



Volume 71 No. 9

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

April 6, 2022



Sonia Flunder-McNair of Urban Wholistics and Dr. Tonia Farmer of the Lippy Group

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# Breaking Free

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

The Truth Contributor

*If the people in your circle aren't contributing to your growth, then you're not in a circle...  
you're in a cage.*

- Kianu Starr



Having won a single solitary Ohio gubernatorial race in the past 32 years, Democrats have been like a bird in the Republican Party's cage of political control. With its wings of power clipped and feet of middle class and inclusive policies bound, the Ohio Democratic Party has been merely able to sit upon its lonesome legislative perch and:

"sing with a fearful trill  
of things unknown  
but longed for still  
and his tune is heard  
on the distant hill..." (Maya Angelou, 1983).

Ohio Lieutenant Governor candidate and Toledo native Theresa Fedor is a part of the joint gubernatorial ticket with Cincinnati's former Mayor John Cranley in the Democratic primary on May 3, 2022. Fedor believes that this is the year that the cage swings open, and the Democrats finally break free of GOP control of the Ohio governor's office.

I tracked down a tireless Fedor for a one-on-one discussion about her candidacy. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force and the Ohio Air National Guard, she earned a B.S. in Education from the University of Toledo and has worked as an educator for Toledo Public Schools. In addition, Fedor has served in the Ohio legislature for the past 22 years. Here is our conversation:

**Perryman:** We last talked in 2018, and that article was "Columbus in Her Blood."

What have you been up to since?

**Fedor:** I've been working to strengthen and modernize our public schools to reach 1.7 million children, give them the opportunity they deserve, and be ready to live out their potential and dreams.

**Perryman:** And now you're on the Ohio gubernatorial ticket!

**Fedor:** When former mayor John Cranley asked me to consider, I told him I had to say yes. I endorsed him after meeting with him a couple of times and really got to know his plans. I also shared what I thought needed to happen for Ohio to prosper and grow the middle class and give our children the opportunity they deserve.

**Perryman:** What went into your decision to team up with Cranley?

**Fedor:** In making that decision, I thought about all of the work that I've been doing fighting for people who need us the most and to help our communities be strong, raise children, grow our population and economy in Ohio, and I've been there 22 years in a front row seat. I thought, well, yes, I have something that I can contribute, and John has plans. So, I will take this opportunity, not run for reelection for the Senate, and jump into a wider opportunity to affect 11 million people and their future.

**Perryman:** Your vantage from the Ohio Legislature surely arms you with

valuable and relevant preparation.

**Fedor:** I'm prepared, I'm ready. I've been through 22 budgets, whether an operating budget or a capital budget. I know where investments need to go. Currently, investments are not going into areas such as public education, mental health, healthcare, higher education, affordable higher education, and more transportation. Current leadership are also not providing a better quality of life so our young people don't leave and can stay in Ohio, grow their families, and have them here. I have not regretted any, not one day, the decision I made to join John Cranley as his lieutenant governor.

**Perryman:** Should you prevail in the election, what will Ohioans be getting in Theresa Fedor as lieutenant governor?

**Fedor:** Ohioans will have a vision of hope for themselves, their family, and Ohio's future. We will be able to invest our resources into people instead of profits. The top one percent keep getting the tax cuts when those monies need to go into having a constitutional school funding formula. After 25 years, the Republicans have rejected that call from the Supreme Court to fix school funding.

Ohio is supposed to be investing more money into all of our schools and not depend on the local property taxes to fund local schools, so that's number one. We will do the education budget first because that's the most important investment, which is quite frankly revolutionary. After all, that's our most important resource in driving the economy.

**Perryman:** In the past week, a federal judge found that the Florida voter suppression law, SB 90, intentionally discriminates against Black voters. That judge then blocked the law's limitations on drop boxes, line warming ban and restrictions on third party voter registration. Given the massive mess of Ohio's redistricting maps and our gerrymandering problem, where do you stand?

**Fedor:** The citizens of Ohio voted over 70 percent, which means the overwhelming majority of the citizens, whether Republican or Democrat, said that we want fair maps drawn in Ohio and an amendment to our Constitution. So, legislators swore an oath to the Constitution along with statewide officeholders, so that is their guideline and what they are supposed to do. Now that seems to be a problem with the majority party here. It appears as though they are obstinate children, absolutely refusing to do what they need to do. Lo and behold, the Republicans came out of the corner, the backroom. They brought out a map that was already rejected and deemed unconstitutional.

**Perryman:** You used the term 'obstinate children' when describing Republi-

... continued on page 6



Sen. Teresa Fedor

## The Sojourner's Truth

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A Certified MBE

The Sojourner's Truth, 1811 Adams Street, Toledo, OH 43604

Phone 419-243-0007

thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com

www.thetruthtoledo.com

## Community Calendar

### April 9-10

Start High School DECA II Prom Dress Event: 10 am to 4 pm each day;  
Fashion marketing students fundraiser; Affordable dresses to benefit the  
Start Fashion Marketing - DECA II Club; Many gently used dresses sized  
from 1 to 30

### April 10

Braden UMC Healing Services at 4:00pm; For more information please  
contact the church at 419-386-2700. Rev. Cecil J. Thompson, Pastor

Join the Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir in a "Season of Remembrance" as  
we remember present and past members of the music community. Rehears-  
als are held on Tuesdays at 7 pm at Greater St. Mary's Baptist Church. Join  
us in this music ministry. Please call 419-241-3330 or 419-2421-7332

"Saving Toledo Families:" 6 pm; A community effort to address issues  
affecting our neighborhoods and foster change; Mt. Pilgrim Church; Clark  
Sisters, Bishop John Williams, Chris Byrd & True Victory and more: 419-



# Is My House ‘Race Free’ Enough to Sell?

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

Don't you just love those stories about when Black people get ready to sell their homes, they must go through "changes" to make sure that they get a fair appraisal from a white appraiser.

It is said that over 85 percent of appraisers are white and they are the front line decision makers that banks and lenders relied upon to make the critical decision regarding home valuations.

Without having to deal with the curse of imbedded racism with the lending industry when it comes to fairness for the Black homeowner wishing to either buy or sell a home, you now must deal with arbitrary and capricious values of white appraisers giving you a thumbs up or down on your property.

When you consider that homeownership is a foundational platform by which wealth is both accumulated and passed on to the next generation, getting a fair and unbiased appraisal is crucial to wealth building.

And do you know what triggers these woefully biased appraisals of Black homes? Besides the obvious "zip code" of where you live, the recorded crime statistics, the quality of the school system and shopping amenities, it comes down to through whose eyes is your property been sized up.

Photographs of the exterior of the house are important regarding curb appeal, lot size and landscaping but what triggers negative evaluations also includes what is being displayed inside the house.

Of course, to maximize the value of your house, you can arrange for a "friendly" white neighbor to show the house to the appraiser and if the question is asked, "where are the owners," the house sitter simply states they were called away for an emergency dental visit.

For Black people, single or married or in an interracial marriage, what will be the telltale signs that Black people live in the house?

That is critically important because a house being occupied by Black owners can still be equated to being of lesser value than a comparable white owned home.

