



Volume 74 No. 5

*"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."*

September 14, 2022

The advertisement features a large, smiling portrait of Clifford Murphy on the left. Overlaid on the right is a parchment-like background with the text 'STREET RENAMING CEREMONY' in a decorative font. Below this, 'TOLEDO JAZZ LEGEND' is written in large, bold letters, followed by 'CLIFFORD MURPHY' in even larger letters. The date and time 'SAT. SEP 17TH 10 AM' are listed, along with the location 'Corner of Summit &amp; Jefferson'. A small silhouette of a cat is visible next to the name 'MURPHY'.

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# A "Gun Buy Back" Program at the FDCA Brings in Hundreds of Weapons

By Dawn Scotland

The Truth Reporter

A 'Gun Buy Back' event was held at the Frederick Douglass Community Association Saturday afternoon, September 10. The event was a partnership with the Lucas County Prosecutor's Office, Black Teamsters, Toledo Police Department, the City of Toledo and Frederick Douglass Community Association in a continued effort to get guns off of the street.

Hundreds of gun owners lined up outside of the FDCA on Saturday to sell their firearms. The event, like other Buy Backs of this kind, was anonymous for the sellers. Each person received gas gift cards in exchange for their firearms.

"We saw this [event] happening in Sacramento and it was very successful," said Steve Papodemous, first assistant to Lucas County Prosecutor, "They sold out in 45 minutes and we thought let's do it here [in Toledo]."

"We thought, let's take what we can off the street by way of firearms... If we can prevent one death, one suicide, one accident, one murder – then it's a success. If just one... If it is successful and we sell out of our [gift cards], we'll have another one," said Papodemous.

"Their grandchild will never get the gun and have an accident with the gun," stated Julie Bates, Lucas County Prosecutor. "Their son will never commit suicide in the bedroom with the gun, nobody will come break in the house steal the gun a shoot their neighbor," added Bates. "All good outcomes."

Recipients received \$100 for handguns, \$200 for a longguns and \$250 for a semi-automatic gun in gas gift cards. Papodemous said that there are no tax dollars being used for the program and that the effort is solely funded by criminal forfeiture funds.

Reggie Williams, executive director of the FDCA, which hosts an office for the Violence Interrupters through Mayor Kapszukiewicz Save Our Community Program, commented... "we were looking at how can we partner and collaborate on how to impact the city in regards to violence and take guns off the street... it just made sense... since we have them here [the Violence Interrupters] in the building why not continue to build off that have people who are comfortable with the Doug and know the Doug come here to Buy their Gun back."

The Lucas County Prosecutors office hopes to have more across the city in the future.



Toledo Police Department checks firearms



Officers at the Doug helping with Gun Buy Back



Prosecutor Julie Bates, Steve Papademous and members of the Black Teamsters

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## Community Calendar

### September 17

New Works Writers Series: Presents August Wilson Milestones in Black Theatre; Black Theatre Day Celebration; The Truth Art Gallery, 1811 Adams; 7 pm: 419-380-8464

### September 17-18

St. Paul's MBC Women's Day Weekend: "Alive and Well Women's Conference 2022; Saturday at 10:30 am to 1 pm (Physical and mental wellness); Continental breakfast at 10 am; Sunday morning Worship Service; Sunday School at 10:00 am; Worship service at 10:45 am; Speaker is Valerie Simmons-Walston of Transformation Church

### September 25

Concert featuring Anthony Pattin and Friends; 4 pm; Third Baptist Church; A tribute to Third Baptist former musicians and choir directors  
Perfecting Church Family and Friends Day: 8 am: 419-382-1300

# Mission Control ... We Have a Problem!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

*"It is the very nature of a Faustian bargain that the winner later becomes the loser." ...Efal Revillot, essayist and novelist.*

If you take the moral and political temperature of America at this point in time, you will see the etchings of a "new" America in which the GOP party, including the MAGA faction, are willing to make a Faustian Bargain with the offerings to them of power and control as embodied in the person of Herr Trump.

It is not as if the power-seeking GOP cannot compute a simple spreadsheet of what is at stake if they continue to allow themselves to be bamboozled by the trinkets and confetti of the "devil."

Understand one thing in a Faustian Bargain, the participating parties, the "devil" or his representative, and the person or persons accepting this unequal contract know that each is offering the other what the other wants...but.

The "but" portion of the devilish deal is that the human bargainer is so desperate for the consummation of the deal that common sense and moral prudence are jettisoned for immediate gratification of matters like power, wealth, temporal wisdom, favor in love or other things that the human bargainer feels is more important than their "soul" or value.

The human bargainer, allowing his or her conscience to be seared as if with a hot iron, treads into the lair of the devil, thinking that, at the end, she will prevail over her adversary.

Literature in which Faustian Bargains are acted out, be it in a morality play or used in an allegory as a teaching tool, always ends for the human participant either in crushing agony or an inability to seek restoration back to the time before the Bargain was entered.

In other words, it is like the childhood ditty, "Oh, now you done it, you done, done, done it!"

Remorse, agonizing tears and sorrowful repentance are of no avail since the once glittering and then agreeable terms of the Bargain must now be consummated.

In the current swamp of politics, we have the participants to this devil bargain: representing the devil, the one and only Donald Trump, and representing the hapless bargainer, the beguiled GOP party which is willing to obtain and keep power at seemingly any cost.

Donald Trump knowingly and convincingly plays the role of the avatar who is offering to a base of disenfranchised GOP voters a chance to again air their grievances of America not being the America that they grew up in; and for their avatar to Make America Great Again!

The avatar knows the seeds of lies and mistruths and distortions that he has been planting for years in the fertile soil of a population who believe that they are becoming a "minority" in "their" own country and, unless something radical is done, they fear that their stake in America is being irrevocably threatened.

Forget that the base of the GOP party cannot conceptualize the glaring lie of their avatar, masquerading as a populist, is made of whole cloth.

Forget that the same base is "history challenged" and fails to understand that Donald Trump is simply a member of a long line of political hustlers who see a buck to be made (in this case, hundreds of millions of dollars!) and he has no qualms of concocting a fabulous story now known as the Big Lie.

Forget that the base is tone deaf to hearing from neutral sites or persons that a simple reading of the extant records will voluminously indicate that the Big Lie is a con of the first order.

