



Volume 72 No. 9      *"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."*      June 8, 2022



Author Myra Love Honored by Phi Delta Kappas

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# Local Coalition Aims to Change Fatherhood Narrative

By Dawn Scotland

The Truth Reporter

The Lucas County Fatherhood Coalition is proclaiming June 2022 as Fatherhood month!

The coalition, in conjunction with five area organizations, held a special press conference Wednesday June 1 at the Lucas County Department of Job and Family Services to launch a series of events focused on Fatherhood.

The aim is to ignite the change in fatherhood in Lucas County.

Jay Black, CEO of Pathway, Inc. opened with remarks: "Studies have shown that when fathers are active in children's lives- the poverty rate declines. For that reason, we believe... that more focus needs to be placed on fatherhood initiatives and Fatherhood programs and Fatherhood coalitions that we're talking about here today... We [Pathway] stand with the Lucas County Fatherhood Coalition."

The Lucas County Fatherhood Coalition began in 2021 and is comprised of over 12 community organizations and three churches. This June the coalition is partnering with Pathway Inc, Brothers United, Lucas County Family & Children First Council, Zepf Center Fatherhood Connections, Lucas County Job & Family Services, Lucas County Children's Services to provide an exciting week of programming.

Keith Robinson, supervisor of Community Development at Lucas County Children Services, moderated the press conference. Jay Black (Pathway, Inc.); Bishop Larry Mack, pastor of Greater Dreams Church (Wayne, Michigan); Zepf Center and Lucas County Child Support representatives provided remarks in support of the coalition.



Members of the Fatherhood Coalition



Avis Files, Director of Brothers and Sisters United (Pathway, Inc.) announces Fatherhood Week

...continued on page 6

**Saturday, June 18th**

4:00pm-dusk

Heirs of Art – Black Arts Festival

Live Entertainment  
Games for Adults & Kids  
Face Painting  
Chalk Art  
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*Juneteenth*  
CELEBRATE 2022

**Sunday, June 19th**

1:00 pm - dusk

Gospel/Jazz Explosion



**Saturday 4p-Dusk**

\* Heirs of Art - Black Arts Festival

4:00 pm - Festival Opens  
4:30pm - Art Exhibits Opens  
4:30pm - Craft Table & Game table  
5:00pm - Unveil Freedom Wall /Mural  
6:00pm - The Vocal Stylings of Alanna  
7:00pm - "The Extraordinary Fashion Show"  
7:30 pm - Jazz Saxophonist Charles Cooper



**Schedule**



**Sunday 1p -Dusk**

\* Gospel/Jazz Explosion

(Artist Exhibit all Day)

1:00 pm - Trina Willis  
1:30 pm - Nikki D & the Brown Singers  
3:00 pm - Debora Brock  
3:30 pm - Vanessa Bell Armstrong  
4:00 pm - Positive Force Christian Dance  
4:30 pm - Lisa Page Brooks  
5:30 pm - Urban Jazz Coalition  
7:30 pm - Joey Sommerville



Sunday's featured artist:  
Top: Urban Jazz Coalition  
Mid left: Lisa Page-Brooks from Witness  
Mid right: Vanessa Bell Armstrong  
Bottom: Featured artist Joey Sommerville



Event location  
African American Legacy Project  
1326 Collingwood Blvd



# Same Folks with Different Strokes

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

The Truth Contributor

*One of the prices that we paid for integration was the disintegration of the black community.*

*- Ed Smith*



Black Republicans are running for public office at a record-setting pace. Despite the GOP's troubling record of anti-voting rights and other policies deemed hostile to black interests, 81 blacks were candidates in the 2022 Congressional primaries, the most in history.

"Why," asks scholar and political historian Leah Wright Rigueur, "would an African American join the Republican Party when the GOP bears no relation to the party of Abraham Lincoln?"

The answer is complicated.

The GOP is pouring millions of dollars into minority campaigns to cut into support from Black and Latino voters, a longtime stronghold for the Democrats.

Scholar Joshua Farrington notes the composition of today's diverse group of black Republicans. They comprise "out-of-touch relics, pawns of a hopelessly lily-white party, pragmatic strategists, and savvy political operators who use the GOP to advance the black agenda," he writes.

At the same time, the Democratic Party is overcrowded. There are more candidates than available political offices. So, many talented Black candidates find opportunities within the Democrats scarce and turn to an opportunistic GOP.

Pulitzer Award-Winning columnist Eugene Robinson highlights the role of integration that led to the disintegration of the Black community, leaving class differences and large economic and social disparities.

Therefore, there is no longer a shared vision or clearly-defined black agenda, notes Robinson. Instead, the bond between Blacks previously based on race is no longer what it was once, and we have less and less in common than 40 years ago.

I spoke with Josh Williams, an African American and Republican candidate for Ohio's 41st House District. Our following discussion is about Williams' candidacy and policy positions.

**Perryman:** Please give our readers some of your background.

**Williams:** I was born and raised in Toledo. I attended Start High School and dropped out as a senior when I became homeless. I worked as a subcontractor and fell 30 feet at age 21. Soon, I became disabled and lay in bed for the next six years. Eventually, I had five back surgeries and was 458 pounds, the heaviest after my disability from lying in bed. I had weight loss surgery in 2013 and fought with the State of Ohio for over a year to be able to go to college and not be kicked off my disability. Finally, I got approval.

**Perryman:** Tell us about your education.

**Williams:** I started college at the age of 30 at the University of Toledo. By 35 graduated with three degrees, including my law degree. I received a full scholarship to UT Law, completed my law degree in 2020, took the bar exam, and passed my first attempt. I became a practicing attorney here in Lucas County and across 12 other counties in Ohio. At 37, I got re-married and declared my candidacy for state rep as a Republican.

**Perryman:** Why are you running for this political office?

**Williams:** I'm running because many things need to change in the State of Ohio. I'm running on a conservative platform, but I'm also running on a criminal justice reform platform.