For that "exorcism" exercise to increase the value of your home for a sale, allow me to ask you a series of "reminders" and, if you pass them, you are "race ready" to sell your house. But, if you fail, you need to scrub down your house so that it is not deemed, "non-desirable" to a possible white buyer.

Scrub down means, you strip the interior of any mention or marking of any evidence that shows that a DeMarcus or a Val'druanydia lives there.

Here are those reminders.

The following public service reminders, if not scrupulously adhered to, could cost you tens of thousands of dollars at the home closing because some buyers do not want to think they are buying a house that Black folks once lived in.

Reminder One: In the front yard, remove all BLACK LIVES MATTER! signs.

Reminder Two: If you parked your car in the garage, remove all emblems or stickers that speak to a Black college or a Black sorority or fraternity.

Reminder Three: In the kitchen when they check into the cupboards, remove

all bags of black-eyed peas and cans of Okra and mustard greens.

Reminder Four: In the snack corner on the kitchen counter, make sure you remove all bags of pork rinds and moon pies.

Reminder Five: In the living room, remove all BET television guides and do not have any radio playing Scott High School Jazz station, WXTS/88.3. A dead giveaway! And do not forget...get rid of those Jazz CD's!

Reminder Six: Remove all family photos. Yes, ALL family photos.

Reminder Seven: Remove all kente cloth coverings on any furniture.

Reminder Eight: In the closets, remove any Dashikis and Kangol caps!

Reminder Nine: If you have a bookshelf, remove any books that talk about soul food recipes, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Black Power or Toni Morrison. Another dead giveaway!

Reminder Ten: In any of the kid's room, remove all Black dolls.

Reminder Eleven: In the bathrooms, get rid of any hair pomades,

Jeri-Curl products, hot combs, Afro picks, cocoa butter lotion and weaves.

Reminder Twelve: Use a forest air freshener about five minutes before the appraiser arrives. If they smell fried chicken wings or collard greens with fat back, you have just lost \$10,000 in resale value!

And if, heaven forbid, you have the smell of chitlins and hot sauce in the house, the sale is irretrievably doomed! A still lingering odor of a steamy plate of chitlins has crashed many anticipated house sales.

Note: According to the March

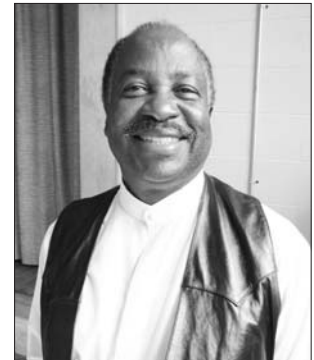
2020 issue of The Journal of Advanced Bio-Metrics, you need to allow 92 hours to air out a house after eating a meal of chitlins before you schedule an open house.

So there. I did my level best to help you achieve the American Dream of selling your house at the maximum profit possible. The rest is up to you.

You can follow my reminders of "scrubbing" down your house or be left wondering why you received an appraisal that is fifty thousand dollars less than a comparable house in your neighborhood that is being sold by a white family (even if they also may eat hog maws!).

You will have only yourself to blame!

Contact Lafe Tolliver at [tolliver@juno.com](mailto:tolliver@juno.com)



Lafe Tolliver



"The lenders kept asking me for additional documents. I quickly provided them, but they still needed more. It took so long, I lost the house to another buyer."



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If you suspect unfair mortgage lending practices, contact us.

# Biden Signs Emmett Till Act Making Lynching a Federal Hate Crime

By Chanel Cain

Howard University News Service

President Joe Biden, surrounded by civil rights leaders, descendants of Ida B. Wells and cousins of Till, officially signed the Emmett Till Anti-Lynching Act into law today. After more than 100 years of failed efforts, this act formally makes lynching a hate crime punishable for up to 30 years.

"Lynching was pure terror to enforce the lie that not everyone belongs in America and not everyone is created equal," Biden said while addressing the crowd in the Rose Garden.

The bill is named after the 14-year-old who was killed by two white men after allegedly whistling at a white woman. Till is one of 3,446 Black men, women and children lynched between 1882 and 1968, according to the NAACP.

Rev. Wheeler Parker Jr., Till's cousin who witnessed the abduction, was in attendance. Through the work of the Till Institute, Parker and another cousin, Ollie Gordon, Till's story has been a force for change. The act shows that the years of fighting finally paid off.

"Emmett speaks 60 years later," Parker said, "He still speaks from the grave. And to name it after him, it shows he didn't die in vain."

The men who killed Till in 1955, Roy Bryant and J.W. Milam, were found not guilty by an all-white jury. In 1956, they admitted to the crime in an interview with Look magazine. Carolyn Bryant, the woman who accused Till of making an advance on her, confessed that her statement was in part false in "The Blood of Emmett Till" by Timothy Tyson. None of the three served any prison time.

Recent killings, such as the murder of Ahmaud Arbery, have been labeled as modern-day lynchings, drawing comparisons to Till's story.

"Our past must not and cannot be forgotten, that the truth must be spoken no matter how difficult it is to speak, and certainly no matter how difficult it is to hear," said Vice President Kamala Harris.

Variations of this act have reached Congress numerous times, each time being shut down. Ida B. Wells, whose work as an investigative journalist exposed the horrors of lynching during her time, met with President William McKinley in 1898, urging him to make lynching a federal crime.



Emmett Till

More than a century later, Michelle Duster, Well's great-granddaughter, notes the "over 200 attempts to get legislation enacted" as she highlights the efforts of generations of pushback coming to a head.

"We are here today because of the tenacity of the Civil Rights leaders and commitment of members of Congress," Duster said.

Harris was instrumental to the bill's trajectory; she sponsored the bill in 2019 along with Sen. Bobby Rush while still serving in the Senate. Rush and Sen. Cory Booker later sponsored the bill in 2021.

During her address, Harris broke script to speak to "the importance of the Black press and ... making sure that we have the storytellers always in our community who we will support to tell the truth when no one else is willing to tell it."

This bill serves as another step forward in addressing the country's long-standing racial issues, with hopes that the bill will help to finally heal some of the wounds of the past.

"Lynching is not a relic of the past," Harris said. "Racial acts of terror still occur in our nation. And when they do, we must all have the courage to name them and hold the perpetrators to account."

Chanel Cain is co-editor of HUNewsService.com.

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-Brian Tracey

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# City of Toledo Acquires Additional Funding for Emergency Rental Assistance Program

The Truth Staff

The City of Toledo was so successful in distributing \$14,333,272.77 in direct assistance ERA 1 and ERA 2 Rental Assistance funds over the past year and a half that the U.S. Department of Treasury has reallocated more than \$19 million from the State of Ohio to Toledo to aid more area families, Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz, other city officials and local agencies announced last week, during a press conference at Pathway.

In fact, on the day of the announcement, March 30, the City opened its portal to begin allocating the \$19,409,830.00 to households. During the first two dispersals 2,564 households received an average of \$5,590.20 each for rent payments that lasted 7.15 months.

"We are thrilled to receive the additional funding, especially since it is a direct result from the success of our efforts to get aid to families in need during the first two rounds of funding," said Kapszukiewicz. "The City of Toledo is committed to making sure that residents who are at risk for homelessness, or have housing instability, are helped financially so that they can stay in their homes."

