



Volume 68 No. 2

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

August 4, 2021

Natural Women ... Elegant in Style



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The Politics of Crime

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

The Truth Contributor

Many of today's problems in the inner-city crime, dissolution of family, welfare – are fundamentally a consequence of the disappearance of work.

- William Julius Wilson



Violent crime has emerged as the essential theme of Toledo's current mayoral campaign. Homicides are at record levels, and violent crime has risen each of the past five years, motivating "Tough on Crime" mayoral candidates Jan Scotland and Carty Finkbeiner to challenge incumbent Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz.

A central feature of the Scotland campaign strongly denounces the proponents of de-policing policies such as defunding the police.

Finkbeiner has criticized the City's Safety leadership, including the Police Chief and Safety Director while promoting golden oldies methods such as partnerships between State, Local and Federal crime enforcement, gun buy-backs, curfews, and stepped-up targeted urban patrols. The three-time former Mayor has also blamed the rise in violent crime on other worn-out law and order themes such as the "absence of black fathers."

Clearly, for Toledo voters, is that crime is "always on my mind."

And, notably, despite the challengers' use of racial stereotypes in political messaging and proposals that come close to the unconstitutional "stop and frisk" policies of the past, many residents of heavily black neighborhoods, tired of record homicides and other violence, prefer more rather than less policing.

Kapszukiewicz's Dilemma

One only has to look to the recent New York City mayoral primary, where former policeman and outspoken defund-the-police critic Eric Adams defeated other Democratic Party progressives such as Maya Wiley, Kathryn Garcia, and Andrew Yang. Though shunned by affluent voters and white liberals, Adams was the only candidate to carry most predominately black districts.

Certainly, Toledo is no New York City. Still, many of the policies supported by progressives like Kapszukiewicz are rejected by African Americans and people of color when it comes to policing.

Can Kapszukiewicz Win Without Black Support?

While crime dominates the political conversation, rather than push back on his supporters in the white community, where stop and frisk policies aren't an issue, the incumbent Mayor's response to the crime problem has been low-key. Instead, quietly, Kapszukiewicz began to tackle violence as a public health problem and other new progressive safe-city models in 2020 that achieve results over time.

"Right now, I see this as a national problem that every big city in this country is facing, and it's something that cannot be solved overnight, and anyone who tells you it can be is lying to you," he insists. "It takes some time."

Kapszukiewicz recently hired ex-professional athlete Jojuan Armour to head the Mayor's Initiative to Reduce Gun Violence. This program utilizes violence interrupters to adjudicate conflict in the community before it gets to the police level.

Yet, inner-city residents feel that other City strategies like raiding after-hour joints are ineffective. They also think that arresting outspoken critics who violate "rules" to sit in an unoccupied front row of a municipal meeting is misguided. On top of that, the police harassment of a vocal activist while bar-b-queing and having a glass of wine behind the Jamaican club at Upton and Bancroft was another insult.

We are running out of time. What can we do?

The mayoral candidates' solutions look at symptoms rather than root causes of the crime problem.

Even a casual student knows that gun violence is the visible manifestation of hopelessness. And, unfortunately, some have figured there's no way out, "so to hell with the system since we are not going to be a part of it," they demonstrate.

The trauma of being excluded from the economy is a significant factor leading to nihilism. Scholar Lewis Brogdon calls gun violence the "counterproductive responses from those that are frustrated, sad, depressed, and angry." As a result, victims of generational poverty cope with an "I don't give a F#@* "attitude, withdraw from the mainstream, and exhibit "rampant despair, animosity, resentment, and reckless thinking and behaving."

Currently, our community is also still feeling the brunt of COVID, which helped hopelessness to flourish. The pandemic generated additional trauma upon those simultaneously trying to survive continuing community traumatization. So, the resulting increase in gun violence is not surprising.

Toledo's voters want to see a clear plan that goes after the root cause of gun violence. However, unfortunately, no candidates are talking about swiftly addressing generational poverty. Nor are they proposing tearing down the Cherrywood projects, for instance, and providing better housing that's equitable, fair, and dignified.

Let's provide permanent living wage jobs for teens and young adults. Let's pass over paving roads this go round and fund black businesses and black nonprofits familiar with those closest to the problem.

The key to solving gun violence is hope. And, hope flourishes when there is economic inclusion, equity, and dignity.

It's branch and root time for the mayoral candidates. Those that look at the leaves on the trees are missing the root and branches problem. We shall see which mayoral candidate can see the whole picture.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at drldperryman@centrofhope-baptist.org

Community Calendar

August 8

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

Autism & Mental Health 5K Walk/Run: 8 am; Ottawa Park; Sponsored by Rainbow Homes: 419-349-2664

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

August 14

United Vision Baptist Church Community Day 2021: 9 am to 4 pm; Wilson Park; School supplies, DJ prizes; games, bouncy houses, VACCINES, vendors, yard sale, food: 419-356-9481

Dear Dr. Postel:

I write to express my appreciation and that of Teresa M. Gabriel, who accompanied me for the opportunity to meet Dr. Willie McKether, Vice President for Diversity and Equity and Vice Provost and you even though the content of the meeting neither what was agreed nor productive in addressing the concerns for the meeting. At your request, I agreed to meet to discuss the pervasive racial discrimination and hostile workplace environment experienced by present and former African American employees. The prepared agenda, which you would not discuss was to address the discrimination actually being experienced, much of which is documented no matter how viewed. You were clearly unwilling and unprepared to confront these issues except in a few minor areas. And even in those areas addressed, there was no substance to your reports and comments; they were disappointing and non-relevant to the discrimination charges filed against the university, many of which are currently being investigated by the Ohio Civil Rights Commission (OCRC) and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

I brought to your and Dr. McKether attention that we have been informed by present and former African American employees that the University of Toledo does not have any official, regardless of race to whom complaints or racial concerns can be aired and investigated. I specifically offered my professional experiences before and during my employment at the University of Toledo and my understanding of the duties and responsibilities especially as arise for any office titled Diversity and Equity and Affirmative Action receiving federal funding. The University of Toledo is not in compliance with Federal guideline, rules, regulations, and laws.

When we, Ms. Gabriel and I, were handed a package of materials which was represented to consist of faculty, staff, activities, and most important projected plans for affirmatively confronting and correcting mistreatments of minorities at and by the university, instead the actual content was nothing more than a paucity number of African American faculty and staff and certainly did not represent anything of significant in relation to the discrimination charges recently filed. Moreover, such materials, which you provided and are now in our possession, did not even represent meaningfully the plight of African Americans in positions at the university, for evidence in any way the university is even marginally in compliance with federal requirements and guidelines required as a condition of the university being a recipient of government contracts containing millions of dollars. Notwithstanding that a room or door or both at the university was recently named in honor of a local African American Doctor whom I personally have known, and significantly respected, such an iconic deed was not connected to the purpose for the scheduled meeting between us. The honor doesn't memorialize that he was African American.