Along my journey, during my sophomore year of college, while volunteering in my community, I was falsely accused of two felonies. I had to fight for a year and a half to clear my name. Finally, it was cleared, the charges dismissed, and my record sealed. That experience taught me some very intricate details about the criminal justice system. It is easy for someone to get charged with mere accusations without a chance to confront their accuser. So, massive changes need to be made from everything, including our bail system to how the grand juries run, our sentencing, and priorities when it comes to sentencing.

**Perryman:** What is the difference between you and your Democratic Party opponents?

**Williams:** The main difference between my opponents and me is the way we see society and the role of government. Through my struggles with the government to go to school and dig myself out of poverty and disability, I've learned that the government attempts to hold you back when

you try to make those gains. Essentially you vote for those who are providing things for you. My opponents believe in the opposite. They think that the government's role is to provide as much as possible to the citizens. I'm more of a libertarian regarding my view of government in our lives. It's more get out of our way and let us become successful. But then the government should create programs that allow individuals to dig themselves out of poverty.

**Perryman:** In Ohio, we've seen unarmed Black men and women shot by the police. How do we address this issue?

**Williams:** Part of it is contact tracing, and part of it is removing these barriers to seeing officers' prior history. They essentially have union contracts that allow their actions to be removed from their permanent record, which shouldn't be the case. We should be able to see where there's a bad apple, and we have to hold officers accountable.

I've also been a proponent of getting rid of qualified immunity, which has a lot to do with it. We rarely see convictions for officer-involved shootings or deaths, regardless of race. We should at least be able to sue them for violating our rights. I've been a proponent of removing qualified immunity and making law enforcement agencies and individual officers carry insurance plans.

**Perryman:** Over the last several years, our nation has witnessed deadly mass shootings. Every day 96 Americans are killed, and 200 more are injured by guns. In the aftermath of what happened in Texas and Buffalo, students and others demanded reform. What is your position on gun violence prevention?

**Williams:** If we're talking about the shooting in Texas and the call for reform, as in removing AR-15s from the civilian space, my answer is no. Those guns are in our society and will remain in our society. Essentially, they function as they should, but you have bad people with bad intentions who use them. So, I don't think we can use Texas as a good analogy for why you would need gun reform. If you had an individual alone in a room

... continued on page 6



Josh Williams

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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).

# Rep. Hicks-Hudson announces \$4.9 Million in New Capital Funds for Lucas County

*Ohio House of Representatives passes \$3.5 billion capital budget*

*Special to The Truth*

State Representative Paula Hicks-Hudson (D-Toledo) announced the passage of the capital budget, HB 687, by the Ohio House of Representatives last week. The capital budget appropriates resources to state owned infrastructure, colleges, universities, and school districts as well as other community projects.

The capital budget is typically passed every two years with this year's budget appropriating over \$3.5 billion to counties across Ohio with \$191 million being allocated to community projects.

"I am happy to announce the various community projects that have been funded through House Bill 687. However, I must continue to express my disappointment with the limited funds that Lucas County received in comparison to other parts of Ohio. With the combination of capital and federal dollars available, the fourth largest county in Ohio should have received increased funding for vital community projects," said Rep. Hicks-Hudson.

Rep. Hicks-Hudson helped to secure \$4,925,000 in funding for a number of community projects, including:

- \$250,000 for Toledo YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter
- \$50,000 for Harbor Crisis Stabilization Unit
- \$200,000 for Toledo Life Revitalization Center
- \$350,000 for Unison Health Dorr Street Behavioral Health Residential Facility
- \$150,000 Nuestra Gente Community Center



*Rep. Paula Hicks-Hudson*

- \$250,000 Toledo School for the Arts Expansion
- \$50,000 Libbey House
- \$50,000 Glass City Enrichment Center
- \$1,250,000 Toledo Museum of Art
- \$600,000 National Museum of the Great Lakes Expansion Project
- \$450,000 Toledo Innovation Center
- \$500,000 Broadway Corridor Business Incubator
- \$500,000 Sylvania YMCA
- 200,000 Sylvania Plummer Pool
- \$75,000 Danny Thomas Park Amphitheater

Additionally, Rep. Hicks-Hudson advocated for \$8,665,000 in funding for a number of projects of countywide significance, including:

- \$ 1,000,000 for Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union Campus Expansion
- \$ 1,650,000 for a new Lucas County Corrections Center
- \$ 2,500,000 for Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio, Inc.

The capital budget now moves to the Governor's desk.

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# Local Phi Delta Kappas Donate to Freedom School

By Dawn Scotland

The Truth Reporter

The local Beta Gamma Chapter of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. held a pre-conference community event at the Monroe Street United Methodist Church as part of their 82nd Midwest Conference weekend. The chapter donated funds to help assist the church's Freedom School.

Jaqueline Quinn, president of Beta Gamma Chapter presented executive director of the Monroe Street Freedom School, Clara Petty, with a \$700 check.

Supporting the program financially was directly in line with the sorority's goals, explained Quinn. Phi Delta Kappa is a prestigious professional sorority of teachers founded in 1923.

"We are excited to pour into this awesome program, and we thank each and every one of you for how hard you work. Part of our program under our sorority is youth, education and service... and you're doing it all," said Quinn.

Members of the sorority joined the Freedom School in a circle where the servant leader interns (teachers) led the members in "Harambe" an interactive motivational song that the children sing each morning.

The Freedom School is a K-12 summer enrichment program. It is an "answer to ending the cradle to prison pipeline. It's a safe space for children to strengthen reading skills and experience new opportunities to grow and serve," said Petty. One of the goals of the school is to prevent the reading loss children experience during the summers off from school.

Rooted in the legacy of the Freedom Summer of the 60s, the Freedom School became an initiative in 1995 through the Children Defense Fund. Nationally, there are 75 Freedom School sites. In Toledo, the Monroe Street United Methodist Church has hosted Freedom School since 2018.