"The additional funding awarded to the City of Toledo is critical for families who are still suffering under the weight of unpaid rent due to the traumatic effects of COVID-19," said Rosalyn Clemens, director, Department of Housing and Community Development. "We are grateful for our City of Toledo TLCERAP team and partnerships with NeighborWorks, Lutheran Social Services and Pathway, who have worked tirelessly to get the funds to our residents in need."

"Rental assistance is so important," Clemens added. "Homeownership [in Toledo] has declined and most renters are cost burdened. Housing is cheap but incomes are low and people are often paying 50 percent of their income on housing. We need affordable housing – it's good for the economy."

Housing Commissioner Tiffanie McNair thanked the many landlords who helped with the program, particularly by allowing "families to stay in their homes while the process was completed."

"We earned this additional funding," said Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken while also acknowledging that government officials and employees did not have the knowledge of and connections within neighborhoods to get those funds into the hands of residents who needed the money in the time allotted by the Treasury Department.

"We collectively turned it over to people who knew how to get it done – Pathways, Lutheran Social Services and NeighborWorks. This is where the help was. We have on the ground people who know how to work with the community."

Jay Black, president and CEO of Pathway, described the challenge of making it work and also praised the collective effort that such an accomplishment took.

"There is a tremendous need for rental assistance and all of us have banded together to help meet that need," said Black.

Bill Farnsworth, CEO of NeighborWorks, echoed the general senti-



Tiffanie McNair, Housing Commissioner, Speaks about Rental Assistance Program

ment about that collective effort and also asked residents to think "long term."

"This cost burden is a real issue," Farnsworth said of housing costs. "I encourage the public, if you get involved, think about it long term." He asked people to think about taking a look at the Financial Opportunity Center that his agency, among others, offers. "Think about homeownership," he added noting that the FOC enables residents to overcome financial challenges and buy homes.

Absent at the press conference was U.S. Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur but her efforts in securing the funding did not go unappreciated.

"None of this would be possible without Marcy Kaptur," said Kapszukiewicz.

The portal is up and running and will remain open until the end of April. Those who have already received assistance from or have started an application with Toledo Lucas County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (TLCERAP) should use their original application to access the portal. Program details may be found at <http://toledo.oh.gov/renters>.

The Department of Housing and Community Development will be hosting Emergency Rental Technical Assistance events at local libraries for information.

DATE	TIME	PLACE
Monday, April 4	9:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Mott Branch
Wed. April 6	12:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Birmingham
Thursday, April 7	9:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Lagrange
Friday, April 8	12:30 PM – 4:30 PM	West Branch
Monday, April 18	12:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Mott Branch
Tuesday, April 19	9:30 AM – 12:30 PM	South Branch
Wed., April 20	9:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Birmingham
Thursday, April 21	12:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Lagrange
Friday, April 22	9:30 AM – 12:30 PM	West Branch

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*Perryman... continued from page 2*

cans' actions.

**Fedor:** That is obstinance, a direct attack on democracy. They want to rule, they don't want to allow democracy to work, but the people spoke twice. Voters need to realize what's going on here, and if it takes the courts to help us out, it's going to take the courts, but we cannot wave the white flag. We have to persist and keep going. We know there's a primary on May 3rd for the statewide races, so that's what I'm faced with. I'm hoping people absolutely go out to exercise their right to vote because we can't allow this type of leadership in Ohio, not in this day and time.

**Perryman:** What about state issues such as HB 327, I believe it is, which prohibits teaching factual history regarding race and what the State of Ohio deems as divisive concepts?

**Fedor:** It's an ideological scheme to put fear into teachers and people who believe that Americans and our children deserve to know our history's authentic truth. It leads me to wonder why they can't handle the truth? This is anti-democratic; it's a political scheme. It's racist, period.

**Perryman:** To shift a little bit, how about rail transportation between Toledo and Columbus and maybe Toledo, Detroit and Ann Arbor?

**Fedor:** I just talked about that this morning in a press conference I had on expanding childcare. Transportation needs to be dealt with just like childcare and universal preschool. These are issues of modern-day, modern times, and if Ohio wants to move out of the 21st Century into the next, we must put that at the top of the priority list. I am totally working with John Cranley on issues to bring in and usher that type of transportation system. There's no reason why we can't. We will build the political will.

**Perryman:** Do you have plans for bringing more women and minorities into leadership positions?

**Fedor:** Absolutely. When you take a look at John Cranley's campaign, we have many women already involved who have years of experience in politics and working with women all across the board and also just providing those opportunities where they get to lead. My philosophy with John is that we pull people together, let them put their best foot forward, and push those ideas through



*Rev. Donald L. Perryman, PhD; Cincinnati Mayor John Cranley, Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz; State Sen. Teresa Fedor, LC Commissioner Pete Gerken*

the process, so they walk in that leadership.

**Perryman:** Anything else that you want to add?

**Fedor:** I want to add that you'll see in Cranley/Fedor administration growth in minority businesses, just like in Cincinnati. John grew minority businesses there from seven percent to 12 percent. So, I still think we can do that plus more for the State of Ohio. I also think the research and development on investments in public universities will be critical. We will also rebuild infrastructure throughout the state using the federal government money that's come down through the Biden administration. Democrats will make the investments to get Ohio back on track.

**Perryman:** Cranley and I have previously discussed minority-led nonprofits, which suffer many of the same obstacles and barriers as minority-owned businesses and contractors. I'm hopeful that your team can also tackle that issue.

**Fedor:** You know, nonprofits hold a prominent place in my heart. I have worked in the human trafficking space for 17 years. I've seen quite a bit on the front lines of people trying to start something in a nonprofit and then figuring out it's too hard. Well, why is that? What do we need to do?

We can improve in helping people be successful and sustain their work. How do we support it, and how do we build strong nonprofits because they are so important? Some of the survivors of human trafficking that I know are so critical in

*... continued on page 13*

The Truth

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# The Revival of the Dorr Street Coalition

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

Residents and supporters of Dorr Street Coalition met on Monday, March 28 to organize available public resources and prioritize community needs. The meeting was held at Jerusalem Baptist Church with an estimated 75-100 people in attendance.

Rev. Willie Perryman, pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church, officially opened the meeting with a greeting and prayer. "We have Toledo's finest in the house tonight, there are entrepreneurs, prayer warriors and leaders here tonight. We're honored to host this townhall meeting," Perryman said.

The gathering continued with Jay Rush singing an a cappella rendition of Sam Cooke's "A Change Is Gonna Come," which was released in 1964 by RCA studio.

Immediately following the solo, Suzette Cowell, CEO and president of Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union (TUFCU), verbally shared with the attendees the purpose of the meeting. She noted that back in 2007 the community wanted the TUFCU new building to become a reality which in part would spark the revitalization of Dorr Street. "We built the credit union and now we're connecting back with the community. We're asking that everyone join this effort, we need everyone," said Cowell.

