

# The Sojourner's Truth

www.thetruthtoledo.com

Volume 68 No. 1

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

July 28, 2021



Councilwomen Vanice Williams, Cerssandra McPherson and Tiffany Preston Whitman and Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz present plaque and key to the city to Shirley Murdock

## *In This Issue...*

Perryman and The Mayor  
Page 2

Michele Grim and Gun Violence  
Page 5

The Parade  
Page 9

Classifieds  
Page 15

Tolliver  
Page 3

African American Festival Breakfast  
Page 7

Book Review  
Page 13

The Festival  
Page 16

# Battling a Pressure Fighter

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

The Truth Contributor

*The most effective [leadership]... is provided by people who work behind the scenes for quiet victories.*

- Joseph L. Badaracco, Jr.



Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz finds himself in the biggest fight of his political life.

The brilliant but sometimes socially awkward incumbent prefers effective, behind-the-scenes strategies over "public heroism" to resolve the City's challenges.

However, in challenger former three-term Mayor Carty Finkbeiner, Kapszukiewicz is battling a charismatic and aggressive former football coach who is comfortable employing political and psychological pressure.

How will Kapszukiewicz respond to Carty's pressuring political style, designed to wear down the incumbent, test his endurance, force him into an overly defensive campaign posture, and take away his composure or ability to think clearly and rationally.

I spoke with Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz about his unorthodox incremental, outside-the-limelight approach to leadership and how he plans to combat the tactics of his political opponent.

Here is our conversation:

**Perryman:** There's talk that you initially thought that this reelection effort would be more effortless than it has become. Carty Finkbeiner is a pressure fighter at heart. Are you unnerved by his decision to enter the race?

**Wade:** I'm not unnerved at all. I'm looking forward to telling our story and just focused on the things we're doing and need to do. I don't focus much on the sideshow and all the silly drama. Certainly, Carty adds a level of drama that didn't exist before. At the end of the day, I don't expect it will change much about the results of the election. I still feel as confident as I ever have about my chance.

At some level, Carty probably would agree that this is an election that he might have a difficult time winning. I don't know that his primary focus, frankly, is even on winning this race. I think he wants to raise issues, and that's great.

**Perryman:** You talked about an emphasis on telling your story. What is your story?

**Wade:** The story is that Toledo, in general, is better off today than we were four years ago; there's no question about it.

Earlier this year, we won the Site Selection Magazine Governor's Cup Award as number one nationally for economic development. That is significant.

Also, we finally developed a plan to fix our roads once and for all. We created a new revenue stream that never existed before, and as a result, we're fixing 15 times the number of roads this year than we did last year. Last year, we fixed seven residential roads; this year we're fixing 109.

Additionally, our budget is in a much better position. Our budget wasn't balanced when I became mayor. Today, we have the largest rainy-day fund in the City's history, literally 10 times larger than it was five years ago.

The promises I made four years ago, I've kept them. I said we're going to grow the size of the police force, get the regional water deal done, and get the budget in order. We did all of these. So, looking at the big picture, there's no question we're better off than we were four years ago.

**Perryman:** What is the story concerning the African-American community?

**Wade:** I assumed that everyone knew this, but I'll say it plainly. There are about 120 kids right now and their parents going to college for free from Scott High School because of a program I put together. I'm proud of that. No one's ever done anything like that before. Two straight graduating classes of kids from Scott High School and one of their parents are in college right now and paying not a penny because of my leadership as mayor.

**Perryman:** The name of the program?

**Wade:** The program is Hope Toledo, which has a pre-k component, which I think everyone knows how far I stuck my neck out promoting pre-kindergarten, which disproportionately benefits children of color. Hope Toledo is also the vessel that is sending these kids from Scott High School to college for free.

Beyond that, I have the eight safety classes that I have brought on. The

four fire classes and the four police classes that have come aboard during my time as mayor have been the most diverse in the history of the city outside of a federal courtroom; the most diverse since the early 80's and that is in terms of both percentages of African Americans and also in raw numbers. And, every



Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz

year we break the record of the year before.

Now, I am never going to have the personality of someone more charismatic and maybe a little more of an extrovert. I can't help that, and so while it's hard for me to talk about myself, what I would encourage folks to do, speak to Tony Hague. I would love for someone to ask him what kind of mayor I've been for African Americans and what kind of mayor I've been for diversity in our safety forces. I will rest comfortably when people understand how Tony Hague, a black career firefighter, thinks I've done.

Additionally, we have invested this year more money in youth programming and summer job programs than at any time in the history of the City. I hope someone calls Dennis Hopson and asks him what he thinks of my service as mayor and my commitment to young people of color and youth opportunities. Anyone who wants a summer job this year had a chance to get one because of the investments we made. I'm proud of that.

Also, I inherited a lead law that was well-intentioned, but didn't work, got thrown out in court. I came in, rebuilt the legislation, and passed a lead-safe program that now actually is preventing kids from being poisoned. Maybe I should talk about that more, but that's a heck of an accomplishment, I believe, for some of our most disadvantaged neighborhoods.

And then, the City of Toledo was, embarrassingly, the only big city in Ohio that hadn't already done a disparity study. Well, because of my leadership, we're determining whether or not the City has been even a passive participant in discriminating against certain protective groups. We are also identifying race-conscious remedies to ensure we have a fair procurement process.

I also created the TREIC, the Toledo Racial Equity and Inclusion Council. That is helping us push our equity agenda; the black agenda is part of that. And, we've revamped the Diversity and Inclusion Department. Just the folks I've recruited, folks like Rosalyn Clemmons and everything she's done, building programs that work for our neighborhoods.

**Perryman:** Toledo is a less safe place than it was approximately five years

... continued on page 10

## Community Calendar

### July 29

Summit Academy Job Fair; 10 am to 2 pm; For K-12 educators seeking an opportunity to positively impact children's lives – particularly children with special education needs; Open interviews for a range of positions

### August 8

Back Pack Event: Noon to 3 pm; Wilson Park; Back pack giveaway – with supplies; Free food; North End Community Committee

### August 12

64th Annual Convention: The True Church of God of the Apostolic Faith; August 12-14; Nightly services at 6:30 pm; Sunday at 10 am; 301 Collingwood; 419-243-1815



# Déjà Vu All Over Again...!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

A few random thoughts at large.

(1) When I read where the erstwhile politico candidate Carty Finkbeiner was dusting off his blue and gold political tap-dancing shoes for another chance to be called, "Da Maya", I thought back to his prior campaigns and involuntarily shuddered when I recalled the nigh shameless manner in which some Black pastors swooned over Carty. I mean, if you did not know better, you would have thunk that Carty was handing out genuine gold doubloons to all the wide-eyed pastors that followed his every foot-step. I remember times when Carty would call a press conference and invite the local Black pastors, and they would flock in mass to City Hall and breathlessly await his word from on high.

I mean, there were times when Carty passed by some Black pastors, that if they could touch the hem of his clearance sale JC Penney suit, they would have gladly suffered being trampled over by others in their efforts to reach him.

I mean, when Carty was around some Black pastors, causing them to be giddy and supercharged, it was akin to a teenage girl meeting the Beatles for the first time. It was a sight to behold!

I mean, when the call went out to some Black pastors to make the pilgrimage to sit at Carty's feet at City Hall, if that meant they would have to drop their mike midway during their Sunday sermon and rush out the door, so be it.

Now, I hope that those same pastors (some of whom have gone on to their eternal reward) have acquired some gravitas and a grip on their political emotions so when Carty calls them, (as sure as he will, just as sure as ice is cold and fire is hot), they will display a modicum of decorum and resist the urge to rush the stage when he presents himself with that saccharine Carty smile.

As for me? My vote is for Jan Scotland. I plan to vote early and to vote often!

(2) I said it before, and I will dare say it again. One tactical tool that is needed to tamp down Black on Black crime is for the Black churches in Toledo to have their pastors and their congregations patrol, on foot, the so called, "central city."

