

Volume 60, No. 3

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

February 19, 2020



Councilwoman Katie Moline, School Board Member Sheena Barnes, State Rep. Stephanie Howse, State Rep Lisa Sobecki, Deborah Barnett

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Underrated Possibilities

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

The Truth Contributor

Whatever we believe about ourselves and our ability comes true for us.

- Susan L. Taylor



Former Deputy Maurice Morris is running an effective, albeit under-theradar campaign in the race for Lucas County Sheriff. The 13-year veteran of the Sheriff's Department deserves a closer look, though, as the most competitive local primary battle of 2020 unfolds.

I caught up with Morris, a Public Safety Officer for the Toledo Public Library, to discuss his determined battle to break through a crowded field of prominent candidates.

Perryman: Please tell me about your experience.

Morris: I started off in corrections in 1994 and worked my way up where I did a lot of volunteer work in the community. I was a court-appointed special advocate before I started the sheriff's office, but as a part of the sheriff's office I worked with a lot of inner city schools, Cherry Elementary, Lincoln Academy for Boys, before they closed and also Stewart Elementary when it was co-ed, so I did a lot of volunteer work with the inner-city youth. With the Sheriff's Department I did fugitive extradition, was a part of the fire team, and also the honor guard.

Perryman: Why are you running for sheriff and what is your plan?

Morris: I want to make a difference in the sheriff's office and I want to make a difference in Lucas County. How do I do that? The first thing I need to do within the jail is to address the morale issue. The second thing I need to address is leveling the playing field, giving everybody equal opportunity for advancement in the sheriff's office. There are officers that wear the uniform and the badge, they come to the table with a lot of experience, knowledge and education and some of them are right in the jail and we need to pick those people and put them in key positions to help move this county forward.

My second goal is to inspire people who may have given up hope on themselves because I was battered and bruised, but never broken because of my departure from the sheriff's office. So, this campaign is about inspiring those not to give up on themselves, but also to make a difference.

Perryman: How you would get the jail's publicized budget problems under control?

Morris: The first thing I would do is go line-by-line to find out where the money is going and how the money is being spent, take a concrete look at it to see what can be reduced, and what can be cut back. I know one thing, one of the biggest issues is the overtime. Why do we have so much overtime? Is it that we don't have enough personnel because staff are retiring and we're not replacing them? So, the first thing we have to look at line-by-line is how the money is being spent and why we have so much overtime.

Perryman: The jail also appears to have a problem with reoccurring law-

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

The Sojourner's Truth, 1811 Adams Street, Toledo, OH 43604 Phone 419-243-0007 thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com www.thetruthtoledo.com Morris: I think a lot goes back to the culture in the sheriff's office and that culture has to change. And, there's a certain way that we have to treat each individual officer and also the inmates because when they come in as an arrestee they are still human, they still have to be treated in a certain way. They cannot be manhandled, they cannot be abused and taken advantage of. The same thing with the officers within the jail, we have to treat them with decency and respect, so we have to find out why this culture



Maurice Morris

is in the sheriff's office and my goal is to change that culture, that culture has to leave.

... continued on page 12

Community Calendar

February 22

St. Marks Baptist Church Sounds of Black History: 4 pm; Dramatically inspired works in honor of those who fought and died for a unified country

February 22-23

The Toledo Museum of Art (TMA) will host two free events in February as part of Black History Month: Organized by soprano, educator and community organizer Margaret Barron and visual artist and educator Yusuf Lateef, this two-part program focuses on conversation and spoken word in celebration of Black History Month. The spoken word event will take place Saturday, Feb. 22, at 2 p.m. in the Great Gallery. The music event will take place Sunday, Feb. 23, at 3 p.m. in the Great Gallery.

Both events will explore this year's theme of African Americans and the Vote..

February 23

Indiana Avenue MBC 74th Church Anniversary: "My Church, My Rock;" 4 pm; Guest Rev. WL Perryman

Calvary Missionary Baptist Church 31st Pre-Anniversary of Pastor Floyd Smith Jr. 4 pm; Fellowshipping with Bishop Duane C. Tisdale and Friendship Baptist Church

February 27

A Community Meeting – "Changing Minds, Changing Lives: Combating Racism:" Warren AME Church; 6 to 8 pm; Sponsored by the Multifaith Council of NW Ohio, YWCA, ABLE, NAACP, Fair Housing, First Church, Warren, Buckeye Health Plan: 419-255-0098 ext 204

February 28

Braden UMC's Annual Black History Month Soul Food Potluck: 6 pm; "African Americans and the Vote:" 419-386-2700

February 29

Calvary Baptist Church Planning for the Expected and Unexpected Forum: 11:am1:pm; Topics of Discussion are: Insurance, Hospice Care, Living Wills, Wills,
Medical Power of Attorney and Preplanning Funeral Arrangements
Warren AME Church "Let's Talk About Cancer:" 11am to 1 pm; Free lunch to
discuss the impact of breast, colon and prostate cancers in the black community

March 1

Art of the Cut:

March 7-8

St. Paul MBC Men's Day Weekend: 9 am Saturday Breakfast with Guest speaker Rev. Floyd Smith of Calvary MBC; Sunday 10:45 am service with Guest speaker Rev. Kenneth Wayne Coleman of Canaan MBC of Dayton: 419-246-2886

Come on Black Folks, Save My Bacon!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

Well it is on. Joe Biden got his hiney thoroughly kicked in the New Hampshire primary. He came in fourth and in a state that he was expected to, at least, decently place.

You know, O'Joe ain't what he used to be. Back in the halcyon days of being Obama's sidekick for eight years, it seemed that Joe Biden had it made in the shade!

Why, even Joe thought he had it good and probably started thinking how he could turn this warm, fuzzy relationship into a possible political run for the White House.

I mean, after all, it makes political cents to conjure that if the Democratic voter loved Barack Obama, surely some of that love would transfer to Joe like electricity from the pole switch to the light.

Wouldn't it? So Joe sorta laid back and watched the earlier posturings of the other Democratic candidates do their dance moves trying to impress the voters and then he would make his move.

Why the copious confidence that Joe displayed? What was the source of his inside straight or his "trump" card?

What did Joe count on to be his rocket fuel to the White House? You know! It was the African-American voter! Yes, it was people of color who would lay down their coats in the muddy streets so that Joe could walk over the political puddles and get to the prize, the White House.

