

Volume 56, No. 7

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

July 10, 2019



L. to R. Caroline Dziubek, Davion Desean, Jodie L. Summers (Spoken Truth), Adam Spells, Thursday Angel, Native Child Brown

In This Issue...

In This Issue	Adair	Cover Story	Classifids
Perryman	Mosley	Spoken Word	Page 15
Page 2	Page 4	Contest	
		Page 8	Wanda
State Dems on	Teach		Presberry Book
Abortion Ruling	Toledo	Book Review	Signing
Page 3	Page 5	Page 13	Page 16



Inside View

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, Ph.D.
The Truth Contributor

Most of us end up with no more than five or six people who remember us. Teachers have thousands of people who remember them for the rest of their lives.

- Andy Rooney



Former Vice President Joe Biden has promised to appoint a teacher to lead the U.S. Department of Education, should he be elected President of the United States, according to Politico. So has Senator Elizabeth Warren, who is also a front runner in the campaign for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination. Fellow candidate Senator Kamala Harris, while not specifically mentioning teachers, has promised to select "someone from public schools" for her Education secretary should her presidential campaign succeed.

What do teachers bring to education reform, policy and administrative oversight?

Or to be more precise, what impact might the perspective of teachers bring to an area like Lucas County, which has a higher rate of poverty, a lower median household income and has underperformed in terms of higher education achievement compared to the rest of Ohio.

Perry Lefevre is currently a candidate for a 2nd consecutive term on the Toledo Public Schools Board of Education. He has been a teacher for 33 years and is still in the class room where he teaches an Advanced Placement class in Government.

I had a one-on-one conversation with Lefevre about his participation on the Toledo School Board and how his experience as a teacher provides a unique and real, lived "back stage" vantage on education oversight, policy and reform

Perryman: Having been an educator all of your professional life and being known as the "teacher on the School Board," you certainly bring an insider's view to education. How does your insider perspective affect your role as board member?

Lefevre: I do believe that I have the knowledge and experience to understand and sometimes anticipate where things are going to go. I've been in the situations where I think I know what should be done, what is the right thing to be done and, then again, why some things just can't happen. But throughout my career I've tried to be a problem solver. I have a lot of experience beyond the classroom and I understand the structure of the public school. I understand the interplay with unions and parent groups and the state. And because of that, I believe I have the ability to solve problems.

Perryman: You currently teach in Sylvania Schools?

Lefevre: Yes.

Perryman: Does teaching in the suburban context place you at a dis-

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Phone 419-243-0007
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advantage when making decisions affecting an urban district with a predominately minority demographic?

Lefevre: That's a fair question. We do have a growing minority population in Sylvania and in fact, I will tell you that one of my biggest concerns for TPS, is the fact that the minority population is growing in the suburban districts and we are going to have greater challenges attracting minority educators to TPS because the suburba are starting to realize they want to hire minority educators as well. I've lived here (South Toledo) for 30 years. I do not believe that you can live in a city and not be aware of



Perry Lefevre

minority issues. I've raised my kids here and sent my kids to TPS so I think I really have an understanding of both.

Perryman: Let's talk about the impact of your presence on the board since you were elected in 2015.

Lefevre: Well, you know I don't want to start with this, but I will because I really like to focus on education, but I also have 30 years' experience in education labor. I've been a strong member of my own union and I have been a president of a teacher's union, and I understand the law when it comes to education. And the year I came on the board, there had been quite a bit of issues with negotiations here but it was my experience, I'd like to think, that got us through that period.

... continued on page 4

Community Calendar

July 20

African American Parade: Starts at 10 am at 1441 Dorr Street Ottawa Park Free Summer Concert Series: 6 to 8 pm; East River Drive

July 22

St. Anthony's Community Meeting: 5 to 7 pm; Mott Branch Library; To discuss future of St. Anthony's Church

July 27

Ottawa Park Free Summer Concert Series: 6 to 8 pm: Boffo

July 26

Toledo Museum of Art's Visiting Artist Series: Featuring Kay Weprin – oil pastel, mixed-media and handmade paper; 6 pm; Offers families an opportunity to hear directly from local artists and musicians

August 3

Ottawa Park Free Summer Concert Series: 6 to 8 pm: The Good, The Bad & The Blues

August 10

Ottawa Park Free Summer Concert Series: 6 to 8 pm: Dezire

August 17

Ottawa Park Free Summer Concert Series: 6 to 8 pm; Nu-Tones

August 24

Ottawa Park Free Summer Concert Series: 6 to 8 pm; The 25's

October 23

UT's "Tricks Treats & Dunks:" 6 to 8 pm; Savage Arena; Trick or treat for kids from 6 to 7 pm; Costume contest at 7; Rockets players at various games

Judge Blocks Ohio's Near Total Abortion Ban

A week ago, a federal judge temporarily blocked an Ohio law that would have banned abortion as early as six weeks into pregnancy. before most women know they are pregnant. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the ACLU of Ohio, and Planned Parenthood brought this lawsuit on behalf of PretermCleveland and other abortion clinics in the state.

Senate Bill 23 was signed by Governor DeWine on April 11, 2019, and was scheduled to take effect on this month. Ohio is one of 12 other states that have considered similar legislation so far this year. Courts have already blocked nearly identical measures in Kentucky and Mississippi. Abortion providers have also sued in Alabama and Georgia. None of the bans are in effect. Abortion is still legal in all 50 states.

"Today the Court has upheld the clear law: women in Ohio (and across the nation) have the constitutional right to make this deeply personal decision about their own bodies without interference from the State. This would ban nearly all abortions by preventing people from obtaining care at about 6 weeks - a time when many women do not even realize they may be pregnant. Abortion bans like this one have been blocked across the country by numerous courts," said Freda Levenson, legal director for the ACLU of Ohio.

"Let this victory for Ohio women stand as a reminder that these attacks on abortion access are illegal. We will continue to work within the courts to hold anti-abortion state legislators accountable as long as they abuse their power to push abortion out of reach," said Elizabeth Watson, staff attorney with the ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project.

