

Volume 56, No. 1

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

May 29, 2019



**TONI BATTLE**

"I love being Black . . . Never wanted to be anything else. My hair is an extension of that. I have fallen in love with this incredible and versatile gift. It feels good to be comfortable in the skin I'm in."



**MEGAN YASU DAVIS**

"My locs are a conduit that protects my energy and conveys virtue."

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# From Tragedy to Triumph

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

The Truth Contributor

*...we're tough, we're resilient, we're strong, we're enduring and, most important, when we come together there's nothing we can't create.*

- Cory Booker



"I found myself on the floor," said Sybrina Fulton, describing both her literal physical reaction and emotional low point, following the high-profile murder of her son Trayvon Martin the night of February 26, 2012.

Yet, "the floor" was a place Fulton was determined to rise from rather than linger, she shared with an audience of 250 persons at Saving Our Sons, Saving Our Lives, a community conversation sponsored by the Neighborhood Health Association (NHA).

In her haunting but inspirational personal story, the resilient Fulton described how she responded to her personal tragedy by establishing The Trayvon Martin Foundation to fill awareness and advocacy gaps of "how violent crime impacts the families of the victims." She also started the Circle of Mothers to help mothers who have lost children or family members to gun violence to both manage their own healing process and also strategize how to prevent violent deaths in communities across the nation.

Given the prevalence of racial profiling and the centrality of race and violence in the American experience, Fulton stressed the critical need of positive cultural affirmation through faith, family and self-care on the journey from tragedy to triumph.

"In order to help me get through it," she said, "I got up every day, looked in the mirror and kept saying to myself 'You are Strong!' And, with all the work and everything, I go to church, I still make time to get my nails and toes done because I still have to have time for Sybrina. I hang out with my family on Sundays, Monique (my cousin who travels with me) is there. A lot of people don't take time out for themselves, but I do, and that's probably how I stay motivated. If I can't get myself together then I can't help anybody else, and so I feel like the first part is to make sure that I get myself together," she added.

What can be done, practically, to protect and edify black lives in a system that regards black lives as disposable?

Fulton, who recently announced her candidacy for the Miami/Dade County Board of Commissioners in Florida, recommends a strategy of multiplying our voices in order to amplify our message.

"First of all, it's not necessarily the laws, but it's mindsets, because if you can see a young man walking down the street that's unarmed, that's not doing anything wrong and you can look at him as being suspicious,

that's within a person's heart and in their mind. It had nothing to do with Trayvon Martin, the person. It was Trayvon's skin color that made the person follow him, chase him, pursue him and murder him. We have to change mindsets in order to change the people.

Right now, I'm trying to change the people that are part of the government that's in Miami and I can only do so much because this is a national problem. So even with what I'm doing with helping other communities, helping other mothers, helping other families, it's just a small portion of the big picture that needs to be corrected. More people have to get angry. More people have to get involved, more people have to stay woke and say okay, what am I doing? You can't just click like on something that's on social media and think oh, well I did my part to help an organization, right? You have to make sure that you join one of those nonprofit organizations and that you're doing the work. If you don't do the work then you are a part of the problem. There are so many people that just sit around and talk about the situation, but what are they actually doing?

Another reason why I'm running for commissioner in Miami is because often times we look at our elected officials and say well why didn't he do this and why didn't he do that? But while we're looking at them, we should be saying 'but what am I doing?' Elected officials can't do everything. They need you on their team. They need you on their committee. When they have complaints about something, they need you to stand up with them. One person's single vocal complaint about something is just one person's little small voice, but if it's a group of people, other people will listen and they're gonna hear you and act and react to those things. So, we've just got to get more involved. That's one of the major things is to get more involved," Fulton explained.

Are there other ways to continue efforts to counter both the subtle and explicit behavior and attitudes which devalues black bodies and black humanity?

Fulton also encourages the community to visit the [trayvonmartinfoundation.org](http://trayvonmartinfoundation.org) website to see some of the things that she is doing in the community and to also visit [sybrinafulton.com](http://sybrinafulton.com) in order to get a complete and accurate description of who she is. To most, she is only known as Trayvon Martin's mom. Very few know that she is also "Jabari Fulton's mom" and has a college degree and 24 years plus of employment, working for public housing to help underprivileged residents."

I left NHA's Serving Our Sons, Saving Our Lives convinced that Sybrina Fulton's visit will serve as the catalyst for much collaborative work to take place in Toledo.

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

## The Sojourner's Truth

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## Community Calendar

### June 1

"Rock the Block:" Junction Neighborhood Cleanup; 9 am to 2 pm; Asking neighbors, community partners to work together: 419-382-1964

### June 3-7

United MBC Vacation Bible School: 5:30 to 8 pm nightly; Free light dinner 5:30 to 6 pm

St. Paul Vacation Bible School: 6 to 8 pm nightly

### June 10

Lincoln School Community Coalition Meeting: 6 pm; St. Paul MBC; Organized by Councilman Tyrone Riley to discuss neighborhood improvement with representatives of the City of Toledo -roads, pest control, cleanups, etc

### June 23

United MBC Youth Day Service: 10:45 am



# Sybrina Fulton: An Average Mother's Life Becomes Tragic, then Fulfilling

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

"God gave me vision," said Sybrina Fulton of the change she experienced after her initial reaction to her son's death. "I got up off the floor and he gave me the sense to be obedient and to start helping other mothers. He told me to stand tall. He told me to talk for Trayvon."

Trayvon, of course, was Sybrina Fulton's son. The 17-year-old Trayvon Martin was gunned down on February 26, 2012 in Florida by a neighborhood watch coordinator in a gated community where Trayvon was visiting relatives. And of all the deaths of black men and women in the recent decade at the hands of law enforcement and pseudo-law enforcement officials, none has quite captured the nation's attention like Trayvon's death.

His mother, Sybrina Fulton, has spent the years since – once she got up off the floor – talking to other mothers in communities around the nation, and ultimately forming a "Circle of Mothers" to help those devastated by the tragic loss of a child.

Fulton was in town last weekend, courtesy of the Neighborhood Health Association and its CEO, Doni Miller, to speak to mothers along with a wide range of other interested listeners.

"This is a wonderful woman who has lived a treacherous journey to get to us," said Miller introducing her guest at the Seagate Convention Center on Saturday afternoon.

Fulton captivated the audience during her speech – a speech delivered without notes and, at turns, humorous, sorrowful, inspiring.

She spoke of her life prior to the tragedy, an unremarkable life, she said, notable for being completely average.

"I am an average mother. I had an average life growing up," she recounted. A Miami native, Fulton graduated from Florida Memorial University and earned a bachelor's degree in English. She worked for 25 years for the Miami-Dade County Housing Development Agency for over 25 years.

"Then my average life was interrupted."

She spoke of her saddest day, not the day when she learned of Trayvon's death from her ex-husband, but the day of his funeral.

"The worst day of my life happened at my church the day Trayvon was laid to rest," she recalled. She also recalled her difficulty trying to relate to others – to family, friends, and the host of well-wishers who offered condolences and sympathy.