Each year 50 scholars (children) participate in the program, led by servant leader interns (teachers) in curriculum that is African American based. This summer, 30 read-aloud guests from the community and from around the world will read with the students. The children will participate in three field trips with STEM included in afternoon enrichment activities. All students receive breakfast lunch and a snack daily provided by an in-house chef and receive culturally relevant materials and books each week.

The Freedom School will operate for six weeks this summer (June 13 through July 22.) Registration for Freedom School 2022 is full. The program is still in need of volunteers to assist with distributing lunch, read with children and staff the sign-in table. Volunteer training will be held on Wednesday June 8 at Monroe Street Church. For more information and to sign up go to [www.monroestreetchurchqh.org](http://www.monroestreetchurchqh.org) or email [abac1743@gmail.com](mailto:abac1743@gmail.com).

Donations for Freedom School can be sent to Monroe Street Neighborhood Center 3163 Monroe St. Toledo, OH 43606.



2022 Monroe Street Freedom School Staff Members



Jaqueline Quinn, president of Beta Gamma Chapter presents check to Clara Petty, Executive Director of Monroe Street Freedom School



Clara Petty addresses members of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc.

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*Local Coalition... continued from page 2*

Avis Files, director of Supportive Services: Brothers United and Sisters United, Pathway Inc, provided a statement from the coalition: "As members... we celebrate fathers...but let's be clear, we are mourning the loss of father's [in Lucas County.] Too many children are growing up without their fathers...Our communities, our county and most importantly our children are suffering a terrible price for of this absence.

"Lucas County fathers are not absent...We can change the narrative today. We much engage with fathers...This much more than individual responsibility only. It's recognizing that we all have a responsibility."

Files made the solution clear. "If we want to stop the social ills in this community there is one sure fire way to do that it is: Fatherhood. We must rally around and support fathers in a way that is tangible through programs in a collective effort... all working at the same time for fathers and families."

**June 2022 Fatherhood Week**

Monday, June 13th | 7pm via Zoom

**Child Support Conversations with Lucas County Child Support**

Tuesday, June 14th | 3-6 pm Greenbelt Apartments

**Fatherhood Baby Shower | Brothers United**

Wednesday, June 15th | 11am - 1pm Dorr St. Plaza

**Dad's Matter | Lucas County Children's Services**

Thursday June 16th | 10am- 3pm Mott Branch Library

**Fatherhood Fire: Igniting the Change One Day Conference | Lucas County Fatherhood Coalition**

Friday, June 17th | 12-3pm Wayman D. Palmer YMCA 2053 N. 14th St.

**DADZ at Play | Lucas County Family and Children First Council and Wayman D. Palmer YMCA**

Saturday, June 18th | 12-4pm Mott Branch Library & Smith Park 800-

2099 Fernwood Ave

**Fathers & Families Day | Pathway Inc. Brothers United**

For further information contact Avis Files (Director -Pathway Inc. Brothers and Sisters United Programs) at 419-279-0798 or afiles@pathway.org



Keith Robinson along with the Fatherhood Coalition addresses the community



Press conference attendees

*Perryman... continued from page 3*

with kids for 90 minutes or 60 minutes, officers were in the hallway. He could've had a butcher knife or a pistol or a shotgun, and he would've still wreaked a lot of damage.

**Perryman:** Well, let's talk about Buffalo. And, if you want to bring it closer to home, we've had mass shootings a few years ago in Dayton and in northeast Ohio. Those assault weapons are weapons of war. What role could they possibly have in our everyday civilian society?

**Williams:** Well, they were intended to be weapons of war, and we were intended as civilians to have access to those weapons to maintain an anti-tyrannical government. Think about that, ever since slavery, one of the founding principles of the NRA was to arm black people. So when the KKK used to knock on our doors and lynch and tar and feather us, it wasn't pea shooters that we were using. It was the arms that were in the same hands as some of our soldiers.

**Perryman:** I respectfully disagree. Those weapons were for the enslavers to fight against so-called potential slave uprisings. But anyway, we do know that machine guns are highly regulated. You have to go through a huge amount of bureaucratic red tape to get machine guns that you don't for an AK-47 or an AR-15.

**Williams:** At least one of the facets of the conversation we need to have about these school shootings is why schools are soft targets and seen as potential targets for mass shooters. For example, a grocery store was seen as a target in Buffalo. In Buffalo, we also saw an individual engaged with a crossfire from a security guard, a former police officer who unfortunately lost his life.

**Perryman:** Everywhere is a soft target, schools, churches, supermarkets, and even bars and restaurants in Dayton. So, everywhere. How do you feel about arming teachers, which is a bill that the governor is ready to sign?

**Williams:** I support it where competent, experienced teachers and security guys are at our schools with more firearms, and those firearms have to stay on their persons. I would feel comfortable knowing my son is in a school where individuals are competent, experienced in firearms, and willing to lay their lives down or on the line for their students.

**Perryman:** I don't know that a pistol would've handled the AR-15 in Texas, where a battalion of professionally-trained law enforcement was afraid to confront the shooter. So, is that placing too much on our teach-

... continued on page 12

The Truth

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# Local Phi Delta Kappa Recognition Banquet

By Dawn Scotland

The Truth Reporter

The Beta Gamma Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. held a public recognition banquet Friday June 3, 2022 at the Hilton Garden Inn Perrysburg as a part of the national organization's 82nd Midwest Regional Conference. Six community leaders received special recognition for their exemplary dedication to the community.

The local Beta Gamma Chapter of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. hosted the organization's 82nd Midwest Regional Conference this weekend June 2-5. The prestigious, professional organization of teachers was founded in 1923. Both the national president, Margarette Galloway, and regional officers were in attendance for the conference.

The theme was "The Education Saga Continues: Supreme in Excellence & Exemplary in Service." The moderator for the evening was Chairperson Dorothy Batson. Pandra Taylor, conference coordinator provided the welcome. Greetings were provided by Vikki Pruitte-Sorrels, Midwest Regional Member at Large, Margarette Galloway, National President, and Tiffany M. Pritchett Midwest Regional Director.