"Today's ruling keeps abortion legal for all Ohioans, but we know the fight does not stop there. Ohioans deserve access to abortion that is safe, affordable, and without shame or judgment. We will continue to fight for all women and people who can become pregnant to have access to abortion care, to make the decisions they believe are best for their lives, and to build communities where each of us can participate with dignity and respect," added Chrisse France, executive director of Preterm-Cleveland.

"While we are pleased with the court's most recent decisions to protect Ohioans' right to bodily autonomy, we know that access to the full slate of reproductive health care, including safe and legal abortion is still in jeopardy. As the future of reproductive freedom hangs in the balance of the courts, Planned Parenthood will continue to proudly serve patients throughout Ohio with the affordable, reliable, and high quality health care they need and deserve – especially in communities where people are underserved, low-income, and historically marginalized," added Iris E. Harvey, CEO and president of Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio.

"We're pleased that the court saw through this blatant attempt to cut Ohioans off from access to reproductive health care and ban safe,



legal abortion in the state. At six weeks, most people don't even know they're pregnant. This law would effectively take away a person's right to make their own medical decisions before they even know there's a decision to make. When politicians attack health care, they disproportionately impact people of color, women, the LGBTQ community and young people. Access to health care should not depend on who you are, where you live, or how much money you make. Politicians have no right to dictate personal medical decisions and we will not stand for it," added Kersha Deibel, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio.

For years, politicians in Ohio have passed legislation intended to ban abortion care. The ACLU and Planned Parenthood are currently challenging a separate law that criminalizes abortion when one of a woman's reasons for an abortion is a fetal diagnosis of Down syndrome. Planned Parenthood and Women's Med Center of Dayton are challenging an abortion ban prohibiting physicians from providing dilation and evacuation (D&E) procedures, the standard method for abortion care after about 15 weeks of pregnancy.

The Women's Med Center and Planned Parenthood also are seeking to invalidate a state law that requires surgical abortion providers to secure a medically unnecessary written transfer agreement with a local hospital.

Preterm-Cleveland is represented by the ACLU and ACLU of Ohio; Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio Region, Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio, are represented by Planned Parenthood

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Adair Mosley -- He's Done Amazing Things

By Robert Smith, Director African American Legacy Project Guest Column

How do we in the African American community build a culture in which we are saying to our kids, "Here's what it takes to succeed. Here's the sacrifices you need to make to be able to get ahead. Here's how we support each other. Here's how we look out for each other."

- President Barack Obama

Adair Mosley, the president of Pillsbury United Communities, has begun re-engineering underrepresented in communities in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He is a proactive and visionary leader with vast experience in strategy, economic development, and innovation. Mosley speaks the language of community. He speaks the language of people.

Mosley and his team operate from the perspective of dealing with the whole person. He clearly understands that poverty, health inequities and other systemic problems can't be solved by one program or path. They look at the many barriers holding people back: from gaps in education to inadequate nutrition to economic isolation. Mosley champions four neighborhood centers, seven social enterprises, and the authorization of 21 charter schools. Mosley is changing lives.

Before taking the helm as CEO, Mosley served as Pillsbury United Communities' chief innovation officer and chief of staff. Mosley has been a fervent advocate for children and families, and served as a commissioner for Civil Rights with the City of Minneapolis.

Recently Mosley and Pillsbury United raised \$6.3 million dollars to open North Market – a new kind of grocery store – a unique non-profit social enterprise uniting three elements of community health in one place: nutritious food, health care services, and community wellness events and education.

He attended the University of Minnesota and the University of Michigan's Executive Leadership Institute. In 2014, Mosley was an American Express Leadership Fellow. He sits on the CEO Council for the Alliance of Strong Families and Communities, the Itasca Project, the University of

Minnesota's Masonic Cancer Community Advisory Board.

"We in this community have to find ways to support each other, that is why we've invited a cross-section of community to hear Mr. Mosley speak and we believe some of the things he is doing can translate very well to this community," according to this author, director of the African American Legacy Project.

Mosley will speak 6:30pm, Monday, July 15, 2019 at Jerusalem Baptist Church 445 Dorr Street.

The event is free and open to the public.



Adair Moslev

Perryman... continued from page 2

And, we've actually had a couple of negotiations since then and they've been quiet and they've been successful and I'm looking forward to another one next year. I'm a firm believer in what's called interest-based bargaining and TPS has adopted that since I've come on board. So, I think my timing in coming on the board was important because I have that background, but I will tell you that's not my focus. I really do want to focus on the educational aspect and the curricular aspect because that's really more important to me. I'm just happy to have that extra experience to bring along.

Perryman: Let's talk first about the district's challenges. One, in particular, deals with potential takeover of the district by the State of Ohio. Where does that currently stand?

Lefevre: There are interests that want to privatize public education and essentially divert the money for public education to probably charter schools, vouchers and private interests. Their plan would essentially eliminate the Academic Distress Commissions, but still allow a kind of state takeover that puts us into this limbo status of trying to be improving from, what I read, we'll never get out of.

So, it's kind of hard to explain to the folks that aren't in education because it's a big deal when the state tries to take over these school districts and they don't really provide any improvement themselves. Now they get to

... continued on page 6





Students from All Aalks of Life Pursue Teaching Licensure; *Teach Toledo* Cohort II to Begin in August

By Lynne Hamer, PhD Special to The Truth

When cohort II of *Teach Toledo* begins in August, students with diverse life experiences will start their journey toward earning an Ohio teaching license and so they can teach their own P-12 classrooms. What they all bring is an enthusiasm for helping to build up their communities by teaching the children and youth in them. Two students who are just starting out in the cohort—Christopher Pettaway and Estella Sutton—exemplify the variety of life experiences found among the fourteen students already accepted for *Teach Toledo's* second cohort.

Teach Toledo is a collaboration between the University of Toledo and Toledo Public Schools to assist Toledo-area citizens become teachers by earning the Bachelor's of Education degree required to teach in Ohio.