The conversation shifted as elected and appointed officials and city employees shared available resources that could support the revitalization of Dorr Street. Sandy Spang, City of Toledo Commission of Business Services, explained the types of city grants and loans for businesses of all capacity sizes. Cindy Geronimo, City of Toledo Commission of Public Utilities, shared information about residential home lead inspections. Rosalyn Clemens, City of Toledo Director of Department of Housing and Community Development, talked about upcoming projects funded by the department. Paula Hicks-Hudson, state representative, and Gary Byers, president of the Lucas County Commissioners, shared words of encouragement and support.

"What a turn out tonight. It's powerful when the community is behind a vision because that's when change happens. My interest is bringing businesses back to Dorr Street and to support those businesses currently on Dorr Street. The city has initiatives that can bring resources to make the revitalization happen" shared Spang.

Clemens opening comments mentioned the completion of the city's study about affordable housing and announced a roof repair program. "Affordable housing isn't section 8 housing or public housing. We're planning to complete 200 roofs this summer though a lottery system because when the roof goes, the rest of the house goes too," shared Clemens.

Clemens also discussed the new federal HUD application that would front-load grant funding to minority and the disadvantaged. "We really want to partner with each of you on Dorr Street to revitalize this corridor. We have to work together through different committees. You have to work

on it because it won't happen overnight," shared Clemens.

"I'm extremely excited about this coalition. It's all about us, all of us, taking a stand. It's not just about the neighborhood, or state house, or government center. There are different entities that have resources and commitments which require that the resources are provided to the community. It does take awhile to make things happen and we need to reimagine what Dorr Street will look like now and for our children in the future," shared Hicks-Hudson.

For information about the City of Toledo's business incentive programs which includes information about loans, incentives and tax credit pro-



Suzette Cowell, CEO, Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union



Cindy Geronimo, Commissioner of Public Utilities, City of Toledo



Rosalyn Clemens, Director of Neighborhoods, City of Toledo



Kathleen Greely of Community RE Investment Coalition SW

grams, click the website (<https://toledo.oh.gov/business/how-to-do-business-in-the-city/incentive-programs>)

For information about the City of Toledo's homeowners' guide of available programs that provide information about mortgage assistance, home relief, emergency broadband, water bill assistance, basement flooding, lead remediation, home rehab, compliance code, and service pro-



Rev. Willie Perryman, pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church

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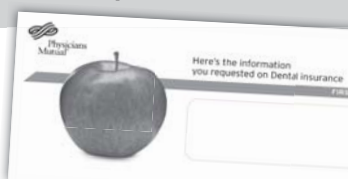
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# Tommi Lee: A Champion for Those with Developmental Disabilities

By Toni Johnson

Guest Column

"Why fit in when you were born to stand out," Dr. Seuss. Inaccurate labels, stereotypes and stigmas are often attached to individuals with disabilities. As a parent of a young adult on the autism spectrum, I'm proud to advocate and raise awareness by sharing our story of challenging, unique and extraordinary experiences.

My daughter Tommi Lee Gillard was born to stand out because she is an ambassador, champion and change agent for people with developmental disabilities.

From the moment she entered the world I knew there was something special about her. The diagnosis of autism she received at age four confirmed my intuition. Early Intervention became the beginning of the journey. Both Tommi Lee and I learned positive reinforcement skills that would impact her social skills and development. Through determination and prayers, I became her biggest advocate for the necessary resources and support needed for her to exceed the low expectations given by society.

Exposing Tommi Lee to the arts unfolded her gifts and strengths. At the early age of four, she developed an affinity for makeup, fashion style and visual arts. She admired the models in the magazines. Tommi Lee would ask her sister Cierra to make her look pretty like the girls in the book. Cierra would give her makeovers and photoshoots. Tommi Lee's photoshoots have evolved to growing followers on social media that enjoy her photos. We are currently pursuing a modeling contract.

By age 22, Tommi Lee discovered a new way to express herself and com-

... continued on page 9



Tommi Lee



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Tommi Lee... continued from page 8

municate. She started attending Adult Day Programs that included a theatre company and art studio for adults with developmental disabilities. Tommi Lee is not a woman of many words; however, the theatre experience has allowed her to emerge from non-speaking roles to key characters that required dialogue. In addition, theatre has allowed her to expand life-enhancing skill sets as well. She found her voice!

Tommi Lee's attendance at the art studio has been the most transformative. She began to tap into her imagination and creativity which resulted into her signature creation of great works of art. In 2019, the arts community and others began to take notice.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Performing and Cultural Arts Complex (KAC) offered her space for a solo exhibition, "Art Through Her Eyes: The Transformation of Tommi Lee" as a tribute for Autism Awareness month in April. Tommi Lee was the first artist with a developmental disability to be featured at KAC.

Tommi Lee's journey to this exhibition was developed into a short documentary film "Art Through Her Eyes The Transformation of Tommi Lee" which can be seen on YouTube.. In 2021, Tommi Lee's second solo art



## Autism Provider Network Job Fair at Toledo Library

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library and the Autism Provider Network (APN) will host a job fair on April 6 at Main Library. Interviews will be conducted on site.

(W) April 6 from 2 - 6 p.m.

Main Library Atrium (<https://www.toledolibrary.org/locations/main-library>)

Employers looking to hire:

- \* BCBA's (masters required)
- \* DSP (high school students)
- \* Behavior Technicians (high school graduate)
- \* Administration Positions

"The Autism Provider Network is pleased to showcase the rewarding and enriching career opportunities available that supports the empowerment of those with autism. We are a network of professionals who champion each other. Having started my career as a Direct Support Professional, my life has been enhanced by this career choice. I have received more than I could have ever given to this profession or those we empower," said, Kelly Elton, Autism Provider Network Chair.

Avenues for Autism works within the autism provider community to identify and fill gaps in services. In addition to the missions of their respective organizations, APN member agencies utilize resources and talent to advance agreed-upon initiatives which benefit the community.

Dorr Street... continued from page 7

viders, click the website (<https://toledo.oh.gov/residents/homeowners>)

Dorr Street Coalition was organized in 2007 by chief organizer and current facilitator, Suzette Cowell and several community leaders and organizations who are invested or located along Dorr Street.

An official kick-off meeting was held in mid-March 2022. Present at the meeting held at Jerusalem include key figures such as Pastors Willie Perryman of Jerusalem Baptist Church, Jerry Boose of Second Baptist Church and James Willis Sr of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Robert Smith of African American Legacy Project, John Jones of Hope Toledo, Reggie Williams of Frederick Douglas Community Association.

The current coalition officers: Suzette Cowell, chair, Sonia Flunder-McNair, vice chair, Bishop Edward Cook, treasurer, and Rev. Jerry Boose, secretary.

exhibition "Art Through Her Eyes: The Adventures of TommiLee's World" was held at Chromedge Art Studio.

In addition, "Indigirl: The Adventures of Tommi Lee", a book about Tommi Lee's journey was released on Amazon. Her most recent accomplishment is receiving the Unsung Hero Award for Outstanding Artist with a Disability from CbusWGFest.

I celebrate Tommi Lee as she continues to blossom and inspire all women!

