



Volume 56, No. 9

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

July 24, 2019

## The 15th Annual African American Festival



*The Zapp Band*

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# Protecting the Most Vulnerable

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

The Truth Contributor

*...We need to stop punishing children because we don't like their parents.*

— Marian Wright Edelman



After many promises, extensive negotiations and a long delay requiring a 17-day stopgap measure, Republican Governor Mike DeWine finally signed a \$69 billion Ohio budget last week. Despite the last-minute drama created by DeWine's 25 line-item veto action, the budget will fund the state government for the next two years.

The budget, which represents an unprecedented \$237 million over the biennium for county children services agencies, includes important gains for key local human needs service providers such as Lucas County Children Services.

Child abuse and neglect, unfortunately, are part of the devastating collateral damage from the opioid addiction crisis that affects nearly three quarters of states and has fueled a dramatic increase in foster care, reports the Brookings Institute, relying on statistics from the Department of Health and Human Services.

Nationally, according to the Harvard Kennedy School's Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy, Child Protective Services agencies investigate or respond to over three million children per year. Although most cases of abuse and neglect occur among white children, African-American children suffer the highest rate of victimization.

Here locally, Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) has long been involved in the fight against the victimization of children due to neglect and physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

Yet, like other child protection agencies, LCCS has seen the agency pushed to the brink as it struggles with the massive increase of "children now coming into the system, staying longer and requiring more treatment and cross system services."

The recently signed Ohio budget, however, more than doubles the State Child Protection Allocation, providing LCCS with a refreshing and robust infusion of help that will enable the agency to improve outcomes for children whose futures are threatened by the opioid crisis.

LCCS Executive Director Robin Reese, comments: "I'm ecstatic about the budget. This is the first governor that has really put this kind of effort behind children and families and not even limit it to just the child protection side but extend to others in poverty. There's a lot of good stuff in this budget."

"I honestly think that we will be able to keep more families intact and reduce these [foster care or out of home placement] numbers, especially in African-American families because they're disproportionately represented in the system. So, this is the kind of money that we need to get some of this programming going," Reese adds.

Ohio has been ranked 50th or nearly last in the nation in terms of strength of child protection, Reese asserts. "And that has continued through both Democrat and Republican leadership, placing an excessive burden on counties to try to come up with the money. This governor (DeWine) is so serious about what he has allocated for child protection that he is putting a special stipulation on counties so that

... continued on page 6

## Community Calendar

### July 22-26

Glass City Church Vacation Bible School: 6 to 8:30 pm nightly; Parents, children, relatives and friends welcome; An adult class also; Kickoff event on Sunday July 21 in church parking lot

### 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 2

YWCA Health Fair: 11 am to 2 pm; Free hearing and vision tests, blood pressure and bone density tests, HIV education information, breasts tests: 419-241-3235

### August 3

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

Warren A.M.E. Church Care Enough FREE Community Event: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Sponsored by Women of Faith; Free Clothes, Commodities, Food Baskets, Food, Praise Dancing, Games, Music, Fun & More

### August 10

Rosford First Baptist Church Health Fair: 11 am to 4 pm; Blood sugar checks, blood pressure checks, Kidney Foundation, Helping Hands; Check out your sickness for your wellness: 419-481-6922

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  
Lincoln School Community Coalition 3rd Annual Neighborhood Picnic: 11 am to 3 pm – corner of Lincoln and Detroit; Food, fun activities, ABC health services, music: 419-350-0421

### 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

## The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African American  
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# Ohioans Are Working, but Continue to Struggle

*10 years of recession recovery*

*Special to The Truth*

Ohio's unemployment rate of four percent is the lowest it has been since 2001. Since the Great Recession ended 10 years ago last month, Ohio has added more than 539,000 jobs. That's enough to replace the jobs lost to the recession but not enough to keep up with population growth. Nevertheless, Ohio's growth trails the nation, and far too many people aren't sharing in the recovery.

The seasonally adjusted jobs data released last week by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) show the state gained just 1,500 jobs in June. Even with this gain the state had fewer jobs last month than it did in January. In the last 12 months Ohio jobs have grown by a measly 0.5 percent. The U.S. average was 1.5 percent. A separate survey also released last week by ODJFS shows that the unemployment rate ticked down to four percent from 4.1 percent. This improvement was largely driven by increased employment instead of a shrinking labor force. However, Ohio still needs 178,000 people to work or actively look for work to return to our pre-recession labor force.

"Ohioans are working, but they are not getting ahead," said Hannah Halbert, project director with Policy Matters Ohio. "In their drive to cut taxes for the wealthy and for corporations, legislators forgot about working people. We have had 10 years of below-average job growth, and more people in poverty."

Even though Ohio workers created record wealth every year since the recession ended, more people are struggling to make ends meet and are living in distressed communities. There were 118,000 additional people in poverty in 2017 than in the year prior to the recession. Ohio is 12th in the nation for the share of children growing up in poverty. By 2016 10 percent of Ohio neighborhoods were areas of concentrated poverty, a two-fold increase since 2000.

