

Volume 55, No. 5

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

April 10, 2019



30 Years Leading Calvary and Counting

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# The Honor of the Badge #1 – Toledo Fire and Rescue

By Bernadette Joy Graham The Truth Contributor

On April 2, 2019, Private (Pvt.) Mark McBee was presented Badge #1 from Fire Chief Brian Byrd for being the most senior firefighter with nearly 35 years of service. Private McBee believes that he is the first African-American to receive this honor. Private McBee began his career with Toledo Fire and Rescue in May of 1984.

In an interview with Pvt. McBee he responded that a friend of his suggested they take the civil service exam which he passed, as he also did

with background checks and physical agility test. He was then selected to go to the Fire Academy.

That year was the first one in which women were accepted into the academy and was also one of the largest minority classes. As McBee recalls, everything was new to him and he did not know what to expect. He commented that he enjoyed the camraderie of other fire fighters and they became more like family. The firefighters worked hard and played together and often supported each other through some of the tougher times of such as critical incidents.

Some of the responsibilities of a senior firefighter are to train others, to be prepared for all emergencies and to ensure that your crew is safe as well as the public. "Make sure everyone gets home safety after each shift."

Private McBee said that if he could pass on anything to the new cadets it would be that they should work smarter not harder, serve the public well, be professional, do what you know is right. He recommends that they do not always follow the group, and to be your own person. Judge individuals yourself and not because the group says so.

McBee said he looks forward to retirement but will continue to help out in the community. "There are so many things I do that no one really knows." He is involved with a Sudden Death Infant Syndrome (SIDS) presenting both nationally and internationally. Community action, various non-profits, as well as his involvement with fraternal organizations and a few more. "I also look forward to traveling and enjoying time with my daughter."

McBee is a Scott High School graduate and attended the University

### The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's *Truthful* African American Owned and Operated Newspaper

Fletcher Word – Publisher and Editor

Becky McQueen - Business Manager

Tricia Hall – Reporter Rev. D.L. Perryman – Columnist Megan Davis – Columnist Zahra Aprili – Columnist Robin Reeves – Columnist Mary Louise – Columnist

Jennifer Retholtz – Webmaster Jessica Crans - Layout

#### A Certified MBE

The Sojourner's Truth, 1811 Adams Street, Toledo, OH 43604 Phone 419-243-0007 \* Fax 419-255-7700 thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com www.thetruthtoledo.com of Toledo. He has also been a Nationally Registered Paramedic for over 32 years.

Firefighter McBee did not plan to serve as long as he did but he has no regrets "the many years went by quickly when you enjoy what you do" and in the coming months looks forward to his new journey. To my comrades thank you for all of your support and I wish you all safety and good health.

### Kaptur Votes to Reauthorize Violence Against Women Act

Last week, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-09), the longest serving woman in the history of the U.S. House of Representatives, voted to pass H.R. 1585 a bipartisan, robust, long-term Violence Against Women Act reauthorization. The landmark Violence Against Women Act of 1994 ushered in transformative progress by calling for the protection of all Americans from violence and abuse, and working to ensure all victims and survivors have the support they need. This critical reauthorization, which passed the House by a vote of 263-158, will safeguard and further build upon these life-saving protections for women throughout Northern Ohio and across the country.

"I am honored to join my colleagues in passing this lifesaving legislation and uphold our duty to protect the millions of people across the U.S. who are survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault," said Kaptur. "Unfortunately, one in three women in our country still encounter domestic violence. Our work in Congress will never be over until every woman, in every part of our society and in every community, can live without fear of violence."

"By reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act, Congress is working on a bipartisan basis to ensure all women across Ohio and throughout the U.S. have the resources they need to seek justice, receive care and rebuild their lives."

Background:

This reauthorization fulfills Congress's responsibility to protect all Americans by reaffirming protections for every woman, as well as including vital

... continued on page 3

### **Community Calendar**

#### April 13

Youth Career Expo 2019: 10 am to 2 pm; Friendship Baptist Church; Career explained – police, fire, doctor, physician assistant, education and more; For Grades 6 to 12; Special panel discussion: 419-944-5169

#### April 21

Easter Sunday Service at Monroe Street United Methodist Church: 10:30 am ; Free breakfast at 9:30 am; Music by Clarence Smith and Glass City Brass

#### April 26-27

Calvary Baptist Church Women's Ministry Spring Retreat: 419-531-9444

#### April 27

The Libbey High School Historical Marker Dedication:11 am; The former Libbey High School campus.

#### April 28

Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir "It's a Crown Affair:" 5 pm; A service celebrating area pastors' and ministers' wives and widows; Calvary Baptist Church: 419-241-7332



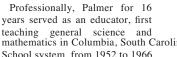
### **Local Legend Wayman Palmer to Be** Celebrated

### By Robert Smith, African American Legacy Project

Guest Column

Wayman D. Palmer deserves every honor, every accolade this community can muster. On Friday, May 17, 2017, Palmer will join a list of individuals who unselfishly distinguished themselves as servant leaders.

Those familiar with Wayman Palmer truly understand it when we say Palmer touched, influenced, directed and yes saved lives. His hands were on our souls. Undoubtedly his higher calling benefited those whose lives he touched.





Wavman Palmer

mathematics in Columbia, South Carolina and later in the Toledo Public School system, from 1952 to 1966.

If you're of a certain age, you famously remember Palmer's One-in-a-Million ice cream stand at Division and John R Streets. Palmer and his dad, Cecil H. Palmer, were early entrepreneurs [Jerry's Carryout on Nebraska Ave, named after Palmer's star-athlete brother, Jerry] both faithfully serving the community.