Yes, we need to see the Black pastors walking the beat at 1 and 3 AM in the morning along with their deacons, congregants, choir members and trustees to dissuade any criminal element from carrying out any nefarious deeds.

Criminals do not like witnesses and if they were to see Pastor Bunson and his eight deacons walking down Nesselwood, Batavia, Machen or Oakwood Avenue at midnight or at 2 AM, that would be a wonder to behold. Much less the positive conversations they could engage in with people out at that time of night.

My motto? Nothing good comes from people being out in the streets so late at night unless you are going to or from a jobsite. Nothing. You

get my drift?

With great shame, we must concede that "we" are the ones that are doing harm to each other and the blame cannot be shifted to "others." You can be poor as church mouse and that is not cause to create mayhem and to do drive by shootings!

If the local churches were to plan and plot such nightly (Yeah, every night!) excursions for the next three years, 10 dollars to a donut, you would see a radical decrease in crime.

But how many churches are willing to put their Christianity on the line and road test the tenets of the gospel? I see those hands!

(3) Be All You Can Be! That is what I would tell the minority city council members if they were to obtain a majority on the upcoming city council races. They need to pow-wow together and formulate an agenda and a budget to support that agenda and pass it through city council. So what if others say they have a narrow casting vision for projects that skew towards the down and out and with an emphasis on gun control and entrepreneurship programs. Go where the need it and tell any Blade editorial which does not like it, to step off!

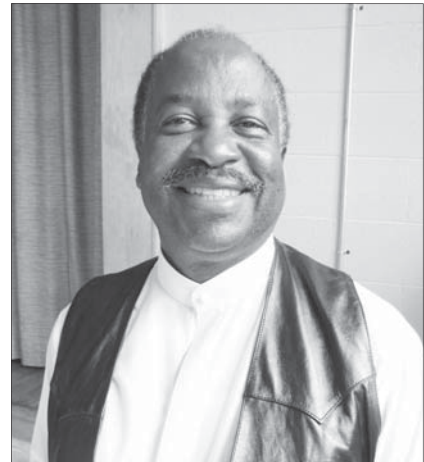
What good is political power if you have a chance to flex it and you do not use it for fear of negative commentary from the Block Family at the Toledo Blade?

Quit shivering at your own shadows and firmly take the levers of power and pull them. The worse that they can do to you, is to talk about you. And, so what! The results will justify a pragmatic approach to problems that were previously not tackled due to concerns of negative blow back.

You can thank me later.

Nothing ventured... nothing gained.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



Lafe Tolliver



**Bernadette Joy Graham, LPC, LLC**  
 Licensed Professional Counselor  
 National Certified Counselor  
 Certified Grief Recovery Specialist  
 419.409.4929  
 graham.bernadette@gmail.com  
 www.bjgrahamcounseling.com  
 3454 Oak Alley Court Suite 300  
 Toledo, OH 43606

**DIXIE** Auto Leasing  
 Toledo, OH  
 5880 N. Detroit  
**Month to Month Leasing**  
 419-476-8674  
 WE ARE A FULL SERVICE BUSINESS




**Comfort**  
 that only comes from *experience*.

When a loved one is dying, nothing makes sense. But Hospice of Northwest Ohio can help. For 40 years, we have provided patients and families with the physical, emotional and spiritual support they need, regardless of ability to pay or complexity of care. Insight. Comfort. Strength. In your home, a nursing home, or in one of our two freestanding hospice centers.

Moments, memories & MORE  
**40** YEARS  
**HOSPICE**  
 OF NORTHWEST OHIO  
 TRUSTED EXPERIENCE FOR 40 YEARS  
 hospicenwo.org 419-661-4001

# The President Needs to Pull Out All Stops

By John E. Warren, Publisher, The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint

Guest Column

Last week, Majority Whip Clyburn, Democratic leader in the U.S. House of Representatives, made the observation that the "filibuster" currently being used in the U.S. Senate to block the Voting Rights Bill as well as the George Floyd Bill, is a matter of tradition and not a part of the U.S. Constitution. There was also a reference to how former President Lyndon Johnson used the full weight of his office as President to secure the needed votes to get the Voting Rights Act passed.

It is a known fact that the President of the United States has far more power and influence than the Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate in the person of Mitch McConnell. Every Republican member of the Senate at some point is going to need something from either the President or a Cabinet office within his Administration. The passage of the Voting Rights Act by the Senate will undo most of what the States are doing with voter suppression. As suggested by Congressman Clyburn, now is the time to put all power and influence behind getting the Senate to act, not only on infrastructure as slated for this week, but, by all means, the Voting Rights Act. These items cannot wait and should not be held up.

President Biden needs to remember that without the Black vote, he would not be in the White House. Without the influence of Congressman Clyburn endorsing him when he did, Biden would not have gotten the nomination of the Democratic Party to run for President. The Black vote has to be as important to the president, if not more so, than Donald Trump is to the Republican Party.

The Texas Democratic Delegation, fleeing that state and coming to Washington, D.C. to lobby for the Voting Rights Act as a means of stopping voter suppression in that state, has given new meaning to the words, "All Gave Some, But Some Gave All."

President Biden has spent enough years on Capitol Hill to know where the bodies are buried and who placed them. He and Chuck Schumer cannot continue to play "Gentleman Jack" with Mitch McConnell. McConnell must be stopped by any means necessary. That would appear to mean dealing with the Filibuster by any means necessary. This must be done before the end of July when the Congress goes

on recess.

One thing should be remembered about Capitol Hill and the Legislative Process: There is always a loophole and a back door to solve every problem. Politics is never absolute about anything. The vice president, while doing all she can, is not a substitute for the Office of the President applying full power. To our Civil Rights leaders, your



John Warren

only message can be: Out with the filibuster, and passage of the Voting Rights Act. No in-betweens.

If we did not let the pandemic stop the protest and emergence of our votes to take back the White House, we must not allow the pandemic's resurgence, Republican gerrymandering of the Congressional Districts because of tampering with the Census, or radical Conservative acts of terrorism under the "Big Lie" to stop the salvation of democracy that we all are fighting for. Let's call the Republican offices, their home districts and anyone who supports them and let's make this happen before the end of July 2021.

## Statement from Carty Finkbeiner

RE Mayor Kapszukiewicz's comments on "failed effort" by The Movement to increase minority community COVID vaccination rates.

The Blade reports that Mayor Kapszukiewicz criticized The Movement for failing to "increase Lucas County's vaccination rate, especially among communities of color." (Kaitlyn Durbin, The Blade, July 24, 2021)

Carty Finkbeiner says it is "...tragic to attack efforts of The Movement, and its leader Tina Butts, an organization that is 3,000 strong and has helped to vaccinate thousands of Toledo residents who otherwise go without this life-saving medicine. They are engaging citizens on the streets of our most challenged neighborhoods, and Tina is a true hero for many, many Toledoans."

**R.W. LEADERSHIP**

**Leadership Training**

- Time Management
- Personality Profile
- Speed of Trust
- Servant Leadership
- Conflict Resolution
- Team Development

**(567) 703-6272**  
**Regina Mack**

**"Leaders think and talk about the solutions. Followers think and talk about the problems."**

-Brian Tracey

*R.W. Inspires*

**GLASS CITY GRIND**

**Saturdays @ 8 AM**  
**Sundays @ NOON**  
**Anytime on VOD**

Find us on:



# City Council Candidate Announces Gun Violence Prevention Program

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Michele Grim, PhD, a first-time candidate for Toledo City Council, released a 10-point program to reduce gun violence on Monday, July 26 during a press conference in front of the Lucas County Courthouse in direct response to the program released a week earlier by former Mayor Carty Finkbeiner, who has announced his candidacy to reclaim his former spot.

Finkbeiner announced his gun violence 10-point program last week that included: enforcing the Toledo curfew, creating a law enforcement multi-agency task force; a gun ban for Saturday Night Specials and multiple firing weapons; a gun buyback program; increased youth employment; reward money for information; increasing the Blockwatch Program; drop-boxes to solicit information; targeting repeat offenders and strengthening police initiatives.

