



Volume 72 No. 5

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

May 11, 2022



Shareese Norwood and Cece Green

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# The People Have Spoken

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

The Truth Contributor

*Nonvoting is a fruitless temper tantrum.*

*- Bruce Wright*



Last week's Ohio primary is in the books and, despite a meager turnout, the people have spoken.

For the Republicans, each election continues to be a referendum on former President Donald Trump. Yet, more Republicans voted than Democrats, who appear to be demoralized and lacking the fire to compete.

Meanwhile, a leaked Supreme Court draft opinion overturning Roe v. Wade suggests the potential future reversal of long-established rights. If Roe falls, access to birth control could be limited, while marriage rights for gay or interracial couples could be threatened.

It remains to be seen whether the controversial leaked Supreme Court draft opinion will invigorate the lethargic Democrats for a massive showing in the general election.

Here are a few takeaways from a few select primary results.

## Lucas County Commissioner: Constituencies Matter

State Representative Lisa Sobecki's near 30 percent victory over incumbent Gary Byers proclaims loudly that constituencies matter. Sobecki's time on the Toledo Public Schools board, as a union steward in a major union in Lucas County, and experience in the Ohio legislature provided her with a much more extensive portfolio and the ability to engage with voters on a broader scale.

Byers performed well in predominantly upper-middle-class areas like

Ottawa Hills, Old Orchard, Whitehouse, and Waterville. Yet, his experience as a judge in suburban Maumee did not provide a natural constituency to connect with enough voters to overcome Sobecki's large base.

## Ohio Gubernatorial: Progressive Messaging Takes a Hit

The John Cranley/Theresa Fedor ticket crushed the Nan Whaley and Cheryl Stephens team by 35 percent in northwest Ohio, Fedor's home district. But unfortunately, the team flopped in the rest of the state.

Although some considered Whaley the more liberal choice, Cranley's social justice tour and other liberal agenda items perhaps, drowned out his message of economic rebound for Ohio.

Whaley's endorsement by U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown, a powerful mainline Democrat, helped Whaley prevail while progressives such as Cleveland's Nina Turner lost influence. Shontel Brown, aligned with mainstream Democrats, defeated the former Bernie Sanders supporter in a Democratic primary re-match in Ohio's 13th U.S. Congressional District. The race highlighted some of the current ideological debates inside the Democratic Party.

The good news for Democrats is that Republican incumbent Governor Mike DeWine, although the 11th most popular Governor, currently does not enjoy Trump's support. And neither was the Republican front-runner able to get 50 percent of his Party's primary vote.

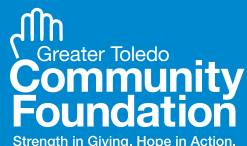
In addition, at the last minute, a GOP megachurch pastor from Cincinnati entered the Governor's race in the general election. Will the pastor pull enough votes from DeWine to make Whaley competitive?

Whaley, however, may be able to rejuvenate the Dems and get them excited to show up at the polls in November. The former Dayton mayor and her African American running mate provide the first woman Democratic candidate for Governor when women's rights are under attack. It will be an uphill battle, but the Whaley/Stephens ticket is built for such

... continued on page 4



Greater Toledo Community Foundation created a specific fund to support the removal of barriers to equity and access for all in our community. If you are a nonprofit organization in the Greater Toledo Region that has a program that supports this mission, you are encouraged to apply for funding by July 2nd.



For more information, contact Artisha Lawson at 419.241.5049 or visit [toledocf.org/equity-access-initiative](https://toledocf.org/equity-access-initiative)

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# Supreme Court to Reverse the Brown Decision!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

Dear Reader, by the time you have read this column, I will have activated a series of strategic maneuvers that have allowed to me to seek journalistic protective sanctuary in a remote village in Canada.

The reason for this sudden departure (although I knew it would come to this) was that I was privy to be the source (some would call it a "leak") of obtaining sensitive documents that have originated from the US Supreme Court.

As some of you may know, in my legal career, I have had the privilege and honor of serving as legal counsel for the Capitol Police in Washington, D.C. I met some brilliant and fascinating people during that tenure; and I was able to develop some trusted relationships with some of the law clerks who worked for the highest court in the land.

During our comradery, I learned the ins and outs of how the judicial process works amongst the Supreme Court jurists and was able to discern that the methods by which they issue opinions and how those opinions are safeguarded until their final release.

Well, you can imagine my shock and concern when my contact at the Supreme Court called me on an encrypted line and told me that he needed to fly to Toledo on urgent business and he could not trust this conversation over the phone or through fax machines.

Nor would he tell me the nature of the visit, but he stressed the fact that such a meeting was imperative, and that the welfare of the country was hanging in the balance.

I agreed to meet at the downtown main library, in the genealogy department of the building where exchanging documents would not cause any undue attention or alarm.

We met, warmly shook hands and fondly spoke of our past days of trying to create a society in which all people were accorded fairness and in which the ruling rich class would not have undue influence in the ways and means by which Congress conducts its business.

There was a long pause while he fumbled to open his battered blue valise. Once he retrieved a stack of papers, he looked at me as if the world in which we lived in these United States was on the verge of collapse.

I sensed his uneasiness and the drama of what was to be presented to me. He wanted repeated assurances that what he was about to disclose would be kept safe and that I would not name him as the primary source of what appeared to be purloined papers.

Intense curiosity got the best of me, and I assured him that our conversation was sacred and my lips were sealed unto the grave.

What he revealed to me caused such a sharp exhale of air from me that some of the surrounding library patrons turned and looked at the source of that apparent discomfort.

I quickly gathered myself and braced for a most startling disclosure.

Without further elaboration, he indicated that what I was about to receive was a final draft opinion of the United States Supreme Court overruling the ground shaking precedent of *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education* which declared that separate but equal was in fact illegal.

Yes, THE landmark decision that outlawed school segregation and which also was the harbinger legal decision that tore down other racial restrictive codes against Black and Brown people. The famed Thurgood Marshall argued that case before the Supreme Court on behalf of the NAACP.

