

The *Sojourner's* Truth

Volume 58, No. 2

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

October 9, 2019

Scott High School's Precision Machining Technology Program



Teacher David Dowling explains the Prototrak

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Tuned In

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, PhD

The Truth Contributor

Democracy takes place when the silenced find a voice and when we begin to listen to what they have to say.

— Lani Guinier



The city council candidate who succeeds Councilman Peter Ujvagi as representative of District 3 will inherit a district with both promise and challenges. The area which includes East Toledo, the Historic South and parts of the Burroughs neighborhood touts its ethnic diversity and gems such as the original Tony Packo's restaurant and the old Hungarian enclave, but also claims several neighborhoods where the social and economic disparities remain the widest in the entire city.

What the district needs, if the promises are to equal or exceed challenges, perhaps, is someone who can effectively listen to, understand and communicate the needs of its residents. If, so, then Theresa Gadus is the right candidate.

I had the opportunity to listen to Gadus as she described her story and plan for District 3.

Perryman: Please tell me about yourself. Are you a native Toledoan?

Gadus: I am. I am a fourth generation Toledoan. When my great grandparents immigrated here from Hungary in 1910-ish it was Christmas morning and they were walking across the bridge and St. Stephens was having church service and the bells were tolling and my great grandmother knew that she was home. We've been here ever since. I grew up in East Toledo, pretty much my whole life I've lived there, and I still live in my childhood home.

Perryman: Please talk about your past work experience.

Gadus: Well, I worked for Kroger for a little over 10 years while I got my degree at the University of Toledo and other than my work experiences in high school, I did a lot of volunteering to tutor math and I taught Sunday school.

Perryman: And you are currently with Toledo Public Schools?

Gadus: Yes, this is my 13th year and 10 of those I worked at Waite High School and this year I'm at Oakdale Elementary School.

Perryman: What do you do for TPS?

Gadus: I am an educational interpreter; I work with the deaf kids and facilitate language. I'm up there with the teacher and as she's giving the lesson or working with groups I'm there translating and building language with them. It's a really exciting field.

Perryman: How did you get into politics?

Gadus: Well, I didn't start in politics. When I was working at Waite High School, I was in a classroom, an English classroom, and it was maybe



Theresa Gadus

four years after the economic crash of 2008, the kids had to write an essay on what they were going to become when they graduated and they were really giving the teacher a hard time, they didn't want to do it and finally the teacher was like what's going on? Let's talk this through.

And one of the students said look around, nobody gets out of this place. Look around. And they were so upset, because I think our children internalize what they see around them and that woke me up. I did a lot in the

... continued on page 4

The Sojourner's Truth

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Community Calendar

October 10

Toledoans United for Social Action Core Team Meeting: 6 to 7:30 pm; Parkwood Seven Day Adventist Church; Discussion on Tenant Blacklisting; Community members are invited to share their stories

October 12

Calvary MBC Cancer Awareness Workshop: Sponsored by the Women's Ministry; 11 am; Guest speaker Dr. Changhu Chen, MD, professor and chairman of the Radiation Oncology Dept of UT; Free lunch afterwards

October 12-13

St. Marks MBC Men's Day Weekend: Saturday at 10 am panel discussion "On Domestic Violence" with Lucas County Division of Domestic Violence; Guest speaker Elgin Rogers of LC Auditors Office; Sunday morning service at 11 am

October 13

United MBC 36th Church Anniversary: 10:45 am; Guest Speaker Rev. T.A. Smith, pastor of Bethesda Baptist of Ft. Wayne: 419-242-1455
Braden United Methodist 111th Church Anniversary Celebration: 10:30 am; "Welcome Home;" Speaker Kathy H. Moore

October 19

Powell's Beauty & Barber Supply Presents Fros, Fashions & Finds Pop Up Shop: 11 am to 4 pm; Local vendors and black-owned businesses with a variety of goods: 41-243-7731

October 20

St. Paul AME Zion Church Correctional Lay Sunday: 11 am; Speaker Harold Watson of Detroit St. Paul AME

Cop Shooter Gets a "Two'fer" at Sentencing

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

The ongoing, tragic and unjustifiable shootings of black men and women by overzealous police officers took on a different flavor when the nation learned of the murder verdict of Dallas police cop, Amber Guyger.

If you have been following the details of this bad shoot you know that the cop, Amber Guyger, was eventually charged with murder of the black man, Botham Jean, who was in his own apartment, sitting on his couch and watching television.

Officer Guyger, initially going to the wrong parking lot floor and missing several clues that she was not at her apartment which was a floor above, went into the partially opened door of the soon to-be-doomed Mr. Jean.

The officer drew her service gun and fired at the shadow of Mr. Jean as he arose from his resting place to find out who was coming into his home.

The officer, testifying at her jury trial, tried the usual police phrase of, "I feared for my life thinking a burglar was inside my unit" and fired the kill shot into the heart of the defenseless man.

Jean was a dead man before he could even apprehend what was transpiring in real time. He had no time to stop his killing.

He was a victim of being a black male confronted by a white cop who thought he was an imminent danger.

How many times have we heard that line from police officers who are confronted as to why they used deadly force when there was no appreciable deadly force opposing them?

At the jury trial, she took the stand and did the usual song and dance that she was tired after working a long shift and was not attentive to the details that would have alerted her that she was entering the wrong unit.

No matter. A black man who had a promising career as an accountant lay dead in his own unit at the hands of a white police officer who, at her trial, heard recordings of her prior racially-tinged statements that indicated that black people were not her favorite first choice of people.

The jury, which had people of color on it, did not buy her trail of bitter tears; and how she wished that she was the dead one and not Mr. Jean, a 26-year-old, who hailed from the isle of St. Lucia.

The jury found her guilty of murder and that same jury subsequently decided that she should serve 10 years in jail.

Not a great jury verdict but at least she was convicted of murder of a black man while acting as a police officer.

According to most commentators, her sentence should have been much higher, even if she got points for being a cop.

The reason being that she could have prevented this killing by being more prudent in using deadly force and also by extricating herself from the apartment and waiting for backup (Note: by that time, she would have realized that she was on the wrong floor and at the wrong apartment unit!).