Immediately after his announcement, Grim, a public health expert and gun violence researcher, criticized the Finkbeiner proposals as outdated "failed ideas."

Finkbeiner shot back over the weekend and chastised Grim on a Sunday television show.

"Regrettably, I must first address derisive remarks made about me by mayoral candidate Carty Finkbeiner on yesterday's episode of Leading Edge with Jerry Anderson on WTOL," said Grim at the start of her press conference on Monday. "Confronted about my observation that he failed to protect public safety as mayor, Finkbeiner dismissed me as a 'young woman' and 'professor-type' while he himself is a former mayor.

"Finkbeiner is no crimefighter," she continued. "He gutted police protection as mayor and now proposes wasting money on failed ideas. Research finds that gun buyback programs don't reduce gun crime and that youth curfews cause gun violence to increase. Our community can't afford leadership that refuses to learn from past mistakes."

Grim's gun violence prevention program includes the following 10 points:

- Hiring more homicide detectives – to increase the murder clearance rate;
- Using "focused deterrence" strategies to reduce violent crime – particularly by identifying individuals most likely to commit violent crimes;
- Street outreach to de-escalate potentially violent conflicts – by using work-

ers to approach such situations – Grim said the Mayor's Initiative to Reduce Gun Violence, under the direction of JoJuan Armour, "is a good start;"

- Strengthen domestic violence prevention – since nearly half of all women murdered in the

US are killed by a current or former intimate partner;

- Targeted intervention to gunshot victims at high risk of future violence – providing such victims with specialized counseling and comprehensive services to prevent future issues;

- Launch a gun theft education initiative – encouraging gunowners to practice safe and secure storage of firearms to decrease the chances of theft;

- Improve "natural surveillance" of streets – adding street lighting, improving pedestrian access and eliminating hiding and lurking places;

- Conduct a comprehensive review of every homicide – we should ask why such an incident happened and ask what can be learned from it;

- Fund public health research of local gun violence to improve prevention strategies – examine local risk factors for gun crime involvement;

- Advocate in Columbus for common sense gun safety laws – to seek passage of universal background checks and Extreme Risk Protection Orders.

There are six Toledo City Council at-large seats up for election in November. A primary election is scheduled for September 14 to reduce the field of 20-plus candidates to 12 finalists.

Grim has her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Toledo and her doctorate in law and policy from Northeastern University. She is a legislative liaison for the Ohio Public Health Association has been endorsed by the Lucas County Democratic Party.



*Michele Grim*

## City of Toledo and the Bureau of ATF Collaborate for Second "Operation Clean Sweep"

Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz, Toledo Police Chief George Kral, and Roland H. Herndon, Jr., Special Agent in Charge for ATF's Columbus Field Division, announced on Monday a second Operation Clean Sweep, a combined federal, state and local partnership aimed at reducing gun violence.

Operation Clean Sweep will be active in Toledo starting on Friday, July 30th, 2021 to Sunday, August 1st, 2021 as cities across the coun-

try continue to see a rise in violent crime.

Mayor Kapszukiewicz, Chief Kral, and Special Agent Herndon will hold a news conference on Wednesday at 1:30pm at the Safety Building to discuss the joint city-federal operation.

"We are putting the full weight of the city of Toledo's resources

...continued on page 12

### Take the next step towards homeownership with our Home Buying Workshop

Saturday, July 31 Truth Art Gallery  
11:00 AM - 1:30 PM 1811 Adams Street  
Lunch provided Toledo, Ohio 43604



JacQuelon C. Wilson  
Community Development  
Mortgage Loan Originator

RSVP to JacQui at 419.508.0806  
or JacQui.Wilson@YourStateBank.com

**Dr. John W. Williams, Pastor**

Eastern Star Missionary Baptist Church  
2102 Mulberry Street, Toledo, Ohio 43608  
(419) 726-1180, FAX: (419) 726-6240  
E-mail: EasternStarMBC@aol.com  
Website: www.drjwilliams.org

# How Prison Education Programs Transform Lives and Communities

*Special to The Truth*

In 2014, Benito Castro was sentenced to six years in prison for passing bad checks as a result of a gambling habit he'd developed. Today, he's the director of operations for a grocery store chain and runs freedomrides.org, a non-profit he started that provides transportation for those recently released from prison.

Castro credits his transformation to the education he received through Ashland University while in prison.

"I earned my degree while I was still incarcerated, and that made all the difference in the world when I was released. It gave me a sense of purpose and led to a whole new life."

After early release, Castro took a job as a dishwasher at a Huddle House restaurant and met someone from Ideal Market grocery stores, who hired him as a night manager. From there, Castro quickly rose to district manager, director of marketing and then director of operations for the chain.

"I'm a different person today thanks to the Ashland program. I have financial security. I'm contributing to society. And most of all I have self-respect," said Castro.

Ashland University operates the largest correctional education program in the nation. It has more than 4,000 incarcerated students enrolled at 120 facilities in more than a dozen states and has graduated nearly a thousand students since 2016, when the school began offering distance learning beyond its home state of Ohio.

The program features the same academic rigor and learning outcomes as the university's on-campus curriculum, and is free for students who qualify for Pell Grants or receive Ashland University scholarships or other assistance. There is also no cost to the prison.

"Providing access to this underserved community is an integral part of

our mission to transform people's lives through education so they can go on to work, serve and lead in their communities," said Carlos Campo, PhD, president of Ashland University. "And in many of the places where we operate, there are no other options available to inmates who want to use their time in prison to further their education and invest in themselves."

Andrea Buttross, Louisiana Department of Corrections education director, says Ashland's distance-learning program is deployed on an easily managed platform providing those about to re-enter society an opportunity to access education that they may not traditionally have received in the prison setting.

"Ashland has decades of experience working within prison systems and they know how to operate in this unique environment," said Buttross. "They provide all necessary aspects of the program: the technology, all of the curriculum and resources for the classes, direct contact with professors, and even an on-site academic coordinator to help students progress toward their degrees."

There are advantages to distance learning in prisons—especially in the age of COVID. Classes are available to more students in places where in-person options are unavailable. Students can take classes anytime during the day, and their education can continue once they're released, regardless of where they live.

To learn more about Ashland University Correctional Education, visit [ashland.edu](http://ashland.edu).

"The incarcerated face a lot of obstacles in attaining an education because they often have limited access and fewer choices," said Dr. Campo. "We want to change that, one successful student at a time."

*Courtesy StatePoint*

The Truth

## Art Gallery



*The finest art by local artists such as Harry Terrell and Mack Walton*



Fashion and jewelry by:  
**The Gallery's  
Autumn Gineen**



Our visitors will find: a variety of outstanding items:  
Art Jewelry • Fashions • Fragrances &  
Event Space Available

**Open Tuesday – Friday 10am to 5 pm  
Saturdays by appointment**

**1811 Adams Street - 419-243-0007**

The African American Festival Prayer Breakfast • The African American Festival Prayer Breakfast • The African American Festival Prayer Breakfast

# The African American Festival Prayer Breakfast

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

The annual African American Festival Prayer Breakfast – the start of the weekend's celebration – was held on Friday, July 23 at the new Glass City Metropark Pavilion and the event was the start of a coming out party for the community after almost a year and a half of isolation.

About 150 guests, including city and county elected officials, joined the staff of the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union (TUFCU) to honor some very special contributors to the success of the financial institution and to surprise one very individual for her guidance in that success over the past quarter century.

Suzette Cowell, CEO and treasurer of TUFCU, opened the breakfast event by introducing Frances Smith, mistress of ceremonies. Then followed an opening prayer by Pastor Timothy Pettaway Sr. of Walk the Word Church; a prayer for the city and leaders by Pastor Timothy Clark of Harvest Christian Center and a prayer for the churches by Pastor Otis Gordon of Warren AME Church.

After the first round of prayers, Cowell introduced the morning's honorees: Zahra Aprili Collins, Michael Day, Sr and Bishop Larry G. Mack.