*Ed. Note: Toni Johnson, Tommi Lee's mother, is a Toledo native and was a long-time resident, a graduate of DeVilbiss High School, who now resides and works in Columbus*

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## Easy Excellent Eggs

By Patrice Powers-Barker, OSU Extension, Lucas County

The Truth Contributor

For a while, eggs got a bad rap for being too high in cholesterol. While they do contain dietary cholesterol, they also contain other important nutrients. According to Harvard School of Public Health, some of those nutrients may help lower the risk of heart disease. They address the question, "are eggs healthy?" by looking at the entire menu for overall healthy eating patterns.

For example, it is much healthier to eat scrambled eggs with salsa and a 100 percent whole-wheat English muffin compared to scrambled eggs with cheese, sausage, home fries and white toast. Not that you cannot eat those foods, but the reminder is to pair them up with healthy alternatives.

The Harvard School of Public Health also compared eggs with other breakfast menus. Yes, eggs are a better choice than sweetened cereals or donuts. On the other hand, a bowl of oatmeal with nuts and berries is a great choice for heart health. They recommend a variety of foods, especially with an emphasis on plant-based protein options.

The colors of the eggshells have to do with the breed of the chicken. Often, the type of chicken and the color of their earlobes will indicate the color of the eggshells. A hen with a white earlobe lays white eggs while a hen with a red or dark earlobe lays brown eggs. No matter the color of the shell, all eggs provide protein and other important nutrients to our diet.

The grades of AA or A or B are all determined by the quality of the shell, the yolk, and the egg white. As expected, the grades of AA or A are higher quality. These grades are recommended for baking. Grade B eggs are a good choice for hard-boiled eggs. When making hard boiled eggs, it's also helpful to not use the freshest eggs as they don't peel as well. Eggs that are seven-10 days old are a good choice for hardboiled.

Hardboiled and dyed eggs are not uncommon during the spring Easter sea-

son, but hardboiled eggs can be enjoyed all year long. They can be an easy snack, chopped on top of a salad, or made into other recipes like deviled eggs or egg salad. Although many people have their favorite way to boil eggs and make them into other dishes, the following instructions are here for those who haven't boiled eggs in a while.



For half a dozen hard boiled eggs, you'll need six eggs, about four cups of water and about five ice cubes.

1. Place eggs on the bottom of a pot and fill with cold water, about one inch above the eggs.
2. Place cover on the pot and bring water to a rapid boil over high heat.
3. Once the water boils, keep the cover on the pot and remove it from heat. Let eggs sit for 10 minutes covered in the water.
4. Fill a bowl with ice and water.
5. After 10 minutes is up, use a slotted spoon and take the eggs out of the pot and place them in the bowl of ice water for 10 minutes.
6. To peel the eggs, tap gently around the egg to crack the shell, as you peel the egg, rinse under cold water to help get all the shells off.

To make a basic egg salad, finely chop four hardboiled eggs, mix with one tablespoon of pickle relish, ½ teaspoon salt, one teaspoon mustard and ¼ cup mayonnaise. You can add fresh chopped chives. You can also substitute other ingredients for the mayonnaise such as plain Greek yogurt or hummus. This will give a different taste to the traditional egg salad but a similar consistency for a sandwich spread.

As mentioned earlier, the color of the eggs doesn't indicate the nutritional quality. The size of the eggs (small, medium, large, extra-large, and jumbo) does indicate a small difference in the amounts of nutrients. Eggs contain a small amount of omega-3 fatty acids. If eggs are labeled "enriched with omega-three fatty acids" it means that the chickens are fed foods high in omega-3 fatty acids and the eggs they lay have a higher amount.

Other easy ways to use eggs and add them to a variety of foods includes fried rice or a baked breakfast casserole with cubed bread. These types of recipes are convenient as they call for ingredients that might already be on hand. Recipes listed here and others can be found at [myplate.gov](http://myplate.gov). Information on eggs from the Harvard School of Public Health and Eatright.org.

## Why Experts Say We Must Broaden Our Definition of Health

Special To The Truth

Many Americans view health as a product of the medical care they receive. However, public health experts say that's just one piece of the puzzle.

"In reality, our health is shaped more by the zip code we live in than the doctor we see. In fact, where we live, our financial circumstances, our access to affordable, nutritious foods, and other non-medical factors overwhelmingly influence our physical and mental health," says Dr. Shantanu Agrawal, chief health officer, Anthem, Inc.

These factors that Dr. Agrawal refers to are known as "social drivers of health" (SDoH), and they determine up to 80% of our health outcomes, according to Robert Wood Johnson Foundation research.

As part of "What's Driving Our Health," Anthem's campaign to start a national conversation around whole health, the healthcare company

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## A Mental Health Moment

## Mental Health and April Fool's Weather

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

The Truth Contributor

Welcome to spring, which officially began on March 21. Looking at how the weather in our area has been "acting" it is sometimes hard to believe that it is really spring. Spring and summer months bring mental and physical challenges to those of us living in the Midwest and other areas that have fewer days of sunlight and more cold weather which often keeps us in the house. If you are the type of person who enjoys being out in nature walking, gardening or bike riding, the weather often predicts when and how long that can occur due to snow and frigid weather.



The challenges come in on how to replace those activities and also how to get enough sunlight which supports our vitamin D health. FYI, low vitamin D is linked to depression and other mental health symptoms. The symptoms of vitamin D mimic those of depression and can lead to a misdiagnosis of a mental health disorder. According to an article of the Cleveland Clinic (<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/15050-vitamin-d--vitamin-d-deficiency>)

**Signs and symptoms might include:**

- Fatigue.
- Bone pain.
- Muscle weakness, muscle aches, or muscle cramps.
- Mood changes, like depression.

I have often found in my experience of counseling individuals starting around the month of October, first and foremost, more people begin to schedule appointments, those numbers soar through March and around the end or so of March and beginning of April, the numbers of appointments slow down significantly or people report they have decided to stop taking their medications prescribed to treat depressive type disorders.

So, what's happening? The weather eases up, we can get back to our "normal" routines and begin to take walks, get some fresh air, sunshine and not be sort of stuck in the house allowing our bodies and minds to suffer.

Some solutions to the factors we can and cannot control are, first, if you enjoy being outdoors exercising, find a way to exercise indoors at home or at a local fitness center, think about investing in a sunlamp which can provide some of the necessary health components of being out in the sun -- the National Institute of Health (NIH) suggests just 15 minutes a day can provide enough ultra violet light radiation to keep our vitamin D3 levels up.

Ask your medical provider for a referral to get bloodwork completed to check the levels of your vitamin D. If it is low, she will prescribe a prescription strength vitamin D for you or suggest you purchase vitamin D

over the counter all depending on your levels. Please do not stop taking your prescription medications without consulting with your medical provider. Yes, it's great to feel much better and, yes, we can all agree that the warmth and the sunlight plays a huge role in those feelings but depending upon your medications, they still work the same in the spring and summer months but come fall you may experience the negative effects of not having the help of your medications and it becomes a cycle of getting on and off of medications. Eat foods high in vitamin D, such as:

- Cod liver oil.
- Salmon.
- Swordfish.
- Tuna fish.
- Orange juice fortified with vitamin D.
- Dairy and plant milks fortified with vitamin D.
- Sardines.
- Beef liver

Take a mental health moment and assess your overall health and a good time to do so is when the time change occurs each spring and fall. Take note of your vitamin D levels and ask your medical provider where you stand before you make an appointment to be assessed for depression. Taking a vitamin D is a lot easier and cheaper than taking a psychotropic medication for symptoms that just look like depression when it could really just be the season. Happy spring everyone and remember....Get Your Mind Right...and everything else will fall into place.