Although there is no requirement that graduates of the program teach in Toledo, the fact that participants have roots in Toledo means that many of them will choose to stay in the city after graduation.

One cohort II member, Christopher Pettaway, grew up in Toledo's North End, living just one street over from Woodward High School. Pettaway would have graduated as a Polar Bear, but his family moved to the East Side so instead, he graduated from Morrison R. Waite High School in 2018. Pettaway recalled high school as having its "ups and downs," laughing that he "went in thinking it would be like [the movie] High School Musical, but it wasn't like that at all." Overall, however, high school "was a good experience for me."

It was in high school that Pettaway decided to become a teacher, in large part due to the influence of Joshua Vance, Pettaway's counselor at Waite. "Mr. Vance told me I should be a teacher because I have great community-mindedness."

Vance led by example as well. Pettaway recalled, "Mr. Vance really inspires me. He breaks his back helping his students. He spends every second, every minute putting himself into his job." Pettaway had other role models as well: "Growing up, I used to look up to Dr. Durant, because he was great." Both these mentors inspire Pettaway's goals of first becoming a teacher and then becoming a school administrator.

Vance was also the leader of Waite's Young Men of Excellence, which Pettaway cited as important to his development. "Most people who grow up in urban areas, there's a lack of mentorship. Kids grow up not knowing how to be a man, how to have manly qualities. It shows you how conduct yourself as a man, in all situations." Will Pettaway be involved in YMOE when he is a teacher and administrator? "Of course, I'll be involved in that."

Like Pettaway, another cohort II member, Estella Sutton, lived in Toledo as a child. She attended Toledo Public Schools, participating in

track, basketball, and choir as a student at Old West End Junior High in the 1980s. When her family moved to Battle Creek, Michigan, Sutton attended high school there. But then life interrupted her school career.

Sutton was 42-yearsold when she earned her GED. At that point, she was determined not to let anything interrupt her education. She recalled that time as hard: "I lost my car, lost my house, and had to find my kids a place to stay because I was homeless, but I didn't let that stop



Estella Sutton earned her GED and worked for fifteen years before deciding to go to college be become a teacher.

me from studying for that GED." Sutton worked for Kelloggs in Battle Creek for 15 years, and now is ready for a career change to fulfill her passion: teaching.

Sutton explained, "Looking at the kids and what's going on today with school shootings is what made me decide to be a teacher. If kids have a teacher who is caring and who prays—not with the kids during school, but about them, before school—I think a teacher can direct kids in a good way." Sutton is inspired by her experience founding and leading a girls' club at the junior high in Battle Creek. The club raised money to go on trips, and in their afterschool meetings, they talked about issues that the girls faced in daily life. Just as she was there for the girls in the club, Sutton said that as a teacher, "I want to be there for kids."

Both Pettaway and Sutton share the goal of becoming teachers and a commitment to youth in their communities. They could pursue teaching degrees at other universities or in the University of Toledo's regular program. But each believes *Teach Toledo*, as a program specifically for citizens from the Toledo community who want to teach in urban schools, is their best choice.

Pettaway likes that the program is "going directly where I wanted to

... continued on page 7



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Cooling Tips and Centers Help Older Adults Beat The Heat

All Lucas County Senior Centers remain available as Emergency Cooling Stations today. These air conditioned facilities can offer seniors some relief from the oppressive heat and humidity.

Because the Heat Index reached over 90 degrees last week, the Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio, Inc. once again cautions older persons that they are most vulnerable to heat-related illnesses and that that these extreme conditions pose a significant threat to their health, especially to those who have cardiac or respiratory problems.

In contrast to violent weather events that cause extensive physical destruction, the hazards of extreme heat are dramatically less apparent, especially at the onset. In fact, similar weather conditions in Chicago in 1995 led to heat-related deaths of over 750 people, most of whom were seniors. We remind the community to check on older or disabled family members or neighbors who live alone or may be experiencing problems coping with the heat.

Ways to reduce the risk of heat-related illness

- Plan any outside activities for the coolest times of the day before noon and in the evening
- Stay in cool places such as shopping malls, libraries or a Cooling Center
- Avoid caffeine and alcoholic beverages they accelerate the effects of heat exhaustion
- Avoid heavy meals. Choose lighter meals & cooler foods salads, sandwiches, fruit etc.
- Since aging can cause decreased thirst sensation, older adults should drink water, natural juices or other fruit drinks throughout the day, even if they don't feel thirsty.

Note: If on a special fluid-restricted diet or taking diuretics, consult your physician about fluid intake during hot weather

Signs of Heat Exhaustion: Headache, sluggishness or fatigue, thirst, blurred vision, nausea or upset stomach, vomiting, profuse sweating, moderate increase in body temperature



Treatment: Fan or move out into air-conditioning; apply cool, wet cloths; take small sips of water; if condition does not improve, call 911!

Signs of Heat Stroke: Heat stroke is a much more serious condition. Signs include: headache, sluggishness or fatigue, dizziness, disorientation, agitation or confusion, seizures, hot dry skin (absence of sweating), increased (inner) body temperature, loss of consciousness, rapid heartbeat, hallucinations – **Call 911 immediately - heat stroke can be deadly!** Until help arrives treat the same way as with heat exhaustion (described above).

Perryman... continued from page 4

be judges by determining what the grade cards look like and how they will be determined, and then get to be essentially executioner by taking over the school district and saying they're going to improve it. And, the three school districts that have been taken over so far, Cleveland, East Cleveland and Lorain, have not shown any improvement under these Academic Distress Commissions. So, in a nutshell, it's still better to leave it under the control of local school districts rather than the state.

Perryman: Isn't it true though, that if the district continues to receive F's, it appears that either students are not able to learn or else there's something deficient with the teaching. We know that black students can learn, so why can't we get out of an F rating?

Lefevre: Well, again, I think part of the thing is we are going to get out of F rating and obviously students can learn.

