

The *Sojourner's* Truth

Volume 57, No. 5

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

August 28, 2019



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Let Them Eat Cake?

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

The Truth Contributor

History tells us a nation can survive for years by shifting the burdens of life to the people confined by force and violence to the bottom.

- Lerone Bennett, Jr.



The Kapszukiewicz administration broke out its uniform water supply agreement last week after a long, grueling process. The agreement will now be distributed to the councils of several suburban communities for their approval. It is significant that the low-income assistance and lead line replacement programs were missing in the present contract, unlike in previous iterations.

What explains the absence of these critical elements which we advocated in order to prevent the mass shutoffs experienced in Detroit and lead emergencies such as occurred in Flint and even today in Newark, all of which disproportionately affected low income persons and people of color?

Drinking from Separate Fountains:

The process, I'm told, first requires that the number of suburban signees be determined in order to fix the "wholesale" water rate. Once the wholesale rates have been determined, then the "retail" rates (that residents of Toledo and Lucas County pay), can be fixed. Only then, is it possible to determine how much (if any) funding is available for the affordability and lead replacement programs.

Cake or Crumbs?

Someone explained to me, "It's like doing a cake, you've got to bake the cake before you put the frosting on. You get a cake with no frosting if there's only seven members in the agreement instead of nine."

Icing is not what I would call what low-income people receive. It's more like crumbs if they get anything at all.

When Toledo went with the TAWA approach it retained ownership of the water plant and control of rate setting authority. What it gave up was a ton of revenue to pay for costly plant maintenance and implementation of affordability programs. In addition, water rates in Toledo will necessarily be much higher because there are fewer people to share the burden than with the rejected TAWA agreement.

How much for lead replacement and water affordability to assist those most vulnerable?

Supposed these costs are "baked in" to estimated retail water rates.

Yet, it is City Council that will ultimately determine rates. And, it's very likely that body will be forced to jack Toledo water bills up sky high because of a smaller buying pool. In essence, then, poor people will be paying for their own affordability program and lead line replacement project.

There is a realistic possibility that the cost of lead line replacement and an adequate low-income assistance program will be much greater than the revenues collected for the water affordability pool.

The result is crumbs for low income people. And, perhaps it explains the reason the City did not initially want to reference the affordability plan in the current contract.

Nevertheless, although flawed, the current contract is the best option available to us at this time.

So, it's up to City Council, when they vote September 3, to ensure that the commitment to those most vulnerable is included in the proposed uniform water contract. Then council should make certain that there is adequate funding for affordability plans and lead line replacement without burdening those who need them most.

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

Community Calendar

August 31

Padua Center "Grooming Great Gentlemen:" 10 am to noon; For boys – basketball, food and fun: 419-241-6465

September 3

Community Solidarity Response Network Toledo City Council Forum: 6 pm; Frederick Douglas Community Association: 419-973-0248

September 5

Padua Center Kwanzaa Park Neighbors Meeting: 6 pm; Speaker's topic – Cherry Street Mission and what is being done to address poverty at Life Revitalization Center: 419-241-6465

September 14

Eleanor Kahle Senior Center 2019 Fall Bazaar: 9 am to 3 pm; Crafts, gifts, bake sale; Hosted by the Happy Hookers Crochet/Knitting Club: 419-476-2745
Braden UMC Total Wellness Health Fair: 9 am to 4 pm; Screenings for diabetes, blood pressure, prostate cancer; Education about nutrition, insurance, CPR, cyber and fire safety
St. Mark's MBC Pre-Women's Day Workshop: 9 am; "Praying with Faith and Hope Makes All Things Possible;" Featuring discussion of "Fen" by Priscilla Shirer: 419-350-8150 or 419-266-1291

September 14-15

St. Paul MBC Women's Day Weekend: "We Are Women of Faith, Value and Vision;" Saturday – lunch at 11, guest speaker Sis El'Freda Agboka of Rochester Hills, MI; Sunday – 10:45 am service – speaker Elder Teresa McBee of Family Baptist: 419-246-2886

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
Owned and Operated Newspaper

Fletcher Word – Publisher and Editor

Becky McQueen – Business Manager

Tricia Hall – Reporter

Rev. D.L. Perryman – Columnist

Megan Davis – Columnist

Jennifer Retholtz – Webmaster

Jessica Crans – Layout

A Certified MBE

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By Toledo City Councilman Larry Sykes

Last week I received a call from a friend asking me if I had read Perryman's article in *The Sojourner's Truth*. I said no, I don't normally read his articles because they are mostly based on opinions and you know



Lafe Tolliver

... continued on page 4

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Sykes... continued from page 3

first address your comments attributed to Mr. Waniewski. Rev. Perryman, what you don't know is that I met with Councilman Waniewski for an hour in his office and explained the hurtful effects and negative perception his statement had. I further explained where the reference to cockroaches came from and how it links to persons of color.

I explained to him that the statement came from the movie Hotel Rwanda starring Don Cheadle. The movie depicts the Hutu military forces living in Rwanda (the majority tribe), initiating a campaign of ethnic cleansing against the Tutsi (the minority tribe).

