



Volume 77 No. 8 *“And Ye Shall Know The Truth...”* April 12, 2023



Jessica Ford, Lucas County Administrator

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Closer to Her Dream

by Rev. Donald L. Perryman, Ph.D.
The Truth Contributor

Closer to my dreams, I'm getting' higher, closer to my dreams. I'm getting higher and higher.

– Goapele



She is the daughter of notable parents. Her late father, Jack, was a towering figure and leader in the Ohio House of Representatives, Toledo City Council and the Democratic Party. He also made history as Toledo's first African American mayor. Claudia, her mother, is a quiet but strong and efficient professional who was a well-regarded Assistant Prosecutor in the Lucas County Prosecutor's office before retiring.

While growing up with successful parents can be both blessing and a curse, Jessica Ford has nurtured a long-held dream to emerge from her parents' shadow and forge her own path to success.

Described by her superiors as a "luminary leader who endears trust," Ford currently serves as the Lucas County Administrator, responsible for running the County's day-to-day operations and implementing the priorities set by the elected three-member Board of Commissioners.

I spoke with Jessica Ford to discuss her unique personal and career journey.

Perryman: Let's talk about your life's journey.

Ford: I went to elementary at St. Mary's. Then, in the sixth grade, my mom moved to Perrysburg, so I went to Fort Meigs Elementary and then Perrysburg Jr. High and Perrysburg High School. Then I went to undergrad at the University of Michigan and, from there, I started my family.

Perryman: How about your career path?

Ford: I was fortunate to start my career working at the State of Ohio for the State Treasurer Kevin Boyce. Then I came to work for Commissioner Wozniak as her executive assistant. I then worked under Mr. [Phil] Copeland as his chief deputy for a couple of years when he became the county recorder.

Then after working for Phil for a couple of years, I returned to the commissioner's office and was a project manager. From there, I was promoted to senior project manager and then deputy county administrator, and then now county administrator.

Perryman: Describe growing up under the veil of accomplished, al-

most larger-than-life parents.

Ford: My dad was a trailblazer in many of the public positions he held. I remember that being a big deal when he became the minority leader in the Ohio Legislature.

Perryman: Yes, it was.

Ford: At that point, I was in junior high and realized that, wow, this is pretty important stuff. Growing up in politics, that's all I ever knew, so when I was younger, Dad had all these meetings with all these people I didn't know. I was always in the back or on the side of his leg, asking when we would go home or promise you'll take me to get some ice cream. It wasn't until I got older and he was at more of the tail end of his career that I started to appreciate what he was doing.

Perryman: How do you think his path impacted you?

Ford: One of the things my dad and my mom taught me was the importance of the work. It's not just about collecting a paycheck but making real change and impact in everyday folks' lives, so I saw that in all respects. Then, as I said, as I was starting to get older, going to community events or meetings and hearing about the needs or the challenges that people face, it began to resonate that when you're in public service, you can take part in that change, helping people have a voice.

Perryman: How are you similar and different from your dad?

Ford: I am very much like my dad because I don't like to be the center of attention. I want to be behind the scenes in the work that I do. With that comes not bragging, talking, or being boisterous about what you do. My dad had a very keen sense of humor and liked to laugh, poke fun and be a little bit of a jokester and a prankster, and I enjoyed that.

Another thing about my dad is that his family was very important to him; his children and his wife. I follow in the same manner. My kids are my everything. So, everything I do is for them and, ultimately, to be a good role model.

Perryman: What are the differences and similarities you share with your mom?

Ford: My mom is very strong and independent and raised me as such. My parents were divorced when I was very young, so I had the pleasure of being a part of a blended family. My primary residence was always with my mom. She always raised me to be strong and independent, not rely on anybody for anything, and that's where I'm most like her.

That was challenging for my dad because especially being a father to girls, you want to be able to care for and provide for your girls, which was sometimes a struggle. So, it was like, 'No, Dad. I don't need you. I got that.' Especially as I got older and was starting to pave my own way in government and politics, He was my dad, but that's where

... continued on page 5



Jessica Ford

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Community Calendar

April 13

Kwanzaa Park Neighbors Meeting; 6:00 pm; The Padua Center

April 16

Toledo Branch NAACP Youth Council Meeting, 3 pm; Sanger Branch Library

GOP Turns to Heathenism

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

If you were to place a heathen Asherah Pole in the midst of White evangelicals or ask them to bend a knee to the ancient heathen god Molech, they would bow to the moon and curse you ad infinitum.

If you were to ask them to affirm acts of debauchery committed by politicians, they would self-righteously gather their petticoats around them and bemoan the loss of good ol' fashioned American 'values.'