"Nobody will understand you unless it's a mother who has lost a child; you are speaking a foreign language." Saturday's event at the SeaGate had a number of mothers in attendance who had lost children, particularly to violence. Many of Fulton's remarks were directed at those mothers in an offering of understanding and sympathy.

In the days and weeks following Trayvon's death, Fulton fell into despair. "I thought I would never be happy again; I felt myself sinking into depression. I took myself away from my family, my friends. I struggled with God; I told God 'you picked the wrong mother, it's no way Sybrina can come back from losing a child.' I had no idea how to make it to the next step, to the next chapter."

But then, the vision came and slowly Fulton got off the floor in her "purple room" and gradually reconnected with the world and set about trying to reach out to other survivors of tragic loss of children. She comes to that purpose with words of advice. There is the "Circle of Mothers" for those directly affected by such tragic incidents, and

she reaches out to those who feel the social and political environment should be changed and improved

"First, connect to a non-profit organization that has some of your goals," she advised. "Give time, talent and a few dollars."

She also urged her audience to vote and to be aware of the obstacles that need to be overcome to stay on the voters' rolls. Third, she highlighted the importance of accepting the call to serve on juries.

As Fulton has traveled the nation bringing her message of hope, faith and recovery, she has taken the time to co-author a book titled *Rest in Power: The Enduring Life of Trayvon Martin*. Most recently, she has become convinced that her public life should intersect with a political life. Just last week, she announced that she will be taking on a new challenge. She has decided to run for a Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners in her hometown.

"Talk about issues in order to address them," she told her audience during the question and answer session. "We have to get really serious because it's a matter of life and death."



Deltas honor their sorority sister

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# Councilman Tyrone Riley Holds Organizing Meeting as He Prepares for Campaign

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Councilman Tyrone Riley is ready to start his campaign for a third term as the city's District 1 representative. Last weekend, the councilman was joined by about 40 of his friends and allies for an organizing breakfast meeting at Michael's Restaurant on Monroe Street.

"I started this because most of us have common interests and common goals," said Riley as he opened his remarks. "We're not finished yet."

Riley went on to detail the efforts his office has undertaken to improve the lives of residents in his district and in the city as a whole – the cleanup of the Champion Sparkplug site, the repair of Bancroft Street, for example. He also pointed to those things that he feels need continued attention, such as education, the proliferation of neighborhood businesses – such as "Dol-

lar" stores – that take advantage of residents. "They don't add, they only take away," He said.

Essay contests, ice skating gatherings, bicycle raffles, neighborhood picnics – Riley noted the activity he has generated within the city during his tenure in order to improve the lives of his constituents.

"But we've still got a lot of work to do," said Riley.

Attendees voiced their willingness to help him see that work through – as did the morning's other speaker, Councilman Larry Sykes. "Councilman Riley is the right man, in the right place, at the right time," said Sykes of his colleague.

Riley will hold his campaign kickoff within a couple of weeks.



*Councilman Tyrone Riley*



*Councilman Riley, Councilman Larry Sykes, Robert Smith*

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# Port Authority Board of Directors Select Thomas J. Winston as New President and CEO

The Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority Board of Directors approved last week the appointment of Thomas J. Winston as the new president and CEO of the Port Authority effective September 1, 2019. Winston is currently serving as the organization's vice president, Administration and Chief Financial Officer.

Thomas will succeed Paul L. Toth, Jr., the Port Authority's current president and CEO, who announced his retirement in September 2018. Toth has been with the Port Authority for 32 years, serving as the president and CEO since 2009.

"During the past 10 years under Paul's leadership, the Port Authority has experienced tremendous growth and has made a positive impact on the community," said John Szuch, Chairman of the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority Board of Directors. "Thomas Winston has worked closely with Paul and has been groomed for this position since he was hired by the Port Authority in 2010. He understands all aspects of the Port Authority's operations and I have full confidence that he will do an outstanding job as President and will continue the momentum we are experiencing as an organization."

Winston was hired by the Port Authority on June 28, 2010, as director of Finance and Administration, where he served in that capacity until being promoted to his current role as vice president, Administration and Chief Financial Officer on June 22, 2011. As vice president, Administration and Chief Financial Officer, Winston is responsible for leading the Port Authority's accounting, finance, legal, IT and human resources departments, its financial and strategic planning practices, as well as its relationship with lending institutions, corporations and the business development community to establish long-range goals, strategies, plans and policies. Winston also works directly with the current president and C&EO on strategic initiatives and business development endeavors to spur economic growth within the region and across the state.

"I am honored to be selected as the next president and CEO of the Port Authority," said Thomas Winston. "Working closely with Paul for the past nine years has provided me with keen knowledge and firsthand experience necessary to step into this important role. I am committed to making sure this organization continues to provide the resources and expertise needed to continue to move this community forward."

Prior to joining the Port Authority, Winston held positions of increasing responsibilities in various business capacities with several diverse industry

leading corporations including Owens Corning, Pfizer Inc., and Nuveen Investments. A native of Chicago, Illinois, Winston earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and Philosophy from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1992 and a Master of Business Administration in Finance and Marketing from Loyola University Chicago in 1998.

Winston is a member of the internationally recognized Association for Finance Professionals and serves on the Board of Trustees for ProMedica, Imagination Station, Boys & Girls Club of Toledo, Toledo Opera Association, Ohio Minority Supplier Development Council, Lourdes University and The Toledo Museum of Art.

The mission of the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority is to develop expertise and assets that drive and grow the region's transportation and logistics infrastructure and its economic prosperity.



Thomas Winston

*Naturalista... continued from page 16*

are held at different locations throughout the city with a different theme and color scheme each year. The event begins with a group photo followed by the women being captured in groups of three or four.

For our fifth year, I decided to do things a little different and host a smaller group in an intimate studio setting. This year's theme is "spring flowers" and the color scheme pastels. In this year's photo spread, each Naturalista is showcased individually while sharing her thoughts on being natural. Enjoy!

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# Dems Unveil Commonsense Solutions to Keep Kids and Communities Safe

*Say Republicans are offering solutions in search of a problem*

Ohio House Democratic lawmakers last week announced a number of proposals, including safe storage, red-flag and background check laws, commonsense measures they say will better keep kids and communities safe. The package comes amid debate on House Bill (HB) 178, controversial legislation Democrats say is a solution in search of a problem.

"The answer to gun violence is not simply more guns. The answer is responsible gun ownership with laws that protect the gun owner and non-gun owner alike," said Rep. Adam Miller (D-Columbus), the lead Democrat on the House panel hearing HB 178. "If HB 178 passes it will be easier to own a concealed weapon than it is to register to vote. Our children and our law enforcement community deserve better."

HB 178 would allow anyone aged 21 or older to carry a concealed weapon without a license, without having to meet current concealed carry training requirements and without having to inform police of concealed weapons during a traffic stop.