**Bernadette Graham is a Licensed Professional Mental Health Counselor, National Certified Counselor and Certified Grief Recovery Specialist. She is also a Certified Clinical Hypnotherapist. Provide feedback or reach out at [graham.bernadette@gmail.com](mailto:graham.bernadette@gmail.com) For appointment information please call 419.409.4929 (Appointments available on Tuesdays and Fridays only). Office location is 3454 Oak Alley Ct. Suite 300 Toledo, OH 43606 [www.bjgrahamcounseling.com](http://www.bjgrahamcounseling.com) Available for team building, employee empowerment in motivation and better understanding mental health in the work place. Accepting new client ages 13 and older.**

**Definition of Health... continued from page 10**

recently conducted a study to learn more about Americans' perceptions of what health really means. Here are some of the study's top findings:

- While 46% of Americans are unaware of the concept of social drivers of health, once given the definition, 60% agree that their local community is facing at least some health issues related to them.
- Americans of color are disproportionately affected by the consequences of SDoH. While 58% of white respondents report that their local community is facing at least some health issues related to SDoH, 69% of Hispanic and Latino respondents report the same, as do 68% of Asian respondents and 68% of Black/African American respondents.
- Poor nutrition can contribute to a range of chronic health conditions, and 50% of those surveyed say it is hard to find affordable, healthy food in their local community.
- Though 70% of Americans live near at least one hospital or medical center, one in five say that lack of transportation has kept them from medical appointments. What's more, nearly one-third struggle with access to health services and care.
- Internet access not only determines whether one is able to use important health services such as telemedicine, it deeply impacts educa-

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# Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter to Host African American Community Forum April 24

Bradfield Community Center in Lima, Ohio will be the location of an Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter Community

Forum that is designed to gather critical information about the barriers confronting the local African American community seeking an Alzheimer's diagnosis, treatment and care.

The Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter invites Lima and surrounding area residents to take part in the Community Forum, which will be held from 2-3:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 24. The center is located at 550 South Collett Street in Lima. The event is free, but pre-registration is required by visiting <https://bit.ly/LIMACommunityforum> or calling the Association 24/7 Helpline at 800.272.3900.

As the American population ages and becomes increasingly more diverse, the Alzheimer's Association is committed to identifying and addressing barriers that may prohibit members of these diverse communities, particularly those in the African American community, from receiving important Alzheimer's diagnosis, treatment and resources.

Pam Myers, program director for the Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter, said, "We know that African Americans are about twice as likely as white Americans to have Alzheimer's or another dementia. We also know that while African Americans are more likely to develop Alzheimer's disease than white Americans, they are less likely to receive a diagnosis. A delay in diagnosis could mean that African Americans with Alzheimer's and other dementias may miss the opportunity to make important legal, financial and care plans while they are still capable, and make their preferences known to their families."

The Alzheimer's Association reported in its 2021 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures that 36 percent of African Americans believe discrimination would be a barrier to receiving Alzheimer's care, and 50 percent reported they have experienced health care discrimination.

Evelyn Smith, Alzheimer's Association community forum committee member said, "I've watched loved ones suffer from Alzheimer's disease and I want to be sure my community is educated about this disease and knows that there is help available."

The Alzheimer's Association community forum is a town hall-style meeting that gathers communities in a comfortable neutral setting so that Alzheimer's staff can learn about real-life experiences of people impacted by the disease.

"Community forums, like the one to be held here in Lima, help bring our community together," Keshia Drake, committee member added. "It is important for people to get involved as it provides a place for them to have a voice in what is needed in local Alzheimer's care and services."

Myers said anyone with an interest in or experience with Alzheimer's or other dementias is invited to attend, including business and community leaders; affected individuals; family members and caregivers; faith leaders; hospitals; and volunteer organizations. A free lunch will be served. Those who wish to preregister should call the Alzheimer's Association through its 24/7 helpline at 800.272.3900.

Following all current state and local health and venue site guidelines regarding masks, social distancing and meeting size, the Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter will begin offering programs and support groups both in-person and virtually. While masks are optional (unless required by the venue site), unvaccinated and compromised participants should consider wearing masks when attending programs and other meetings. The Bradfield Community Center will have masks available.

Alzheimer's is a progressive and fatal brain disease that kills nerve cells and tissues in the brain, affecting an individual's ability to remember, think and plan. During the pandemic, the Alzheimer's Association has continued to offer education programs, personalized care consultations and support groups to families impacted by the disease. It is estimated that Alzheimer's and dementia deaths have increased 16 percent during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Alzheimer's disease is currently ranked in the top 10 causes of death in the United States. According to the National Institute on Aging, recent estimates indicate Alzheimer's disease may rank third, just behind heart disease and cancer, as a cause of death for older people.

Individuals can reach the Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter at 419.537.1999 to schedule a care consultation and be connected with local resources that can help. A variety of free educational programs and support groups are offered free to the community both in-person and virtually. Current offerings can be found at [https://www.alz.org/nwOhio/helping\\_you](https://www.alz.org/nwOhio/helping_you).

\*Alzheimer's Association® \*The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected, and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's. Visit [alz.org](http://alz.org) or call 800.272.3900.

## Definition of Health... continued from page 11

tional outcomes and access to economic opportunities, including employment. Yet, only 39% of Americans believe it significantly impacts their health.

- Some additional factors that can drive health outcomes in the short and long term include access to green spaces, educational opportunities, economic stability and living in a safe community.

### Where to Start

More than 80% of those surveyed believe that healthcare entities, local government, private citizens and employers share responsibility to address the many social drivers of health. While these issues are complex and no one entity can fully address all the social drivers alone, here is what you can do today:

1. Connect the dots. Visit [WhatsDrivingOurHealth.com](http://WhatsDrivingOurHealth.com) to read the full report and learn more about whole health and its drivers.
2. Spread the word. Share what you've learned about the ways social drivers affect you and your community and follow the conversation on social media using #DrivingOurHealth.
3. Join the conversation. Understanding is the first step in making positive change. Engage with friends, family, and community members about the many ways to address health-related social needs in your community.

"The sooner we broaden our definition of health, the sooner we can address the many factors that affect people's ability to thrive," says Dr. Agrawal.

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# The Trayvon Generation by Elizabeth Alexander

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

Your children never miss a thing.

Nothing escapes their notice. They watch below and overhead, spotting objects you've passed by a dozen times but never truly saw. From birth and beyond, they're like sponges, observant and watchful and, as in the new book, *The Trayvon Generation* by Elizabeth Alexander, you wish for them better things to see.

Though it's been a 400-year struggle, the number-one problem of this century, says Alexander, is still "the color line." Generations have done "the race work," but it remains an issue and she "both lament[s]" and is "enraged that... our young people still have to wrestle with" it.