"We are excited to extend greetings on behalf of [your] national officers... I [honor] the Midwest Region for acknowledging, recognizing and celebrating outstanding citizens within your community. The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. Congratulations to the honorees", said Galloway.

The following honorees received recognition for their years of community service and commitment to others:

82nd Midwest Regional Literacy Award

**Clara Petty, Executive Director of Freedom School (Children's Defense Fund)**

Freedom School has operated at Monroe Street United Methodist Church since 2018. The organization was established by the Children's Defense Fund in 1995. The K-12 summer program is an answer to "the cradle to prison pipeline and offers a safe space for children to strengthen reading skills and experience



82nd Midwest Regional Literacy Award Recipient - Bonita Adams, Author & Playwright (center in black)



82nd Midwest Regional Literacy Award Recipient - Clara Petty, Executive Director of Monroe Street Freedom School (center)



Outstanding Community Service Award Recipient - Sonia Flunder McNair, founder of Urban Wholistics (center)



Outstanding Soror Award Recipient - Linda Hannibal-Collins, 1st Vice President Beta Gamma Chapter (bottom in white)

new opportunities to grow and serve." Children receive multiculturally relevant instruction and reading materials as part of the program.

... continued on page 15



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# Larry Lanting: Learning From Brothers United Not to Cut Corners

By Dawn Scotland

The Truth Reporter

Larry Lanting, originally from Huntsville, AL, moved to Toledo into Birmingham Terrace in 1993 after his parents separated. There, Lanting started selling drugs.

"I've been in and out of prison from the late 90s/ early 2000s 'til basically 2011. I've been home 11 years exactly September 1st...I was addicted to that fast life, I was addicted to money...Most of my friends I used to hangout with... they're all dead"

After serving his time, he experienced what he saw as injustices against fathers, especially those with felony records, in obtaining legal rights to their children and child support. "My kids are 9 and 13, they've been away from their mom for eight years and three months. It took me almost two years to get them from CSB. It's two against one [the mother and his felony record]." Lanting has had full custody for the past seven years.

A little over five years ago he entered the Brothers United Program. His former cellmate was a part of the program in its initial stages, and he introduced him to it.

The most important thing Brothers United helped him with is acceptance.

"I never thought in a million years I would be having kids with an enemy," he said. Lanting has a strained relationship with his children's mother. He has learned to accept the situation for himself and his children.

Recently married, he co-parents with his new partner. "I have to co-parent with her... and we have different schedules..." BU Nation has helped him to communicate in his new situation today. "I want them to know what a healthy relationship is." His children have even been a part of the program.

"I'm just trying to show my kids that there's a different way than cutting corners than like I used to with selling drugs." Today, Lanting owns his own business. "I have a small firewood business, East Toledo Firewood, a self-sustainable



Larry Lanting and his children

[business]. I sell the wood to pay all my property taxes and showing my kids...a little bit of hard work is a [good] short cut.

"I think they're [Brother's United] doing a wonderful thing community-wise and it's not a white thing or a black thing... It's a colorful thing. I've tried sending everyone I know [into Brothers United]... I've met other fathers like when I've gone to family court...I sent other fathers their way."

If someone is on the fence about going through the program, he should "at least give them a shot," said Lanting. He volunteers his time to the program every chance he can and is a proud member of "BU Nation."

For more information on Brothers United, visit [www.pathwaytoledo.org/brothers-united/](http://www.pathwaytoledo.org/brothers-united/) or call 419-242-7304.

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#### MISSION

The Fair Housing Center is a non-profit civil rights agency that promotes housing choice, the creation of inclusive communities, and the protection and expansion of fair housing rights to support communities free of housing discrimination.

The work that provided the basis for this publication was supported by funding under a grant with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The substance and findings of the work are dedicated to the public. The author and publisher are solely responsible for the accuracy of the statements and interpretations contained in this publication. Such interpretations do not necessarily reflect the views of the Federal Government.

# Howard to Offer Free Virtual Journalism Program for High School Students

The Howard University Multicultural Media Academy invites high school students to attend a free journalism workshop from June 20 to July 1, 2022. The virtual 10-day program is open to U.S. high school students in ninth through 12th grades, and new graduates who will be entering college in the fall. The program will focus on how to use the power of multimedia journalism to cover health and wellness in underserved communities.

The application for the summer program is available at <https://bit.ly/2022HowardHealthJournalism>. The deadline for application submission is at 11 p.m. Friday, June 10. The workshop is sponsored by the Dow Jones News Fund, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Department of Media, Journalism and Film in the Cathy Hughes School of Communications.

"We're honored that Howard was again selected to host a Dow Jones News Fund Workshop and train young reporters to cover health inequities," said Professor Yanick Rice Lamb. "It's a great program with amazing students." Lamb is the co-director of the program with Christine McWhorter, PhD, an assistant professor of broadcast journalism, and Professor Ericka Blount, a lecturer and adviser to 101Magazine.net and TruthBeTold.news.

The workshops will be held virtually from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The free workshops include sessions on reporting, interviewing, scriptwriting, editing, multimedia, social media, ethics, professional development and other topics. Students will work under the guid-



ance of a talented pool of professional journalists along with Howard professors, college students and alumni.

...continued on page 12

## WHAT WE'RE READING THIS SUMMER



**By the Book**  
by Jasmine Guillory

**The Hacienda**  
by Isabel Canas

**Love Radio**  
by Ebony LaDelle

**Inheritance:  
A Visual Poem**  
by Elizabeth Acevedo

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# Whitmer Speech and Debate Team Wows at National Tournament

By Jordyn Taylor

The Truth Reporter

For most Americans, speaking in public is their biggest fear— even greater than death. For a group of students at Whitmer High School, it's their greatest enjoyment.