Now Joe thought that if you carried water for Barack Obama for eight years and you, now and then, visited a black church and sang the Black National Anthem while holding hands with older black women and the pastor, that life was good!

But something happened on the way to his presumed coronation as the Democratic nominee for the White House. Black folks didn't stay in their political place. They, like the sophisticated voters they are, surveyed the crowded field of candidates and watched the debates and suddenly, like water dripping from a leaky pipe, Joe ripped his pants. Joe, or someone in his campaign, put out the word that the black voter in South Carolina and the Latino voter in Nevada were "his" firewall.

They were his backup, his guard, his people, his folks, his soldiers and that they were there for the duration. Oh, how the mighty have fallen!

The firewall is stressed out and is showing some signs of fatigue and has a little fissure here and a little crack there.

Recent polls indicate that the firewall can be breached and that Joe's monolithic wall of black faces is beginning to show vidence of giving way to the siren call of the late comer and gazillionaire, Mike Bloomberg.

Now, Mike has his own cross to carry regarding the horrendous policy of stop and frisk that he stoutly supported (and so did Donald Trump!) and the disastrous effects it had on the lives of so many young black and Latino lives in the Bronx and in Brooklyn.

It is only now that Mike Bloomberg issued a tepid "apology" for his vile actions against people of color done under the guise of crime control.

Again, it just goes to show you that black people are always expendable



Kaptur Announces Over \$53 Million in Federal Funding To Strengthen Northern Ohio Economic Development and Affordable Housing

Cleveland, Toledo, Lakewood, Lorain, Parma, Sandusky, Cuyahoga County among communities receiving funding

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-09), Chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, announced \$53,288,348 in federal investments for communities across Northern Ohio. The funding was provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Specifically, the funding comprises \$38,391,672 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), \$10,282,141 in HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), \$3,034,624 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and \$1,579,911 in Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funding. As a senior Member of the House Appropriations Committee, Rep. Kaptur has led the effort to increase funding for CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA programs and continues to advocate for increased funding for Northern Ohio communities.

"The Community Development Block Grant, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA are all vital streams of investment that support local economic development, community revitalization, and affordable housing essential to the success of our local community residents and economies," said Rep. Kaptur. "Without this important funding, many of the job-creating projects across Northern Ohio might not be here today. I am glad to have played a role in securing increased funding for these life-sustaining programs. While the Trump Administration continues to zero out these investments, I will continue to fight tooth

and nail to protect this critical community revitalization funding and make sure that Northern Ohio continues to receive the federal investment it deserves."

Communities in Northern Ohio will use the funding to address a wide range of needs and enable local governments to support affordable housing initiatives and expand economic development. The CDBG program provides municipalities in Ohio with critical funding for transformative and unique development projects and needed funding to leverage outside investment in job creation projects. The funds continue to play a critical role in facilitating local economic development in Northern Ohio and helping local governments succeed.

HOME funding is the primary source of funding for state and local governments to buy and rehabilitate affordable housing. According to HUD, the HOME program provides grants to states and localities that communities use, often in partnership with local nonprofit groups or development companies. These communities and organizations then fund activities such as building, buying, and rehabilitating affordable housing units for rent or homeownership.

Emergency Solution Grants (ESG) provides grants to state, local, and private entities to assist people in quickly regaining stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness. In addition to rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention, the ESG program also provides limited funding for street outreach as well as for improving the quality and number of emergency homeless shelters.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program provides housing assistance and related supportive services to local units of government, States, and non-profit organizations for projects that benefit low-income persons medically diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and their families.

Today's announcement is a result of the FY20 appropriations package, which allocated \$3.425 billion to the Community Development Fund, \$1.35 billion to the HOME program, \$290 million to ESG, and \$410 million for HOPWA.

A breakdown of the funding appears below:

Community Development Block Grants

- * Cleveland: \$21,719,035 * Lakewood: \$2,017,558
- * Lorain: \$1,233,655

... continued on page 5





Toledo City Council Repeals Nuisance Ordinance

By Fletcher Word Sojourner's Truth Editor

In October 2019, Toledo City Council passed a commercial property nuisance ordinance which was designed to hold businesses accountable, through a point system, for noise disturbances, violence and crime in and around their properties.

The ordinance was passed, said John Madigan, senior attorney for the City of Toledo, to stop problems occurring at any type of commercial establishments. However, the business that felt the immediate impact of the ordinances were bars, particularly minority-owned bars in the central city.

Such minority-owned bars began to react to the ordinance. In early January, minority bar owners gathered at Mott Branch Library to voice their concerns about the ordinance and question whether they were being racially targeted by the ordinance.

As a result, several attendees joined forces to try to overturn what they saw as an unfair ordinance. Zahra Aprili, Blair Toledo Johnson and Crystal Orr – all of whom have business and entrepreneurial backgrounds – determined that they would collaborate and reach out to council members.

First of all, they determined that the ordinance in its current form was not legally sustainable.

"The city would have had legal problems," says Aprili. The legal advice they obtained, assured the trio that the ordinance could not stand in the long term – that it was unconstitutional because it denied business owners both due process and equal protection under the law.

"We got a conversation going," says Orr. "Let's form and make it fair across the board. We were hoping for the best – that city council would be open to including input from the community."

The group reached out individually to city council members on the Neighborhood Committee to get the October ordinance overturned and so it happened. On February 11, the full Council voted unanimously to repeal.

"If there is a fight outside a bar, the police blame [the bar owner]," says Councilman Larry Sykes explaining the impact of the point system the nuisance ordinance imposed. "If a bar owner calls the police, she is assessed for that call."

The October ordinance was imperfect but many perceive a need for an ordinance that addresses such nuisances, crime or violence."

"We need an ordinance," says Sykes. There are businesses – bar businesses, for example – in any neighborhood, that are well established and have never had an issue with such nuisances, says Sykes.

On the other hand, he stresses, there are "some who come to a business to make fast money and make problems."

The Aprili/Johnson/Orr group are not finished with their work – their legislative efforts. An organization has been formed through their efforts – the Toledo Metropolitan Tavern and Pub Association. "We haven't always been effective at collaboration," says Johnson. He and his colleagues hope that

the newly-formed alliance of locally-owned establishments can enhance that collaboration for the benefit of all.

