



Volume 70 No. 3

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

December 22, 2021

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Brothers United: The Gift That Keeps on Giving!



Avis Denise Files, Director of Family and Supportive Services, Pathway Inc.

On With the Process

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

The Truth Contributor

What do we want? INVESTMENT! When do we want it? NOW!

- Grassroots Community Organizers' Slogan



The African -American community looms as a potential winner, pending approval of Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz's proposed framework for the \$180.9 million Toledo Recovery Plan.

Only Councilwomen Katie Moline and Cerssandra McPherson, possibly, stand in the way.

Moline, supported by McPherson, introduced an amendment that cut \$8 million from the Recovery Plan framework. Most notably, the modification appears to "zero out" youth programming, gun violence prevention, pre-K, affordable housing, community centers and construction of a new Wayman Palmer YMCA.

Moline's decision has caused great angst in the Black community.

Currently, the net worth of a typical white family is 10 times the wealth of a Black Family. More troubling is the fact that the wealth gap has been created and has persisted due to decades of disinvestment, a strategy rooted in public policy decisions such as those proposed by Moline.

It is no secret that the infamous "urban removal" destroyed Toledo Black wealth by demolishing Dorr Street's Black commercial district in the early 1970s. Yet other policy-based decisions such as redlining, underfunded public schools and community centers, and over-policing still bear significant responsibility for today's poverty, blight, gun violence and health disparities.

It appears that both Moline and McPherson may have acted impulsively, failing to caucus with their constituents and supporters to assess the community's frustration with Toledo's history of delayed and defunded promises.

In addition, Moline's proposed amendment may have also placed her in the dog house with her powerful political allies. Her decision could cut into the building trades' economic benefits from related construction projects, such as the state-of-the-art Wayman Palmer YMCA.

"I think it's been severely misrepresented, and it's been unfortunate to see that. In my mind, it's just really putting guardrails up. It's saying 'give me the details so Council can know what we're approving,'" says Moline.

However, the mayor's office counters by pointing out that Moline's amendment places \$80 million in the 'revenue replacement' section, a sum \$8 million more than Kapszukiewicz allocated.

"Moline doesn't explain where the additional \$8 million will come from. All we know is that the amendment defunds basically every program that benefits people of color. And, the amendment only addresses \$100 million, not the entire \$180 million we proposed. So, where are those cuts coming from?" a spokesman from the Kapszukiewicz administration demanded.

Furthermore, Moline's amendment ignores that the mayor's plan is merely a framework and not an ordinance. It doesn't guarantee spending or prevent city council from performing its oversight responsibilities. It simply creates a roadmap for Council to later hold budget hearings and negotiate who and how much will be spent for the plan's projects.

How will it all turn out?

Toledo's minority community is currently under a state of emergency. The impact of disinvestment policy has wreaked generations of cumulative socioeconomic mayhem on our neighborhoods and our city. Funding of disinvested communities must be our top priority, and Moline's meaningless amendment merely slows things down.

What do we want? INVESTMENT! When do we want it? NOW!

Note: This opinion was written prior to City Council's vote on Tuesday, December 21, 2021. The mayor's office was confident that they had the number of votes to defeat Moline's amendment if presented.

Moline had "not stated publicly" whether she was against the mayor's proposal but was still thinking the matter through, given all the feedback she had received. "Con conversationally, a few people have said they support what I'm doing, but we'll see what actually transpires," she said.

McPherson stated, "[The amendment] was a bad position to put council in. It is what it is."

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

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The Arts Commission Announces 2021 Merit Awards Recipients

The Arts Commission announced the recipients of the 2021 Merit Awards, Hoseok Youn (Visual Arts, Glass), Kimberly Mack (Literary Arts), Ashley Pryor Geiger (Visual Arts, Collage), and Brenda Singletary (Visual Arts, Mixed Media).

The Merit Award program recognizes outstanding local literary, performing and visual artists, rewarding the many hours and personal resources each artist dedicates to their artform. Four awards are given: one \$2,500 award, two \$1,000 awards and one \$500 award. Recipients are selected by a panel of renowned artists and cultural leaders from around the Midwest, with a range of expertise across artistic disciplines.

The 2021 review panel included Tizziana Baldenebro, Ashley Stanton and Juana Williams. Each panelist expressed her appreciation for and recognition of the pool of talented artists in Toledo.

Juana Williams shared a response to her experience by stating that, "The wide array of media and themes depicted in the submissions gave me a pleasant sense of the outstanding artwork being created in the Toledo area. While the selection process was difficult, the group of award winners portrays a diversity of artists who have impressive careers and profound artwork— all very deserving of the Merit Award. I was honored to have the opportunity to learn about many new artists and works of art, and to play a role in the continued support The Arts Commission offers to local artists."

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Kimberly Mack: \$1,000 Merit Award Recipient Kimberly Mack holds a Ph.D. in English from UCLA, and she is Associate Professor of African American literature and culture at the University of Toledo. She's the author of *Fictional Blues: Narrative Self-Invention from Bessie Smith to Jack White* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2020) about autobiographical self-fashioning in contemporary American blues fiction and popular music. Kimberly holds an M.F.A. in creative writing from Antioch University Los Angeles. She has received fellowships and scholarships (full and partial) to attend residencies at VCCA, the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference (waiter scholarship), and VSC. Her essay, "Johnny Rotten, My Mom, and Me," was published in *Longreads* in 2019. Kimberly is currently writing a memoir, "I Love Rock 'n' Roll": A Black Girl's Musical Journey Across America's Great Racial and Class Divide.



Kimberly Mack - Photo courtesy Dan Miller



Brenda Singletary

Brenda Singletary: \$500 Merit Award Recipient Brenda attended Morris Brown College BA, Goddard College MFA. Her original artwork reflects forty years of cultural stories with images. Her work is represented by galleries and corporate collections such as AT&T, Marriott, and Kaiser-Permanente and others. She has received numerous art awards from organizations such as the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus, Atlanta Business League, American Express, United College Fund, and the Daimler-Chrysler Motion through Expression etc. Brenda served two years as a panel judge and educational guest speaker for the President's Commission on White House Fellows. Her artwork is a part of the White House Art Collection. The Arts Commission Merit Awards program is generously sponsored by ProMedica, the Ohio Arts Council, and

the National Endowment for the Arts.

Hoseok Youn: \$2,500 Merit Award Recipient Hoseok Youn is a glass artist and current studio artist at Glass Pavilion, Toledo Museum of Art in Toledo, Ohio. Youn holds his BFA degree in glass from Namseoul University in South Korea and MFA degree in glass from Southern Illinois University Carbondale in Illinois, USA. His work has received various scholarships including Corning Museum of Glass, Pittsburgh Glass Center, and Pilchuck Glass School. His work has been exhibited to several juried shows in California, Texas, Glass Art Society, and St. Louis, Missouri.



Hoseok Youn



Ashley Pryor Geiger

Ashley Pryor Geiger: \$1,000 Merit Award Recipient Ashley Pryor Geiger is an artist-philosopher whose practice is rooted in the artistic tradition of collage, which she believes is best suited democratic practice and broadened community participation. Geiger actively seeks out collaborative projects with a community-engagement focus. Her practice is rooted in the artistic tradition of collage, which she believes is best suited to democratic practice and broadened community participation. Geiger integrates collage-making in her classes at the University of Toledo. She has also worked with displaced and disenfranchised people through the International Samaritan program, as well as within the Toledo Correctional Institution, where she regularly teaches. Geiger's work has been widely published and exhibited. Most recently *The Holding Project* – in collaboration with Barbara Miner, MFA and Lee Fearnside, MFA appeared at The Momentum Arts Festival in Toledo, Ohio. Ashley holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy and is an Associate Professor of the Humanities at the University of Toledo.