When my heart stopped racing, I looked up at him and he too was frozen in thought, with both of us knowing that if such a decision were to be published at the end of the summer term, that America would be forever roiled in rebellion and protest marches would explode across the country and around the world.

I sat there for the next half hour reading the opinion written by Amy Coney Barrett and signed by the other four conservative judges, making it a narrow 5-4 decision.

Even Uncle Tom Clarence Thomas signed on in a separate concurring opinion but made his remarks tailored to the thoughts of Booker T. Washington who believed America could be as one but legally separate in matters of social interactions between the races.

The main rationale given for this cataclysmic decision was that people are permitted to voluntarily separate from others under a freedom of assembly argument (First Amendment); and were not legally or morally bound to accept others in their social circles that they could choose to exclude. Justice Barrett indicated that in the Constitution there is no requirement for integration nor is there any language mentioning it as a legal mandate under the interpretation of "due process."

Needless to state, the national implications were stunning and far reaching

because in America, those who hold political and economic power could then choose those whom they favor over those they disagree with based solely upon their ethnic background or country of origin and, if so, the grand American experiment in a multi-racial democracy was for all purposes dead.

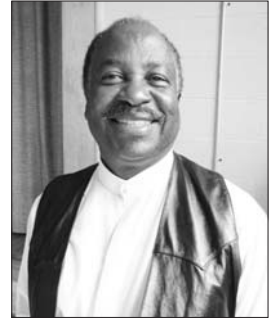
My friend, by this time, was silently weeping because he also knew such a toxic decision would eviscerate the fragile racial fabric of this society in which we boast about being a nation of immigrants and a beacon of freedom for all, but now he knew otherwise.

My colleague provided me with the fax numbers of about 20 news outlets and journalists who would run this story and once it hit the wires, all bedlam would break out!

I was not sure how strong the glue that makes up America's resilience would hold in the breach, or would people and institutions now be emboldened to make decisions that were antithetical to principles that I thought were firmly grounded as unmovable pillars of this society.

Would America start to encircle the wagons and initiate a path of "tolerant" separation from those deemed, the "others" whom they felt were destroying "their" Western civilization and diluting their way of life?

As the Supreme Court recently caused societal havoc in overturning *Roe v. Wade*, would this decision of *Carpell v. Davenport* forever change the political landscape whereby "good" people did not protest such a draconian decision and thus that silence would cause America to return to the prior caustic era of legalized and permissible separation?



Lafe Tolliver

...continued on page 12



"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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# J.E.T. Initiative Launches First Collaborative Program

## Partners Host Small Business Seminar Series

The Junction Economic Transformation (J.E.T.) Initiative in partnership with the Lucas County Library has launched the first of its collaborative community programming. The J.E.T. Initiative Small Business Seminar Series is an 8-week program geared toward the residents and businesses in the Junction neighborhood. The seminar series, held Wednesday evenings at the Mott Branch Library, was launched April 13, 2022, and incorporates business, as well as financial curriculum to assist existing and aspiring owners with planning for their small businesses.



Alicia Smith

"We are so excited for this collaboration," said Alicia Smith, Director of Junction Coalition. "The course covers most of the areas that every business deals with on a regular basis. It provides tips, tools, and knowledge in a safe environment. Attendees will also be able to schedule 1-on-1 meetings with advisors to help apply the course content to their specific challenges. As important as information is to success, the JET Center is building a network of community entrepreneurs that hold equal value. We want to help all businesses in the Junction community and beyond access the resources they need to succeed."

This iteration of the series has 23 registered participants attending both in person and via Zoom. The seminar curriculum includes the One Year Action Plan presented by Linda Fayerweather of the Toledo Lucas County Library. The financial curriculum is prepared and taught by the J.E.T. Initiative. Participants are given weekly homework that will culminate with a capstone presentation from each participant at the end of 8 weeks.

"We want to put entrepreneurs in our community in position for success," said Ocie Irons, Junction Coalition Economic Educator for the JET Initiative. "This course will give entrepreneurs the chance to set themselves and their businesses up for growth with a plan that they can use to achieve their goals."

"The Small Business Seminar Series has been enlightening and empower-

ing," said Pamela DeWalt, a TUFUCU member and ECDI client enrolled in the series. "Between the presenters and the resources being provided to us, we have everything we need as entrepreneurs to run a successful business," she continued.

The Small Business Seminar Series is the first program to be offered by the J.E.T. Initiative. It is the goal of the partners to offer the Small Business Seminar Series again along with a Digital Connect Cohort through the Women's Business Center in quarters 3 and 4 of 2022.

"ECDI is excited to be a part of and provide hands on educational opportunities within the Junction Neighborhood. Our partnership with the other members of the Initiative speaks to ECDI's mission of investing in people to create economic and social change." – April Welch, ECDI Relationship Manager Toledo Market.

The J.E.T. Initiative is a collaborative partnership of the Junction Coalition, Warren A.M.E. Church, Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union and The Economic & Community Development Institute (ECDI). The initiative is made possible by grant funding from the ProMedica Junction Neighborhood Fund of the Greater Toledo Community Foundation. Its purpose is to provide individuals and small businesses in Toledo's Junction Neighborhood support through various program offerings that include business coaching and advising; education and training, access to capital. For more information on the Initiative, its partners and programs please visit the J.E.T. Initiative at <https://www.ecdi.org/jet>

Greater Toledo Community Foundation is a public charitable organization created by citizens of our community to enrich the quality of life for individuals and families in our area. In existence since 1973, the Foundation has more than 900 individual current funds with assets of approximately \$377 million. The Foundation provides philanthropic services for individuals, families, businesses, and corporations to meet their charitable giving needs. For more information on the Foundation, visit the organization's website at [www.toledocf.org](http://www.toledocf.org) or follow them on Facebook or LinkedIn.

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—Brian Tracey

*R.W. Inspires*

*Perryman... continued from page 2*

a struggle, and the statewide Party is unified behind their candidacy.