That was Officer Guyger's first break – a break in being sentenced to just 10 years for a senseless shooting that was totally preventable.

Her second break was what stunned the court, the judge, the courtroom audience and the viewing public at her sentencing hearing.

During the time that the family of the victim is allowed to make statements regarding the impact that this killing had on the family member, Botham's brother (Brandt) took the stand and spoke kindly of the shooter, not wishing any harm to her and not wanting her to rot in prison and that he forgave her for killing his big brother.

Not only that, but the little brother after he basically blessed her and gave her his insight as to why, he as a Christian, must demonstrate the paragon virtue of Christ like forgiveness, He asked the court to allow him to go hug the shooter!

At the hugging, there apparently was not a dry eye in the court as the brother, who lost his brother, is embracing the killer of his family member with a long tight hug (Yes, the shooter is also crying and returning the embrace).

If that was not enough, the brother had the presence of mind to gently tell shooter that if she were to ask God, God would also forgive her of this terrible, terrible injustice.

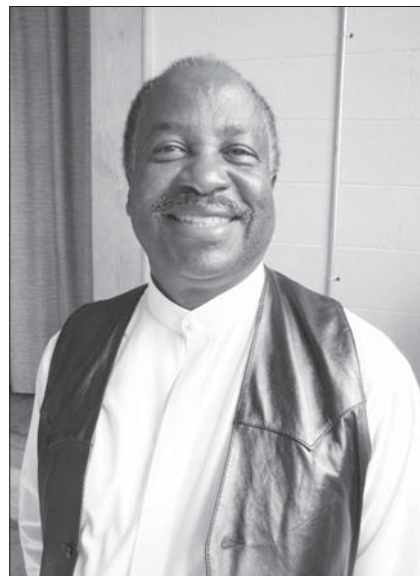
The brother spoke with sincerity and compassion and with no hate or malice but was acting as an oracle of God in demonstrating the width and depth of godly forgiveness and compassion.

The brother's rationale for this superhuman act of non-retribution was the same as said by his father on CNN when asked how this could be done, the father quoted scriptures wherein Jesus said, "As I have forgiven you, you must also forgive those who have wronged you."

If there ever was a graphic demonstration of unvarnished agape love, the brother demonstrated it to a jaded and cynical watching world that in the end, love triumphs over evil; and do not let hate, like a voracious bitter worm, eat your insides out.

Brandt Jean, the offended and heartbroken brother, stood in the place of Jesus the Christ at this hearing and offered peace and reconciliation to a stranger who was in a dark and faraway bad place seeking a way home.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



Lafe Tolliver

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Perryman... continued from page 2

school, but that woke me up to really serving my community and getting involved in community stuff and when Mr. Ujvagi said he was going to step down, I thought this is an opportunity for me to not only just serve my community, but our whole district and continue my life of service.

Perryman: What other community service have you done?

Gadus: I am a chair of One Voice for East Toledo and through that I have been able to do a lot of really cool things like I've been a community stakeholder for the Glass City Metropark and the Navarre Park revitalization, so I would make sure that the community's needs and wants are being met in the programs. I facilitated an East Toledo Main Street initiative, so it was a collaboration with The Toledo Arts Commission, The Toledo Design Center, businesses, artists, residents and how we are planning to implement to revitalize our Main Street. I have also built Safer Neighborhoods. I was part of a cohort and a team leader for Operation Safe Growth, which again brought a whole bunch of people to the table and we went through a class and learned how to build safer neighborhoods.

Perryman: Any other service?

Gadus: I'm kind of a jack of all trades. I'm in a planning committee for EPIC Toledo T-Town Dash, which in the summer they have a scavenger hunt through downtown. I'm president of the Stonewall Democrats of Northwest Ohio and TSA Liaison and professional development coordinator for GLSEN of Northwest Ohio, which strives to make inclusive schools, inclusive safe schools.

Perryman: How does your experience, including your occupation as a translator and extensive community service, shape your candidacy?

Gadus: I think that they've all prepared me in ways to help pull me into being a better listener, to collaborate because there's a whole lot of collaborating whether it's in the classroom, in the community and as far as politically, I think that I'm going to bring a fresh perspective, fresh eyes to some of the situations and challenges that we face in the district.

Perryman: What is your agenda for District 3?

Gadus: Well, my agenda is basically what I've heard from the people of the district. So, everybody wants vibrant safe neighborhoods with good efficient city services, good parks and expanding youth programming. So, that's what I'm really motivated to do, make sure that we provide for our people.

Perryman: What differentiates you from your opponent and what makes you unique as a councilmember, should you be elected?

Gadus: I think, again, it comes down to my leadership abilities and experience. I've really honed those listening skills, those collaborations and those leadership skills. I think that's what sets me apart and then I've really been in the community, whether it's in the school system working to help the kids have a safer inclusive school, help them get their degree and graduate or whether it's outside of that and working in the community. I have the ties that I think it takes to be a successful city council person.

Perryman: What else would you like to communicate to the readers of The Truth?

Gadus: My drive since I was a little girl is to live the life of service and I really believe that as a council person it's our job to listen and be led by the people and not only to work for the people we represent, but with the people we represent to take on all of the challenges.

Perryman: Thank you.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at drdperryman@centerofhope-baptist.org



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Scott's Precision Machining & Manufacturing Technology Course

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

A half dozen years ago, when the current Toledo Public Schools administration assumed control of the district – led by Superintendent Romules Durant, EdD – their mission was obvious: stop the bleeding.

The district was losing students, the students who stayed with the district were graduating at an appallingly low rate and, with the loss of students, state funding was dropping precipitously.

The new administration, faced with the dilemma of how to attract more students to TPS and how to keep them in school, recognized that not all of the district's students or graduates would be entering college and majoring in English lit or sociology. How then would a high school education remain relevant and prepare for life those not headed to college?

The answer was to expand the district's mission by ensuring its students were either college ready or career ready and to make this mission a reality, in the course of the last half dozen years, TPS has become the most comprehensive school district in northwest Ohio, notes the information in its literature – offering more than 35 career technology options, along with its advanced placement courses, its foreign language choices and its various associate degrees.