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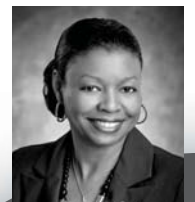
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TARTA Hosts Public Meetings On Sunday Service Proposal

The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA), which proposes to add Sunday and holiday service in the spring of 2022, will host both virtual and in-person public meetings to discuss the potential service changes.

The public can register its feedback on proposed service adjustments in the coming weeks, with meetings scheduled for:

- Monday, Dec. 20, virtual meeting, 6-7 p.m. Register here
- Tuesday, Dec. 28, virtual meeting, noon-1 p.m. Register here
- Monday, Jan. 3, open house at TARTA's downtown Transit Hub, 612 N. Huron Street, Toledo, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 5, in-person meeting at TARPS, 130 Knapp Street, Toledo, 5-6 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 11, in-person meeting at TARPS, 130 Knapp Street,

Toledo, 5-6 p.m.

TARTA's proposed Sunday Starter Service would include all fixed-line routes, with buses running from 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The same schedule would be maintained on holidays. In addition to adding Sunday and holiday service, TARTA plans to:

- Expand service on Saturday mornings
 - Expand Saturday hours for routes 26 and 34
 - Eliminate weekend service for Route 31C to University of Toledo Medical Center, and expand weekend service on routes 31G and 31H
- Weekend and holiday hours for TARPS will be changed to match the schedule for TARTA fixed-route vehicles.

Those interested in submitting questions about service changes for the virtual meetings can do so by emailing customer-relations@tarta.com.

TARTA's Hub of Hope Welcomes Coat Drive, Library, Food for Thought

The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) plans to open its doors to several community organizations in the near future as part of its Hub of Hope program.

Through Hub of Hope, local nonprofits and other entities can reach out to TARTA customers and the general public by using the space at TARTA's downtown Toledo Transit Hub, located at 612 N. Huron Street. Upcoming events are aimed at keeping TARTA riders warm, fed, and educated.

"We've had a great start to the program with visits from the library's Ready to Read program, and we're so excited to welcome more organizations and make it a bit easier for customers to connect with services they may need," said Susan Gettum, TARTA's Customer Care Manager. "There are so many groups doing so many great things in the Toledo

area, and we're thrilled to partner with them and help them get the word out about what they can offer."

Upcoming events in the Hub of Hope program include:

- Dec. 21, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: TARTA personnel are celebrating the holiday season by **donating gently-used coats and new gloves, mittens, hats, and scarves** to customers in need. These items will be available in the TARTA Transit Hub on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Dec. 29, 9 a.m. to noon: The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library's ready to **Read program** returns to the Hub. Ready to Read is designed to provide families with the tools to prepare children for kindergarten.
- Jan. 6, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: **The Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition** will be at the Hub to promote human trafficking awareness and inform people of where they can go for help.

Every Friday in January, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Representatives from **Food For Thought** will offer information about their mobile food pantries, weekend lunch program, and volunteer opportunities.

TARTA will continue to welcome organizations to the Hub as part of its increased community outreach efforts. Community partners interested in providing information or performing outreach at the Hub should email customer-relations@tarta.com.

TARTA provides a vital 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 in 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.

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Pathway Inc. Brothers United: The Gift That Keeps on Giving

By Avis Denise Files, Director of Family and Supportive Services, Pathway Inc.

Special to The Truth

It's been seven years since Avis Files, director of Family and Supportive Services, and six other millennials wrote a Responsible Fatherhood grant to The Department of Health and Human Services, Administration For Children and Families to begin Brothers United.

The program was originally designed to work with young men ages 16-24 who lived in the 10 worst neighborhoods as defined by crime. The program used a pure randomized control trial to study four key areas in the lives of fathers in Lucas County Ohio.

This study had four primary research questions to understand the impact of the Brothers United Fatherhood Program on intervention participants' attitudes and behaviors related to healthy marriage and their finances: Do program participants, when compared to control participants, at one year after enrollment have more positive self-reported attitudes and behaviors with respect to: (1) Learning new opportunities for economic mobility and the demonstration of job readiness skills; (2) Improved communication and conflict resolution toward partner, including resolving conflicts leading to domestic violence; (3) Understanding of healthy marriage and its value to fathers; (4) Demonstrated understanding of financial planning. The study is registered with ClinicalTrials.gov (Identifier: NCT03021226).

During that time 2015-2020 Pathway Inc. Brothers United served 1,818 Fathers who have 5,057 children. "The impact we made in this community with fathers will live on for generations to come," said Files. "I am amazed at the level of dedication and tenacity that the many Brothers United staff and to help accomplish the goal. They worked long late hours and on weekends. They went above and beyond to ensure that fathers were respected and treated fairly and developed this one minute message"

Pathway Inc. Brothers United believes that children are important; every day we support and advocate for fathers because when children have involved Fathers the whole community thrives.

There is a quote by Margaret Mead that says: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Pathway Inc. Brothers United's Fatherhood Program has a small staff yet they are committed to promoting positive impact and change for fathers in Lucas County. Father involvement has proven research that shows that every social ill can be eliminated by ensuring that fathers are involved in the lives of their children.

Two years later, Brothers United is still giving and at a greater capacity than before. "If you listen to the people you serve they will tell you the next move," says Files as she recalls time and time again the men whom we serve tell us that we needed to start a program for Mothers.

In 2019 we begin Sisters United, a Motherhood program with a generous donation from The Toledo Community Foundation. It was never our intent to work with mothers yet as we learned more about fathers we realized that they cared about the mothers of their children and wanted them to receive the same services they did, upon completion of the original pilot we were invited

to receive \$50,000.00 from The Toledo Foundation to continue the work.

We were disappointed we didn't win the government grant again, said Files but little did I know that without it our services would grow. Ms. Files now has several programs still serving and growing in Lucas County to assist Fathers and Families.

1. Brothers United- A program funded through The Ohio Commission on Fatherhood- Brothers United is a comprehensive Fatherhood program serving fathers in Lucas County who are in need of services related to father engagement and child support. We are also serving young men ages 12-17 who are NOT Fathers.

2. Brothers United Healthy Start-A program funded through The Lucas County Health Department - We are a collaborating member of The Lucas County Health Department providing Fatherhood services to expectant fathers whose children are 17 months or less.

3. Community and Faith Based Infant Mortality Grant- A grant that will focus on supportive services in working with expectant parents and parents of infants under one year of age in 43607 and 43604 area codes to decrease infant mortality.

4. Brothers and Sisters United- Programs funded by The Governor's Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives. These programs serve fathers and mothers and joins them together for co-parenting sessions.

5. MacArthur Grant- A program funded by Lucas County Safety and Justice Challenge grant- serving returning citizen parents to 43607 and 43604 zip codes with Brothers and Sisters United comprehensive co-parenting services.

"We have received so much support from the community," says Files. "The first donation we received was from The Toledo Chapter of the NAACP we are very grateful to Dr. Pastor William Perryman for his consideration to support our services with so many other things that they could support.

"We are also grateful to Terry Crosby and The Taylor Automotive Family for their generous donation to support our programs. We recently completed The 12 Days of Giving campaign in which Taylor Automotive will match any donation given.