Until and unless you understand that Herr Trump is not the cause of this present political cancer but rather is only a person who was able to artfully tap into the angst and fear of the MAGA base, you will be misled into thinking Trump is some type of political genie or savior who will save America from itself.

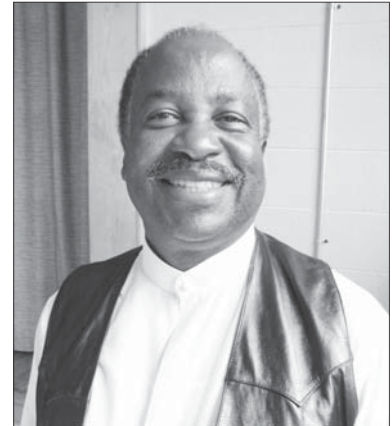
The crossroads that America finds itself is whether people with a working knowledge of history and people who are not moved by feigned racial fears being generated by the MAGA propaganda machinery will vote to rid the political landscape of political carpetbaggers and opportunists (Steve Bannon anyone?).

There is no Martin Luther King Jr., or a Walter Cronkite or a Billy Graham(?) who has the moral reserves and who can appeal to a vast

number of people, telling them to reject extremists for the common good.

With the advent of the Internet, any buffoon can spew forth gibberish (and get paid for it!) so that the gullible are taken captive and what is considered truth, is now considered suspect at best.

Up is down and down is up. Moral relativism is considered to be on par with moral certainty and institutions of standing and renown are now viewed as suspect.



Lafe Tolliver

And for Mission Control...? Hold on, the line is still busy.

P.S. On the tragic death of Melvin Thomas: We continue to be our own worse enemy!

Do Black Lives Matter? Yeah, sure. Next!

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

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# "My Truth"

## Did You Do What I asked?

By Cheryl Smith, Publisher of I Messenger Media

Texas Metro News

Guest Column

Last year when I attended the inaugural Arlington Showdown, where the Southern Jaguars and the Texas Southern Tigers took to the Gridiron, I talked about the importance of supporting HBCUs. I just love it when I see folks out supporting HBCUs because I love all HBCUs. I also told you to get ready to support the Classic games in 2023.

It was a message specifically for folks within a 300 mile radius of the two HBCU classics coming to the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex; however, the message is good for any and everybody, especially you sports fans and those who say they support higher education!

*Which brings me to my truth.*

I have a few tips for alums who are not supporting their schools. And yes there are more ways to support than attending a football game; however, support is support. HBCU alums, here's what I want you to do for me!

- Start saving two dollars a week — then you can buy tickets for two to least one game (anything over, donate it, or put toward your alumni dues)
- Even if you only attended one semester, join the alumni association
- If you feel compelled to ask for donated tickets, make an outright

donation to the school

- If you can, buy tickets for some high school students
- Get your company/corporation to sign on as a corporate sponsor
- When you purchase tickets from Williams Chicken, at least get a two piece and a pepper or some corn fritters
- Support the vendors who purchase booths and travel annually to these classics
- Attend the games even if your teams are not playing!
- Support Black-owned businesses
- Support those businesses that support HBCUs

• Call out the hotels and businesses that practice price gouging And Go out, have a good time, be safe and start the process all over again! Do this every year, increasing your savings by a dollar each year. This is just a simple way to begin a process that could be so beneficial for so many!



Cheryl Smith IMM Publisher & Editor

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Iris Page-Jones, President  
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# Clifford Murphy and Joan Russell to Be Honored

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Clifford Murphy, icon and legendary bassist in the group, The Murphy's, was a major influence in both the local and international jazz communities. He played with some of the best musicians in the business including Claude Black, Ray Brown, Jon Hendricks, Kenny Burrell, Joe Henderson, and Wynton Marsalis.

Joan Russell, Clifford Murphy's partner for 38 years, a music producer in her own right and the business manager of Murphy's Place, was instrumental in transforming it into a club nationally known as the place that "everyone who was anyone" wanted to play.

Murphy's Place was an inspiration. Located on Water Street during its later years, the club's physical layout was unique. The stage for The Murphy's was on the lower level and the audience surrounded the musicians on three sides – tables and the bar on that lower level, additional tables on upper levels on both sides. It was an intimate setting for all in attendance.

The musicians, whether seasoned pros like Murphy and Brown or young neophytes from the Toledo School for the Arts or the University of Toledo, were always outstanding. For audience members, the nights were exceptional. The music and the ambience meant that an evening spent in the nightclub was an evening well spent.

Regrettably, Russell's death in 2011 brought an end to Murphy's Place.

Twenty years ago, The Truth sat down with Clifford Murphy and chatted with him about his musical and personal journey.

From December 2002

*Clifford Murphy is a Toledo jazz legend. Arguably he might have been the best jazz musician this city has produced since Art Tatum. Like Tatum, Murphy was born in Toledo. He graduated from Scott High School in 1952 and went straight into the armed services, just in time to put in his stint in the Korean War.*

*"Once I was out, I started playing bass," said Murphy. And fortunately for jazz aficionados, he hasn't stopped yet. Murphy said Louis Payne fronted the first band he played for. "I was on the road with him for a couple of years," recalls Murphy. "Back then I lived in Worcester, Massachusetts. I got married and divorced. The family thing didn't work," he says. But that marriage did produce the Murphy's Quintet – his five kids: Kathleen, Deborah, Jacqueline, Sherry and Kevin.*

*So, Murphy packed up his bass and came back to Toledo. He played at the old Club M&L, where the house band trio included Cindy Johnson and John Mast. But then the road bug hit him again and this time he traveled with the Glenn Covington group for about three years. "We played Florida, Las Vegas, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, all the big resorts. And then we later wound up playing a lot of Southern venues, places like Mobile and Arkansas. But those were always good audiences," says Murphy.*

*"That's one of the reasons why I finally decided to open my own club. U was always going to so many different places," he adds.*

*That dream came closer to becoming a reality when Murphy met Joan Russell, who was a teacher at Maumee Valley Country Day School.*

*"She had the business management that I needed," says Murphy. Murphy*



Joan Russell



Clifford Murphy

*played at the old Digby's on Water Street for five years before he and Joan opened the first Murphy's Place on Madison. When they had to move, the location they found to house the new Murphy's Place was the site of the old Digby's.*

*The Murphys, who are the permanent house attraction, now comprise Claude Black on piano, Wendell Robinson on drums and Murphy. "We've been blessed," says Murphy.*

*And so have been Toledo jazz fans who have heard guest stars like Joe Henderson, guitarist Kenny Burrell and Nicholas Payton perform at the club, which is located opposite Promenade Park. Murphy is very much attuned to the younger kids who have taken up jazz. In fact, Murphy's Place hosts a regular Monday night student jam session to showcase their talents.*

*"Some of these young people coming up are really playing well," he says.*

Neighborhood Health Association (NHA) and the City of Toledo will honor jazz icons Clifford Murphy and Joan Russell by renaming the corner of Jefferson and Summit in their honor. The street, to be called Murphy's Place, is located on the same block and carries the same name as the club that came to be known for its first-class jazz, the mentoring of young musicians and for being the stomping ground for some of the best musicians in the business.