One of those career technology options is available at Jesup W. Scott High School in David Dowling's classroom where, for the last four years, he has taught precision machining and manufacturing technology to 10th through 12th graders.

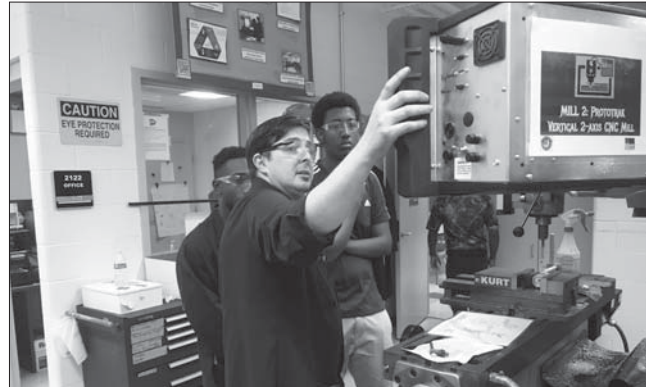
The precision machining program instructs students on engineering concepts, metal lathes, milling machines, digital readouts, drill presses, surface grinders, computer numerical control machines, among other industrial craft tools. The program prepares students for careers as millwrights, mechanical engineers, CNC operator/programmers, robotics, precision machinists, die cast die makers, tool & die makers, mold makers, punch press operators and quality control supervisors.

Dowling arrived as a teacher in the Scott precision machining technology program with the precise background needed for such a calling.

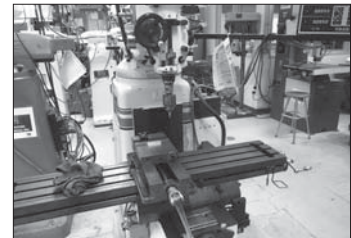
A Whitmer graduate, he studied machine trades at Owens Community College in the late 1990s and mechanical engineering at North Central State College in the early 2000s and worked at Dana Corporation for a decade as a quality technician, in engineering and machining and as a quality manager before abruptly changing careers and returning to college at the University of Toledo to earn a bachelors in middle-childhood education and high needs education.

He joined TPS as a math and science teacher after a stint at Horizon Science Academy. Durant plucked him from Ottawa River Elementary

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Teacher David Dowling explains the Prototrak



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Adulthood: Financial Tips for Gen Z

Special to The Truth

As more states nationwide adopt laws requiring high schools to offer personal finance classes, a new survey suggests that generation Z is on board with the trend.

Seventy-six percent of recent high school graduates agree personal finance education should be required, according to a national survey by Experian. The survey, among 18 and 19-year-olds, revealed that 46 percent say they have a lot of unanswered questions about money and finances, and feel “uncertain” and “nervous,” when it comes to managing finances.

To launch a successful financial future, consider the following tips:

- **Learn Credit Card Basics:** Before leveraging the benefits of a credit card, understand the terms and conditions and the potential impact it can have on your credit score. Read the paperwork thoroughly and ask a parent or friend to help you with anything you don't understand. Only use credit for an amount you can pay off entirely each statement. Interest rates are high, so you don't want to be paying more for what you purchase.

- **Study Student Loan Requirements:** Study the different types of student loans available, and then run the numbers. Before borrowing a dime, figure out what your payments are actually likely to be, and make sure you can truly afford to borrow without putting other financial necessities at risk.

- **Open a Checking Account:** You can open a checking account by filling out an application online or in person, usually in just a few minutes, as long as you have the necessary documentation banks require. The bank will issue you a debit card, allowing you to pay for items using funds from your account. Monitor the flow of funds by checking your account online frequently.

- **Monitor Credit Scores:** There are three national credit bureaus that may have a credit report file for you once you start using credit. What's in your file is what is used to calculate a credit score that lenders look at to determine if you're a good candidate for credit. You can obtain a free credit report annually at annualcreditreport.com. If you're responsible for your cell phone bill and utility bills, consider using Experian Boost – a free online tool – to add these accounts to your Experian credit file and potentially increase your credit score instantly. A consistent history of on-time payments may increase your credit score.

- **Budget:** Learning to budget is essential, teaching you to set goals, live within your means and manage your money responsibly. Create a spreadsheet and review it on an ongoing basis.

- **Use New Tech Tools:** Unfortunately, the topic of money management doesn't always appeal to young people. Only 38 percent of those surveyed find personal finance topics interesting. Luckily, tech-driven tools like apps and YouTube tutorials are making financial education more interesting and accessible to generation Z.

More tips for getting financially savvy, can be found at experian.com/education.

“Understanding money basics means not having to learn financial lessons the hard way,” says Rod Griffin, director of public education for Experian. “It's important that we reach students early, before they start making decisions about student loans, credit cards, buying a car and renting an apartment.”

Courtesy StatePoint

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During the last couple of years the Padua Center has been undergoing a lot of changes. Some of these changes were long in coming and some caught us by surprise. When the bricks fell from St. Anthony Church we did not anticipate that in the next two years we would be a separate non-profit corporation owning land and buildings. We have completely separated from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Toledo and are now an independent organization, yet continuing as a ministry of St. Martin de Porres.

Thanks to the support of the Padua Center Board and you, our steady supporters, we have emerged from this challenging time with a revised Mission Statement, focus and core values. We are designing programs, renewing programs and all the while listening to the needs of the community. Some of our programs have been eliminated because of a loss of funding. Other programs have been re-named and re-invigorated.

Thanks to a donor, our Emerging Young Ladies met a number of times in the Spring and, we were able to run a second program during the summer. Pictured here is Miriah Johnson-Bell who, under the guidance of Agneta Sealy, made a pillow case.

Join us for a banquet, a silent, and live auction celebrating the work of **The Padua Center.**

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Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section

TPS Public Housing Students Will Be Receiving Computers and Internet Access

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Thanks to a partnership between the Lucas County Metropolitan Housing Authority and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), 150 Toledo Public Schools students will soon be receiving computers and internet access to "help them to get the grades they need to succeed," said Joanna White, Jones Leadership Academy PTO president and the parent of a student receiving a computer.