"We are grateful to serve our community in a way that makes it easier for them to speak and share with us while working in the 10 worst neighborhoods is challenging the rewards are greater, helping parents become the best they can be for their children is the greatest gift of all. We are pleased to serve and continue to serve those who need us."

For more information or to support any of the programs: call or text (419) 279-0798 or find us at www.pathwaytoledo.org under Department of Family and Supportive Services.



Avis Files

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Make the Holidays Bright With These Tech Gift Ideas

Special to The Truth

The holidays are in full swing and getting the right gift for everyone in your life can feel like a daunting task. The good news is that gadgets are becoming increasingly user-friendly and easy to operate, making them the perfect gift this holiday season, even for those who aren't as tech-savvy.

Here are a few tech gift ideas that are perfect for every budget and every member of your family:

Watches for all ages: According to recent research from Statista, the trend of people owning wearables like watches and fitness trackers is growing, with wearable shipments reaching almost half a billion in 2020 alone. Now, there's a watch for every member of your family. The Samsung Galaxy Watch4 Series offers advanced hardware performance and delivers a seamless and connected user experience. The SyncUP KIDS Watch keeps kids and their parents connected safely with such features as talk and text with approved contacts only, real-time location tracking, plus virtual boundary alerts. For a limited time, these watches are free with 24 monthly bill credits at T-Mobile when you add a qualifying watch line to your current rate plan.

For the music lovers: Samsung Galaxy Buds2 and Buds Pro are Bluetooth wireless ear buds for just under \$200. These styles offer active noise cancellation, and are the perfect gift for students, work-from-homers and those that love binging their favorite crime podcast while they grocery shop or clean the house. For a limited time, the Samsung Galaxy Buds2 are free after rebate at T-Mobile when you purchase a new Samsung Galaxy S21 series or Z Flip3 5G on Magenta MAX.

Gifts for gamers: For the gamers in your life, there are plenty of ways to make

their holiday wishes come true with tech devices like the Samsung MOGA by PowerA XP5-X+ gaming controller, which allows you to play Xbox games using Bluetooth with your phone or tablet. The Razer Kishi Gaming Controller is another option that's compatible with iPhones.

For the nostalgic toy lovers: If you have a lover of iconic toys in your family, then this may be the perfect stocking stuffer. T-Mobile and Hasbro joined forces to release a limited Lite-Brite T-Mobile Edition. The box set includes all the original-colored pegs you remember, but for the first time ever, introduces 184 new magenta-colored pegs. It also includes wireless-themed templates, like a cell tower and 5G map of the United States. To get yours before they're gone, visit www.T-Mobile.com/5GLiteBrite.

Don't forget about accessories: Tech accessories make for the perfect stocking stuffers. Magnetic charging stations are a go-to for fast charging your smartphone. Brands like Ubio Labs and Belkin have charging pads and stations compatible with Android and iOS smartphones. Portable Bluetooth speakers like the JBL GO 3, start at just \$49 and are perfect for those that love to take their music with them. Phone accessories like pop sockets, protective phone cases, power banks and ear bud charging cases make for other great stocking stuffers.

If you're still stumped on finding the perfect gift, visit T-Mobile's Holiday Gift Guide at TMobile.com/devices/techgifts for more tech gift-giving ideas.

Offering fun, functionality and the ability to keep loved ones connected, tech gifts are great way to brighten the holidays for everyone on your list.

Courtesy StatePoint

The Truth

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NANBPWC – Toledo Adult and Youth Club Holiday Christmas Cheer with Giving Donation to Lucas County Children's Services

Special to The Truth

The Toledo Adult and Youth Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. (NANBPWC) bought Joy to the Lucas County Children Services during the first week of December 2021.

African American Dolls were given to the children for their annual Christmas Cheer Program. During Covid-19 and social distancing, this year the dolls were collected by the members of the Toledo Adult and Youth Clubs and delivered by Ethel Scott, the Toledo Club Membership Chair.

Toledo Club President Tyra Smith and the members know how important Christmas is to the children at The Toledo Lucas County Children services. There are boys and girl who have never had the pleasure of playing with African American Dolls and having toys. The Toledo Club of NANBPWC believes that they will help many African American Children have a chance to enjoy their Christmas season

With the COVID-19 pandemic impacting everyday life, we thank you for your continued support and wish you and your community health and peace. Right now, the Toledo Club of NANBPWC, Inc. and the community faces new challenges. As we adapt to these unprecedented circumstances, we'll continue to serve our communities as best we can. However, in order to ensure the safety of our community and ourselves, we've made necessary modifications to our programming that we'd like to share with you.

Please feel free to check out the Lucas County children Service new websites!

Lucas Kids and Adopt Lucas Kids

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The Lucas County Children Services "MISSION STATEMENT" is as follows.

"Our mission is to lead the community in the protection of children at risk of abuse and neglect. This is accomplished by working with

families, service providers and community members to assess risk and coordinate community-based services resulting in safe, stable, and permanent families for children."

The Vision of the Lucas County Children Services will develop an equitable system of supports and services that ensure all children can be safely protected in their own home or with kin, thereby eliminating the need for long-term substitute care.



Beverly Tucker



Ethel Scott




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The Movement Brings Hundreds of Residents to Receive Vaccines

Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Over 1,000 parents, children and residents paraded through the Wayman Palmer YMCA on Saturday, December 18. A local community agency, The Movement, in collaboration with several local resource vendors provided access to free Covid-19 take-home tests, Covid-19 vaccine for children and adults, and also adult booster doses.

Even the rain didn't stop a steady stream of people from lining up outside the building and around the parking lot until they were able to enter the building. Once they entered the building, individuals were checked in before ultimately receiving the vaccine. There were additional benefits to families besides the free tests and vaccines.

Children were able to take a picture with Santa and receive a printed copy, receive age-appropriate gift and/or bike, and enjoy a room of games such as eight-year-old Raina Rucker did with her mother. Parents were eligible to receive a variety of different gift cards and learn about community resources.

Several community vendors were present including: Lucas County Children Services, Neighborhood Properties, Inc, the Wellness Center, Area Office on Aging, Pathway Inc, Toledo Lucas County Library and Books 4 Buddies.

"There's a need in our community, there are people who don't have cars or

transportation. Since the number of people infected with Covid is growing, we need to bring the resources to the people. I see so many kids that are making their parents get vaccinated because shots save lives," explained Tina Butts,

... continued on page 9



The Blue Gill Fishing Club's Christmas Party and Donation

The members of the Blue Gill Fishing Club held their annual Christmas Party on Sunday December 19 at their clubhouse on Detroit Avenue and the members hosted guests and raised funds of \$500 to donate money to a worthy community organization.

The agency to receive the funds will be named in two weeks.

Pork chops, ham, chicken, collard greens, stuffing, tossed salads and macaroni and cheese were some of the menu items the members and guests enjoyed after the funds were passed out.

The Blue Gill Fishing Club was organized in 1992 by five community men, initially as a social club. Over the years, the Blue Gill has also evolved into a service club that raises funds for scholarships, to feed neighborhood youth and

to assist community action organizations in their missions.



Front Row - Perry Holms, Nate Greene, L A Frost; Back Row - John Chapman, Nate Blackshear, Al Chapman

Front Row - Geraldine James, Dana Fredrickcason, Sherry Frost; Back Row - Gloria Chapman, Renae Palmer

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NAACP Holds Annual Christmas Party at TolHouse

By Dawn Scotland

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The members of the Toledo Chapter of the NAACP celebrated their annual Christmas gathering Tuesday, December 14 at TolHouse Club located at 1447 N Summit St. Guest enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, complimentary drinks and entertainment by saxophonist Sax B.

