



Local and National News

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"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

January 16, 2019

AKAs: Exemplifying Excellence Through Sustainable Service



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Power Over Walls

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

The Truth Contributor

If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it or work around it.

- Michael Jordan



The normally feisty and outspoken representative of District 4 seems to have transformed from a "solo, fight every single battle and take no prisoners" approach to a new strategy of pursuing change through collaboration and quiet influence.

Never one to shy away from controversial issues, Councilwoman Yvonne Harper is teaming with fellow councilman Nick Komives on a piece of necessary legislation to defeat walls used to limit housing opportunities for low to moderate income individuals and families.

The legislation, an amendment to the City of Toledo's existing nondiscrimination ordinance for housing and employment, adds additional protections to push back on landlords who discriminate against people who receive disability benefits, military benefits, child support, alimony, rent vouchers and public housing assistance or any other legal reliable income.

According to the American news website Think Progress, landlords have commonly engaged in discrimination by denying safe and affordable housing to low-income families who use federal housing vouchers to pay their rent.

The Harper/Komives proposal empowers those receiving public housing assistance, Section 8 vouchers and other legal sources of income to go into the private market to rent apartments.

Yet, some councilmembers, although sympathetic to the plight of the low-income demographic, remain on the fence about the legislation. "Part

of the problem is that the landlords (local Realtors Association and private real estate owners) run the show around here and they have no fear of evicting people," as one legislator lamented.

Another councilmember, perhaps concerned about possible added costs and compliance requirements for the powerful interest group stated "It (legislation) can't just be fair for the people that have the vouchers, it must also be fair for the people taking the risk and buying the property and trying to make money."

Did the councilman say "fair?!"

The current practice of "just saying no" to those who rely on Section 8 vouchers certainly has a disparate negative impact on families with children, people of color and those with disabilities – those who depend on alternative sources of income.

Without new legislation or additional protections, voucher holders and others are forced to remain confined to lower income, lower opportunity areas as landlords continue to erect "walls" around higher opportunity areas, limiting access and perpetuating segregated living patterns and racial concentrations of poverty at a time when various "walls" are dividing the nation.

"Fairness" means that "if people want to live somewhere, how they pay for their rent shouldn't be what prevents them from being able to live in a place," according to Sarah Jenkins of the Fair Housing Center.

"We do want to make sure that landlords have protection as well," she adds. "The Homelessness Board is working on a Housing First model and this is a piece that furthers their initiative. It also allows the City of Toledo to say that 'we are furthering our fair housing initiatives which is a requirement under federal law in order for us to continue to receive fair housing dollars or HOME dollars and other grant monies that might come through.' So it's going to be quite a process this year."

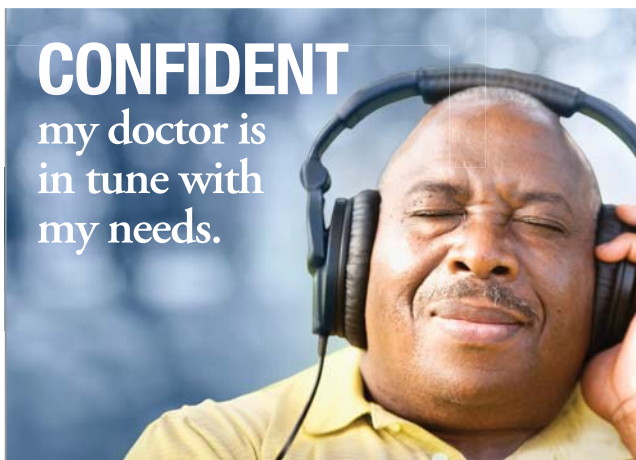
I agree with Jenkins.

And, while the fight to expand housing opportunities may include some public skirmishes, success in overcoming these walls of discrimination may ultimately lie in collaboration and quiet influence rather than a sledgehammer approach.

If so, Councilpersons Harper and Komives are well equipped to succeed.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at drldperryman@enterofhope-baptist.org

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Sylvania Franciscan Village Celebrates Martin Luther King, Jr. Day with Prayer Service, Panel Discussion

The Sylvania Franciscan Village is pleased to host an ecumenical prayer service, commemoration and panel discussion in honor of the life and legacy of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on Tuesday, Jan. 22 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Ebeid Student Center, located in the lower level of Russell Ebeid Hall at Lourdes University, 6832 Convent Blvd., in Sylvania.

This event is free and open to the public. A short prayer service is to be followed by an intergenerational panel discussion on Dr. King's dream as it

relates to contemporary society. Panelists include:

- * Sr. Eileen Marie Ripsin, OSF, a licensed professional counselor

and therapist from the Sophia Center;

- * Patrice McClellan, PhD, associate professor of Business and Leadership and Director of the Masters of Organizational Leadership program at Lourdes University;

- * Robert S. Salem, a clinical professor of law at The University of Toledo and frequent speaker on civil rights issues who has served on the Ohio

Advisory Committee of the United States Commission on Civil Rights;

- * Makenzie Fannin, a junior studying nursing and member of the women's golf team at Lourdes University;

- * Corey Pargo, a junior studying psychology at Lourdes University.

A light reception is to follow the program. For more information, contact Laurie Bertke at lberty@sistersosf.org or 419-824-3515.

Why Community Service Matters on Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Martin Luther King Jr. Day will be commemorated on January 21. If you are planning how to best spend the time off from work or school, consider volunteering.

To honor the life and legacy of King, many communities offer service events that are easy to join for one day.

From serving meals to the elderly to interpreting critical health information to new immigrants, there are many ways you can devote your skills, time and energy to others in need.

A national listing of service projects can be found by visiting nationalservice.gov.

This Martin Luther King Jr. Day, consider how you can honor a great

man, while helping to build a stronger community.