"There are those people who almost instinctively know how to inspire others, to make them know that they can do anything. Joan and Clifford were those people. Murphy's Place was this warm and wonderful place where the love of music was the great equalizer. It is critical that we remember and honor those who have contributed to the growth of this community in such a profound way" said Doni Miller, NHA CEO who, along with local musician Scott Potter, organized the event.

The street renaming will occur at the corner of **Summit and Jefferson at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 17, 2022.** An afterparty featuring performances by a number of local musicians will be held that evening at Tol-House, 1447 Summit St. in Toledo, Ohio.

Toledo City Councilwoman Vanice Williams will present the families of Clifford and Joan with Resolutions in honor of their contributions to local and national jazz culture.

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## Remembering 9/11

# How the Terrorists Attacks Created an Annoying, Sometimes Frustrating, but Indispensable Inconvenience

By Gregory Smith, Howard University News Service

Guest Column

Yolanda Williams, a Transportation Security Administration (TSA) supervisor at Los Angeles International Airport, said that passengers were very cooperative with the rules that took place when she first began working for the agency.

She joined TSA in September 2002, a year after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks that claimed the lives of 2,977 people in New York City, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C.

Fast forward 20 years, Williams said, and quite a few passengers have grown angry with TSA.

"Most people quickly forget that a terrorist does not have a particular look," she said. "We have dealt with the shoe bomber, the underwear bomber, suicide bombers, bombs placed in printer cartridges and not to mention 9/11.

"My main goal at the end of the day is to see that my Transportation Security officers work in a safe environment and return home to their families."

What many Americans do not know is that before those tragic events of 9/11, families could walk their loved ones to the gate without any security checks. They could wait at incoming gates for minutes or hours in advance of their arrival.

No identification was required, not as they waited or as departing passengers checked-in. Shoes and other clothing weren't required to be removed. Laptops and other electronics could stay in their bags.

Air travel stiffened after four hijacked planes crashed into both World Trade Center towers, a field in Pennsylvania, and the Pentagon in Washington.

Things changed officially on November 19, 2001, when President George Bush signed the Aviation and Transportation Security Act. The law required screening conducted by federal officials, 100 percent checked baggage screening, more federal air marshals on flights and reinforced cockpit doors.

President Bush wanted to make sure that America would never be attacked this way again, so several more rules were implemented over the years to ensure passenger safety.

Williams said the rules have evolved for the better since 2001. Vetting pas-

sengers has become the greatest tool because it restricts those who may have been linked to terrorism and others who have harmed the aviation system.

Williams said she believes the rules might have caused passengers to become more irritated overtime, but airports have also grown safer.

"Every time I see an airplane take off from the runway, I say to myself, 'We did that,' knowing that we stopped possible danger," she said.

Still, many air travelers find the TSA procedures unnerving.

According to a survey of 4,000 travelers by Airfarewatchdog, an online site for cheap airfares and hotel deals, 48.5 percent said that the pre-boarding process, including check in and going through security the most stressful part of air travel.

Black women have been complaining for years that they have been forced to undergo intrusive, degrading searches of their hair at airport security checkpoints. After a complaint five years ago, the TSA pledged to improve oversight and training for its workers on hair pat-downs.

Katrice Offord-Abdallah, a site operations senior coordinator for a financial analyst firm, said she recently had that experience on a flight from Los Angeles to Houston.

"I have locks, and I usually wear my hair in a bun, and they always want to pat it down," Offord-Abdallah said. "So, I tried to resolve that by wearing my hair down. But that didn't work. When I went through the new system that LAX uses, it highlighted areas on my body, and because my hair is long, it highlighted my chest area, my groin.

"I was told they needed to check those areas. I think the woman thought, because she was going to use the back of her hands, it was less intrusive.

"I told her, 'You are not going to do that here in public. You're asking to frisk me. You're asking like I'm a criminal, like someone who fit the description.'

"So, I had to have my teenage son collect our items from the conveyer belt and wait 10 minutes and then be escorted to a private room."

Since 9/11 there have been numerous encounters with bomb threats. Just three months after 9/11, Richard Reid, later known as the shoe bomber, attempted to ignite explosive devices hidden in his shoes on a flight from Paris to Miami.

A few years later, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, a Nigerian, tried to detonate a bomb concealed in his underwear while aboard a flight from Amsterdam to Detroit. He was convicted and sentenced to life in prison.

Security measures have evolved due to the various threats, TSA officials said. Consequently, identification rules were strengthened. Gels and aerosols had to be in containers of 3.4 ounces or less. Shoes and other clothing had to be removed. Laptops and other electronics had to be taken out of bags, and the list goes on.

With more rules came longer lines, which meant passengers needed to arrive earlier to catch their flights, in some cases as much as two hours earlier.

But there is a reason for all the precautions, the agency said. TSA released a statement at the beginning of this year stating the number of firearms it took from passengers during security checks doubled in 2020 for the highest number in the agency's history.

TSA said it discovered 3,257 firearms on passengers or in their carry-on bags at checkpoints. Eighty-three percent of the firearms were loaded, it said.

Mary Turner, 85, Dallas retiree who flew periodically before the pandemic, said that long waits at the airport annoy her the most.

"I remember back in the 80s and 90s," Turner said. "I didn't have to take anything out of my bags and can't recall two hour waits. Why should I have to take my shoes off at my old age?"

"I am grateful for the men and women of TSA, because there are always ongoing threats, but I wish the process was smoother, because the rules are always changing."

As a result of long wait times TSA PreCheck was implemented in Dec.