Because you refused to discuss a resolution or even suggest steps to be taken or a process for making progress in addressing these issues, by claiming personnel matters cannot be discussed in terms of how and by what means the discrimination charges can be resolved amicably, you deceived me into meeting with you in the first instance. Clearly, you were looking for a talking point for your benefit unrelated to seeking any benefit or progress for the uni-

versity. Had that been known before the meeting, I would not have accepted the invitation to meet. I was crystal clear before the meeting that I would attend the meeting only if the meeting agreed to would include substantive measures to be discussed at the meeting. Otherwise, the meeting would be, as it turned to be, a waste of time, especially mine.

Please know and understand that I will expose locally and nationally the University of Toledo Administration and Board Trustees, all of whom are Public Servants with regards to all officials not correcting discrimination within the institution. From my point of view and the facts garnered the university has turned a deaf ear to listening to comments and correcting behaviors about racial discrimination. The racial discrimination and hostile workplace environment are real and should not and will not be ignored. I wanted to be cooperative to the extent possible in working with you and your administration in eradicating intentional and unintentional racial discrimination. My efforts appear to be ignored. And my presence was sought for no other than pandering and placating.

Accordingly, among several planned activities, it will be my intentions to contact the appropriate federal agencies about federal monies received and to provide evidence of the university's non-compliance with federal guidelines. I will be seeking a show cause determination against the university. What is more, I will make sure through the media that the local and national community knows of the university's pervasive racial discrimination and hostile workplace environment used against former and present employees who have been and continuing to be ignored. Placation by the university administration and trustees is not an option of help for those negatively affected.

If you decide you want to have a sincere discussing concerning immediate positive steps to be taken by the university to address its problems despite your initial rebuke, I remain open to such discussions. I have been and will continue to be clear about my agenda and goals; I expect the same from you. Again, to be clear, how we proceed is up to you.

Sincerely,

Earl Murry, Ph.D.
earlmurry@sbcglobal.net

Cc: Teresa M. Gabriel
Dr. Willie McKether

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TARTA Makes History By Submitting Levy Proposal to Board of Elections

Special to The Truth

After years of work, the issue of giving Lucas County the modern public transportation system it deserves is one step closer to going before the voters.

Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) CEO Kim Dunham and Board of Directors President Kelsie Hoagland submitted levy documents to the Lucas County Board of Elections Wednesday, June 28. The levy set to appear on the fall ballot would repeal TARTA's current local property taxes and replace them with a sales tax, allowing TARTA to grow its coverage area and greatly modernize its service.

"This is critically important to get to this point after 11 years of work and five attempts to get the sales tax levy on the ballot," Dunham said after submitting the paperwork. "In terms of economic development and workforce development, a robust public transportation system has always been important."

"So many people worked so hard to get to this point, and this is going to be an opportunity for the democratic process to play out in our community."

Members of TARTA leadership, community leaders and supporters marked the occasion by traveling on the Route 20 bus from TARTA's Central Avenue headquarters to the downtown Transit Hub before a walk to the Board of Elec-

tions office at One Government Center in Toledo.

TARTA is the last large transit system in Ohio whose funding comes from property taxes rather than sales taxes. Changing that is the key to modernizing public transportation in the area and expanding services to better serve the people and businesses of Lucas County and the City of Rossford in Wood County.

"We're excited to proceed with getting this important resolution on the ballot, and we're looking forward to bringing this issue to the voters," Hoagland said. "For existing member communities this is a deduction in property taxes, but for communities that are not served or underserved, this really has the potential to revolutionize our service and bring them something extremely valuable."

TARTA provides a link in the Toledo metro area to jobs, education, health care and other destinations. It enables everyone in our community to have access to transportation regardless of their age, race, physical ability or economic background. TARTA is underway with exploring and introducing new initiatives and service options that will enhance convenience and customer experience while moving our region into the future of public transit.

Congressional Black Caucus Statement Calling on Biden Administration to Extend Eviction Moratorium

Due to Republican Obstruction, Thousands of Families and Children Now at Risk of Eviction

Special to The Truth

Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Chair Joyce Beatty issued this statement calling upon the Biden Administration to use all of its available re-

sources to, at a minimum, extend the eviction moratorium through October 18, 2021:

"On Thursday, the President asked Congress to pass an extension of the eviction moratorium but due to the obstructionism by House Republicans, we will not be able to extend the moratorium."

"The eviction moratorium ended yesterday, and this means that thousands of Black families and children could lose the roof over their heads at a time when the deadly pandemic is surging once again, and their lives are in disorder due to the pandemic. Throughout the last 48 hours, the CBC has been in touch with the White House and House leadership to figure out a way to extend the moratorium on evictions."

"With billions of dollars in emergency rental assistance that Congress provided still not distributed to renters and landlords, an extension of the moratorium until the end of the year would have given support and reprieve to families struggling to make ends meet and teetering on the brink of homelessness. The CBC believes that ensuring families have the relief they need

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Meeting on Gun Violence Examines Root Causes

Sojourner's Truth Staff

A group of concerned citizens gathered at the Kent Branch Library this past Monday evening to probe the issue of gun violence in Toledo and they all seemed to agree on at least one important point: children do not grow up in a vacuum.

Children are influenced positively, the participants opined, by caring, well-meaning adults – be that in the family, in the community and in schools. Children are influenced negatively by the absence of such role models in their lives and also by the pervasive negative images sown by movies, music and social media.

“What kids are seeing in their own community plays a role in what they do,” said Albert Earl, community activist. “We have to invest in our babies – we have to tell them the positive stories.”

On the other hand, noted former City Councilman Larry Sykes, the community can fix the problem of violence that it is witnessing. “It’s a community problem, this is a pandemic too. But when we come together as concerned citizens – as men and women, we can resolve this matter.”

Citing the way the city has dealt with problems such as the conflict over the water plant, lead poisoning, vaping or a food crisis in the Toledo Public Schools, Sykes said, “we can do this.”

Former Police Officer Harold Mosley echoed the sentiment that the community plays such a key role in shaping the character of those in that community.

“Young men need good role models,” he said, while noting the dearth of such role models in many neighborhoods. “The environment leads to homicide.”

“The issue is where you live,” said Toledo City Councilwoman Vanice Williams. “This is your neighborhood.”

Those present also noted the damaging impact of outside influences, particularly upon those most vulnerable because they might lack the proper guidance at home, in the community or at school. Most particularly the impact of drugs and movies.

Several observed that an upsurge in crime, particularly homicides, in Toledo has its roots in two signature events in the 1980s, which the city has even now been unable to cope with. Those two events – the movie *Colors* and the crack cocaine epidemic.

“*Colors* changed everything,” said Mosley, noting that the movie fostered the appearance of dangerous gangs such as the Detroit Young Boys Incorporated and the local affiliation with Los Angeles centered Crips and Bloods.

Albert Earl seconded this opinion. Speaking of the *Colors* influence, Earl said: “the things that kids see has an impact on their brains,” adding that music and social media also play a huge part in influencing youthful behavior.

Earl also cited the example of a rapper who was recently chastised, and has to apologize, for statements that were considered insulting to the LGBTQ community. However, noting that the rapper’s lyrics were full of the use of “the n-word and the b-word and the totally negative statements about black folks,” Earl said that the black community was far too slow to chastise the

users of such insults.

“We have to address that,” he said of the “impact and the influence” of different types of entertainment.

Another subject that was mentioned frequently was that of accountability.