"We are proposing legislation," says Orr. "To set up a nightlife advisory board, to help our industry and the city work together and to start a community outreach board to avoid reactionary [responses] and because we want input on legislation. The majority of responses are the reactionary responses of people."

A nightlife advisory board, says Orr, can be modeled after existing boards in cities such as Sacramento, Vancouver and New York – a board that keeps the city advised, opens dialogue and keeps the parties proactive and involved.

The October ordinance didn't allay the concerns of either city officials or business owners, but allaying those concerns is still front and center.

"How do we fix this?" asks Sykes. "We need an additional ordinance."

Kaptur... continued from page 4

* Parma: \$972,719 * Sandusky: \$743,396

* Toledo: \$7,570,178 * Cuyahoga County: \$4,135,131

* Total: \$38,391,672

Emergency Solutions Grants

* Cleveland: \$1,858,769 * Lakewood: \$174,308

* Toledo: \$652,282

* Cuyahoga County: \$349,265

* Total: \$3,034,624

HOME Investment Partnership Program

* Cleveland: \$4,894,062

* Lorain: \$433,406

* Toledo: \$2,228,962

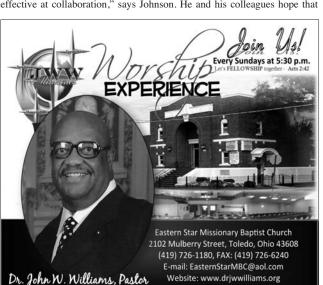
* Cuyahoga County: \$2,725,711

* Total: \$10,282,141

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS

* Cleveland: \$1,579,911

* Total: \$1,579,911



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Notice of Closing the Low-Income Public Housing (LIPH) Waiting List

Special to The Truth

There is an affordable housing crisis in Lucas County. Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA), and its community partners, continue to work toward a solution as evidenced by the recent opening of Collingwood Green Phase III. Unfortunately, the need in this community is greater and there are not enough properties available.

As of February 18, LMHA has closed its Public Housing Waiting List for all bedroom sizes and locations. When LMHA re-opens the waiting list, public notice will be provided. HUD regulations do not require a public hearing when opening and closing the Waiting List. Therefore, public notice will be provided as stated in the prevailing Admissions and Continuing Occupancy Policy (ACOP).

Currently, there are approximately 780 applicants who have been accepted and on-boarded. They are waiting for vacant properties through the LMHA referral process. LMHA has over 1,820 applicants that have not been processed and who are still awaiting interviews. This brings the total to approximately 2,600 applicants who are currently awaiting housing. LMHA does not have the current inventory to accommodate this demand. The agency believes that it is a disservice to individuals and families if they keep accepting applications when there is no real potential of them being housed in the immediate future.

In a statement released last week, the agency said: "We understand that it will take the efforts of many individuals and organizations, working together, to address the affordable housing crisis in Lucas County. Through new collaborations with the Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board, United Way of Greater Toledo and other community partners, LMHA is working to generate long-term solutions to housing instability in our community. We welcome input from the community on how we may work together to create housing stability in Toledo Lucas County."

LMHA creates and maintains sustainable and affordable housing opportunities, provides pathways to a better quality of life, and empowers vibrant communities for Lucas County.

Established in 1933, Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) continues to provide affordable housing to adults, seniors and children in its Public Housing, Housing Choice Voucher, Mixed-Income and Market



Rate housing units. LMHA also provides a myriad of programs and opportunities designed to improve the total quality of life for our residents, with the goal of achieving self-sufficiency. The programs and services are the result of successful collaborations with numerous community partners.

The current housing portfolio consists of 2,633 Public Housing units; 4,657 Housing Choice Vouchers, 322 Low-Income Housing Tax Credit units, 198 Market Rate units and 107 Homeownership Properties. There are approximately 17,500 people who reside in LMHA properties. Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority partners with ALL people and organizations willing to exchange ideas and efforts to enhance Toledo, Lucas County and the world.



Please join The Toledo Community Coalition as we recap 2019 and navigate the challenges of racism in 2020. We will also honor Mr. Dave Murray and the late Rev. Karen Shepler.

> Thursday, February 27, 2020 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Warren AME Church 915 Collingwood Bivd., Toledo, OH 43604

Sponsored By Multifaith Council of Northwest Ohio, YWCA, Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Association of United States Catholic Priests, Reentry Coalition of Northwest Ohio, Ohio Civil Rights Commission, NAACP, Buckeye Health Plan, Lucas County Health Department, The Fair Housing Center. Neighborhood Health Association, The Blade, YMCA, Toledo Together, First Church of God, and Warren AME Church.

For more information, visit fcogtoledo.com Or call 419-255-0098, ext. 204

Three Ways to Weather the 2020 Tax Season

Over half of U.S. adults say financial stress negatively impacted their personal health and work performance in 2018, according to new research from Lincoln Financial Group. When it comes to tax season, preparation is key to easing anxiety, according to experts.

"Tax season can be stressful for many people, but it's also an opportunity to strengthen your financial plan," says Michael Corr, chief estate and business planning strategist, Lincoln Financial Advisors, National Planning Team. "The good news is that there are some simple ways to manage the process."

To weather the 2020 tax season, Corr offers these tips: Get the 411

Whether preparing your own tax return or paying a professional, good organization saves time and money. In addition to collecting the common tax documents (e.g., W-2s, 1099s and mortgage interest statements), you should gather receipts, evidence of contributions to charities and 529 plans, and basic information on assets sold during 2019.

Also consider milestones that impact taxes, such as marriage, divorce, birth of a child, adoption and sale of a home. Organizing this information is the first step toward ensuring timely filing.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act significantly increased the standard deduction for federal tax purposes. For the 2019 tax year, the standard deduction is \$12,200 for individuals and \$24,400 for married couples filing jointly. This

Toledo Library Welcomes Entrepreneur to Discuss Push for Toy Industry Diversity

Special to The Truth

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library is excited to welcome Yelitsa Jean-Charles on Feb. 26 for "Hustle & Glow: Resourceful Entrepreneurship." During this free event, Jean-Charles will present about how she recognized the lack of diversity represented in the toy industry and pursued a business opportunity.

She will appear as part of Hustle and Glow: Resourceful Entrepreneurship on Wednesday Feb. 26 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Main Library, McMaster Center

Yelitsa Jean-Charles grew up without a doll that resembled her. She recalled crying at the sight of a black doll from her parents, believing it was not the "pretty one." Her company, Healthy Roots Dolls, is now creating a fairer toy industry.