### U.S. Senate: Name Recognition and the Power of an Endorsement

Democrat Tim Ryan overwhelmingly defeated lesser-known Morgan Harper and Traci Johnson for the retiring Rob Portman's U.S. Senate seat. Ryan is a former presidential candidate who has served in Congress for nearly two decades.

Donald Trump's endorsement is directly responsible for Republican J.D. Vance's win over a field of Republican candidates competing for who was the most pro-Trump candidate.

### U.S. Congress: Republican Upset Brightens Kaptur's Future

The Republican Party has long accused the Democrats of running on social and cultural issues. But, in the race for the U.S. Congressional

*...continued on page 6*

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# And The Winner Is ... Fataan Temple Abdullah

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

In March – Women's History Month – the Daughters of Mecca Court No. 73, as part of their Community Service Project, held a competition in order to celebrate and promote women-owned businesses in the area.

They developed a list of such businesses and asked the community to shop or buy services, says Dt. Jackie Jackson. Then they asked the proprietors on the list to save their receipts from the established period of the promotion.

The list included boutique shops, tax services, health care, beauty shops (hair care, nails, body waxing, eye lashes, etc.), restaurants, bakers, janitorial services, bridal shops, custom furniture shops, realtors, among others.

And the winner is ... Fataan Temple Abdullah of Angie Beauta Beauty, LLC at 2021 W. Laskey Road.

Temple Abdullah provides nail care, body waxing, pedicures, skin care for her clientele at Angie's where she has been conducting business for about a year.

A graduate of Scott High School, where she started learning about cosmetology, Temple Abdullah drifted away from cosmetology for a while to enter nursing school but, eventually was pulled back into her true calling. She had worked in various establishments for others for a number of years before starting her own business.

Temple Abdullah caters to a "diverse group of women," she says of the Laskey location. "I try to cater to the everyday woman. I did the demographics." She also notes that the services she provides satisfy more than just the outward appearance.

"Just looking to see your nails polished or your toes polished makes you feel somewhat put together, especially with the different trials we go through during the day," she says.

Business is obviously good, according to the March competition and Temple Abdullah has clearly done her homework in selecting the right location and in getting the word out about her services. She attributes her success to her personality in encouraging and promoting return business and getting her satisfied customers to spread the word.

She is also involved in community service by taking her talents to places such as "It Takes a Village" shelters where she can assist victims of trauma "in

boosting their confidence and get them job interview ready."

What's next for the beauty entrepreneur?

"Permanent makeup training," she says. "I've noticed a lot of women here in this area work a lot of hours," she says of the heavily blue-collar work environment of northwest Ohio. She will feel that she is making a contribution "if I can offer them something that will give them some of their time back."

"I have embraced the gift that God has given me and he, in return, has blessed me. As long as I am pursuing my gift, my business will continue to grow."



*Fataan Temple Abdullah*



*Mecca Temple members*



The Arts Commission is now accepting applications for grants of up to \$25,000 to provide relief and recovery from the pandemic. Small arts and cultural organizations in Northwest Ohio may apply.

For guidelines and eligibility, visit [theartscommission.org](http://theartscommission.org)

**Application deadline is May 27, 2022**



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# Toledo Community Foundation Providing Grants for Community Nonprofits

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

In 2020 the Board of Trustees of the Greater Toledo Community Foundation approved plans for an Equity & Access Initiative to address the concerns of those Toledo area communities that are adversely affected to such a large extent by inequity and lack of access to resources available to the general community.

Over the last year, the Foundation has awarded \$262,480 in grants through two rounds of funding to nine area nonprofit organizations.

In March of this year the Board voted to commit an additional \$300,000 over the next three years to local nonprofits that are typically minority-led and that are committed to the work of lifting up individuals and groups in communities that are underserved.

"We want to remove barriers, particularly for nonprofits that serve such communities," said Artisha Lawson, program officer at the Foundation and the lead staff person on this initiative fund. "We are scaling up to reach nonprofits that have never applied before or have not considered applying."

As Lawson explained the reasoning behind the board's decision, the Foundation has long been in the practice of focusing on areas or communities in which a lack of equity exists. However, so many smaller, minority-led groups which service those communities have not reached out to explore the opportunities offered by the Foundation.

"We have over 40 competitive grants," she said. "And the majority already align with our diversity and equity goals. However, there are groups that work on these matters who may not think they are eligible and therefore have not applied."

The impetus for the Equity & Access Initiative Fund said Board Member Pariss Coleman was the turmoil in the nation in the wake of the George Floyd murder.

"It was 2020, George Floyd had been killed and there were a lot of cor-



Artisha Lawson



Pariss Coleman

porate statements from CEOs around the world. At the Foundation Board, we were having discussions about the state of civil rights and about police violence against Black men," recalled Coleman.

"Keith Burwell [CEO of the Foundation] said: 'rather than make a statement, we need to do something.'"

What evolved from that discussion, said Coleman, was a plan to reach out to those small, mainly minority-led nonprofits that exist to serve their communities and an effort "to do what we can to educate the minority community about the Foundation."

Those smaller nonprofits, said Coleman, introduced to the Foundation through the Equity & Access Initiative Fund, would develop the opportunity and the capacity to become eligible for ongoing grants in the future.

More information about GTCF's Equity & Access Initiative Fund can be found at [www.toledocf.org/equity-access-initiative/](http://www.toledocf.org/equity-access-initiative/). The grant opportunity will be opened for applications on

May 2, 2022 and will close on July 2, 2022. The GTCF Board will have the final determination of funding, with those decisions announced in early October, 2022.

*Perryman... continued from page 4*

9th District, the Republicans appear to have appropriated that mantle and taken it to an extreme that the Democrats never did. You will, perhaps, never find a progressive so extreme as you'll find in Republican J. R. Majewski.

The MAGA right-wing Majewski upset more well-known Republican Theresa Gavarone in the recently revamped 9th District. Formerly solidly Democratic, the gerrymandered district is now considered a toss-up.