“You have to hold people accountable,” said Mosley as he touched on the subject of how necessary it was for those in the community to report offenses to law enforcement. Go ask the victims’ families how they feel about [the issue of snitching].”

Many of those present expressed their concern over the fact that so many citizens do not recognize the importance of reporting crimes due to their concerns about either retribution or vilification.

Sykes also decried the tendency of judges to permit violent offenders back into the community.

“Judges have to be held accountable when they let someone out to repeat [their offenses], he said.

Sykes, a candidate for an at-large City Council seat in the upcoming September 12 primary, was one of the hosts of the community forum, an event organized in response to the 2020 homicide numbers of 61, a 62 percent increase over 2019. The city is on pace to top that number in 2021, with 40 homicides having been recorded by the end of July.

The hosts asked the City of Toledo to send Karen Poore, Public Safety Director and JoJuan Armour, City of Toledo Gun Violence Coordinator, to the meeting. Neither appeared.



Councilwoman Vanice Williams



Larry Sykes



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August is Bustling with Activity at Toledo's Science Center

Summer is far from over at Imagination Station. There are still plenty of science-stuffed activities underway that will spark your curiosity, harness your creativity and encourage exploration.

Jeep Fest Kid's Zone - August 7-8

Rev your engines for Jeep Fest! Toledo's celebration of Jeep culture is going to be bigger than ever and Imagination Station is thrilled to once again host the Jeep Fest Kid's Zone in Festival Park. Join the science center and our wonderful partners for two days of fun. Meet with Toledo first responders, explore the art of storytelling, put your construction and engineering skills to the test and so much more!

WHEN: Saturday 10am-5pm,

Science center open from 10am-5pm

Sunday 10am-2pm

Science center open from 11am-5pm

WHERE: Festival Park-next to Imagination Station

1 Discovery Way, Toledo, OH 43604

Shark Week - August 10-15

Sharks can stir up feelings of fear and awe more than any other animal in the sea. These spectacular creatures have outlived dinosaurs and many other forms of life on earth and are essential to marine ecosystems. Imagination Station will celebrate these predators for a full week.

Enhance your experience with an Imagination Station Shark Pass*. This special offer includes a ticket to see Great White Shark in 3D - playing only during Shark Week - and a spot in a shark dissection Think Tank workshop. It's a great opportunity for budding biologists to gain a better understanding of various body systems and how they work together as they identify and examine the tissues, structures and organs of a shark.

The Shark Pass is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Science Center admission is not included.

You can find more information at <https://www.imaginationstationtoledo.org/programs-events/shark-week/>

August Tinkering - Toledo Speaks! A Community Mural Project - All Month

Let your creative voices be heard! Imagination Station has partnered with the Glass City River Wall project to encourage people to share their Toledo stories in an artistic way. Through the month of August, science center visitors can stop by the IDEA Lab to complete a square for a larger mural to be displayed inside Imagination Station. This creative exercise celebrates the rich history of Toledo and helps us all recognize the value and power of storytelling.

"We are thrilled to be partnering with Imagination Station on this fun-filled initiative that helps our children and families celebrate the rich history of Toledo and recognize the value and power of storytelling," said Brooke Schlageter, Education Consultant, Glass City River Wall. "It is our intention to bridge the arts and education with this mural that will amplify creativity while promoting cultural understanding in our community and empowering Toledoans to tell their own stories."

The Glass City River Wall is a massive community art installation spanning 170,000 feet across 28 silos along the Maumee River. Visible from downtown Toledo and I-75, the goal is to create a beautiful gateway to the city that celebrates Toledo's past and its bright future. When the mural is completed, it will be the largest mural in the country. Anticipated completion date is the end of August, in advance of the 2021 Solheim Cup.

Join us to see this collaboration in action!

WHAT: Media Opportunity - Toledo Speaks!

WHEN: Thursday, August 5 at 1pm

WHERE: Tinkering Space at Imagination Station

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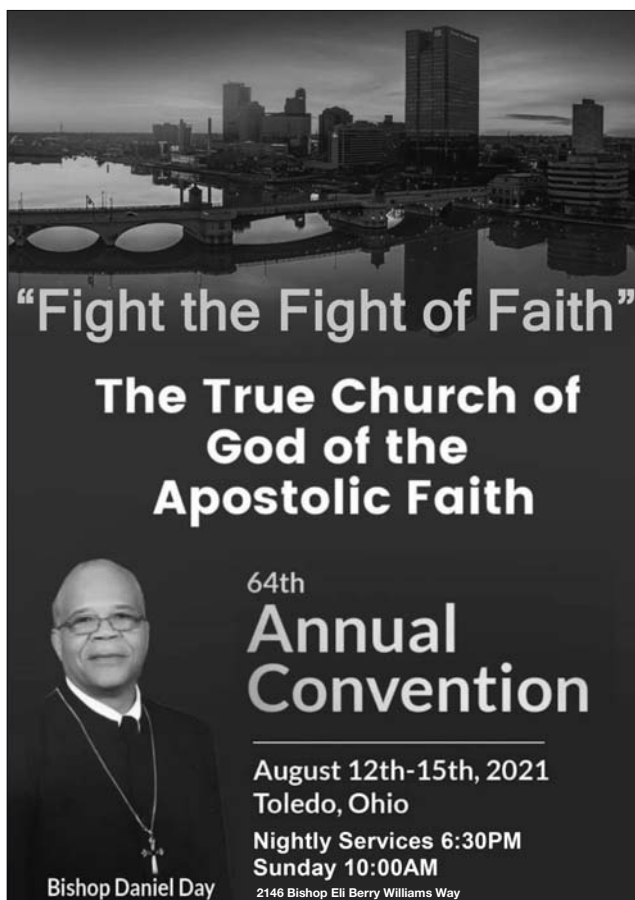
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Leading Causes of Death and Greater COVID-19 Impact on Black Men in the U.S.

By Judy Seals-Togbo, MPH, Program Director

Amber Schaffer – Research Associate at Men's Health Network

Melissa Barlow – Public Policy Associate at Men's Health Network

As life starts to return to a "new" normal from the COVID-19 pandemic, we are slowly coming to a point where the number of COVID-19 cases are decreasing. More and more individuals are able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine in the U.S.

Over the course of the pandemic, we have seen COVID-19 take the lives of family members, friends, colleagues, and loved ones. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as of July 9, 2021, a total of 2,297,764 people have been hospitalized in the U.S. due to COVID-19 and 33,604,986 people have reported having COVID-19. Not only has the pandemic changed our lives on a personal, social, and emotional level, but it has also affected the death rates in the U.S. Over the past 18 months, we have witnessed the leading causes of death shift throughout the U.S.

Health System Tracker points out that as of January of this year, COVID-19 had surpassed both heart disease and cancer to become the leading cause of death. The article explains that COVID-19 has since dropped to seventh place in the top ten leading causes of death (June 2021). The top three leading causes of death for men in the U.S. are now heart disease, cancer, and unintentional injury.

Although COVID has taken the lives of many, as of June 2020, 57% of COVID-19 deaths have been men according to the CDC. Records also show 34% of COVID-19 deaths were non-Hispanic Black people. So why has COVID-19 had a greater impact on men and on African American men?