The film depicted the 1994 genocide in which an estimated 800,000 people, mainly Tutsis, were murdered. Most of the murders were committed with machetes by Hutu extremists whose favorite statement was, "the cockroaches come out at night." Councilman Waniewski was very thankful for our conversation. Councilwoman Yvonne Harper also had a similar conversation with Councilman Waniewski about his comments.

Instead of blasting someone for what he may say or do, sometimes you can use the moment as an educational opportunity to teach him what he is not done out of racism, but sometimes what appears to be racist is didn't know. Everything done out of ignorance.

It's pretty simple; what you don't know, you don't know. As a Rev. and PHD you should know that the end of racism will occur when we are successfully able to build empathy and compassion for each other, across racial lines. As long as we have segregated communities, segregated churches, etc. we will continue to lack an understanding which leads to empathy and compassion for one another.

What I find interesting is that you live in Point Place but didn't call out your District Councilman, who you vote for year after year! You are also part of a ministers group, United Pastors for Social Empowerment, so why didn't you use that platform to address your concern?

Even closer to home, I didn't hear or see any statement or article coming from you or the United Pastors for Social Empowerment when three of your fellow Ministers were arrested, charged and sentenced to up-to life in prison for the heinous crime they committed.

Yes, it's easy to complain about a situation, but taking action to address the situation is what's hard and counts the most.

Had you taken the time to call me, I could have explained some of the rules

which govern City Council. For example, unless the offense takes place during an official council meeting there is little or nothing council members can do or say about a member's personal actions or conduct.

In reference to your statement about time for a change and new leadership is needed. I agree, some people are like baby diapers and they need to be changed often; especially when they become curmudgeons.

Although I find your arrogant style of writing offensive and distasteful, I know you are entitled to do so. But guess what, so do I.

Being a leader doesn't change who you are, it reveals who you are!

Michelle Obama

Tolliver... continued from page 3

the Democratic Party and he is extending this umbrella of cursing to cover all Democrats.

I know...I know...You are probably wondering to yourself out loud, how does that pertain to the United States cursing Israel or the Jews?

News Flash! It does not but in the fact-free world of Pastor Jeffress and Herr Trump, why spoil a bad argument with verifiable facts!

No! Democrats, Jewish or otherwise, are not the object of an Old Testament curse if they do not vote for either Trump or the now seemingly morally or intellectually dysfunctional Republican Party.

Herr Trump, now fitting into his newly self-acquired role as King of the Jews has blasted the Jewish people as being conflicted under a dual loyalty problem; and being basically stupid if they continue to vote for the Democratic Party.

Needless to say, that characterization did not go over very well with Jewish leaders who took rightful umbrage about Jewish voters being labeled "stupid" for adhering to any dual loyalty trope if they vote for Democratic Party candidates.

What are we experiencing here? We are in the throes of a president who is evidencing, in my humble opinion, a serious and ongoing deterioration of his mental capacity and his ability to even marginally uphold and execute the functions of the White House.

In street parlance, Herr Trump is in way over his head and is floundering, big time, and he cannot see a way out and much less take any constructive criticism from those who would have answers that he does not have (or want to have!).

This is what happens when you eschew accountability and enter your own bubble world that you alone populate and you tell yourself and your four surrounding walls that you alone can solve all problems and you have dubbed yourself an extremely stable genius.

If you think that the ranting aberrations of Herr Trump may subside, I got some fool's gold to sell you. His machinations and quirky pronouncements will only get worse as we near his doom day which is the 2020 election.

For Herr Trump, he knows that if he loses the election, he will have the prosecutors from the Southern District of New York panting for him with a bushel basket of criminal indictments that have the distinct probability of having his grandiose persona serving the balance of his life in some federal prison.

One can only hope for such justice.

Contact Lafe Toliver at tolliver@juno.com

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African American Fire Fighter Candidate Bounced at Last Minute

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

On February 27, 2019, Sierra Adebisi was admitted to the Toledo Fire and Rescue Department's training academy. On August 22, Adebisi was ready to graduate the next day – she had received her uniforms and her badges. To her knowledge she had passed “every test that [the department] had given me.” Graduation, however, was simply not going to happen.

After having endured months of “repeated humiliation ... since the second week of training” said Adebisi on Friday, August 23, the day she had been expecting to graduate, she was informed at the 11th hour, via a letter from Chief Brian Byrd, that “due to your overall unacceptable performance in the academy” she was being terminated immediately.

As a result, Adebisi, and her adviser in this matter, Earl Murry, are filing complaints with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission to address the matter. “We intend to get her re-instated,” said an obviously perturbed Murry during a press conference late in the afternoon on Friday, August 23. “I have great faith in the OCRC,” he added.

He does not, however, have such faith in Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz' administration, the black council members of Toledo City Council, The Toledo Fire and Rescue Department and Chief Brian Byrd nor the local city and county court systems, as he plainly stated on Friday.

“Where is the mayor? Where is Chief Byrd? What are the five African-American councilmen doing on or off the record to stop the ongoing racism in the Toledo Fire Department? What are they doing to stop the racism in the City of Toledo?”

Councilmen, however, for the most part, had not been apprised of the situ-



Sierra Adebisi and family

ation until well after the press conference on Friday according to Council members Larry Sykes and Yvonne Harper who both spoke with The Truth about the termination. Neither knew anything about Adebisi's ongoing situation or the termination.