Collins, program manager for TUFCU, identifies and pursues resources vital for the fulfillment of TUFCU's mission as a community partner in assisting members achieve economic empowerment. Collins joined the staff of TUFCU just as the COVID-19 pandemic started and immediately dealt with the Small Business Development Center, the Minority Business Assistance Center and the Small Business Administration to ensure that local business owners had access to resources and funding through the C.A.R.E.S. Act

When not at TUFCU, Collins is active in the Toledo community as the head volleyball coach at Scott High School for both boys' and girls' teams; vice president of the Scott Alumni Association board of directors, chairwoman of the Association's Scholarship and Hall of Fame Committees.

Day is part of the second generation to lead the House of Day Funeral Service, active in the family business since the 1970s. He was joined by his sister Cassandra Day-Moore. His childhood vision later led to the construction of the building on the corner of Westwood and Nebraska, a facility with 10,000 square feet.

Now the staff includes Day's wife, Allison Ford day, a licensed funeral director, and their son, Michael, Jr., their son, Brian; Brian's wife, Kim Marshall Day and Cassandra's son, Perry James Moore.

... continued on page 8



(l. to R.): Lucas County Commissioners Pete Gerken, Tina Skeldon Wozniak, Gary Byers; Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz; Councilwomen Tiffany Preston Whitman, Vanice Williams, Cerssandra McPherson; TUFCU's Zahra Collins; Suzette Cowell



Photos courtesy Ed Dixon

## GUARANTEED Life Insurance up to \$15,000.00

Cash to help pay your funeral, medical bills or other final expenses.

Modified Whole Life Insurance from Physicians Life Insurance Company

- Guaranteed acceptance ages 45 to 85\*
- No medical exam, no health questions
- Lock in your rate for life

Call for your FREE Information Kit  
**1-855-961-2209**  
or go to [life55plus.info/truth](http://life55plus.info/truth)

► Plus – you'll also get a FREE Final Wishes Planner!



\*Ages may vary by state. Guaranteed for one of these life insurance policies.  
6236 Benefits reduced first two years. Insurance Policy L770 (ID: L770ID; OK: L770OK; TN: L770TN).

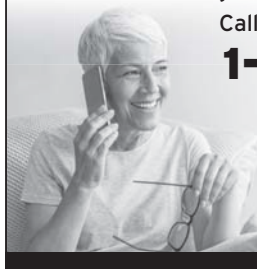
## DENTAL Insurance

Medicare does not cover dental care<sup>1</sup>. That means if you need dental work done, it can cost you hundreds or even thousands of dollars out of your own pocket.

Get Dental Insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. It helps cover over 350 procedures – from cleanings and fillings to crowns and dentures.

- See any dentist you want, but save more with one in our network
- No deductible, no annual maximum
- Immediate coverage for preventive care

Call to get your FREE Information Kit  
**1-844-334-8627**  
[dental50plus.com/truth](http://dental50plus.com/truth)



<sup>1</sup> "Medicare and You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2020

Includes the Participating (in GA: Designated) Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Product not available in all states. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, LA, NY; call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C250D); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN); Rider kinds B438/B439 (GA: B439B). 6255



*The African American Festival Prayer Breakfast • The African American Festival Prayer Breakfast • The African American Festival Prayer Breakfast*

*African American Breakfast... continued from page 7*

Bishop Mack is the senior pastor of Greater Dreams Church with two locations in Ohio and Michigan. He has been ministering the Gospel worldwide in global conferences, university campuses and has hosted numerous television shows on the Total Christian Television Network which reaches 172 nations and more than 73 million people.

For Cowell, the next part of the morning's event came as a total surprise since it had not been part of her planned program.

The staff organized a tribute to her in honor of her leadership for 25 years of the credit union she also founded.

Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz brought a commemorative plaque from his office; Toledo Council Members Cerssandra McPherson, Vanice Williams and Tiffany Preston-Whitman, EdD brought one from City Council and Lucas County Commissioners Tina Skeldon Wozniak, Pete Gerken and Gary Byers brought their own. All of these elected officials paid tribute to Cowell by recounting her achievements within the community and, in some cases, noting the impact that her stewardship of the credit union had had upon them personally.

State Rep Paula Hicks-Hudson, former Toledo mayor, was also on hand to add her own recollections of the achievements.

This year's African American Festival coincided with the 25th Anniversary of the credit union and much of the morning's tributes spoke to that history and the ups and downs of those 25 years. Having overcome a rocky start, TUFCU has experienced an explosive growth over the past six years while moving into its own building, courtesy of Dick LaValley and the Foundation he leads. Now with almost 5,000 members and assets of over \$10 million, the credit union's upward trajectory has been phenomenal.

Guests had breakfast – catered by Decadent Catering By Audrey, Audrey Ransey, owner – after the tribute to Cowell.

After breakfast, Pastor Pettaway offered a prayer for TUFCU; Minister John Jones of Christian Temple Baptist Church, a prayer for the youth and Pastor Michael Key of Peoples Baptist Church, a prayer for the festival.

Metroparks' Felica Clark, gave the breakfasters a little understanding of the Metroparks' plans for the future and Lisa Key, co-pastor of Peoples Baptist offered the closing prayer.

*Photos Courtesy Albert Earl*



Jessica Ford, Suzette Cowell,  
LC Commissioner Tina Skeldon  
Wozniak



Former Mayor Carty Finkbeiner and  
Former Mayor and current State Rep.  
Paula Hicks-Hudson



Board President Fletcher Word; Honoree Zahra Collins; Board Member Pastor Timothy Pettaway; Suzette Cowell; Honoree Bishop Larry Mack; Honoree Michael Day, Sr; MC and TUFCU Staff Member Frances Smith



Councilwomen Preston Whitman, Williams  
and McPherson with Suzette Cowell



State Rep. Hicks Hudson reads  
her tribute

# Home

WORK YOUR WAY

PARADE OF HOMES

**EVENT KICKS OFF:**  
Friday, July 30th at Noon

---

**Homes are located at:**  
727, 731 & 733 Amelia St, Toledo OH 43607  
& 4410 Vermaas Ave, Toledo, OH 43612

**Parade and Housing Fair Hours:**  
 Friday, July 30th: Noon – 8 PM  
 Saturday, July 31st: Noon – 8 PM  
 Sunday, August 1st: Noon – 6 PM

PRESENTED BY:

**LHSC**  
LUCAS HOUSING SERVICES  
CORPORATION  
an affiliate of LMH



# The African American Festival Parade

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Gotta love a parade!

Especially when you haven't seen one in a while. And that was certainly the case until last Saturday, July 24, when the annual African American Festival Parade returned to Toledo after a hiatus forced upon the community and the world, for that fact, by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic forced the cancellation of the 2020 festival and parade and earlier in 2021, Suzette Cowell, CEO and treasurer of Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union, feared that 2021 might not see such festivities either.

An early morning rain did nothing to drown those fears. At dawn, the parade that was scheduled to start at 10 a.m. appeared to be in some danger of actually happening on that timetable but by 9:00 a.m., the skies were clearing and by 10, the paraders were lined up at the corner of Dorr and Detroit and ready to start marching and dancing and singing and tossing candies to the young onlookers and handing out information to the older ones.

Elected officials, folks who want to be elected officials, community agencies, Corvettes, motorized tricycles, government offices, schools, dance teams, health agencies – so many parts of the community turned out to march and hear the cheers of hundreds of onlookers.

The rain did not come again to spoil the parade!



TUFCU's Carla Ford and Frances Smith



The Juice's Rich Hogan



Health Partners of Western Ohio staff





## INSTANT ADMISSION F • A • I • R

**THURSDAY  
AUG. 5** | **2 - 7 PM**  
Russell Ebeid Hall

- ▶ Apply for admission & receive your decision
- ▶ Complete the FAFSA with Financial Aid experts
- ▶ Tour campus with Lourdes student guides

- ▶ Sign up for apartment-style campus housing
- ▶ Take advantage of scholarship opportunities
- ▶ Receive FREE Lourdes swag
- ▶ Enjoy refreshments

Classes start:  
**AUGUST 23**

RSVP: 

Contact:  
**419-885-5291**  
[luadmits@lourdes.edu](mailto:luadmits@lourdes.edu)

*Perryman... continued from page 2*

ago. Violent crime and gang-related violence are up. How will you rebuild the trust between the African American community and your administration, including the police department?