Propelled by his love for the community and his desire to make a difference in people's lives, Palmer moved through a number of community leadership positions, including heading the Work Experience Program for Youth, the Economic Opportunity Planning Association of Greater Toledo, the Department of Community Development for the City of Toledo, and the Toledo Economic Planning Council.

Palmer helped attract millions of dollars, jobs and opportunities to this Truth

#### Kaptur... continued from page 2

improvements to address gaps in current law that have been identified by victims, survivors and advocates. This bipartisan bill:

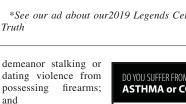
\* Improves the services available for victims and survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking;

\* Expands the housing protections and financial assistance available for victims and survivors;

\* Improves protections for Native women, including by reaffirming tribal criminal jurisdiction over non-Indian perpetrators of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;

\* Closes loopholes in current firearm laws in order help prevent "intimate partner" homicides, by prohibiting persons convicted of mis-





\* Invests in tools and resources for law enforcement and evidence-based prevention programs that make our communities safer.



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Wayman Palmer Baseball team

community and championed innovative ways to create access to affordable housing. Additionally, he served a stint at the Consumer Cooperative Bank, in Washington, D.C.

Clearly one of our most productive and influential community leaders, Wayman Palmer's business acumen was exceeded only by his passion for people.

Wayman Palmer will be honored alongside of five of his contemporaries including Bishop Robert Culp; Robert Kaplan, Esq; Larouth Perry, PhD; Dr. Robert Perry and Edrene Cole [posthumously].

Call 419-720-4369 for tickets and information.

\*See our ad about our2019 Legends Celebration in this edition of The

# Hicks-Hudson Urges Gov. to Veto Restrictions on Traffic Safety Cameras

Says legislation threatens public safety, home rule for local communities

House Assistant Minority Whip and state Rep. Paula Hicks Hudson (D-Toledo) last week sent a letter\* to Republican Governor Mike DeWine urging him to veto provisions in House Bill (HB) 62, the state's two-year transportation budget, that would penalize cities using traffic safety cameras.

"I encourage you to veto this legislative overreach that threatens the safety and security of those

#### Floyd Smith... continued from page 16

Theological Seminary, Toledo extension program and the Northwestern District Congress of Christian Education.

Smith is the father of daughter Kimberly Yvonne, son Floyd III, son Brandon and daughter Beverly Michelle.

This past weekend's celebration opened with music by C.J. Manning and a processional of the speakers and special guests. Bishop Duane Tisdale, pastor

who use our roadways and further erodes the long-standing tradition of home rule in the Buckeye State," said Hicks-Hudson.

HB 62 requires cities to file all traffic camera citation cases in municipal court. It also mandates cities to report to the state how much they collected in revenue. The state would then deduct that amount from the city's share of the state's local government fund.

HB 62 passed the General Assembly Tuesday. It currently awaits the governor's signature to be signed into law.

of Friendship Baptist, was the master of ceremonies.

After dinner, Chris Byrd of the Worship Center presented a musical selection and reflections were offered by Rev. B. Lamont Monford, moderator of the Northwestern Ohio Missionary Baptist Association, Inc; by Otha Gilyard, president of the Ohio Baptist General Convention and by Sheryl Riggs of Dale-Riggs Funeral Home.

Bishop Clifton T. Jones, Jr., pastor of Agape Love Ministries, Sandusky, OH, was the evening's guest speaker.

### Bishop Daniel E. Thomas and Bishop Robert A. Culp Join Together with Students from Rosary Cathedral School for a pre-Palm Sunday Celebration



Bishop Daniel E. Thomas from the Diocese of Toledo and Bishop Robert A. Culp from the First Church of God will celebrate with the children from Rosary Cathedral Catholic School in a pre-Palm Sunday event highlighting the strong ecumenical relationship between the two churches. On Thursday, April 11 beginning at 10 a.m., Bishop Thomas and Bishop Culp will walk with the school children, for this second annual event, from Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary (2535 Collingwood Blvd) Cathedral to the First Church of God (3016 Collingwood Blvd.).



Rev. Robert Culp



### Area Office on Aging Leads the Effort to Re-start TARPS Sunday Service

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

Billie Johnson, president of the Area Office on Aging, and Tim Harrington, executive director of the Ability Center, gathered some area likeminded concerned citizens together over the past few months. The goal was to explore how they could help senior citizens and the disabled deal with the funding difficulties the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) faced that has forced the transportation system to drop its TARPS operation's Sunday and holiday service.

As a result of their efforts, the ad hoc group has raised sufficient funds, that when coupled with matching federal funds, will enable TARTA to reinstate TARPS service through the end of 2019.

"Since Area Office on Aging heard the news in October we pulled together stakeholder and have been meeting bi-weekly at our office," said Johnson at the start of a news conference on Tuesday, April 2 to announce the success of the funding drive. The Area Office concept was to raise funds locally and leverage federal 5310 transportation funds in a 50 to 50 percent match.

In January, the Area Office board approved \$50,000 in funds if other stakeholders gave their share. The call went out to others and, thus far, a total of 11 entities, including the Ability Center, the Board of Lucas County Commissioners, the City of Toledo, Mercy Health Partners, Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority, Pathway and the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board have donated enough funds – almost \$150,000 – to receive matching federal funds and restore TARPS service as of Sunday April 7 and keep the service running on Sundays through the end of 2019.

"There is no service more important to disabled folks than transportation," said Harrington.