But I don't know that the teaching is the problem and I don't believe it is. I think part of it or a large part of it is the testing and I think there's where we have a challenge. Because the problem with standardized testing as a basis for anything is that it makes the assumption that every kid is going to come in on the same day at the same time and be able to perform at the same way. Regardless of what that kid's previous night looked like, what their life looked like, what their family situation looked like, what anything looked like, we make this assumption that performance on this single test is a determiner of a kid's achievement, and that is wrong.

I think the worst thing we do is the third-grade reading guarantee, because now we're putting a high stakes test on an eight-year-old. No other country does that. No other country puts those kinds of high stakes test on kids that are growing. If you've seen any of the studies about what Finland or Japan does, they don't even start giving any tests to these kids until they're in the fourth or fifth grade because they don't believe in testing kids that young because of the pressure.

So, it's got a lot to do with non-educators down in Columbus making educational law, and they don't really trust us or ask for input from educators like myself, because none of us think standardized testing for a determinant on achievement is the way to go. So no, that's our biggest challenge is to improve those scores.

Perryman: The suburban schools, however, are performing fine. Is it that we don't understand African-American students or we don't understand African-American students who are in poverty? Yet, research shows that even African-American students who are middle class will underperform on standardized tests compared to others.

Lefevre: I do believe poverty is a big factor for us in TPS, but I also know you're right, that there are African Americans in the suburbs who perform lower, but there are African Americans in the suburbs who perform higher as well, so I'm not sure. There may still be an income factor there as well, even in the suburbs, because now we have a greater number of low-income housing opportunities in the suburbs, so the school district has a variety of socio-economic classes represented, even amongst African Americans in the suburbs. So that would explain that to some extent. I, myself, have African-American students that perform at the very top and then others that, as you suggest, may not perform as well on standardized testing.

Perryman: How does the shortage of African-American teachers affect educational outcomes and what are you doing to address that?

Lefevre: There was just a study that came out yesterday that confirmed that African-American students, especially boys, do better when they have

Teach Toledo... continued from page 5

go and getting me directly to where I want to be." Similarly, Sutton likes that *Teach Toledo* "focuses on helping adults become teachers. The focus is to help us graduate and guide us in the right direction." As adults with work responsibilities, both appreciate that classes will all be in one room in one building with easy access to parking and the bus stop. It is also important to them that classes are always at the same time, Monday through Thursday from 4:30-7 pm. As Pettaway said, "I can still support myself financially while moving forward."

Sutton described the choice to go back to school as part of a larger shift: "I moved everyone and everything out of my life that was negative, and now everything is positive. I prayed and I asked God what path He wanted me to take, and this is where I'm at now."

Asked what they would say to others considering college through Teach Toledo and a career in teaching, Pettaway said, "Don't knock it till you try it. Everything's worth one good go." Or as Sutton admonished, "Go for it and stay focused!"

The University of Toledo's Teach Toledo cohort II classes start on August 26, with a special orientation during the week of August 19. There are still a few seats available. Call or text Hamer at 419-283-8288, or visit www.utoledo.edu/education/teachtoledo if you are interested in joining.



Christopher Pettaway graduated in 2018 from TPS's Morrison R. Waite High School and hopes someday to be an administrator there.

Current and Upcoming 2019-2020 Exhibitions at the Toledo Museum of Art

Life Is a Highway: Art and American Car Culture Through Sept. 15, 2019: Canaday Gallery

The first large-scale domestic exhibition to provide a historical overview of this topic with an emphasis upon the Midwest, Life Is a Highway will bring together a diverse selection of artists to showcase the automobile's reshaping of the 20th-century American landscape and cultural attitudes of self-expression. Featuring more than 100 works from the Toledo Museum of Art's own collection and both private and public loans, this exhibition will chart the rise of automobility as a visual icon of American identity. Life Is a Highway: Art and American Car Culture is presented by BP America with additional support from Taylor Cadillac, the Ohio Arts Council and 2019 Exhibition Program Sponsor ProMedica.

"Everything Is Rhythm": Mid-Century Art & Music Through Feb. 23, 2020: New Media Gallery

Following on the success of Sights & Sounds: Art, Nature, and the Senses (July 21, 2018–Feb. 24, 2019), this installation of the New Media gallery once again highlights a multisensory experience, this time focused on an exploration of the relationship between art and music. Free admission. "Everything is Rhythm" is sponsored by the Ohio Arts Council with additional support from 2019 Exhibition Program Sponsor ProMedica and a gift from the estate of Rachel Merrill.





FREEDOM OF SPEECH Poetry Slam Brings Talented Spoken Word Artists

By L.J. Hamilton

Special to The Truth

On Friday, July 5th spoken word artists from Toledo, Ohio and abroad made their way to The Truth Art Gallery to speak their minds and express their truths on a competitive stage where the winner walked away with \$300 cash!

The 'FREEDOM OF SPEECH Poetry Slam' featured a diverse group of artists who recited their work in an uncensored, no holds barred fashion that amazed the audience and left them longing for more.

Hosted by award-winning author, spoken word artist and slam champion L.J. Hamilton, this event proved to be a success not just because of the numbers in attendance but also because of the messages that were shared and surely impacted lives beyond Friday evening.

National comedic legend, event planner, and event host Keith Cook, award-winning and Emmy-nominated spoken word artist, teacher, and sports broadcaster John Gibson (aka JG The Juggernaut), and former BGSU football star Abasi Thomas were the judges who took on the challenge of scoring this fierce literary battle, where the winner would





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be determined by which artist accumulated the most points after three competitive rounds.

First to perform was Caroline Dziubek of Toledo, Ohio. This young lady's passion could be heard in her words. Her voice flowed over her words smoothly and her literary poise was impressive just as her work was insightful. Following Caroline was Native Brown Child of Detroit, Michigan. Her words along with her voice were powerful, making an impact as soon as she began to speak. Afterwards, Adam Spells of Cleveland, Ohio gave a phenomenal and soul-stirring performance that left the audience in awe of his poetic prowess.