Experts have theorized that the reason more men have died due to COVID-19 is because of men's approach to their personal health. Most men are not as proactive about their health as women. Compared to women, men are less likely to schedule annual visits with a primary healthcare provider. Furthermore, men prioritize their health less than women do. Men are more likely to have weaker

adaptive immune systems and preexisting health conditions, such as obesity and diabetes, which are likely to increase chances of dying from COVID-19, according to the CDC.

Pre-existing conditions and other factors come from certain health behaviors that are prominently linked to men and Black men. According to the CDC, men have higher rates of tobacco and alcohol use than women. Additionally, women are more likely than men to practice good COVID-19 health behaviors such as hand-washing, wearing a mask, and social distancing. Each of these factors have played a role in the increased death rate of men due to the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S.

Black men and Black Americans are more susceptible to COVID-19 because they likely to have existing chronic conditions such as, diabetes, heart disease, and lung disease, according to CNN. Many Black Americans have less access to healthcare and have lower insurance coverage than most, making it difficult to receive proper COVID-19 treatments or testing. Due to COVID-19, the Black population has also suffered greatly from job loss. Lastly, CNN reports that many members of the Black community are more likely to live in higher density areas, which can cause COVID-19 to spread more quickly. Each of these situations had increased the COVID-19 death rate among Black men and Black Americans.

While vaccines are now available, COVID-19 vaccination rates in men lag slightly behind that for women. And, the Kaiser Family Foundation reports

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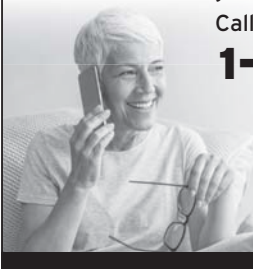
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The Seventh Annual Naturalista PhotoShoot – Natural Women . . . Elegant in Style

By Carla Thomas

The Truth Contributor

Now entering our seventh year, the Naturalista Photoshoot is a much-anticipated event where we set time aside to highlight African-American women and girls, who proudly embrace the natural hairstyle.

Using, “relaxer free” as our definition, the women are free to wear their hair in whatever style they choose: braids, locs, twists, afro or the much-

needed protection of natural styled wigs . . . all expressions are accepted in this space.

Taking inspiration from magazine covers such as Vogue and Vanity Fair, this year's concept transports the women from their everyday environments of work, family and business, and presents them in a stylistic layout showcasing their uniqueness in hair and fashion through a media channel

... continued on page 9



Left to right - Richelle Watkins, Sandra Gill, Sheila Fleming, Kim Sutton



Left to right -LaRhonda McCoy, Megan Yasu Davis, Erika White, Joetta Staples-Kynard

2021 TRIENNIAL UPDATE ON ALL PROPERTIES IN LUCAS COUNTY

Contacting the Lucas County Auditor's Office is easy!

Check your property information:

icare.co.lucas.oh.us

Schedule and attend a property review meeting:

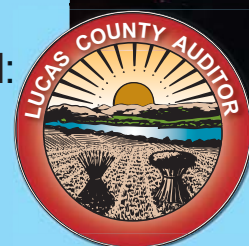
LucasCountyTri.as.me

Review your value and data over the phone:

(419) 213-4406

For further assistance, send our office an email:

Tri@co.lucas.oh.us



Naturalista Photoshoot... continued from page 8

that celebrates the melanated beauties they are.

Traditionally, there is no cost associated with participation. However, this year I decided to use the CYT Images, Naturalista Photoshoot as an opportunity to "give back" by supporting a local, African American, non-profit organization and, therefore, required a minimum \$15 donation. The non-profit of choice was Groomed for Greatness, under the leadership of Michelle McCaster.

As stated on their Facebook page, "Groomed for Greatness is a non-profit whose mission is to unveil the power in each girl we encounter and help her realize NOTHING is impossible. We inspire girls to reach their highest potential. Our key principals are education, guidance, and

empowerment. We feel that these are the keys to ensuring our girls are self-sufficient, fearless leaders who also serve and give back to their community."

The 2021 Naturalistas donated \$500 to help support their mission.

The purpose of the Naturalista Photoshoot remains the same year after year and that is to celebrate African-American women and their choice to wear their hair natural, despite it being deemed unacceptable in certain societal circles or not measuring up to society's standard of beauty.

Represented in each image, are the young, the mature, varying skin tones, hair textures and body types yet all have come together to make up one powerful image of elegance and style.

We dismiss society's standard of what is acceptable by setting our own ... and calling it beautiful.



Left to right - Nicole Williams, Jessica Williams, Darlene Whitehead, Carolyn Rankin



Left to right- Oleen Clinton, Nikki Burr, Corry Leonard, Terrie Cook

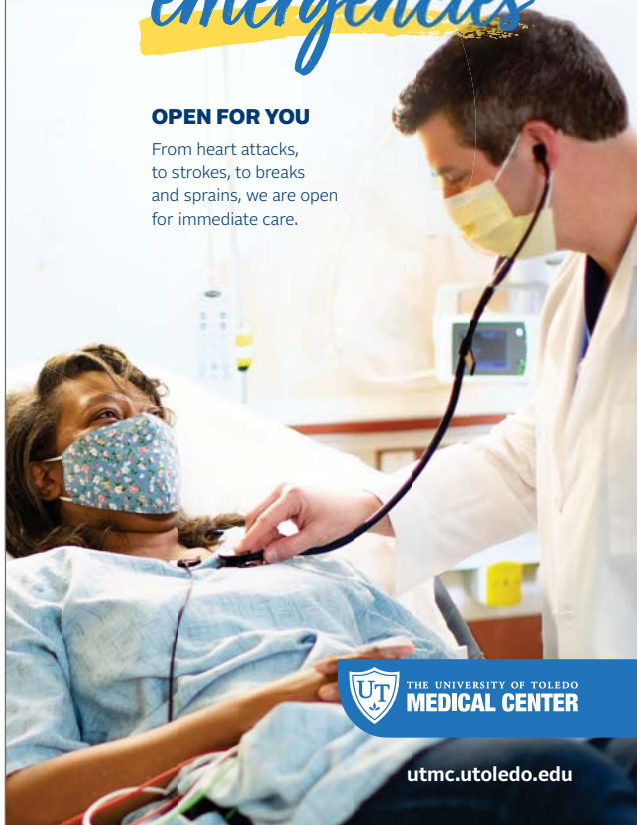


Seated - Toni Battles, Linda Sanders, Patrice McClellan
Back row - Donnetta Carter, Cassidy McClellan

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National Peach Month

By Patrice Powers-Boothe, OSU Extension Lucas County

The Truth Contributor

August has been known as National Peach Month since 1982. This is the month of peak-time for fresh peaches in Ohio. In Ohio, it is possible to grow your own peach tree, although one challenge is if we have a late freeze at the end of winter – peach trees are sensitive to the cold, especially if they have already bloomed. Georgia is affectionately known as the Peach State, but California, South Carolina and New Jersey also produce large amounts of peaches.

Fresh peaches provide some vitamins A and C in addition to potassium and fiber. While nothing beats a fresh, in-season peach, the following recipes could use canned or frozen (and thawed) peaches. We are fortunate to be able to enjoy the fruit in so many ways. The following peach recipes can be adults and are child friendly and simple to make.