The deciding factor in Majewski's victory came about as candidates Gavarone and Riedel competed to be the most pro-Trump and criticized each other for being not Trump enough. Their questionable campaign strategy subsequently allowed a genuine MAGA candidate to win the primary without spending sizable funds on his campaign.

Majewski's upset of Gavarone also drew significant attention in the national media. Kaptur, facing such an extreme candidate in the general election, thus, is much more likely to hold on to her seat and keep it in Democratic Party's hands for yet another term.

So far, the people have spoken.

But they will speak again in November.

Will the primary election's dynamics and the potential loss of abortion and other individual rights shock voters enough to participate and determine the general election's outcomes?

It will be very interesting to see.

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

The Truth

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## Mecca Court Donates Personal Items to Aurora House Residents

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

The daughters of Mecca Court No. 73 added to their resume of "honoring the call to serve" by visiting the Aurora House on Wednesday, May 4, and brining much-needed supplies for the residents – soap, shampoo, deodorant, baby oil razors, among other items.

Wanda Terrell-Galloway, 2022 Illustrious Commandress, and Toiya Coffee, chairperson of the Mothers' Day Shelter Donations, brought together their fellow members at Aurora House to donate the personal care items to the house manager, Tasha Williams, and residents.

Aurora House has a maximum capacity of 11 residents or families, mothers or expectant women. Currently, due to the pandemic, there are four women, plus children in residence, said Williams.



Bottom Row: Dianne Johnson; Aurora House Manager Tasha Williams; Janice Wilson-Brooks; Mayon Hogue; Aurora House Resident Tori Adams, Toiya Coffee (Chairperson), Tamika Mitchell, Second Row: Wanda Terrell-Galloway; Illustrious Commandress; Joyce Aldridge; Pam Hopkins and Dionetta Richardson Back Row: Aurora House Board Member Pamela Eckelberry; Charlene Miller

## Operation Surprise Attack: With a Card Comes a Smile and Hope

*Davina Jones, D.Min*

*Guest Column*

All kids deserve to be loved! Operation Surprise Attack (OSA) was founded by a Toledo native, Lisa Fulton, hoping to spread love to kids with severe and rare health challenges. There is one special goal that OSA is serious about going after this year. That extra goal is spreading this love to ALL children, and that means African American kids and any child who can use some extra care.

Picture a child whose play life and school life are completely defined by their health challenge, and their family's life is defined by one doctor or hospital visit after another. Imagine the child waking up one day to hundreds of cards from school kids and adults wishing them well. It's a surprise attack of well wishes.

That is what OSA does. Except this time and for all time, OSA is going the extra mile to reach families that do not always receive the same care and attention from agencies.

OSA is looking for families in the African American community and be-



*Cards received from a local school in NWO*

*... continued on page 10*

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# The Taylor Kia Big Auto Giveaway

By Avis Nail

The Truth Reporter

Who wouldn't want a FREE car this year? Many Toledoans were delighted upon hearing the news of Taylor KIA Automotive's giveaway. Free Car Fridays are back and so far two well deserving winners have driven home in their new cars. You could be next!

Taylor KIA on Central Avenue specializes in helping Ohio drivers find the perfect car for their needs. The Taylor KIA Family also has a large service center that repairs all car makes and models, making them a convenient place to take your vehicle in for maintenance and service.

Steve Taylor's Free Car Fridays is an ongoing campaign through the last Friday in December 2022, with a new winner announced EVERY 30 DAYS! That means as long as you follow the simple steps and register on their website, you're eligible to WIN!

The first winner of Taylor KIA's giveaway this spring was Jaime Payne, who took home a 2015 Hyundai Sonata free of charge by random drawing.

"We started this back in March with the intention to give a car away every month for the rest of the year," shared general manager Steve Taylor. "We know it's been a tough past few years and many are struggling. We wanted to bring back something fun that makes a big impact."

Impact is exactly what the Taylor KIA family brought back to Toledo. The giveaway kick off blew everyone away the first month. "Based on the amount of nominations we got in April, we think it's just going to get bigger and bigger as we proceed throughout the year," shares Taylor.

A total of 10 cars are expected to be given away over the course of the giveaway. When asked what being best in class in the automotive industry means to him Taylor explains, "For over 40yrs we have been locally owned and locally committed. That's not just a slogan on our dealership wall, we actually live it."

When Taylor KIA launched their giveaway this past March, registered participants could log on, watch and be a part of the excitement on Facebook Live. "The kick off was amazing! There was an outpouring of support and social media comments from the community," shares KIA's Community Outreach Ambassador Terry Crosby.

When Free Car Friday launched in March, the winner was randomly selected using Google randomizer. "Due to the rising violence in Toledo many of the comments we read were heart-wrenching stories of people not only needing a car, but also having endured some serious trauma," says Crosby. "This contest brought back a glimmer of hope to so many truly in need right now."

In lieu of this new information the Taylor KIA Family decided to switch things up in April, informing the public that they are now looking for nominations for Free Car Friday to make even more of an impact in a very deserving Toledoan's life.

Only a few months ago in November, a beautiful young lady named TaShayla, 18, tragically lost her mother to unnecessary acts of violence, leaving her to help raise her 3 younger sisters. TaShayla's mom, Natasha Carlisle, was killed in a still unsolved homicide on Vance Street in central Toledo.

When *Operation It Takes A Village* heard of the incident, the President and founder Carla Baucom, stepped in to help.

The 501(c)3 initiative asks people to come together and donate things like clothes, food and other household items. "Having these essentials takes so much weight off families so they can manage their mental health," explains Carla.

Baucom is formally trained as an elementary educator and received her Masters of Education from The University of Toledo. She now works at the helm of Operation It Takes A Village.

"TaShayla forfeited going to Ohio State. This baby put her dreams on hold to assist her Aunt in becoming a mother figure to her younger siblings," shares

...continued on page 10



April Winner with Staff

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<b>WEEK OF JUNE 20</b> Cooking Soccer Lego Robotics	<b>WEEKS OF JUNE 7-JULY 28</b> Hockey (T, TH)

Contact Larry McDaniel, Director of Summer Camps, at [lmcdaniel@sjjtitans.org](mailto:lmcdaniel@sjjtitans.org).

