, sweet potato pie, cherry pie, chocolate cake, and many other menu items. The reception area was decorated by large and festive royal blue and silver center-pieces, flowers, and candles. Over 100 women gathered for this fellowship reception.

"Everyone who helped with the luncheon, I just want to say thank you. It was a blessing and a success. We were able to come together as women this weekend. Thank you, St Paul," explained Sharon Hubbard, Women's Day Chairman.

Sunday's morning service continued with the theme and selected colors of royal blue and silver. First Lady Linnie Willis served as the mistress of ceremony and led the call to worship with the church deaconess. Elder Jenai Hicklin, the niece of Deaconess Marlene Cook served as the Sunday morning speaker. She was born in Toledo, graduated from DeVilbiss High school and Jackson State University. Her ministry and career journey began by serving as a chaplain for several school athletic teams in Toledo, singing in a quartet group called The Spirit of Truth Gospel Singers, working with Toledo Urban Missions, and University of Toledo Minority Business Assistance Center as the coordinator.

"The Women's Day committee and our Chairperson Sister Hubbard, did an awesome job. I want to say to the women of this church, that if it wasn't for the women we won't have a church. I appreciate everyone. It's a blessing to have members who serve above and beyond for Jesus," explained Rev. James Willis, pastor of St. Paul.

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There She Is: Miss America

By Chante Russell, Howard University Print Journalism Major

Representing New York, Nia Franklin was crowned the 92nd Miss America on Sept. 9. She is being considered the first ever Miss America 2.0 as this was the first year the pageant did not include a swimsuit segment and contestants were not supposed to be judged on appearance.

"It took a lot of perseverance to get here," Franklin said after her win. "I want to thank my beautiful family, my mom and my dad, who is a survivor of cancer."

Franklin is an opera singer and a Winston-Salem, North Carolina native. She earned her master's degree in music composition from UNC School of the Arts. Currently, Franklin lives in New York, where she moved after being accepted at the Kenan Fellow program at Lincoln Center Education in Manhattan.

As an artist and composer, Franklin hopes to advocate for the arts as Miss America.

"I grew up at a predominately Caucasian school and there was only five percent minority, and I felt out of place so much because of the color of my skin," Franklin said. "But growing up, I found my love of arts, and through music that helped me to feel positive about myself and about who I was."



Nia Franklin

Obama Urges Ohioans to Vote and Defeat Demagogues

Former President Barack Obama warned of "demagogues" that will exploit "America's history of division" at a campaign rally on Thursday, September 13 in Cleveland for Ohio Democratic nominees for governor, Richard Cor-

dray, and lieutenant governor, Betty Sutton. Obama said "in a healthy de-

... continued on page 13

Fedor... continued from page 3

Technical Planning Districts and three career-technical delivery models at the secondary education level focusing on workforce develop-

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ment. The "Prepared for Success" component of the CTE Report Card, however, only includes credentials related to "Ohio's In-Demand Occupations." Institutions successfully preparing students for careers will be penalized with low component grades, even if students obtain the knowledge and skills necessary to enter the workforce.

"The current report cards unfairly punish schools, students, and Ohio's economy," said Fedor.

Pointing to the role poverty can play in academic performance, Rep. Fedor said the Ohio School Report Cards A-F measurement doesn't accurately reflect whether administrators and educators are working

hard to address the complex challenges within their buildings.

"This GOP scam is just another way to slowly privatize our public school system. Applying a state-based standard to community specific issues opens the door for more school take overs and conversions to charter schools," added Fedor. "We need to let our school districts have a stronger voice in evaluating their performance based on the specific needs of their school."

Rep. Fedor is a former educator and an outspoken proponent of public education.

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Washington Black by Esi Edugyan

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

You need to get out of here.

You don't know where. You just have to go to another room, maybe, or another building, another town, across the world. You need to get out of here but, as in the new novel *Washington Black* by Esi Edugyan, be careful, and mindful that you don't run away from yourself.

c. 2018
Knopf
\$26.95 / higher in Canada
352 pages

Big Kit was going to kill him.

That, as George Washington Black understood, was her way of protecting him forever: she'd kill him and herself, sending them to a sort of heaven for slaves. Wash was just a boy, maybe 10 or 11 years old, when she explained that no-more-options plan but she never followed through, perhaps because she was promised by a white man that mutilated corpses had no afterlife.