Courtesy StatePoint

Community Calendar

January 17

Toledo Kwanzaa House Community Meeting: Frederick Douglas Center; 6 pm
To evaluate this year's Kwanzaa celebration and to bring in new committee member: 419-410-8022

January 22 and 29

CARE Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Group; Ronald McDonald House – 3883 Monroe Street; 7 to 8:30 pm; For families who have experienced the loss of a baby during or after birth

January 20

YWCA I Rise Unity March 3rd annual YWCA Unity March: 3:30 to 4:30 pm; March begins with a rally at the Toledo Loves Love wall, 1209 Adams St; After our speakers and attendees will march to Trinity Episcopal Church where Trinity will offer some light hospitality

January 21

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day!!
YWCA I Rise Event: 8 a.m. Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel, Sylvania Franciscan Village. Mass (Prayers for Peace, Justice & Racial Harmony)
MLK Unity Celebration: University of Toledo Savage Arena; 10 am to noon

January 22,

Ebeid Student Center; 5:50 50 6:30 pm; Ecumenical prayer service followed by a panel discussion on Martin Luther King, Jr., and his continued influence on society today: 419-824-3515 or lberty@sistersosf.org.

February 23

Warren AME Gospel Extravaganza: 4 to 7 pm; Welcoming dancers, singers, poets, gospel rap artists: 419-324-4189

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Strahorn to step down as House Democratic Leader

House Democratic Leader Fred Strahorn (D-Dayton) last week issued the following statement announcing his plans to step down as House Democratic leader at the end of January, after four years of serving as the Ohio House's top ranking Democrat:

"I don't take today's announcement lightly, because I'm proud of the rebuilding and growth Ohio House Democrats have experienced under my leadership. After a decade of being denied a seat at the table with Republicans, we changed our direction in the legislature by engaging better with the majority on the official side and working overtime on the political side, which resulted in a net gain of five Democratic legislators in the House. Ultimately, 11.5 million Ohioans have a stronger voice and a more responsive government because of that approach.

"The caucus' success over the last four years is shared among the talented, hardworking members and staff who each sacrificed and gave their all to further our goals of growing the middle class and ensuring working people and working families have a real opportunity for a better life in our state.

"I want to thank former Speaker Ryan Smith for his inclusiveness, leadership and shared commitment to making our state better. Though we have

disagreed on the best approach at times, I believe Ryan is a man of principled integrity.

"As we move forward I am hopeful for the caucus' continued success and will look to contribute toward that success. My decision to step down is bittersweet, but it is made sweeter knowing that I will have more time to spend with my loved ones and more time to focus on the issues that are personally important to me. I thank all the members for their trust in me over the last four years, and I look forward to this next chapter, both for myself and for the Ohio House of Representatives."



Rep. Fred Strahorn copy

Sykes Announces Plans To Seek Leadership Position During Historic Time in Ohio House

Ohio House Assistant Minority Leader Emilia Sykes, D-Akron, released the following statement regarding the future of the Ohio House Minority Caucus. "I want to thank Leader Strahorn for all he has done for the caucus," Sykes said. "I plan to seek the Minority Leader position and I look forward to working with members of our caucus. We have a tremendous

opportunity in the 133rd Ohio General Assembly to ensure the voices of our constituents are heard, and that we all work together to get things done for all Ohioans."

AKAs... continued from page 16

Dawson; Vice President Nicole William; Recording Secretary Pamela Green-Jones; Treasurer Jacalyn Brown; Financial Secretary Paula Martin; Corresponding Secretary Treva Jeffries; Public Relations Denise Black-Poon; Graduate Advisors Cheryl Bobo Wallace and Desiree McGee; Assistant Recording Secretary Katrina Barry.

The chapter officers are Parliamentarian Felicia Dunston; Historian Elinor Allen; Sergeant-at-Arms Mary Dawson; Member-at-Large Frances Collins; Official Hostess & AKA Connection Coordinator Pamela Wilson; Chaplain Margaret Huntley; Attendance Registrar Julia Holt

The AKAs Jazz Brunch Scholarship Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2019 at 2 p.m. The event will be held at the Radisson Hotel at the University of Toledo. There will be a silent auction and live entertainment. Tickets are \$35. For additional information, please contact Pamela Green-Jones, ticket chairman, at 419-206-5220 or Donnetta Carter, fundraising chairman, at 419-367-9265.

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Welcome Toledo-Lucas County Wins Award in the Gateways for Growth Challenge Round III

New American Economy and Welcoming America have selected Welcome Toledo-Lucas County (Welcome TLC) to receive a Gateways for Growth Challenge award in the third year of the initiative.

Launched in December 2015, the Gateways for Growth Challenge is a competitive opportunity for local communities to receive tailored research, direct technical assistance, and matching grants from New American Economy and Welcoming America to develop multi-sector plans for welcoming and integrating immigrants.

"We launched the Welcome TLC initiative five years ago because we realized the value of immigrants and refugees and the potential they bring to Toledo and Lucas County. Toledo-Lucas County has a unique immigrant population and history that has served us well in the past and will continue to serve us well in the future," the Lucas County Commissioners said.

"This is another step in Welcome TLC's leadership in including Toledo-Lucas County's small but growing and diverse immigrant population in our regional talent and economic development strategies," said Mechelle Zarou and Reem Subei, Welcome TLC's Co-Chairs. "Especially in this era of misinformation on immigration, Toledo's immigrant community is to be celebrated and welcomed and we continue to work to put our region on the map nationally."

Following a rigorous application process, Welcome TLC and 12 other communities were selected for the third round of the Gateways for Growth Chal-

lenge. This year's awardees, alongside Welcome TLC, include Bowling Green, Kentucky, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Charlotte, North Carolina, Flint, Michigan, Lexington, Kentucky, Lowell, Massachusetts, Memphis, Tennessee, Northern Kentucky, Roanoke, Virginia, San Antonio, Texas, and Wayne County, Michigan.