"Restoring the minimum wage and overtime protections would help more working people share in the wealth they create. Lowering eligibility standards for child care assistance and boosting public transit can help take the pressure of working people – especially those earning low wages," Halbert said.

"Ohio has not made any progress in job growth this calendar year," she said. "We can celebrate the low unemployment rate but policymakers need to get real about job growth and wages. People are working, but jobs aren't paying all the bills. Our state tax changes have funneled more wealth to the already wealthy, leaving fewer resources available to spend on public policies that could build an economy that works for all Ohioans, regardless of color, gender, or zip code. Ohio can do better."

## School Choice Ohio Applauds Passage of Student-focused Budget Bill

School Choice Ohio applauds the passage of the state operating budget, passed with bipartisan legislative support.

"Governor DeWine and the Ohio General Assembly have enacted an historic, student-focused state operating budget, showing their support for families across Ohio who want more education options for their children," said Kevin Bacon, president & CEO of School Choice Ohio. "This budget empowers families and reconfirms Ohio's commitment to funding students over systems. Every child should have access to the K-12 education that best fits their needs, regardless of income or zip code, and this budget is a huge step forward in increasing that access."

House Bill 166, the FY20-FY21 state operating budget bill, contains numerous K-12 education provisions that increase access to educational options. Specifically, the bill expands the Income-based Scholarship Program (for students whose family income at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines) to grades K-12. The program currently only serves students in grades K-6. Additionally, the bill streamlines the scholarship application process through several amendments, including allowing families to apply year-round for the EdChoice and Income-based programs. The bill also increases the cap on the EdChoice Scholarship Program if demand significantly increases and updates eligibility for high school students assigned to a low-performing public school.

"Every year, there is an increase in demand for Ohio's scholarship programs," said Bacon. "The student-focused provisions in House Bill 166 provide more low- and middle-income families across the state options in where their children will be educated."

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# Ohio Must Move Forward in All Energy Sectors, Favoring None

By Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)

Ohio's Republican-led state legislature is failing to lead Ohio to a job-rich, broad-based energy future. Our state has a rare opportunity to grow its energy sectors to meet our state and nation's future energy demands. But the myopic wrangling in Columbus throttles Ohio's robust energy future. Ohio's GOP is stuck in the last century.

Statehouse Republicans have proposed legislation to save the Davis-Besse

and Perry nuclear power plants in northern Ohio. But to do so, they eviscerate state investment in new energy industries, including renewables. This amounts to a death wish for economic growth in our energy sector. While I agree that nuclear power plants provide an invaluable energy resource with many high-paying jobs in our state, the legislature must find a path to not only save the power plants but also to expand Ohio's new energy industries.

As the legislature finishes debate on House Bill 6, Republicans in the Statehouse will have to answer this vital question: Are they willing to sacrifice Ohio's robust and promising energy future to achieve stability in just one energy sector?

With Ohio's two major nuclear power plants in its industrial north at risk of closure, Ohio GOP leaders are flubbing the ball. Instead, Ohio should be the state that masters all energy sectors, produces the new electric car, achieves biofuelled air flight and leads both on renewable energy and carbon capture for the sake of the nation.

In the U.S. House of Representatives, I chair the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee. We fund the U.S. Department of Energy and nuclear naval propulsion systems. Day in and day out, I fight to support American innovation for a secure American energy future.

But regardless of how much federal support we can bring back to Ohio for research and development, in deciding where to locate, energy companies look closely at the investment climate and energy innovation of various states and regions. Ohio needs to up its game.

By cutting renewable energy, for example, Ohio's legislature is shifting the car into reverse. Ohio holds a strong legacy of energy innovation that has revolutionized the way our world creates power. Ohio innovators such as Harold McMaster and Norm Nitscke created the largest solar company in America - First Solar - right here in Ohio. POET already operates four ethanol refineries in Ohio with more possible. Other Ohio energy firms produce cryogenic hydrogen, fuel cells, battery storage systems and super conductivity components. LEEDCO entrepreneurs in Cleveland are championing the first offshore wind turbines in our nation. What Saudi Arabia is to oil, Lake Erie

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## KEITH L. MITCHELL, ESQ.

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Fax: (419) 244-6335

E-mail: [keithlmitchell@hotmail.com](mailto:keithlmitchell@hotmail.com)

July 17, 2019

Councilman Tom Wanievski  
District 5 Representative  
One Government Center, Suite 2120  
Toledo, Ohio 43604

Re: Your Racist and Derogatory Comment

Dear Mr. Wanievski:

I appreciate the opportunity to meet with you and others today about the Upgrade Food and Spirits, LLC ("the Upgrade") located at 2640 W. Laskey here in Toledo. I am sorry that we were unable to convince you that my client's efforts to address issues and problems at the establishment are not effective. Your solution to this matter is for my client to "turn in its keys."

My client and I are very offended and appalled by your comment close to the end of the meeting. You stated to Councilman Chris Delaney that you were glad that my clients were previously in his district, but now "the cockroaches have come to my area." Councilman Wanievski, African-Americans are not "cockroaches." Whether you were referring to my client or the patrons of the Upgrade or both, your reference to "cockroaches" is racist and derogatory and we do not appreciate it. Your boldness and arrogance cannot be overlooked.