Some two-thirds of Ohioans say they are worried about the threat of gun violence in their community, at their church or in their child's school.

Democrats' package includes the Child Safety Protection Act, which would require firearms to be stored safely and securely out of the reach of minors. A 2018 study by the Giffords Law Center found that 4.6 million American minors live in homes with at least one loaded, unlocked firearm.

"As a concealed carry permit holder myself, I support and respect the right to responsibly bear arms," said Rep. Jessica E. Miranda (D-Forest Park). "Our thoughts and prayers are not enough. It's time to act to pass commonsense measures to keep kids and communities safe."

Under the proposed law, gun owners with children in their household would be required to keep firearms in safe storage, equipped with a tamper-resistant lock or other safety devices that render the weapon inaccessible or inoperable by a minor.

Democrats also announced their version of a red-flag law, allowing temporary court-approved removal of guns from individuals at risk of

violence to themselves or others.

"Thousands of students, moms and families across Ohio have stood up to say they want safer schools and safer communities," said Rep. Bride Rose Sweeney (D-Cleveland), one of the bill's joint sponsors. "Instituting a commonsense red flag law is a proven, effective solution to reduce gun violence and make our schools, homes and communities safer."

"Gun violence is a public health crisis. We owe it to our constituents to aggressively pursue these commonsense solutions that reduce the risk of gun injury and death," said Rep. Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington), the red-flag bill's other joint sponsor. "Otherwise, we are not delivering on our promise to families that you can live, work, go to school and retire in Ohio with safety and security."

The package also includes a bill requiring background checks for all gun purchases.

"Closing background check loopholes that allows minors, felons, and domestic abusers to have easy access to guns is common sense as far as I'm concerned. The vast majority of Ohioans support expanding background checks, which have proven to reduce violent crime and deter self-harm," said Rep. Phil Robinson (D-Solon), who plans to sponsor the bill. "The gun lobby and their allies are trying to force Ohio to turn its back on the thousands of students, moms, and families who want gun safety-not more gun violence."

Democrats' commonsense safety proposals follow the recent announcement of the Ohio Promise, Democrat's legislative agenda to restore the state's promise of better lives and brighter futures for all Ohioans.

Here is what other Democratic lawmakers are saying about commonsense gun safety:

"According to a March 2018 Quinnipiac University poll, 97 percent of American voters support background checks. States with universal background check requirements have 53 percent fewer firearm suicides per capita than states without these laws. In the last 30 days, I have heard from diverse local constituent groups, such as the Cuyahoga County Police Chiefs Association and the Cleveland chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women asking Columbus to pass commonsense laws on gun safety. Ohio should do better for its citizens." -Minority Whip Rep. Kent Smith (D-Euclid)

"I am against House Bill 178. How can we explain to the family of homicide firearm victims that we passed a bill for no background check for guns and no concealed carry weapon class requirement? How can we make sure that police have the necessary information that the person they pulled over has a concealed carry weapon or not? We will not be able to do either if HB 178 passes. We must kill HB 178 before this becomes laws and kills someone in our family-that is how we keep Ohio's Promise." -Rep. Juanita Brent (D-Cleveland)

"Last year, more than 40,000 Americans lost their lives to gun violence. Solutions to prevent gun violence exist-we just need the courage to implement them. We can and must do better to enact commonsense measures to keep our children safe." -Rep. Brigid Kelly (D-Cincinnati).

"I am in full support of legislation that promotes commonsense gun safety. Having a red flag law will allow us to protect our loved ones when they are most vulnerable to harming themselves. We don't let our friends drive drunk, so why would we let our family members or close friends have easy access to a gun when they are severely depressed? These commonsense measures are a commitment to Ohio communities and will protect families from tragic loss of loved ones." -Rep. Mary Lightbody (D-Westerville)

"As a safety instructor in the Navy, I understood the importance of taking common sense steps to protect ourselves and families. Widespread Common Sense Gun Safety laws are essential for protecting our children, law enforcement, and communities." -Rep. Lisa Sobecki (D-Toledo)

"This common sense evidence-based approach will save lives. It is critical that we protect and support our children." -Rep. Beth Liston (D-Dublin)

"We owe it to our constituents to do what we can to keep our children and all Ohioans safe from gun violence. Commonsense safety measures like these, along with closing the gun show loophole and requiring universal background checks, will help us restore the promise of stronger neighborhoods and communities where you can feel safe raising

... continued on page 12

**The Truth**

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## The Soulcial Scene

### Fros, Fashions & Finds

# Celebrating Juneteenth at the Dashiki Block Party

By Megan Davis

The Truth Contributor

On the corner of Nebraska and Miller Street, stands a solid building that is a part of Toledo's History. Powell's Beauty & Barber Supply is celebrating 55 years in business. A company, started by Robert Powell, was established to fill the needs of professional barbers and beauticians in the midst of the Civil Rights Movement.

"I started working here as a little boy when my father opened Powell's," said Calvin Powell, Sr. He remembered his uncle, who was a barber, traveling from Toledo to Detroit to get supplies for his business because they weren't available here.

Robert Powell began helping his brother by making the trip for him. When other barbers and hairstylists at their church, Phillips Temple, heard of this, they too asked the men to get supplies for them. This is when Robert saw fit to open his own local store in Toledo, which remains open today, now operated by Calvin Powell, Sr.

The Powell family did something that very few African Americans anywhere in the United States have been able to do back then and in the present day. Against the odds, they opened one of nearly 3,000 black-owned beauty supply stores that exist today.

According to a 2018 Nielsen report, \$63.5 million dollars were spent on ethnic hair care. Of that number, \$54 million was purchased by African Americans, which is more than 85 percent of total annual spending. But with fewer black-owned beauty supply stores than those owned by Korean-Americans or others, the money being spent on ethnic hair care isn't circulating within the black community, a common complaint of the new conscious consumer.

Korean-Americans have held the lead in distributing ethnic hair care products and hair weaves, due to Korea being a hub for hair imports and exports, dating back to the 70s. Many efforts have been and continue to be made to change this narrative as retail startups are trying to redirect this long standing trend.

The Black Owned Beauty Supply Association, BOBSA recently reported that there are 3,000 black-owned beauty supply stores nationwide. Powell's is one of seven listed in Ohio.

Typically, the Korean-American-owned stores are supply warehouses, as many aren't licensed beauty-supply businesses, such as Cosmo Prof or Salon Centric, which are closed to the public. Even Sally Beauty may offer discounts to licensed stylists, but they aren't exclusive to stylists. Yet, Powell's Beauty and Barber Supply does carry this privilege like Salon Centric and Cosmo Prof.

When asked how Powell's has continued to thrive for more than 50 years in the Toledo community, Calvin stated that it is their knowledge of the products, availability and price point. What he didn't say, but is evident if you've ever been there, is the strong family connection as they all work together to run their business.