... continued on page 11

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# The Toledo Premier of an Award-Winning Documentary

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

*Zip Code Matters*, a documentary that explains how an individual's zip code impacts several factors including health, held an in-person premier on September 8th at Imagination Station's Theatre. Immediately following the premier, a community dialogue was held to converse about the documentary themes.

*Zip Code Matters*, opens with the actual definition of a Zip Code, 'which is a number that identifies a particular postal delivery area in the United States'. Throughout the documentary, several issues are discussed by subject matter experts and supported by visual facts.

"In this country a lot of our schools are funded by property taxes. Neighborhood zip codes that have higher income and more expensive homes generate more property tax. Meaning the schools have access to a larger amount of money. Whereas a low to moderate income neighborhood, the homes aren't as expensive and don't generate as much in property taxes so those schools are under resourced. If a child comes from a school that lacked resources, they are starting life already behind," Marie Flannery from The Fair Housing Center said in the documentary.

"What we know is place matters, your physical place matters and resources matter. We need to think hard about how we're addressing wellbeing, and how we're making investments in things like high-quality pre-school and a healthy housing stock," Kate Sommerfeld from Promedica added.

"If we know that people have dreams about going to college or trade schools, but they can't get to them, that's a barrier. We know that folks want to work in certain industries, but there's no public transit to get there from

... continued on page 12



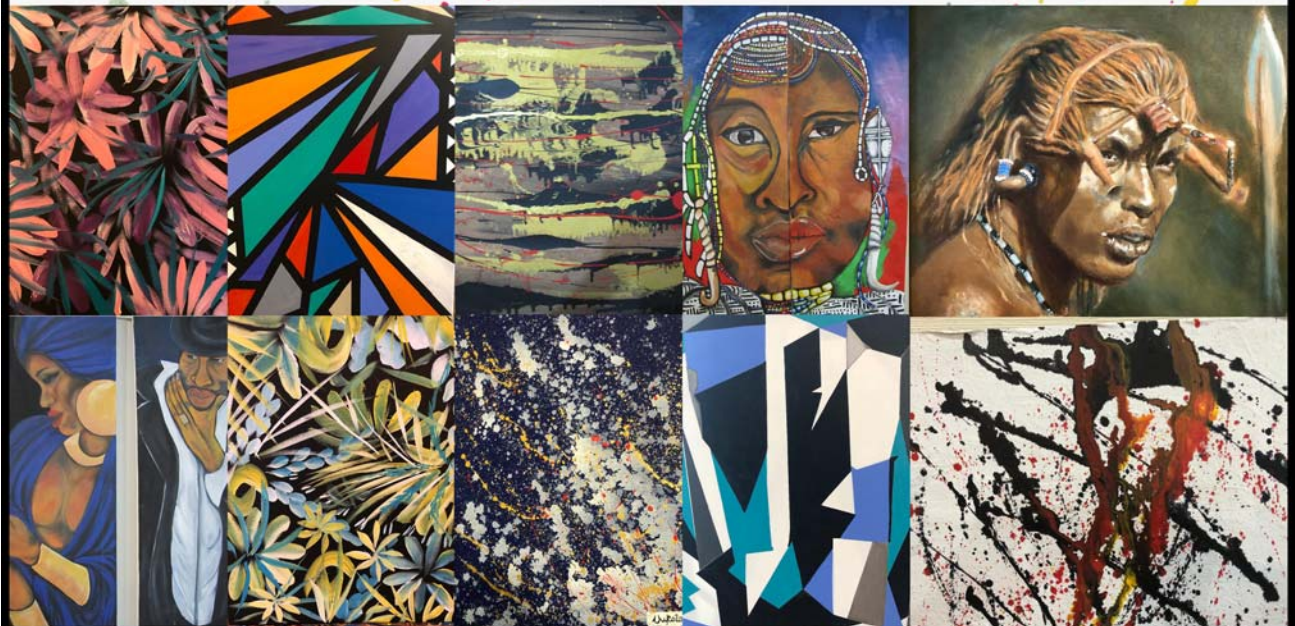
The panel - George Thomas, Adrienne Bradley, Joaquin Cintron Vega, Kendra Smith, Juanita Greene



Panelists and Fair Housing staffers

## The Truth Colours Art Gallery

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# Judge Myron Duhart Honored in Park Naming

By Dawn Scotland

The Truth Reporter

Saturday morning, September 10, Boss Park, on the corner of Avondale and Hawley, was renamed to "Honorable Judge Myron Duhart Park" honoring Judge Myron Duhart, of the Ohio Sixth District Court of Appeals, for his long standing career and community service.

Vanice Williams, councilwoman of District 4, where the park is located, along with Councilman John Hobbs III, District 1, helped to spearhead the effort; the two both grew up on Indiana Ave along with the judge, just blocks away from each other.

Williams remarked about her colleague and friend, "He's an awesome judge, he's a human judge, he brings humanity to the seat that he serves in... and that's what we need every single day." She spoke of Duhart's dedication to bringing up the next generation of Black lawyers and thanked him for his long standing friendship and dedication.

Hobbs III, who is a former classmate of Duhart at St. Francis de Sales, added "he represents being a great man, a great husband, a great father, a great student, a great community leader" He reflected on the neighborhood where they stood that raised them, "In this community everybody knew everybody..." and spoke about the village that helped to raise them, "We've got to bring it back to looking [like that.]

Duhart was raised by his grandmother on Indiana Ave and graduated from St. Francis de Sales High School before enlisting in the US Army. He went on to receive his J.D. from the University of Toledo College of Law and has served the community as a judge since 2011.

Much of his village was present Saturday to celebrate the occasion including his former neighbors on Indiana, fellow classmates and former principal from St. Francis de Sales High School, Fr. Ron Olszewski, along with his former basketball coach, community members and family.