**Wade:** One of the ways you can rebuild trust is by enacting meaningful police reform. And again, I'll tell you this, there has never been a mayor of the City of Toledo in its history who has passed more police reform than I have, and it's just a fact.

Every single officer we have now wears a body camera; that was not case when I became mayor. Internal affairs, for 80 years, had been located in police headquarters. Faith leaders, active Black Lives Matter activists, and other activists felt like that could have a stifling effect on people who might want to report police misconduct. So, by the stroke of a pen, I moved internal affairs to a neutral site. That's a big deal.

The training that we provide our officers - implicit bias, de-escalation techniques, use of force - the State of Ohio requires that those lessons are taught only in the academy. That's not good enough here in Toledo. So, we require that every officer get those trainings every year. So, we pay for that, but we believe it's important, and conforms with our values.

I also outlawed the use of camouflage. Now when a police officer pulls you over for any infraction, they have to provide a business card with his badge number and phone number and report. There's more work to be done, but that is more reform than any mayor in our history has achieved, and I'm proud of it.

**Perryman:** However, the shootings continue to be a cause of concern for the community.

**Wade:** These things will take time, but a journey of a thousand miles starts with a single step, and that's actually what I'll also say about the one type of crime that is going up in Toledo, which is shootings and gun violence.

About two weeks ago, the Governor of New York said, 'you know what, we've gotta tackle gun violence as a public health crisis?' Well, last September, we did the same thing. We had a news conference and created the mayor's initiative to reduce gun violence. We hired staff, JoJuan Armour, and he is in the process of hiring violence interrupters. We're replicating the safe city models that have worked across the country in places like Chicago.

We're trying new things and doing things that haven't been done before.

**Perryman:** Would you consider changing the leadership of the police department.

**Wade:** The police chief of a major American city is probably the most challenging job in America. Chief Kral is a reformer who has helped bring reform to the police department on relations with the African American community. Everyone is disappointed by the spike in violent crime, but I don't place the blame at George Kral's feet. It's a complex problem, and there's plenty of blame to go around.

**Perryman:** Let's shift a little bit. There's been a lot of skepticism in the African American community on how the American Rescue Plan dollars will be distributed. How will you ensure that there is equity in how those funds are distributed?

**Wade:** It's too soon yet obviously to be able to identify what's going to be funded with these dollars, but I can tell you based on the feedback we're getting folks in the African American community should feel confident that the overwhelming majority of these dollars are going to be spent in challenged neighborhoods, ones that have traditionally been disinvested in.

I can't imagine the scenario whereby a majority of those dollars aren't spent in our core communities. That's a rock-solid guarantee.

**Perryman:** There are many unheralded groups who have historically been doing this work but may not have a lot of capacity. They're wondering if the hoops they have to jump through will disqualify them from accessing these resources?

**Wade:** Those are fair concerns. This is a totally new opportunity that, if it has ever come around before, it was 100 years ago during the New Deal. All I can say is that I am proud of the team that I have brought in that know how to get dollars to people who need it. That's why I know that these dollars will end up in the hands of people who need it.

**Perryman:** Finally, given your style of quiet leadership, I want to ask if you have heard the voices of the community to actually know what they want?

**Wade:** I think I have. Even Carty, who is running against me right now, last time I talked to him said that I was one of the best listeners he's ever met. I do think I'm a good listener. I put in long hours, and I have put my whole heart and soul into this job. I attend meetings everywhere. I am not afraid to have tough conversations; there's simply no one who could claim that I don't work hard at this and that I don't listen. I think even my detractors concede that point, so I have heard the community.

No mayor is perfect, and no city is perfect, but I do think we are making progress and moving in the right direction. I believe that. I know my heart is always in the right place. Unfortunately, I think sometimes the words that come out of my mouth don't conform with what's in my heart.

**Perryman:** My point is that as people listen, frequently something is lost in the translation, causing them to hear something different than what was intended. So, when the African American community speaks, whether in actual words, deeds, attitudes or whatever, have you actually "heard" them?

*... continued on page 11*




**XI Models**  
Expressions International Model Management

**Your Fast Track  
To The  
Modeling Industry**

**Now Located At**  
151 N. Michigan St. Suite 316  
(Downtown Toledo, OH)

**OPEN CALL for MODELS**  
By Appointment Only!!!

**Call: 419.810.8848**  
**Print.Runway.Television**



**Ms. Ronda**  
Independent Beauty Consultant

**JAFRA COSMETICS**

**If you love yourself call me.**  
**Let's transform your life.**  
**920-550-8968**  
**Email: msiamjafra@gmail.com**  
**Website: www.jafra.com/rcoger**

**When You Look Good, You Feel Good.**

**JAFRA**

**Discover the beauty within.**



# Ohio Legislative Black Caucus Foundation to Hold Annual Conference

*Speakers include The Honorable Eric H. Holder, Steve Stivers and more*

*Special To The Truth*

The Ohio Legislative Black Caucus Foundation will host their annual conference on August 12 at 10 a.m. and will feature guest speakers The Honorable Eric H. Holder the 82nd Attorney General of the U.S., and Steve Stivers the President of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce.

The conference will also feature other speakers from around the state.

"We're very excited to announce our annual conference and the diverse line up of speakers we have this year," said Derrick Clay, chairman of the

Ohio Legislative Black Caucus Foundation.

"The speakers will offer valuable insight and discussion regarding the important issues that are facing Black Ohioans on a daily basis. We'll discuss redistricting, health, minority business and employment and ethics. We encourage everyone to join us on the 12th and we look forward to a fantastic conference!"

The Ohio Legislative Black Caucus Foundation is a 501(c)3 that advances Ohio's Black community through educational research, developing community leaders, facilitating public policy development, analyzing issues of social and economic importance, and the promotion of diversity and inclusion in the public and private sector.

*African American Festival... continued from page 16*

Shirley Murdock, also an R&B singer and songwriter, cannot remember a time when she couldn't sing. She always thought that she'd be a gospel singer, "singing like a grown woman ever since I was a little girl" in church choirs. She attended Toledo's Calvary Baptist Church and graduated from St. Ursula Academy. Murdock has resided in Dayton for a number of years but, before the pandemic, returned to Toledo several times a year to visit relatives.

Saturday's lineup also included Jay Rush, Bobby G, Lakeside, Tim Cunningham and Darius Coleman. The Zapp Band was the closing act but the rain – which had interrupted the entertainment early on after Bobby G's set, and then abated – returned with a fury late at night, along with lightning, as the Zapp Band was just starting.

For Suzette Cowell, CEO and treasurer of TUFCU and the person who has organized these festivals over the years and selected the talent, the highlight of the afternoon and evening was the way Lyle Jennings interacted with the audience. Another highlight of his performance was his duo with Jay Rush, his brother. It was the first time the brothers have performed on stage together.

As wonderful as the entertainment was during the event, the audience turnout and reaction was nothing short of astonishing. They arrived early and arrived all day long. The food vendors were overwhelmed by the demand and sold out of virtually everything.

They stayed through the midafternoon cloud burst and kept arriving after those clouds had passed. And came, said Cowell, from all over Toledo, from Detroit and Cleveland, from Ann Arbor and Saginaw, from Nashville (because notwithstanding all the music in that town, they don't have quite the same opportunity that this African American Festival presents). Some visitors, she noted, flew in from Florida.

This year's Festival was sponsored by the City of Toledo, the Lucas County Commissioners, Fifth Third Bank, ProMedica, the Area Office on Aging, the House of Day, Quality Time, The Blade, the Journal and The Truth.