They greet customers like family instead of dollars and vagabonds. If you don't know what this means, just walk into any Asian-owned local beauty supply and read the signs on the door that says "this door automatically locks behind you" and attempt to shop while being filmed, followed and judged. If you ask for something, also be prepared that the staff may not understand what you're looking for due to lack of product knowledge and/or language barriers. This doesn't happen at Powell's.

This is why a celebration is important.

During this season of festivals and fairs, there's Juneteenth, an occasion often overlooked by communities. June 19, 1865 is recorded in history as the day slavery was abolished in Texas, emancipating enslaved African Americans.

On Saturday, June 15, at Toledo's historical Powell's Beauty and Barber Supply located at 901 Nebraska Ave. will be the home for the annual Juneteenth Block Party from 11:00 am- 4:00 pm. This festival is a family affair for people of all ages to experience Culture, Community and Commerce in a fun-filled celebration.

DJ Miss T will be spinning Neo Soul and will host R N B Karaoke Live. There will also be cultural dance including salsa by Michal T Promotions; Dancehall and Soca by The Diamond Butterfly and the Pride of Kids United steps.

Otswanii: Deeper Than Wrap will give headwrapping demonstrations and there will be a Natural Hair Pop Up Salon.

Children's activities including bounce house and tribal face painting and BBQ dinners will be available along with a Black business vendor marketplace and community resources on site. The attire for this year is all things Dashiki.

The Juneteenth Dashiki Block Party is FREE thanks to sponsors Powell's Beauty and Barber Supply and The Kitchen Salon. For more information, please call/text (419) 984-0395 or info@thekitchensalon.com.



Maria and Calvin Powell of Powell's Beauty Supply

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## The Soulcial Scene

# The 2019 Debutante Cotillion: An Annual Rite of Passage

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The annual presentation and rites of passage, the Debutante Cotillion, was held on Saturday, May 25, 2019. The Stranahan Theater and Great Hall was filled to capacity as the city of Toledo welcomed 21 debutantes. The 54th annual Debutante Cotillion was organized by the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. (NANBPWC) Toledo Club.

Toledo Club President Frances Collins, PhD, shared opening greetings publicly at the beginning of the program and the greetings were also available inside of the program booklet. "On behalf of the NANBPWC Toledo Club members would like to welcome all of you to the 54th annual Cotillion Debutante Ball."

... continued on page 11



Debutante Kiara Gowdy and father



Escort Aladin Riley Jr, presenter Aladin Riley Sr, and debutante K'Allie Riley



2019 Debutante Faith Rogers



Debutante Damiah Wade and guests



Club president Frances Collins. 2nd runner up Whitney Hughes. 2019 Debutante Faith Rogers. 1st runner up Lauren Baker

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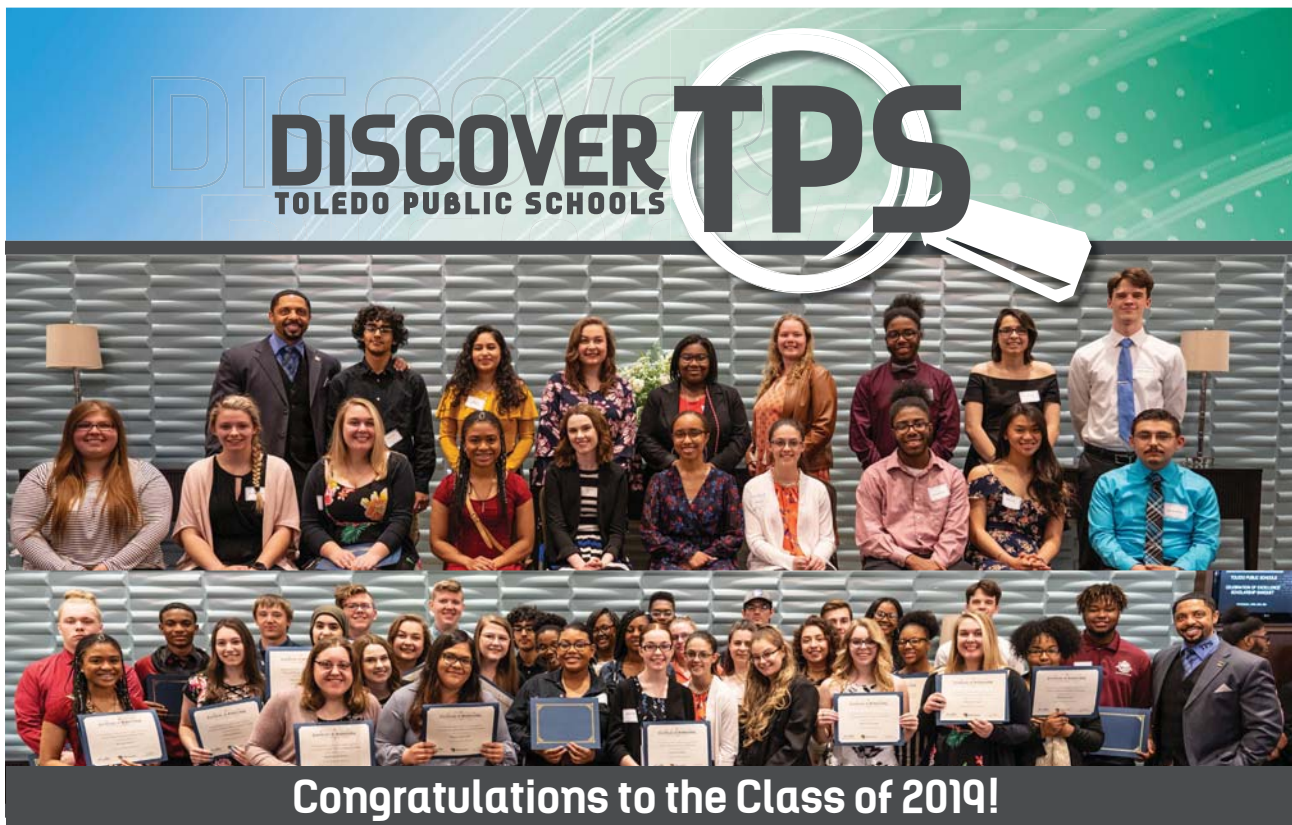
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## Congratulations to the Class of 2019!

Dr. Romules Durant, CEO/Superintendent, is pictured with this year's Valedictorians, Salutatorians and Scholarship Recipients.

Toledo Public Schools congratulates the Top 10 students from each of our high schools and extends best wishes to the entire Class of 2019 – your accomplishments stand as another shining example of why we are TPS PROUD!