Davion Desean of Toledo, Ohio followed Spells with a rhythmic and poetic flow that expressed wisdom and truth far beyond his age. Thursday Angel of Cleveland, Ohio was the fifth artist to perform and she did so with style, grace, and floetic mastery. Her voice was sharp and her words were piercing.

Spoken Truth was the final artist to perform, and in signature fashion he used his strong voice to recite a ferociously powerful piece.

After three rounds that demanded the best out of each artist with every performance, Native Brown Child of Detroit, Michigan walked away victorious.

The audience was left inspired. They gave each artist the energy they needed to speak truth with a power that made for a memorable night. Although the audience disagreed with some of the scores the judges gave, the scoring was fair and consistent and the dreaded score creep, which plagues slam competitions often, was not a factor in determining the outcome of this event.

This was the first of several upcoming slam competitions that will be held at The Truth Art Gallery and hosted by L.J. Hamilton. Hamilton

... continued on page 9



Native Brown Child performs



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Freedom of Speech... continued from page 8

has been hosting events for over 10 years and performing competitively for almost 20 years. He's also a published author and empowerment speaker who can be reached at ljhamilton@ljhamilton.com or you can check out www.ljhamilton.com for booking information and to shop available products.





Caroline Dziubek is a fresh talent on the rise and a poet to keep your eye on and ears open for. She can be followed on all social media platforms under her name.

Native Child Brown is working on a spoken word EP titled "The Miseducation of Pocahontas" with a release date set for September 2019. She will be at IWPS (Individual World Poetry Slam) in San Diego in September representing the Colorful Women Slam Series. Native Child Brown has been writing since she could hold a pen and has been slamming for the past eight years. She's currently putting together a mini tour for the fall, dates/locations TBD.

She's also a licensed mental health therapist, working on a certification in poetry therapy, and can be followed on all social media platforms under her name.

Adam Spells has a book out titled "Dear God" available on Amazon and Essencebookstore.com. He can be contacted online by logging on to www. adamspells.com or on Facebook under Adam Spells Poetry. He also has a YouTube Channel with videos featuring motivational speaking engagements at John Carroll University. You can see him next in the Cincinnati Artsville Slam Competition on July 13 and then a Music to Poetry Showcase in Cleveland on July 27. He's been writing since he was a child and started sharing and competing in October 2018. He can also be followed on Instagram @Slimpoetic13.

Davion Desean has been writing since the age of 11. He's currently working on an EP and performing on August 2nd at the Harvest Open Mic on Central Avenue (Toledo, Ohio).

Thursday Angel is a powerhouse performance poet that can be followed on all social media platforms under her name. Spoken Truth is not only a spoken word artist but also an author, illustrator, community organizer, and activist who can be followed on all social media platforms under the name Jodie L. Summers.

All of these artists are on the rise! They are ones to look for when you're wanting to attend events that feature spoken word poetry on a local and national stage. We hope to see you at our next event that is sure to be just as phenomenal!

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To uphold the mission of serving our community, applicants must meet the following requirements for all TARTA positions:

- · A background worthy of public trust; a background check free from infractions and driver's license suspensions
- · High School Diploma/GED
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- 2 years driving experience (any vehicle)
- Minimum of 2 years valid driver's license
- Safe driving record (less than 2 points)
- · Legally able to work in the United States



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TARTA is an equal opportunity employer.

TARTA.com/Careers

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Perryman... continued from page 6

African-American role models as teachers in that classroom. They graduate more often and they do better on standardized tests, so yes, I know that that's there. We're going to have to do more to attract them because growing our own is not enough. And, we're going to have to start dealing with competing suburbs or suburban districts as their minority populations grow. So, it's a challenge, but I think we're addressing it as well as anybody is, especially with our Teach for Toledo. I can tell you that there's more opportunity in the suburbs for better pay and that might be a big factor, especially as they're starting to recruit more.

Perryman: I was recently trying to find a historic picture of the old Frederick Douglass Center, which I went to as a youngster when it was on Pinewood and 13th . I came up empty on the google image search, but I did keep running into historical names in Toledo's past, like Brand Whitlock and John E. Gunckel, Jessup W. Scott and Edward Drummond Libbey.

While we are honored to have an Ella P. Stewart and Emory Leverette school, most of our Toledo schools are named after white men from the turn of the century. How about naming some new schools or renaming existing schools after those more contemporary African Americans and Latinx who have made an impact on this city? Certainly, a Jack Ford School would be in order.

Lefevre: I think Jack Ford would be right at the top, without a doubt. Ford certainly was impactful on the City of Toledo in my lifetime and having met Jack myself on a few occasions, I would not have a problem with

And, let's be honest, at some point in time we're going have to also name something after labor union activist Baldemar Velasquez of FLOC. Toledoans don't know how well he's known outside of Toledo.

Perryman: What process is required to name schools?

Lefevre: We as Toledoans identify ourselves by our neighborhood elementary school and changing them would be a fairly significant change. But again, does the name still reflect the neighborhood? Does the neighborhood still identify with the name of the school? So, I would probably start with the Parent Teacher Organizations (PTO) and then work through

The board, so much that we do is really in response to community interest and community initiatives. I think if a community came to us with a resolution for either one of those ideas there's no question that we would support it. I would have no problem in considering naming buildings after someone from the African American or Latinx community that contributed to Toledo.

(to be continued)

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at drdlperryman@enterofhopebaptist.org

Toledo Public Schools To Host Community **Outreach Events**

Toledo Public Schools will be hosting outreach events at six community sites beginning July 16, 2019. There will be food, face painting, activities, information on the district's current programs, community partnerships and resources, as well as kindergarten and preschool registration.