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# A Member of Congress Graduates from Wilberforce University

*Special to The Truth*

An Ohio congresswoman is among the graduates of the nation's first, private, historically Black colleges/universities. Congresswoman Shontel Brown, representing Ohio's 11th congressional district in Cleveland, was the keynote speaker at the commencement exercises for Wilberforce University, Saturday, May 7.

Along with 92 others who received Bachelor's and Master's degrees, Congresswoman Brown received her undergraduate degree in organizational management from CLIMB, the university's accelerated, adult degree program. Elfred Anthony Pinkard, PhD, the university's 22nd president, conferred the degrees.

The ceremony also featured co-valedictorians Leticia Johnson and Jasmine Anderson who are academically tied point for point. Included in a bit

of nostalgia is the class of 1972 - the Golden Grads, some of whom returned to the university and wore gold colored gowns indicating they walked across the same stage and received their degrees from Wilberforce 50 years ago.



grads filing in



Dr. Pinkard and Cong. Brown



Golden grads

## WHAT WE'RE READING NOW



**Shine Bright: A Very Personal History of Black Women in Pop**  
by Danyel Smith



**Gullah Geechee Home Cooking: Recipes from the Matriarch of Edisto Island**  
by Emily Meggett



**Lulu and Milagro's Search for Clarity**  
by Angela Velez



**Blood Scion**  
by Deborah Falaye

*Taylor Kia... continued from page 9*

Carla.

"I knew she needed help with a car large enough to accommodate all the car seats to take the kids to school and medical appointments."

Carla immediately reached out to both car manufacturers and car dealers in the area. "I was turned away over and over," she explains. "Finally God stepped in and Mr. Terry Crosby with Taylor Kia contacted me stating there may be a way TaShayla could win a car. Don't give up, he said."

Many nominations and small acts of kindness later, on Friday April 29, 2022, TaShayla was surprised with her new pre-owned FREE KIA Sorento just in time for her senior prom the next day.

Holding back tears Taylor shares, "It was a beautiful moment to witness TaShayla smile the way she did that day. I can't imagine a better way to give back to the folks that have supported us for over 40yrs."

Make sure to register for the Free Car Friday fun! Every Friday in May, Taylor KIA will be at it again at 12:30pm doing their Facebook Live Spin To Win where you can WIN some great Prizes.

The **last Friday** in May, which will be **May 27, 2022 a FREE Taylor Car and KEYS** will be handed over to a Blessed Human Being. Your dream vehicle (or your nominees) is just a click away. Head over to [TaylorAuto.com/FreeCarFriday](https://TaylorAuto.com/FreeCarFriday) and register today!

*Operation Surprise Attack... continued from page 8*

yond that they can bless with hundreds of cards, and in most cases, a small financial donation for the medical travel, groceries, and supplies. OSA is also looking for schools, churches, and community organizations to make cards that are then sent to the OSA kids and families. Lastly, OSA is inviting organizations to donate and sponsor families.

Let's do it Toledo! To recommend a kid, have your school join the cause or donate to a family, go to [OperationSurpriseAttack.org](https://OperationSurpriseAttack.org) today. You may also leave a detailed message at 567-331-2162.



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## Read More with Audiobooks from the Toledo

Do you want to read more, but never seem to find the time? The Toledo Lucas County Public Library is here to help!

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Exercising, driving, cleaning, getting ready, falling asleep, waking up, mowing the lawn, laying in the pool, making dinner, browsing the internet, shoveling snow, painting your nails, trimming your dogs' fur – the list of when you can read an audiobook is endless.

2. They are versatile.

You can easily download audiobooks for free with a Library card and Toledo Library's Libby and hoopla apps. You also can also borrow a Playaway which comes preloaded with an audiobook, no WiFi or other device needed. The Toledo Library also has audiobooks on CD, Wonderbooks for children, and Dial-A-Story.

3. They expand your reading horizons.

Libby and hoopla have THOUSANDS of titles and you can access them in the palm of your hand. Fiction, romance, mystery, nonfiction, children's books, and much more!

Start listening today! Visit any of the 20 Toledo Library locations, learn more at [toledolibrary.org/emedial](https://toledolibrary.org/emedial), or call 419.259.5200 to get started listening today!

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## Toledo Library to Offer New Tutoring Resource

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library (TLCPL) is excited to announce the start of TutorSmart. TutorSmart provides free after-school tutoring for 1st – 8th grade students in the Greater Toledo area.

Lauren Boeke, TLCPL assistant youth services coordinator said, "We know kids need some extra support and we're thrilled to have this new partnership to increase academic success for our local youth."

TutorSmart will be providing academic tutoring at 5 Library locations:

Kent Branch (<https://www.toledolibrary.org/locations/kent>)

Locke Branch (<https://www.toledolibrary.org/locations/locke>)

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

Mott Branch (<https://www.toledolibrary.org/locations/mott>)

South Branch (<https://www.toledolibrary.org/locations/south>)

TutorSmart Executive Director Tiffany Adamski said, "By partnering with the Toledo Lucas County Public Library, TutorSmart can provide more students with access to free, high quality tutoring that helps them build confidence in their Reading and Math skills and is conveniently located in their neighborhoods. It is a win-win for our kids, our families, and our community!"

The program begins on May 16, more locations will be added this Fall. Students must be enrolled to participate. The program runs for 1 hour each day, Monday - Thursday, and students are taught by qualified teachers. Register here! ([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf78HQholtzoV8y1\\_Hqe-wvmlEsy1xwK1fr0qCBKg\\_jbW7Vrw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf78HQholtzoV8y1_Hqe-wvmlEsy1xwK1fr0qCBKg_jbW7Vrw/viewform))

## Five Ways to Get Kids Excited About STEM Learning

*Special to The Truth*

The events of the past couple of years have shown how important scientists are to making the world a better and safer place.