She grew up "in troves of blackness," but Alexander's children were raised in a neighborhood where someone sent out a watch message about two Black boys riding around on bikes. As the mother of those boys, now men, she knows the worry, the dreams about worrying, and the fear of not being able to keep them safe.

As a Black mother, it's impossible to "fully protect our children," she believes.

Part of the problem is that we don't always see white supremacy when it's hidden right in front of us. Alexander points at artwork and paintings that hang in esteemed places, but that feature uncomfortable or even outrageous backgrounds that often go unnoticed, or that take decades to change, once they're seen.

And we go back to what's seen: Alexander calls her sons and Black people under 25 the "Trayvon Generation." They're the youth whose names are called when we talk about the police, and the young people whose names we don't know. We see, and still wonder how a mother can keep her children from being "demonized," or teach them "to access the sources of strength that transcend this American nightmare of racism and... violence." How can she protect them, when they, themselves, are used to assuming "responsibility for the horror they could not prevent?"

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160 Pages

"I wish," she says, "... for our young people rest from the unending labor that is race work, and from the spectral anxiety that is part of what it is to be Black."

How do you mark your pages when you read a book? Whatever you use, have a lot of them on hand because nearly every other paragraph of *The Trayvon Generation* contains a sentence or three that you'll want to remember, to re-read, or turn over in your mind.

Author Elizabeth Alexander uses personal stories, Black literature, history, racial violence, and current events to paint pain inside the pages of this book. There's outrage here, too, but it's different than perhaps anything you've read: it shows itself, then it sits back and waits to see what a reader

will do before getting another punch or gasp, another George Floyd, another Angola, another "shock of delayed comprehension."

That's what makes this book so must-readable, so thoughtful and compelling. It's what makes it something you'll want to share with your older teenager and your friends, for discussion. *Find The Trayvon Generation*, and you won't miss a thing.



*Trayvon Generation* author, photo courtesy Djeneba Aduayom

## The TRAYVON GENERATION



*Elizabeth Alexander*

Author of

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

*Perryman... continued from page 6*

getting the work done and having an impact. We need to ensure their nonprofit is sustainable because they're doing the work I cannot. I cannot go in and do that work. I'm not credible.

We need to recognize how these pieces all fit together. We can do better. That's my hope and dream, and I'm so excited about this opportunity because the hard work of human trafficking has taught me so much. I can see the path. I know what to do and how to do it.

**Perryman:** Many Ohio voters are also counting on the Cranley/Fedor ticket to set them free from decades of Republican control.

**Fedor:** Yes. With the Cranley/Fedor ticket Ohio absolutely is going to be a delight. It will be a delight. We will celebrate.

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

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### Job Posting

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

GEM Inc. is seeking a Warehouse Bench Clerk in its Walbridge, OH warehouse. As a member of our team your responsibilities will include unloading trucks from jobsites, cleaning and painting gang boxes, tools, equipment and materials, and overall support of our warehouse personnel.

High school diploma or general education degree (GED) required. Previous tool room experience a plus. Forklift certification a plus.

GEM Inc. is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

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

### LEGAL NOTICE TO BIDDERS TOLEDO LUCAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY RENOVATIONS FOR MAIN LIBRARY CAFÉ

Sealed proposals will be received at the main Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, 325 N. Michigan St., Toledo, Ohio, 43604 (Dispatch Office addressed to the Fiscal Officer) until April 18, 2022, 12:00 P.M. to be opened immediately thereafter for furnishing the necessary labor, equipment, tools and materials for renovations involving the Café at the Main Library.

Copies of the bid and contract documents including instructions to bidders and specifications may be obtained, upon deposit of \$25.00 (twenty-five dollars) in cash or check for each set, from the office of Buehrer Group Architecture & Engineering, Inc.; 314 Conant Street, Maumee, Ohio 43537. Electronic documents are available at no cost. **NOTE: CASH DEPOSITS WILL NOT BE REFUNDED. If within ten (10) days after the opening of bids**, documents are returned undamaged, deposits **paid by check** will be fully refunded. The bid and contract documents shall be on file, for inspection, at the office of Buehrer Group Architecture & Engineering, Inc. 314 Conant Street, Maumee, OH 43537.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Guarantee and Contract Bond in the amount of 100% of the bid; or a certified check; cashier's check or letter of credit in the amount of 10% of the bid which will require a 100% Performance Bond upon award of the contract. All bids shall be submitted on forms of proposal supplied by the Architect. All bidders, by bidding, agree to pay wages not less than the minimum as determined by the State of Ohio, Department of Industrial Relations, and agree to comply with Executive Order No. 11246 of the President of the United States.

The Board of Trustees, Toledo Lucas County Public Library reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities in bidding. No Bidder may withdraw his or her bid for a period of sixty (60) days after bid opening.

A voluntary pre-bid meeting will be held at 10:00 am local time, on April 4, 2022, at the Main Library Café, 325 N. Michigan Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604.

By order of the Board of Trustees, Toledo Lucas County Public Library.

**The Social Butterfly presents  
The 11th Annual  
Business & Health EXPO**

**Saturday, April 30, 2022**  
10:00am - 4:00pm

**St. Clements Hall**  
2990 Tremainsville Rd., Toledo, OH 43613

**Mercy Health Screenings  
Vendors & Networking Opportunities  
~ Free Admission & Parking ~**

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(419) 367-9765  
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# CLASSIFIEDS

April 6, 2022

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## POSITION AVAILABLE ATTORNEY

**Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), a non-profit regional law firm that provides high-quality legal assistance to low-income people and groups in western Ohio, seeks a resourceful, culturally competent attorney for its Toledo office.** The Attorney will work with ABLE's Housing and Community Economic Development Practice Group and ABLE's Meaningful and Appropriate Education Practice Group. The Attorney will expand ABLE's community economic development capacity in the Toledo area and provide legal representation to children and parents in education cases.

Please visit <https://www.ablelaw.org/careers-with-able/> for more details and to submit your application. Position will remain open until filled.

***ABLE is an Equal Opportunity Employer and places a high value on diversity in our workplace, including diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, and physical ability. We strive to create an environment welcoming to all individuals and we encourage applications from individuals traditionally underrepresented in the legal profession. Applicants requiring accommodation for the interview/application process should contact the recruitment coordinator at [ablejobs@freelawyers.org](mailto:ablejobs@freelawyers.org).***



## MAUMEE VALLEY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity (MVHFH) is a nonprofit housing organization that brings people together to build homes, communities and hope in Lucas County. Our vision is of a world where everyone has a decent place to live. We work toward this vision by building and improving homes in partnership with individuals and families in need of a decent and affordable place to live.

Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity is looking for a position for Community Engagement Manager. The Community Engagement Manager plays a critical role in strengthening relationships through planning, coordination, and implementation of projects in partnership with key neighborhoods. This position will oversee all aspects of Neighborhood Engagement. A bachelor's or associates degree from an accredited college or university is preferred.

Full time with benefits. Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity is an Equal Opportunity Employer For a complete job description and to apply, visit <https://www.mvhabitat.org/main/work-with-us/>

**JOIN THE TOLEDO INTERFAITH MASS CHOIR IN "A SEASON OF REMEMBRANCE"** as we remember present and past members of the music community. Rehearsals will be held on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Greater St. Mary's Baptist Church, 416 Belmont Ave. Come join us in this music ministry. More information, please call 419-241-3330 or 419-241-7332. Thank you!