Locations and Times:

July 16, 1 p.m. -2:30 p.m. Ravine Park Village,

... continued on page 11



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How to Prepare for and Tackle Unexpected College Costs

Special to The Truth

Smart financial decisions can help your family make good college investment decisions. Unfortunately, unexpected costs throw many families for a loop. To plan realistically, consider the following:

- Pad Your Budget: Many college expenses are variable -- from fun stuff, like entertainment and trips, to the serious, like books, supplies and other educational fees. Pad your budget in case these costs are larger than anticipated.
- Look Beyond the Letter: Those receiving financial aid from their school should look beyond their Expected Family Contribution (EFC).
 Forty-three percent of parents of college students nationwide report paying more than their EFC, according to a recent survey by College Ave Student Loans and conducted by Barnes & Noble College Insights. The bright side? Of those families that received financial aid award letters, 17 percent appealed, with 58 percent of those parents successful in receiving more aid from the school.
- Stretch Book Budgets: The cost of textbooks and supplies often surprise families. While the exact amount is unpredictable, the College Board reports that the average student spends \$1,240 each year on course

cally are all smart strategies for reducing costs.

materials. Purchasing used, renting or downloading textbooks electroni-

- Grow Your Budget: Families surveyed were nearly split on whether a child helps pay for the cost of college -- 49 percent said yes, 51 percent said no. Having a child kick in can teach responsibility and grow your overall budget, whether that contribution comes in the form of a part-time job or a work-study program. Another substantial way a student can help is by reducing or even eliminating housing costs and becoming a resident advisor.
- Borrow Strategically: If you need to borrow to pay for college, first take out federal loans in the student's name, which carries special benefits, such as public service forgiveness and income driven repayment options not typically available on private loans. When federal loans in the student's name don't cover you fully, determine whether private student loans or private parent loans may be right for you and your family. Those from College Ave Student Loans, for example, are available at competitive rates and feature a wide range of repayment options. Its customerfriendly experience -- from application through repayment -- takes some of the stress out of the equation.
- Control Loan Costs: You can reduce the overall cost of a loan by starting to make payments while in school, even if it's only a small amount. To see the impact that various repayment options have on total loan costs, use the student loan calculator available at collegeavestudentloans.com.
- "Whether parents are advocating for more financial aid, helping create a budget or helping pay off loans, their support serves as a cornerstone in many student's financial plans," says financial industry veteran Joe DePaulo, CEO and co-founder of College Ave Student Loans. "Being realistic and having a plan can help families face both the expected and unexpected costs of college."

Toledo Public Schools... continued from page 10

1 Ravine Park Village St. Toledo, OH.

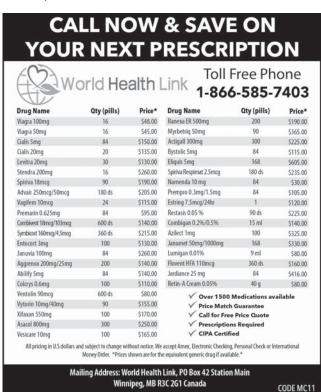
July 17, 1 p.m. -2:30 p.m. Birmingham Terrace 2100 Consaul Street, Toledo, OH.

July 18, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m

... continued on page 13



Courtesy StatePoint



The Arts Commission announces May 2019 Accelerator Grant Recipients

The Arts Commission is pleased to announce the first group of recipients of the 2019 Accelerator Grants. This program offers financial support with quick turn-around for local individual artists or artist collectives advancing creative projects and their careers.

A committee comprised of members of the visual, performing and literary arts communities meets each grant cycle to review applications and make recommendations for funding to the Arts Commission staff and board. The remaining 2019 deadlines are July 22, August 26, and September 23. Full guidelines can be found at www.theartscommission.org/forartists along with the application.

The May grantees are Matthew Cook, Mercé Culp, Erin Garber-Pearson, William Gruber, Natalie Lanese, Rebecca Szparagowski, and Paul Verdell.

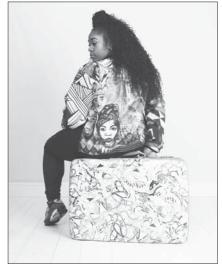
Matthew Cook is an emerging hyperrealist painter, born in Toledo, Ohio. Best known for his highly detailed portraits and still-life paintings, he creates work that show his take on historical and traditional painting subjects and themes through a contemporary lens. Cook received his B.F.A. in Art Education (2013) and his M.F.A. in Painting (2017) from Bowling Green State University and has shown his work throughout the United States, most notably as a finalist in the Art Renewal Center's 2019 International Salon. He will use Accelerator Grant funds for the the purchase of a table saw, miter saw, router and router table to create custom frames with design elements related to his paintings.

Mercé Culp is a 4-dimensional artist. Her work includes street art, dance, fashion, graphic design and mixed media. Urban Digitz is the body of work she consistently builds pushing all media into the world of fashion. Mercé has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 3D digital character modeling and alternative digital print from Bowling Green State University. She is currently pursuing several fashion-based exhibitions featuring a few of her 730+ original textile patterns to be displayed in summer 2020. Mercé's major projects include an artist residency in Israel creating public sculptures, "We The Explorers" NASA launch of origins art installation inside a near-earth asteroid onboard OSIRIS-Rex, and an Artist Residency at Tole-

presents 2019 Buddies **BACK TO SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY** LMHA families are invited to join us for FREE books, school supplies and lunch! TWO GREAT LOCATIONS: **Birmingham Terrace** Weiler Homes (W) July 17 | 1 - 2:30 p.m. (W) July 31 | 1 - 2:30 p.m. HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE: · Hamburger and hot dog cookout TPS Head Start registration Vision screening Art and crafts TPS kindergarten registration Thank you to our Community Partn BUCKEYE HART AND HOTOGRANG, NO. THE BLADE Franklin Park

do School for The Arts, A frican-American Heritage Mural. She will use Accelerator Grant funding for the purchase of digital printed canvases and sewing costs to fabricate prototypes for an art-based fashion line.

Erin Garber-Pearson is a multimedia artist and performer. Her recent work uses movement both performative and mundane to find kinesthetic connection with her audience. Her research captures acrobatics, harness climbing on buildings, as well as bodies in urban spaces.