In applying for the Gateways for Growth Challenge, Welcome TLC demonstrated a strong commitment to develop a concrete strategy that ensure all residents have access to the tools and support they need to succeed and contribute to their communities, and to highlight the contributions immigrants are already making locally. Foreign-born residents account for about seven percent of Toledo's population and more than nine percent of Lucas County's population.

Welcome TLC will receive tailored research assistance from the Gateways for Growth Challenge to update a study on the demographics and economic impact of immigrants and refugees in Toledo.

In 2014, the Lucas County Commissioners launched the Welcome Toledo-Lucas County Initiative in partnership with LISC Toledo with resolutions of support from Lucas County and the City of Toledo. Welcome TLC is governed including immigrants, refugees, and people of diverse cultures that is focused on community outreach, language access, legal services, and workforce and economic development. More information on Welcome TLC can be found on their Facebook page www.facebook.com/WelcomeTLC and on LISC Toledo's webpage www.lisc.org/toledo/our-work/welcome-toledo-lucas-county.

Tears of a Village

By Anthony Bouyer, PhD

Guest Column

As we venture into the 21st century the most persistent and urgent question African Americans are asking today is "Why Are So Many Black Males Killing Each Other?"

Sociology, psychology and the rest of the social sciences involve the study of society and social behavior by examining the groups, cultures, organizations, social institutions and processes that develop when people interact and work together.

It is incontestable and deplorable that young black men are killing, beating, and maiming each other. When these young men are caught they are prosecuted, not only are the victims' families forever destroyed, but so also are the families of the young men who do the killings.

Some statistics put a sobering spin on the conversation. If you are the parent, grandparent or relative of a young black male, you live with the constant fear of receiving that call: "Your son has been killed or has killed another young

black male."

Many of us think that are black males are immune to subsuming to homicide, but statistics show that a young black male has a greater chance of becoming a victim to killings, beatings, maimings or being a perpetrator than he does of getting into college.

It should be noted that guns are the weapon of choice in most of the killings. So how has the black community come to find itself in such a crisis? Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stated "All progress is precarious, and the solution of one problem brings us face to face with another problem."

All across America in urban areas, we are witnessing genocide that is being



Anthony Bouyer, PhD

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The Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund along with National School Choice Week are presenting a 2019-2020 School Choice School Fair for Grades K-8 on Saturday, January 26 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Franciscan Center, located on the campus of Lourdes University, at 6832 Convent Boulevard.

Interested families can learn about the different educational options available in Northwest Ohio including private schools, charter schools and homeschooling as well as tuition scholarships. Representatives from participating schools and homeschooling co-ops will have tables with informational materials to share.

Parents will also have an opportunity to learn about the scholarships available for private education including the EdChoice Scholarship Program and the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund. EdChoice scholarships provide students from underperforming schools as well as students in grades K-5 from low income households the opportunity to attend participating private schools.

The Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund awards scholarship assistance for low-income students who reside in one of 19 counties in Northwest Ohio. While parents are learning about schools and scholarships, children can participate in fun activities and entertainment. Snacks and drinks will be available. Parking and admission are free.

"National School Choice Week is the perfect time for parents to search for new or different schools for their children," said Andrew Campanella, president of National School Choice Week. "By planning a school fair and inviting all different types of schools to participate, the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund is bringing educational opportunity one

step closer to even more Buckeye State families. We could not be happier that they chose to plan this helpful fair during National School Choice Week, and we encourage families to attend and discover their options."

For more information visit <https://nosf.org/news-and-events/announcements> or call the NOSF office at 419-720-7048 or on find on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/578494879287567/>

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Library Closure Reminder (M) Jan. 21

Please note that in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday all Toledo Lucas County Public Library locations will be CLOSED.

Regular hours resume Tuesday, January 22.

For more on holiday hours visit <http://www.toledolibrary.org/holiday-hours>

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Three Local Legends Organize A Tribute to Toledo's First Lady of Song

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

Four or five years ago, Ramona Collins, a legendary local songstress who was the YWCA's first Milestones Award winner in the Arts Category, took it upon herself to try to correct an oversight in the selection of honorees.

Collins nominated Jean Holden for the Arts award, an honor long overdue, she had determined. "She really is the First Lady of Song," says Collins of her fellow artist – a singer and vocal coach who is eight years her senior.

Legendary Jean Holden, is an American contemporary Jazz singer, coach and trailblazer. In the 60s jazz was at its zenith and she traveled across the country singing at exclusive supper clubs (hospitality clubs) in Orlando, Pittsburgh and Hartford where big names the likes of Sarah Vaughn, Lena Horn and Billie Holiday often performed.



Jean Holden - seated - with Rhonda Sewell, Ramona Collins, Laneta Goings

When she was eight it was the beginning of her formal training to be an opera singer. She loved all music genre's including country and gospel; won numerous contests and was offered a scholarship at both The Julliard and Oberlin College.

She reached another milestone singing for several years with The Toledo Opera Association and several theater productions at the University of Toledo. In the 1960s Ms. Holden was the first African American to perform in its first theater program - 'Three Penny Opera.'

Later in the 1970s impressive jazz gigs include the Hospitality Motor Inn, The Park Lane Hotel, and Rusty's. Ms. Holden said: 'It was an exciting place to be, as it was frequented by celebrity guests like Marilyn Monroe and Ella Fitzgerald.'



Jean Holden and daughter Lisa Marie

• This year's nomination application for Jean Holden

"Back in 2002, I was the first winner in the Arts Category and it really bothered me that they couldn't see that she was so deserving," Collins adds.

That nomination several years ago was in vain. Holden was not hon-

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In Loving Memory

Dear Margie,

Because of my illness this time last year we were planning my funeral. God stepped in and said, "No, not yet."

With the help of our children I was brought back to where I'm driving myself to church and back to sing in the choir.