The resumption of Sunday TARPS service, as important as it is for seniors and the disabled, is only a small portion of the overall service that has been interrupted by the lack of adequate funding for TARTA. At the end of 2018, the Lucas County Commissioners started a TARTA Task Force to address the problem and as elated as they were by the announcement of TARPS resumption, they noted that they continue to recognize the difficulty they face in finding a long-range solution.

"This is a band-aid for a very serious problem for our neighborhood," said Commissioner Tina Skeldon Wozniak at the news conference. "This is a short-term solution for a long-term problem."

Skeldon Wozniak did note that the Task Force members are in agreement that in order to have adequate operating money, TARTA's local funding must shift from a property tax to a sales tax, a position TARTA has been advocating for some time.

"It says something about our community that we could raise this type of money," said Commissioner Pete Gerken. "But still left behind are those riders on Sunday who need to get to work and who are not disabled. We



need to find a permanent fix."

TARTA had proposed the new funding plan in 2018 – moving from the current property tax funding model to a sales tax model – which is used by most major cities. That measure, which needs the approval



of citizens from every member of the TARTA community, has not been placed on a ballot for area voters because the Sylvania Township Board of Trustees vetoed voter consideration of the proposal.

Recently the Ohio House passed House Bill 42 that would have increased state funding for transit systems and, through an amendment proposed by Rep. Paula Hicks-Hudson, enabled transit systems to secure majority approval of its community members rather than the current unanimous approval needed for passage of major changes. That bill has undergone major changes in the Ohio Senate already eliminating those critical aspects.



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### **ProMedica Announces New Chief Human Resources Officer**

ProMedica, a not-for-profit, mission-based health and well-being organization, this week welcomed Les Thompson as the new chief human resources officer. tise necessary to evolve our

Thompson has more than 20 years of professional experience in human resources, operations, and mergers and acquisitions strategy and execution, along with international experience, including living and working in Shanghai, China. Most recently, he served as vice president, Human Resources at Grainger, a Fortune 500 distributor of maintenance, repair and operating (MRO) supplies, headquartered in Lake Forest, Illinois, with global operations and customers. Prior to his role at Grainger, his career included a variety of progressive human resources leadership roles at Owens Corning in Toledo, Ohio.

As chief human resources officer at ProMedica, Thompson will serve as a vital resource and strategic business partner to leadership on matters related to culture, workplace environment, diversity and inclusion, strategic human capital decision-making, organizational effectiveness, succession planning, and the installation of human resources practices, structures, and programs that enable peak individual and organizational performance.

Thompson also will have accountability for all human resource management functions, including talent acquisition, employee and labor relations, organizational and leadership development, recognition and rewards, compensation, human resources information systems, benefits and pension administration, workforce planning, and diversity and inclusion.

"After an extensive and thoughtful executive search, we are pleased to welcome Les to the ProMedica leadership team," said Karen Strauss, chief administrative officer at ProMedica. "With a strong track record



of executive human resources successes, Les has the expertise necessary to evolve our talent and culture strategy and to help to ensure that ProMedica remains a top workplace of choice."

ProMedica is a mission-based, not-for-profit integrated healthcare organization headquartered in Toledo, Ohio. It serves communities in 28 states. The organization offers acute and ambulatory care, an insurance company with a dental plan, and post-acute and academic business lines. The organization has more than 56,000 employees, 13 hospitals, 2,100+ physicians and advanced practice providers with privileges, 900+ healthcare providers employed by ProMedica Physicians, a



Les Thompson

health plan, and nearly 400 assisted living facilities, skilled nursing and rehabilitation centers, memory care communities, outpatient rehabilitation clinics, and hospice and home health care agencies. Driven by its Mission to improve your health and well-being, ProMedica has been nationally recognized for its advocacy programs and efforts to address so-cial determinants of health.

### Clarence Smith Appointed New Music Director at Monroe Street United Methodist Church

Sojourner's Truth Staff

"Back in the day, the Monroe Street Church was one of the premiere music traditions in the city," said Clarence Smith, newly named music director at the Monroe Street United Methodist Church, explaining why he accepted the role, at the beginning of the year.

"And there is a lot of support and interest at the church," he continued. "That will give me the opportunity to do some things I would like to do."

Monroe Street United Methodist already has a substantial music operation in place, noted Smith – a choir and several smaller ensembles.

Clarence Smith

Clarence Smith (1965) is an educator, musician, director, producer and consultant. In 1976 Smith and a small group of talented singers founded



Education Section • Education • Ed

# Local Social Club Awards College Scholarship

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Blue Gill Fishing Club awarded their annual college scholarship of \$500 on April 6 to high school student Paul Thomas, Jr, who was accompanied by his father, Paul Thomas, Sr.

Paul Jr, a senior this year at Sylvania Northfield High School, is headed to Miami University in the fall in hopes of a double major that will lead to a career as a data analyst. He has already sampled the college environment having spent a week at Yale University during his last summer vacation attending a workshop for young entrepreneurs.

Paul has also been an active member, an ambassador, of Books4Buddies. The Blue Gill Fishing Club was organized in 1992 by five community men. "It was first a social club, we would take fishing trips together at least once a year. We still fish once a year, but we've grown in the services we provide to the community. We provide hot dogs for youth during the summer at the nearby park," said Al Chapman, one of the original club members.

The annual scholarship is reviewed by club members who assist in raising funds. The club seeks promising young people who deserve their scholarships – they also donate to the Kitchen for the Poor, the Cherry Street Mission and other local charities.