Adebisi, during the press conference, recounted months of harassment by those in the top ranks of TFD, particularly from Battalion Chief Matthew Brixey of the Training Bureau. Repeatedly, said Adebisi, she was summoned to Brixey's office “to tell me I wasn't going to do well.” That was, she said, the sum of his admonitions. No advice was forthcoming about how to succeed, only warnings, without specifics.”

“I went up the chain of command to stop the harassment,” she added. “It did not stop.”

Although Adebisi's termination was a surprise to her and her family because it occurred at the last possible moment before graduation and was unsupported by any concrete reasons, her complaints about the Toledo Fire and Rescue Department's treatment of her already had quite a history.

On August 6, 2019, Adebisi, through her spokesman Murry, filed a complaint with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission alleging mistreatment that began as early as her hiring date.

A letter with supporting facts in the filing read in part:

“Charging Party, African American Female, is and has been continuously sexually harassed and racially discriminated against by the City of Toledo and the Toledo Fire & Rescue Department by white superiors and admin-

... continued on page 12



Sierra and Earl Murry

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Going for the Gold

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Area Office on Aging, The Toledo Area TMCA and Taylor Kia are asking athletes, aged 50 or older, to go for the gold in an Olympic event on September 14 at the Wolf Creek YMCA. The 50 plus Sports Classic is a one-day event that gather athletes age 50 or better who are competitive as well as those who just want to get some exercise and have some fun with their peers.

Over 200 athletes will participate in the Sports Classic. The event kicks off at 9 a.m. with the Opening Ceremony – the carrying of the torch, the lighting of the cauldron and singing of the National Anthem. The Classic consists of people participating with their peers in five age groupings, in the following sports: track and field, swimming, pickleball, softball, archery, table tennis, tennis, basketball foul shooting, 3 on 3 basketball, volleyball, golf, bowling fun walk and cycling.

"If you are 50 plus years, you can come to this event – athlete or not – and have fun with your friends," said Bill Harris, chairman of the board of the Area Office on Aging during the announcement on August 21.

Registration is \$30 and includes a t-shirt, boxed lunch and participation in as many of the sports as wanted. Registration is open through September 6. For more information, contact the Area Office on Aging at 419-382-0624 or visit www.AreaOfficeOnAging.com



Bill Harris, center, surrounded by representatives of the YMCA and Taylor Kia, at announcement of Olympic event

Reps. Miller, Howse Introduce Bill Naming Toni Morrison Day

State Reps. Joe Miller (D-Amherst) and Stephanie Howse (D-Cleveland) this week introduced legislation honoring the late author Toni Morrison by designating her birthday, February 18, as "Toni Morrison Day" in Ohio.

Morrison, a native of Lorain, rose to prominence through novels and



Toni Morrison

non-fiction works that often examined black identity in America. Her works, including the novels *Beloved* and *Song of Solomon*, earned her a Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, a Nobel Prize in Literature, the National Book Foundation's Medal for Distinguished Contributions to American Letters and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

"In the Lorain area, Toni Morrison has long been a source of inspiration for our youth," said Rep. Miller. "Her legacy is one of perseverance, dedication to education and leadership by example. I am hopeful that the designation of Toni Morrison Day will remind all Ohioans to learn from the body of work that inspired so many during her lifetime."

"Toni Morrison's life and writing exemplified her unique gift for creating passionate, elegant and timeless literature that is cherished by Ohioans and people around the globe," said Rep. Howse. "Her work stirred our souls, challenged our conscience to confront injustices and encouraged the rest of the world to do the same. I hope that the designation of Toni Morrison Day will set the stage for an entire generation of authors to tell their untold stories and celebrate the beautiful diversity of humanity."

The bill will now be sent to the Ohio House Rules and Reference Committee, where it will receive a bill number and committee assignment.

The Truth

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The Soulcial Scene

Fros, Fashions & Finds

LOC'D Lifestyle Meetup Brings Consumers and Practitioners To The Table

By Megan Davis

The Truth Contributor

If you live in Ohio and have natural hair, you may have had the opportunity to be a part of the natural hair community and overall movement that has evolved over the last 10 to 12 years.

Many naturals who began their journeys in the last decade have more than likely mastered their hair care routines and also may know how to create their favorite styles at home. Among these, a small number have probably shown someone else how to maintain and style their hair. If you did this and someone offered to pay you, you could be fined or forced into cosmetology school, which doesn't offer natural hair care in its curriculum at any time.

As the trends change, many have gone with the flow, from wearing Teenie Weenie Afros (TWAs) to rocking the perfect twist out. Today, the trendsetting continues as men and women are going back to braids such as cornrows, box braids and ladies love the newer crochet styles.

But the hottest trend now is locs. Traditional locs, Sisterlocks, Freeform locs and a red-hot issue, loc extensions. There's a whole other community under or included in the natural hair community consisting of men and women who are wearing any form of locs.

The beauty industry is changing because of the high demand for loc services, which aren't widely available in Toledo or the region. Specifically, in Ohio, while there may be a number of locicians, they are probably in hiding due to the aforementioned reason listed above: the lack of board certified credentials.