Perhaps your objections to how the Upgrade is run and the type of crowd that it attracts has more to do with your attitude and perceptions of African-Americans rather than any alleged criminal activity at the establishment. No member of the Upgrade staff have been involved in any serious criminal actions, inside or outside of the premises. They have not directly or indirectly participated in any pattern of criminal activity nor are they allowing such activity. Further, the Upgrade is not permitting a nuisance to exist at the premises.

For your information, according to RightNation.US, the use of the term "cockroach" must be taken in its specific historical context as hateful, racist, enemy imagery. Much academic literature has been dedicated to the subject of animal enemy imagery for the way in which deeming a people "cockroaches" allows for their dehumanization. Other relevant cases of racist cockroach enemy imagery include the reference to Tutsis during the Rwandan genocide and to Jews under Nazi Germany.

My client demands a public apology for your remark admitting that it was inappropriate and just wrong. You sound like President Trump when he urges certain members of Congress to "go back and help fix the totally broken and crime infested places from which they came." If you have a dislike or prejudice against African-Americans—just admit it and we will know how to interact with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Keith L. Mitchell



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# Children Are the Forgotten Victims of Traumatic Events

Many children in the Toledo area are exposed to traumatic life events. More than half experience traumatic events such as abuse, violence, terrorism, disaster, neighborhood gang violence and traumatic loss. Many experience more than one such event. Many children live with chronic trauma with no time for healing between events.

Most children can return to prior levels of functioning with time and support from family and trusted adults. But what if the adults themselves live with chronic trauma?

Beatrice Daniels, trauma and grief management specialist, and the staff of A Journey Through Healing, are arranging a two-and-a-half day camp. Camp Journey, to be held at the Boys and Girls Club on Detroit Avenue, focusing on the grief and trauma experienced by our children and youth: death of grandparent, parent, friend, incarceration of parent, lack of attention because of abusive situations, bullying in neighborhood and school, gang violence in the neighborhood, the current opiate crisis and so many others.

Most children with persistent trauma-related distress do not receive psychological treatment, indeed adults in grief do not even recognize the toll a traumatic or

violent event takes on children. Children do not and cannot recover on their own, no matter how resilient we believe children to be. This may be due to cost, lack of insurance for treatment, or the inability of parents and caregivers to recognize and acknowledge symptoms other than their own. We hope to fill that void with the activities of Camp Journey.

The camp is scheduled for August 1, 2 and 3—all day Thursday and Friday, with a completion ceremony on Saturday. The schedule will include age-appropriate sessions for youth and family groups, games and recreation, creative activities, sessions for parents and caregivers, respite activities for caregivers, especially grandparents when parents are unable to provide adequate care and support.

Camp Journey staff are in process of inviting motivational speakers, grief coaches, musicians and other facilitators who have experience with youth and can offer age-appropriate sessions. The wonderful facilities of the Boys and Girls Club will provide swimming and other “energy-consuming” activities for a blend of physical and psychological outlets for participants.

Please free to contact Bea Daniels for more details at 419-531-1336 for more information

*Perryman... continued from page 2*

they can't decrease their investment based on what he's given us. And not only that, he had some signature programs that he started when he was Attorney General, like the Ohio Start Program that he has also put money into. Before, that funding was limited to a few private counties but now all of us can take advantage of it.”

However, not all local entities are happy with the final budget. Local governments complain that the state is sitting on approximately \$2 billion as a result of “cutbacks for the rich,” leaving municipal and county budgets starved from the structural hole created by the state's redirection of funds.

Local legislators, Sen. Teresa Fedor and Rep. Lisa Sobecki, voted against the budget despite a \$382 million increased allocation for pub-

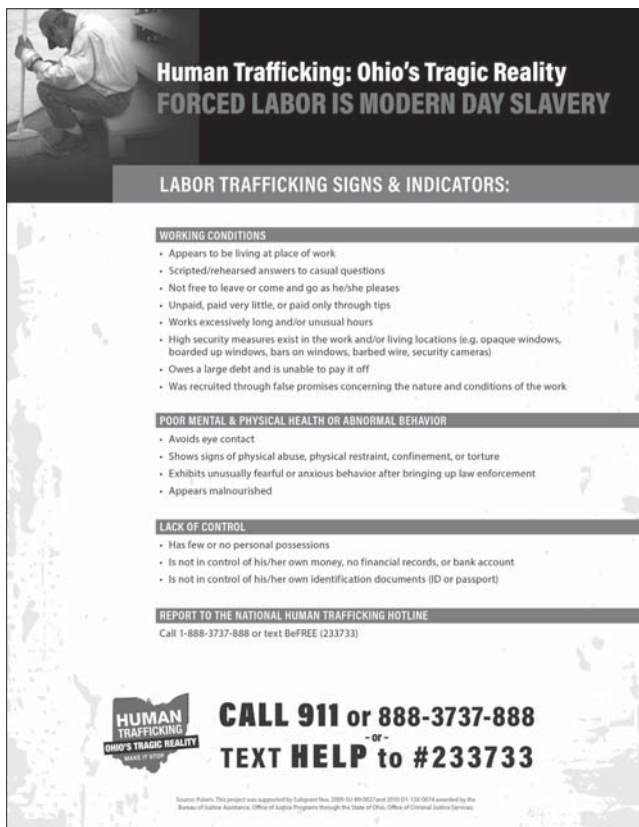
lic schools. “Toledo will have some money in this budget,” Sobecki, who opposed the budget primarily because of her stance against the Academic Distress Commission, a legislative policy left intact which threatens to take over schools from local control if deemed low performing.