According to an independent research study, 91 percent of people believe that scientists are critical for our future well-being, and 89% say that science

... continued on page 12

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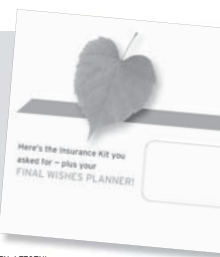
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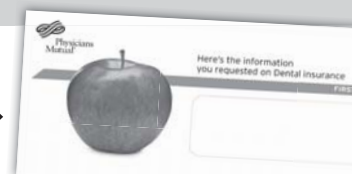
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6208-0721

*Excited About STEM Learning... continued from page 11*

brings hope for the future. Here are five ways to get kids, the next generation of scientists, excited about STEM.

1. Widen access. All kids should have access to STEM education opportunities, at school and outside of the classroom, whether it's through an after-school program, science camp, competition, or at home. Fortunately, online learning tools have made it possible for more children to access such programs. Today, there is a wide variety of free resources available to families and students looking to expand STEM learning outside of the classroom. Websites like [youngscientistlab.com](http://youngscientistlab.com) and [3M.com/ScienceAtHome](http://3M.com/ScienceAtHome) feature fun and engaging projects for grades K-8, along with tools for parents and teachers to guide kids through the experiments.

2. Connect science to something your child already loves. We often think of science in a silo, but the application of science is all around us. Connecting science to something your child already loves can help broaden their conception of what a future in STEM could entail. For example, kids who play sports may be interested in exercise science or sports medicine. Kids who love building toys may find engineering an exciting career path. Introducing kids to science kits, experiments, and other hands-on activities can help fast-track learning, make the subject more fun and engaging, and demonstrate firsthand how science fits into the activities and interests they already love.

3. Promote gender equity in STEM education. Gender should never affect a child's goal to pursue STEM. Yet, young girls often feel limited in their ability to excel in STEM-related activities due to the gender gap in the sciences and a lack of relatable representation. We can help shift antiquated thinking that science is not for girls by instilling confidence in them to challenge these stereotypes and by exposing them to the valuable work of women inventors, doctors, mathematicians, and scientists, so they can start to see themselves in these positions. Sign them up for extracurriculars like math team and coding camp, visit math and science museums together, and talk about the contributions of and need for girls and women to solve real-world challenges.

4. Diversify STEM. Science is not tied to one gender, race, ethnicity, or nationality. Young kids in minority groups need to understand that they can be

involved in STEM careers so that our future workforces reflect our diverse societies.

Shaking up the way we approach science and technology could be one way to help do this. Without a real-world connection, it's too easy for kids to feel lost or like "this" is not for them. If we expose kids to different career landscapes in ways they can connect to, they can better understand the importance of learning these subjects, build self-awareness around their unique attributes, and open them up to envision themselves in future STEM careers.

5. Bring science to life. Hands-on projects help bring science to life. Look for science competitions and programs that allow young minds to explore and develop real-world experience. For example, the 3M Young Scientist Challenge, a national science competition for students in grades 5 through 8 created with Discovery Education, asks students to identify a problem and come up with a unique innovation to solve it. It can be something they're already passionate or curious about. The best part is anyone can get involved; all you need is an idea to get started.

Last year's winner, 13-year-old Sarah Park, started with the idea to create a treatment to help people with mental health disorders. During the competition and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work with a 3M scientist, she went from idea to prototype developing a new solution called Spark Care+, a personalized music therapy treatment that uses artificial intelligence, galvanic skin response, and photoplethysmography.

Bring learning into the real world of innovating by actively presenting STEM learning opportunities to your budding scientist. Learn more about this year's competition, the chance to win \$25,000, and the title of "America's Top Young Scientist" at [youngscientistlab.com](http://youngscientistlab.com).

As we confront 21st century challenges like climate change and community health crises, scientists, engineers, and doctors will be the heroes on the frontlines. For a brighter future for everybody, give your child the resources and encouragement needed to pursue STEM.

*Courtesy StatePoint*

*Tolliver... continued from page 3*

My friend gave me the documents and fax numbers and told me to send them out as soon as possible. He also gave me an envelope to a remote location in Canada that I would need to hide out for a while until the fever of this devastating decision cooled down.

We hugged for the last time. I took the hefty envelope (including cash for my holdout stay) and started to leave when I noticed about 20 school kids, black and white, laughing and holding hands with each other as their teachers took them on a tour of the children's library.

I remarked that such a trouble-free picture would soon be in the past as America could careen towards a dismal and dystopian future because of this dastardly legal ruling.

As I casually walked towards the front door of the library, I saw my friend stopped by men who had FB I lettered on their outer jackets. He was already being tagged as the leaker! As I passed nearby, he grimly smiled at me and was hauled off in one of the waiting cars.

For me, I rented a car under an assumed name and quickly fled to Canada after I completed my part of the bargain.

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<sup>3</sup>Borrower income must be below 80% of the area median income, or property must be located in a low- to moderate-income census tract, as updated annually by the FFIEC (Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council).



# *The New Black West* by Gabriela Hasbun, Foreword by Jeff Douvel, Regional Coordinator, Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

Things sure look different from five feet up.

The first time, you might feel nervous to be there; the animal you're astride doesn't know you and you don't know what it'll do. But before long, you feel like you're in a rocking chair. You can almost see for miles and you begin to understand power. And in the new book *The New Black West* by Gabriela Hasbun, you see peek history between the ears of a horse.

One hundred and sixty years ago, "more than eight thousand Black cowboys rode in the western cattle drives." They did everything that every other ranch hand and cowboy did back then but "their stories have largely been untold..."

In 1984, a promoter named Lu Vason realized one day that the "granddaddy of them all," the Cheyenne Frontier Days rodeo, was lacking Black cowpokes. Upon returning to his home in Denver, Vason began researching and raising funds to start the Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo, named after the "legendary" Bill Pickett, who cowboied at the turn of the last century and was the first Black cowboy inducted into the Rodeo Hall of Fame. To this day, the Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo, now held on the second weekend in July in Oakland, California, is the only touring Black rodeo in America.