Standing (Left to right): Paul Thomas, Sr, Nate, Al Chapman, Freddy Tisdale, Perry Helms, LA Frost, Dale Richardson-Bey, Thomas Walker, Gene Davis, John Chapman

Seated: Robert Taylor, Paul Thomas, Jr, Nate Blackshear

# Toledo Library Encourages Students to Help the Community through Service Programs

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library (TLCPL) is proud to host programs designed to make a difference in Toledo and Lucas County. With service programs like Make a Difference, kids in the community are given the space and materials to create items to help those in need.

According to Nancy Eames, Youth Services Coordinator, "We're having more and more branches that are doing creative, hands-on activities using our maker equipment to make things for others. We have a create for the community program that attracts a lot of teens and adults. They've done a variety of things like making little cards using the Cricut. They're working together, it's hands-on, it's social."

With the help of TLCPL's caring librarians, area youth have been involved in a lot of service projects. They're engaging children, tweens and teens in the area to create special gifts for animals, children, customers, the homebound, Alzheimer's patients, veterans and those that are less fortunate. The librarians and area youth are making an impact in the lives of others. After all, everyone deserves a

... continued on page 11



### The Second Annual Youth Global Perspectives Hosts Students from Around the World

By Fletcher Word Sojourner's Truth Editor

They come to Toledo from the far reaches of the globe – from the nations of northern and sub-Saharan Africa and from Europe; from the largest country on earth, from the coldest major city on earth, from the smallest nation in Asia, from the most populous nation in Asia – indeed, the most populous nation in the world.

They are students from around the globe spending an academic year in Toledo, studying at local schools, enjoying what their encounters with local people, local food, local customs. To a person they are greatly improving their command of English.

On Saturday, March 30, ACES (the American Cultural Exchange Service) and Books4Buddies hosted a gathering of these visiting teens with the help of Toledo Public Schools and the Toledo Lucas County Public Library at the West Sylvania Avenue Branch. The visitors had the opportunity to share their experiences with Books4Buddies Ambassadors and the invited public during the second annual Youth Global Perspectives.

The event was organized by Tracee Ellis, ACES coordinator, and Laneta Goings, president Books4Buddies and facilitated by TPS' Candice Harrison and Tony Geftos of 13abc.

"I love Americans," said Evlizy Alfandega of Mozambique, expressing a sentiment echoed by a number of the exchange students. "They are so good; they are so kind. I love the food." Evlizy, who is spending this year at Bowsher High School, explained that when she applied for a scholar-



ship for the ACES program, her knowledge of the country was pretty much limited to the big-named cities of the East and West Coasts. Being told that she would ne headed to Toledo, OH brought about a certain amount of confusion.

"I said 'great," she recalled. "... where are you? I had to Google that one."

Aytalina Struckhova, who is at Lake High School this year, hails from the coldest major city on Earth, Yakutsk – a Russian town so far east in the world's largest country by area that it's a seven-hour flight from Moscow, the capital. "I love everybody that I have met here," she said. She also noted that she appreciates the relatively warm Toledo winters!! Also from Yakutsk is Maria Zemskova, who has also basked in the Toledo temperate climes.

... continued on page 10





TPS' Candice Harrison and Ambassador Paul Thomas Jr.

Evlizy Alfandega of Mozambique



Fatuma Ahmed of Kenya



Ashraf Khamis of Tanzania relates his experiences



Muhammadion

Saidov of Tajikistan

Students and Ambassadors

# **The Cotillion Etiquette Workshop**

Special to The Truth

The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. – Toledo Club(NANBPWC, INC.- Toledo Club) presented "Between Us Girls "Etiquette Workshop on Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at Indiana Baptist Church. It was one of a series of classes offered to the participants in the Cotillion Scholarship Debutante Ball.

Cotillions have historically been held to introduce debutantes to society. The Toledo Club Cotillion Scholarship program is in its 54th year and is unlike any other Cotillion Program. The members of the NANB-PWC provide special training, workshops and activities.

The Etiquette Seminar was presented to the 23 high school senior debutantes of the Cotillion Scholarship Program from the Toledo community and surrounding areas. Etiquette instructor, Denise Cardwell, presented many important topics that deals with personal self-image, interviews, appearances social grace, and so much more.

... continued on page 12



Denise Cardwell



Wilma Brown



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### Parent University Is Offering a Free Mini-Leadership Conference for Parents, Caregivers, Parent Leaders and Teachers

• Parent University is holding a free Parent Leadership Mini-Conference for Parents, Caregivers, Teachers and Parent Leaders, especially PTO and Booster Club parents. This event will take place at Start High School, 2010 Tremainsville Rd., Toledo, OH 43613 on April 13th, 2019 from 9:15a-12:30p,

"This conference has something for everyone. Special presentations include our keynote speaker, Bill Geha, and breakout sessions with topics such as, Steps to Managing a Successful Parent Organization, Helping Your Student with Bullies, How to Talk to Youth About Opiates, and more. There will be free breakfast and free childcare, as well as transportation assistance for anyone who needs it" said Erin O'Bryan, manager of Parent University at Partners in Education.

Since 2015, Toledo Public Schools has been partnering with Partners in Education to bring Parent University to the community. Toledo Parent University partners with schools, community agencies and organizations to offer free courses, family events and activities to help parents become full partners in their children's education. Toledo Public Schools sponsors the program with additional support from local businesses, local foundations and area nonprofits.