During her junior year at Rhode Island School of Design, Jean-Charles recreated the character Rapunzel "as a brown girl with beautiful kinky hair," according to Healthy Roots Dolls. She saw the need for greater equity in toys and children's publishing. Jean-Charles ultimately created several more characters.

"Because while there are black dolls, we go beyond just painting a doll brown. We create an educational play experience with curl care," through Healthy Roots Dolls, she states. "Our mission is to bring curl power to the toy aisle with products that reflect the diversity of our reality."

Doll purchases come with a curl care starter kit. Jean-Charles said wanted to help educate on styling techniques and feeling confident.

Tax Season... continued from page 6

higher deduction amount means many taxpayers won't itemize deductions, thereby simplifying tax return preparation.

Be Proactive

Consider what actions you can take prior to the end of tax season to lessen its financial burden.

For example, if you qualify and act prior to April 15, you may deduct contributions to an IRA up to \$6,000 (\$7,000 if you're over 50) on the 2019 income tax return. Maximum Simplified Employee Pension IRA contributions of \$56,000 for 2019 can be made any time prior to the tax filing deadline, including extensions.

Or, if you participate in a high deductible health plan, you may be eligible to contribute to a health savings account with pre-tax dollars through April 15. For the 2019 tax year, the contribution limit is \$3,500 if you're single and \$7,000 for families, with an additional \$1,000 catch-up contribution for those 55 or older.

Use Technology

Embrace these technological advances to reduce tax preparation and filing burdens:

- Whether self-preparing or hiring a professional, tax information from documents filed with the IRS (W-2s, 1099s. etc.) can be downloaded directly into tax-prep software, so be sure to access electronic versions of these documents.
- Online banking makes it easy to manipulate account information and organize data about relevant expenses paid during the year, like estimated tax payments, medical and tuition payments and business expenses.
- The IRS has offered the opportunity for electronic filing of tax returns for several years. Taxpayers who e-file typically receive acknowledgement that their returns have been filed and get their refunds faster than those who paper file.

More information about financial planning and taxes can be found by visiting lfg com

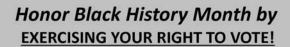
From market volatility to managing debt, there are many causes of financial stress today. However, with some prudent strategies, you can greatly reduce your tax-related anxiety.



Yelitsa Jean-Charles

"It's basically just a lack of knowledge of how [to do your hair] and that's something we have to bring back," she said. "We want to put the knowledge back into our children's hands without putting the burden on the parents."

Jean-Charles created Healthy Roots in 2015 with backing from a Brown University Social Innovation Fellowship grant and support from the RISD E'Ship Program, Masschallenge Accelerator program and 674 Kickstarter users. Essence selected her in 2017 for its "50 Founders to Watch" list.



Early Voting for the March 17th Primary begins Wednesday, February 19th



- Assoc. Degree Criminal Justice from Owens Comm. College
- ☑ University of Toledo graduate in Business & Technology
- ✓ Completed Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA)
- ☑ 30 years of service with the Lucas County Sheriff's Office
- ☑ 30 years sworn Ohio Peace Officer
- Qualified by the State of Ohio & the Courts
- ☑ 30 years Business & Administrative Experience
- Member Toledo City Council At Large
- Chair Toledo City Council's Public Safety & Criminal Justice Reform Committee

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Learn more about Gary Johnson at VoteGary Johnson For Sheriff. com or follow us on Facebook

Paid for by Citizens to Elect Gary Johnson

Title: 'Improving Health Outcomes for Women of African Ancestry Using Precision Medicine'

Author: Alexzander A. A. Asea, PhD, MBA

Professor of Medicine & Director, Precision Therapeutics Proteogenomics Diagnostics Center University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences

It is a very shocking fact that despite lower incidence and the steady improvement in screening, African-American women are more likely to die of breast cancer than Caucasian women. There are many reasons one can point to, one very important reason is triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC). Although TNBC accounts for only 15 percent of all types of breast cancer, it is found in much higher percentages in premenopausal African-American women. Unlike other forms of breast cancer, TNBC is very aggressive, grows very fast in the breast pad, rapidly metastasizes to other organs and in most cases, is resistant to chemotherapy.

Recent research reveals that the degree of African ancestry correlates with increasing frequency of TNBC. It is now well accepted that women of Afri-

can ancestry presenting with TNBC are more likely to have late stage, aggressive, rapidly growing, and less hormone-responsive breast tumors compared to TNBC found in other women. Unfortunately, the reason is still unknown. This creates a very important problem, because, without this knowledge, African-American women with TNBC cannot benefit from current chemotherapeutic drugs that have shown great promise for other women with TNBC.

For the past 15-years, my lab has been working on

... continued on page 12



Professor Alexzander Asea and his "million dollar" machine are honing in on Triple Negative Breast Cancer

John Scott Book Signing at The Truth Art Gallery

BLACK

DON'T

CRACK

· ESSAYS

A prolific playwright, poet, fiction writer and director, John Scott has taught creative writing, theatre and ethnic studies. He received a B.A. from South Carolina State College and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Bowling Green State University (Ohio).

His plays and other works have been produced in universities, regional theatres, off-Broadway (New York) and on Public Television (PBS).

He has held appointments as Professor, Chair of Theatre/Ethnic Cultural Arts

and Director of programs and plays at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Benedict (SC), Florida Memorial (Miami), Dillard (New Orleans), and Jackson State (MS). He is a *Distinguished Professor Emeritus* at Bowling Green State University. Dr. Scott is available as a



guest speaker, to conduct writer's workshops and as a visiting writer-director.:

Dr. Scott will appear at The Truth Art Gallery on Friday, February 28, 1811

Adams Street, for a book signing featuring his two new works: Dr. J: Literary Visions of John Scott and Black Don't Crack

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Ella P. Stewart Academy for Girls Holds Father-Daughter Dance

Sojourner's Truth Staff

On Thursday, February 13, the students of Ella P. Stewart Academy for Girls were given a Valentine's Day treat – a Father/Daughter dance.

Over 100 students participated in this, the fourth year of the event, and this year's theme was the "1950s." The Toledo Buffalo Soldiers, who do so much with the Academy during the year, acted as surrogate fathers for several of the students.