Duhart's childhood home was directly in front of the Frederick Douglass

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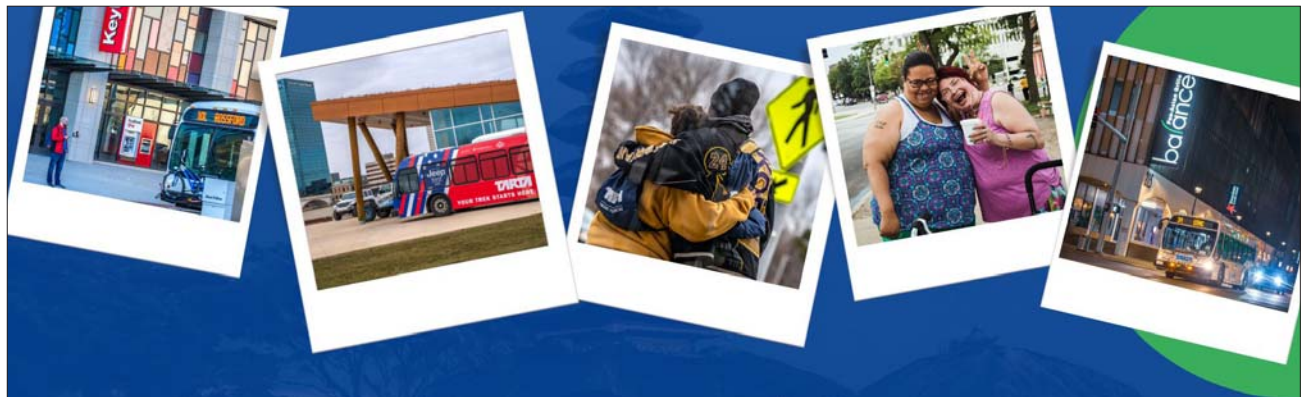
Judge Duhart expresses his gratitude



Judge Duhart with St. Francis alumni and staff



Judge Duhart and family



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# Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur Introduces Congressman James Clyburn to Toledo

By Fletcher Word

The Truth Editor

Congressman James Clyburn visited the Glass City on Sunday, September 11, and joined local Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur – who is the midst of a re-election campaign – for a whirlwind tour of Toledo central city communities.

Clyburn, the Democratic representative of South Carolina's 6th District (covering much of the southern part of that state), has served in Congress since 1993 and is the House Majority Whip – the third ranking position in his party.

Clyburn has had remarkable success on the political scene in the last few years. He was elected Majority Whip by his colleagues in 2019; he was undoubtedly the person most responsible for getting Joe Biden elected president (he endorsed Biden in 2020 as the South Carolina primary approached and Biden had fallen short of expectations in previous contests) and his influence continued in his long-term push to get the first Black woman (Ketanji Brown Jackson) appointed to the Supreme Court.

After visits to churches on Sunday – Warren AME and Jerusalem MBC – the congressional duo enjoyed a luncheon at the Laborers Local 500 Training Center and, afterwards, a session at the Onyx Café with about a dozen small Black business owners.

"If you've got a problem, just tell us," said Clyburn to the business owners at the Onyx. "That's why we exist."

The owners were not at all reticent in sharing their concerns with the South Carolina representative. Those concerns included absentee landowners, food deserts and an inability to tap into funds that federal and state governments make available to majority business owners.

Clyburn, as he noted frequently during the day, is not at all reluctant to accept advice and counsel. He is eager, he said, to receive input and encouraged his audiences to pitch in with it.

Clyburn, speaking at the Onyx, used as an example the passage of the CARES Act in 2020 during the Trump administration. The \$2.3 trillion COVID relief package was to be funneled to businesses through banks. Clyburn received a call from a banker wondering why the bill had been structured in that way because, as a banker, he was obligated to take care of bank customers first and foremost – he warned Clyburn that many in underserved communities would not have access to such funds.

Clyburn noted that when the follow up relief package was passed in 2021 during the Biden administration (the Coronavirus Response and Consolidated Appropriations Act), it was designed to go directly into the hands of American workers, families and small businesses.

"Experience is the best teacher," he said.

However, it's not just banks that federal legislators should be wary of, said Clyburn. Some states are also a problem – a point with which Kaptur concurred.

...continued on page 13



Congressman Clyburn



Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Congressman James Clyburn



Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union CEO Suzette Cowell and Congressman James Clyburn



## WHAT WE'RE READING NOW



*The Monsters We Defy*  
by Leslye Penelope




*Koshersoul*  
by Michael W. Twitty



*Love Times Infinity*  
by Lane Clarke










*How You Grow Wings*  
by Rimma Onoseta



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*Judge Myron Duhart... continued from page 8*

Center on the other side of the park that now holds his namesake. He was humbled by the celebration and the support. He remarked, "But for this park and this community center [FDCC]... there were so many times and opportunities when I could have went left but I went right," he added. "It is the fact that there were people in this community, males in this community who cared." He reflected on the executive director at the time, Cowgee "Bill" Mangrum who let him play basketball in the gym often at night to keep him off the streets.

Duhart's hope is that the renaming of the park will inspire the next generation. "My hope is that [with this sign] it serves as an inspiration to generations that will come after... they know that you can. Despite what your circumstances are... you can."

A representative of the city states that there will be improvements to the park in Spring 2023. The Duhart family stated their commitment to improving the surrounding community.

Judge Duhart received a B.A. in political science from Wright State University and his J.D. from The University of Toledo College of Law. He also received an L.L.M. in judicial studies from Duke University School of Law and has attended the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Judge Myron C. Duhart was elected to the Sixth District Court of Appeals in November 2020. Prior to the Court of Appeals, he served as a trial judge in the Lucas County Common Pleas Court, General Division since 2011 and served as a commercial docket judge.



Judge Duhart, Councilmembers Vanice Williams and John Hobbs III



Nicole and Myron Duhart



Judge Duhart and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity brothers

Prior to judicial service, Judge Duhart clerked for the Honorable Robert W. Penn and was in private practice in the areas of business litigation, personal injury and criminal law where he was part of a select cadre of attorneys certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio to handle death penalty cases. Judge Duhart is an adjunct professor at the University of Toledo College of Law where he teaches trial practice to third year law students. He also is an Army veteran and served as a JAG Officer in the United States Army.

Judge Duhart is a member of the Ohio, Lucas, and Toledo Bar Association and serves as President of the Toledo Bar Association. Judge Duhart also serves as the President of the University of Toledo College of Law Alumni Board of Governors and serves on the board of directors for Mercy Health System. (source: / [www.co.lucas.oh.us/](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/))



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# Central State University's Partnership Is Poised to Provide New Employment for Students

Special to The Truth

The groundbreaking celebration for the new Intel facility in Columbus, Ohio happened last week. Officials from the private and public sector were on hand to share in welcoming the high-tech industry. United States President Joe Biden was on the stage to applaud the efforts of Intel and other partners who made the Chips Act a reality. He recognized Central State University alum U.S. Congresswoman, Joyce Beatty who stated, "This is a big day for a little black girl from Ohio who got chance to ride on Air Force One." "This is a day for us to celebrate one month ago on August 9," she commented. "The president signing the Chips Act into law and turning this into, as they say, the Silicon Heartland," Beatty added.