Rev. Willie Perryman, president of The Toledo Chapter of the NAACP and pastor of the Jerusalem Baptist Church, addressed a packed room of community members, friends and supporters.

He outlined his goals and progress since becoming chapter president almost a year ago. "The relevant question that everyone asks is: 'What has the NAACP been doing?'" said Perryman. "The one objective that I had was that I wanted to enhance the collaboration and the partners that the NAACP already had in place and to gain. I wanted the NAACP to be more than just a complaint system. So, for the past 11 and a half months that's what we have been doing." The full address by Pastor Perryman will be given at the first NAACP meeting in January.

Past presidents Ray Wood, Theresa Gabriel (current chair of the Toledo NAACP Advisory Committee) and the Honorable Judge C. Allen McConnell were in attendance and recognized. "Thank You" plaques were given to executive members including former Mayor Carty Finkbeiner who was also in attendance.

Following his remarks, Perryman presented a special award. "There is a young man here who works so hard for so many different organizations. I want you to know publicly that if it had not been for him [the] successes that we have been able to achieve could not have been done."

Micheal Alexander, first vice president of the Toledo Chapter of the NAACP, received the 2021 Presidential Award - the first award of its kind presented by the Toledo chapter.

Perryman shared well wishes regarding his long-time friend and his outstanding dedication to the NAACP.

The awardee received the honor humbly, "Thank you, President Perryman, for this honor," said Alexander. "As my friend Ray [Wood] always says 'To God be the glory. Only what you do for Christ is going to last.' I try to use that mantra as I try to do things for the better of our community...." He thanked his supporters. "It is an honor to receive this [from] the NAACP. Thank you."

The Toledo Chapter of the NAACP will hold its first meeting of 2022 the second Tuesday in January (Jan 11) at the Jerusalem Baptist Church. The event will also be livestreamed.

The chapter ensures exciting surprises to look out for at the Freedom Fund Banquet next year in 2022.

The Movement... continued from page 8

the Movement, director.

According to the Toledo Lucas County Health Department website booster doses are authorized for full-vaccinated individuals who are 18 years of age or older, who received Pfizer, Moderna or Johnson & Johnson. Children between five-17 years of age are eligible for the Covid-19 vaccine. Visit the website for additional information <https://lucascountyhealth.com/covidvaccine>.



Ray Wood, Judge C. Allen McConnell, Theresa M. Gabriel, Micheal Alexander, Rev. Willie Perryman

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(419) 259-5390 | 19. Waterville Library
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(419) 885-0201 |
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3900 King Rd.
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Greater Toledo Community Foundation Approves More Than \$1.1 Million

Foundation awards more than \$20 million year-to-date in grants and scholarships From Various Grant Funds at December Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees of Greater Toledo Community Foundation approved \$1,117,119 from various grant funds at its December Board of Trustees meeting. Primarily supporting northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan, the Foundation and its donors have disbursed more than \$20 million in grants and scholarships in the community year-to-date.

With assets of \$412 million invested, Greater Toledo Community Foundation distributes grants of approximately \$18-\$20 million annually to causes important to the Toledo region.

The following grants were recently approved from competitive grant and field of interest funds:

Community Funds Impact Grants – a total of \$247,672 was awarded to four organizations. The Community Funds Impact Grants program provides seed money for new, innovative programming that addresses unmet community needs.

- Catholic Charities of Jackson, Lenawee & Hillsdale Counties – \$50,000 was awarded to support trauma assessment services for children in Lenawee County.

- Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio – \$89,650 was awarded to support the Regional Advance Care Planning project.

- Partners for Clean Streams – \$51,452 was awarded to support the Community Water Action Project, a multi-agency collaboration that engages citizen volunteers to collect information and monitor water quality in the Lake Erie basin.

- Toledo Zoological Society – \$56,570 was awarded to support the Diversity in Field Conservation career exploration program that will offer high school students and recent graduates hands-on paid field experiences in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The next deadline for Community Funds Impact Grant proposals is January 15, 2022.

First Solar Community Giving Fund – a total of \$60,000 was awarded to four organizations. Grants from the First Solar Community Giving Fund are made to nonprofit organizations that support “green” education initiatives, support access to clean energy and water in underserved areas, and support furthering development of innovative and sustainable technologies.

- Cleveland Water Alliance – \$20,000 to support Toledo-related expenses of Erie Hack, a think-tank to address technology-based water quality issues.

- VProject – \$20,000 to support Covid-19 vaccination outreach awareness efforts for northwest Ohio.

- RE-volv – \$15,000 to support the collegiate Solar Ambassador Fellowship program.

- The Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges - \$5,000 to support the First Solar Corporation Scholarship Program.

The next deadline for First Solar grant proposals is February 1, 2022.

Fund for the Elderly – a total of \$153,400 was awarded to nine organizations. The Fund for the Elderly supports programs assisting senior citizens, with a priority for projects that enable the elderly to live as independently as possible.

- The Ability Center of Greater Toledo – \$25,000 was awarded to provide assistive technology to elderly persons with disabilities living in rural counties.

- Habitat for Humanity, Maumee Valley – \$15,000 was awarded to support the home repair program.

- Hospice of Northwest Ohio – \$25,000 was awarded to support Sincera Palliative Care.

- MemoryLane Care Services – \$25,000 was awarded to support services for older adults diagnosed with dementia, their families and caregivers.

- Mobile Meals of Toledo, Inc. – \$25,000 was awarded to support the Meal Client Assistance Program.

- Ohio Living Foundation – \$12,400 was awarded to support the Virtual Reality Initiative which offers new avenues for individuals to connect with family and friends, increase their mobility and engage in the arts.

- Ottawa County Family Advocacy Center, Inc. – \$8,000 was awarded to recruit and match volunteer companions to assist seniors in maintaining their independence.

- The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio – \$10,000 was awarded to support low vision services for seniors.

- VOICEcorps Reading Service – \$8,000 was awarded to support over-the-air reading services.

The Sisters of St. Francis (Sylvania) Foundation Donor Advised Fund – a total of \$505,350 was awarded to 17 organizations. Grants from the Sisters of St. Francis (Sylvania) Foundation Donor Advised Fund support programs which aid in the fight against human trafficking and/or offer support to its victims; offer support to immigrants and refugees; advance social justice and equal access to opportunity through other programs and strategies; and sustain and renew efforts related to creation and its gifts (ecology, environment, preservation and earth science, etc.).

- Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. – \$50,000 was awarded to support the Immigration Advocacy Project.

- Beach House dba Leading Families Home – \$50,000 was awarded to support the PAST project for survivors of human trafficking.

- Bittersweet Farms – \$20,000 was awarded to support the Creative Arts program.

- Cherry Street Mission Ministries – \$10,000 was awarded to provide shelter care services to women escaping human trafficking.

- Habitat for Humanity-Maumee Valley – \$25,000 was awarded to support the home repair program.

- Heartbeat of Toledo – \$40,000 was awarded to support the Your First Look program.

- La Conexion – \$30,000 was awarded to support the Immigrant Rights project.

- Lourdes University – \$50,000 was awarded to support the Like Me program, which is dedicated to diversifying the local educator workforce by recruiting, preparing and supporting students of color for careers in teaching.