Chamomile Peach Tea from Chop Chop Magazine

INGREDIENTS:

- 6 chamomile tea bags
- 4 cups just-boiled water
- 1.5 tablespoons honey
- 1 very ripe peach, pitted and chopped
- Ice cubes, for serving

INSTRUCTIONS:

Put the tea bags in the pitcher, add the boiling water, and let steep until the water is cool enough to touch, about 15 minutes. Use the spoon to remove the tea bags. Throw away or compost the tea bags.

Put two cups of the cooled tea, the honey, chopped peach, and a pinch of salt in the blender. Put the top on tightly. Turn the blender to medium to start chopping the fruit. Adjust the blender to high speed and blend until the peach is fully pureed into the tea, 30 to 60 seconds. Add the remaining two cups cooled tea and blend again. If you like, pour the

mixture through the strainer to remove the little bits of peach skin.

Pour the tea into the glasses, add some ice cubes, and serve right away. Or cover and refrigerate up to 24 hours. Stir well before serving.

Cider Peach Chicken from Dole, Serves four

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 medium onion, thinly sliced, about 2 cups
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves, about 1 1/2 lb.
- 2 can (15oz.each) sliced peaches, lite, drained
- 1 1/2 tps. chopped fresh rosemary (or 1/2 tsp. dried rosemary, crushed)
- 2 Tbsps. cider vinegar
- 1/8 tsp. dried red pepper flakes, optional

INSTRUCTIONS:

Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat; spray with non-stick cooking spray. Cook onion 4 minutes or until golden brown; stir in garlic and cook 15 seconds, stirring constantly.

Push onion to one side of skillet and add chicken; cook 2 minutes, then turn chicken. Arrange onion around chicken and top with peach slices. Sprinkle with rosemary; cover, reduce to medium-low and cook 5 minutes. Turn chicken and season lightly with salt, if desired, and cook 5 to 6 minutes or until chicken is 165 degrees Fahrenheit inside.

Remove chicken and cover to keep warm. Gently stir in vinegar and red pepper flakes (if desired) into peach mixture. Increase heat to medium-high; bring to a boil and cook 2 to 3 minutes or until most of the liquid has evaporated.

Spoon equal amounts of peach mixture over chicken breasts. Serve with rice, if desired.

Cucumber Peach Salad from Chop Chop Magazine

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 ripe peaches, pitted and diced
- 1 English cucumber (long ones), diced
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime, lemon, or orange juice
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

INSTRUCTIONS: Put all the ingredients in the bowl and stir gently. Serve right away or cover and refrigerate up to overnight.

GET CREATIVE:

For an herby salad: Add 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro, mint, parsley, or basil leaves.

For a spicy salad or salsa: Add 1 or 2 seeded and minced jalapeno peppers.

2021 Metro Beet Urban Community Garden and Farm Tour. This year, the following organizations have partnered to host urban farm and community garden "open houses", in the Toledo area, once a month during the growing season: CSU Extension, 577 Foundation, Moe Urban Farm, OSU Extension and Toledo GROWS. Some farms and gardens have been on the tour in June and July and will continue for August and September. In addition, other sites have been added each month. At the time of this article, the final list of stops for August is not yet published but mark your calendar and check out your favorite sites on Friday August 13 from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday August 14 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.. You visit the sites you'd like during the hours of the garden tour. Metro Beet is on Facebook and Instagram. I can't promise that they have any peach trees, but it is amazing to see all the different plants, gardens, garden art and people who are growing in our area!

Leading Cause of Death... continued from page 7

that the highest vaccination rates are among Asians (62%), with whites (47%), Hispanics (39%) and blacks (34%) following in that order.

Women are more likely to be vaccinated than men, and early on in the national vaccination campaign the gap between men and women was substantial, but now the gap has dwindled with women receiving about 53.5 percent of vaccines. The fact that women continue to trend in vaccine acceptance is not surprising as national data shows that women tend to

get vaccinations, particularly for seasonal flu, at much higher rates than men.

The reasons men continue to be reluctant to be vaccinated against a virus that causes significantly more severe illness and death in men is complex, multifaceted and still poorly understood. However, most health experts believe that part of the reason men, particularly younger men, do not get vaccinated is because of the overall lower levels of health service use by men than women. Part of the reason is also in the stigma men often wrongfully associate with seeking healthcare, that using health services some-

how takes away from their sense of self-reliance, ability to "fight it" and invincibility.

We know that men have been greatly impacted by the pandemic, both emotionally and physically. Men's Health Network (MHN) celebrated Men's Health Month this June to encourage men to improve their health, especially when it comes to COVID-19.

Men's Health Network invites you to continue raising awareness about Men's Health and the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope that together we can work to improve the well-being of all men, boys, and their families.

Black Caucus... continued from page 4

is a national emergency and moral imperative to prevent people from being put out on the street.

"The virus is still a threat, and the moratorium must be extended, and the funds Congress allocated to assist renters and landlords must be spent. An extension of the moratorium is based on public health and the delta variant. It will also give more time to allow the money that Congress

allocated to finally flow.

"We also call upon the Treasury Department to work with Congress to ensure that funds already transferred to states and communities can be more effectively distributed to renters and landlords."



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A Mental Health Moment

Suicide by Cop – A Mental Health Crisis

By Bernadette Joy Graham, MA, LPC, NCC, Licensed Mental Health Therapist

The Truth Contributor

According to the National Center of Health Statistics there has been a 33 percent increase in rates of suicide by cop just from 1997 – 2017. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, rates of suicide overall have exponentially increased. For many individuals, completed suicide as well as suicide attempts may seem ridiculous and unfathomable. Yes, life can be challenging on any given day but for other individuals who struggle with emotional and mental instability or experience an extreme life event it can feel as if life just is not worth living.



I first heard the term *suicide by cop* while in graduate school studying to become a mental health therapist over 20 years ago. This is not a new phenomenon and has been happening across all races, ages and geographical locations. Suicide is taken very seriously by mental health providers and is asked upon assessments and explored if an individual has a family history of suicide or even verbalizes phrases such as “sometimes I just don’t want to be here, or I have no reasons to live.”

Recently, in July of this year in Toledo, 50-year-old Michael Clifton was fatally shot by law enforcement as 53 rounds were fired as he was deemed a threat by walking down Monroe Street with a handgun first pointing it at his head and then toward officers who first made attempts to de-escalate the situation. Clifton, a Michigan native, reported by various local news media had recently lost his son this past March, was a husband and father to a 10-year-old daughter. His wife reported to media that he had been struggling with mental health issues after the death of his son and was admitted to St. Charles Hospital and later released.

This one isolated and unfortunate event has ended a man’s life and left a widowed wife, fatherless daughter and a loss to many friends and family. This event has also affected the lives of law enforcement who had to make a swift and most difficult decision to do what they are trained to do...keep the public safe.

With any suicide, we all ask what could have been done differently to have prevented this incident. What I did learn during my graduate education about suicide is never underestimate anyone’s intent to harm themselves as sometimes the happiest people we know end their lives, and just because someone says “yes I’m okay” is not a sure call to check that box of no intent to harm. Also, while we may want to blame someone or something like lack of care or who dropped the ball, it will not change the course of history.