Merce Culp

The gimbal, which she has been awarded Accelerator Grant support for, is a self-stabilizing mechanism specifically made for live action shots, reducing camera shake so the footage looks professional, regardless of being handheld. As an interdisciplinary artist working mainly in performance, this is an invaluable tool for developing further work in unconventional points of view.

Billy Gruber is the operator behind Midwest liquid lightshow Synesthetic Oil Spill. Continuing a tradition of projection-based lighting most associated with the 60's psychedelic music scene, Billy works with a wide array of performers to create an atmosphere of color that brings sound to audiences' eyes. With help from The Arts Commission and their Accelerator Grant SOS lightshow will now have their very own projection screen, expanding the boundaries of where the project can help friends turn on, drop in, and freak out. Exhibiting her work nationally and internationally,

Natalie Lanese works primarily in painting, installation, and collage. Ms. Lanese has exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tucson, the Akron Art Museum, the deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum in Lincoln, MA and at SPACE Gallery in Portland, ME. She has installed permanent public artworks in Toledo, Cincinnati, and Cleveland, OH and in San Diego, CA. Lanese holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York, and earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Xavier University, Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Institute of Art. She is a recipient of the Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award and the Arts Commission's Merit Award. She lives and works in Toledo, OH. She will use Accelerator Grant funding for the fees associated with an artist residency in Iceland.

Rebecca Szparagowski started glassblowing at the Toledo Museum of Arts when she turned 14 and has continued creating with glass ever since. She went on to receive her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Bowling Green State University and her Master of Mine Arts from Southern Illinois State University. Rebecca will use the Accelerator Grant funding for a 3-d scanner



to create templates for building three dimensional forms from fused glass sheets.

Paul Verdell received his BFA in 2-D studies from Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green OH (2018) and now works in Toledo, Ohio. Paul's work combines draw-

... continued on page 13

BTTM FDRS by Ezra Claytan Daniels & Ben Passmore

By Terri Schlichenmeyer The Truth Contributor

Your first place all your own needs to be ahmazing.

Big-screen TV for gaming. Fridge for snacks and drinks. Sofa for kicking back, a few good chairs, and places to hold your stuff. Maybe your parents will help out. Maybe the landlord will let

c.2019 Fantagraphics Books \$24.99 / \$33.50 Canada 300 pages

you paint. Maybe, as in BTTM FDRS by Ezra Claytan Daniels and Ben Passsmore, your new place will be interesting.

When it came time to finally get her own apartment, Darla didn't bother to look far. She grew up in Chicago's Bottomyards and though it still wasn't the safest place on Earth, the former ghetto was gentrifying. That counted for something, right?

Her father hated the building; he warned her away and yeah, it was supercreepy but the rent was good. The place was roomy, but also had room for improvement: as Darla moved in, the electricity kept going out and her friend, Cynthia, messed up the plumbing. Even so, Darla had neighbors: a famous rapper moved in down the hall and she met an elderly lady and her son from downstairs.

Was it the stress of the move, then, or the stress of living in the place itself that made Darla fight with Cynthia soon after Darla spent her first night alone? Who knows, but they argued and the friendship was over – or Darla thought it was, anyhow, but Cynthia had second thoughts. She snuck back into Darla's apartment, got totally creeped out, hid in a cabinet, and fell down a tunnel...

... and into a creature that wrapped Cynthia into itself and overtook her body.

Unaware of the deadly organism that her best friend was fighting in the basement of the apartment building, Darla hung out with the famous rapper down the hall until she started noticing a lot of weird things. There were cameras

Toledo Public Schools... continued from page 11

Northern Heights 406 Suder, Toledo, OH.

July 23, 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Elmdale-Mercer 463 Elmdale Court, Toledo, OH.

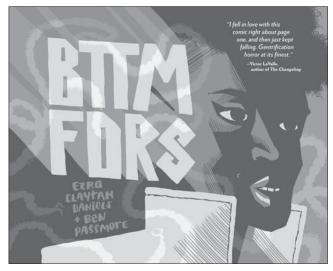
July 24, 1 p.m. -2:30 p.m. McClinton-Nunn Homes 425 Nebraska, Toledo, OH.

July 31, 1 p.m. -3 p.m. Weiler Homes 601 Fassett Street, Toledo, OH.

Arts Commission... continued from page 12

ing and painting through the use of oil stick and paint. The work started with gestural oil crayon drawings of contemporary moments within black pop culture. Following in the steps of the painters before him, Paul began painting his subjects from life, friends, family, or people just met. The paintings are loose and emphasize the line through drawing within the paintings. He will use Accelerator Grant funding for the purchase of canvas, paint, and brushes for large scale paintings.

For more information, contact The Arts Commission: 419.254.2787 | info@theartscommission.org.



in the apartments, and eerie noises. The building superintendent was supercreepy and the whole place was like a dungeon. And then she found Cynthia – or, at least, what was left of her.

Was there time for Darla to get out alive?

If you're not familiar with graphic novels – which are basically full-length stories in comic art form – *BTTM FDRS* might take a bit of getting used to. It doesn't help that this tale starts abruptly, and with racism that feels like a slap.

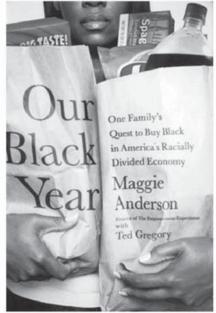
Keep reading. That slap ultimately turns into a shiver.

With color-blocked panels and not a lot of fluff or dialogue, authors Ezra Claytan Daniels and Ben Passmore take readers into what could be perceived as commentary on today's social problems, or sly pokes at gentrification and modern segregation, in the future or now. The story is sly, almost backhanded and, much like the creature in this book, eats its way into your imagination until your hands sweat, your eyes dart wildly, and you realize that you've been holding your breath.