*Perryman... continued from page 10*

**Wade:** The answer is yes, I have heard. I do.

**Perryman:** But do you "GET it?"

**Wade:** I get it, but I'll end it this way. I hope that in my second term that the African American community can come to hear what I'm saying, and can look at my record of accomplishments for the African American community, sending kids to college for free, diversity and the safety forces, the disparity study, on and on. But, when it comes to listening, I have heard, acted and delivered in a way that is consistent with my heart and my values.

I'm always going to be a little awkward. Sometimes I'm not going to say the right things. I'm going to seem uncomfortable and out of place and tell jokes that aren't funny. I can't help it. Maybe that's all people hear about me, and maybe that's what they fear; and I get that.

I hope the community can appreciate the incredible record of accomplishments that I have achieved for the African American community. I hope people let my deeds speak for me and not my sometimes-awkward actions and mangled words. Let's put it that way.

That's my hope for this second term. I have no doubt I'm going to have a second term, and I have no doubt that I will have more success.

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

Upgrade Your Home with a  
**NEW METAL ROOF**  
Guaranteed to Last a Lifetime!

LIMITED TIME OFFER  
**\$500 OFF**  
+  
TAKE AN ADDITIONAL  
**10% off**  
Install for Military, Health  
Workers and First Responders

**ERIE**  
Metal Roofs

STRONG AS STEEL WITH THE ATTRACTIVE  
LOOK OF VARIOUS ROOF STYLES

From Dimensional Shingles to classic styles reminiscent of Cedar Shake and Spanish Tile, an architectural roofing system by Erie Metal Roofs can enhance the beauty of your home while protecting your family and property for a lifetime.

Call today to schedule your  
**FREE ESTIMATE** **1-866-534-0812**

Made in the USA

**ERIE**  
Metal Roofs

This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. Offer expires October 1st 2021. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS, text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on [homeservicescompliance.com](http://homeservicescompliance.com). All rights reserved.

**GENERAC**

Prepare for  
power outages  
with a Generac  
home standby  
generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!  
**877-925-0512**

**FREE**  
7-Year Extended Warranty\*  
A \$695 Value!

Offer valid February 15 - June 6, 2021

**Special Financing Available**  
Subject to Credit Approval

\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

# YWCA CC&R Partners with StepAhead to Implement New Communication Method

*Special to The Truth*

The YWCA of Northwest Ohio, Child Care Resource and Referral announced a new partnership with StepAhead to launch a new form of communication with their clients in Northwest Ohio. StepAhead is the leading communications company specializing in (SMS) short-message text messaging service for non-profit organizations, child care programs, education, public health and government.

Texting is becoming the most effective way for businesses to communicate with their customers and audiences, with a 98 percent open rate and 94 percent read rate. StepAhead's communication platform provides a fast and easy way for CCR&R agencies and non-profit organizations, like the YWCA, to text using their computer or mobile device to connect with child care providers and families with a click of a button.

As the world slowly recovers from the COVID pandemic, it is imperative that Ohio child care providers and families not only know about what is going on with the YWCA CCR&R, but rapid state updates as well. Many YWCA clients do not have internet access or phone service. It has been proven that traditional communication methods like email are slowly declining.

"Our partnership with StepAhead give us the ability to better connect with our audience. Our clients can interact with us through text in real-time, avoiding lost emails or busy phone lines," said Dani Raymond, YWCA CCR&R Professional Development Specialist. "We are the first CCR&R in Ohio to partner with StepAhead and are excited to work with this truly unique communication company."

Providers and families can expect to receive event announcements, licensing updates and early childhood resources.

Child Care Providers can join the YWCA texting program by sending CCCHAMPS to 59925

Parents and families can sign up by sending YWCARES to 59925.

Over the past seven years, StepAhead has partnered with and provided text messaging services for CCR&R non-profits in 10 States; Community Action agencies; Head Start programs; YMCAs; and several national entities. They have a wealth of knowledge and experience developing and implementing simple, customized texting programs that produce results and meet the needs of the ever-changing

health and human services space.

For more information on StepAhead visit [www.stepaheadnow.com](http://www.stepaheadnow.com)

The YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral (YWCA CCR&R) is a state-funded child care resource and referral agency, serving 20 counties in Northwest Ohio from three regional offices, located in Toledo, Lima and Mansfield. The YWCA CCR&R provides a wide range of services to child care providers and families in the community. They offer professional development and classroom coaching to help providers improve their classroom practices. They also help families find child care and match up with those quality programs.

For more information about the Child Care Resource and Referral, visit [www.ywcaccrrevents.org](http://www.ywcaccrrevents.org) or call 419-255-5519.

The YWCA of Northwest Ohio, working to meet the diverse needs of women and the elimination of racism, serves more than 15,000 individuals each year through various programs. The programs include: Domestic Violence Shelter, Rape Crisis Center, Child Care Resource and Referral, Youth Development, Long Term Housing, and Healthy Connections.

## *Operation Clean Sweep... continued from page 5*

towards making our neighborhoods safe," Mayor Kapszukiewicz said "This partnership with the ATF is another tool in our tool box, and we are using it."

Operation Clean Sweep will seek to pursue federal charges, where applicable, against individuals who are prohibited under federal law from possessing firearms, or who otherwise use firearms in a violent crime or drug trafficking offense.

"We are in an era where people are quick to use firearms to settle their differences. These people do not think about the long term consequences on not just themselves, but their community as well. It is our goal to take these illegal firearms out of the hands of those who will cause pain and suffering in our city," said Kral.

"I would like to remind everyone that violent crime is personal. Every person who is killed or injured is someone's son, daughter, friend, or family member. Remember that, pause, and step back from the violence," stated Roland Herndon, ATF's Special Agent in Charge for the Columbus Field Division. "But be warned, as I've stated before, if you choose to use firearms to commit crimes, ATF and our law enforcement partners will be there as always, working to hold you accountable for those acts."

TOMMY KAYE'S  
Classic  
SOUL  
WITH YOUR GIRL LADY K  
SUNDAYS 5PM TO 7PM  
The Juice 107.3  
THE PEOPLE'S STATION

The Clarence Smith  
Community Chorus  
Time to Join Us  
Singers Wanted  
2021 Christmas Concert  
Toledo, Ohio  
567-343-2751  
567-343-3042  
[www.cscchorus.com](http://www.cscchorus.com)



# *Blackout* by Dhonielle Clayton, Tiffany D. Jackson, Nic Stone, Angie Thomas, Ashley Woodfolk, and Nicola Yoon

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

Lights out.

For most people, that means it's time to sleep, but not you. Lights out means time to turn 'em back on, pump up the music, and get the party started. And for those in the new novel *Blackout* by Dhonielle Clayton, Tiffany D. Jackson, Nic Stone, Angie Thomas, Ashley Woodfolk, and Nicola Yoon, it's time to fall in love.

Obviously, there was a mix-up.

There was just one job opening at the Apollo corporate headquarters, but two candidates were offered the position and both were there for orientation. Oops.

Bad on the company. Worse for Tammi Wright, whose heart was shattered upon seeing Kareem Murphy walk into the lobby. He'd broken up with her a few weeks before, and she thought she was over him. Apparently not, but she wanted that job so she'd wait, even if she had to do it somewhere near his fine self.

And then the lights went out.

It had been stiflingly hot that day and Manhattan's power grid couldn't handle it. Without A/C, buildings were vacated, people milled around, and Kareem suggested they start walking home to Brooklyn. Tammi thought he was out of his mind but he had a DJing gig that evening, do-or-die, and there was nothing else to do.

c.2021  
Quill Tree Books /  
Harper Collins  
\$19.99 / \$24.99 Canada  
256 pages

JJ Harding, Jr. was on the subway when the blackout hit, but he didn't worry until he noticed Tremaine Wright a few seats away. Tremaine was claustrophobic, as JJ knew, and he could see that Tremaine was almost freaking out. He didn't want to intrude if the claustrophobia was a sensitive secret. JJ knew all about secrets.

The residents at the Althea House were



playing cards when the blackout started and the most beautiful woman Nella had ever seen walked into the building. Lana was trying to figure out how to tell her best friend, Tristan, that she liked him a whole lot more than just like. Kayla Simmons was sitting on a tour bus, contemplating a love rectangle.