Take a mental health moment.....really take one for yourself, friends and loved one’s. The mental health care system is not perfect, law enforcement is not perfect there is more to learn and protocols to change but until we are all honest about our mental health, suicide statistics both self-inflicted and by cop will continue to rise causing more loss of people who needed help. People in crisis don’t stop feeling unstable at 4 or 5 p.m. to be told call back tomorrow or we cannot see you for at least six months.

A permanent solution to a temporary problem is not the answer and while losing a child is permanent or anyone for that matter, the pain and emotional turmoil can be handled. If you have thoughts or feelings of suicide or have a loved one struggling, **remove any weapons from the home or their possession** even with the help of law enforcement. Go

to the nearest emergency room, call 911, utilize suicide apps or phone numbers.

First and foremost, if you or a loved one is struggling today, without any help it will only escalate from bad to worse. Prevention is much more viable than intervention. None of us are exempt from life challenges. Suicide is selfish because you will hurt more than just yourself. At the age of 14, my mother died suddenly in her sleep from heart failure, I wanted to die and even had a plan. By the grace of God, I made a vow that I would dedicate my life to helping others who felt that relentless pain of losing a loved one. Use your pain to lessen that of others, *that I did not learn in graduate school*, I learned it through a personal and unfortunate life challenge....sometimes they do serve a purpose, mine allowed me to find mine.

Rest in Peace Mr. Clifton.... *“The reality is that you will grieve forever. You will not get over the loss of a loved one; you will learn to live with it. You will heal and you will rebuild yourself around the loss you have suffered. You will be whole again but you will never be the same. Nor should you be the same nor would you want to....”* Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

Suicide help: National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (24 hrs) 800-273-8255 (they even have a chat) www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Suicide Apps – Suicide Safety Plan

Stay Alive

Suicide Safe by SAMHSA

MY3

Bernadette Graham is a Licensed Professional Mental Health Counselor, National Certified Counselor and Certified Grief Recovery Specialist. She is also a Certified Clinical Hypnotherapist assisting with weight loss, smoking and other behavior changes. Provide feedback or reach out at graham.bernadette@gmail.com For appointment information please call 419.409.4929 (Telehealth is available for ongoing and new clients at this time as well as in person appointments available on Tuesdays and Fridays only). Office location is 3454 Oak Alley Ct. Suite 300 Toledo, OH 43606 www.bjgrahamcounseling.org

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Your Wellness Starts Here

By Pierrette "Petee" Talley, Convener/President

Ohio Coalition on Black Civic Participation, Ohio Unity Coalition

And Amber L. Currie, MPH, CHES

Hospital Anti-Racism Project Coordinator

www.ohiounitycoalition.org

Last year, *racism* was the news cover story for most of the summer following the death of George Floyd who became yet another black man killed at the hands of police officers. There were protests and disruptions, all while the COVID-19 pandemic raged and claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands often disproportionately Black Americans.

What followed were cities, counties, local governments, public health and educational entities making declarations that "racism is a public health crisis." This was an important first step, but confronting racism is an evolving process that affords people and institutions the opportunity to explore and acknowledge their own explicit and implicit biases and address external and internal racism.

Addressing racism is more challenging for institutions. Health care systems, like all institutions that developed in a racist culture, must address not just the diversity of staff at all levels, but the implicit biases of personnel and medical professionals and the policies and practices that perpetuate, reinforce and amplify systemic and institutional racism. This includes examining intake poli-



Petee Talley

cies, the use of racial modifiers in medical algorithms, and patient protocols.

The hospital systems committed to the work of confronting racism must engage the African-American community. Authentic antiracism initiatives must include collaboration with ground level, African-American community members and other people of color to design and implement antiracist initiatives and demonstrate commitment and accountability to the community.

The Ohio Unity Coalition has begun to survey the local community in order to learn how people are experiencing discrimination in health care settings. The data will be shared with local health and hospital systems with hopes of collaboration that engages African Americans and other communities of color, which we believe will lead to more impactful solutions that will create greater health equity and healthier communities.

Very preliminary results of the survey reveal that more than half of the people who've taken the survey have indicated their experience with discrimination in health care is due to their ethnicity or race. Antiracist Initiatives that authentically engages the community are a benefit for everyone.

TAKE THE SURVEY: Use your phone and scan the QR code or go to the website <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PS58XL6>

Dear Ryan

By Ryan Rollison

The Truth Contributor

Dear Ryan,

I am trying to get in shape for my wedding coming up at the end of October. I would love to lose about 20 pounds by the time I have to say I do! I have a few women in my bridal party that would like to drop some weight also. First I want to know if it's possible to lose 20 pounds in that amount of time, what's the best way to do it and do you give any specials to a group of people?

Thanks in advance



Dear Thanks in Advance,

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding. It is very obtainable for you to lose 20 pounds by your wedding in October. Shoot for one pound of fat loss per week but no more than three pounds.

I want you to be aware that if you are weight training, which you should be, that the scale may not show you accurate body fat loss. Remember that muscle is more dense than fat. A pound is a pound but you must realize that your goal is to look better and the scale will deceive you. You may be losing body fat but by weight training you will be replacing it with dense muscle tissue.

The main thing I tell my clients is, "Go by how your clothes fit and how you appear in the mirror. NOT THE SCALE!!" Your eating is obviously going to be key in your success or failure and your meals should not contain sugars or fast acting carbs (see mydreambodies.com for nutrition list). Remember to eat several small meals per day and consume a majority of your calories earlier in the day or as needed per your activity for work and exercise.

Eat only lean meat and veggies in your last meal. Actually if you can tolerate it, white fish and two cups of veggies are the best thing to eat at night time for fat loss. Don't forget to drink lots of water. Many people are having success with intermittent fasting as well. That may be something you want to look into as well.

Your workouts can be total body workouts three days per week, making sure you always hit the major muscle groups (legs, back, chest) followed by 20-30 minutes of cardio and you should do extra cardio on the days you don't weight train.

As far as deals go, I will give you a price break if you come in with a friend and train at the same time. I do not like to do personal train more than two people at a time because it takes away from the attention that I can devote to your session. Although if you have three or more in your group I do Dream Bodies Fit Camps and I will come to you if need be. I do them at the parks in the summer, at the Judan Judo club in the winter or if it rains or wherever you would like to meet. Feel free to contact me if you are interested.

Congratulations and I hope you have a happy long marriage.

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Walls: A Novel by L.M. Elliott

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

Hold on.

Get a good grip on that climbing system and don't let go. Hang by your fingertips, swing your legs and catch your feet on the next climbing hold so you can pull yourself up. If you fall, your harness will catch you but that's no fun! You want to conquer this challenge but, as in the new novel **Walls** by L.M. Elliott, be careful where you step.

At this stage in his life, fifteen-year-old Drew McMahon was used to moving.

That's what "Army brats" did: they moved wherever their father's next assignment took them. This move to Berlin was the sixth one for Drew and his sisters, and it was the most daunting of them all. Drew didn't speak German very well, he didn't know anybody, and there were more rules in Berlin than at any other military base he'd ever lived on.