“I would say that there's pieces and parts that everyone's happy with and unhappy with. So, in my old labor days, they would tell you that's a good contract,” Sobecki confesses.

What is certain is that we are faced with a generation of children that have experienced devastating trauma due to opioid and substance abuse. Sufficient financial, social, emotional, mental, medical and other resources are required to address their needs.

Overall, Devine's budget stands in the gap for children that have been abused and neglected.

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



**Human Trafficking: Ohio's Tragic Reality**  
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Source: Polaris. This project was supported by Subgrant No. 2009-01-001-001 and 2010-01-101-001 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs through the State of Ohio, Office of Criminal Justice Services.

## Toledo Priests' Group Says Enough! No More Racist Attacks!

Fr. Bob Reinhart of the Social Justice Subcommittee of the Toledo Chapter of the Association of U.S. Catholic Priests called for “a culture of respect for all persons” to replace the culture of prejudice, specifically the racist language that is infecting our public discourse.

“Our Catholic social teaching stands firm for the rights and dignity of the human person,” Fr. Reinhart said. Citing the U.S. Bishops’ 2018 statement, *Open Wide Our Hearts*, Fr. Reinhart said that “racism has no place in the Christian heart. This evil causes great harm to its victims, and it corrupts the souls of those who harbor racist or prejudicial thoughts.”

“We need to be clear that racism in words and deeds—in every form—is totally unacceptable. Racism is a sin,” Fr. Reinhart said.

*... continued on page 12*

# The 15th Annual African American Festival

By Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union celebrated 15 years of summer fun this past weekend with a prayer breakfast, a gospel concert and the African American Festival. Over three days, the Credit Union honored members of the community, entertained thousands with a range of music and brought vendors together with a host of prospective customers.

The weekend activities began with a prayer breakfast on Friday morning at Friendship Baptist Church during which a number of religious leaders offered prayers for various causes and six honorees were presented with gifts and the thanks of the community.

This year's honorees were Wilma Brown, Pastor Cecil Jerome Graham, Harold Mosley, Brenda Oliver, Pastor Patricia Sullivan and Arron Woods.

Brown, the first female elected president of Toledo City Council, spent 12 years on the Toledo Board of Education before being elected to City Council, and has been involved with a number of community organizations. Most notably, Brown, as a member of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Toledo Chapter, started the Debutante Cotillion over 50 years ago and has guided it ever since, raising thousands of scholarship dollars for hundreds of participants.

Graham, pastor of True Vine Missionary Baptist Church and a care coordinator with Neighborhood Health Association, is also an interim host on Sunday mornings on the Urban Beat program. He is the first Toledo pastor to become certified as a community healthcare worker and has initiated the Graham Project – a collaboration with Compuware Detroit and City of Detroit Youth Department; the True Vine STNA training program and a community Health Care and Career Annual Event.

Mosley, a retired Toledo Police Officer, is the president/CEO of American Water Guardian, a public water theft detection and loss prevention service company, having received a patent for his SmartBox Technology, a water monitoring system that detects the theft of water.

Oliver began her tenure as an employee with the City of Toledo in 1988. In 1998, she joined the Office of Affirmative Action/Contract Compliance and in 2002 moved to the Department of Neighborhoods. She retired from the city in 2018 but continues to share her expertise in fundraising, recruitment, conflict resolution and analysis and has been a member of the Uni-



TUFCU CEO Suzette Cowell and granddaughter Erica

versity of Toledo Alumni Association, the NAACP Toledo Branch and the Perry Burroughs Democratic Women's Club.

Sullivan, a retired educator who was ordained a minister in 1998 and, after being an assistant to Bishop Duane Tisdale at Friendship, became the pastor of New Beginning Full Gospel Baptist Church in Mansfield, OH. She is currently the Midwest Regional Director of Emerging Churches of the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International and Director of Protocol for the State of Ohio Full Baptist Church Fellowship International.

Woods, a minister and elder at Friendship Baptist, is the Steward of Jonathan's Administrative Service is LLP, a supernatural birthed ministry designed to protect and transition - he specializes in the development of for-profit and non-profit entities with an emphasis on board development and training.