- Lutheran Social Services of Northwest Ohio – \$11,322 was awarded to support the re-entry program that helps ex-offenders successfully transition back into society.

- Partners for Clean Streams – \$17,535 was awarded to support the Clean Your Streams program.

- SewHope – \$9,000 was awarded to support the SewHope Academic Enrichment Program in Santa Ana, Guatemala.

- Sisters of St. Francis of Tiffin – \$55,693 was awarded to support Project Hope-Proyecto Esperanza.

- Social Services for the Arab Community – \$15,000 was awarded to support the Ahlan Wa Sahlan (Welcome) program.

- The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio – \$21,800 was awarded to support the Blind Ambition program that helps visually-impaired individuals to secure employment.

- Toledo GROWS – \$20,000 was awarded to support community garden programming.

- Water for Ishmael – \$30,000 was awarded to support the American School for Women program.

- Zepf Center – \$50,000 was awarded to support the Safety Net Emergency Shelter program for youth at-risk of human trafficking exploitation.

In addition to the grants approved, the Board of Directors authorized significant funds to continue the Equity & Access Initiative started two years ago. This Initiative will continue for an additional three years with funding in the amount of \$100,000 per year, bringing the Foundation's investment in Equity & Access to over \$600,000 in five years. The Foundation created the Equity & Access Initiative Fund to proactively address the concerns raised by communities that are disproportionately impacted by inequity and lack of access in the Greater Toledo area. Local nonprofit organizations that are addressing these issues are encouraged to apply for funding.

The next deadline for Equity & Access Initiative Fund grant proposals is August 21, 2022.

Details and applications for all of the Foundation's funding opportunities, and more, can be found here: <https://www.toledocf.org/grants-2/>.

Christmas Gifts at Your Local Book Store ... or Online – Part 2

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

You knew this was coming ... again!

You knew that you were going to have to finish your holiday shopping soon but it snuck up on you, didn't it? And even if you're close to being done, there are always those three or five people who are impossible to buy for, right? Remember this, though: books are easy to wrap and easy to give, and they last awhile, too. So why not head to the bookstore with your Christmas List and look for these gifts...

Business

For the businessperson who wants to spend this winter making that business grow, wrap up *The Power of Trust: How Companies Build It, Lose It, Regain It* by Sandra J. Sucher & Shalene Gupta. Highly researched, this book explains why trust may be the most important advantage you have in your business, what you need to do to maintain your clients' trust, and what to do if you lose it.

If you've got someone on your gift list who struggles at work for whatever reason, then *Anxiety at Work* by Adrian Gostick & Chester Elton with Anthony Gostick will show you care about what they're going through. This book offers eight strategies to overcome the Sunday Night Dreads, the lack of self-confidence, and the building of new relationships at work. Pair it with *The Rejection That Changed My Life* by Jessica Bacal, a book of essays from powerful, sometimes famous people about the "no" that led them to a career's worth of "yesses."

No doubt, there's a budding leader on your gift list, so wrap up *Make It, Don't Fake It* by Sabrina Horn. It's a book that will help your entrepreneur to strive for authenticity in business and, by extension, in life. Then let that authenticity lead to impact by giving *Impact Players: How to Take the Lead, Play Bigger, and Multiply Your Impact* by Liz Wiseman.

Business is a hard game these days but *Rogue Waves* by Jonathan Brill will help ensure that the storm doesn't last forever. This is a book that looks at the future, helping businesspeople to get there intact, make money, and survive. Wrap it up with *Flux: 8 Superpowers for Thriving in Constant Change* by April Rinne, a book that'll help your business person to stay resilient. Pair it with *Reset: A Leader's Guide to Work in an Age of Upheaval* by Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., a book on leading in times like ours.

And for the person on your gift list who desires to be The Best this coming year, wrap up *Your Pocket Guide to Corporate America: A Roadmap to Achievement* by John Dortch. In this book are 14 "rules" to live and do business by, and all of them are easier than you'd think to incorporate into day-to-day life. Wrap it up and watch what happens!

Pets and Animals

If there's someone on your list who loves animals, wildlife, and working to save them, then *The Wild World Handbook: Creatures* by Andrea Debbink, illustrated by Asia Orlando, is a great book to wrap up. This isn't just about the animals or conservation efforts; it also includes easy-to-do projects to help creatures in the wild, mini-biographies of people who fought for conservation and preservation, and short chapters on animals and why we should care about

them. This book is perfect for readers 12-to-17, but an adult who wants something light might likewise enjoy it. Pair it with *Wild Life!* by Re:wild and Syd Robinson, a book about weird and unique animals around the world, and what conservation efforts are doing to keep them there. Bonus: PICTURES!

The dog lover on your list will really like *The Forever Dog* by Rodney Habib & Dr. Karen Shaw Becker with Kristin Loberg. It's a book filled with ideas and science that'll help that puppy parent keep their fur-kid around a whole lot longer.

Parenting

Beware of this as a gift: *Why is My Child in Charge?* by Claire Lerner is a book to help end frustration, power struggles, bratty kids, and upset parents. It's helpful, kind, and clear-headed; just be careful, give it to the parent who expressly wants a book like this.

The parent or caregiver who was home with the family last Christmas might be fresh out of ideas about now, so wrap up *The Ultimate At-Home Activity Guide* by Mike Lowery. It's chock-full of more than 100 activities for little kids, big kids, and grown-up kids, and some of them are quiet lesson-teachers. Bonus: give it to your favorite baby-sitter, too!

Health and Wellness

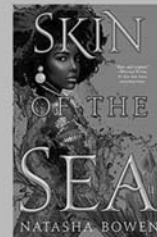
For the past months, it seems like we've heard a lot from doctors and nurses. So why not wrap up a book by a psychiatrist? In *Committed: Dispatches from a Psychiatrist in Training*, author Adam Stern, M.D. writes about what it's like to be accepted for a prestigious program in which he and his colleagues learn to help patients on a psychiatric ward. Wrap it up with *Being You: A New*

... continued on page 12

WHAT WE'RE READING NOW



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Skin of the Sea
by Natasha Bowen



As the Wicked Watch
by Tamron Hall



When We Make It
by Elisabet Velasquez



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Christmas Gifts... continued from page 11

Science of Consciousness by Anil Seth, a book to help you tap into an inner self and get to know you.

Give this one carefully: **Everything I Have Is Yours: A Marriage** by Eleanor Henderson is a book about boy-meets-girl and love blossoms. It's about two children and a Happily-Almost-Ever-After, until chronic illness steps in. It's a hard book to absorb but for the right giftee, it may be the best gift to give. Also look for **The Problem of Alzheimer's** by Jason Karlawish, a sort of history of the "crisis" and where science is taking its treatment.

If your giftee is determined to live life to the fullest this coming year, then **Heartwood: The Art of Living with the End in Mind** by Barbara Becker may be what you need to wrap. Yes, it's the story of death but it's also about the way that grief can lead to growth. Wrap it up with **Crossing the River: Seven Stories That Saved My Life** by Carol Smith, a book about loss and healing; or **Little Matches: A Memoir of Grief and Light** by Maryanne O'Hara, the story of a mother's loss and a daughter's gift.

Here's a book that any reader can identify with: **Until Proven Safe: The History and Future of Quarantine** by Geoff Manaugh and Nicola Twilley. Learn what quarantine meant almost 400 years ago during The Black Death, what it means in a world with COVID-19, what we can expect during the next pandemic, and how this all meshes with the entire idea of freedom.