### Aerospace & Natural Science

Academy of Toledo  
Evelyn Holt (Valedictorian)  
Daemien Cunningham-Wagener  
(Salutatorian)  
Riley Kepling  
Shaylin Jenkins  
Zachary Birt  
Raymond McCoy  
Quadasia Kisian  
Chandler LaPountaine  
Delana Cole  
Kiara Harris

### Bowsher High School

Lily Chamberlin (Valedictorian)  
Dawson Calzone (Salutatorian)  
Cassidy Tucker  
Anthony Ratajczak  
Darren Dugan  
Daniel Barrett, Jr.  
Alexis Teets  
Seven Ferguson  
Refiloe Raphasha  
Robert Rosas

### Jones Leadership

Academy of Business  
Whitney Hughes (Valedictorian)  
Camille Baker (Salutatorian)  
Jayla Gardner  
Jumamah Allen  
Makenzie Cleveland  
Joshua Matlock  
Dannie Ellis, Jr.  
Kyrone Stevens  
Carissa Wright  
Miracle Gardner

### Rogers High School

Kathleen Ho (Valedictorian)  
Ariyah Jones (Salutatorian)  
Colton Munger  
Alyssa Terry  
Jon-Paul Pasker  
Erica Moore  
Daniel Petrella  
Bryce Lusic  
Skyler Sparks  
Kalyann Holmes

### Scott High School

Deontae Wright (Valedictorian)  
Deontre Wright (Salutatorian)  
Yai'zerra Jelks  
Paris Williams  
Jasiah Nelums  
Destiny Oshodin  
Trinity Bester  
Terryon Owens  
Zanaye Chandler  
Delshawn Akpan

### Start High School

Hailey Wood (Valedictorian)  
Nathan Shan (Salutatorian)  
Emily Marsh  
Lexi Decker  
Kiara Gowdy  
Abigail Swartzfager  
Shakana Williams  
Grace Szabo  
Addison Baker  
Zachary Radulski

### Toledo Early College

Sophia Jaegly (Valedictorian)  
Kayla Musgrave (Salutatorian)  
Vivian Rable  
Deeyallah Al-Syoof  
Alison Jaksetic  
Elizabeth Erne  
Taelynn Wedge  
Katherine Behrens  
Cincere Blackburn  
Zoe Skeldon

### Toledo Technology Academy

Dreyton Amador (Valedictorian)  
Andrew Lehman (Salutatorian)  
Matthew Henry, II  
Franklin Collins  
Zachary Baringer  
Griffin Henry  
Eric Petersberger  
Esmeralda Leon  
Alan Tooman  
Mya Wright

### Waite High School

Belle Taylor (Valedictorian)  
Cassandra Vogelpohl  
(Salutatorian)  
La'Precious Simon  
Feliciano Garza  
Robin Foster  
Carissa LeDuc  
Noa Pfaff  
Lydia Lundy  
Lilee Swan  
Ciera Neal

### Woodward High School

Ariana Stone (Valedictorian)  
Kassandra Dominguez  
(Salutatorian)  
Sheron Colbert  
Jasmine Miller  
Kayle Billings  
Justin Maier  
Aniya Chambers-Brown  
Andrew Hollman  
Daryl Houston, II  
Francisco Aguilar  
Megan Rainey  
Rylee Vrooman  
Angel Baker  
Tiara Medley  
Nathaniel Hammons

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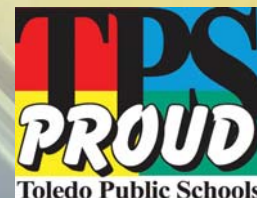
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**We also congratulate those students who received scholarships from the Toledo Public Schools' Foundation.**

Delshawn Akpan, Deeyallah Al-Syoof, Angel Baker, Kathrine Behrens, Cincere Blackburn, Nolan Cramer, Alyssa Crittenden, Aylin Dominguez, Daviana Estes, Robin Foster, Emma Gillis, Caleb Glonek, Sophia Jaegly, Alison Jaksetic, Andrew Lehman, Maria Machado, Justin Maier, Jasmine Miller, Colton Munger, Christian Munn, Kayla Musgrave, Jon-Paul Pasker, II, Cassandra Petrey, Angyl Quisenberry, Vivian Rable, Kayla Smith, Skyler Sparks, Ariana Stone, Belle Taylor, Emalee Waggoner, Rachel Warring, Hayley Wood, DeAsia Woods, Destiny Woods, John Yerg

Thank you Eastern Michigan University for once again sponsoring our annual Celebration of Excellence dinner.



## *The Soulcial Scene*

# North Central District Awards and Recognitions for the Toledo Club

The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women Adult and Youth Clubs attended the 54th Annual North Central District Leadership Conference in Lansing, Michigan on Thursday May 16 thru Sunday May 19, 2019 at the Ramada by Wyndam Lansing Hotel and Conference Center. The theme was: Determined to Succeed with Excellence. A tribute to "Girl Power" of our District Governor, LaTaunya V. Conley, PhD.

The Toledo Club participated in the "Pearls, Pumps and Purses Community Service Project, President and First Vice President Leadership Academy, Membership Training, Financial Training, Governor's Forum, workshops and other training.

The Toledo Clubs (adult and youth) and the Maumee Bay Club sponsored Samuel Spencer, a baritone, who came in second place in the Vocal Arts Competition.

The NANBPWC INC. -Toledo Adult and Youth Clubs were recognized at the NCD Conference in the following categories..

### Adult Club Awards:

#### For Leadership:

President - Frances Collins, PhD

Program Showcase for Women's History Powerpoint Presentation,

Program Showcase Powerpoint for Technology,

Membership Award

### Youth Awards:

Program Showcase Powerpoint presentation

Leadership Award for Youth Club President -Jordan Collins ,  
Membership Award

### NCD Leadership Positions:

Frances Collins - National Education Committee

Denise Black-Poon - NCD Protocol Chair

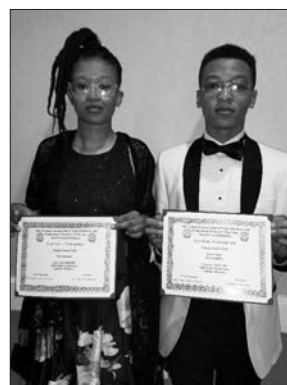
Alexii Collins - NCD Youth Leader

Barbara Tucker- NCD Parliamentarian and former NCD Governor

Toledo Club President Frances Collins is also the NCD Education Chair. She announced that the 2019 James Coleman scholarship recipient is Trinity Bester, a senior at Jesup W. Scott High School.

The Toledo Adult and Youth Club also received a certificate of attendance.

Youth Club President, Jordan Collins, served as master of ceremony at the Youth Breakfast and Jada Collins introduced the judges for the Essay and Oratorical Contests.





## The Soulcial Scene

*Debutante... continued from page 8*

The annual presentation and rites of passage, the Debutante Cotillion, was held on Saturday, May 25, 2019. The Stranahan Theater and Great Hall was filled to capacity as the city of Toledo welcomed 21 debutantes. The 54th annual Debutante Cotillion was organized by the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. (NANBPWC) Toledo Club.

Toledo Club President Frances Collins, PhD, shared opening greetings publicly at the beginning of the program and the greetings were also available inside of the program booklet. "On behalf of the NANBPWC Toledo Club members would like to welcome all of you to the 54th annual Cotillion Debutante Ball."

Dressed in various white ball gowns, each debutante received a flower bouquet from her sponsor, was presented by a father figure, received a string of pearls and waltzed with her escort.