Later this school year, the Toledo Buffalo Soldiers will be taking 40 Stewart students, along with 40 MLK Jr, Academy for Boys students to a performance of The Lion King when the touring company arrives at the Stranahan Theater in April.



Buffalo Soldier Earl Mack, Principal Elberta Ann Smith - black dress - and fathers and daughters







Stewart Principal Elberta Ann Smith and Counselor Shannon Carter









The Lucas County Sheriff's Office is Now Hiring Corrections Officers

We are looking for individuals who want a stable career in criminal justice with an employer that offers great benefit packages including paid vacation leave, on-the-job training, and opportunities for advancement. If you're ready to be a part of something great, start your career here and join our team!

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Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP)

Want to Improve the IRS? SPEAK UP s

By Andrea Price, TAP member representing Ohio

Guest Column

The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel is comprised of civic-minded citizen volunteers from all walks of life representing each state, D.C., Puerto Rico and an international member (citizens living, working or doing business abroad). TAP is a Federal Advisory Committee whose mission is to listen to taxpayers, identify taxpayers' issues and make suggestions for improving the IRS service and customer satisfaction.

Everyone has something to say about taxes and the IRS. Please take a moment to give us your suggestions for TAP to consider by contacting one of the following:

TAP Ohio member: tapohioandreaprice@gmail.com

Call Toll-free at:1-888-912-1227 Website: www.improveirs.org

The Taxpayer First Act of 2019- A Big Win for Taxpayers

The *Taxpayer First Act* (HR 3151) protects taxpayers from tax-related identity theft by expanding to all taxpayers the ability to obtain an Identity Protection Personal Identification Number (IP PIN), establishes an independent office of appeals, includes provisions to exempt low-income taxpayers from the IRS' private debt collection program and other measures to improve overall IRS customer service. The bill was signed into law on July 1, 2019 and was sponsored by Congressman John Lewis

[D-GA] and co-sponsored by Rep. Brad Wenstrup [R-OH-2].

Here are a few Highlights of the Act:

Comprehensive Customer Service Strategy

Within one year of enactment, the IRS is required to develop and submit to Congress a comprehensive customer service strategy. The strategy must address how the IRS intends to provide assistance to taxpayers that is secure, designed to meet reasonable taxpayer expectations, and that adopts appropriate best practices of customer service provided in the private sector, including online services, telephone call back services, and training of employees providing customer services.

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The strategy must also establish metrics and benchmarks for measuring the IRS' success in implementing this strategy.

Modernization of IRS Organization Structure

The Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 directed the IRS Commissioner to restructure the IRS by eliminating or substantially modifying the three-tier geographic structure (national, regional, and district) and replacing it with an organizational structure that features operating units serving particular groups of taxpayers with similar needs.

Customer Service Information

This provision instructs the IRS to provide the following information over the telephone, while taxpayers are on hold with an IRS call center: information about common tax scams, direction to the taxpayer on where and how to report such activity, and tips on how to protect against identity theft and tax scams.

Misdirected Tax Refunds

This provision directs the IRS to establish procedures for taxpayers to report instances where they did not receive an anticipated electronic fund transfer or a refund was erroneously delivered to the wrong taxpayer, and also to ensure the IRS will recover the erroneous refunds and deliver them to the correct taxpayer.

Payment of Taxes by Debit and Credit Cards

Currently, the IRS cannot accept credit and debit card payments for taxes directly due to a restriction on the payment of fees charged by the card issuer. As a result, the IRS must use a third-party processor to accept credit and debit card payments.

This provision allows the IRS to directly accept credit and debit card payments for taxes, provided that the fee is paid by the taxpayer. The IRS is directed to seek to minimize these fees when entering into contracts to process credit and debit cards.

Notice Required before Revocation of Tax-Exempt Status

Charities and other nonprofits automatically lose their tax-exempt status if they do not file annual information returns for three consecutive years. Once revoked, the organization must refile for exempt status.

...continued on page 11



Good Morning America and senior living advocate

The Economy and Financial Health Section • The Economy and Financial Health Section • The Economy and Financial Health Section

Social Security Questions and Answers: Retirement

By Erin Thompson, Public Affairs Specialist in Toledo, OH Guest Column

Question:

I served in the military, and I'll receive a military pension when I retire. Will that affect my Social Security benefits?

You can get both Social Security retirement benefits and military retirement at the same time. Generally, we don't reduce your Social Security benefits because of your military benefits. When you're ready to apply for Social Security retirement benefits, go to www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline. This is the fastest and easiest way to apply. For your convenience, you can always save your progress during your application and complete it later. We thank you for your military service!

Question:

How are my retirement benefits calculated?

Your Social Security benefits are based on earnings averaged over your lifetime. Your actual earnings are first adjusted or "indexed" to account for changes in average wages since the year the earnings were received. Then we calculate your average monthly indexed earnings during the 35 years in which you earned the most. We apply a formula to these earnings and arrive at your basic benefit. This is the amount you would receive at your full retirement age. You may be able to estimate your benefit by using our Retirement Estimator, which offers estimates based on your Social Security earnings. You can find the Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

I know that Social Security's full retirement age is gradually rising to 67. But does this mean the "early" retirement age will also go up by two years, from age

Answer::

No. While it is true that under current law the full retirement age is gradually rising from 65 to 67, the "early" retirement age remains at 62. Keep in mind, however, that taking early retirement reduces your benefit amount. For more information about Social Security benefits, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire.

I want to estimate my retirement benefit at several different ages. Is there a way to do that?

Answer:

Use our Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator to get an instant, personalized retirement benefit estimate based on current law and your earnings record. The Retirement Estimator, which also is available in Spanish, lets you create additional "what if" retirement scenarios based on different income levels and "stop work" ages.

Question:

Why doesn't my estimate using the Retirement Estimator take into account my work as a teacher? I've worked for 20 years for the state and thought it would

Answer:

If you work for a state or local government agency—including a school system, college, or university-your earnings may not be covered by Social Security. If you are covered only by your state or local pension plan and you don't pay Social Security taxes, your earnings won't be shown on your Social Security record. (Your record will show your Medicare wages if you pay into that program.) For information on how your pension from non-covered state or local employment may affect the amount of your Social Security benefit, visit www.socialsecurity. gov/retire2/wep-chart.htm.

Improve IRS... continued from page 10

This provision requires the IRS to notify an organization after the organization's second consecutive failure to file an information return in order to give the organization time to file an information return and prevent their taxexempt status from being revoked.