In a meeting held last week with Ohio Democratic Representative Stephanie Howse, a group of women from Toledo, Cincinnati and Cleveland shared experiences about licensing, education and the right-to-work as an entrepreneur despite the current rules that exist in Ohio.

"I'm afraid to advertise my services as a Sisterlocks Consultant in Cleveland," said Wanda Rahkeera about her business. She not only has locs, but she is a locician who can't legally work in the state of Ohio because of its highly complex laws and regulations. Despite being trained in a specific skill set for locs, she cannot openly practice without a full license, natural hair license, and it is challenged by the current "boutique" license being offered in Ohio.

Ty Sherrer, of Cleveland, is a nurse and locician, sharing her battle with cancer and how she overcame by going natural inside and out, and learned to groom her own re-grown locs, which she originally lost due to chemotherapy. She shared information about the many chemicals put in the hair, from shampoos to styling products, that may be linked to forms of cancer and stated that it's not something that is shared in the Black Hair Industry as a whole. She is inspired to educate others about the benefits of going natural.

Kristin Brown, of Toledo, attended the LOC'D Lifestyle Meetup to talk about the current industry and its opportunities in Ohio compared with those in Michigan. While she has begun advertising her services, she is reluctant to



Loc'd Participants

build in Ohio for concerns regarding the laws and the people who are opposed to any type of change. She has discovered a mentor in Michigan, Angela Hammond, who has been a locician for a number of years and has supported the local natural hair movement. Because Michigan is exempt from natural hair license requirements, she can freely practice her craft while renting a booth in Hammond's salon.

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The Soulcial Scene

The Tenth Annual Scott Alumni Weekend – August 10 - 12!

It was a time to celebrate with family, friends, classmates and BULLDOGS from all over the world!

It was a three-day event starting with a Friday Decade Meet & Greet – The Peacock Lounge for those in the 50s and 60s classes; The Club Evolution for 70s alumni; The Agenda Sports Bar for 80s and 80s alumni and The Upgrade for those in the 2000s and up.

On Saturday – School & Scholarship Day – the Alumni Band Parade at 10

am; The Bulldog Bowl featuring the Mid City Bulldogs and Scott's varsity football team at noon; the Health Power Hours with Gaylon Hughes Sr. at 1 pm in the girls gym. The night was capped off with the White Alumni Scholarship Fundraiser at St. Clements Hall from 8 p.m. - midnight

And on Sunday the weekend concluded with the Alumni Picnic at Detwiler Park from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. This year's weekend alumni event was organized by John Glover and Tyrone Cleveland.





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The Soulcial Scene

Lincoln School Community Coalition Hosts Neighborhood Picnic

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Lincoln School Community Coalition held their third annual Neighborhood Picnic on August 17 at the corner of Detroit and Lincoln featuring food, activities, bounce houses music and health services.

The main event at the picnic was the donation of 75 back packs to students in the neighborhood – the gift of Michael Colbert and Franklin Park Lincoln. Donors for the picnic included Councilmen Tyrone Riley, Larry Sykes, Gary Johnson; the Lucas County Sheriff; Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur and United Auto Workers.

Michele Walker is the president of the Lincoln School Community Coalition. Coalition members include Williams; Treasurer Charlotte Pryor-Martin; and advisors: Kenny Smith, Leo Tate, Riley, and Rev. James Willis. Residents who are interested in joining the coalition to plan future events are asked to contact St. Paul MBC, where regular meetings are held.



Councilman Tyrone Riley, Michele Williams, Kenny Smith, Rev. James Willis



Ninth Annual Motown Dinner & Dance Cruise Fundraiser

Special to The Truth

The ninth annual Motown Dinner & Dance Cruise Fundraiser was held on Friday, August 16, on the Detroit Princess Riverboat. This year's awardee was The Arts Commission of Greater Toledo. Marc Folk, executive director, and Jennifer Jarrett, deputy director, were presented a monetary donation of \$1,500.00 for community programs for the arts.

It was perfect sunny evening with the Mo-

... continued on page 13



Jennifer Jarrett,
Deputy Director of the
Arts Commission and
Donnetta Carter, Event
Organizer



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The Soulcial Scene

Bring Back the 90s Park Jam

By Megan Davis

The Truth Contributor

The 90s was a great time to be alive in America according to the Generation X that gathered at the Uptown Green on Madison last Saturday. As the sun was setting, food trucks were lined up on the street and DJ Lyte N Rod already had the pavement pounding with hype beats from artists like Usher, MJ, Blackstreet, Jodeci and TLC.

This event, coordinated by local Artists Tracy TheRarebreed Haynes, Shannon McIntyre, and Lance Self created a vibe that people are still talking about. The city of Toledo came out rocking their flyest 90s gear from overalls to fanny packs to Coogi sweaters and Herringbone necklaces.

There was no shortage of fashion throwbacks, hairstyles or music. Everything that was hot then, was back like it never left. Ty Cleveland, who attended, commented, "Is there a part TWO? Dance battles, good music, people

loving and hugging one another... it was EVERYTHING. Can these vibes just stay?" This sentiment was echoed throughout the night for partygoers.