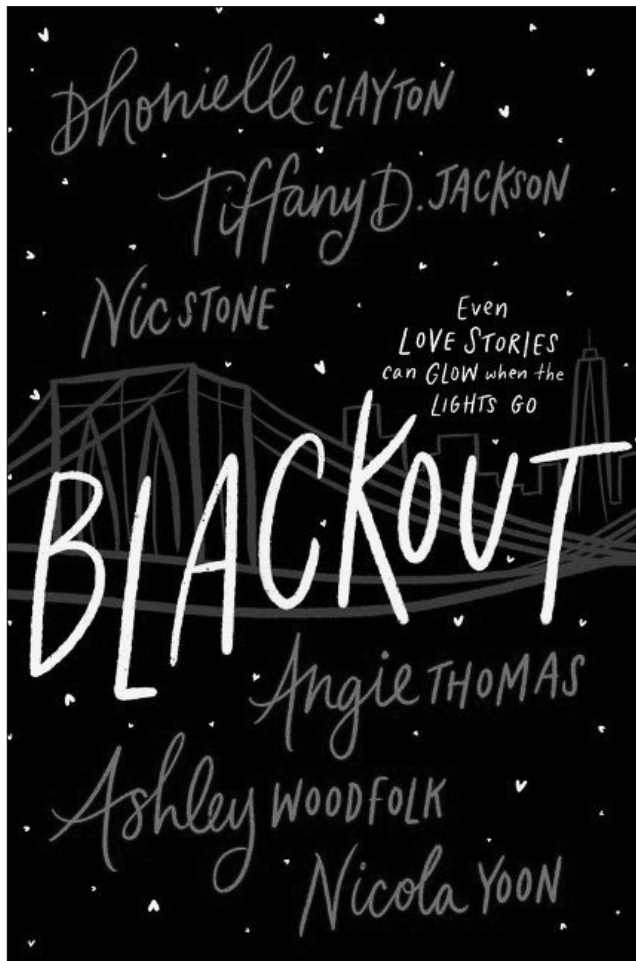
Grace was in Seymour's Ryde, heading for Brooklyn, and the party was about to start...

Okay, yes, it's a story that's contrived and convenient. Yes, it's a lot of meet-cute. It's predictable, too, but reach a little deeper and *Blackout* is a pretty intriguing concept.

It is, in fact, the ultimate in collaboration: six authors, cooperating on one single story that arcs through six different couples on one dark night makes for an interesting tale, in part because each of the authors brings her own style to the table here. The characters aren't interchangeable, nor are the situations, which gives readers a strong sense that the people in these tales are more dimensional. You can feel the same heat they're feeling. You'll believe that they're heading for the same place and that things are gonna get even more interesting.

Want to go, too?

Then check for *Blackout* in your local YA section. Despite its strong language (but no action past kissing), it's great for gentle romantics ages 15-to-adult, so find it... and turn the lights up.



America's urban community alternative station!

iHeartRADIO

Entrepreneurs  
Independent Artist & Producers  
Actors  
Sports  
Fashion  
Book Authors  
Educators  
Community Awareness  
Health Awareness  
Safety Awareness

With your host  
**DeVonn**  
aka The Musical Teddy Bear!

Jam Packed Emagazine Morning Show!

**All Genres Welcome!**

"We Make Stars Happen!"  
Independent Music & Majors welcome!

[www.blackbeatmusicgroup.com](http://www.blackbeatmusicgroup.com)

Call in days Monday 12 noon - 2pm & Wednesday 12 noon - 2pm  
# (712) 770-4010 use access code 760462

**THE TOLEDO BLACK**

# Market Place

Toledo's First Online Source for African-American Owned Businesses (419) 243-0007

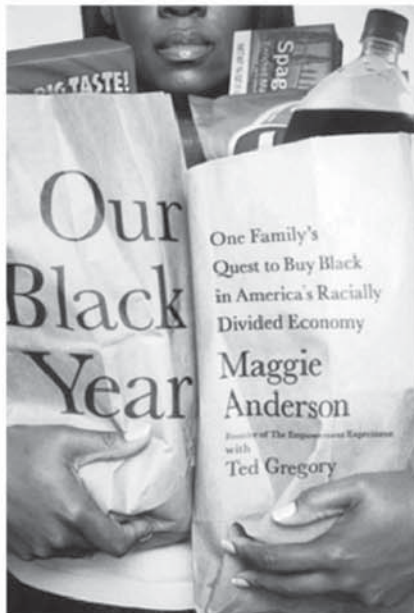


**Our Black Year**

One Family's Quest to Buy Black in America's Racially Divided Economy

Maggie Anderson

Journal of The Engagement Experience with Ted Gregory



**LITTLE GENERATION DAY CARE**

419-724-7920



**NEED A RIDE?**

TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

1.855.475.RIDE(7433)

**Truth Art Gallery**

and Event Center

1811 Adams Street • Toledo, Ohio 43604

ADS POSTED ONLINE AT:  
[www.TheTruthToledo.com](http://www.TheTruthToledo.com) and  
[www.ToledoBlackMarketplace.com](http://www.ToledoBlackMarketplace.com)

**POZATIV PROMOTIONS**

Making Your Marketing Dream a Reality

Monique Ward  
Owner/CEO

c 419.870.8757  
b 347.692.8481

f Pozativ Promotions, LLC  
pozativpromo@gmail.com

**"THE GATHERING PLACE"**

Nothing but PURE FUN!

5235 Hill & Reynolds @ Meadowbrook Plaza, Toledo, OH 43615  
419.320.8571 or 419.322.4462  
Hours Open Thursday - Sunday @ 7 PM

Wedding Receptions, Book Signings, Birthday Celebrations, Retirement Parties, Board Game Tournaments, Special Celebrations, and much more!

Annual Membership available and receive priority bookings, church and organizational bookings welcomed

Free Wi-Fi, Light refreshments available, Safe and secured lighted parking, Accommodations for parties up to 45,

Standard booking fee for Profit and Non-profit, Event Planner available upon request

Catering Referral Services Available upon request

"Come and enjoy comedy, spoken word, music talent and more"

**BOOK YOUR EVENTS NOW!**

**Child Care**

Footprints Day Care and Pre-School,

3215 Lagrange Street, Toledo, OH 43608,

419-242-9110



**Ruby's**

803 N. Reynolds

[msrubyskitchen.com](http://msrubyskitchen.com)



**A-1 BONDS**

**Tina Butts**

BAIL BONDS AGENT

419-450-3325

24 HOURS



**CRUSADERS for CHRIST CHURCH** Presents **Youth & Young Adult 4th Sunday**

Have you been feeling the nudge to develop your life more spiritually but aren't quite sure how to begin? If so, this theme-enriched and spirit-filled experience is designed just for you. Visit us on Facebook - I have a special video message for the serious pursuer!

**Youth & Young Adult 4th Sunday**

When: Every 4th Sunday  
Time: 11:00 am

Where: Crusaders for Christ Church  
910 Woodville Rd.  
Toledo, Ohio

Facebook: [crusadersforchristchurch](https://www.facebook.com/crusadersforchristchurch)

Website: [www.crusadersforchristchurch.org](http://www.crusadersforchristchurch.org)



Attention Seniors:  
House(s) For Rent.  
Two Bedroom  
Call (419) 708-2340

**Charleston House of Toledo**

A Premiere Consignment Shop for the Economical Conscious Woman

STOP BY AND SEE OUR LARGE SPRING AND SUMMER SELECTION

Sizes small to plus - excellent prices

Designer Suites and Dresses  
Elegant Hats - Name Brand Shoes

Open 10:00 a.m. - Tuesday thru Saturday  
4055 Monroe Street - Toledo, Ohio  
419.472.4648



ADS POSTED ONLINE AT:  
[www.TheTruthToledo.com](http://www.TheTruthToledo.com)

**"THE GATHERING PLACE"**

Nothing but PURE FUN!