The 2019 debutantes and their escorts: Cincere Blackburn attends Toledo Early College and was escorted by Daveion Beach; Jasmyne Brown attends Central Catholic high school and was escorted by Nehemiah Cannon; Makenzie Cleveland attends Jones Leadership Academy of Business and escorted by Russell Chapman II; Daviana Estis attends Toledo Early College and escorted by Willis Joshaway; Jordyn Faulkner attends Springfield High School and escorted by Tailian Smith; Jasmine Fox attends Springfield High School and escorted by Brenden Hague; Kiara Gowdy attends Start High School and escorted by John Reynolds; D'Asia Glover attends Scott High School and escorted by Johnathan Perry; Sapphire Holston attends Bowsher High School and

*... continued on page 12*



*Escorts*



*University of Toledo President community scholarship winners*



*Father Kevin Rome and Debutante Kiyana Rome*



*Wilma Brown, General Chairman*

## Best Tips to Kick Off Summer and Celebrate Dad

*Special to The Truth*

Father's Day is a chance to kick off summer and celebrate Dad. Where better to gather your celebration than the grill, where family memories, traditions and delicious meals are created?

Here are some ways to make your father's grilling wishes come true.

### Thanking Dad

If your father is like many others, grilling is kind of his thing, and there's no better way to honor the man of the house than with the equipment he needs and deserves.

At the top of your gift list should be a brand-new grill that will allow the king of the backyard barbecue to create world class ribs, wings, smoked meats and more at home. Whether his preference is traditional wood pellet, charcoal, gas or even a vertical smoker, consider those from Pit Boss, which offer exceptional value. Their pellet grills are particularly well-suited to give Dad true bragging rights. Imparting a simple, all-natural wood flavor to cooking and featuring 8-in-1 versatility -- letting him bake, braise, sear, chargrill, grill, smoke, BBQ and roast -- he'll be well on his way to making fall-off-the-bone ribs and other competition-quality barbecue favorites in his own backyard.

Next up, gift tools and accessories to boost Dad's grilling dexterity. For example, the non-stick porcelain-coated Pit Boss Grill Basket & Topper, fits most grill surfaces, making it possible to grill mouth-watering foods of any size without the need for tin foil or skewers. Or, beef up marinades

*... continued on page 13*

*Juneteenth*

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# Toledo Museum of Art to Host Professional Development Conference for Educators

*K-12 teachers will receive 10 continuing education contact hours for participation*

The Toledo Museum of Art (TMA) will host a continuing education conference for teachers Friday, June 14. Drawn to Learn: *Visual Strategies for Student Success* is a unique one-day conference for K-12 teachers, offering tools and strategies for incorporating visuals into the classroom.

Opening the conference will be Wendi Pillars, a University of Toledo graduate and author of *Visual Notetaking for Educators*. The conference will also feature a keynote from Scott McCloud, American cartoonist and comic theorist, who will demonstrate why every visual choice we make matters in today's fast-moving cascade of images and ideas.

In addition, there will be a variety of workshops meeting Ohio Learning Standards, ranging from reading currency to classroom filmmaking on a budget.

"As part of the Museum's ongoing visual literacy effort with teachers,

we have learned that incorporating visuals in the classroom is a great way to improve student outcomes," explained Kate Blake, TMA's assistant director of education. "For this conference, we have partnered with a team of dynamic speakers to showcase how teachers can use drawing, filmmaking, and other visual tools in their classrooms to improve reading, writing and more."

Partnering with TMA to host the conference is the University of Findlay's Mazza Museum and the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West.

Conference registration includes access to all sessions, certificate offering 10 contact hours and lunch. Registration is \$100 and a limited number of scholarships are available. To register for the teacher conference, visit <https://www.toledomuseum.org/education/school-resources> or call (419) 254-5080.

## Debutante... continued from page 11

escorted by Malachi Wattley; Taysia Mathis attends Sylvania Southview High School and escorted by Joshua Saunders; Alexi Moore attends Springfield High School and escorted by Julian Hill; De'Asia Neal attends Saint Ursula Academy and escorted by Isaiah Keese; Destiny Oshodin attends Scott High School and escorted by Teondre' Patterson; K'Allie Riley attends Bowsher High School and escorted by Aladin Riley Jr.; Kiyana Rome attends Start High School and escorted by Tyrin Rome; Paris Sims attends Emmanuel Christian High School and escorted by Parker Chatman; Damiah Wade attends Rogers High School and escorted by Antonio Williams.

Debutante 2019 was Faith Rogers who attends Saint Ursula Academy and was escorted by Randy Williams. Tekle Rogers presented her, and Pareick and Shalandra Wimberly sponsored her.

The second runner-up was Whitney Hughes who attends Jones Leadership Academy of Business and was escorted by Nassir Reeves. The first runner-up was Lauren Baker who attends Springfield High School and was escorted by Shane Jacobs.

Chloe Smallwood won Ms. Congeniality and received a sterling silver bracelet from Henry's Jewelers. She attends Perrysburg High School and escorted by Andrew Smallwood. John Reynolds earned Mr. Escort and Russell Chapman III earned the first runner-up for Mr. Escort.

"There wouldn't be a cotillion without this committee," explained Wilma Brown introducing the Cotillion committee and club officers.

The 2019 NANBPWC Toledo Club officers: President Frances Collins, PhD; First Vice President Denise Black-Poon; Second Vice President and Youth Advisor Alexii Collins; Recording Secretary BJ Tucker; Parliamentary and Financial Secretary Barbara Tucker; Treasurer Wilma Brown; Director of Membership Marquita Scott-Chong; and Corresponding Secretary Mirona Harris.

The 2019 Cotillion Committee: Cotillion General Chairman Wilma Brown; Cotillion Co-chairs and Introductory Tea Karen Jarret

and Denise Cardwell; Debs-in-waiting Denise Cardwell and Atlas Bridal Shop; Fathers and Escorts, Dennis Jarrett, Larry Cardwell and Atlas Bridal Shop; Rehearsals, Larry Cardwell and Denise Black-Poon; Debutantes and Mothers Luncheon, Karen Jarrett and Wilma Brown; Talent, Deborah Carlisle and Beverly Tucker; and Photographer Ambershaun Byrd.



Debutante Whitney Hughes and John Allen

## Commonsense Solutions... continued from page 6

a family." -Rep. Erica Crawley (D-Columbus)

"It is far too common that I hear of lives lost to gun violence in my district. As legislators, it is our duty to make our state a safer place to live, work and raise a family. We cannot continue to stand by as innocent people die be-

cause of a lack of commonsense gun safety measures. It is my hope that with a renewed focus on bipartisanship, we can come together to work on these issues to deliver real results to Ohioans." -Rep. Thomas West (D-Canton)

"We owe it to Ohio's families and children to ensure that those exercising their second amendment rights are doing so responsibly. The vast majority of Ohioans agree that anyone carrying a deadly firearm should be able to pass a background check and be properly trained. The measures brought forward today by my Democratic colleagues are straightforward steps towards a safer Ohio." -Rep. Joe Miller (D-Amherst)

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# Becoming a Hair Stylist by Kate Bolick

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

Sometimes, you feel like you could just dye.