To register or for more information about this free conference or other Parent University classes and events, please visit the website at partnerstoledo. org or call Erin at 419-242-2122

### The Families of Two Injured Toledo Technology Academy Students Will Receive Donation raised from Charity Basketball Game

The Toledo Early College High School and Toledo Technology Academy hosted its annual charity basketball game. This year it supported the families of their peers – Marcus Bailey and Ethan Bonds who were both hospitalized this past year with brain injuries. They sold wristbands for \$2.00 each for students to wear during school and to the game to show support as the young men recover. The game admission was \$5.00. They raised more than \$6,000 -more than they have ever raised-



The Toledo Early College High School and Toledo Technology Acadmy hosted its annual charity basketball game. This year it supported morning at Toledo Technology Academy.

#### Students From Around The World... continued from page 8

From Thailand comes Natyama Paduka, who spoke of being in the Muslim minority in that country, as she is in America, but expressed her appreciation for the fact that "the life here is so good." Natyama also spoke of advice she had been given about the task of an exchange student – explaining Thailand to Americans and, later, explaining America to her Thai countrymen.

Muhammadjon Saidov from Tajikistan, "the smallest country in Asia," he noted after listening to Russians speak of the great size of their native land.

From South Africa came Refilee Raphasha to spend her senior year at Bowsher where she is maintaining a 4.0 grade point average for the year. "It's a different culture but I embrace it ... American people are just wonderful people. The level of support in this city is just wonderful ... it's mind blowing. Toledo is a wonderful city."

Refile noted that she has been particularly impressed by the way Americans take to heart their duty to spend time on community service – an obligation not in vogue in her homeland, but one that she wishes to instill in her fellow citizens when she returns.

As much as he is enjoying his experiences here in America, Sheheryar Saidov of Pakistan did point out the one thing he misses. "Spices," he said to the amusement and agreement of the other students from warm climates. Here, in America, said Sheyeryar, people think that spicy means only "hot sauce." After the laughter subsided, he explained that he could name 11 spices that the cooking here in America lacked in general.

Other students present for the gathering were Mohamed Abdallah from Egypt, Fatuma Ahmed from Kenya, Victor Bocquillon from France, Malika Kairatova Nur from Kazakhstan, Ashraf Khamis from Tanzania and Angel Zhou from China.

Also present for the event were a number of Books4Buddies Ambassadors, home from college for the most part – Armand Arce, Tyson Robinson, Paul Thomas, Jr and Christopher Smith.

Families interested in hosting one of the ACES International students can call 419-450-0631, email traceeellis.goglobal@aol.com or visit website explore the world.org.

# Five Ways Children Benefit From Creative Playtime

Special to The Truth

When kids pretend to be their favorite superhero, it may look like sheer fun at first glance, but experts say that imaginative play also benefits children in a number of substantial ways.

"From building confidence and self-perception to offering children an opportunity to practice communication and language skills, pretend play is vital to child development," says Keri Wilmot, a pediatric occupational therapist and an expert contributor to TheGeniusofPlay.org.

How can creative play help your child thrive? Here are five important benefits, according to The Genius of Play, a national movement providing families with the information, inspiration and hands-on ideas they need to make play an important part of their child's day.

• Enhanced literacy: Some of the same mental connections that take place when a child is first learning to read are employed in the world of pretend. Whether it's a banana that becomes a phone or a towel being used as a cape, grasping symbolism in the world of play can pave the way for children to better recognize that each letter of the alphabet represents a sound. Encourage kids to use the everyday objects and toys around them to build a world of creativity and fun.

• Leadership skills: From a very young age, playtime experiences can have a major impact on the development of children's leadership skills. In the case of superhero play, the act of taking on a powerful persona offers kids an opportunity to assert themselves and gain self-confidence, while creatively constructing their own story lines. Through play, parents, teachers and mentors can help foster these attributes in children.

• Movement: Movement helps children hone their coordination, balance and motor skills. Associating exercise with fun can set a precedent for a lifetime habit. What's more, physical activity encourages better eating and sleeping habits. Be sure your kids have a safe place to play indoors that lets them burn off all their energy. When the weather is nice, take the fun to the backyard or a nearby park, where the possibilities for pretend expand.

• Perseverance: Known as the "Batman Effect," a 2016 study published

#### Toledo Library.. continued from page 7

little kindness. And best of all, customers find these programs to be extremely worthwhile and have commented that it's a rewarding experience.

"We made kennel blankets for the Humane Society, dog treats for Lucas County Canine, thinking of you cards for Toledo Children's Hospital, #KindnessMatters bookmarks which we hid throughout the branch, valentines for the home-bound who receive deliveries from Mobile Services, crocheted/knitted squares for Warming Up America and most recently, we partnered with Warm Hearts, a project run by a Coy Elementary Student, to create fleece blankets for the poor. We've also tried utilizing volunteers as tutors and reading buddies during summer reading," said Kathryn McGowan, Teen Services Librarian at Oregon Branch.

Through providing these programs to teens, the librarians at TLCPL have also been positively impacted. Adrienne Amborski, Librarian at the Waterville Branch Library said, "Teens are very willing to help others in need! The creativity they use in making projects to better the community and world at large have been inspirational to me as an adult. Community Engagement has become a national focus in teen services. Myself and other teen librarians in TLCPL have been fortunate to harness the good-will and energy of teens in the TLCPL system to help others and foster community wellness."

in "Child Development" found that kids stay better focused on a task when they are pretending to be their favorite superheroes or characters. Through play, you can encourage your children to channel the bravery and perseverance of the superheroes they admire most, giving them the emotional tools needed to thrive in a challenging world.

• Emotional development: Role play offers children an opportunity to explore their emotions, both good and bad, while building compassion. Children can channel frustration, anger, fear and triumph into the worlds, characters and storylines they create, learning to manage these emotions in healthy ways.