Internet Platform for Form 1099

The IRS is required to develop an internet portal that facilitates taxpayers filing Forms 1099 with the IRS. The internet portal is to be modeled after a Social Security Administration (SSA) system that allows individuals to file

W-2 with SSA. The website will provide taxpayers with access to resources and guidance provided by the IRS, and allow taxpayers to prepare, file, and distribute Forms 1099, and create and maintain taxpayer records.

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... continued on page 13

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Perry Burroughs... continued from page 16

followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by all attendees.

Deborah Barnett, 2020 local census coordinator, addressed the audience about the importance of the upcoming count and Councilman Larry Sykes addressed the upcoming Issue 1 on the March primary ballot - the municipal

Sykes explained that the levy - a 1.25 percent tax increase on payroll will replace the current .75 tax and is estimated to bring in an additional \$44 million - half of which will go into the capital fund and half into the general

Then the special guest presentations began – presentations by each student group in the audience about Black History Month and/or Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The presentations continued after brunch was served.

The Perry Burroughs Club has a rich history of bringing in out-of-town guest speakers for the Black History Brunch - this year was no exception. Ohio State Representative Stephanie Howse, from the Cleveland-area District 11, was this year's speaker.

Howse, currently in her third two-year term in the Ohio House of Representatives, was born and reared in Cleveland's Ward 7. She earned her undergraduate degree from Florida A & M in civil environmental engineering, and her master's from Cleveland State in environmental studies.

In 2002, she founded Footprints, a girls' leadership development and mentoring organization dedicated to nurturing and cultivating a positive selfimage in girls aged nine to 17.

Howse was appointed to Cleveland City Council after the death of Fannie Lewis and began her work for House District 11 in January 2015.

This year, the following Toledo Public Schools were represented by sponsors: Reynolds Elementary School's sponsors were Judge Lindsay Navarre and Oregon Police Chief Michael Navarre; Toledo Early College by Northwest Ohio Building Trades Business Manager Shaun Enright; Jones Leadership Academy by Doni Miller, CEO of Neighborhood Health Association; Rogers High School by Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur; Scott High School

by WilliAnn Moore and Council Members Larry Sykes, Katie Moline and Gary Johnson; Start High School by Sheet Metal Workers Local Union #33 Reps Matthew Cherry, Chris Monaghan and Corey Beaubien; Woodward High School by George Gusses, Esq; Glenwood Elementary by Laborers Local 500; Bowsher High by Councilwoman Cecelia Adams, PhD; Grove Patterson by State Rep. Lisa Sobecki; MLK School for Boys by Judge Myron Duhart.

Navarre Elementary was sponsored Northwest Ohio Building Trades; Old West Academy by Keith Mitchell, Esq; Lucas County Clerk Bernie Quilter and Councilwoman Teresa Gadus; Pickett Elementary by State Rep. Paula Hicks-Hudson; Robinson Elementary by TPS Board Member Sheena Barnes; Rosa Parks Elementary by Lucas County Auditon Anita Lopez; Sherman Elementary by Law Offices of Wittenberg & Phillips; Spring Elementary by Lucas County Commissioners; Whittier Elementary by Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz; Elle P. Stewart Academy for Girls by Toledo Federation of Teachers; City Park League Youth by Nabil; Earl Mack of Toledo Buffalo Soldiers, LaVera Scott and Judge Denise Navarre Cubbon; Groomed for Greatness by Brenda Oliver, Nabil, Lucas County Treasurer Lindsay Webb; Twyla Wheaton, Carpenters Local 351 and UA Local 50 Plumbers.

Improving Health... continued from page 8

finding this reason. We have combined the latest biomedical technologies, including, multi-omics (metabolomics, proteomics, genomics, transcriptomics), personalized medicine (breast cancer patient's clinical data before and after chemotherapy treatment), microbiome (tumor and gut) and artificial intelligence (Machine Learning/Big Data Applications).

"Knowledge is power", so please join us at 5:30 p.m. on February 25 in Health Education Building Room 105 on The University of Toledo Health Science Campus, for an exciting, interactive panel discussion entitled "Honing in on Triple-Negative Breast Cancer: Improving Health Outcomes" and hear from Community Leaders, Breast Cancer Survivors, Researchers, Students and Faculty about how to combat this terrible disease - come with lots of questions. Free parking in front of the Health Education Building.

Perryman... continued from page 2

Perryman: What are your thoughts on building a new jail?

Morris: Our jail is overcrowded; it's outdated and this issue needs to be addressed and addressed right away. The citizens of Lucas County have already spoken, they want the jail to remain downtown, so that means I need to get with the County Commissioners and have a real discussion about what's the hold up, what's keeping this project from moving forward, how can we initiate this, get it in process and find a place to build the new jail? Because, we need to have enough space for the inmates and we have to have enough space for the officers to work safely within the jail.

Perryman: Why are you the best person for the job of Sheriff?

Morris: I worked in the jail for a number of years. I saw some things that were going on, I was involved in some things that were going on that I believed was unfair and unjust. So, I've been on both sides of the sheriff's department and how things are not run properly and the morale was low and nobody wanted to address those issues. I've said this for a while, we may work in the jail, but we're not in jail and that's how the adminis-

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trated made us feel, that we were in jail with those mer law enforcement officers. that were in jail. No voice, we couldn't come to the table to talk about some of the issues that plague corrections and how we can effectively and efficiently do our jobs. My goal is to remove that, boost morale, give the officers on the road, in the court systems, in the jail, what they need to make their jobs easier and safer.

Perryman: You talked earlier about what you described as your "painful departure" from the sheriff's department. Please elaborate.

Morris: At the time I was a minister at St. James and also a police officer and head of security there. There was a 21-year-old man having an improper relationship with a minor young lady in the church that I mentored. We knew of the situation because the mom told us about it, I passed on the information to the sheriff's department and we went out to arrest him at a church and in doing the arrest I was assaulted. Somehow the story changed from me being assaulted to me assaulting him and that charge stuck. And I went to court and subsequently I was found guilty of something that I never did, it never happened. To back up my story, I took an independent polygraph test and I passed, so my painful departure was having to leave a career that I have two undergraduate degrees in, a career that I loved and I was following in the footsteps of two of my uncles who were for-

Perryman: Are you a Toledo native?