Over the Labor Day weekend, the Whitmer Speech and Debate Team returned to the National Catholic Forensics League (NCFL) National Tournament, qualifying five students to the tournament and bringing home several awards. Coached by Marie Wetzel and Bill Prater of Whitmer High School, the group of talented students included current sophomores Olivia Declerq and Stephen Grant, junior, Ava Navarez, and graduating senior, Olivia Wetzel.

After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, this year's tournament took

place in Washington, D.C., accommodating over 1,100 competitors in the heart of our country. Round after round, the team debated other schools from across the country and told stories of hope and humor to new audiences. The student's performance at the tournament did not disappoint, adding to their reputation as a phenomenal team.

Top honors included:

- Semi-Finalist in Lincoln-Douglas Debate - Olivia Declerq, sophomore
- Quarterfinalist in Extemporaneous Speaking - Stephen Grant, sophomore
- Semi-Finalist in Original Oratory - Olivia Wetzel, graduating senior

The work is not over yet for the team as their sights focus on the 2022 National Speech and Debate Tournament in Louisville, Kentucky this month.

## Summer Read Kicks Off Monday!

Summer Read is back at the Toledo Library and kicks off Monday! This year, more than ever, we know it is important to keep kids' academics on track. Summer Read helps stop the summer academic slide in a fun and interactive way!

Summer Read is for all ages and you just have to read 30 days from June 6 to August 1. Our soft launch started June 1 and 763 readers signed up in the first

24 hours!

Readers receive a special sign-up prize. Adults get a free tote bag and kids get a free book. Readers who complete the reading challenge will be entered into grand prize drawings for Nintendo Switch Lites, Kindles, Cricuts, Fitbit trackers, gift cards to local businesses, and more.

## Spend Summer with The Toledo Library!

The Library is the place to be this summer. With a wide array of events and activities, there is something for everyone! Make the most of your summer with us.

### • Summer Read:

As the calendar flips to June, it is time for Summer Read! Simply read 30 days between June 6 and August 1. Grab your sign-up prize and then complete the challenge to be entered into grand prize drawings for Nintendo Switch Lites, Kindles, Cricuts, Fitbit trackers, gift cards to local businesses, and more.

### • Brown Bag Concerts:

Bring your lunch and a chair or blanket and enjoy great music on Wednes-

days in June and July from 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. Main Library north lawn will set the stage for blues, rock, jazz, R&B, pop, and other music genres.

### • Outdoor Fun:

Play outdoors at the Library with great activities like corn hole, four square, giant Connect 4, ring toss, tic tac toe, lawn Jenga and more! For on-site use at any Library location.

### • StoryWalks:

Hop, skip, and jump your way through read-aloud books at the Library's outdoor StoryWalks that show each page in oversized signs. Each branch has a different story and they change monthly.

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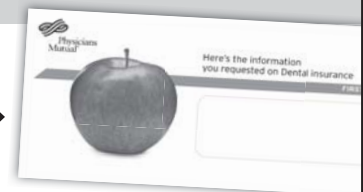
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Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section

### Virtual Journalism Program... continued from page 10

High school students will learn how to write news stories, capture audio, shoot and edit video, take photos, use interactive tools, incorporate social media and build a portfolio of their work. They will also develop an understanding of interrelated social issues — such as housing and hunger — that contribute to making communities unhealthy. Their work will be published and distributed by the award-winning Howard University News Service and [VoicesofTomorrow.news](http://VoicesofTomorrow.news). Participants are also eligible for Dow Jones News Fund scholarships.

For more information, please contact [mjf.howard@gmail.com](mailto:mjf.howard@gmail.com) or (202) 806-7694.

The Department of Media, Journalism and Film is the largest unit in the Cathy Hughes School of Communications at Howard University. Its faculty and alumni include award-winning, internationally renowned filmmakers, journalists, media producers, documentarians and research scholars. The department offers one of the top MFA programs in film and the only one at an HBCU. It was named as having one of the best university cinematography programs. USA Today and College Factual has ranked the journalism program among the top 20 nationally, and the National Association of Black Journalists ranked the program as No. 1 in the United States. The Broadcast Education Association honored WHBC student radio with the Signature Station Award. Howard is one of two

universities in Washington and among seven HBCUs accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications.

For a half-century, Howard has been the leading producer of journalists and communicators from multicultural backgrounds, and the Cathy Hughes School of Communications recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. In addition to its collegiate curriculum, the journalism faculty has organized workshops for high school students since 1978 and other programs for younger students. It also collaborated with Morgan State University on a year-long pilot program for high school students under a health journalism grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. For more information, see <http://communications.howard.edu>.

Founded in 1867, Howard University is a private, research university that is comprised of 13 schools and colleges. Students pursue more than 140 programs of study leading to undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees. The University operates with a commitment to Excellence in Truth and Service and has produced one Schwarzman Scholar, three Marshall Scholars, four Rhodes Scholars, 12 Truman Scholars, 25 Pickering Fellows and more than 165 Fulbright recipients. Howard also produces more on-campus African American Ph.D. recipients than any other university in the United States. For more information on Howard University, visit [www.howard.edu](http://www.howard.edu).

### Perryman... continued from page 6

ers to be professional security as well as try to teach these kids?

**Williams:** What the State of Ohio is doing is not saying to teachers to get a teaching certificate in the State of Ohio, you have to pack a 9-mm. They're not saying that. What they're saying is, individual school districts, we're going to give you back the authority to vote on what you believe is best to safeguard your schools. More localized conversations like that are how we get to a solution. So, for me, anything that will save a child's life, I'm for it. I will admit, it's a very difficult subject. There's no real easy solution.

**Perryman:** What is your position on Bill 616, the divisive concepts legislation that prevents teachers from teaching factual history just because it presents our history's negative or seamy side?

**Williams:** Suppose we're talking about teaching African-American history and the history of the United States or about slavery and oppression that happened to groups of people. In that case, I have no problem with kids learning that. However, I have a problem when you tell kids that a white kid born in 2022 is inherently an oppressor because of that history, and a black kid born in 2022 is intrinsically oppressed by that white kid.