For more child development tips and play resources, visit TheGeniusof-Play.org.

There may be times when you'd prefer your child finally change out of his or her superhero costume. But by letting kids explore their creativity, you can help them reap the benefits of this type of play.

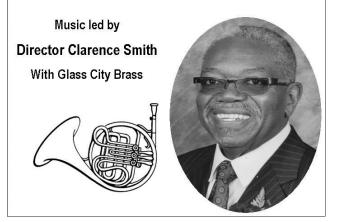
Courtesy StatePoint

### Come, Worship the Risen Christ with us! Easter Sunday

Monroe Street United Methodist Church 3613 Monroe Street Worship at 10:30 www.monroestreetchurch.org



Free Breakfast Starting at 8:30 AM



### "The Movement" Is Having a "Day Party" to Raise Funds for Continued Community Education and Awareness Through Their New Initiative

"THE MOVEMENT" which has been extremely successful in engaging and educating our minority and/or fringe communities of the importance of being involved in the political process, is expanding their talents and resources to educating and assisting our communities on many issues affecting our daily standards of living.

We are having a fundraiser to assist with advocacy costs on Sunday, April 14, 2019 from 4:00pm – 8:00pm. While engaged in political education across Toledo, Movement Founder Tina Butts and her team often found themselves engaged in assisting the underprivileged align with resources that should have been readily available for them, but they lacked the education to connect with many of these resources.

#### Cotillion... continued from page 9

The young ladies came dressed in proper business attire and dresses, ready to take part in learning more about themselves and others and how to be a lady. There was time for questions as well as intervention throughout the seminar. Cotillion Chairman Wilma Brown provided information about the Cotillion Program and passed out scholarship information. Cotillion Co-Chairman Karen Jarrett, Frances Collins, PhD - Toledo Club President, Denise Black-Poon and Larry Cardwell were there to assist as needed.

Presenter Cardwell stated that the "Rules" of etiquette are a set of unspoken rules that have been determined by society as a whole. These rules differ between countries and cultures but nevertheless are there to ensure a peaceful coexistence between people creating a society that respects the rights of others. She also stated that manners and etiquette will distinguish the debutantes from just being girls. It is a part of what makes you a young lady.

Cardwell said attitude is very important and that everyone are in charge



Many Movement Team Members have used personal funds to meet the needs of others. Through a collective voice of grass root community members, community leaders, business professionals, and many other community-minded partners, The Movement Team-Lucas County will now also be bringing educational resources into our schools, shelters, community hubs, senior centers and other institutions whereby we feel advocacy and education is either limited or non-existent.

The "Day Party" will be held on Sunday, April 14, 2019 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Club Evolution, 519 Reynolds Rd, Toledo, Ohio. The suggested minimum donation for this fundraiser is \$20.00 per person with opportunities for sponsorship being greatly appreciated.

of her own attitude and how she reacts to it.

She gave several examples of life lessons that became relatable to the young ladies that should be practiced each day for improving self-images. Some examples were: being kind is more important than being right and that, if one person says "You've made my day," that makes the day. If you look at yourself and find that you don't like the road you're walking then start paving another one. She said motivation and self-esteem is very important.

The Etiquette Seminar is one of many workshops the Cotillion Scholarship program provides for the debutantes, as well as, the Debs - In - Waiting and the Escorts. Weekly sessions occur from January -May leading up to the Debutante Cotillion Ball on May 25,2019 at the Stranahan Theatre.

The Debutantes will also participate in the Talent Night on Monday, April 8, 2019 at Rogers High School which is "FREE" and open to the public.

More information can be obtained by calling 419-531-3660.



#### Clarence Smith... continued from page 6

the Clarence Smith Community Chorus at Grace Presbyterian (Church) Community Center. The chorus specializes in performing Negro spirituals, preserving the legacy of African-American composers and singing standard, classic music. The award-winning chorus has performed on radio, television and its own CD titled, "Expressions of Soul in 2010."

The chorus has also been featured in the Toledo-area through partnerships with Toledo Symphony Orchestra, Toledo Jazz Orchestra, Toledo Opera, Lourdes University and the University of Michigan's "Music of Black Americans" Symposium.

The Chorus is the oldest functioning artistic organization in the Toledo

## Headcase: LGBTQ Writers and Artists on Mental Health and Wellness, edited by Stephanie Schroeder and Teresa Theophano

By Terri Schlichenmeyer The Truth Contributor

You had a flu shot this year.

You watch your cholesterol, eat better, stay active, and brush twice a day. So why do you feel so rotten? In *Headcase*, edited by Stephanie Schroeder and Teresa Theophano, you'll see that taking care of your mind is as essential as taking care of your body.



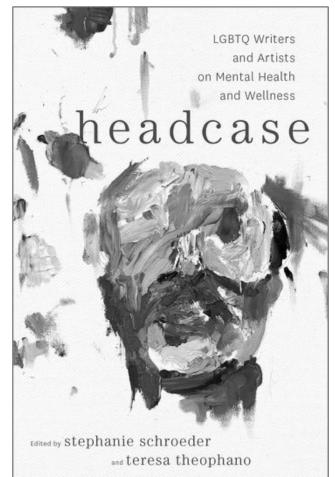
If someone on the street saw you today, he might think you were at the peak of health.

He can't see what's inside, though.