As you know, Bea got her wings January 4th. You've been gone 8 years to date and we have missed you. From age 13 to 80, God only knows how much I still love you.

Your husband, Charles

Children: Rosalind, Katrina,

Debra, Charles B. and grandkids

In Loving Memory of

My Queen

Marjorie Welch

5/8/1938 – 1/15/2011



In Loving Memory of
My Queen
Marjorie Welch
5/8/1938 – 1/15/2011

Tears of a Village... continued from page 5

committed by young black men upon each other. There is no other group in America that is witnessing generations of their young men being lost to violence like the black community – what a terrible situation. Now, we can and should debate about the causes, but let us just say that it's hard to believe that racism is the root of it.

For many who grew up prior to the 1980s, this type of violence was unknown. The title of this article is tears of a village. What is the origin of the phrase "It Takes a Village to Raise a Child?" It reflects the emphasis African cultures place on family and community and may have its origins in a biblical worldview. The proverb is so widely used in Africa that there are equivalent statements in most African languages, including "One knee does not bring up

a child" in Sukuma and "One hand does not nurse a child" in Swahili.

There was a time when the community as a whole took responsibility for all of the young people. When a child misbehaved, he was corrected by a neighbor and then when he got home he was corrected by his parents. In today's society, if you correct a child for misbehaving you can be assured that you will receive a visit from that child's parents who will confront you about correcting their child.

Other variables contributing to violence among young black men is that 72 percent of children in the black community are born out-of-wedlock. That means absentee fathers. Research shows that lack of a male role model is an express train right to prison and the cycle continues.

... continued on page 11

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Local Legends... continued from page 7

ored then and Collins' frustration was compounded.

"It really bothered me, she has done so much that people don't recognize," she says.

So in the fall of 2018, Collins took a different tack. She approached two fellow Milestones Award winners, Laneta Goings (honoree for Volunteerism in 2015) and Rhonda Sewell (honoree for Volunteerism in 2017) and sought their assistance in compiling a joint nomination application.

Because she had submitted a nomination previously with no luck, Collins "wanted more assurance that Jean would be named" so she and her two fellow contributors reached out, gathered information and sought to ensure that Holden would earn the prize this time around.

Ms. Holden has left an indelible mark on hundreds, perhaps thousands, of kids and adults across the country. Her influence and unique approach are remarkable through her voice and actions by building kids' confidence showing them how to believe in and like themselves. They try as hard as they can and always want Ms. Jean to be proud.

According to Ms. Holden, she always wanted to be a teacher – that's her passion. At Studio of Vocal Expression, her opera training allows her to teach students how to sing with control, helping local musicians, actresses and others seeking vocal coaching/expression reach the pinnacle of success.

Today, she teaches the children and grandchildren of many former students now parents and grandparents. Many professionals include music teachers, singers, successful and now world-renown entertainers who have competed in pageants, auditions, monologues, and elocution. The effectiveness of an educator is manifested in teaching students of all ages and abilities.

The three nominators gathered all their knowledge and insights about the contributions Holden has made to the community as an artist and as a teacher. They also sought input from numerous others – former students, parent of students, community activists and local leaders – whose lives have been impacted by Holden's contributions over the years.

And it worked

Holden says: 'I've been blessed with the opportunity to work with so many people throughout the years. It's sharing the gift that I have with people and watching them grow from it.' Her selflessness and unwavering joy in infectious and come from remarkable people, from all walks of life, she's interacted with over the years.

Countless agree that in larger cities, Holden's unique and specialized training would not be affordable. However, she firmly believes that: as songstress Whitney Houston sang: 'Children are our future, teach them well and let the lead the way; show them all the beauty they possess inside and give them a sense of pride to make it easier.' For more than 60 years, this has been her approach – and, it works.

The honorees were announced at a press conference on January 8 at the YWCA. In addition to Holden for the Arts, this year's other award winners are: Suzette Cowell for Business; Justice Judith Lanzinger for Government; Robin Reese for Social Services; Mary Fedderke for Science; Lexi Hayman-Staple for Volunteerism and Lynn Fisher for Education.

Celebrating with Holden were her three nominators, her daughter and everyone in attendance who have enjoyed Toledo's First Lady of Song's many contributions over the years.

"I've never seen her happier," says Collins of Holden's reaction to the honor.



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Tips to Tackle 2019 With Greater Financial Confidence

Special to The Truth

Many Americans will start the New Year with specific goals or resolutions in mind. While resolutions are often broken where your finances are concerned, they don't have to be.

Use these tips to tackle 2019 with greater financial confidence.

- Set a specific goal. Setting goals for the year may actually boost your confidence about achieving them. In fact, those who set a financial goal for themselves in 2017 were more likely to feel that their finances had improved over the course of the year, compared to those with no financial goal, according to research from Lincoln Financial Group. Whether it's saving more for retirement or paying off a debt, setting a goal is a great place to start.

- Make a plan. Having a financial plan in place can help you prepare for life's surprises and face them with confidence. A financial plan doesn't need to be complicated, but it should cover everything that's important to you at this specific stage of your life. A financial advisor can provide an objective voice to help you stay focused on your goals while balancing your risk preferences and time horizon. They can also provide education to help determine if and when to fine-tune your plan. If you already

... continued on page 15

Ohioans Pay Among Lowest in Nation for Insurance

A national study revealed that Ohioans pay among the lowest average premiums in the nation for auto and homeowners insurance, Ohio Department of Insurance Director Jillian Froment announced.

We are fortunate in Ohio to have one of the most dynamic and competitive insurance markets in the country, Froment said. Consumers benefit by having many options to choose from at different price points.

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners determined Ohioans paid an average of \$850 (9th lowest) for homeowners insurance and \$727 (14th lowest) for auto insurance in 2016 (most recent data available)

compared to the respective national averages of \$1,192 and \$936. The combined average savings for Ohioans is \$551 below the national averages.