Or curl, or cut, or braid. Some days, you want a change in style, a different 'do, maybe something like you've seen in a magazine. Or you want to be the person who makes that happen, so read *Becoming a Hair Stylist* by Kate Bolick and see if you have what it takes.

You have to think that people have fussed with their hair for as long as people have had hair. Egyptian lovelies, for instance, used juniper berries to hide their grays. Roman women used leeches fermented in vinegar as a dye. Wealthy women a century ago had servants do their 'do's; just 60 years ago, few people washed their hair more than once a week and most women did their hair at home.

Says Bolick, America's first hair salon belonged to Martha Harper, who'd inherited a secret formula for hair growth in the late 1880s. During Harper's time, women grew their hair as long as possible; short hair was "a sign of poverty." For black women, Madame C.J. Walker's potions and pomades revolutionized how their hair was styled, and she became a millionaire for it.

In the 1950s and 60s, though, Vidal Sassoon and Vogue magazine made going to the salon a thing every woman wanted to do: getting your hair styled at a salon was suddenly affordable, and stylists were believed to be specialists with skills – even though, at the same time, people often callously thought that styling hair was a career for those lacking intelligence.

Today becoming a hair stylist takes a lot of hard work, training and keen people skills. You'll have to get a certain amount of schooling, depending on the state in which you want to practice, and you'll learn the basics first, followed by human anatomy, sanitation, and chemistry. You'll get tons of hands-on experience, and if you want to style African American hair, you may take extra classes before tackling a two-part licensing test. Once you've done that, says Bolick, "the sky is the limit."

While there is an abundance of information inside *Becoming a Hair Stylist*, and while it'll help prospective beauticians to decide if the career is right for them, this book is also a little disappointing.

Author Kate Bolick relies quite heavily on the story and experiences of one

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Simon & Schuster  
\$18.00 / \$25.00 Canada  
144 pages

salon owner and her employees in New York City, adding snippets of tale from other large cities, but she misses writing about neighborhood and rural salon owners whose stories could have added so much more to the overall. That lack does a disservice to the multi-thousands of people hoping to become small-town independent stylists; this, and a dearth of pitfalls a salon owner might find, further lessens the information within.

And yet – for a high-schooler thinking about cosmetology school, or for an adult heading back to school, this book offers at least a basic start. If that's for you and you're eager to get going, *Becoming a Hair Stylist* is a book to curl up with.

## Celebrate Dad... continued from page 11

and rubs, while infusing heat, tang and zest into barbecue creations with the gift of a gourmet spice pack.

For more gift ideas to make cooking outdoors easier and more versatile, such as covers to protect the grill when it's not in use or a defrosting tray to thaw foods in a hurry, visit [pitboss-grills.com](http://pitboss-grills.com).

## Feeding Dad

To celebrate Dad in the big way he deserves, try smoking meats in your own backyard with this recipe from Pit Boss. These fall-off-the-bone St. Louis-style ribs are easy to make and can serve a group of four, or double the recipe to serve a big party!

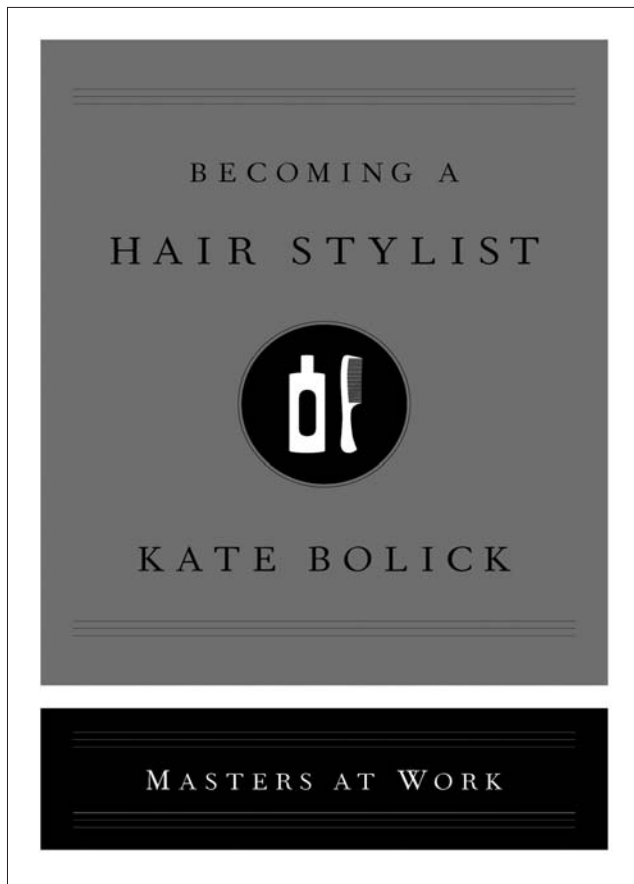
### Ingredients:

- 1 rack spare ribs
- 1/4 cup of mustard
- Pit Boss Sweet Rib Rub
- 2 tbsp of butter
- 2 tbsp of brown sugar
- 2 tbsp of honey
- 1/4 cup of apple juice
- 1/2 cup of your favorite BBQ sauce

### Directions:

- Prep your ribs by patting them dry, removing the membrane, and trimming them, if your butcher hasn't already.
- Generously coat every inch of the ribs with mustard and Pit Boss Sweet Rib Rub. Lay them on the grill bone side down and smoke at 225 F for 3 hours.
- After 3 hours, wrap them tightly in foil, leaving one side open to add in your butter, brown sugar, honey, and apple juice. Then, seal them up and place them back on the grill flesh side down for 2 more hours.
- To finish them off, remove the foil and lay the ribs bone side down for an hour or until they reach an internal temperature of 185 – 190 F, making sure to add your favorite BBQ sauce and crank up the grill temperature to 275 F, 15 – 20 minutes before the ribs are done.