"Real or perceived minority status and... disenfranchisement make us vulnerable to being labeled as sick," say Schroeder and Theophano. In other words, living as a member of the LGBTQ community may affect your mental health. Furthermore, Christian Huygen, one of the contributors to this book, says, "Research shows that, while LGBTQ people seek mental healthcare more often than our non-LGBTQ counterparts, we are more likely to leave care prematurely..."

Today, therapy is easier to get, if you feel hopeless or empty but not all practitioners understand LGBTQ health issues. Mainstream healthcare has only relatively recently decided that homosexuality was not a disease in need of a "cure." Too many healthcare practitioners don't understand that insurance is sometimes iffy. Never mind those who believe "conversion therapy" is the right "fix."

Have we evolved, when it comes to mental wellness for the LGBTQ com-



munity? You might think so, after reading the chapters here: of a lesbian who received comfort from a therapist when her long-time friend wouldn't stop bringing religion up. Of veterans who no longer have to conceal their sexuality. On fitting in with the local Mom's Group when you're the only "queer" mother and, by the way, you've already conquered postpartum depression. On being a lesbian daughter of a lesbian mother who was hospitalized against her will decades ago, only because she dared love another woman.

"Mental illness can be scary for anyone," says writer Lance Hicks."... you choose between asking for help, knowing you're being judged, or suffering alone."

That latter option doesn't sound like so much of an option, does it? No, and Headcase, a title that comes from "reclamation" of a negative word, takes a real-life look at the first parts of Hicks's sentiments: mental health, mental help, and the history of it all within the LGBTQ community.

What you'll learn won't come easy, though.

There are several distinct kinds of chapters inside Headcase, some easier to read than others. Readers will find arty things, poetry and drawings here. There are mini-memoirs of relevance. You'll find short stories, too, many of which have a disjointed feel, as though you just wandered into a half-conversation. There are chapters that are plainly meant for physicians, which might not appeal to laypersons. And you'll find history in this book, some of which – fair warning – will chill you.

Overall, *Headcase* could offer comfort but it's not a substitute for a doctor. It's got subtle advice, but it's not a therapist. It's not even a good stand-in for a sympathetic friend but if you need direction, it's worth a shot.

#### Clarence Smith.. continued from page 12

African-American community.

Smith has also served as chairman of the board for WGTE Public Radio and Television, board member of the Toledo Zoo and board member of the Toledo School for the Arts.

Smith's duties as music director at Monroe Street will be in addition to and separate from his continued leadership of his famed chorus.

On Easter Sunday April 21, Smith and the Glass City Brass will be featured at the 10:30 a.m. holiday service.



### The Sojourner's Truth

April 10, 2019



#### April 10, 2019

# CLASSIFIEDS

#### TOLEDO LEGAL AID SOCIETY

TLAS Fellowship Program is hiring up to five attorneys in Lucas County, Ohio. Successful candidates must be licensed with the Ohio Supreme Court. In addition, graduates from an accredited college of law who are awaiting Ohio bar results will be considered for the fellowship program. Please see http://www. nlada.org/node/23806 for a more detailed description. Email cover letter and resume by April 19, 2019 to: ToledoLegalAidSociety@ Yahoo.com

#### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

-Case Manager, Part-Time position, \$14.00 -\$18.00 per hour, Bachelors Degree. -Administrative Support, Part-Time position, \$11.00 - \$14.00 per hour, High School Diploma. The above positions require: Computer Experience/Word Processing, conduct oneself in a Professional manner, working independently/ multi-tasking, having dependable/own transportation and excellent oral and written communication skills.

If you are interested, Please send Cover letter and Resume by April 30, 2019 to: BBBSNWO Four Seagate, Suite 660 Toledo, Ohio 43604

#### NORTHGATE APARTMENTS

610 Stickney Avenue Toledo, Ohio43604

\*Now accepting applications for One and Two bedroom Apartment Homes\*

Senior Community for persons 55 years and older. Rent is based on income. Our Activity and Service Coordinators are on site. Heat included. Chauffeured transportation to nearby shopping and banks available. 419-729-7118





#### LUCAS COUNTY FAMILY COUNCIL EARLY HEAD START HEALTH COORDINATOR

Lucas County Family Council is accepting applications to fill the **Early Head Start Health Coordinator** position. Application deadline is April 18, 2019 at 4:30 pm. Additional information regarding the duties is available on the Lucas County web site (www.co.lucas.oh.us). Click on "Apply for a Job" and then select *"Early Head Start Health Coordinator"* from the list to read more or apply.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

#### **PROPERTY FOR SALE**

Well maintained property full of potential seeking a new owner. Currently being used as a church, over 4,700 square feet. Located at 1501 Western Avenue. For more information please contact Alisha Nalls Realtor with Coldwell Banker 419-261-8034

#### TYLER PERRY'S MADEA FAREWELL PLAY

At the Fox Theater Detroit Mi April 20, 2019

Limited tickets

For further info contact Gail @419 536 9554

#### IMAGINATION STATION SUMMER CAMPS

Older kids, ages 9 -13 can choose from these MACRO molecules Summer Camps:

\*Inside the Lab: \*June 10 – 14; June 17 – 21; June 24 - 28

Why should Imagination Station's Extreme Scientists have all the fun? Campers will get a behind-thescenes look at what it takes to become one of our team members. Prepare and perform lab experiments, ignite bubbles and set off explosions! Each week ends with an Extreme Science demonstration led by campers.

· \*Cardboard Creators: \*July 8 -12 ; July 15-19

Creativity and collaboration are the name of the game at this camp designed to put engineering, planning, construction and communication skills to the test. Using cardboard and household tools, campers will work together to design and build the biggest, tallest and most extreme structures possible. The bigger the better, and teams are only limited by their imagination!