Friday's prayer breakfast featured worship songs by Karen Harris, an opening prayer by Bishop Tisdale; a prayer for the city and leaders by Pastor Jerry Boose of Second Baptist Church; a prayer for the churches by Lady Lisa Key of Peoples Baptist Church; a prayer for Toledo Urban

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## CONSUMER & FAMILY SURVEY

### WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

Mental Health & Recovery Services Board (MHRSB) of Lucas County is asking for your feedback on our behavioral health crisis services, including crisis call lines, mobile crisis teams, psychiatric urgent care centers, peer respite centers, crisis stabilization units, and psychiatric hospitals.

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# 15th Annual African American Festival

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Federal Credit Union by Bishop Larry Mack of Greater Dreams Church; a prayer for the youth by Pastor Matt Collins of New Breed Ministries; a prayer for the festival by Pastor Robert Lyons of Greater St. Mary's MBC and a closing prayer by Pastor Jerry Birt of Glass City Church.

Regina Mack served as the mistress of ceremonies for Friday's Prayer Breakfast.

This year's Gospel Concert was also held at Friendship Baptist on Friday evening. Andrew Kinsey, an anchor with WTOL 11 News, served as the master of ceremonies and the evening's entertainers included Darius Coleman, Debra Brock, the Friendship Baptist Church Music Ministry, Tawann Gaston, Mother Boola Bomb Bay & the Boola Bomb Bay Baptist Choir, the United Voices of United Vision Baptist Church and Cynthia Valentine.

The African American Festival on Saturday and Sunday was held, for the second year, at the downtown SeaGate Center – which enabled attendees to

... continued on page 9



Con Funk Shun

**Life is a Highway: ART & AMERICAN CAR CULTURE**

June 15–Sept. 15, 2019 | Toledo Museum of Art | TAGLES CADILLAC | PROMEDICA | Ohio Arts

Image Credit: Gordon Parks (American, 1912–2006), Untitled, Miami, Florida, Gelatin-silver print, 1966. Courtesy of and copyright The Gordon Parks Foundation, Pleasantville, New York



Angela Winbush



Con Funk Shun with TUFCU CEO  
Suzette Cowell



Tracee Perryman and Jean  
Holden-Hanna



Studio 329 Models



## 7th Annual African American Conference

NAMI Greater Toledo is hosting our 7th Annual African American Conference on August 2, 2019 at the Glenwood Lutheran Church, located 2545 Monroe St. Toledo, Ohio. We are very excited about this year's conference "Our Children's Minds Matter" which deal with helping our youth in the African American community live happy and healthier lives. NAMI will do this by educating and supporting all whose lives are affected by mental health in the community. Mental illness does not discriminate. This conference is a way for NAMI to educate the African American community on mental health and to help them understand it is ok to seek help and treatment works.

This year's conference will have resource tables from our local community mental health agencies and NAMI's Creative Expressions Support Group for ages 7-17. Coffee and lunch will be provided!

NAMI's main goal is to fill in the gaps and correct misunderstandings of our youth by parents, teachers, counselors, caregivers and peers on why African Americans are not seeking help for mental health treatment and missing the signs of mental illness.

We hope to educate our African American Community and let them know that NAMI is a great place to start if they need help finding services/resources.

This year our keynote speaker is Dr. Romules Durant, Superintendent of Toledo Public Schools and an amazing panel of experts who will address sensitive issues that affect our African American youth in today's schools. Both Dr. Durant and the panel will be speaking on *Our Children's Minds Matter*, the theme of this year's conference. For more information please call Sonya Quinn at 419-243-1119 ext. 207.

This event is open to the public at no cost to participate. CEUs are available at \$15 and you can register on [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com). ALL ATTENDEES MUST REGISTER

7th Annual African American Conference Gold Sponsor



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Contact David Baldwin (313) 254-7268 for information



# 15th Annual African American Festival

...continued from page 8

escape the oppressive Saturday heat and Sunday's rainfall.

Saturday's opening act featured eight-year-old Gregory Buchanan, Jr. on the organ. The youngster was followed by Lady K, Jay Rush Jennings, Bobby G., The Overton Project. The Saturday night headliners were Con Funk Shun.

In addition to the music, the SeaGate Center was filled with local vendors who brought a multitude of wares for the curious – clothing, art, jewelry – along with a host of food vendors, such as Ruby's Kitchen.

On Sunday, Angela Winbush, Studio 329, Tim Cunningham, Chris Byrd & True Victory, along with Jean Holden-Hanna and friends (including Tracee Perryman, PhD) held forth on the music stage until the headliners, The Zapp Band, took over to close out the entertainment. By that time, the audience was packed and as excited as an audience can be.

This 15th version of the African American Festival and the thousands in attendance, noted Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union CEO Suzette Cowell, was a far cry from the humble beginnings in 2005. That first edition of



Tim Cunningham

... continued on page 10



Audience enjoying the performances



Models on stage



Zapp bringing audience on stage

Photos Courtesy Albert Earl

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# 15th Annual African American Festival

...continued from page 9

the festival drew about 600 guests during a rain-soaked weekend.

However, the Festival is not quite over. Due to the heat wave during the last week, the annual parade was postponed and will be held on August 24, along the usual Dorr Street route.