5235 Hill & Reynolds @ Meadowbrook Plaza  
Toledo, OH 43615  
419.320.8571 or 419.322.4462  
Hours Open Thursday - Sunday @ 7 PM

Wedding Receptions, Book Signings, Birthday Celebrations, Special Celebrations, and much more!

Annual Membership available and receive complimentary Bookings Church and Organizational Bookings welcomed

Free Wi-Fi

**BOOK YOUR EVENTS NOW!**





## MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR

Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union is seeking an experienced Mortgage Loan Originator. The MLO performs all mortgage loan processing activities including receiving, evaluating, and reviewing loan applications; obtaining and verifying necessary information; preparing documents for underwriting and closing review; and communicating loan status to all involved parties. A successful candidate will be dependable, an approachable team player with a personable and professional demeanor, a desire to learn and driven to achieve outstanding results. Previous experience with a Credit Union is preferred. To apply, please email your resume to ZCollins@ToledoUrban.net<mailto:ZCollins@ToledoUrban.net> with the subject line MLO Applicant.

## PART-TIME TELLERS

Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union is seeking part time Tellers to join our team. The ideal candidate will assist members by performing a variety of teller responsibilities including - cash transactions, withdrawals, deposits, money orders and loan payments, and opening new accounts. A successful candidate will be dependable, an approachable team player with a personable and professional demeanor, a desire to learn and driven to achieve outstanding results. Previous experience with a Credit Union is preferred. To apply, please email your resume to ZCollins@ToledoUrban.net<mailto:ZCollins@ToledoUrban.net> with the subject line PT Teller Applicant.

## Request for Proposals RFP21-R012 Tenant Screening Services

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for Tenant Screening Services. Received in accordance with law until August 3, 2021, 3:00 PM ET. see documents: [www.lucasmha.org](http://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.



## Public Bid Advertisement (Electronic Bidding) State of Ohio Standard Forms and Documents

**Project #1130-21-236**  
Elevator Safety Repairs and Replacement  
The University of Toledo  
Lucas County

**Bids Due:** 2:00pm EST August 10, 2021; through the State's electronic bidding system at: <https://bidexpress.com>

**EDGE Participation Goal:** 15.0% of contract  
**Domestic steel use is required per ORC 153.011.**

Contract	Estimated Cost
General Trades - Main Campus Contract	\$544,755.00
General Trades - Health Science Campus Contract	\$550,000.00
Alternate G-1	\$30,000.00

**Pre-bid Meeting:** July 27, 2021, 10:00am, Plant Operations Building - Room 1000, The University of Toledo, 2925 East Rocket Drive, Toledo OH 43606

**Walk-through:** A walk-through of the project sites is scheduled for July 27, 2021 immediately following Pre-bid.

**Walk-through Location:** Plant Operations Building.

**Bid Documents:** Available electronically at: <https://bidexpress.com>

**More Info:** Project contact: Kent Buehrer, Buehrer Group, Phone: 419-893-9021, E-mail: [buehrer@buehrer.com](mailto:buehrer@buehrer.com)



Based in Toledo, Ohio since 1982, GEM Inc. is a singular contracting resource providing mechanical, electrical, structural steel and boiler work for process manufacturing and industrial customers. GEM is part of the Rudolph Libbe Group with offices in Cleveland and Lima, Ohio and Plymouth, Michigan. For additional information, visit [RLGBuilds.com](http://RLGBuilds.com).

GEM Inc. is seeking an Assistant Controller at its Walbridge, OH location. The Assistant Controller position is responsible for performance and monitoring of daily accounting activities as they relate to: cash receipts, billing, accounts payable, cash disbursements, fixed assets, payroll, and job costing. This role will also act as the primary job cost accountant with inherent job functions.

The ideal candidate will have a Bachelor's degree in Accounting/Finance, 6 years' experience in accounting, and experience in a construction company is beneficial.

GEM Inc. is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

Interested candidates may apply at [www.rlgbuilds.com/careers](http://www.rlgbuilds.com/careers).

## PARK MAINTENANCE

Metroparks Toledo is looking for a qualified and motivated individual for Park Maintenance at Swan Creek Preserve. High School Diploma or equivalent. Moderate level of specialty maintenance experience. Ability to perform a broad spectrum of maintenance duties, including building equipment, maintenance, grounds maintenance, landscaping and construction. \$18.45/hr. Full-time with benefits. Go to [www.MetroparksToledo.com/careers](http://www.MetroparksToledo.com/careers) to review job description and apply. Applicants must submit an online application and resume. EOE

## Legal Notice

Bids will be received by Lucas County Department of Job & Family Services (LCDJFS) until 2:00 p.m. July 23, 2021 for the selection of Vendor(s) to provide Non-Emergency Medicaid and Title XX Transportation Services for eligible LCDJFS clients. Submitted bid packets must be completed according to the specifications and provisions outlined in the Request for Qualifications. The contract period will be from approximately October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

No bids will be accepted after 2:00 p.m., July 23, 2021; bids that are submitted via any method other than that described in the RFQ will not be accepted.

The Request for Qualifications will be available on July 7, 2021 and can be downloaded from the Lucas County Department of Job & Family Services websites Quick Links Tab at <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/858/Job-and-Family-Services>

An electronic Question & Answer period (Q&A) will be from July 7, 2021 to July 15, 2021. PARTICIPATION IS OPTIONAL BUT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED. Questions for the Q&A must be submitted in writing to [LUCAS\\_FISCAL@fs.ohio.gov](mailto:LUCAS_FISCAL@fs.ohio.gov). The posting of the Q&A will be on July 16, 2021. If any changes are made to the RFQ as a result of the Q&A, an addendum to the RFQ will be added to <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/858/Job-and-Family-Services> address noted above.

This notice is posted, as of July 7, 2021, at <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/858/Job-and-Family-Services>

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Tina Skeldon Wozniak - President

Pete Gerken - Commissioner

Gary Byers - Commissioner

Bid. 48-21-RFQ-01- Reissued

## NOTICE OF FORTY-FIVE (45) DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON PROPOSED REVISION TO LMH LEASE

Lucas Metropolitan Housing ("LMH") proposes to revise the lease agreement. The proposed change is replacing "dwelling unit" with "apartment/home" throughout the lease and can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3hOSpTY>. If you have a comment, contact LMH at 419-259-9459.



Hugh W. Grefe, Chair

Joaquin Cintron Vega, President and Chief Executive Office

Call to place your ad:

419-243-0007

[www.TheTruthToledo.com](http://www.TheTruthToledo.com)

# The 16th Annual African American Festival Audience Packs Promenade Park

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

It was a sight to behold!! By the time this year's African American Festival opened at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday afternoon at Promenade Park, hundreds of spectators had already taken their seats – *outside of the Park* on Summit Street – to listen to the music: to the blues, the gospel, the jazz, the hip hop, the old school R & B – that was about to play for the next eight hours.

Inside the Park, thousands of spectators arrived unusually early – much earlier than in the previous 15 years of the festival – to hear the music, to peruse the vendors' tents, to sample the edibles from the food trucks.

After a year of pandemic-imposed isolation, Toledoans seemed anxious to bust out, socialize and resume their normal lives.

The entrance gates were busy all day as the thousands lined up to enter and be entertained.

Every year the Festival entertainment, sponsored by the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union (TUFCU), is superb and this year was no exception. What was exceptional was the return of Toledo's prodigal son ... and daughter. And the audience was more than eager to welcome them home. Singers Lyfe Jennings and Shirley Murdock, both had not returned in more than a year, were also honored with keys to the city by Toledo officials.

Jennings, an R&B singer and songwriter, grew up in Toledo, though he currently lives in Atlanta. He has previously performed at the Stranahan and other local venues.

*... continued on page 11*



TUFCU staff - Angela Cattledge, Brandi Allen, Ashlyn Mabrey



## Open for healing

Tyree, UTMC Physical Therapy Patient

### OPEN FOR YOU

From preventative care to treatment of complex orthopaedic and rehabilitation needs, we are open to serve our community.

[utmc.utoledo.edu](http://utmc.utoledo.edu)