It was 1960; Cold War tensions between the Americans and the Russians were high and Berlin was Ground Zero, making it a dangerous place to be. It didn't help that Drew's mother insisted that he get to know a long-lost cousin who lived on the East Side, the communist side. Matthias was the same age as Drew but after meeting him, Drew could tell that Matthias firmly believed in Russian policy.

Drew's father was glad he'd been deployed in Germany, but Drew worried that a connection with Matthias or any East Berliner might hurt his Dad's career.

Yet, as the McMahons settled in and time passed, Drew began to get a good feeling about his cousin. Matthias was funny and kind and he was brave enough to dance once (forbidden by the Russian authorities) and to enjoy American music (likewise forbidden). He followed American politics and world affairs, and Drew was also impressed by Matthias' diplomacy: he was usually able to defuse tense situations when the Russian police were

c.2021
Algonquin
\$19.95 / higher in Canada
352 pages

around.

And then the barbed wire rolled out and The Wall went up...

In a way, Walls is a hybrid.

Author L.M. Elliott uses a modified graphic-novel form to establish reality for young readers through a series of drawings and pictures of real events, placing them at the beginning of each chapter. This gives young readers a point of reference and culture, which works nicely to remind them that what they're about to read is built around history. It helps them to keep in mind the world as it was when the wall went up.

Kids who needs such reminders will be glad they're there: the history parts hold attention when the fictional story occasionally slows. Parts of the body of the novel make a point, but it takes awhile; other parts feel almost belabored. Sharp-eyed readers may also spot the occasional shred of modern language, which almost ruins the atmosphere of this incredible novel for readers ages 12-and-up.

Almost – but not quite – because the sprint that this tale takes to a believable and heartbreaking ending makes every bump worth it. Absolutely worth it, so get *Walls*, and hold on.

Toledo Science Center... continued from page 6

they explore M in STEM!

Through a variety of hands-on activities, Math Moves! makes experimenting with concepts at the heart of math memorable and fun. The new, temporary exhibition also draws upon the power of teamwork, using partner activity and conversation to advance mathematical understanding.

Stop by Imagination Station and tackle numbers, ratios and proportions like never before.

REMINDER: Lucas County Kids Get FREE Film & Admission on Saturdays this Summer

Imagination Station, with generous support from the City of Toledo and KeyBank, is offering a free film and admission to the science center to all Lucas County kids 12 and under *every Saturday through September 6, 2021*. Dive into the crystal clear, uncharted waters in Hidden Pacific or get inspired by the unmatched bravery and intelligence of man's best friend in Superpower Dogs. Both films are in 3-D and available all summer long.

All kids must be accompanied by an adult. Limit two kids per one adult admission.

Imagination Station provides a critical layer of science enrichment by serving as an educational partner for teachers, schools and parents. It's with a thoughtful blend of exhibits, experiences, education and excitement that Imagination Station inspires visitors to pursue STEM careers in Northwest Ohio.



THOMAS M. WERNERT CENTER
FOR MENTAL HEALTH RECOVERY & SUPPORT

The Thomas M. Wernert Center (TMWC) is looking for motivated and energetic individuals to join our team and engage with our members. TMWC is a mental health recovery and support agency that offers hope and encouragement through the power of peer support to those who have lived experience with mental illness and substance use disorder. We have several career openings and hope you will consider joining our team.

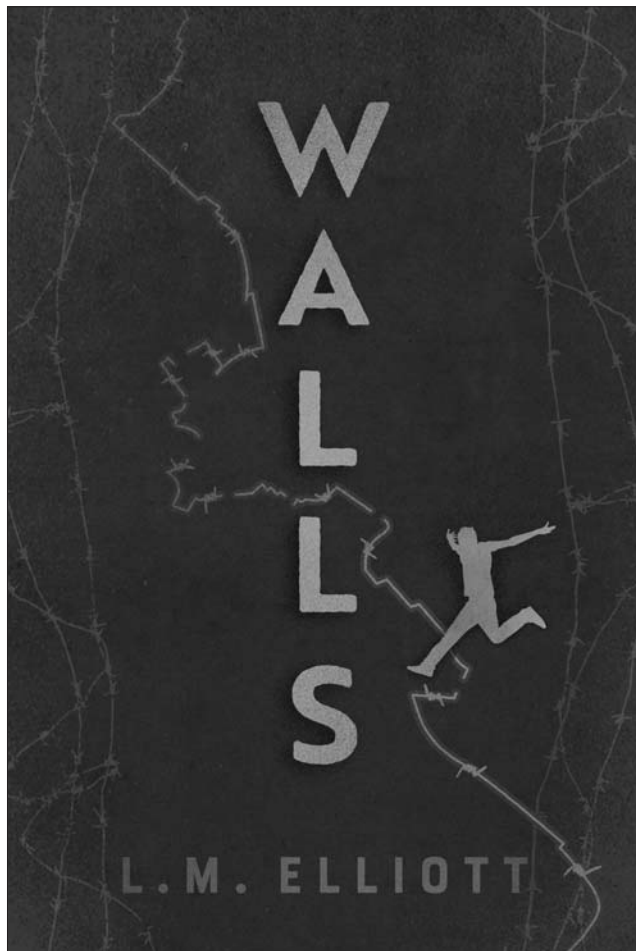
Additional information about each of the following positions and how to apply can be found at www.wernertcenter.org

Expressive Arts Coordinator (full-time) (\$14 - \$20/hour range)
Creative and innovative individual who can lead expressive arts program for adults living with mental illness and/or substance abuse disorder. Schedule and lead expressive art services, including visual arts, performing arts, and language arts, including educational outings and activities.

Vehicle Driver (full-time) (\$12 - \$18/hour range)
Provides roundtrip transportation for members of the TMWC in a Ford Transit Van or a 12 + 2 passenger Mini Bus. Must operate all vehicles in a safe manner and in compliance with all applicable TMWC policies, procedures, traffic laws and regulations, and vehicle inspections. Required to operate chairlift to assist riders in boarding vehicles, ensuring wheelchairs or scooters are properly secured using QStrait. Must have a valid Ohio Driver's license and a clean driving record.

Communications Specialist (full-time) (\$12 - \$18/hour range)
Individual will play a key role in producing content, launching a new website, and expanding TMWC presence on social media, and working with online meeting platforms. Excellent writer with experience in social media who is adept at engaging both internal and external audiences, and who is energetic, organized, creative, and self-motivated.

Operations and Maintenance Assistant (part-time) \$9 - \$13.50/hour range
Responsible for assisting in building and campus maintenance, ensuring that facilities are clean and in good operating condition. Includes cleaning building and rooms, performing general maintenance and repair of the building, grounds, and equipment. Must be able to perform physical activity, including lifting heavy objects, shoveling, and sweeping.