Also, I don't like that divisive language portion of the bill because it's too broad. It gives too much discretion to school districts to cut out curricula like slavery and Jim Crow and the need for race being used in standard admissions processes, the reasons behind that.

**Perryman:** Let's talk about reproductive rights. You mentioned that you're for limited government, but the government should have a say when it comes to a woman's right over her own body. So, please explain your views on reproductive rights and a woman's right to choose decisions regarding her own healthcare.

**Williams:** Right, we start with the way you preface the question, calling it reproductive rights. I never will believe that murdering the baby inside the womb as an elective procedure is a reproductive right.

**Perryman:** The term "Murder" is such loaded language, especially when talking about a fetus, an embryo inside the womb, that can only continue its existence through its mother. However, outside the womb,

after it is born and enters this world, there seems very little concern for the life of children, according to conservative policies.

**Williams:** That's your position. I care about it both as an embryo and as a newborn. So, for me, life begins at conception, any intentional act to end that is murder. Ohio's statute already recognizes that the baby inside the womb is worth protecting. The question here is not whether or not it's a person or whether or not it's a life. It's whether or not the mother has a right to end that life.

**Perryman:** As far as LGBTQ rights, what steps, if any, would you take to ensure full equality for LGBTQ people in our community?

**Williams:** I don't object to anyone's lifestyle. That's the libertarian in me that says, 'you do you, I do me.' But let's be clear, there have to be boundaries. So, when you say equal rights, what are we talking about here? If you're talking about a man who believes he's a woman and still has [male genitalia] going in a bathroom with my wife or daughter, the answer is no. It's always going to be no. However, the government's role is not to intrude in your bedroom or personal life.

**Perryman:** Will you commit to providing adequate funding for safe and affordable housing?

**Williams:** Absolutely. I think safe and affordable housing, financial assistance, SNAP benefits, and these programs that provide a safety net are essential. I've been there. I've been on SNAP benefits before, been on WIC before, and lived in impoverished neighborhoods for decades. So, I believe those programs need to be there as a safety net. But, still, there have to be eligibility, work, vocational, and school requirements because these programs can be used to hold us back from socio-economic progression.

We have to develop a system where people can dig themselves out of poverty and relieve themselves from the need to be on these programs. At the same time, we provide a cushion to transition back into being independent of the government. The more independent we are from the government, the more free-thinking we are. Then we don't vote for those who just provide us stuff. Instead, we start looking at each issue and each candidate differently.

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



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# Things Past Telling by Sheila Williams

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

A life well-lived.

That's what you want them to say when you're gone: that you used up every shred of the time on Earth you were given, that you seized it from corner to corner and never wasted a minute. It's an envious thing, to take advantage of your moments but in *Things Past Telling* by Sheila Williams, it's not an easy thing, either.

When she stayed silent, they thought she couldn't hear, or was addled. But that wasn't so. In her silence, 112-year-old Maryam Priscilla Grace was remembering...

As the middle child of her father's second wife, with brothers first and last, she was allowed to go to market with her father, as a son would. There, she listened to the languages of sellers and buyers, repeated them, and she learned. Her self-taught lessons helped her survive when, at four years old, she was captured by Portuguese men and sold to slavers.

She could smell the island of Jamaica when the ship got near – but before it could arrive, a rogue pirate vessel captained by a regal man the color of night captured the slaver and freed its cargo. She was small and alone and the pirate kept her by his side, making her his multi-tongued helper and a beloved and honorary sister.

The day that he left her with his healer was the day she began to learn how to soothe stomachs, set bones, and birth babies. The Auntie who taught her said that helpful plants were everywhere – knowledge that Maryam needed

c.2022  
Amistad  
\$25.99  
341 pages



*Things Past Telling* author courtesy Tasha-Pinelo-Photography

when the island was raided and she was sent to Savannah, and to a slave market.

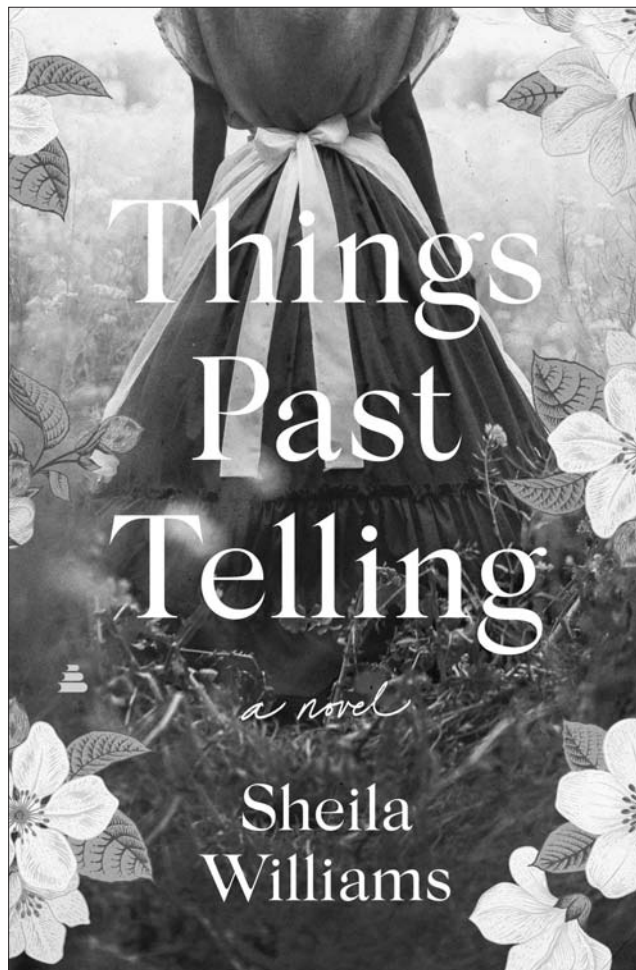
As a healer and midwife, Maryam drew a high price and was given her own cabin. She toiled, and was allowed to marry the man she loved but when her first owner's finances fell, he sold her family away south and left her with nothing. She barely noticed when she, too, was sold.