Let it go. You're safe in your chair (for now) but if you're 15-and-up and you love graphic horror novels, here's your next scare. For you, *BTTM FDRS* is ah-mazing.













ADS POSTED ONLINE AT:

www.TheTruthToledo.com and www. ToledoBlackMarketplace.com



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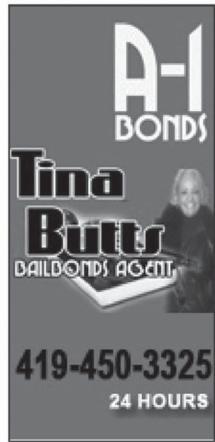
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July 10, 2019

Page 15

SPECIAL NOTICE

RE: EXAMINATIONS FOR JOURNEYMAN WIREMAN

Applications for the Journeyman Inside Wireman test will be accepted July 1-5, 2019 at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 8, 807 Lime City Road, Rossford, Ohio between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

The qualifications to be eligible for this examination are:

- 1. Must be 18 years of age or over,
- 2. Must live in the jurisdiction of Local 8 for one year prior to application.
- 3. Must have proof of 4 years employment in the commercial/industrial electrical construction industry.

OUTDOOR SKILLS PROGRAMMER

Metroparks Toledo is looking for an Outdoor Skills Programmer to conduct outdoor skills programs such as kayaking, archery, hiking, etc... Must have completed some college class work in environmental science, biology, education, outdoor recreation or related field, or equivalent work experience. Previous experience working with groups of children and leading outdoor education programs for all ages required. \$9.47/hr. Seasonal position, now through December as needed. Go to www.MetroparksToledo.com for complete job requirements and descriptions; must submit online application and resume. EOE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION ASSISTANT:

Metroparks Toledo has openings for seasonal Natural Resources Conservation Assistants. Must be 18 or older with high school diploma or equivalent and valid driver's license. \$11.00/hr. Some training or coursework in environmental sciences or natural resources management preferred. Some outdoor work experience with natural systems, forestry or horticulture preferred. Go to www.MetroparksToledo.com to view detailed position description and job requirements. Must apply online. EOE

Triad Residential Solutions is seeking to fill multiple positions including direct support professionals as well as a full time, salaried Residential Manager for their Toledo area. The Residential Manager will oversee the operations of 5-6 homes with individuals with disabilities. Supervisory experience is preferred and experience working with people with disabilities is a must. For more information, please contact Wendy Bejaige, wbejaige@triadresidentialsolutions.net



VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR:

Metroparks Toledo is seeking a Volunteer Coordinator. Two years college-level education in business, liberal arts, environmental science, or related field, or equivalent work experience required. Moderate experience with volunteer administration or special event management. The candidate should have excellent communication, computer, database management, and public speaking skills, Fulltime. \$15.87/hour. Go to www.MetroparksToledo.com to view the complete job description and submit an online application and resume by July 3. EOE

ABUNDANT LIFE OF PERRYSBURG ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Abundant Life of Perrysburg is accepting applications for its subsidized apartment facilities. Abundant Life #1 offers independent living for senior citizens 62 years of age or older and individuals 55 or older with a physical impairment. Abundant Life #2 is a supportive living complex for people 62 and older. To apply individuals must meet the age requirement and an annual income requirement of no more than \$24,150.00 for one person or \$27,600.00 for two people.

We are located in the Three Meadows subdivision near the Manor of Perrysburg. Our garden apartments offer one bedroom, private patios, with individually controlled thermostats for heat and air conditioning.

Abundant Life #1 offers bathtubs, while Abundant Life #2 offers walk-in showers and pull cords for emergencies.

We have a bus that transports all residents to area grocery stores and monthly outings. We offer exercise, worship services and a variety of opportunities for our active and not so active seniors. Please call (419)874-4371 to find out more about our fabulous facilities and our availability for apartments. You may also visit us on the web at abundantlifeperrysburg.org.





Call to place your ad:

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www.TheTruthToledo.com

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on Glass City Metropark Bid Package No.1, 1001 Front St., Toledo, OH 43608 will be received; opened; and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537 Friday, July 12, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. local time.

THE SCOPE OF WORK consists of park site construction: select demolition, erosion control measures, mass excavation and embankment, riprap, stone landscape walls, landscaping, irrigation, seed & mulch and park amenity construction: including boardwalk overlooks & bridges, railings, aggregate paths, riverfront platform/ structure, asphalt road and lot, concrete curbs and plaza, 3,500 sq. ft. pavilion building, green roof, rooftop plaza, concrete retaining walls, benches, signage, and site utilities. Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents and plan-holder's list through Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, Ohio 43604 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (check made payable to Newfax Corporation) or via the Newfax Digital Plan Room at www.newfaxcorp.com. Newfax can be contacted at 419-241-5157 or 800-877-5157. A non-refundable fee of \$100 is required for each set of full-size documents obtained. For additional information, please contact Jon Zvanovec @ 419-360-9184, ion.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com.

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

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

THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in bidding.

By order of the Board of Park Commissioners METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TO-LEDO AREA

Dave Zenk, Director

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The Prophecy, The Process, The Promise Book Signing

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Author Wanda Presberry held a book signing on Saturday, July 6 to celebrate her new book, *The Prophecy, The Process, The Promise*. For the author and her crew, the event was part of what she describes as "The Process."

Dozens of supporters dropped by The Truth Art Gallery to purchase books, share some stories, have a bite to eat or purchase a few of the items for sale from The Process team.

Presberry is more than an author, however. She is an entrepreneur and is actively involved in a number of ventures in the Toledo area. She's the owner/operator at Promises Salon & Spa, owner/creator of Promises Oils Blends, manages Promises Bling Paparazzi Accessories and is a credit repair agent with Financial Education Services, among her many ventures.

"We have to go through our process to get to what He's promised," said Presberry of the central theme of her book.







L. to R. Tniesha Jones; KeeshaFitzgerald; Lillie Jones; Wanda Presberry, Aaron Presberry. Annette Jones



Wanda Presberry

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