But it's not all ropin' and ridin'.

Says Hasbun, the deep tradition of riding horses and roping calves is also passed on to youth in trouble, through participating stables and organizations. The rodeo is a chance to show off horse, saddle, boots and bling, since you want to be "dressed to impress" if you're in the parade. It's a great excuse to spend a day with horses, and to share that love with rodeo watchers who want to learn, too. The rodeo is a challenge and a way to honor those who've accepted that challenge in the past. It's a way to "change the headlines."

And the rodeo is family.

For many readers, *The New Black West* may be like no other book you've had.

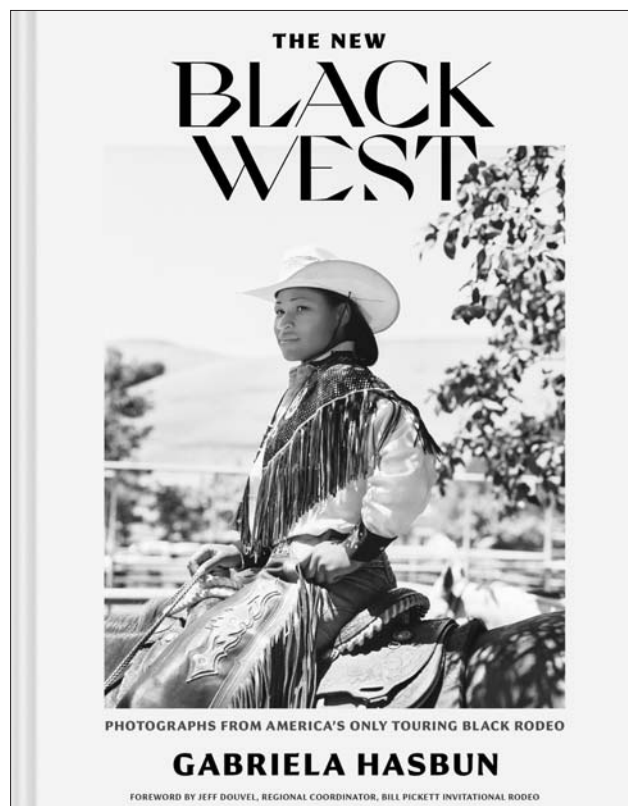
c.2022  
Chronicle Books  
\$40.00  
128 Pages

There is not, first of all, much to actually read here. Author and photographer Gabriela Hasbun instead offers a nice "Artist's Statement" in which she explains African-American cowboys in history and the Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo's beginnings, and she writes short captions for the photos in this book, but that's about all there is to read.

In that sense, Hasbun lets the illustrations speak for themselves.

Browse through this book and meet men and women who are grateful for the horse that turned their lives around. Look at the gorgeous parade-worthy clothing, the custom-made (designer!) saddles, and the (literal) snake-skin boots. Then don't be at all surprised if you find yourself looking for tickets, so you can see those things up-front and in person this summer.

This is a book you'll page through again and again, and never get tired of doing so. It's one you can share with the kids and maybe inspire them. *The New Black West* is something that's delightfully different.



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### INVITATION FOR BIDS IFB22-B003 LEAD HAZARD ELIMINATION – BIRMINGHAM TERRACE & PULLEY HOMES

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMH) will receive sealed bids from General Contractors for the removal of Lead Base Paint and Improvements at selected locations in Lucas County. Received in accordance with law until June 6, 2022 at 3:00 pm. See documents: [www.lucasmha.org](http://www.lucasmha.org); 435 Nebraska Avenue, Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246). This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



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We are in search of an individual with an understanding of mobile devices to fill our **Mobile Device Technician** position. This individual will understand the differences between Android and iOS operating system and how to support both as well as subsequent versions. An understanding of the configuration of cell phones, tablets, and connectivity devices such as MIFI's and cradle points is required.

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### INVITATION TO BID

The Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area is conducting a competitive, comprehensive Invitation to Bid (ITB) process to retain ONE (1) General Contractor for district-wide HVAC and backflow device preventative/corrective maintenance.

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on the Metroparks Toledo District-Wide HVAC and Backflow Device Preventative/Corrective Maintenance will be received; opened; and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537 on **Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.** local time. Bids received after that date/time will be marked late and will receive no consideration for selection to provide the specified services.

THE SCOPE OF WORK consists of furnishing qualified and licensed professional services, equipment, labor and materials necessary to provide preventative/corrective maintenance services and repairs for HVAC units and backflow prevention devices at Metropark buildings and facilities located throughout Lucas County. The term of the Contract will be for one (1) year, fixed pricing, with the option for two (2) additional one (1) year terms.

Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents, plan-holder's list, or additional information by contacting Nate Ramsey @ 419-407-9775, [nate.ramsey@metroparkstoledo.com](mailto:nate.ramsey@metroparkstoledo.com).

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

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

By order of the Board of Park Commissioners  
METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA  
David D. Zenk, Director

### Public Notice

#### Program of Projects

TOLEDO AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
5307 FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2022 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS

Total Funds Available for 2022 Capital Projects Section 5307: **\$7,743,213\*** after split  
\*Does not include the allocations of Sections 5339

Activity	Fed Share	Total Price
<b>Capital</b>	<b>\$7,743,213</b>	<b>\$9,679,011</b>
Preventive Maintenance	\$4,056,771	\$5,070,961
Hard	\$766,300	\$957,880
Soft	\$936,550	\$1,170,740
Misc. Equip	\$600,000	\$750,000
Support Veh	\$499,200	\$624,000
Renovation/R	\$299,050	\$373,870
Vehicle Replaces	\$585,220	\$731,540
<b>Total Section 5307 funded items</b>	<b>\$7,743,213</b>	<b>\$9,679,011</b>

Written public comment on the proposed Program of Projects will be accepted by the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority until the close of business on June 10, 2022. All comments shall be addressed to Laura Koprowski, CEO, Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority, P.O. Box 792, Toledo, Ohio 43697-0792. Comments received by the closing date will be considered in preparing and carrying out the program. An opportunity for a public hearing will be afforded if requested in the comments.