From 7:00 PM until 11:00 PM there were vendors such as Toledope, Mustache Mike's and a Diamond In the Rough as well as live music from Wall

... continued on page 11



Artist Marcus Ledell performed live at the 90s Park Jam in nostalgic fashions from yesteryear



Ashe Turner owner Of Natural Vibe supporting the local women's group Diamonds in the Rough



Brittany Moore and Sheena Barnes, candidate for TPS school board



Lance Self, the People's Salesman and co-organizer of the event and wife Arlinda Self



Megan Davis and daughter Tammy supporting ToleDOPE by purchasing their original apparel

Fros, Fashions and Finds... continued from page 7

"We went as a group to the Ohio Board of Cosmetology in the 80s," stated Safiyyah Muhammad of Cleveland. "They wanted to fine us for braiding and locking people's hair, but we fought it. We went to Columbus and protested the requirement," she continued. As a result of this, the group of natural stylists were asked to take a "made up" board test in Columbus with doubts that they'd pass. The group, having made it through the testing process, were "grandfathered" into the board of cosmetology, a term that the board dislikes and states does not exist.

It was shortly thereafter that one of the directors of the board established a 450 hour requirement for natural hair stylists to become licensed and free to practice. The same requirement, created in the early 90s, has not been altered, updated, or changed to reflect the true practice of natural hair care but remains in law for Ohio.

During LOC'D, Maurice Price, who came to visit family in Toledo from Houston, Texas, popped in on a whim after hearing about the event. He thought it was cool that this type of thing is being done in Toledo, and was also looking for a locician to book with before he went back home.

There were questions about product use and build up, the frequency of cleansing and styling locs and embracing the stages of locking. Each guest received a free natural hair product or accessory and also shopped for additional items from The Kitchen Salon as well as Autumn Gineen's Boutique.

The conversation that began at the table sparked ideas and gave hope to those in attendance that things will change in Ohio. From simply embracing locs to accepting them to including them in this region's beauty industry, there is still much work to be done. Representative Howse (D) Cleveland, knew of the disparity in Ohio's cosmetology industry and the barriers womenpreneurs currently face. She has worked behind the scenes with state legislators and has met with the board and beauticians across the state, explaining the fence-straddling position most are in.

While making new legislation to reflect the needs, demand and positive financial impact on the state is needed, the journey to creating the change needed is a long-winding road ahead. Of the guests at LOC'D, local locicians were invited to attend, to present their businesses and skills to potential consumers, a service that Megan Davis, owner of The Kitchen Salon, has done several times in the past ten years.

Getting people to advertise or market their business, especially if they're good, is lost in this area. Some people don't advertise because of the current laws and some don't because they simply don't know how. This meetup was the first of its kind for people who wear and service locs only, since the natural hair movement began in Toledo, in 2007. Davis is encouraged that the work she has done to reach out to others and bring them together, will continue in this, her 12th year in business, and grow, understanding that there is a need.

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The Soulcial Scene

Are You Ready for Tailgating Season?

Special to The Truth

Firing up the grill is a year-round pastime for many, especially in fall, when tailgating takes over stadium parking lots nationwide.

Grilling for a tailgate crowd can be just as high stakes as the game itself," says The Pit Crew of Pit Boss Grills. "Being prepared sets you up for an easy victory on the grill and in the lot."

Whether it's your first time hosting a parking lot party, or you just want to master your technique, use these tips from the experts at Pit Boss to keep your favorite football fans fed:

- Bring more than you think you'll need. Once you're parked, you're there to stay. Be sure to have more supplies -- particularly fuel -- than you think you'll need, so there are no surprises.

- Do the prep work before you go. Doctoring your food can be tricky in the heat of the moment. Cut out the onsite prep and go for surefire flavor by pre-seasoning and pre-marinating your meats.

- Use a portable grill. When it comes to grill choice, it's all about efficiency. You want to be able to start feeding friends and family quickly after staking out space and pack it all up just in time for kick-off. With fast set-up and no messy cleanup, a portable wood pellet grill, like the Pit Boss Tailgater, gives bold, smoky-hardwood flavor, and makes a solid choice for tailgates, camping trips, picnics or any outdoor adventure.

- Satisfy all taste buds. Bring an assortment of barbecuing and dipping sauces. From sweet and spicy to tangy and mild, everyone wins with a little of what they want.

- Kick back. Just because you're manning the grill doesn't mean you can't kick back and enjoy the party. Use a remote thermometer to monitor your food while you step away from the cooking site. This is especially helpful to prevent babysitting or lifting the lid when doing slower cooked meats, like ribs and pork shoulder.

- Keep your crowd full. Food is the best part of tailgating. Keep your crowd full with lots of finger foods like burgers, dogs, homemade chips and dips, or this recipe for Sticky Bourbon Chicken Wings:

Ingredients:

- 20 chicken wings, patted dry
- 1 cup ketchup
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 4 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
- 2 tablespoons bourbon

- 2 tablespoons hot sauce
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon Pit Boss Sweet Rib Rub Seasoning

Instructions:

The day or morning before the game, create your marinade by combining the ketchup, honey, brown sugar, apple cider vinegar, bourbon, hot sauce, Worcestershire sauce, and Sweet Rib Rub in a bowl. Whisk well to combine.

Next, add the chicken wings to the marinade and toss them until they are well coated. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 2 to 24 hours.