Ruby's Kitchen



Hosted by: D. McMullen

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# Five Reasons Kids Should Play Outside More

*Special to The Truth*

Whether it's dance lessons, computer projects, art class or yoga, kids these days are busy bees. And while such activities are enriching and fun, experts say that many kids aren't spending enough time doing something much simpler and every bit as important as structured programming: playing outdoors.

"Finding time for the kids to play outside can be such a challenge for parents," says Keri Wilmot, a pediatric occupational therapist and an expert contributor to TheGeniusOfPlay.org. "As a parent I worry about 'stranger danger' or whether my kids will be able to navigate social issues on their own. Without spontaneity, playtime has lost some of it's fun."

Outdoor play is necessary for healthy child development, according to The Genius of Play. The initiative, whose mission is to raise awareness about the importance of play and help parents make play a critical part of raising their kids, is sharing five benefits of unstructured outdoor playtime:

- **Physical Development:** Research has shown that physically active kids tend to be leaner and healthier, while an inactive childhood can lead to a sedentary (and likely unhealthy) lifestyle in adulthood. Furthermore, physical play builds gross and fine motor skills necessary for success in school and beyond. Hanging from the monkey bars, for instance, helps kids develop the hand muscles needed to grip a pencil.

- **Risk-Taking:** Through outdoor play, children are given the opportunity to step outside their comfort zones and try new things. While taking risks won't always lead to success on the first try, moments like a first bike ride without training wheels, or the first trip down the big slide in the playground, are critical for building the confidence and resilience needed to

pursue a future career, start a business, or handle life's many challenges.

- **Social Skills:** Childhood games played outdoors can help build social skills and teach kids to follow directions. From games as simple as tag, to those with more complicated rules, like "Kick the Can," "Capture the Flag," and sports like soccer and basketball, communication, teamwork and other important social skills are developed during outdoor play.

- **Problem Solving:** Children's imaginations are often stimulated by the world around them. Being outside widens their horizons and can encourage kids to tap into their creativity in order to come up with solutions to challenges, such as learning how to build a sandcastle or figuring out how to climb up a jungle gym.

- **Reducing Stress:** So much outdoor play involves physical activity, thrilling moments and a sense of freedom, all of which can boost endorphins, helping to lower stress levels and reduce anxiety and depression. Interestingly, simply touching dirt when creating mud pies or digging for worms can be beneficial. According to a Bristol University study, certain types of "friendly" bacteria in soil have been found to activate the group of neurons that produce serotonin, which contributes to a feeling of well-being and happiness. So, don't be afraid to let your kids get a bit dirty out there!

For play ideas, expert advice and other play resources, visit TheGeniusOfPlay.org.

Playtime is essential for children. To promote health, happiness and confidence, be sure some of it is spent outdoors.

*Courtesy StatePoint*

The Truth

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*Energy Sectors... continued from page 5*

and northern Ohio could be to wind energy if we do not pull out the rug from renewable energy technologies.

The Utica and Marcellus shale gas and oil discoveries in eastern Ohio are the largest on the continent. For fossil fuels, Ohio should lead the nation on carbon capture technologies. With large-scale conventional and bio refineries, gas peaking facilities and easy access to Great Lakes ports along the St. Lawrence Seaway and with a short seaborne route to Europe, Ohio could export energy resources and energy technology to a world far too dependent on hostile nations such as Russia and China.

Ohio must figure out how to move forward on all energy cylinders with Ohio-based companies driving the economic engine and our state forward. Ohio could lead the nation in advancing our energy future. That requires leadership and vision not only on the part of our federal

government and private industry but surely our state lawmakers as well.

According to the U.S. Energy and Employment Report 2019, Ohio already boasts more than 98,000 energy supply jobs, more than 81,000 energy efficiency jobs and more than 166,000 jobs in motor vehicles. For the sake of our state's economic future, let's not turn back the clock. The state House and Senate must remember their legislation sends a clear message about our state's willingness to be part of America's new, diversified and cleaner energy economy.

Let's fully embrace that future. Let's not cede Ohio's energy future to other states or nations. Let's build forward on Ohio's legacy of progress!

U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur of Ohio's 9th Congressional District has been in Congress since 1983. The Toledo Democrat is the longest-serving woman in the history of the U.S. House of Representatives.

*NAACP... continued from page 16*

Shakayla for dance; Alanna for singing and Arthur for the band.

Arthur Bishop, an incoming freshman at The University of Toledo, participated in ACT-SO all four-years of his high school career and was personally requested to play drums, as he has each year, for his final ACT-SO closing ceremony.

Nickolas Stewart, also an incoming freshman at The University of Toledo, was selected to travel to Los Angeles, California in March 2019 for a performing arts intensive workshop. Accompanied by ACT-SO chairperson, Beatrice Daniels, the two also met and interacted with some of Hollywood and music's biggest stars as guests at the NAACP Image Awards.

The local ACT-SO team could not be prouder of this year's participants, and as graduates, Whitney (NYU), Nicholas and Arthur transition to college this fall, they will have the privilege of being recognized as ACT-SO Ambassadors with a list of celebrities that includes Anthony Anderson, Jada Pinkett-Smith, Kanye West, and filmmaker, John Singleton.