Congresswoman Joyce Beatty

Biden said of Beatty, "I don't think we could have gotten the Infrastructure Bill done without Joyce. 'I don't know what you did in those last four hours, but you got it done,'" he added.

Ohio colleges like Central State University, Ohio's only publicly funded Historically Black College and University, are ready for their share of 50 million dollars in partnerships with Intel and the federal government, to help develop students who can work at Intel.



F. Erik Brooks, Ph.D. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Central State University

CSU Provost Dr. F. Erik Brooks said, "We are proud of CSU's Faculty and staff's efforts in creating a new program in collaboration with other colleges and universities across Ohio that addresses Intel's need and provides meaningful employment opportunities for our students."

Intel announced the first phase of funding for its Ohio Semiconductor Education and Research Program. A recent Intel press release said, "during this first phase, Intel is providing 17.7 million dollars for eight proposals from leading institutions and collaborators in Ohio to develop semiconductor-focused education and workforce programs."

"The Intel Semiconductor Education Program at Central State University is our journey to promote diversity in the semiconductor field by creating a pipeline to

provide practical learning experiences in semiconductor fabrication techniques and processes for underrepresented students and preparing them for Intel careers," said Mohammadreza Hadizadeh, Central State University Associate Professor of Physics. "We are so excited to receive this award and work with Intel and our collaborators to train our students and develop a new phase of our education and research in semiconductor manufacturing," he added.

"As the only public Historically Black University in Ohio, Central State University has an obligation to produce highly qualified graduates with the knowledge and skills necessary to ensure that the United States maintains its leading scientific and innovative edge in the global economy." "CSU is excited to work with Intel as a higher educational partner to create a diversified workforce that represents the full spectrum of the United States."

"Central State and our collaborative partners including Columbus State Community College, The Ohio State University, Clark State Community College, and Wright State University will create a pipeline that produces underrepresented students prepared for Intel careers by giving students knowledge and



President Joe Biden speaks in Ohio

practical experience in semi-conductor fabrication techniques, processes, and equipment by establishing a semiconductor educational program at CSU," said University President Dr. Jack Thomas.

"Central State offers Intel a unique opportunity to partner with an institution of higher education with a demonstrated record of producing highly qualified underrepresented graduates in manufacturing engineering and other fields necessary to meet Intel's workforce demands," stated Morakinyo A.O. Kutu, Ph.D., Interim Dean, John W. Garland College of Engineering, Science, Technology, and Agriculture and Director of the 1890 Land-Grant Programs.

"The Industrial Midwest is back! It was exciting to be in the Silicon Heartland at Intel's groundbreaking with local, state, and national leaders. President Biden recognized Central State University for our partnership with Intel and CSU alum, Congresswoman Joyce Beatty, for her significant contribution to the Chips Act," exclaimed Thomas.

Central State University is a public HBCU and 1890 Land-Grant Institution with a 135-year tradition of preparing students from diverse backgrounds and experiences for leadership, research, and service. Central State ranks among U.S. News & World Report's best colleges in five categories, including Best Undergraduate Engineering Program and Top Public Schools. The University fosters academic excellence within a nurturing environment and provides a solid liberal arts foundation and STEM-Ag curriculum leading to professional careers and advanced studies globally.

## Remembering 9/11... continued from page 6

2011. It provides expedited screening for known and trusted travelers at security checkpoints, allowing TSA to focus resources on high risk and unknown passengers, the agency said.

Victor Green, a TSA employee for four years at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, said his training covered many different tactics to stay up to date with today's terrorist.

"Terrorist don't have a certain look anymore and they aren't just overseas," Green said. "No situation is the same. Some passengers are irritated while others are appreciative of the work we are doing."

"Some passengers complain about the body scanner when the walk-through check points are more intense. But at the end of the day, TSA has made life safer for everyone flying across the U.S."

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of 9/11, TSA compiled stories on its website from its officers titled "In Your Own Words." In them, TSA officers reflect on where they were during the tragic events of that day.

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**Remembering 9/11.. continued from page 15**

them to the site, Lewis ordered another firefighter to commandeer a city bus. As the passengers filed off, the firefighters piled on, preparing themselves for what lay ahead.

"We were all going to Manhattan to fight a fire we had never fought before," he said. "But we all knew someone was going to die".

Lewis describes Manhattan upon his arrival in two words: pure chaos. All the experience he had gathered in his then 22 years on the job, he said, could not have prepared him for the catastrophe that lay beyond the smoke.

"It was like walking in a cloud: you couldn't see beyond three or four feet in front of you," he said. "I thought it was the end of the world. That's just how it felt — 'This is the end'".

Lewis and his colleagues were in the third wave of firefighters to respond to the burning buildings. There was no organized effort as the firefighters aided civilians and attempted to calm the raging flames. Spending hours on the scene without adequate protection, the first responders were exposed to a toxic mix of asbestos, ash, and smoke, he said.

"I was concerned because we were just breathing all of that stuff in," he said. "I remembered the telephone company fire in 1978 released asbestos into the air, and many of the firefighters working died from lung cancer. I always thought about that and had that on my mind at the Towers, but we had to do what we had to do."

Lewis spent 24 hours on the scene before being relieved of duty on Sept. 12. The days that followed were bleak.

"For a long time, we [firefighters] were unable to talk about it because it was so traumatic," Lewis said. "We could talk about it amongst each other, but if a supervisor came around, we wouldn't say anything".

This is partially due to the standards of excellence and bravery firefighters feel they must hold themselves to, he said. But beneath the masks, badges and gear, he said, were hurt people trying to make sense of the losses and the trauma they had experienced.

"We're firefighters," he said. "Firefighters were supposed to do this. Fire-

fighters were supposed to be strong. We're not supposed to be afraid or show weakness. But you can't have people walking around with such a traumatic event bottled up inside and not be able to release it."

A special counseling unit was assigned to visit different firehouses and helped those involved to open up about their experiences. Although it was a challenge, it was a first step in the healing process, Lewis said.

"It took a long time, years," he said, "but time itself is very healing."