Froment advises consumers to compare products from different companies. She also urges Ohioans to regularly evaluate their insurance needs and amounts of coverage.

Consumers with insurance questions can contact the Ohio Department of Insurance at 1-800-686-1526. Insurance information is available at www.insurance.ohio.gov [<http://www.insurance.ohio.gov/>].

Ohio Tax Structure Contributes to Racial Inequity

New research underlines need to overhaul state tax code

Ohio's upside-down tax system takes an especially heavy toll on black and Latino residents. That's the finding of new research from the Institute on Taxation & Economic Policy (ITEP), a national nonprofit research group with a sophisticated model of the tax system, that was released last week by Policy Matters Ohio.

Lower-earning Ohioans pay a greater share of their income on average in state and local taxes than high-income Ohioans do. Long-standing structural barriers in education, housing and at work add up to black Ohioans and Latinos being more likely to have lower incomes than white residents. Therefore, they are more likely to pay higher state and local taxes. Conversely, white people are more likely to earn higher incomes – and affluent Ohioans average lower taxes.

ITEP found that 27 percent of black Ohioans and 40 percent of Latinos are in the poorest fifth, who earned less than \$19,000 in 2018 and whose total state

and local taxes amounted to 12.3 percent of their income. Only 8 percent of black residents and 7 percent of Latinos are in the top fifth of all earners, who earned at least \$92,000 and average just a 7.7 percent tax rate. By contrast, 18 percent of whites are in the poorest fifth and 22 percent are in the richest fifth.

"This underscores the need for an overhaul of Ohio's state and local tax system," said Zach Schiller, Policy Matters Ohio research director. "We can raise the revenue we need to fully fund public schools, public transportation and other important services while breaking barriers that still remain for many Ohioans of color. A good place to start is boosting the income tax on the state's top earners." Policy Matters proposed one way to do that in a June report (<https://t.e2ma.net/click/b7lkug/bvwsuvc/r7cm75b>).

Tears of a Village... continued from page 8

According to Jenkins, (2006), the main vehicle used in restorative justice is the technique commonly referred to as alternative dispute resolution. The primary focus is the repairing of the relationship between individuals prior to the escalation of violence.

Jenkins continues to proclaim that there has been very little research on dispute resolution and social control strategies in communities of color in the United States.

Other contributing factors to the violence that is being committed by young black men is that many of them have lost hope and nihilism has set in – a view that traditional values and beliefs no longer hold sway.

Dr. King said: "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

For the black community this is a time of challenge and controversy, so let's all stand and address this crisis, there have been too many tears in the village.

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TOLEDO EXCEL

PRESENTS

35th Annual
Conference for
Aspiring Minority Youth

**Onward and Upward:
Persisting
through Barriers
and Obstacles**

Dr. Terrell Strayhorn
Founding CEO of
Do Good Work
Educational Consulting,
LLC

Join us!

Saturday,
January 26, 2019

8:30 a.m.
to 1 p.m.

The University of Toledo
Thompson Student Union Auditorium
Doors open at 7:30 a.m.

All students in grades 7-12, their
parents or guardians, and community
members are welcome.

Admission is free and lunch is included.

Register

online: utoledo.edu/success/excel
call: 419.530.3820



DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
TOLEDO EXCEL

SA 1984

Breaking the Glass LLC, A Toledo Non-profit Is Hosting a networking Event for Entrepreneurs and Business Owners

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

Local entrepreneur and founder of Breaking the Glass LLC, Blair Johnson, will be hosting a networking event for local business owners and entrepreneurs to meet up to kick off the new year.

The event will be held on Wednesday January 16, 2019 at The Upgrade Food and Spirits (2640 W Laskey Road Toledo, OH 43613). Breaking the Glass LLC exists to make opportunities for young entrepreneurs in the Toledo area. The purpose of this event is to highlight local entrepreneurs and

businesses and connect them to Toledoans who may need their services.

The people who attend the networking event will be able to get free professional headshot by participating in the activities during the networking event.

This networking event is being sponsored by local entrepreneurs and businesses including BMJ Enterprises, Frogtown Financial, City Clutchz, Blessing in Disguize, Re'Stylez, The League Of Love, JSSW Investments, Northwest Ohio Young Black Democrats.

Social Security- Questions and Answers

By Erin Thompson, Public Affairs Specialist in Toledo, OH
Guest Column

Question:

Is it true that if you have low income you can get help paying your Medicare premiums?

Answer:

Yes. If your income and resources are limited, your state may be able to help with your Medicare Part B premium, deductibles, and coinsurance amounts. State rules vary on the income and resources that apply. Contact your state or local medical assistance, social services, or welfare office, or call the Medicare hotline, 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), and ask about the Medicare Savings Programs. If you have limited income and resources, you also may be able to get help paying for prescription drug coverage under Medicare Part D. Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778) or visit any Social Security office.

Also, see our publication, *Medicare* (Publication 10043), at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10043.html. For even more information, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Question:

How do I get a copy of the form, *Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs*?

Answer:

If you wish to apply for *Extra Help* with Medicare prescription drug plan costs, we recommend you use our online application at www.socialsecurity.gov/i1020/. You

can find instruction sheets in 15 different languages to help you understand the English application at www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp.

Question:

If I call 1-800-772-1213, can a Social Security representative take my application for Medicare prescription drug help over the phone?

Answer:

If an interviewer is available when you call the 800 number, he or she can take your application over the phone. If an interviewer is not immediately available, we can schedule a telephone appointment for you. For the fastest and most convenient way to apply for Medicare prescription drug help, go online to www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp.

Question:

Where can I find general information about Medicare benefits?

Answer:

Social Security determines whether people are entitled to Medicare benefits, but the program is administered by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). You can visit CMS's Medicare website at www.medicare.gov, or call them at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). Online or by phone, you can find answers to all your Medicare questions at CMS.