ACT-SO Students Meet Young Entrepreneurs

*Toledo Priests... continued from page 6*

Fr. John Blaser, Chair of the Subcommittee, detailed our country's history of racism and violence from its earliest days, saying "This is not who we are." Fr. Blaser called on every citizen to take responsibility to erase the language of hatred, prejudice, racism, and white violence from our conversations.

Velasquez of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), Sister Fidelis Rubbo of the Sisters of St. Francis/Sylvania, Ed Hoover of the Toledo Coalition against the Death Penalty, Pastor Pete Bowmer of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and Tonya Duran, Executive Director of the Believe Center.

The Social Justice Subcommittee issued this official statement:

As followers of Jesus Christ, whose mission was to heal those suffering and free the oppressed, and as followers of a God whose essence is love, and who created all things and all people in His image, and who gifts all extravagantly and equally, we, the Social Justice Committee of the Toledo Chapter of the Association of U.S. Catholic Priests (AUSCP) say "enough!"

We call upon our nation, both civic leaders and citizens, to build a culture of respect for all persons regardless of race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or national origin.

We join our efforts with individuals and groups, both secular and religious, to build a more just and gracious world.

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Fr. Dick Natter introduced local leaders joining the AUSCP Subcommittee at the news conference Tuesday at the Believe Center on Aurora Gonzalez Drive: Sister Virginia Welsh of St. Martin de Porres Catholic Community, Baldemar

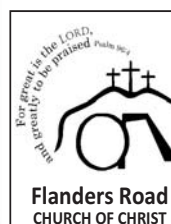
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# *The Floor Is Lava* by Ivan Brett

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

c.2019  
Gallery Books  
\$14.99 / higher in Canada  
252 pages

# *You Are Awesome* by Matthew Syed

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

c.2019  
Sourcebooks  
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160 pages

# *United Tastes of America: An Atlas of Food Facts & Recipes from Every State!* by Gabrielle Langholtz, drawings by Jenny Bowers, photos by DL Acken

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

c.2019  
Phaidon  
\$29.95 / \$39.95 Canada  
239 pages

Mom says if she hears it one more time, she's going to scream.

The truth is, though, summer's halfway over and you've done everything you wanted to do so now you're (do you dare say it?) bored. Eeeeeeeeeeeeeek! So maybe it's time to find some fun inside a book. These three have what you need...

If you think you've played every game there is this summer, look inside *The Floor Is Lava* by Ivan Brett, and think again. In this book, you'll find all kinds of games you can play by yourself or with others, with or without props, non-electronically, at home or anywhere you happen to be.

Play "Murder in Paradise" while you still have some vacation left. Get your baby brother to play the "Squiggle Challenge" with you. Try "The Silent Game" when your parents say you should simmer down. Play "Six Degrees of Separation" with a smartypants. Here's another tip: if you're a babysitter, there are things in this book that little kids can play, too, and that'll make you the best babysitter ever.

So let's say you're spending the rest of your summer by yourself, no other kids around. Then you need *You Are Awesome* by Matthew Syed, a good sharp pencil and a good sharp mind. That's because this book is going to make you think, but in a good way that you'll like. It'll give you a nice confidence boost, and some stories to read that will show you how others became their most awesome selves, too.

And finally, here's a way to beat boredom and get fed: *United Tastes of America* by Gabrielle Langholtz, drawings by Jenny Bowers, photos by DL Acken. Yum, this cookbook will teach you all about the foods beloved by folks in each state of America, and a few facts about the states themselves. Then, you'll find recipes you can try with the help of an adult because some recipes are easy but some are really challenging and you'll want expert assistance in the kitchen.

Bon appetite! No more excuses. And with these great books - no more

boredom!

More than perhaps anything in the world, you hate when your child utters the "B-word." Boredom should be banished, so eliminate it with these three fun books.

No matter what kind of kid you've got - quiet, boisterous, loner, or friend-magnet - these three books speak to that child's heart. *The Floor Is Lava* is for groups of kids or just one or two, and most of its activities require little-to-no materials. It's the perfect book to spark imagination and creativity. *You Are Awesome* is great for the introspective child, or the kid

who needs a boost for this fall; any child who's heading to a new school will benefit from it. And *United Tastes of America* is great for the budding chef but be sure you stick around to help.

These books are just right for kids ages 10-and-up and are not just for summer. Get them, and your kids will scream with fun any time.