White thanked those in the partnership and the other organizations donating supplies and effort during an announcement on Thursday, October 3 at Jones Leadership Academy.

Under the guidance of "Bridging the Gap," computers are being donated by PCs to People while Mobile Beacon is setting up the internet hot spots. Bridging the Gap is a national digital inclusion program that recently moved into the Cleveland area and "empowers community organizations," said Daniel Valentin, regional sales executive from Cleveland, where the program, he said, has already provided 7,000 individuals with computers in order "to close the homework gap."

"We had an opportunity to help," said Coleena Ali, LMHA vice president of Resident Services. "HUD and LMHA are really coming together and providing something for our community."

The HUD program is Connect Home USA and is intended to bridge the digital gap in the USA, said Pamela Ashby, HUD Field Office director. "At HUD, we are about housing people, but we are more than about brick and mortar," she said adding that one in five US students do not have access to the internet.

That divide, said Demetria Simpson, president and CEO of LMHA, is

being closed through the new program. "We get to bridge the gap through Connect Home."

Romules Durant, EdD, superintendent of TPS also praised the "great partnership" between LMHA and TPS that is now "greater than at any other time." The TPS students in the program, Durant said, "are seeing themselves elevated through technology."

Vivian Crawford, LMHA assistant manager of Resident Services, was the housing authority's driving force in putting the program together – connecting HUD with LMHA and bringing Bridging the Gap on board. "Our goal is to make sure that every child in public housing has access to computers and the internet," said Crawford.



TPS Superintendent Romules Durant, EdD



LMHA CEO Demetria Simpson

Hiawatha Elementary to Receive \$10,000 Donation from Burlington Stores

Special to The Truth

Burlington Stores, Inc., through its partnership with AdoptAClassroom.org, is donating \$10,000 to Washington Local Schools Hiawatha Elementary in celebration of its new store in Toledo.

... continued on page 10



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Jack and Jill Members Celebrate the Legacy of Carole Robertson

Special to The Truth

On Saturday, September 28, members of the Jack and Jill Toledo chapter and their children gathered at Art Tatum Park to celebrate the legacy of Carole Robertson. Robertson, a member of the Birmingham Alabama chapter of Jack and Jill, was one of the four girls killed in the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church on September 15, 1963. Carole was 14 years old at the time of her death.

The other three victims of the white supremacists' bombing were Addie Mae Collins and Cynthia Wesley, both 14, and Carol Denise McNair, 11. One of the perpetrators was found guilty of the crime in 1977, two others in 2004. A fourth member of the conspiracy died before he could be brought to justice.

This past weekend's commemoration service consisted of a reading by the youth members of Jack and Jill along with the laying of a stone tablet

in acknowledgement of the former Jack and Jill youth member.

Carole Robertson's life and legacy are celebrated by each Jack and Jill chapter across the nation in September.



Teen Chapter President Cassidy McClellan, Chapter President Angelita Cruz Bridges, Teen Chapter Members Morgan Baker and Breyana Kemp



Mother Members- Kelli Winston, Shawanna LaVoy, Sheronda Brandon, Vallie Bowman-English, Jovita Robertson, Sheila Eason, Patrice McClellan; stooping: NaTasha Baker; President Angelita Cruz Bridges, Vice President Carla Fitzgerald

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NANBPWC Members Deliver School Supplies

Special to The Truth

The members of National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (NANBPWC)- Toledo Club, Education Committee, believe that no child should be left behind and that educational assistance is a must in helping students focus on classes. If a student does not have the educational tools to work with, then many opportunities to learn will be missed.

Therefore, the NANBPWC, Inc Toledo Club Education Committee delivered school supplies to the students of Keyser Elementary School on Tuesday, September 9, 2019.

The Education Committee is devoted to implementing an array of activities to help students achieve in many ways such as: scholarships, providing etiquette classes, leadership techniques, technology for social media, physical fitness and health, safe encounters program with the police and so much more. Toledo Club member Denise Cardwell has taught etiquette classes to girls at Stewart Academy, Cotillion Débutantes, Deb's in Waiting, as well as many others.

Wilma Brown, educational chairman, Karen Jarrett and Denise Cardwell, co-chairs, and committee members, hold weekly workshop sessions with the Toledo area junior and senior students who participate in the Debutante Cotillion Scholarship program each Wednesday from January to May at Keyser Elementary School.

The members of the Education Committee network with members from Phi Delta Kappa, YWCA, Books 4 Buddies, TLOD, the University of Toledo, various TPS schools, NANBPWC Maumee Bay Club and so many other service and community organizations. The committee has also collected belts to donate each year to elementary boys to prevent them from having sagging pants.

The Toledo Club of NANBPWC would like to thank TPS Principal Natasha Allen and Assistant Principal Jason Duris for supporting the NANBPWC, INC.-Toledo Club.

Allen stated that, "We appreciate the support of NANBPWC and the donations of school supplies for her students."

Allen said Keyser is committed to academic excellence. The staff, Keyser family and students work hard toward focusing on educational, personal and social goals. Parents are strongly encouraged to become involved in the school. When parents attend school, they demonstrate to other children that they value school and education. Attending events like Open House, Math Nights, Parent Teacher Conference, and PTO meetings are all important ways that parents learn about what goes on in school.

Volunteers (like NANBPWC) are important examples of shared responsibilities. There are many opportunities for volunteers, whether it's the classrooms, participating in PTO activities, helping in the library or chaperoning field trip.

Parents can also learn about these opportunities through school newsletters, PTO and fliers.

The National Program focuses on making our communities aware of ways we help through the (LET'S) program initiative.

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The Toledo Club has a Youth Club under the direction of Alexii Collins , second vice president and Youth Club Advisor. Educational training is provided to

...continued on page 10



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Lourdes University Receives Nurse Education Grant

\$156,990 grant addresses teaching and staff development within state

Lourdes University Vice President of Academic Affairs Terry Keller, PhD, and Master of Science in Nursing: Nurse Educator Program Director Rebecca Zechman, MSN, RN, are pleased to announce the College of Nursing has been awarded a \$156,990 Nurse Education Grant from the Ohio Board of Nursing. The grant funds will be disbursed from September 2019 to August 2021.