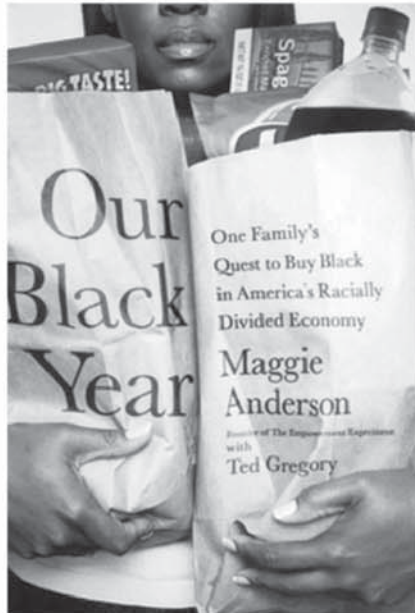




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Maggie Anderson

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

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Youth & Young Adult 4th Sunday

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

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

 Bishop Joseph Marshall Jr., Pastor
 Evangelist Celeste Mitchell, First Lady

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

Free Wi-Fi

BOOK YOUR EVENTS NOW!

MANAGER OF ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Metroparks Toledo is looking for a qualified individual for a Manager of Enterprise Development to generate revenue. Bachelor's degree in business administration or related work experience. Moderate level of experience in business development or sales. Full-time with benefits. Go to www.MetroparksToledo.com/careers to review job description and apply. Applicants must submit an online application and resume. EOE

PARK SERVICE/PART TIME

Metroparks Toledo is looking for a qualified individual for Park Service Ranger. High School Diploma and Current Ohio Peace Officer Certification required. Must be 21 years of age. Part-time. \$14.96/hr. Go to www.MetroparksToledo.com/careers to review job description and apply. EOE



PROJECTS SPECIALIST

The Lucas County Land Bank is a non-profit organization working to build and strengthen our community's neighborhoods. Since our founding, the Land Bank has renovated 750 vacant properties, demolished thousands of blighted buildings, and improved the lives of countless individuals by improving their neighborhoods.

We are seeking a talented individual to join our diverse and energetic team as a Projects Specialist. The Projects Specialist is a professional that provides detail-oriented support to the Land Bank's property acquisition, ownership, demolition, development, and disposition projects. This individual assists with the day-to-day management of the Land Bank's work, develops specialized skills in support of our many active projects, and helps to set the strategic direction of the organization.

Salary range of \$45,000 - \$55,000, with excellent benefits including affordable health, dental, vision, and prescription drug coverage, a retirement plan with generous employer match, and robust paid time off.

Position will remain open until filled. To learn more and to apply, visit <https://lucascountylandbank.org/about/jobs>

The Lucas County Land Bank is an equal opportunity employer.

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

Project #0094-21-231
Ottawa East 2021 Dining Expansion
The University of Toledo
Lucas County

Bids Due: 2:00pm EST August 24, 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.

Estimated Cost

Contract	Estimated Cost
General Contract	\$800,000.00

Pre-bid Meeting: August 10, 2021, 10:00am - 11:00, Plant Operations Building - Room 1000, The University of Toledo, 2925 East Rocket Drive, Toledo OH 43606

Walk Through: A walk through of the project site is scheduled for August 10, 2021 immediately following Pre-bid.

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

More Info: Project contact: Christopher Jarrell, The Collaborative, Phone: 419-242-7406, E-mail: cjarrell@tc.desing



OPERATIONS COORDINATOR

The Lucas County Land Bank is a non-profit organization working to build and strengthen our community's neighborhoods. Since our founding, the Land Bank has renovated 750 vacant properties, demolished thousands of blighted buildings, and improved the lives of countless individuals by improving their neighborhoods.

We are seeking a talented individual to join our diverse and energetic team as Operations Coordinator. The Operations Coordinator is a professional that provides regular customer service support, assists our finance team with bookkeeping and clerical accounting work, and works to maintain a pleasant, fun, and well-resourced office environment.

Salary range of \$35,000 - \$45,000, with excellent benefits including affordable health, dental, vision, and prescription drug coverage, a retirement plan with generous employer match, and robust paid time off.

Position will remain open until filled. To learn more and to apply, visit <https://lucascountylandbank.org/about/jobs>

The Lucas County Land Bank is an equal opportunity employer.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on **LUC Metroparks Toledo Miscellaneous Paving**, will be received; opened; and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537 **Friday, August 20, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.** local time.

THE SCOPE OF WORK consists of asphalt resurfacing of select lots and drives within five Metroparks Toledo locations in Lucas County. General construction includes pavement repairs, pavement planing, asphalt paving, chip sealing, curb, berm, pavement marking, and topsoil, seed & mulch. Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents and plan-holder's list through Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, Ohio 43604 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (check made payable to Newfax Corporation) or via the Newfax Digital Plan Room at www.newfaxcorp.com. Newfax can be contacted at 419-241-5157 or 800-877-5157. A non-refundable fee of \$20 is required for each set of full-size documents obtained. For additional information, please contact Jon Zvanovec @ 419-360-9184, jon.zvanovec@metroparkst Toledo.com.

EACH BIDDER MUST FURNISH either (1) a bond for the full amount of the bid or (2) a certified check, cashier's check or irrevocable letter of credit in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid with its bid. The successful bidder must furnish a 100 percent (100%) Performance Bond and a 100 percent (100%) Labor and Materials Bond.

The bidder must be an Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) pre-qualified contractor. Pre-qualification status must be in force at the time of bid, at the time of award, and through the life of the construction contract.

The Encouraging Diversity, Growth and Equity (EDGE) goal for this project is minimum five percent (5%).

No bidder may withdraw its bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in bidding.

By order of the Board of Park Commissioners
METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA

Dave Zenk, Director

Call to place your ad:

419-243-0007

www.TheTruthToledo.com

The Small Business Saturday

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Small Business Saturday was held on Saturday, July 17 at the beautiful Ottawa MetroPark - Liz Pierson Shelter House with local vendors, food trucks, DJ Steven Wolfe and Live Entertainment by Saxophonist, Michael Williams on SAX.

Some of the vendors that participated were Deb Cash with Yanbal Products; Terrie Landry- Cook, Simple D'Vine Boutique; Phenon Phoenix-Bumpus, Unique Collections; Stephanie Pratt, Dreaming of Pearls; Shaiem Hampton, Bombaye Bracelets and Accessories; Erica Buchanan, EbTone Accessories; Staff Works Group and others.

Organizer Donnetta Carter thanked the sponsors: Taylor Automotive Family, Molina Heath Care, The Huntington National Bank, The Sojourner's Truth Newspaper, BCAN (Buckeye Community Arts Network) and Claudia's Natural Food Market and the social media Facebook family and volunteers.

Finally, the next Summer Outdoor Expo for small business owners will be held on Saturday, August 14, 2021 from 10 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Lucas County Fairgrounds 1406 Key St. Maumee, OH. That event will include Live Entertainment by CJ Manning and Company - Accompanied by Marica

Bowen and several Food Trucks, DJ, Door Prizes and Networking Opportunities.

Admission is free. For more information contact Carter, event organizer, via email: thesocialbutterflyevents@yahoo.com or (419) 367-9765



Deb Cash, Yanbal Products



Donnetta Carter, Event Organizer and Doug Hinebaugh aka dougiefresh Photographer



Stephanie Pratt, Dreaming of Pearls



Terry Crosby, Taylor Auto Community Ambassador and Terrie Landry- Cook, Owner of Simply D'Vine Boutique



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