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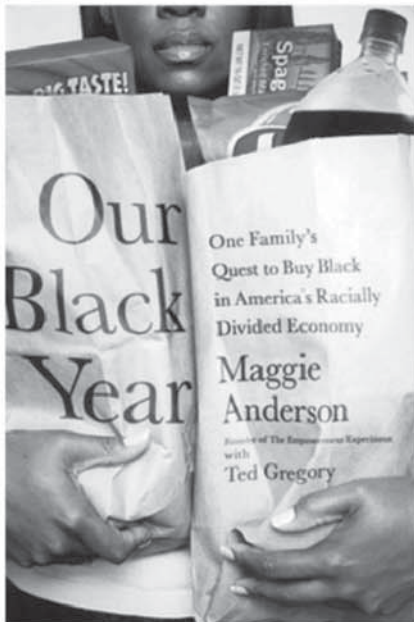
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# CLASSIFIEDS

July 24, 2019

Page 15

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Req 786:  
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### General Summary

This position is responsible for daily maintenance and repair of campus HVAC and refrigeration equipment including related preventive maintenance. Performance of HVAC and refrigeration maintenance activities support the department's mission to ensure buildings and equipment operate as true assets in support of University and individual career goals. The incumbent is responsible for meeting work schedules and service requests, by providing effective and efficient maintenance workmanship and leadership.

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### Qualifications/Knowledge, Skills & Abilities (Indicate minimum required to qualify or perform this job.)

- HS Diploma or GED
- Requires three years' experience in the repair and maintenance of HVAC systems and refrigeration equipment, including large centrifugal and reciprocating compressors, high and low pressure boilers, and all associated auxiliary equipment.
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## THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO GROUNDSKEEPER 1 - (1) POSITION

Please complete the online application at:  
Reg 781: <https://utoledo.csod.com/ux/ats/careersite/6/home/requisition/791?c=utoledo>

### General Summary

Actively participates in keeping the University of Toledo safe, clean, attractive, and maintained. Performs grounds maintenance duties including: plant, weed, and clean flower beds, fertilize, mow, trim and edge lawns. Applies insecticides to lawns, shrubs and trees. Performs routine grounds maintenance and general labor e.g., removes snow and applies salt to ice; maintains parking lots & streets; assists with minor building construction.

### Impact on the Organization

This position contributes to the safety and aesthetics of the exterior grounds for student, visitors, and staff at Main Campus. The Care of Grounds Department supports other departments in obtaining their goals (i.e. Athletics-setup and cleanup for sporting events, Campus Police-barricade placement and accident cleanup, Residence Life-cleanup after move in and move out, help with student activities, event setup, and Maintenance Trades-assist with equipment operator for trenching and hauling material, etc.). The grounds appearance is a contributor to recruitment of prospective students and this position supports this.

### Qualifications (Indicate minimum required to qualify or perform this job.)

- Ability to comprehend and follow oral and written instructions.
- Ability to apply mathematical functions to calculate area, volume, ratios and application rates.
- Ability to work alone, with minimal supervision. • Ability to plan, layout, select appropriate tools and perform groundskeeping tasks in an efficient manner.
- Ability and willingness to work overtime.
- Ability to pass required health and safety tests as required by the University of Toledo such as respirator fit, heart stress for pesticide screening, administered after hire on an annual basis.
- Must possess and maintain a valid Ohio Pesticide Applicator's license. If license is held in state that receives reciprocity, Ohio license must be approved before start date.

**Reporting Relationships** In addition to the direct supervisor (above), indicate the titles of other positions—both within the organizational unit (department, college or division), as well as outside the unit—which provide work direction to this position. Also, indicate which positions report directly to this position, as well as other positions that receive work direction from this position. (Use more space if needed.)

### Working Conditions

Ability to work at heights, work outside in extreme weather conditions, safely work with potentially dangerous equipment and chemicals. May work rotating shift or hours. Ability to pass required health and safety tests as required by the University of Toledo (such as respirator fit, heart stress, pesticide screening, depth perception, night vision, etc.). Expected to work overtime.

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# Toledo's NAACP ACT-SO Gold Medalists Shine in Detroit

By Cynthia Savage

Special to The Truth

For more than 40 years, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) has showcased the best and brightest African-American high school students across the nation with the **Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics**, known as ACT-SO.

ACT-SO is an achievement program that promotes academic and artistic excellence with competitions in 32 categories that include STEM, humanities, business, performing, visual, and culinary arts.

This past weekend, local students represented the Toledo Branch of the NAACP at this year's National Competition in Detroit, Michigan. Arthur Bishop, Addie Cundiff, Jordan Collins, Alanna Hicks, Whitney Taylor Hughes, Nickolas Stewart, and Shakayla Waters competed in Music Contemporary: Instrumental; Dramatics; Photography; Drawing; Music Vocal: Contemporary; Dance: Contemporary; and Poetry: Written.

Four of the seven students from the Toledo area were selected to participate in the Closing Ceremony for the 41st ACT-SO Competition: Nickolas and

... continued on page 12



ACT-SO Students with Chairperson



ACT-SO Toledo Chair Bea Daniels with Students



Toledo Branch ACT-SO Students with Local President Ray Wood

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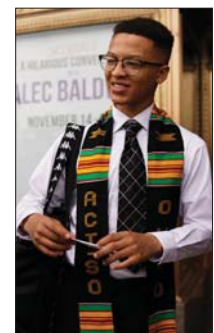
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ACT-SO Student Alanna Hicks at Closing Ceremony Rehearsal



ACT-SO Toledo Branch First Time Competitor Jordan Collins



ACT-SO Students Meet Disney Star Laya DeLeon  
Hayes Image



Whitney Hughes