The purpose of the Ohio Board of Nursing Nurse Education Grant Program is to address the nursing shortage within the state of Ohio by supporting nurse education programs in their efforts to increase enrollment capacity of nursing students and nursing educators.

"The NEGP funds will allow Lourdes to expand enrollment in our online Master of Science in Nursing Nurse Educator program through collaborative partnerships with Kingston Healthcare and HCR ManorCare, and in so doing, contribute to the nurse workforce and raise the education level of RNs practicing in the local community and throughout the state," says Rebecca Zechman.

The Lourdes Education Grant is projected to increase enrollment in the MSN Nurse Educator program by 75% to help reduce the number of unfilled nurse teaching development positions within the State of Ohio.

Ohio Board of Nursing

The mission of the Ohio Board of Nursing is to actively safeguard the

health of the public through the effective regulation of nursing care. The Ohio Board of Nursing (OBN) issues state nursing licenses, sets standards for safe nursing care and assures the scope of practice for nurses within the state of Ohio.

Lourdes University Master of Science in Nursing: Nurse Education

Lourdes University's Online MSN - Nurse Educator program equips graduates with the advanced knowledge and skills needed to teach in healthcare or educational settings as a nurse educator, clinical faculty, staff educator or continuing education provider. The Lourdes University College of Nursing programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education <http://directory.ccnecommunity.org/reports/rptAccreditedPrograms_New.asp?state=OH&sFullName=Ohio> (One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036, 202-887-6791).

Hiawatha... continued from page 7

Representatives from Burlington Stores presented the check to Hiawatha Principal Albert Bernhardt during an assembly that took place on September 27, at 2 p.m. at the school.

A representative from AdoptAClassroom.org contacted school administrators and helped to secure the donation for Hiawatha, which will provide around \$434 in new supplies for each teacher's classroom.

"On behalf of Hiawatha Elementary and Washington Local Schools, I would like to thank Burlington and AdoptAClassroom.org for adopting our entire school," said Bernhardt. "Our teachers look forward to using the funds to enhance learning in our school and in their classrooms. We are thankful for the support we received from Burlington and AdoptAClassroom.org."

Burlington, in partnership with AdoptAClassroom.org, makes a donation to a local school in each Grand Opening market to celebrate a new store location. The Burlington store will open at 5025 Monroe Street.

Washington Local Schools covers 17 square miles in Toledo, Ohio, serving approximately 7,000 students at eight elementary schools, two single-grade junior highs, and a comprehensive high school campus.

NANBPWC... continued from page 9

the youth to help with ways they can also follow the National Program Initiative as well. They have had training on:

- How to conduct a meeting
- Power Point Presentations
- Gardening
- Teamwork
- Computer Skills
- Networking
- Public Speaking
- Community service projects
- Resume Writing

Toledo Club President Frances Collins, PhD, and First Vice President and Program Chair Denise Black-Poon delivered the club's donation of school supplies. Black-Poon noted that sometimes children will perform better and have higher expectations in life if they receive the proper guidance from the community, individual help, and family. Proper school supplies, books and financial support are needed to build the foundation, and spending time with each child to challenge their minds makes it fun and excites their imaginations.

Black-Poon also stated that the Toledo Club supports education from elementary to college years through donations, scholarships, and workshops.



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Books4Buddies Ambassadors Are Back in School

Sojourner's Truth Staff

After an eventful summer that included two Back to School Block parties for LMHA families at Birmingham Terrace and Weiler Homes, Books 4 Buddies started the new school year by participating in the September Sickle Cell March and welcoming the group's new Ambassadors – including two exchange students from Africa.

This year's new Ambassadors from abroad are Joshua Mwashighadi from Kenya in east Africa and Ahmed Saidi from Tunisia in north Africa.

Also joining the ranks is the Books 4 Buddies youngest ever Ambassador, Jaden Jefferson, the 11-year-old journalist who has achieved national fame recently especially after encounters with Ellen DeGeneres and Oprah Winfrey

Books 4 Buddies is an organization that collects new and gently used books for disadvantaged children and young adults. Over the years, Books 4 Buddies have distributed more than 70,000 books all around northwest Ohio and the world.

The "Book Ambassadors" are the students who coordinate the book program along with founder Laneta Goings.

One such Ambassador was Rafiq Lartey, who was with the program during the 2016/2017 academic year as a student at Scott High School. Here are excerpts from the report that Goings asked him to write upon the completion of his year in America and with Books 4 Buddies:

My name is Abdul Rafiq Lartey. I am 17 years old. I am an exchange student under the Kennedy Lugar Youth and Exchange Studies and Amer-

ican Cultural Exchange Service (ACES). I have participated in many volunteering services throughout my stay in the United States, however, one volunteering organization caught my attention and has so far won exceptional love and favour in my heart. I heard about Books4Buddies through my friend, Birama Ndiaye from Senegal, who became an ambassador before me. My interest in the organization led me to meet the co-founder Mrs. Laneta Goings. I told her about my interest in the organization and my intention to hopefully become an ambassador, just as my friend from Senegal was. I was accepted that same day and immediately started serving with Books4Buddies as an AMBASSADOR.

I am very happy to have been a part of this organization and I look forward to being a contributing factor to its success. It is my intention to start a chapter of this organization in Ghana and I am hoping all goes well and that can be achieved. I am a proud representative of the r and I believe, that not only my shirt but my life style will reflect this organization everywhere I go. Once an AMBASSADOR, always an AMBASSADOR!

Rafiq was in the United States as part of the American Cultural Exchange Service (ACES) which brings to the United States students from more than 65 countries around the world according to Tracee Ellis, local international coordinator for ACES.

Rafiq returned to Ghana and did indeed start a Books 4 Buddies program there and organized a Literary Quiz Competition in the summer of his return at the Princess Diana Memorial School in Accra which he attended as a young student.

Rafiq returned home to complete high school and is now in college. "He's been working for more than two years under the most adverse conditions and limitations including: time; riding on a school bus over bumpy roads, communicating with school officials and lots more," says Goings about the Ghanaian Ambassador.

The Ghana organization continues and the group's achievements were recently acknowledged by the school officials at Princess Diana Memorial School.