Question:

Will my eligibility for the *Extra Help* with Medicare prescription drug plan costs be reviewed and, if so, how often?

Answer:

If you get the *Extra Help*, Social Security may contact you to review your status. This reassessment will ensure you remain eligible for *Extra Help* and receive all the benefits you deserve. Annually, usually at the end of August, we may send you a form to complete: *Social Security Administration Review of Your Eligibility for Extra Help*. You will have 30 days to complete and return this form. Any necessary adjustments to the *Extra Help* will be effective in January of the following year. Go to www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp for more information.

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A Bound Woman is a Dangerous Thing by DaMaris B. Hill

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

Hands on the wheel.

Hands on the hood, in the air, on the wall, on the ground. No sudden moves, no waving "hey" or scratching your nose, and don't reach for a thing. Hands up – although, as you'll read in *A Bound Woman is a Dangerous Thing* by DaMaris B. Hill, there are times when that doesn't matter.

The fact is shocking: according to The Sentencing Project, the rate of incarceration for black women rose 700 percent between 1980 and 2014. For Hill, that devastating number spurred her to a different kind of action: she wrote poetry to honor those incarcerated women, and the women before them.

They are, she says, "love letters" gathered in six groups in her book, beginning with a photo of her fierce grandmother. Hill admits that Harriet Beecher Spruill-Hill was never incarcerated in the physical sense; instead, she was the victim of "Jane Crow styles of oppression..." The photo kicks off the first segment, which honors ancestors.

Based on a book by history professor Kali Nicole Gross, the second section of Hill's book deals with historical African-American women, in poems that "attempt to create first-person testimonies..." They were women who weren't necessarily incarcerated, but were instead directly, often instantly punished for crimes committed.

Hill's third portion focuses on writers such as Ida B. Wells and Zora Neale Hurston,

and women like Eartha Kitt and Sonia Sanchez, who used their talents and networks for political activism. Her fourth segment "focuses on

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Bloomsbury
\$25.00 / \$34.00 Canada
173 pages

what it means to hurdle; to spring forth" beyond the bonds that held this chapters' subjects back. The fifth section is devoted to Assata Shakur, a woman Hill calls "a second Harriet Tubman..."

Hill's final chapter is devoted to connections and how there is an arc between "bound" women and their families and children today. In this chapter, Hill includes "an autobiographical journey," as the mother of a black man, and her heartache over his addictions.

Looking much like a historical narrative, the front cover of *A*

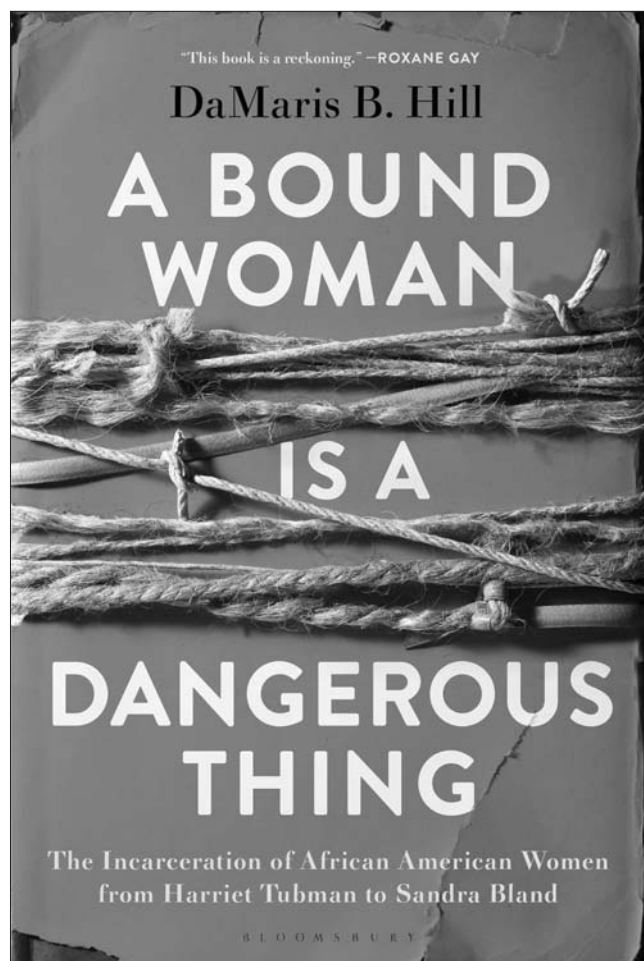


Author DaMaris Hill, Photo Courtesy Tony Rance

Bound Woman is a Dangerous Thing is very misleading. Readers will want to know that this is not strictly a history book. Yes, there's history inside it – brief, fascinating history; biographical clips; and wonderful period photos – but that's not the focus.

Instead, author DaMaris B. Hill offers too-short introductions to various black women throughout history before presenting poems she wrote, based on each individual woman's situation. Names may be familiar, while others are not, and the poems vary: a few are wry, almost biting, with just the barest touch of modern sarcasm. Most are loaded with symbolism and metaphor, made to make you think. For lovers of poetry, that mix here will be welcome and powerful but for readers expecting something else, the presentation could be a head-scratcher.

All your life, you've been warned not to judge a book by its cover, and that's appropriate advice for a poetry book that masquerades as history. Browsers who aren't cautious, beware of that before putting *A Bound Woman is a Dangerous Thing* in your hands.



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CLASSIFIEDS

Page 14

January 16, 2019

CHOIR DIRECTOR/PIANIST

St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church is seeking to hire a choir director/pianist for Sunday worship. Must play in gospel style, read music, be able to direct a choir, understand and implement Catholic liturgical worship guidelines or be willing to learn Catholic worship. Submit resume on line to stmartindeporrestoledo@gmail.com or mail to 1119 West Bancroft St., Toledo, Ohio 43606.