What to give to the person who loves the world of scent? Easy: **Revelations in Air: A Guidebook to Smell** by Jude Stewart. Yes, it's about things that smell good (and bad) but it's also informative, with lessons on how to practice to gain a discerning nose. Wrap it up with a scented candle or a bottle of perfume, of course.

For Picture Book Fans (kids ages 2-7)

The child who's a budding ecologist will want to see **All of Us** by Kathryn Erskine, pictures by Alexandra Boiger. It's a book that shows small kids that we live on a big ol' world and we can take care of it together. Wrap it up with **The Universe and You** by Suzanne Slade, illustrated by Stephanie Fizer Coleman, a book that'll make your little stargazer very, very happy.

Small children who are ready for big ideas will love **Begin with a Bee** by Liza Ketchum, Jacqueline Briggs Martin and Phyllis Root, illustrated by Claudie McGehee. It's the story of bees, and why we should help them. Also look for **Except Antarctica!** by Todd Sturgell, a very cute book about creatures on our southernmost continent; or **Where's My Cow?** by Susan Blackaby, illustrated by Scott Brundage, a book about friendships.

For the kid who needs a dose of self-appreciation, you can't go wrong with **Beautifully Me** by Nabela Noor, illustrated by Nabi H. Ali. It's a book about an adorable Bangladeshi-American girl who's bullied. At first, it hurts her feelings, but she learns how to deal with kids who tease.

Sometimes, it's hard to learn to make friends, so **A Friend Like You** by Frank Murphy and Charnaie Gordon, illustrated by Kayla Harren is per-

fect to give your little one this Christmas. It's a book about getting along and being open to making pals with kids who don't look like you. Wrap it up with **Meesha Makes Friends** by Tom Percival, a book about a girl who literally makes friends, or **Sharing a Smile** by Nicki Kramar, illustrations by Ashley Evans, a book about making friends when you're both masked.

For the child who's new to this country, or the kid with a new classmate who's new will love **The Color Collector** by Nicholas Solis, illustrated by Renia Metallinou, the story of a small immigrant, the colors she sees around her and the ones she misses from her former home. Wrap it up with **If Dominican Were a Color** by Sili Recio, illustrated by Brianna McCarthy, for a great and wonderfully colorful gift.

If you want to wrap up pure silliness for your picture-book fan, then look for **Monday** by Lucy Branam, illustrated by Kevin M. Barry. Monday is the worst, right? Who needs it? Find out in this hilarious book, then pair it with **CAPE!** by Marty Kelly, for the best kind of Christmas fun.

Quieter kids who love to create will love paging through **Nerdycore** by Andrew Root, illustrated by Erin Kraan. It's the super-colorful tale of Fern, who is not your "usual" unicorn; she prefers being in her laboratory, coding software, and creating with her chemistry set. The other unicorns make fun of her but when Unicorn Tragedy happens, who do you think saves the day? Wrap it up with **Rock and Vole** by Jennifer Sattler, a book about a little vole who loves her routine, and what happens when change arrives.

For Young Readers (kids ages 6-9)

The very young reader who shows an interest in history will love **I Am Anne Frank** by Brad Meltzer, illustrated by Christopher Eliopoulos. Based on Frank's famous diaries, it's a great entry to this subject and perfect for this age group.

Kids who drift more toward nonfiction books will love **Jungle Animals: A Spotter's Guide** by Jane Wilsher. This book has the look of an encyclopedia, but it reads much easier and offers a ton of information for curious youngsters.

For the kid who loves to travel, you can't go wrong with **Little Kid, Big City! New York** by Beth Beckman, illustrated by Holly Maher. It's a book about all the fun things a kid can do in The Big Apple. Wrap it up with **Keeping the City Going** by Brian Floca, a book about transportation and movement in a big metropolis. Bonus: This book will be a treat for your truck-van-taxi-vehicle lover, too.

For Preteen Readers (kids ages 7-12)

The young jokester on your list will love unwrapping **The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh** by Helen Rutter. It's the story of Billy Plimpton, who wants to be a comedian someday. Great idea, except for one little problem: Billy stutters.

Kids who love history will enjoy **Your Legacy: A Bold Reclaiming of Our Enslaved History** by Schele Williams, a beautiful, colorful book that honors Black History year 'round.

Your young social justice activist will love seeing **Racial Justice in America: Topics for Change** by hedreich Nichols, Leigh Ann Erickson, and Kelisa Wing beneath the tree. It's a book that explains racial issues of today, and gives

... continued on page 13



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Christmas Gifts... continued from page 11

kids things to think about. Wrap it up with ***Marching for Change: Movements Across America*** by Joyce Markovics, a book about some of the important marches that have been held in America over the past sixty years. Also look for ***Across the Tracks*** by Alverne Ball and Stacey Robinson a graphic novel that looks at the Tulsa Race Massacre in a way that's very accessible for young readers to absorb.

Here's a gift for the kid who dreams of being someone influential: ***Kid Innovators: True Tales of Childhood From Inventors and Trailblazers*** by Robin Steveenson, illustrated by Allison Steinfeld. It's a book full of tales of young kids just like your giftee... who grew up to make a big difference. Wrap it up with a different kind of science book: ***Who Gives a Poop?*** by Heather L. Montgomery, illustrated by Iris Gottlieb is a fun book that shows kids how waste isn't just icky.

If there's a kid who loves art or who's a museum fanatic, then ***The Ultimate Art Museum*** by Ferren Gipson is what you'll want to give this year. It's like having a permanent pass to visit paintings, sculptures, antiquities, and more. Bonus: your adult art fan will love it, too.

For the kid who's fascinated by biographies, wrap up ***Signs of Survival*** by Renee Hartman with Joshua M. Greene. It's the story of two sisters and their true story of the holocaust. Wrap it up with ***I Survived the Nazi Invasion, 1944*** by Lauren Tarshis, artwork by Alvaro Sarraseca, a book written in graphic-novel format, for a doubly great gift.

Kids who love a good biography might enjoy unwrapping ***Dr. Fauci*** by Kate Messner, illustrated by Alexandra Bye. It's the story of Dr. Fauci, told in a wonderful kid-friendly form, and a quick tale of vaccines. Wrap it up with ***Jump at the Sun*** by Alicia D. Williams, illustrated by Jacqueline Alcantara, a picture biography of Zora Neale Hurston.

And speaking of history, another book young historians will want this holiday is ***The Who Was? History of the World, Deluxe Edition*** by Paula K. Manzanero. It's full of quick-to-read but highly informative chapters on all sorts of historical figures you want your kid to know.

For Young Adults (kids 12 and up)

Check first, to be sure your giftee hasn't already read this one: ***The Desolations of Devil's Acre: the Sixth Novel of Miss Peregrine's Peculiar Children*** by Ransom Riggs. Ask, because this very popular series has many very rabid fans who may not have been able to wait to find out what happens next.

For the reader of romance with a twist, wrap up ***You & Me at the End of the World*** by Brianna Bourne. It's a story of Armageddon, stuck with a boy who thinks he's all that (or a girl who's a bit of a nerd, depending on your point of view). Can they figure out what happened, and why they're alone on the planet together?

Young readers who love history will want to unwrap ***When I Grow Up*** by Ken Krimstein. Written in graphic novel format, this book is a compilation of six stories of Yiddish teenagers and their lives on the edge of World War II.

**OF LGBTQ Interest
nonfiction**

If there's about to be a new addition to your family, wrapping up ***Queer Stepfamilies: The path to Social and Legal Recognition*** by Katie L. Acosta would be a good thing. In this book, the author followed forty LGBTQ families to understand the joys, pitfalls, and legalities of forming a new union together. It can't replace a lawyer, but it's a good overview.