Until her second owner finally gave her what she wanted.

It may seem, at first, like *Things Past Telling* is a little far-fetched. Pirates? A 112-year-old woman?? Ah, but sit a minute with this book and wait until it pulls you in.

Once you let go and allow the story to sweep you away, you'll see how absolutely dazzling it really is. Author Sheila Williams takes readers on a sort of adventure in the beginning, before plunging us into a horror story that's told with a voice that's mournful but calm and proud. Yes, the things that happen to Maryam are too-tightly packed in a novel of this size, but to remember that they are not entirely implausible is to enjoy a story that takes you from noisy markets in Africa to a roiling ocean to sandy islands to an austere cabin to a sunny back yard. And you never even leave your chair.

This is one of those novels that, once you're used to the storytelling, makes your surroundings melt away. Start it, and *Things Past Telling* will be a book well-read.



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**LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS  
TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY  
TOLEDO, OHIO**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sealed Bids will be received by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority for all labor, material, insurance, and equipment necessary for the Component 2: Reconstruction of Dock Face Phase 3 Rebid project located at Facility One, 3518 St. Lawrence Dr., Toledo, Ohio 43605, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications, to the Port Authority at One Maritime Plaza, Toledo, Ohio 43604.

The "Component 2: Reconstruction of Dock Face Phase 3 - Rebid" project consists of:

**WATERFRONT:** Removal of old fendering system, supply and install new fendering, repair sheet pile wall, and create new drainage openings in the sheet pile wall. Remove and replace the sheet pile concrete cap.

**DOCK SURFACE:** Remove existing crane rails, remove pavement to 50 feet from sheet pile wall, removal electrical manholes and conduit, furnish and install new drainage, backfill and new pavement. Pavement will also be required between tracks in the areas of the track where there are turnouts or switches. In addition, tie backs, as directed on the drawings, should be completely dug up so that they may be inspected.

A portion of the existing storm system will need to be reworked including a lift station. This will require excavation, new pipe, manholes, backfill and discharge through the sheet pile wall. The electrical power for the lift station is to be coordinated with the electrical contractor.

**RAILROAD TRACK:** Track is to be removed and replaced, including ballast. Precast concrete crossing panels will also be installed along the tangent portions of the track.

The base bid for the dock surface and rail would be too non-perform replacement between 0+00 and 2+50 and also 37+00 to 41+60. The alternate for this area would be to remove and replace as indicated.

**PHASING:** The Port of Toledo operations will continue through construction. As such, the dock face reconstruction will be completed in sections along the dock. All work must be completed in a section of the dock (including rail and pavement) prior to moving to the next section. The drawings currently show 5 phases to complete the dock restructuring. The order and location of these phases are indicated on the drawings, however, Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority and Midwest Terminals of Toledo Inc., may reorder the phases during construction to fit the shipping schedule. **GENERAL:** This is a lump sum bid. All quantities shown on the bid sheet are to be verified with the plan documents by the bidder. The sum of the line items may not add up to your total lump sum fee. These unit prices are to be used in the event of an owner directed change to the contract documents.

This project is funded through a U.S. Dept. of Trans. Maritime Administration (MARAD) PIDP grant and an Ohio Maritime Assistance Program grant (MAP). The engineer's estimate for Component 2: Reconstruction of Dock Face Phase 3 – Rebid combined total is approximately \$13,200,000.00. The Base bid is approximately \$11,800,000.00, and Alternates 1 through 6 are approximately \$1,400,000.00. Bids that are in excess of 10% above the engineer's estimate would be considered non-responsive. This project may be awarded by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority at its sole discretion.

Sealed bids will be received at the Port Authority's administrative offices, 1st floor reception area at One Maritime Plaza, Toledo, OH 43604, until Wednesday, June 8, 2022, 1:00 PM, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud via conference call. Conference call-in information will be shared in addendum no. 1.

Only qualified contractors are eligible to submit bids for this project. Contractor qualification status must be in force at the time of bidding, at the time of award, and through the life of the construction contract.

Plans, Specifications, Instructions to Proposers, and Forms of Proposal and Contract are on file and may be obtained by either (1) obtaining hard copies from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, OH 43615, phone 419.385.5303, during normal business hours, or (2) ordering from Becker Impressions, via their website [www.beckerplanroom.com](http://www.beckerplanroom.com) at the cost of reproduction.

Please note there will be an on-site pre-bid meeting for this project for all prospective bidders on Monday, May 16, 2022, at 10:00 AM, with a site visit immediately following. Prospective bidders interested in attending should contact Tina Perkins (TPerkins@Toledoport.org) at Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority prior to Friday, May 13, 2022, at 10:00 AM. A maximum of two (2) individuals per bidder with valid identification and proper personal protective equipment (PPE) will be permitted to attend. Attendees should meet at the stone parking lot next to the main gate at George Hardy and St. Lawrence Dr. Attendance is suggested, but not mandatory. Please submit all questions to the Port Authority, Tina Perkins at TPerkins@Toledoport.org by Wednesday, June 8, 2022, at 10:00 AM local time. Additional information can be found at [www.toledoport.org](http://www.toledoport.org)

Thomas J. Winston  
President and CEO  
Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority

**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>\$9,679,018</b>
Preventive Maintenance	\$4,056,771	\$5,070,964
Hardware	\$766,309	\$957,887
Software	\$936,599	\$1,170,749
Misc. Equipment	\$600,000	\$750,000
Support Vehicle	\$499,200	\$624,000
Renovation/Rehab	\$299,099	\$373,874
Vehicle Replacement	\$585,235	\$731,544
<b>Total Section 5307 funded items</b>	<b>\$7,743,213</b>	<b>\$9,679,018</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 43607-0792. 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