This program will become final and will be submitted to the Federal Transit Administration on completion of the public participation process unless amended by the action of the Board of Trustees of the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority.

Laura Koprowski, CEO



LUCAS COUNTY  
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### REAL ESTATE MANAGER

The Lucas County Land Bank is looking for a capable and talented Real Estate Manager to join our team! The Real Estate Manager oversees all maintenance associated with properties the Land Bank owns – including vacant lots, residential homes, and commercial buildings. This mostly office-based work involves coordinating inspections, contractors, and services in light of the Land Bank's goals for the property and the goals of the neighborhood.

Annual salary of \$55,000 - \$65,000, depending on experience. Opportunities for bonuses. Very generous benefits, including complete health care coverage, significant paid time off, and 401(k) style retirement plan with competitive employer match. Position open until filled.

The Lucas County Land Bank is a non-profit organization working to build and strengthen our community's neighborhoods. Since our founding 11 years ago, the Land Bank and its energetic staff have renovated 800 abandoned properties, demolished thousands of blighted buildings, and increased the value of tens of thousands of properties in our community.

To learn more and to apply, visit <https://LucasCountyLandBank.org/about/jobs>

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# The 11th Annual Business and Health Expo

*Special to The Truth*

On a beautiful spring day, the 11th Annual Business and Health Expo was held on Saturday, April 30, 2022 at the St. Clements Hall in West Toledo, OH. There were over 65 vendors

that participated and among them were Leaf Filter Gutter Protection, Essential Therapies, CareSource, Elite Care Solutions, Simply D'Vine Boutique, Custom Krafts4U, Yonique, Bombay Kitchen, ABC Health Care, Bomaye Bracelet, Triple L Productions, Quillen Brothers Home Enhancements, Sweetheart Balloons & Face Painting, Savvy Sistas Boutique and Kendake Natural Products.



Carter presenting check to Animal Rescue Center



Live entertainment for the audience members was provided by E'Laine. She wrote a song titled "Social Butterfly" and DJ Steven Wolfe played several genres of music.

There were guests as far away as Southfield, MI, Ann Arbor, MI, Detroit, MI who joined the Toledo area visitors as hundreds in attendance took advantage of the offerings of the Expo.

This year a portion of the proceeds were to benefit Toledo Animal Rescue and a check was presented to the Director Steve Kiessling for \$500.00.

The purpose and mission of the expos is to give small businesses the opportunities to get their names and information out into the community and surrounding areas and allow them networking opportunities with like-minded business owners. Growth, revenue and new customers are also possibilities.

Donnetta Carter, event organizer thanked the sponsors: Taylor Automotive Family, Molina Health Care, The Huntington National Bank and The Sojourner Truth Newspaper and Claudia's Natural Food Market. Carter gave special thanks to the staff Carla Baucom, Cathy Clayborne, Bonita Brazzel, Cynthia Valentine-Drane and Garland Parker for their assistance.

The next expos will be held at various locations: at the Calvary Bible Chapel 3740 W. Alexis Rd. Toledo, OH "The Annual Indoor Mother's Day EXPO" from 10 am - 4:00 pm" and hosted by ProMedica Ebeid Institute Market, People Called Women and The Social Butterfly Brand; Women Book Authors & Entrepreneurs at the Market On the Green 1806 Madison Ave. Toledo, OH on Saturday, June 18, 2022 from 10 am -3:00 pm and Small Business Saturday at Ottawa Metropark Liz Pierson Shelter Saturday, July 16, 2022 at 10 am - 4:00 pm.

For more information contact Donnetta Carter at (419) 367-9765 or via email (thesocialbutterflyevents@yahoo.com) for a Online Vendor Registration Form.

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# Groomed for Greatness Hosts Mother's Day Event

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

Groomed for Greatness hosted a unique mother-daughter bonding event on May 7, which featured a mother/daughter duo speakers, matching themed outfits and a variety of fun activities.

"My mother and grandmother were old school. I was raised that to know kids were seen and not heard but kids today want respect. That's why I invited Dr. P and Cassidy to speak today, so they can talk about and heal from generational gaps," explained Michelle McCaster, Groomed for Greatness founder.

Sets of mothers and daughters filled the event space, enjoyed a buffet-style luncheon menu and received door prizes. The event featured mother and daughter speakers Patrice McClellan, PhD and Cassidy McClellan, who spoke about 'Parents Just Don't Understand, Bridging the Generational Gap.'

"I'm here today because I support the efforts and work from Groomed for Greatness," shared Paula Hicks Hudson, Ohio State Representative.

Patrice McClellan opened the speaking portion of the luncheon, followed by Cassidy. Then the pair facilitated a brief question and answer session.

"When you're raised to be seen and not heard, it sometimes doesn't give you the courage to speak your mind but I understand that this was how our parents wanted to protect us. I didn't want to repeat the cycle, but understand what I had in my toolkit, came from my mother and grandmother. I utilize conscious parenting and let her speak her mind, because respecting her gives her safety and teaches boundaries," Patrice McClellan.

"My mom is my ride or die. Parents need to have their daughter's back. When I finally got into the real world and learned that people weren't genuine, it messed me up. I wasn't raised that way. If you don't have a relationship with your daughter, who will get advice from? My mom always has my back," shared Cassidy.

According to VolunteerMatch.org, the organization seeks to enhance the lives of girls through professional and personal growth and enrichment programs that will help them become future leaders and productive members of society. Groomed for Greatness was established in February 2017 by Michelle McCaster. For more information visit Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/G4GToledo>.



Cassidy and Patrice McClellan



Celina and Aufwiedersehen Winfield



Patrice and Cassidy McClellan, Miracle Williams, Paula Hicks-Hudson, Michelle McClellan



Cassidy McClellan and Paula Hicks-Hudson

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