I am originally from Charleston, Morris: South Carolina and began my career in law enforcement as a police cadet in Charleston County Police. I aspired to be like my two uncles who served with the City Police and the other with Charleston County Police.

Perryman: Did you bring your love for Charleston's great cuisine with you to Toledo?

Morris: Yes, I did!

Perryman: What do you like?

Morris: Okra gumbo, which I have my grandmother's recipe. Of course, fish and grits, low country slow-cooked collard greens, southern buttermilk fried chicken, the creamy macaroni and cheese, the crab boil we did on a regular basis. As a little boy, well not too little, I would go out and catch my own crabs and I would sell them on the corner with everybody else, that's how I made my extra money. So, seafood was huge in my home and my grandmother was an excellent cook. So, yes, I did bring that, her pound cake recipe and then also the sweet potato pie recipe.

Perryman: Good luck with your candidacy. Contact Donald Perryman, Ph.D. at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org





Blair Underwood Presents Olympic Pride, American Prejudice by Deborah Riley Draper and Travis Thrasher

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

You've always held such promise.

People could see it in you, starting when you were small: you were going to go places, do good, make a mark on the world. They were proud to know you, happy to watch you land until —except —as in *Blair Underwood Presents Olympic Pride*,

c.2020 Atria \$28.00 / \$37.00 Canada 390 pages

American Prejudice by Deborah Riley Draper and Travis Thrasher, the promise was broken but not by you.

Although Eddie Tolan was one heckuva runner, and though he'd won two gold medals, by 1933, he was done. The 1932 Olympics were over and so was Tolan's career because he knew that opportunities for African-American athletes were few and "simply getting by may be his best path forward."

Ralph Metcalfe hated to see that, but it wasn't entirely bad news. He, too, was a medal winner in '32, and he had his sights set on running the 100-meter dash in Berlin in 1936. Competition was bad enough; seeing Tolan literally out of the running was a relief.

Metcalfe wasn't the only African-American athlete hoping for glory in Berlin. Max Robinson knew he'd have to run against Jesse Owen and that would take some planning. No problem; Max had to set an example for his little brother, Jackie Robinson anyhow. Archie Williams wanted to run, but he wanted an education more; medals were good, but his future held a degree in engineering. Louise Stokes was a record-breaker, and she and Tidye Pickett were fast friends, in part because they were the only two black women on the 1936 track team and sticking together helped them deal with the racism from inside and outside that team.

Altogether, there were 18 African-American athletes who boarded a luxury cruise ship and set sail for Berlin – but not quickly. Not until officials decided that despite what Germany and its leader represented, America would compete against the Nazis...

Believe it or not, it's not the descriptions of the competitions that make *Olympic Pride*, *American Prejudice* so heart-pounding – although that's pretty exciting stuff.

It's not the fact that authors Deborah Riley Draper, Blair Underwood, and Travis Thrasher show the outrageous racism endured by elite athletes of the time, and were then forgotten – although you'll have to pick your jaw up every few pages, so beware.

No, the thing inside this book that'll make you catch your breath is

Improve IRS... continued from page 11

The Income Verification Express Service (IVES) is a program run by the IRS, which is used to verify a taxpayer's income. The program is most often used when a taxpayer is applying for a mortgage and the mortgage lender is seeking to verify the taxpayer's income.

This provision authorizes the IRS to develop an automated system to receive these forms in lieu of the current system, which relies on the forms to be sent to the IRS via secure fax. Additionally, the provision authorizes the IRS to charge a separate user fee over a two-year period on all IVES requests to fund the development of the new system.

Single Point of Contact for Identity Theft

This provision establishes a single point of contact within the IRS for any taxpayer who is a victim of identity theft. The single point of contact will be responsible for tracking the taxpayer's case to completion and coordinating with other units to resolve the taxpayer's issues as quickly as possible. This provision is intended to address concerns over the lack of continuity of assistance when taxpayers are victims of tax related identity theft.

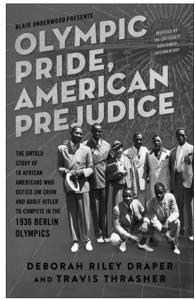
Low Income Exceptions for Offer-in-Compromise

The IRS is authorized to enter into an offer-in-compromise (OIC) agreement with a taxpayer to settle a tax debt at a lower amount than what the taxpayer generally owes. Generally, when proposing an OIC to the IRS, the taxpayer must pay an application fee and provide an initial non-refundable lump-sum payment. The IRS has the authority to waive these payments. Typically, the IRS does not require taxpayers certified as low-income, defined as those with

something that swims just beneath the story, something so malevolent that the authors don't, initially, even have to give it a name to scare readers plenty. You'll absolutely love the stories of these athletes, each of which starts in their childhoods and moves forward to their competitions and beyond. After knowing what they endured, and disappointments they had because of racism, you may feel like righting more wrongs that have already been remedied.

These things are true. But it's a maniacal dictator that gives this book its chill.

Step up and find this tale, then step back in time. If you need a fascinating history book now, *Olympic Pride*, *American Prejudice* holds that promise.



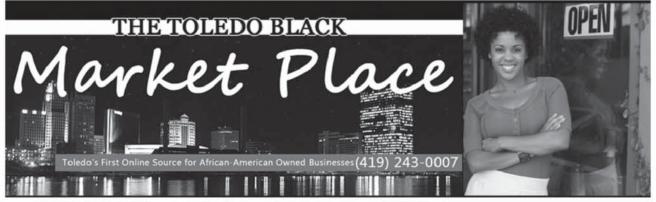
incomes below 250% of the federal poverty level, to include the application fee and initial payment.

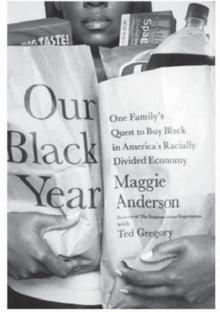
Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Awareness Day

The Internal Revenue Service and its partners nationwide remind taxpayers about the Earned Income Tax Credit on Jan. 31, "EITC Awareness Day." This is the 14th year of the EITC awareness campaign that alerts millions of workers to this significant tax credit.