Fire Chief Brian Byrd with Ambassadors



Rafiq Abdul Lartey and Birama Ndiaye



Tracee Ellis, coordinator of American Cultural Exchange Service and 2 new arrivals. Joshua Mwashighadi from Kenya and Ahmed Saidi from Tunisia. Both will be juniors at Scott

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Lucas County CASA Receives Professional Development Grant

The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Department of the Lucas County Juvenile Court announces that the Lucas County CASA /CRB Volunteer Association, Inc. has been awarded a 2019 National CASA/GAL Association Professional Development Grant.

The National CASA/GAL Association has partnered with Loyola University's ChildLaw Center since 2011 and cultivated a collaborative relationship that has led to the development of a certificate program tailored for the CASA/GAL network in Children's Law and Policy.

The grant awarded to Lucas County CASA in the amount of \$11,560.00 is for CASA /Recruitment Training Coordinator, Colleen Schoonmaker, to attend the Loyola University Children's Law and Policy Executive Program. Lucas County CASA is one of only 10 CASA programs across the country who was awarded this grant.

Lucas County CASA received the maximum amount permitted under the grant which will fully finance Colleen Schoonmaker's Loyola University tuition to complete three online classes.

CASA volunteers are ordinary citizens from all walks of life who are trained by the Juvenile Court to advocate for our community's abused and neglected children.

The CASA volunteer does an independent investigation by interviewing the children, parents, relatives, school officials, doctors and others involved in the children's lives who may have facts about the case or the children's well-being. The CASA volunteer advocates for the best interests of the children in the Juvenile Court and in the child welfare and social service systems so that every child can have a safe, permanent home and the opportunity to thrive.

In part due to the opiate epidemic, new CASA volunteers are greatly needed. The next training class will take place in January, and applications are currently being accepted. For more information on becoming a volunteer advocate, visit the CASA website at www.casakids.net or attend the

upcoming Information meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at West Toledo Branch Library, 1320 W. Sylvania Avenue, from 5:30-6:30 PM.

Please RSVP at casainfo@co.lucas.oh.us or call 419-213-6753.

Ohioans for Gun Safety Applauds Gov. DeWine, Continuing to Collect Signatures

Ohioans for Gun Safety, a grassroots group working to bring common sense background checks for gun safety to Ohio, applauded DeWine's statement on STRONG gun laws, but expressed caution that the legislature will act.

The group will continue to aggressively collect signatures and work to put their initiative to close loopholes in Ohio's background check law in front of the legislature, and possibly voters.

"We are glad that Governor DeWine is making gun safety and gun violence prevention a topic of conversation at the Statehouse, but we are doubtful that there will be any real progress based on the legislature's track record," said Dennis Willard, spokesperson for Ohioans for Gun Safety.

"Our group is going to keep collecting signatures and working to put our own initiative in front of the legislature, and if they don't act, in front of Ohio voters. Background checks are quick and easy to perform, proven to save lives and reduce gun violence, and 90 percent of Ohioans support them. The Ohio Legislature should do the right thing and enact our law to close loopholes in Ohio's background check law, but if they don't we will collect signatures and let Ohio voters decide."

Ohioans for Gun Safety is a grassroots organization collecting signatures to bring common sense background checks for gun safety to Ohio.

Scott's... continued from page 5

for Scott so that he could create the program and prepare students for industry.

Between 15 and 20 students in each of the sophomore, junior and senior classes are part of the precision machining program, says Dowling. "We've had a lot of success," he says of the student involvement. "We are doing something right and we've had a lot of support from the District."

However, the program's success is not reflected simply in the growing numbers of student participants and Dowling is something more than a classroom instructor. He's also a recruiter, and a bit of a salesman. As he sees it, part of his job is to be out recruiting companies and selling them on the virtues and capabilities

... continued on page 13

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month





Free finger food will be available at the event.

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Join us and Save the Date on
October 12th, 2019 at 1pm – 4pm
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For more information please call Adrienne at 419-870-2797 or email adrianneprensa@gmail.com
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Our main focus for this FREE annual event is to connect the community with resources and services offered to obtain and/or keep housing.

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Searching for Black Confederates: The Civil War's Most Persistent Myth by Kevin M. Levin

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

History is a big subject.

And yet, each era has inside it a thousand little clues for people, places, and everyday life: clothes folks might've worn, toys children played with, maybe, or foods they enjoyed. Those are the things that make history fascinating, even powerful. But add in a bit of quarrel and, as in the new book *Searching for Black Confederates* by Kevin M. Levin, they might make history wrong.

Ever since the last shot was fired in the Civil War, there's been controversy, including argument over the site of that last shot. For more than a century-and-a-half, stories were told and mythology endures – one of them being the possibility that slaves fought on the side of the Confederacy.

"Over the past... decades," says Levin, "claims...of anywhere between 500 and 100,000 black Confederate soldiers... have become increasingly common."

But, he says, those claims are highly inflated. In truth, "a small handful of black men" were recruited "just days before the fall of the Confederacy..." Also true: photographs taken during the War show black men dressed in gray uniforms. Those pictures cause a misunderstanding, Levin says, that leads back to one of the reasons the War was fought in the first place.

When volunteering to serve in the Confederate Army, many white men took a slave or two with them to serve as "camp slaves" to polish arms, press uniforms, cook, and carry messages. Some slaves charged their "master's" comrades for work, which allowed them money to buy their own Confederate uniforms, if they so desired.

During battle, camp slaves were sometimes tasked with guarding provisions and horses on the outskirts of a conflict but "at no point... was it ever revealed that black men were... serving in the Confederate army as soldiers."

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The University of North
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228 pages

The idea was suggested and discussed but most slave owners "did not believe that slaves or free blacks could make good soldiers." Even trying, Levin says, would have elevated slaves to the level of their "masters," a thought that was totally unacceptable...

So, is the discussion settled? Probably not, but *Searching for Black Confederates* surely makes good arguments on the side of dismissal.