When it's time to cook, fire up your wood pellet grill and set the temperature to 350 degrees F. If using a gas or charcoal grill, set it up for medium heat.

Let the marinade drip off the chicken wings, and place them directly on the grill grates to cook for 10 minutes. Turn them over and grill for an additional 7-10 minutes, or until the skin is crispy and dark golden brown. Remove the chicken wings from the grill and enjoy them while they're nice and hot! For an extra kick of flavor, set aside some of your marinade before adding the chicken to coat the wings with later as a finishing sauce.

More tailgating grilling recipes and ideas can be found by visiting pitbossgrills.com/recipes.

With the right tools on hand and a bit of prep, you're ready to become a master tailgater this season.

Courtesy StatePoint

90s Park Jam... continued from page 10

Music, Toledo's premier live band featuring artists Jasmine Renee, Anitra Chery, Marcus Redell and Sasha Denise rocking the mic with melodies from Erykah Badu, SWV, The Fugees, Mint Condition and Tracy sang EU's (Doing Da Butt) a dance classic.

"It was great to see so many faces and I met a few people as well. Please don't tease us, making this a one time thing. Y'all have to run this back again next year!" Jimmie Hayes reviewed. This one night only jam was a family reunion, house party and concert all in one, and it was free to the public, welcoming hundreds of guests who partied until the sun went down and beyond.

Bringing Back the 90s Park Jam was sponsored by Promedica, The Arts Commission, The Ohio Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.



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Ohioans for Gun Safety Thanks Ohio Legislative Black Caucus Foundation For Endorsement

Growing support for background checks as group continues to collect signatures

Grassroots group, Ohioans for Gun Safety, received the endorsement of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus Foundation last week. The group released the following statement after receiving the endorsement.

"We are thankful that the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus Foundation chose to endorse our proposal to bring common sense background checks for gun safety to Ohio," said Dennis Willard, spokesperson for Ohioans for Gun Safety. "We have seen growing support from individuals and organizations, Democrats and Republicans, gun owners and non-gun owners. A recent poll shows that 90% of Ohioans support background checks for gun safety. We will continue our campaign and aggressively collect signatures so we can put this issue in front of the

Ohio Legislature, and potentially in front of voters."

Ohioans for Gun Safety is a grassroots organization collecting signatures to bring common sense background checks for gun safety in Ohio. As Ohioans and Americans, we understand that we must balance our rights and our responsibilities in order to stop gun violence and gun tragedies. By listening to and having conversations with Ohioans about their experiences and ideas, we have built a broad-based, inclusive coalition that will make our state a safer place for our children and grandchildren through common sense background checks for gun safety. For a full list of our endorsements go to: <http://ohioansforgunsafety.com/endorsements/> For more information go to: <http://ohioansforgunsafety.com/>

Joyce Brown... continued from page 16

After graduating high school, I attended college at Alabama A&M University and majored in Electrical Engineering Technology. After getting a BS degree in 1981, I accepted a position at Texas Instruments in Texas.

I lived the next 38 years in Dallas, working at Texas Instruments for eight years and Abbott Laboratories for 30 years. Both were technology companies where I spent the majority of the time as various Engineering Managers. The last 12 years at Abbott, I was a Supplier Quality Engineering Manager. I retired in March, 2019.

While planning for retirement, I decided to enter a pageant for senior women. That's when I discovered the Ms. Texas Senior America Pageant (MTSA). The MTSA pageant is for women 60 and older. It's not a beauty pageant, but an event that represents the "positive image of aging." The goal of the organi-

zation is to enrich and empower the lives of all seniors and promote the senior woman in all her glory. The ladies have reached the "Age of Elegance" and are the foundation of America. The pageant champion's healthy aging, wellness, and mental well-being, and the contestants exemplify the "positive image of aging."

Although I had never participated in a pageant, I signed up for the first time in 2018. I did not place in the finals, I still felt that I was a winner. Pageants were a stretch for my personality, especially since I had no talent. But, I wanted to stretch myself, so I entered.

After evaluating my performance in 2018 and making many improvements, I entered the pageant again on August 3 and I WON.

I will be traveling to Atlantic City in Oct to represent the state of Texas at the National pageant where there will be women representing all states. The winner will be crowned Ms. Senior America.

Fire Fighter Candidate... continued from page 5

since she was hired in February 2019. The discrimination was so openly blatant that on March 24, 2019, Charging Party along with three (3) other African Americans filed with the City of Toledo Office of Diversity & Inclusion allegations about the various racial practices and including the hostile working environment experienced and implemented against us."

Part of that alleged harassment, said Murry in last week's press conference, was information "from a ranking officer who told her that she was targeted because a certain white candidate could not be hired" and that she had taken a place that should have been his.

In addition to the city officials that Murry and Adebisi took to task for their failure to prevent the months-long pattern of harassment alleged in their filing, Murry also assailed Toledo Firefighters Local 92 for the union's failure to represent the candidate.

"Local 92 was not going to represent her," said Murry even though trainees pay dues for the local to do just that, he asserted. He noted that correspondence had been submitted to the union in late July/early August regarding the matter since the local had declined to represent her in training.

Adebisi said that her commitment to firefighting is only with the City of Toledo. That commitment started during her childhood when a fire occurred in her residence and, with the help of fire fighters, she was able to save herself and a family member.