It was 1829 and from then forward, Wash avoided all white men at Faith Plantation, especially Erasmus Wilde, the new master whose cruelty knew no limits. Wilde was a man to steer clear of, but Wash couldn't escape when he and Big Kit were summoned to the Plantation house one warm Barbadian evening.

Nothing good could come from it – but there did: that was the night when Christopher "Titch" Wilde, Erasmus's brother, declared that Wash would be the right-sized assistant for his flying machine, which Titch was building at the edge of the plantation. He insisted that Wash come to live with him in the garden cottage and, without telling Erasmus, he insisted that Wash learn to read. He gave Wash drawing materials, and encouraged his talents.

So, though he was yards away from the Plantation house and could never entirely relax, Wash settled into a new life. He learned and watched, absorbing science and nature. He worked on Titch's flying

machine and felt a strong friendship with the abolitionist scientist. He listened to Titch's stories and began to dream of impossible things. And when Wash was the unwilling witness to something horrible, he trusted his odd friend, and flew...

You may be scratching your head now about pre-Civil War years and flying machines. Yes, and it works. In *Washington Black*, it works phenomenally well.

That's the biggest surprise: the H.G. Wells hint that's here, and how much it doesn't make this book into science fiction. Instead, *Washington Black* becomes an early Victorian adventure-drama told with the quiet, proper voice of the title character explaining how he got from a slave plantation in Barbados to Virginia to the Arctic and around the world.

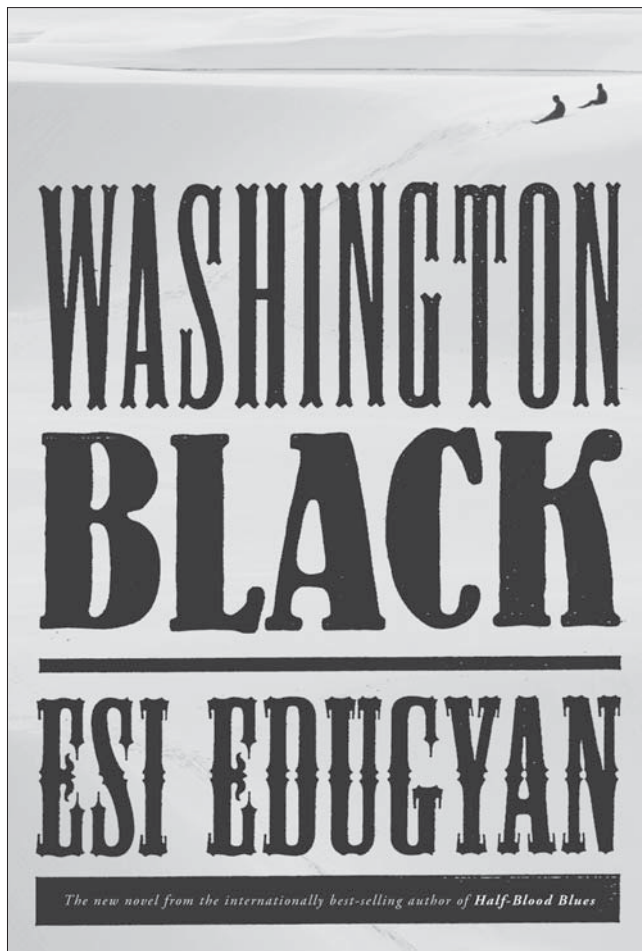
That sounds far-fetched, doesn't it?

Until you read this book, it may seem so but Edugyan leaves enough room in this story to delight his readers, move them, and make everything fit just as they'd want it. There's violence in here, yes, but there's also a cliffhanger within, an enchanting romance, and a coming-of-age maturation you'll be glad you've witnessed.

Don't miss this wide novel. Don't, but do be prepared for a book hangover, since *Washington Black* will stick with you awhile. If that's the kind of tale you cherish, here's the one to get.



Esi Edugyan



Obama... continued from page 12

mocracy," people of "good will in both parties" would "call out" bigots and fearmongers.

"If there's a democracy where everyone is participating and paying attention and listening and voting, people of both parties call out the fear mongers and then they work to compromise and to get things done," Obama said at the rally. "But when there's a vacuum in our democracy, when we don't vote, when we take our basic rights for granted other voices fill the void and demagogues who promise simple fixes to complicated problems," he said.