· \*New! Super Splatter 2.0: \*July 22 – 26; July 29 – August 2; August 5 - 9

You asked and we answered. We're giving you more SPLATTER than ever before. This camp is ooey, gooey, messy and memorable. Campers will burst bubbles, experiment with eggs, and create messes with color and exciting eruptions. Come prepared to have a BLAST exploring the sticky, slimy and sloppy side of science!

One week only, micro MOLECULES and MACRO molecules campers join together for an extra special, delightfully messy week of camp.

· \*New! micro-MACRO Mashup - Super Splatter Magnified: \*July 1 - 5

Campers ages 6 – 13 meet together for some of our most-requested mess makers and our Extreme Scientists' favorites experiments compounded into one science-stacked, massively messy and exceptionally exciting camp. Don't delay - this camp will fill quickly!

Each week-long, fun-filled, science-stuffed camp is \$175 for ImaginationbStation members and \$200 for non-members. Camps fill quickly, so early registration is recommended. Visit \*imagination\*station\*toledo\*.org or call 419.244.2674 ext. 250 to speak with a Reservation Specialist.

Toledo, Ohio 43604 Attn: Johnny Mickler, Sr.

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#### Legal Notice

In accordance with Section 5101:2-25-03 of the Ohio Administrative Code, Lucas County Department of Job & Family Services (LCDJFS) will hold a public hearing prior to the submission of the County's Final 2020 Title XX County Profile to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services for incorporation in the Comprehensive Social Services Plan for the State of Ohio.

#### PURPOSE:

- To highlight pertinent data and information regarding identified social services problems, needs, resources, and gaps in service along with recommendations to the proposed 2020 county profile.
- To elicit public comment, suggestions, and recommendations relative to the County's proposed 2020 county profile.

#### LOCATION: LCDJFS, 3210 Monroe Street, Toledo Room, 4th floor

Entities wishing to have their points of view captured in the County's submission to the State must submit proposals (not to exceed two pages) to Lucas\_Contracts@jfs.ohio.gov by 4 P.M. on April 19, 2019. If individuals would like to present their proposals in person at the hearing as well, they must indicate that at the bottom of their proposal. This should include the speaker's name and contact information. Those wishing to speak must register upon arrival at LCDJFS on the 25th and all efforts will be made to accommodate everyone who would like to speak. If time constraints don't allow for that to happen, individuals will still have their written proposals reviewed and included in the LCDJFS summary report to the State.

# Pastor Floyd Smith Celebrates 30 Years of Service to Calvary

Sojourner's Truth Staff

On Friday, April 5, congregants, friends and family gathered at the Parkway Place to congratulate and celebrate the 30 years of service and leadership Pastor Floyd Smith, Jr. has given to Calvary Baptist Church.

While Smith has been the pastor of Calvary Baptist for 30 years, that is just a fraction of his long-time association with the church. Calvary was, in fact, the Toledo native's childhood church and where he began his life's work in the ministry under the guidance of the late Rev. R.H. Newsome, former pastor of Calvary.

Smith was licensed in 1973 and ordained in 1974. He began formal bible training in 1982 at the American Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee where he majored in Bible and theology and received his bachelor of arts degree in 1986.

Smith was called to pastor his first church while still a student at American Baptist College – his first pastoral home was Big Walnut Grove Baptist Church in Pembroke, Kentucky. He returned to his hometown, Toledo, in 1986.

Upon his return, Smith joined the Ohio Department of Youth Services as a counselor for at-risk youth who had been involved with the criminal justice system; he also rejoined Calvary in the role of director of the Youth Depart-



Pastor Floyd Smith, Robin Wilson, Frances Ester, charles Estr

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS AFRICANA STUDIES PROGRAM PRESENTS:

### Dialogue on Race: Jim Crow and "Blackface" in the 21st Century



Join us for a presentation on the national dialogue surrounding the legacy of Jim Crow and "blackface" within the broader context of current race relations in America.

Dr. David Pilgrim is the founder and director of the Jim Crow Museum, the largest, publicly accessible collection of racist objects. The museum is located at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan where Dr. Pilgrim also serves as Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion. He is also the author of Understanding Jim Crow: Using Racist Memorabilia to Teach Tolerance and Promote Social Justice.

### Thursday, April 11

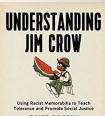
7**p.m.** - 8**p.m.** The University of Toledo McQuade Law School Auditorium 1825 Rocket Drive Toledo, Ohio 43606

This event is free and open to the public.

#### Questions?

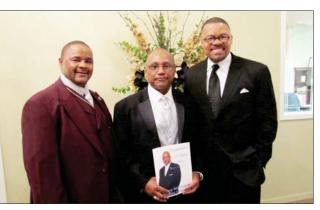
Contact the Africana Studies program at 419.530.4660.





DAVID PILGRIM

Sponsors: College of Arts and Letters Division of Student Affairs



Bishop Duane Tisdale, Pastor Floyd Smith, Rev. B. Lamont Monford, Sr.

ment, a position he retained until he became pastor in 1989 – 30 years ago. In addition to his current pastoral duties, Smith also serves as the first vice president moderator of the Northwestern Ohio Missionary Baptist Association locally and on the state level; he is an instructor for the American Baptist

... continued on page 4



Glenda and CJ Manning



Chris Byrd and Bishop Clifton Jones



Pastor Floyd Smith and Fiancee Robin Wilson



First Lady Linnie Willis and Pastor James Willis of St. Paul MBC