"Toledo Fire is personal," she said. "I owe it to the city to give back to what was given to me. This isn't just about me, I owe it to all those coming after and in my class. This has to stop."

Ohio Dems Renew Call for Halt to Sept. 6 Purge, Statewide Independent Audit

Days after the Ohio Democratic Party filed an open records request with the Secretary of State's office about their planned Sept. 6 vote purge, the state's top elections official is admitting further issues with the purge lists -- errors that were found only after good government and voting rights groups went public with their concerns.

"Every week it seems like there is a new revelation about how the lists of voters set to be purged next month are wrong -- and through no fault of their own, thousands of Ohioans are at risk of losing their ability to vote," said Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper. "Now we learn that the secretary of state's office found additional errors with the purge lists only after outside groups raised issues and asked for more time to contact those who were set to be purged."

"We renew our call for Secretary of State Frank LaRose to halt the upcoming voter purge and allow an outside, independent entity to audit the entire process, to ensure no Ohio voter is disenfranchised because of bureaucratic errors. The integrity of our elections is at stake."

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100 Days: How Four Events in 1969 Shaped America by Harlan Lebo

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

Three months from now, you'll be making a list and checking it twice.

Three months from now, you'll take stock of finances and life, focusing on family, food, and resolutions. This year will almost be over three months from now but as you'll see in *100 Days: How Four Events in 1969 Shaped America* by Harlan Lebo, there's still plenty of time for change.

Though it finally happened in 1969, America's plan to put a man on the moon began some 28 years earlier, when Vannevar "Van" Bush went to work for Franklin Roosevelt's Office of Scientific Research and Development. Under Bush's leadership, America made significant strides in technology and weapons of war, and Bush himself envisioned a future with a device we'd recognize as a computer. As for long-range rocketry, though, he thought it "would not be technically feasible."

Bush was still alive on July 20, 1969, when Apollo 11 landed on the moon.

A little more than two weeks later, America would have what Lebo calls "One Week of the Darkest and the Brightest."

For years, the counter-culture had been gaining strength and society had rapidly changed, thanks to "Americans under 25 years old." Long hair replaced crew cuts; "suits and wingtips were replaced by jeans and sandals"; and young people, unhappy with their parents' lifestyles, adapted lifestyles of their own making.

It was a situation that Charles Manson took full advantage of, as he gathered followers who ultimately did his bidding by murdering seven people in the Los Angeles area on the nights of August 8-9 and 10.

Hollywood was terrified, as were most older Americans but the country's

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youth likely noted the murders and moved on, literally: 500,000 of them were headed for a farm in upstate New York, where a three-day concert was being held August 15-17, beginning with a prayer by Sri Swami Satchidananda and ending with a blurry-eyed Jimi Hendrix on guitar.

Little did those concert-goers know that, six weeks later, something would happen that'd someday allow music to be portable: a grad student at UCLA noted that his university's computer connected with a staff member's computer.

It was, as Lebo says, "the birth of the Internet..."

You know how it goes: one thing leads to another. In *100 Days*, author Harlan Lebo shows that phenomenon in history, by laying out a short timeline of the summer of '69 – starting in 1941.

Going that far back is necessary to completely understand the significance of the first event, the start of a summer that's been the subject of a lot of books this year. What sets this apart from others, however, is that Lebo looks closer at then-major names and at the everyman players, both who had pinky-fingers on what happened. These are the people who were almost headline-makers, who had remarkable front-row seats before slipping back into the crowd.

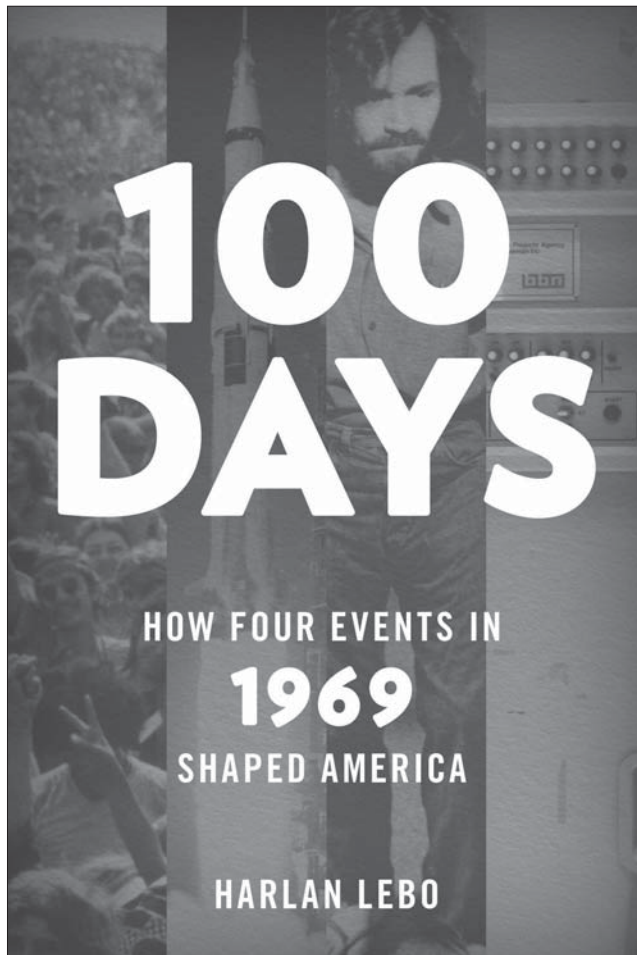
History doesn't always recall those bit-players; Lebo does, and that's where readers will find the best parts of *100 Days*. There's why you'll want to check this book on your list.