## MEMBERSHIP AND ANNUAL GIVING MANAGER

Metroparks Toledo is seeking a Membership and Annual Giving Manager to join our philanthropy team. This new position will help build, inspire, and motivate lasting relationships with our core Metroparks community. A college degree in business, marketing or related field is required. Moderate level of experience in development/fundraising/sales is preferred. Salaried with benefits.

To view the full job description and apply online, please visit <https://metroparkstoledo.com/get-involved/careers/>

## PUBLIC ART COORDINATOR

THE ARTS COMMISSION IS NOW HIRING for a part time Public Art Coordinator and a full time Marketing & Communications Manager. Deadline to apply is April 18, 2022. The Arts Commission is committed to diversity and inclusion in the selection process and is an equal opportunity employer. For position details and how to apply, please visit [TheArtsCommission.org/about/Employment](https://TheArtsCommission.org/about/Employment).

## LIBRARIAN

Toledo Lucas County Public Library (TLCPL), a public library that inspires lifelong learning and provides universal access to a broad range of information, ideas, and entertainment, seeks a positive applicant with strong technical skills to provide library services, adult programming, and reference services at the Kent Branch Library. Please visit Employment Opportunities | Toledo Lucas County Public Library ([toledolibrary.org](https://toledolibrary.org))<<https://www.toledolibrary.org/jobs>> to review the full details and to apply.

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library is an Equal Opportunity Employer and places a high value on diversity in its workplace including race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, protected Veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

## POSITION AVAILABLE BILINGUAL OUTREACH WORKERS (FINDLAY)

Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc. (LAWO), a non-profit law firm, is hiring two Outreach Workers to help the advocates in its Findlay office extend legal services to these workers and their families throughout Ohio.

***LAWO is an Equal Opportunity Employer and places a high value on diversity in our workplace, including diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, and physical ability. We strive to create an environment welcoming to all individuals and we encourage applications from individuals traditionally underrepresented in the legal profession. Applicants requiring accommodation for the interview/application process should contact the recruitment coordinator at [lawojobs@freelawyers.org](mailto:lawojobs@freelawyers.org).***



## COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER

Two (2) Full-time positions, Community Health Worker (CHW). Minimum one-year experience in community-based case management/outreach is required. Responsible for outreach, recruitment, care coordination, maintaining an active caseload of 30, timely follow-up on referrals from community agencies. Excellent organizational and time management skills required. Must be certified as Community Health Worker or obtain certification within the first year of employment.

Minimum of an associate degree in public health, social work, or related field required. BA preferred. Knowledge of community of resources and excellent interpersonal skills required.

Salary: \$16-19.00/hour. Full benefits available. Submit resume to [admin@ywcawo.org](mailto:admin@ywcawo.org) or mail to YWCA 1018 Jefferson Ave Toledo, OH 43604.

# Urban Wholistics Kicks off Minority Health Month

The Truth Staff

Urban Wholistics by SONIA Organics kicked off National Minority Health Month on April 1 at The Truth Gallery with the first of a two-day community health and wellness event. From 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., visitors were treated to a Respiratory and Minority Health Lecture featuring Dr. Tonia Farmer, an ENT-Otolaryngologist from the Lippy Group in Warren, OH, and Dr. Radha Ramana Murthy Gokula, a geriatrician at the University of Toledo.

Day one's event, held at The Truth Art Gallery was emceed by City Council candidate Erika White, who was assisted by City Councilman Nick Komives.

"What I love is respiratory wellness," said Dr. Farmer starting her presentation. "I am an ear, nose and throat doctor and respiratory wellness is not just about the lungs. The nose and sinuses are a part also. Wellness looks different for everybody; wellness begins with respiratory wellness. If you do not have a healthy sinus and nose, you will not have good respiratory wellness."

Dr. Farmer addressed her audience of about 50 on the necessity to maintain health sinuses and the key that such maintenance was for overall health.

Dr. Gokula followed Dr. Farmer and spoke about some of the measures necessary for aging patients to maintain in order to stay as healthy as possible for the longest time possible.

Urban Wholistics, created by Sonia Flunder-Mcnair three years ago, is a total health, community-based grassroots initiative created to beautify open land in neighborhoods that have been historically excluded from access to holistic green spaces. The initiative engages the community through education, instruction, land development and the creation of economic opportunities.

For Friday's kick off to Minority Health Month, Flunder-McNair brought together a number of vendors to represent healthy living.

Island Soul, a Caribbean/West Indian food service business by Chef K (Mikkala Bagot), brought the traditional rice and peas dish. Jasmine Dee's J's Catering brought the brown rice flavored with turmeric and cilantro and the healthy grain bowls with fresh thyme. Kaylah Pompili's Set The Bar Bartending Service brought the mint infused water and the signature wines.

Urban Wholistics provided the honeys produced by local farmers – Bench's Bees & Honey products.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Farmer, is the co-owner of the Lippy Group for ENT where she serves as director of the Head and Neck Department and director of the Lippy Allergy Clinic. She also co-owns the independently run Lippy Surgery Center and Lippy Hearing Aid Center. She is an active medical staff member at Trumbull Memorial Hospital and served as past department chair for ENT at St. Joseph Health Center, both in Warren, Ohio. She is a surgeon in a field that is represented by less than one percent of Black specialists.

Day two of the kickoff was held indoors at the Scott High School Field House on Saturday, April 2. That event featured vendors, entertainment, activities, resources and giveaways.



## REFINERY PROCESS OPERATOR

### Are you ready to fuel your future?

Toledo Refining Company LLC is located in Oregon, Ohio and is owned by PBF Energy LLC. The refinery has a crude oil processing capacity of approximately 180,000 barrels per day.

Toledo Refining Company LLC has an exciting opportunity for Refinery Process Operators.

A Refinery Process Operator is responsible for: operations and maintaining equipment; climbing ladders, tanks and towers up to 250 ft.; taking samples/readings of various process streams; initiating work orders and permitting for work related to the assigned unit; maintaining proper and safe operations of the plant operating process equipment; and communicating effectively during the shift and at shift relief regarding key process unit and equipment information.

Compensation & Schedule	Competitive Benefits Package	Required Qualifications
Starting Pay Rate \$34.11 per hour	Medical, Dental, Vision	Must be at least 18 years old
12 hour Rotating Shifts	401k Match	HS Diploma or Equivalent
	Pension	Legally authorized to work in the US without restrictions
	Paid Parental Leave	Must have a current driver's license
	Much More!	

Fuel Your Future with Toledo Refining Company

Apply online today!

[www.pbfenergy.com/careers](http://www.pbfenergy.com/careers)

Application deadline is 11:59pm April 10, 2022

Applicants MUST apply online and review the entire job posting.  
Resume MUST be submitted in Microsoft Word or .pdf format.  
Applicants MUST provide a valid email address where they can be contacted regarding updates on the recruiting process.



EOE/M/F/D/V



Jasmine Dees of J's Catering



Councilman Nick Komives and Erika White



Kaylah Pompili of Set The Bar