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

**IFB22-B004 SITE IMPROVEMENTS – JADE ESTATES  
& MARSROW ACRES**

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMH) will receive sealed bids from General Contractors for the for the removal and replacement of concrete and asphalt driveways and / or sidewalks at selected locations in the City of Toledo. Received in accordance with law until July 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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*Phi Delta Kappa... continued from page 7*

82nd Midwest Regional Literacy Award

**Bonita Adams, Author & Playwright**

Bonita Adams is an award-winning playwright. Her play, "Obama Looks Back", was featured in the D.C. Black Theater Festival and her play "My Mother Prayed for Me" received recognition at the A Taste of Theater Festival. She has written, produced and directed over 10 stage plays receiving numerous awards and recognition for her work. Adams, along with her husband, James L. Adams, founded JAB Transportation, JAB ETM Productions, LLC and Write the Vision Publishing, LLC.

Outstanding Education Award

**Rev. John C. Jones, President of HOPE Toledo PreK Program**

HOPE Toledo is a non-for-profit organization dedicated to strengthening education access and opportunity for Toledo's children. Jones leads HOPE Toledo's focus "to advocate, support and ensure equitable access to high quality education for Toledo's children" by providing: high quality early childhood education (preschool) for Toledo's four year olds and expanding the opportunity for every Toledo high school graduate to have a scholarship to a college, career-technical, or postsecondary trade school.

Outstanding Community Service Award

**Sonia Flunder McNair, Urban Wholistics**

Sonia Flunder McNair is the CEO and founder of SONIA Organics, LLC a line of health, hygiene and beauty products "designed to help you live, feel and be well". She has established connections with many organizations to spread natural health education and resources including Wooster College, the University of Toledo, Monroe Street Neighborhood Center and others. She hopes to establish Toledo's first school of urban agriculture and establish a wellness culture that will include organic product formulation, botany and herb education.

Outstanding Soror Award

**Linda Hannibal-Collins, 1st Vice President Beta Gamma Chapter**

Linda Hannibal-Collins retired after 28 years in the Toledo Public Schools system; she started her teaching career as an instructor in the Practical Nursing Program then moved to Scott High School where she taught in Medical



*Outstanding Education Award Recipient - Rev. John C. Jones, President of HOPE Toledo PreK Program*



*Regional and National Officers of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa Sorority, Inc.; National President Margarette Galloway (center in gold)*

Technology. As a member of Phi Delta Kappa for 22 years she has served as president, Vice President and Youth advisor of her local chapter and Xinos Advisory Chair and Parliamentarian on the regional level. She continues to serve as a tutor in the medical field.

Beta Gamma Literacy Award

**Myra G. Love, Local Children's Author**

Myra Love is an author and speaker who loves spreading the Gospel. She has written several books and has been featured in the Toledo Blade, Chanell 11, Chanell 13 News and gospel radio stations. Her Davey Panda Books are an encouragement and inspiration to young children that are struggling in their own "skin." Through the character of Davey Panda, they learn to be resilient and that their lives have purpose.

Toledo City Councilwoman Cerssandra McPherson presented special proclamation recognizing the organization.

Guests enjoyed dinner and were serenaded by Deborah Gardner & Friends of Jazz. The Public Recognition Dinner Committee was Dorothy Batson (Chairperson), Patrece Maggott (Co-Chairperson), Hellen Sallee and Tina Hall. President of the Beta Gamma Chapter is Jacqueline Quinn.

On Saturday, the sorority concluded its weekend with a Vital Issues Breakfast at Hilton Garden Inn Saturday were three speakers discussed "Trauma Effecting our Educational System: The Educators, Students and Parents."



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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.

  
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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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# MLK Jr Academy Students Visit the Capital

The Truth Staff

Thirty-three fifth and sixth graders from MLK Jr. Academy for Boys and their five adult chaperones left Toledo by chartered bus on May 23 for Washington, D.C. and experienced the trip of a lifetime, courtesy of school booster William Liddell.

The now 94-year old Liddell had approached the school in 2020, before the pandemic hit, to express his desire to see the students travel to the nation's capital. He came again this school year and approached Sheila Cook, MLK Community Outreach and Resources Coordinator, and said, "Get it going! I'm going to raise the money."

Raise it he did. Liddell and friends raised \$12,000, enough for transportation, hotel rooms and food. "The kids didn't have to spend a thing," says Cook.

The group's first full day in the Capital was spent visiting a host of the spectacular sights the city has to offer: the MLK Jr. Memorial, the Supreme Court building, the Capitol, the White House, the Lincoln Memorial, the World War II memorial, the Vietnam memorial and the Holocaust Museum, says Cook, who was one of the adults on the trip. The six grade boys received their six grade certificates at the site of the MLK Memorial.

The second day was devoted to a visit to the National Museum of African American History and Culture. That second day is the day the boys, and the adults for that matter, will be talking about for quite a while. The boys were split into groups to tour the museum.

The Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, established by a 2003 Act of Congress, is the nation's largest and most comprehensive museum devoted to documenting and displaying the African-American story and the impact of that story on world history.

The nearly 400,000-square-foot museum is next to the Washington Monument and has collected around 37,000 objects. The museum opened to the public in September 2016 and is the newest of the 19 Smithsonian institutions.

"The boys had mixed emotions," says Cook. "There were tears, anger and questions about how we were depicted."

The students learned about how African Americans have been treated in the past but also what they have accomplished in the past and the present. After a lunch outside of the museum, they wanted to return and learn more, says Cook. "They were just sponges about learning about themselves."

On the group's return, Liddell, of course, was curious about how the trip went. He is eager to help again next year, says Cook, but in the future other groups, such as the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, will also be involved in the fundraising effort.

This was the first time the MLK Jr. Academy students had the opportunity to visit the Capital but certainly not the last.



Senator Bernie Sanders greets MLK students



Sixth graders and their certificates



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