For the parent who wants to ensure that their child grows up with a lack of bias, ***Raising LGBTQ Allies*** by Chris Tompkins is a great book to give. It's filled with methods to stop bullying in its tracks, to be proactive in having That Conversation, and how to be sure that the next generation you're responsible for becomes responsible in turn. Wrap it up with ***The Healing Otherness Handbook*** by Stacey L. Reicherzer, PhD, a book that helps readers to deal with bullying by finding confidence and empowerment.

If there's someone on your gift list who's determined to get "fit" in the coming year, then give ***The Secret to Superhuman Strength*** by Alison Bechdel this holiday. Told in graphic-novel format (comics, basically), it's the story of searching for self-improvement and finding it in a surprising place.

So why not give a little nostalgia this year by wrapping up ***A Night at the Sweet Gum Head*** by Martin Padgett? It's the tale of disco, drag, and drugs in the 1970s (of course!) in Atlanta, with appearances by activists, politics, and people who were there at that fabulous time. Wrap it up with ***After Francesco*** by Brian Malloy, a novel set a little later - in the mid-1980s in New York City and Minneapolis at the beginning of the AIDS crisis.

The LGBTQ activist on your gift list will want to read ***The Case for Gay Reparations*** by Omar G. Encarnacion. It's a book about acknowledgment, obligation on the part of cis citizens, and fixing the pain that homophobia and violence has caused. Wrap it up with ***Trans Medicine: The Emergence and Practice of Treating Gender*** by Stef M. Shuster, a look at trans history that may also make your giftee growl.

fiction

Young readers who have recently transitioned with enjoy reading ***Both Sides Now*** by Peyton Thomas. It's a novel about a high school boy with gigantic dreams and the means to accomplish them all. Can he overcome the barriers that life gives him? It's debatable... Pair it with ***Can't Take That Away*** by Steven Salvatore, a book about two nonbinary students and the troubles they face as they fall in love.

The thriller fan on your list will be overjoyed to unwrap ***Yes, Daddy*** by Jonathan Parks-Ramage. It's the story of a young man with dying dreams of fame and fortune, who schemes to meet an older, more accomplished man with the hopes of sparking his failing career. But the older man isn't who the younger thinks he is, and that's not good. Wrap it up with ***Lies with Man*** by Michael Nava, a book about a lawyer who agrees to be counsel for a group of activists. Good so far, right? Until one of them is accused of being involved in a deadly bombing....

For the fan of Southern fiction, you can't go wrong when you wrap up ***The Tender Grave*** by Sheri Reynolds. It's the tale of two sisters, one homophobic, the other lesbian, and how they learn to forgive and re-connect.

And now for the housekeeping:

Keep in mind that, with the supply chain issues and all, publication dates may change and move. Books get canceled or they might be short-stocked, so be patient. If you have any questions, if you're desperate for ideas, or if you need a good substitute, ask your favorite bookseller. Seriously, booksellers have special powers and they'll know exactly what you need. Trust the pros.

Season's Readings!

NANBPWC... continued from page 16

out for one another.

They are located at 650 Vance Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604. Their phone number is 419-241-2596. Emails can be sent to MLK.Kitchen@bex.net.

The Toledo Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club Adult and Youth Clubs continue to provide services even during the pandemic. For two years during Covid-19, their continuing service still goes on to help the Toledo Community by reaching out to bring awareness of global issues that impact the lives of people both near and far.

The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. founded in 1935, emerge as a national non-profit organization in light of the need to promote and protect the interests of women business owners and professionals.

The importance of education and economic development through entrepreneurship was emphasized as women sought to support women through community service and social activism. The NANBPWC, Inc. through its national leadership, regional districts and local clubs provides opportunities for women to increase their leadership skills, experience governance and parliamentary procedures, and enhance their educational awareness of issues impacting the Black community through volunteerism. The NANBPWC, Inc. encourages youth and young adults to achieve economic independence by joining the rising tide of young people in business today.

The NANBPWC, Inc. membership is comprised of women of all ages, college students and youth who render community service throughout the country. To become a member, the inquirer must fall within one of the following categories: Adult: Active or retired business and professional women.

As COVID-19 continues to spread, the future has never felt so unpredictable. These are challenging times for everyone, and the women of NANBPWC- Toledo Club hope everyone's in good spirits and health! Right now, they are doing everything possible to sustain daily operations and provide services to our community. While there's a lot of uncertainty, we know that we need to adapt fast to our changing reality. Now, more than ever, our community needs us.

In times like this, we're reminded of how interconnected we all are. Thank you for being part of our community. Without you, none of it is possible


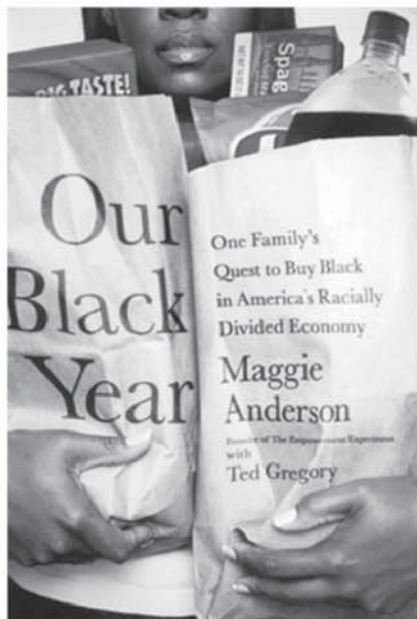
The Toledo Club Members of NANBPWC Inc. are:

Tyra Smith -President, Denise Black-Poon- 1st Vice President & Program Chair, Alexii Collins - 2nd Vice President and Youth Advisor, Ethel Scott - Director of Membership,

Mironda Harris - Corresponding Secretary, Yvonne Anderson Colbert- Recording Secretary, Barbara Tucker - Parliamentarian and Financial Secretary, Wilma Brown- Treasurer, Tommie McGhee-Chaplain, Kameka Y. Anderson, Delores Bates, Clara Brank, Denise Cardwell, Deborah Carlisle, Denise Carr, Suzette R. Cowell, Mary Dawson, Alethea M. Easterly, Dorothy Gray, Karen Jarrett, Kimberly Mosley-Turner, Uchenna Odiari Iris Pat Page Jones, Quinn Peterson, Stephanie Potter, Sherry Reed, Marquita Scott Chong, Victoria Simms, Donna Todd, Beverly Tucker, BJ Tucker, and Michele Rene Williams

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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

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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!

GRANTS ADMINISTRATOR/OFFICE MANAGER

The Fair Housing Center is seeking an energetic, critical thinker who can manage multiple projects. This position is a key administrative role and is responsible for coordinating the development, administrative management, reporting, and closeout of grants. This person will ensure that the Center's grant management activities are executed professionally, efficiently, and on schedule. This position also performs office management duties and regularly interacts with the Board of Directors. The Fair Housing Center offers competitive salary and benefits package.

SKILLS REQUIRED

Qualifications: To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- Excellent written and oral communication skills; exceptional interpersonal skills, a focused listener.
- Advanced MS Office skills, including Excel.
- Strong organizational and project management skills that reflect ability to perform and prioritize multiple tasks seamlessly with excellent attention to detail.
- Ability to take initiative and manage projects assigned through completion with minimal supervision.
- Ability to work effectively independently and as a highly resourceful team player under pressure and within deadlines.
- Creative and innovative thinker, who actively presents new opportunities, proposes solutions and recommends best practices.
- Ability to anticipate challenges and effectively resolve potential issues through creative problem solving.
- Ability to work creatively and with flexibility in a fast paced environment while maintaining high work standards.
- Ability to develop rapport and engender trust.
- Exhibits a positive attitude and professional demeanor.