ASSISTANT TEACHERS

Brightside is seeking Assistant Teachers to join our team. An Assistant Teacher must have the following education: CDA or enrolled to complete a CDA; or an Associate's or Bachelor's degree with at least 9 Early Childhood Education credits; or on track to complete degree with ECE credits within one year. Please apply with your resume to Kbandfield@BrightsideOhio.com

PHILANTHROPY ASSISTANT

Metroparks Toledo has an opening for a Philanthropy Assistant to provide administrative support for our Philanthropy Division and Metroparks Foundation. Moderate level of customer service and administrative support experience required, including database management. HS diploma or equivalent. Degree preferred. Full time position with benefits. \$17.03/hr. Go to www.Metroparks-Toledo.com to view the job description, position requirements and apply online by January 10. EOE

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, PROGRAMMING

Metroparks Toledo is seeking a qualified individual to provide administrative and program support for the Program Department at Wildwood Metropark. HS Diploma or equivalent. College degree preferred. 18 years of age or older. Moderate level of customer service and administrative support experience required; experience with educational curricula within primary and secondary grade levels preferred. \$17.03/hr. Some weekends, evenings, and holidays. Go to www.metroparkstoledo.com for complete job requirements and descriptions; must submit online application and resume online by January 21. EOE

PARK SERVICES CREW LEADER

Metroparks Toledo is looking for a Park Services Crew Leader position at Pearson Metropark. Associate Degree in Parks and Recreation services, Natural Resources, Grounds Management, or related field, or combination of education and work experience. Supervisory experience preferred. Park or outdoor operations experience including leadership responsibilities. \$20.28/hr. Full time. Go to www.metroparkstoledo.com for complete list of position requirements and duties; must submit online application and resume by January 24. EOE

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ACCOUNTING MANAGER

Metroparks Toledo has an opening for an Accounting Manager. Three years of general accounting experience including accounts payable and payroll is required. Moderate level of experience with grants, financial management of capital projects and governmental accounting preferred. Supervisory and leadership experience required. Bachelor's Degree in accounting, finance, public administration or related field, or equivalent work experience. FT position with benefits. Go to www.MetroparksToledo.com to view the job description, position requirements and apply online by January 20. EOE

Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY19-29, (Project # 1130-19-202) for Building Envelope/Weatherproofing for the University of Toledo. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 15, 2019. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from DC Reprographics, 1254 Courtland Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43201. Call 614-297-1200 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$140.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Todd Schram of eS Architecture and Development at 614-764-1115. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 15%. Project Estimate: \$1,420,000.00; Breakdown: General: \$1,260,000.00; Plumbing: \$33,000.00; HVAC: \$105,000.00; Electrical: \$22,000.00.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES RFQ#18-Q001

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for **Architectural and Engineering Services**. Received in accordance with law until **January 18, 2019 at 3:00 PM ET**. See documents: www.lucasmha.org; 201 Belmont Ave., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246). This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE!

JANUARY 24, 25, 26

Join the Toledo Lucas County Public Library (TLCPL) and Friends of the Library for the first book sale of the year! Come shop for a new novel, CD, magazine and many more at discounted prices!

Thursday 4 - 7 p.m.
Friday and Saturday* 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Members only sale: Thursday noon - 4 p.m.

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PRICES:
\$1.00 Hardcover, trade paperback, CDs and books on tape
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*\$8.00/Bag Sale (Saturday only)

Proceeds benefit Friends of the Library and help support Library programs such as the Children's Summer Reading Challenge and Authors! Authors!

For a full list of book sale dates visit <http://www.toledolibrary.org/booksales>

Call to place your ad:

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www.TheTruthToledo.com

Briana Peters Appointed Marketing & Communications Specialist

Special to The Truth

Lourdes University is pleased to announce the appointment of Briana Peters as Marketing & Communications Specialist. In this role, Peters is responsible for media relations and the production of material for digital and print platforms including the University's magazine - AtLourdes. In addition, she will play an integral role in growing the University brand on a regional, national and international scale.

A talented professional and Lourdes alumna, Peters has achieved success in several industries including radio, retail, apparel and higher education. Most recently, Peters served as the administrative assistant for the Lourdes University Master of Science in Nursing - Nurse Anesthesia Program. Prior to her tenure at Lourdes, Peters had successful stints as Promotions and Web Content director, and production assistant for Urban Radio LLC.

A graduate of Bowsher High School, Peters earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Bowling Green State University and a Master of Organizational Leadership from Lourdes University. An exceptional communicator, she particularly enjoys creating and sharing personal stories of success and perseverance.

"We are excited to have Briana join the team. Her skills and media back-

ground will help strengthen the Lourdes brand, allow us to reach new audiences and expand the University's social media footprint. Briana's marketing expertise and talent for creating compelling stories will also produce remarkable videos and articles that capture the essence of Lourdes University, its students, professors and graduates," says Helene Sheets, director of Marketing & Communications.

"I'm excited to use my media relations skills at my alma mater. Lourdes is a special place with an incredible story to tell. I can't wait to continue my journey as a gray wolf," says Peters.



Briana Peters

Financial Confidence... continued from page 10

have a relationship with an advisor, the New Year is a great opportunity to schedule time to review your plan and make any necessary adjustments.

- Consider sources of protected lifetime income. Eighty-two percent of pre-retirees are concerned about what will happen to their investments if the market drops. Build peace of mind into your retirement income plan by incorporating different sources of lifetime income in addition to Social Security. Do you have a pension? Have you considered incorporating an annuity as a portion of your plan?