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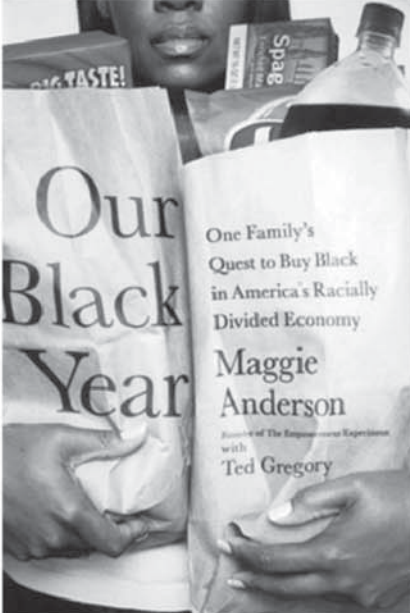
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CLASSIFIEDS

September 19, 2018

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The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (MHR SB) of Lucas County seeks to acquire the services of a consultant who can develop recommendations for ways the Board can effectively enhance and expand its current data collection process and information systems. Additional information is available at <http://www.lcmhrsb.oh.gov/publicnotice>. Proposals must be received by September 21, 2018 at 5:00pm.

SNOW PLOW OPERATORS WITH VEHICLES

The City of Toledo, Streets, Bridges, & Harbor Division is interested in contracting with owners/operators of snow plow vehicles for plowing on residential streets during heavy snow conditions. All bids must be received by **1:30 PM October 16h, 2018**, for a copy of the bid proposals and specifications visit <https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=22576> or contact:

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on **Pearson Metropark Roadway Resurfacing Project** will be received; opened; and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537 **Friday, October 12, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.** local time.

THE SCOPE OF WORK consists of resurfacing of 24 feet x 6,025 linear feet of Pearson Drive using ground tire rubber modified asphalt. General construction includes minor full-depth pavement alterations with curb, catch basin repair & adjustment, pavement planing, modified asphalt paving and pavement marking. Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents and plan-holder's list through Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, Ohio 43604 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (check made payable to Newfax Corporation) or via the Newfax Digital Plan Room at www.newfaxcorp.com. Newfax can be contacted at 419-241-5157 or 800-877-5157. A non-refundable fee of \$20 is required for each set of documents obtained. For additional information, please contact Jon Zvanovec @ 419-360-9184, jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com.

EACH BIDDER MUST FURNISH either (1) a bond for the full amount of the bid or (2) a certified check, cashier's check or irrevocable letter of credit in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid with its bid. The successful bidder must furnish a 100 percent (100%) Performance Bond and a 100 percent (100%) Labor and Materials Bond.

No bidder may withdraw its bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

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Exemplifying Excellence Through Sustainable Service

Special to The Truth

Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. are excited to begin the 2018-2022 International Program under the theme, "Exemplifying Excellence Through Sustainable Service."

Zeta Alpha Omega, the Toledo area graduate chapter, will implement the five program targets that are designed to advance the mission of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. with excellence and underscore a commitment to sustainable service. **Target 1: HBCU for Life: A Call to Action** will continue to place an emphasis on historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). Sorority members will promote and market HBCUs, encourage students to attend HBCUs and provide financial support to HBCUs.

Excitement is building as the sorority approaches the second Impact Day. On September 17, members around the world honored the lineage and legacy of black colleges and universities by celebrating **AKA HBCU Day**.

The sorority has set a goal to raise \$1 million in one day! HBCUs are struggling financially, enduring questions regarding their relevance and many have declining enrollment. HBCUs need our help. AKA is committed to helping HBCUs thrive and remain relevant. Sorority members along with their families, co-workers, corporations and friends are asked to make tax-deductible donations to the AKA HBCU Endowment fund. For more information visit www.aka1908.com

The local chapter also supports area students attending HBCUs through the "Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter Student-Village" initiative. Village members send cards, care packages and provide mentoring and support for the students. Target 1: HBCU for Life: A Call to Action is chaired by Katina Johnson and co-chaired by Cassandra Adams. Morgannia Dawson is the local chapter president and Nicole Williams is the vice-president and program committee chairman. HBCU students who would like to participate in the "village" should email Katina Johnson at katinaj73@gmail.com. For more information.



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