- Workers who can claim the EITC
- Workers at risk for overlooking this important credit can include taxpayers:
- Without children
- Living in non-traditional families, such as a grandparent raising a grandchild
- Whose earnings declined or whose marital or parental status changed
- With limited English language skills
- Who are members of the armed forces
- Living in rural areas
- Who are Native Americans
- With disabilities or who provide care for a disabled dependent













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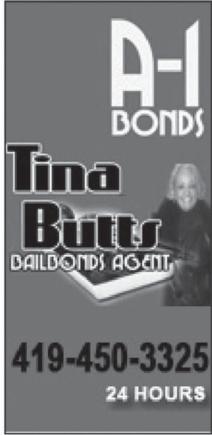




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STAFF ATTORNEY 2

Lucas County Children Services is seeking a Staff Attorney 2. If you are interested review additional requirements and apply at www.lucaskids.net. EOE Valuing Diversity

TOLEDO LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Assistant Public Defender (multiple positions) in Toledo Municipal Court, Juvenile Court, and Drug Court available in Lucas County, Ohio. Candidates for these positions must be licensed to practice law in Ohio. Please see http://www.nlada.org/node/30811 for more detailed descriptions.

Office Support Staff (two positions): Duties include opening, updating, and closing client files; utilizing an online case management system; data entry; and general clerical duties. 35-40 hours/week plus health & other benefits. Salary range \$26,000-\$38,000. Email cover letter and resume by March 6, 2020 to: ToledoLegalAidSociety@Yahoo.com

INVITATION FOR BIDS LAWN CARE SERVICES – AMP COMMUNITIES

IFB20-B001 AMP 111 Communities IFB20-B002 AMP 112 Communities IFB20-B003 AMP 121 Communities IFB20-B004 AMP 122 Communities IFB20-B005 AMP 131 Communities IFB20-B006 AMP 133 Communities

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive sealed bids for Lawn Care Services – AMP COMMUNITIES. Received in accordance with law until February 27, 2020, 3:00 PM ET. See documents: www.lucasmha. org; 201 Belmont Ave., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246). This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



Call to place your ad:
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REGISTERED NURSE

Lucas County Children Services is seeking a RN, 3:00pm - 11:00pm, Monday - Friday shift. If you are interested review additional requirements and apply at www.lucaskids. net. EOE Valuing Diversity

PARK RANGER

Metroparks Toledo has openings for part time Park Services Rangers and a full time Deputy Ranger for community policing and some park maintenance. Part time averages 16 to 20 hours per week, \$14.67 per hr. Deputy ranger is 40 hour work week, \$18.09 per hr. Certification as a Peace Officer in the State of Ohio is required. Go to www.MetroparksToledo.com to view detailed position description, job requirements and to apply.

EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETER

Metroparks Toledo is looking for a qualified individual for Environmental Education Interpreter at Wildwood Metroparks to develop and present high quality park programs and experiences. Bachelor's degree in biology, environmental science, communication, education, outdoor recreation or related field, or equivalent combination of education and work experience. Moderate level of experience in educational program development, presenting public or educational programs and producing special events. Valid driver's license required. 40 hour workweek. May include evenings, weekends, and holidays. \$18.09/ hr. Employees who are interested in applying, must submit an online application and resume at www.MetroparksToledo.com/careers by February 13. EOE

MOVE TO AMEND IS SEEKING NATIONAL INTERNS FOR SPRING 2020!

Move to Amend national interns work remotely from around the country with board and staff on a variety of projects including grassroots organizing, volunteer retention, writing, research, lobbying, legislative tracking, donor retention, and other hands on projects to support the functions of a national, grassroots amendment campaign.

Interns can be any age and work from anywhere in the country. Our wonderful interns receive a monthly stipend to help cover costs like phone and internet.

Please see more details and learn about the application process and email me, jessica@movetoamend.org for questions.

POLICE OFFICER

The Village of Ottawa Hills is accepting applications for the position of full-time Police Officer

Required Training and Experience:

Minimum two year college degree or equivalent, from an accredited college. Must be a commissioned Peace Officer according to the rules of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council at time of appointment.

Testing must be conducted through the National Testing Network (www.nationaltestingnetwork.com) and completed no later than March 1, 2020. Lateral entry applicants may bypass testing and complete an employment application for consideration. For more information, please visit www.ottawahills.org/employment or email police@ottawahills.org.

Pay Range: \$60,370-\$71,760

The Village of Ottawa Hills is an equal opportunity employer.

PARK SERVICES ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR

Metroparks Toledo is looking for an individual to fill a Park Services Assistant Supervisor position at Swan Creek Preserve Metropark. Associate Degree or equivalent work experience in Parks and Recreation services, Natural Resources, Grounds Management, Criminal Justice Services or related field. Park or outdoor operations experience including leadership responsibilities. Horticultural, arboricultural and project management preferred. \$21.75/hr. 40 hour workweek. Go to www. metroparkstoledo.com for complete list of position requirements and duties; must submit online application and resume by February 13. EOE

INVITATION FOR BIDS LAWN CARE SERVICES – AMP SCATTERED SITES

IFB20-B007 AMP 111 Scattered Sites IFB20-B008 AMP 112 Scattered Sites IFB20-B009 AMP 121 Scattered Sites IFB20-B010 AMP 122 Scattered Sites IFB20-B011 AMP 131 Scattered Sites IFB20-B012 AMP 133 Scattered Sites

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive sealed bids for Lawn Care Services – AMP Scattered Sites. Received in accordance with law until February 27, 2020, 3:00 PM ET. See documents: www.lucasmha. org; 201 Belmont Ave., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246). This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



The 16th Annual Perry Burroughs Black **History Brunch**

The Perry Burroughs Democratic Women's Club hosted the 16th Annual Black History Month Brunch on February 15, 2020 at the Premier celebrating the theme "The Time Is 'Now.'

As usual a large percentage of the brunch attendees were area students who were sponsored by a host of elected officials and area companies and

This year's brunch was opened by Toledo Municipal Clerk of Court Vallie Bowman-English, who served as the mistress of ceremonies, and is a member of the Perry Burroughs Club.

Aubriel Manahan and Tristan Manahan performed "We Dream in Color,"

... continued on page 12









HONING IN ON TRIPLE NEGATIVE **BREAST CANCER**



Tuesday, Feb. 25



Diversity and Inclusion

FUELING TOMORROWS



State Rep. Stephanie Howse and Councilwoman Yvonne Harpei



TPS Superintendent Romules Durant, EdD, and Assistant Transformational Leader Teresa Quinn









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