Beginning with a novel written in 1860 – one that he picks apart methodically – author Kevin M. Levin suggests that the idea of slaves basically fighting to keep themselves enslaved is preposterous. To support this, he cites various sources to explain photographs that have come to be misunderstood and how end-of-war expectations and Jim Crow laws affected life for black men in the post-War years. These sources underscore his original claims that black men were not enlisted to fight for the "Lost Cause." It's fascinating information, if not just a bit repetitive.

And yet, because there's nobody to interview and nobody to question, certain historians and readers who embrace black forebears in gray might still dispute the disputer. They, too, have sources, stories, and reasons, which makes *Searching for Black Confederates* a book that no Civil War scholar should ignore: if you think the argument's here to stay, you wouldn't be wrong.

Scott's... continued from page 12

ties of Scott students.

When he's not at the school instructing his charges on the finer points of machining, he's out in the community and business world seeking placement opportunities for his students – internships and job placements – "quality experiences," he says.

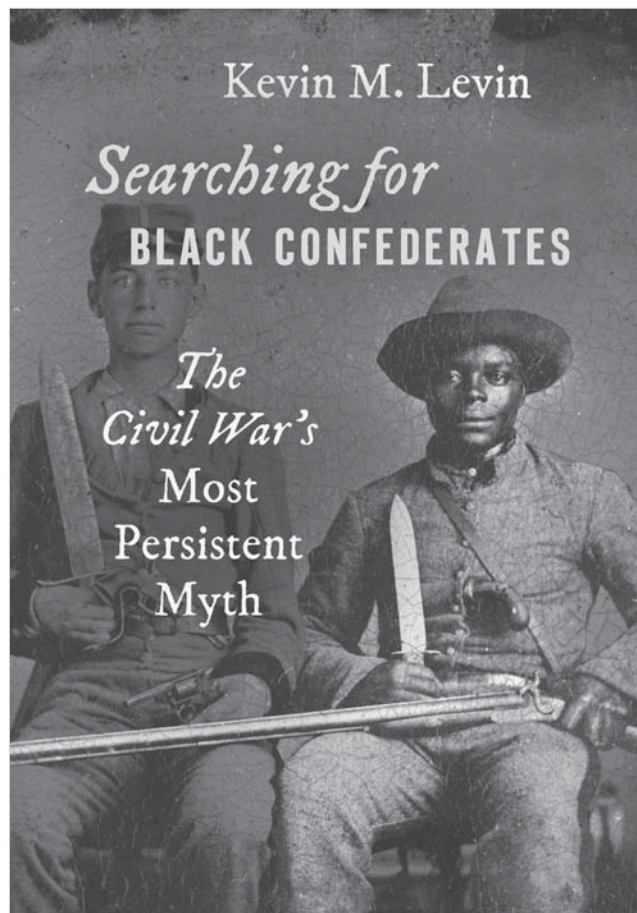
He has worked with numerous local companies and staffing agencies to provide mentoring to students, to "update and upgrade equipment" in the machining shop and to place the students in jobs – good paying jobs, in fact.

"There are lots of opportunities – people are begging for their skills and there is a huge gap in the skilled labor force," says Dowling.

It's not just the immediate workforce for which Dowling is preparing his students. Some, like Mordecai Mosby, a senior who has taken three years of precision machining, will be headed to college where those skills will help with a number of career paths in the long run. Mosby has been accepted to Kansas University where he plans on studying architectural drawing.

The impact on the district of these new programs – the wider range of choices – has been dramatic. Since 2014, according to the Ohio Department of Education Report card, TPS has seen a 16 percent increase in the four-year graduation rate and an increase in student enrollment of about 1,800 students after the numbers had been steadily decreasing for several decades.

"The world needs makers, builders, programmers – technical types," says Dowling of the impact Scott's program is having ... on the world!



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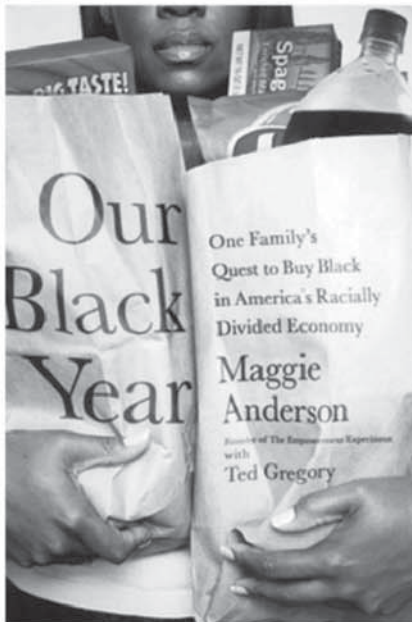
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CLASSIFIEDS

October 9, 2019

Page 15

Glenwood Lutheran Church, 2545 Monroe Street, Toledo, OH, 43620 is seeking a Music Director. The ideal candidate should possess a Masters Degree in Music or equivalent, and be familiar with Lutheran liturgical music as well as African American music and instrumental accompaniments. Salary is negotiable commensurate with education and experience. Candidates may send resume to the church: glenwoodpastor@gmail.com. The closing date is October 11, 2019. Interview process: 6 on hiring committee, each select one area to share with candidate. Others are not to BUTT IN!

1. History of church (P4 Pr Chris., P2 Nancy)
2. Teaching necessities (P3 Chris, P1 Nancy)
3. Existing rehearsal, meeting schedule (Christ past choir routines, Nancy, P 5)
4. Available equipment
5. Expectations (Chris p 2 P4)
6. Housekeeping responsibilities

Candidate to request salary package, have questions answered, and be notified ASAP about committee's decision.

CANINE CARE CENTER SUPERVISOR LUCAS COUNTY

Lucas County Canine Care & Control is accepting applications to fill the position of Canine Care Center Supervisor until the position is filled. Additional information regarding the duties are available on the Lucas County web site (www.co.lucas.oh.us). Click on "Apply for a Job" and then select "Canine Care Center Supervisor" from the list to read more or apply.

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ATTENTION AFRICAN AMERICAN VENDORS!

Join us for the 2nd Annual REAL BLACK FRIDAY TOLEDO! Black Business Expo. If you are an African American owned business looking to market your products or services to HUNDREDS of customers, register today to be a vendor at the largest Black Business Expo in Northwest Ohio.