Education and Experience Requirements:

2+ years of applicable grant administration experience, required. Experience in foundations, nonprofits, human resources and finance highly desirable. Bachelor's Degree preferred.

The Fair Housing Center is an equal opportunity employer.

Please send resume and cover letter detailing qualifications to HR@toledofhc.org.

**Status:** Part-Time

Start Date: As Soon As Possible

Hourly Rate: Starting \$15/hour

Hours: Monday through Friday, 2:30-7pm

ABOUT US:

Center of Hope Family Services, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation founded in 1997. Our mission is to improve the life outcomes of adults, children, and families in urban settings.

ELEVATE is an after-school program for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. This center is a part of Center of Hope's 21st Century Community Learning Center, which is funded by the Ohio Department of Education. In 2011, Center of Hope was rated as a High Quality Center and model for tutoring programs, statewide. Center of Hope received the 2018 Ohio Department of Education Statewide Summit for Enrichment Education, 21st Century Community Learning Center Award in Student Reading/Literacy Improvement. Dr. Perryman and Center of Hope was also awarded 2018 Excellence and Innovation Award for innovative programs. In 2017, Center of Hope was 1 of only 3 21st Century Community Learning Centers funded, and in 2019, Center of Hope was the only Toledo 21st Century Community Learning Center funded by the Ohio Department of Education.

SUMMARY:

Provides daily supervision of children, taking steps to ensure that all children remain physically and emotionally safe.

1. Facilitates academic and recreational activities that contribute to the care, growth and development of children needs.
2. Facilitates a safe, calm, nurturing, and non-disruptive environment.
3. Assists with record keeping duties
4. Assists in preparing and maintaining program materials.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**Education:**

Required High school diploma or general equivalency diploma (GED). Associate degree or equivalent in Education, Social Work, or related field (Preferred).

Experience:

One to three years experience working with children and adults (Preferred).

Background Check:

Must be able to pass state and national background checks.

To apply, please email your resume to emas@cohfs.org.

FILL IN RECEPTIONIST

The YWCA of Northwest Ohio is seeking a fill in receptionist to cover vacation, sick and personal time for regular staff in a 24-hour facility. Must be able to work all three shifts, weekends and holidays and be available during the summer to cover vacation. Must have an Associate's degree minimum, background in switchboard, public contact, receipting money, bulk mailing and copying. Must be reliable, dependable, and able to follow directions and work with little supervision. Experience in a social service environment is helpful. \$15.00 per hour. Submit resume to admin@ywcawo.org or mail to YWCA of NWO 1018 Jefferson Ave. Toledo, OH 43604

CONSULTANT NEEDED

The **Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County** (MHRSB) seeks a consultant to help the Board align its staff and organizational chart with its current responsibilities, priorities, and workflow. Proposals are accepted through December 30, 2021. For scope of work and information on where to submit proposals, please visit www.lcmhrrsb.org/publicnotice/.

LUCAS COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES POSITIONS

Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) currently has openings for the following positions:

- Coordinator Information Technology
- PC Support Specialist
- Family Visits Monitor (Part-Time)

LCCS offers an excellent salary and benefit package. EOE Valuing Diversity.

To view full descriptions of each position, minimum requirements and pay view and apply at <https://lucaskids.net/lccs-job-openings/>

**WELLNESS DIRECTOR
WAYMAN PALMER YMCA****Full Time Position**

Salary - \$38,000 - \$48,000 Annually

Responsible for member recruitment, retention, and community engagement. The Wellness Director will also be responsible for ensuring a quality experience for all members and participants. Bachelor of Science in exercise science/exercise physiology or related field preferred. Ability to work varying hours such as early mornings, evenings and weekends on occasion. If interested send resume by January 5, 2022 to dfrison@ymcatoledo.org.

**Call to place your ad:
419-243-0007
www.TheTruthToledo.com**

Simply D'Vine Exemplifies the Christmas Spirit

Terrie Cook, owner of the Simply D'Vine Boutique, and her sorority sisters at Gamma Phi Delta, Inc. Beta Phi Chapter, once again brought the Christmas spirit to the shop on Sylvania. On Saturday, Cook and her friends handed out 45 baskets of holiday food to those in need.

Cook opened Simply D'Vine Boutique in August 2014 and brought to life an idea she had been nurturing for 19 years – a stylish boutique that offers something for every pocketbook and for a variety of tastes.

In addition to girls and women's clothing, Cook also carries men's apparel – shirts, socks and ties. Men's suits are available to order. It's a small tidy shop with an abundance of goods.

Terri Cook and Simply D'Vine Boutique can be reached at 567-455-5940 or by email at simplydvinebtq@gmail.com. You can also view the shop's products by going to the website or Facebook page – Simply D'Vine Boutique.



Christina Davidson, Mary Huddleston, LaShonda Horton, Terrie Cook, Joyce Lewis-Johnston and Charlotte Parrish-Skiver

Stacey Blanton, Terrie Cook, Natalie Woods-Stephens and LaShonda Horton

NANBPWC – Toledo Club Holiday Gift Giving Donation to Kitchen

The Toledo Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club Inc., Adult and Youth Club bring holiday Cheer to one of Toledo Community agencies – The Kitchen of the Poor during Christmas Time.

A donation of \$2,000 was made to the Kitchen of the Poor from the members of the Toledo Club of NANBPWC, Inc. and delivered by Club President Tyra Smith.

The late Rev. Harvey Savage, Sr., established the kitchen in 1969 in response to the tremendous need he saw in his community. Located in Toledo's central city, the kitchen feeds more than 200 people each day, including school children and the elderly.



Tyra Smith and Harvey Savage, Jr

anyone wants to talk, they will listen.

The Kitchen of the Poor are proud to know that people consider them to be part of their extended families. The kitchen is a family whose members watch

The Kitchen of the Poor accepts everyone who walk in their door, up to 200 people a day, most days. They are always ready to lend a hand, to listen and to serve without judgment.

They know the people they serve have dignity – and pride. They honor them and are honored to serve them. If

... continued on page 13

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St Paul Delivers Holiday Gifts

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

December is the month when families gather to celebrate the holiday season and when individuals gather to spread holiday cheer. The congregation at the historic St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church collect and distribute Christmas gifts for children that have at least one parent incarcerated.

The gifts were wrapped and delivered by the church's van on Saturday, December 18 to various families located in Toledo, Ohio.

"Last year we had to give out gift cards because of Covid but this year, we're going back to delivering gifts. The members of St. Paul and the families are so receptive to this each year and we're elated about what God has allows us to do in this particular season," shared Rev. James H. Willis, Sr., pastor of St. Paul MBC.

The annual service project is an activity of the church's Christian Board of Education and affiliated with the American Baptist Conference of Ohio's prison ministry. St. Paul's MBC has participated in this project for many years and the co-chairs were Sister Yvonne Gayle and Sister Mary McKinley-Reid.

"It feels so good giving back to the community especially during this time of a pandemic. Now we get to see the kid's faces as they receive their gifts. It's a blessing to see their happiness and cheerfulness which impacts us each year as we express God's love," explained Gayle.