As the years go by, documentaries are made, memorials are constructed and articles like this one are written every year, but Lewis is unsure how to feel.

"I have mixed emotions," he said, "A part of me wants me to support the anniversary of what happened for those who died, but another part of me doesn't want to go out or celebrate."

In previous years, Lewis would participate in a firehouse ceremony to commemorate the firefighters who died and those who survived.

"It's just not enough," Lewis said as he fought back tears.

"Those people died, and the rest of us are going to die from the complications, whether it be lung disease, cancer, whatever it may be. We knew the risks, but we went in anyway. We knew we may not make it home, and so many didn't. To stand up there in my uniform just can't be enough. So, I don't do that anymore".

Instead, Lewis honors those who died in his own ways. A "343" tattoo rests upon his arm to honor the first responders who he believes made the ultimate sacrifice.

"They were human beings," he said. "They were people with lives. They came in knowing the likelihood that they might not make it out and continued anyway. Every so often, I go through this book of victims and look through their names and remember their faces, because I don't ever want to forget."

**Award-Winning Documentary.. continued from page 7**

their zip code or their community. We're creating barriers," Kendra Smith from Bon Secours Mercy Health also noted.

200 local individuals and leaders attended the premier and discussion. Patty Wise, chair of The Fair Housing Center Board and Sena Mourad Friedman, Fair Housing Center vice president Operations and Development, explained the documentary background and reception thus far. A representative from Sherrod Brown's office, who also appears in the documentary, presented Mourad Friedman with a certificate of recognition for writing and directing the documentary.

"This was done 100 percent in Toledo. We received 241 film festival invitations, completed 61 submissions, were selected by 21 festivals and received 12 awards so far," explained Wise.

"We want to explore how to heal and erase redlining, which is the reason for the documentary. I'm feeling so humbled and honored, as tonight is the icing on the cake. This documentary has started conversations in schools and communities across the country and distributed by the National Association of Realtors to their membership," shared Mourad Friedman.

The panel dialogue was facilitated by Rhonda Sewell, Toledo Museum of Art Director of Belonging and Community Engagement. The panelists were: Joaquin Cintron Vega, LMH president and CEO; Kendra Smith, Bon Secours Mercy Health vice president of Community Health; George Thomas, The Fair Housing Center vice president and general counsel; Juanita Greene, activist and community leader, and Adrienne Bradley, Promedica director of Community Impact.

"Such a powerful film. I've watched this several times but tonight was different. Thank you Sena for showcasing Toledo on the national stage," said Rhonda Sewell.

"When it comes to true engagement, you have to listen and be prepared to do something about it," added Kendra Smith.

"It's important to build relationships and listen to the needs of the community. If the community doesn't feel supported, I urge the citizens of Toledo to ask questions and vote for representatives who understand your needs. Understand that the people have the power," said Juanita Greene.

The documentary has won an award from each of these film festivals: DocuWest Documentary Film Festival, City of Angels Women's Film Festival, LAFA, Vegas Movie Awards, Disruptor Film Awards, Better Cities Film Awards and Love Wins International Film Festival.

The film is a project from The Fair Housing Center in Toledo, produced by Creadio, written and directed by Sena Mourad Friedman. The executive producer was Will Lucas, the producer was Erickson Blakney and the film was edited by Andre Lewis and Robby Brumfield.

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# The Two Lives of Sara by Catherine Adel West

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

Pick yourself up.

That's what you've been told since you took your first step: you fall, you pick yourself up and you take another step. Keep going. Don't stop, do the next thing, you really have no other choice. Things'll get better but, as in the new novel *The Two Lives of Sara* by Catherine Adel West, it might take awhile.

Sara King did not want that baby.

He was always reaching for her, crying for her, hanging on her, and she was thankful that the other boarders at The Scarlet Poplar were happy to hold him and play with him because she didn't want to. Mama Sugar, the owner of The Scarlet said that Sara would learn to love the boy, but Sara doubted it.

She'd never love anybody after her mother died. Not after what her father did, not after she got pregnant, not after she had to leave Chicago for Memphis and lost touch with her friends, not after this child and the lies and the losses. It was 1963, she was appreciative of Mama Sugar and her job at The Scarlet and all, but she wasn't going to love anybody again.

But time passes and wounds heal and a teacher at the Black school a couple blocks away finally melted her heart and then he asked Sara on a date. Mama Sugar was happy that Sara went out with Jonas Coulter and eventually, so was Sara when she allowed her mind to open to him. She fell in love – with her son, with Jonas, her community, and with her large new-found family at The Scarlet.

But life has a way of swatting happiness over to one side and once again, Sara found herself closed off to everything good. That meant another re-invention of herself, another place, another decision that affected people she'd

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320 pages

come to know. How much worse could her life be?

How much worse could she make it?

There's one big thing you need to know about *The Two Lives of Sara*: bring tissues.

From the outset of her novel, author Catherine Adel West sets a flat tone, as if there is no color or depth to the life of her character, as if it's forever cloudy and her days are empty. Slowly, though, as a painter creates a masterpiece, the other characters at West's fictitious boarding house add layers of light and hue to Sara's life, until the book seems to glow with happiness and a reader can breathe a sigh of relief.

Followed by a gasp, as we learn the truth about the child, what was left behind in Chicago, and two or three other things that plunge readers back into shadows and hushed conversation and a tale that turns simply *devastating*. And that's not even the end of the novel.

Bring tissues. Seriously.

Don't look now, but the holidays are coming and *The Two Lives of Sara* could make a good gift. Or, if you just can't wait – and who could blame you? – pick it up yourself.



*Two Lives of Sara* author

*Congressman James Clyburn... continued from page 9*

"Our problem is the state of Ohio," said Kaptur. "This is a state whose governance is not visionary." She noted that money coming into the state from the federal government gets spent in Columbus as the state administration sees fit not necessarily as the federal government intended.