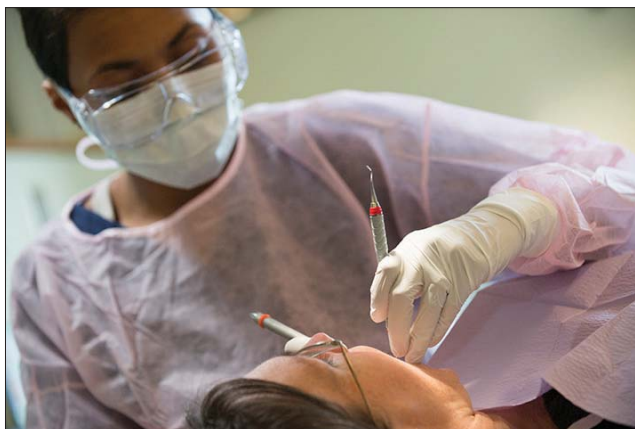
"Diversifying your portfolio to include a source of protected lifetime income, like an annuity with optional benefits, can help to safeguard savings and provide for predictable income in your retirement," says John Kennedy, head of Retirement Solutions Distribution, Lincoln Financial Group.

- Strategize taxes. Recent changes in tax laws have some concerned about how taxes will impact their finances and retirement income this year. Discuss tax-smart strategies with your advisor to help increase your income and keep you on the right track.

More information, tips and resources can be found by visiting www.lincolnfinancial.com.

To make 2019 a financial success, stay focused on your goals and don't work without a plan. Also, consider consulting a professional who can provide financial and tax advice, and can help you strategize ways to be successful.

Courtesy StatePoint



(Join us for a FREE CLEANING)

DENTAL HYGIENE DAY WITH OWENS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

When: Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Where: Mercy Health Senior Wellness Center
545 Indiana Ave. Toledo, OH 43604

APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED WITH COMPLETED APPLICATION!

For additional information please contact: Tiffany Paris (419) 251-8930



COUNCILMAN TYRONE RILEY PRESENTS

WINTER WONDERLAND

2019 Annual Youth Skate Day

Saturday, February 2nd, 2019

OTTAWA PARK ICE RINK

10AM - 1PM

SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY
THE WALLEYE'S OWN SPIKE!

FREE ADMISSION
FREE SKATE RENTAL
FREE HOT CHOCOLATE

Sponsored by District 1 Toledo City Councilman Tyrone Riley

AKAs Implement Initiatives Under the Program Theme: *Exemplifying Excellence Through Sustainable Service*

Special to The Truth

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter of Toledo kicks off the 2019 year with its officers and committee chairmen rolling out the sorority's programs.

Under the leadership of Morgannia Dawson, president, and Nicole Williams, vice president/program chairman, January began with the celebration of their 111th Founders' Day on January 15, 2019. Members paid homage by honoring the extraordinary women who created the first organization for college-trained women. Their mission is to support and promote sisterhood, scholarship and service to all mankind.

The AKAs will partner with local and national organizations to provide program of service to the local communities and abroad. Their signature program is #CAPSM, which focuses on motivating and assisting high school students through the college admission process, along with five Program Targets:

Target 1: *HBCU for Life: A Call to Action*

- Promote and Market HBCUs
- Support HBCUs

Target 2: Women's Healthcare and Wellness
Breast Cancer Awareness and Prevention

- Heart Health
- Nutrition and Wellness for Life
- Care for the Caregivers

Target 3: Building

- Your Economic Legacy
- Financial Planning and Asset Accumulation
- Credit Repair and Monitoring
- Entrepreneurship and The Black Dollar 365

• Operation AKA Assist (focus on the homeless)

Target 4: The Arts

- Salute to the Harlem Renaissance
- Salute to the Black Arts Movement

Target 5: Global Impact

- International Assistance Partnerships (partner with Soles 4 Souls, Lions Club International, and Pillowcase Project for Haiti)
- Refugees in America Assistance Program (RAAP)

The Zeta Alpha Omega chapter elected officers are: President Morgannia

... continued on page 4



AKA Officers - Front Row - (l. to r.) - Paula Martin, Katrina Barry, Felicia Dunston, Morgannia Dawson, Treva Jeffries, Cheryl Bobo Wallace, Jacky Brown

Looking for school options for your children?

Come to the **2019-2020 School Choice School Fair For K-8**



presented by
the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund (NOSF)
and National School Choice Week



Saturday, January 26
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

at the Franciscan Center
6832 Convent Boulevard, Sylvania, OH 43560

Admission is free

Parents will have an opportunity to visit with and learn about different educational options and available funding for them. Area private schools, charter schools and homeschooling representatives will be on hand to provide information and answer questions.

There will also be fun activities and entertainment for children.
Snacks and drinks will be available, as well as free parking.

Information will be available on the EdChoice Scholarship program for students assigned to one of the EdChoice Designated Public Schools*including:

Kenwood Elementary School/
Bowling Green City School District
Stranahan Elementary/Sylvania Schools
Toledo Public Schools:
Arlington Elementary School
Chase Stem Academy
DeVeaux Elementary School
East Broadway Elementary School
Garfield Elementary School
Glenwood Elementary School
Jones Leadership Academy

Keyser Elementary School
Larchmont Elementary School
Leverette Elementary School
Marshall Stem Academy
Martin Luther King Academy
for Boys Elementary
McKinley Stem Academy
McTigue Elementary School
Oakdale Elementary School
Old Orchard Elementary School
Ottawa River Elementary School

Pickett Elementary School
Raymer Elementary School
Reynolds Elementary
Riverside Elementary
Robinson Elementary
Rosa Parks Elementary School
Sherman Elementary School
Spring Elementary School
Walbridge Elementary School
Westfield/Robinson Achievement School
Whittier Elementary School

For questions call NOSF at 419-720-7048 or visit <https://nosf.org/news-and-events>
Visit Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund, Inc. FB page for event information

*Each year, Ohio identifies public schools whose students are eligible to receive EdChoice scholarships to attend qualifying private schools. Each of these public schools is designated an EdChoice school. An EdChoice scholarship pays or partially pays the tuition for a child's private school attendance.