Motown Dinner... continued from page 9

town sounds of the Detroit's own Proficients soulful group. There were over 120 guests in attendance who enjoyed the festivities hosted by The Social Butterfly - Donnetta Carter.

There was a full buffet of prime roast rib, baked chicken, rice, roasted potatoes, lasagna, green beans, dinner rolls, garden salad and, for dessert, pound cake with vanilla ice cream with strawberries.

Many thanks were extended to the sponsors: The Sojourner's Truth Newspaper, OMG Production - Tracy Roberts, Adventurous Travels and Kimberly Cardell, graphic designer. The next year fundraiser is schedule for Friday, August 14, 2020; contact Donnetta Carter, event organizer, for more information at donnetta_c@msn.com or (419) 367-9765



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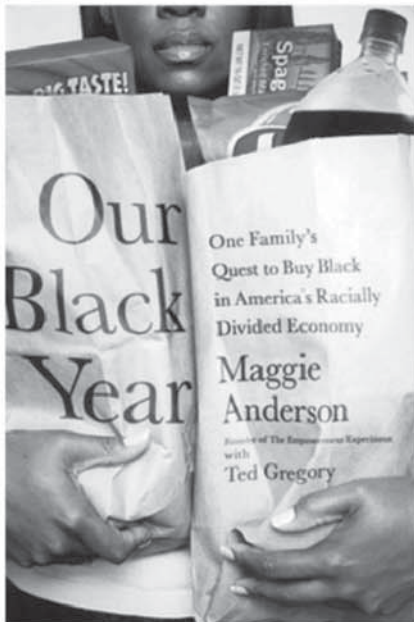
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CLASSIFIEDS

August 28, 2019

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Bids will be received at the Port Authority's administrative offices at One Maritime Plaza, Toledo, OH 43604 until Thursday, September 12, 2019, at 11:00 AM, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Asbestos Abatement Specifications, Instructions to Proposers, and Forms of Proposal and Contract are on file and may be obtained by either (1) obtaining hard copies from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, OH 43614, phone 419-385-5303, during normal business hours or (2) ordering from Becker Impressions, via their website www.beckerplanroom.com at the cost of reproduction.

Please note that there will be a pre-bid meeting for this project for all prospective bidders on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 @ 1:30 PM at the Port Authority's administrative offices at One Maritime Plaza, 7th floor, Toledo, OH 43604. Attendance is suggested, but not necessary. Please submit all questions to the Port Authority, Tina Perkins at Projects@toledoport.org by Friday, September 6, 2019 at 10:00 AM local time. Additional information can be found at www.toledoport.org

Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority

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The Soulcial Scene

Joyce Brown – Ms. Senior Texas

Sojourner's Truth Staff and Joyce Brown

In 2018, Joyce Brown (formerly Joyce Lathan of Toledo), a Texas resident of the past 38 years, decided to venture outside of her comfort zone and enter the Ms. Senior Texas Pageant. The stumbling block, as she saw it, would be overcoming her lack of talent.

Brown, a graduate of the Scott High School Class of 1975, who returned to Toledo the weekend of August 9-11, for the Scott All-Year Reunion, decided that she would adapt her fitness routine to choreography, began working out with a trainer.

Unfortunately, that first year in the pageant didn't turn out as she might have hoped. She didn't win or place. Undeterred, Brown decided to re-enter the pageant in 2019. She also decided to alter her talent presentation and, when she heard a rendition of the famous Jerome Kern song "I Won't Dance," she knew that the tune fit her perfectly.

She returned to Dallas this past summer and updated her talent presentation with a jazz dance to "I Won't Dance." She clearly impressed the judges during the other parts of the contest such as the answer and question portion.

"What one word would you use to describe yourself," they asked. "Dynamic" she replied.

This year, her hard work, her obvious intelligence, her charisma and her talent paid dividends. She was crowned Ms. Senior Texas and will compete in the Ms. Senior America pageant in Washington, DC, in October. Here's her story in her own words.

I grew up in Toledo, Ohio. I graduated from Scott High School in 1975.

... continued on page 12



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The 15th Annual African American Parade

This year's African American Parade, sponsored and presented by the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union, was held on Saturday morning, August 24. The parade, as is the custom, started at Dorr and Smead Streets, next to the TUFCU building, headed towards Collingwood Ave, turning onto City Park before winding down.

Schools, businesses, elected officials, candidates for public office, community organizations, cars and even horses joined the parade, the 15th annual event in the heart of the city. The parade, which is usually a major component of the African American Festival, had originally been scheduled for July 20, during the Festival itself, but was postponed due to the heat wave (a heat wave that would make July 2019 the hottest month in the world in recorded history).

Parade participants and watchers were much more fortunate last weekend as temperatures were pleasant, skies were clear and there was no rain.