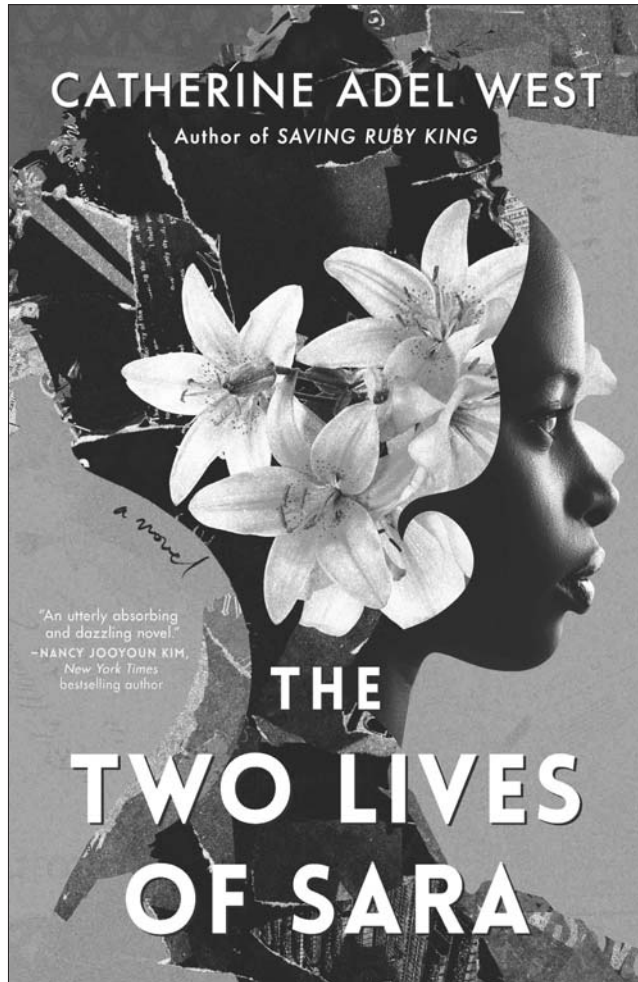
Clyburn has learned from his experience to construct such bills – the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in 2009, for example – "so that local communities are not at the mercy of the states."

Clyburn has also learned that sometimes getting things done in the legislature, especially for underserved communities, is more easily accomplished if it happens under the radar. He used as an example President Biden's recent very public announcement of the student loan forgiveness program and the outcry that announcement caused.

The contrast was previous student loan forgiveness programs for certain segments of society that have happened quietly and have gone relatively unnoticed.

The lesson was in knowing when and how loudly to bang the drum.

Clyburn, after spending the day touring Toledo's central city, flew home to South Carolina that evening to check in on his own re-election campaign – a pretty sure thing in his safe district.



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# CLASSIFIEDS

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September 14, 2022

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**Domestic steel use is required per ORC 153.011.**

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**Pre-bid Meeting:** September 20, 2022, 10:00am – Plant Operations Building – Room 1000, The University of Toledo, 2925 East Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606

**Walkthrough:** A walkthrough of the project site is scheduled for September 20, 2022, immediately following Pre-bid.

**Walkthrough Location:** Plant Operations Building

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

**More Info:** Project contact: Kent Buehrer, Buehrer Group Architecture & Engineering, Phone: 419-893-9021, E-mail: [kent@buehrergroup.com](mailto:kent@buehrergroup.com)

## SNOW PLOW OPERATORS WITH VEHICLES

The City of Toledo Division of Road & Bridge Maintenance is interested in contracting with owners/operators of snow plow vehicles for plowing on residential streets during heavy snow conditions. All bids must be received by 1:30 PM October 11, 2022. For a copy of the bid proposals and specifications visit <https://pbsystem.planet-bids.com/portal/22576/portal-home> or contact:

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## Remembering 9/11

# Firefighter Roderick Lewis Was There, and In Ways, He Still Is

By Ahnayah Hughes, Howard University News Service

Guest Column

Even now, the pain of that day lays just below the surface for retired New York City firefighter Rodney Lewis. As Lewis recalled the sights, smells, sounds and horror of Sept. 11, 2001, tears accompanied those memories even as he sat in the comfortable Queens, N.Y., home he shares with his wife.

"I had quite a few friends that were at the scene," Lewis, 66, said through his tears. "People I had just spoken to the week before. People I directly worked with. People whose homes I went to on New Year's Eve. Just like that, so many lives were just gone."

Twenty years after the attack, after leaving the department and busying himself with new hobbies, after his oldest child, a son, had struck out on his own and his daughter had graduated high school, after buying a sailboat and exploring deeper his love of sailing, after he and his wife purchased another home in Chesapeake, Virginia, after counseling and consultation, it even surprises Lewis how quickly the feelings can come bursting to the surface.

"I can talk about it now, but it's still very emotional," he said. "I remember what I went through, and what so many others went through."

Three hundred and forty-three. It is a number nearly all New York firefighters have seared into their consciousness. That's how many firefighters died combatting the devastating fire that took down the World Trade Center and claimed more than 2,000 lives. Lewis knew well over 30 of those firefighters.

Lewis, then a lieutenant with Engine Company 330, was there too.

Lewis, a native of New York, was studying for his captain's exam in Staten Island that day, when a firefighter announced that a plane had crashed into

a tower at the World Trade Center.

It wasn't until another firefighter arrived shortly after and explained that both towers had been hit, that the room of firefighters fell silent as their new reality began to take shape.

"We were off duty, but we were under attack," he said. "We knew what we had to do."

After Lewis arrived in Brooklyn, he and the other firefighters around the station geared up to face the unknown. With no trucks or buses to take

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New York City firefighter Roderick Lewis (left)



New York City firefighter Roderick Lewis right

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# Tim Ryan Visits Toledo and Urban Wholistics

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Ohio Congressman Tim Ryan, Democratic nominee for U.S. Senator, is in the midst of a very competitive campaign with his Republican opponent, J.D. Vance. Ryan stopped by Toledo on Monday, September 12, to examine the progress of a community garden in the city's central neighborhood.

Ryan was greeted by Sonia Flunder-McNair, CEO of Sonia Organics and also of Urban Wholistics, a non profit, health, community based, grassroots initiative created to beautify open land in neighborhoods that have been historically excluded from access to wholistic green spaces.



*Sonia Flunder-McNair and Congressman Tim Ryan*



"These urban areas, we have got to have reinvestment back into them," said Ryan after he had toured the community garden with Flunder-McNair and spoken to several of the workers on hand.

These are the types of programs that actually lift people up," he added. These communities use to be really big and they've shrunk, so what do you do with the green space? Do you turn them into productive use, create jobs and have healthy food? It's a win across the board. We have to stop doing programs that don't work and we've got to invest in programs that do work."

The community garden is located in the Junction neighborhood next to the Art Tatum house that is being restored.

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