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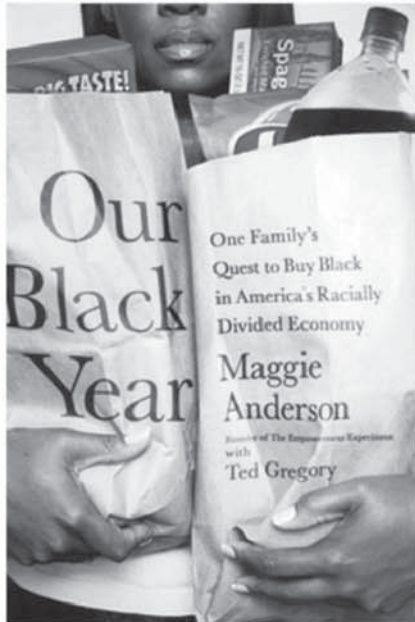
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Evangelist Catherine Mitchell, First Lady

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# CLASSIFIEDS

May 29, 2019

Page 15

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## ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY TOLEDO, OHIO

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sealed Bids will be received by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority for all labor, material, insurance, and equipment necessary for the Rehabilitate Taxiway B – Phase 3 project located at Toledo Express Airport in Swanton, Ohio 43558, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. The engineer's estimate for the base bid is approximately \$2,984,265.00, and additive alternate #1 is approximately \$288,760.00. Bids will be received at the Port Authority's administrative offices at One Maritime Plaza, Toledo, OH 43604 until Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 2:00 PM, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Plans, Specifications, Instructions to Proposers, and Forms of Proposal and Contract are on file and may be obtained by either (1) obtaining hard copies from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, OH 43615, phone 419.385.5303, during normal business hours, or (2) ordering from Becker Impressions, via their website [www.beckerplanroom.com](http://www.beckerplanroom.com) at the cost of reproduction. Please note that there will be a pre-bid meeting for this project for all prospective bidders on Friday, May 31, 2019 at 10:00 AM in the Banquet Room at Toledo Express Airport at 11013 Airport Hwy., Swanton, OH 43558. Attendance is suggested, but not necessary. Please submit all questions to the Port Authority, Tina Perkins at [TPerkins@Toledoport.org](mailto:TPerkins@Toledoport.org) by Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 10:00 AM local time. Additional information can be found at [www.toledoport.org](http://www.toledoport.org)

Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority  
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## BLACK & BROWN UNITY COALITION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION

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For more information please contact:  
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First church of God  
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## NOTICE OF 'CONDITION PRECEDENT'

In compliance with Executive Order 13132 ("Federalism") signed by President Bill Clinton on August 10, 1999 Section 2:

"(d) The people of the States are free, subject only to restrictions in the Constitution itself or in constitutionally authorized Acts of Congress, to define the moral, political, and legal character of their lives."

I hereby define my political and legal characters as follows:

Be it known by all, that I Ramona Smith, as a living flesh and blood man that on this day of 25 in the month of May and the year 2019 do hereby give notice to all in the world that I am not a citizen of the United States Federal corporation. [See 28 U.S. Code Sec 3002] Any who wish to challenge this admission must do so by responding to this notice within 30 days of last publication. Notice is also given to any one in the world who may have a contract (or unsigned presumed contract) under the above name, living at the below address, that this notice serves as an addendum to all contracts or presumptions ab initio, in which the signatory name (or electronic signature) may appear. Notice that the following be included as part and above the signatory name: "without prejudice."

Let it be known to all that this notice also serves to amend my son's and daughter's Certificate of Live Birth and rebut any presumption that the State has parental authority (parens patriae doctrine) over my son's and daughter's Kyle Martel Milton (date of birth: 4-15-1991), Kariana Chafon McKinney (date of birth: 4-8-1996), Kemyia Nicole Smith (date of birth: 6-26-2001), Henry Benjamin Smith Jr. (date of birth: 11-06-2002), Emmanuel Smith (date of birth: 02-20-2005). All return address or responses to be addressed as follows. Notice – all three line addresses will be returned to senders.

Ramona Smith  
3627 Willys Parkway  
Toledo, Ohio [43612]  
(United States of America)

## CONSULTANT TO ASSESS GUARDIANSHIP NEEDS

In collaboration, the Lucas County Probate Court and the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County (MHR SB) are seeking an experienced consultant to assess the current Guardianship service needs in Lucas County, review the existing Guardianship operations utilized in comparably sized Ohio counties, and make a recommendation for the most appropriate course of action to pursue for the provision of Guardianship Services based on the review and assessment. Proposals are to be delivered no later than 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on June 21, 2019. All questions should be submitted to [crs@lcmhrsb.oh.gov](mailto:crs@lcmhrsb.oh.gov). Details regarding the project deliverables and submission criteria are located on the MHR SB's website: <http://www.lcmhrsb.oh.gov/publicnotice/>.

## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES TRIO Programs

Bowling Green State University is a tier-one, public university serving 19,000 students on two campuses in northwest Ohio. The University has nationally recognized programs and research in the natural and social sciences, education, arts, business, health and wellness, humanities and applied technologies. BGSU seeks talented individuals to join our community in Bowling Green, Ohio, recognized as one of the "Best College Towns of America."

TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) is a federally funded program serving first generation, low income and/or disabled students with academic needs to ensure their retention and graduation from Bowling Green State University. The Assistant Director of SSS assumes a leadership role in supervising and coordinating all components for the SSS program while working cooperatively with University staff and faculty to provide quality services to program participants. The position is responsible for supervising and planning the advising, tutoring, writing, math and study skills components as related to the goals and objectives of the BGSU federal grant and in accordance with the U.S. Department of Education federal policies. This position also takes a lead role in the coordination and monitoring of persistence and retention efforts of participants within the SSS program. Deadline to apply: June 3, 2019

Full-time Administrative Staff position available. For a complete job description and to apply for this position, visit <https://bgsu.hiretouch.com/> or contact the Office of Human Resources.

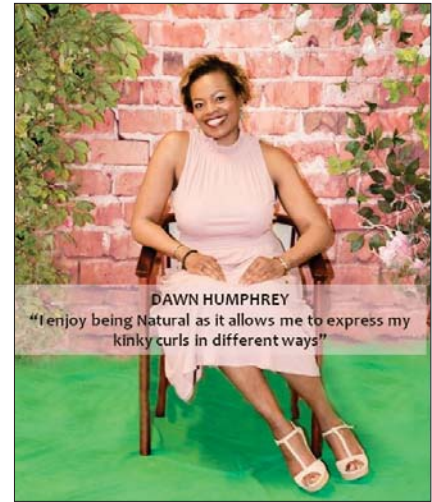
**BGSU**  
Bowling Green State University

BGSU, AA/EEO/Disabilities/Veterans. In compliance with the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), if you have a disability and would like to request an accommodation in order to apply for a position with Bowling Green State University, please call 419-372-8421.

# Naturalista Photo Shoot 5.0 It's a Spring Thing!

By Carla Thomas

Sojourner's Truth Reporter



For the past four years I've had the pleasure of presenting the Naturalista Photo Shoot, celebrating the beauty of black women with natural hair styles. Each year, natural women and girls are invited to bring their smiles and per-

sonal style to a group photo event hosted by CYTImages.

To make the occasion fun, the photo shoots

... continued on page 5



**HEAP Summer Crisis Program**  
 July 1, through August 31, 2019



## Summer Crisis Program

The Ohio Home Energy Assistance Summer Crisis Program provides a one-time benefit to eligible Ohioans with cooling assistance during the summer months. The program runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Who is Eligible for the Summer Crisis Program?

Ohioans with a household income at or below 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines and have a member of the household who is at least 60 years old or can provide physician documentation that cooling assistance is needed for a household member's health.

For additional information, please call the Area Office on Aging of NW Ohio at (419) 382-0624.