The REAL BLACK FRIDAY TOLEDO! Black Business Expo is conveniently located within the central city of Toledo at The New Life Center on the campus of Bethlehem Baptist Church. This attractive, secure, one-level building offers 7,000 square Ft. of opportunity for vendors to have a wonderful and interactive experience with convenient and easy to access parking. The event is inside and will take place come rain or shine!

The event will take place November 29, 2019, from 11:00am until 5:00pm. Early bird registration is open now and you can take advantage of a 25% discount on the purchase of your table until September 27, 2019. Tables are limited, so don't miss out on this opportunity to sell on the hottest shopping day of the year. Visit www.ivinstitute.org to register.

Call to place your ad:

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF TOLEDO 2020-2025 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN

FOR INTERESTED CITIZENS, AGENCIES, AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

The City of Toledo will hold a public hearing on **January 07, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.** to meet with interested citizens and community groups to solicit input and comments on utilization of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP), and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program funds over the next five years. These funds are allocated to the City of Toledo by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and may be utilized for public facilities improvements, removal of slum and blight, public services, housing-related projects, removal of architectural barriers, and economic development. Projects must generally benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

The Consolidated Plan is a five-year vision and strategic plan of how these funds will be used to help address the City's housing and community development needs. The Annual Action Plan will describe how the City will use funds allocated each year to address the objectives and goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan. The City must submit these two plans in order to receive the funding from HUD.

As mandated by the Federal regulations at 24 CFR Part 91, the City is starting a collaborative and community planning process. As part of the planning process, the City will be conducting public meetings to solicit input on housing and community development needs, priorities, and the use of program funds. The information gathered will be combined with other data and summarized in the "Five-Year Consolidated Plan" for FY 2020-2025 and the "Annual Action Plan" for FY-2020.

All interested citizens, community groups, and persons working in the City are invited to attend these meetings. **The locations and dates of meetings are provided below.** If you are unable to attend meetings and wish to provide input for consideration, please mail your comments to the City of Toledo, Department of Neighborhood and Business Development, One Government Center, Suite 1800, Toledo, OH 43604, ATTN: 2020-2025 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, by **March 26, 2020**.

You may also e-mail your comments to monica.brown@toledo.oh.gov.

Public meetings on the 2020-2025 Five-Year Consolidated Plan are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, October 22, 2019, 6:00 p.m.
Zablocki Senior Center
3015 Lagrange Street, Toledo, OH 43608

Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 6:00 p.m.
Believe Center
1 Aurora Gonzalez Drive, Toledo, OH 43609

The City will also be issuing an online survey to receive public comments. Please visit the City's website at <https://toledo.oh.gov> and/or follow us on Facebook.

For reasonable accommodations or additional information regarding this process, please contact Monica Brown, Administrative Analyst IV, at (419) 245-1400.

ABUNDANT LIFE OF PERRYSBURG ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

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

We are located in the Three Meadows subdivision near the Manor of Perrysburg. Our garden style apartments offer an open floor plan, one bedroom, secured buildings with private patios and individually controlled heat and air conditioning.

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



Hundreds Gathered to Celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of LIUNA Local 500

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The Stranahan Theater on Heatherdowns in Toledo welcomed laborers and community supporters on Friday, October 4, 2019. Festivities began at 5:00 p.m. with an upscale social hour and continued at 7:00 p.m. with a program.

WTOL's Andrew Kinsey served as master of ceremony as elected officials and labor officers extended words to the audience throughout the evening. "Welcome and thank you for joining us to celebrate 100 years of being servants and stewards in this community," opened Kinsey.

Political acknowledgements were delivered by Toledo City Council members Tyrone Riley, Matt Cherry, Yvonne Harper, Cecelia Adams, Nick Komives and Larry Sykes; City of Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz; Ohio House of Representatives Minority Leader Emilia Sykes; Ohio House of Representatives Minority Whip Paula Hicks-Hudson; Ohio Senator Teresa Fedor, and United States House of Representatives Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur.

"Laborers always support good pay and fair advancements. Many of the early laborers had to face struggles and sacrifice. That's why unions were needed back then and still today," explained Cherry, president of Toledo City Council.

The celebration included remarks from LIUNA vice president and Ohio Laborers' District council officer Ralph Cole; remarks from LIUNA vice president and regional manager Robert Richardson Sr; remarks from MLK Kitchen for the Poor Executive Director Harvey Savage; a poem delivered by Daviana Estis entitled *Hard Work*; remarks from retired Assistant Business Manager Anthony Coleman and recognitions by current Local 500 Business Manager David Fleetwood.

"It is a great day to be a laborer in Toledo, we represent the best working people," shared Ralph Cole.

Laborers International Union of North America (LIUNA) was organized in 1903, and International Hod Carriers' and Building Laborers' Union which began today's Laborers' International Union of North America Local 500 was chartered on October 20, 1919 to represent laborers who were in demand to build roads, bridges and other infrastructures in Toledo and northwest Ohio.

"I was raised right, I was raised to give back. When I first came to Local 500, I was at my lowest. I didn't have two nickels to rub together. Someone told

me about Local 500. I showed that I was serious about the work," said David Fleetwood of the call he received to join the Local.



LIUNA Business Manager David Fleetwood (center with plaques) and (From left to right) Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz and Toledo City Council Members Nick Komives; Cecelia Adams, PhD; Larry Sykes; Matt Cherry; Yvonne Harper and Tyrone Riley



The JAMM. Peyton Smigelski, Josh Silver, Deborah Gardner, Mike Miller, Tony Miller, Bob Manley



Andrew Kinsey of WTOL TV, event MC



Daviana Estis, poet



Shawn and Curtina Greene



Jacqueline Alexander and Jeff Ragland



Martina Thomas and Tony Dunmore



Marvin and Pascha Jackson

Toledo Branch NAACP
104th 2019
Freedom Fund Banquet

Featured Guest:
American writer,
music journalist,
cultural critic and
television personality
Toure'

When We Fight, We Win!

Saturday October 26, 2019 4:00 p.m.
Stranahan Great Hall
4645 Heatherdowns Blvd
Toledo, Ohio 43615

Tickets \$85
available on Eventbrite or Call (419) 244-1551