If you were to ask them to denounce the first command of the Ten Commandments, they would rather gladly cut themselves with rusty and jagged razor blades and drink foamy green swamp water.

But yet, in their alternative universe where up is down and down is up, they are committing, in theory, the same grievous sins by their mystical adulation of Donald Trump as their "new" savior.

To them and for them, Donald Trump has morphed into a Jesus that they can see, touch and feel and that alone is the reason for their hysterical and hot fevered support for a man whose conduct and speech is the antithesis of all things Christ.

Recently, after his indictment on 34 felony counts by the Black Manhattan DA, Trump's supporters doing the past Holy Week are beginning to 'upsize' Trump to the equivalency of Trump being part of the holy pantheon of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Now, the trinity, according to many of these mesmerized devotees, must make room for the entry of Donald Trump.

Certain stars of the far right MAGA religious movement are praying that Trump be restored to power and influence so they can coalesce about a movement to make America a theocracy and in their own image.

Heady stuff, right?

To do so, you simply must convince them they are now the new persecuted group in America and Trump has been appointed and anointed by God to slay the new anti-god secular government that those pesky Democrats are ushering in.

It appears that truth has left the arena and what is truth is now up for

Perryman... continued from page 2

things ended in that respect.

Perryman: Can you elaborate on the struggle with your dad and your need to not be perceived that you were just being handed things?

Ford: It comes with the territory of being the child of a politician and an elected official. [People] think 'she's where she's at because of her dad or she got that job because of her dad.' My dad helped me get one job in my life, and that was an internship when I was in college. From there, everything I've done has been on my own.

That was challenging for my dad because there were times that he wanted to either, in his mind, help me out or try to utilize relationships he had, and it wasn't like that. I did things on my own, independently built the relationships, and had the skillsets I needed. That's how I got my career, which was challenging for him too. We never had that conversation before he passed away, but that was probably difficult for him.

Perryman: You've been described by those who have worked with you as a luminary, a giant in the field, and a person of unusual importance. Talk about what you do as the county administrator.

Ford: Wow, those are some pretty meaningful words, and I'm really taken aback. I take my role very seriously, but knowing that people view me like that is really meaningful. There are multiple facets to my position here. Still, I think the two prominent roles are to help the commissioners carry out the priorities and policy initiatives they set as chief elected officials. Second, the commissioners have various departments that they are directly responsible for, and they involve county government. I oversee the operations of those departments in conjunction with directors and other critical staff. Hence, I lead that team as well.

Perryman: Let me go back to parental influences just a minute.

Perryman: Did your parents expose you to your multicultural background while growing up?

Ford: Yes, of course, and both of them did equally. I was and continue to be very connected to both sides of my family. Some weekends I would spend Saturdays going to a Catholic church for a catechism class. But then Sunday, we would be in the black church or multiple

... continued on page 5

grabs as to who can best articulate a line of thought that shows that White evangelicals are the new sacrifices in the Roman arena where tigers (Democrats, leftists, socialists, Deep State, Hunter Biden's laptop, liberal arts, gays and _____ (fill in the blank) are threatening their way of life.

The coarsening of American discourse and the widening maw between the two national political parties is reaching fever pitch with no foreseeable end in sight. However, this is the salient point. The GOP has the god edge over the soulless Democrats!

The GOP can now claim in their bevy of mind-altering tricks that Trump is semi divine and as such, any opposition against him is nigh opposition against God himself.

Talking about having an inside royal flush! Who can beat that hand? What to expect? Soon, you will hear more pronounced proclamations from the religiously warped far right evangelical stooges for the Trump that their cause is righteous and pure and holy and it is only a matter of time before Trump is cleared and restored back to his reign and rule as Heir Trump!

On another subject, are you catching the flak that United States Supreme Court Jurist Clarence (Uncle Tom) Thomas is catching for his now-disclosed track record of hiding the full financial extent of the rich donations of perks and goodies that the GOP mega donor Harlow Crow has enriched the lives of Thomas and his Q Anon leaning wife, Gini?

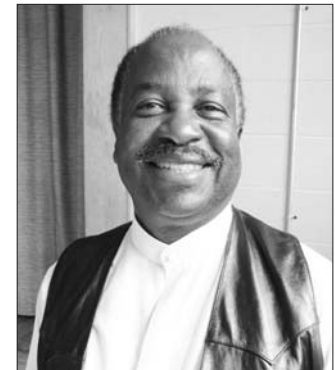
The report in ProPublica has the media ablaze with the revelations that Clarence Thomas, despite his image of being just a common guy, has received, over the decades, gifts that total in excess of a million dollars!

Anyone for corruption of a Supreme Court justice? Of course, Clarence was quiet about the fabulous gifts and luxury trips because, being a lawyer, he knew that he was duty bound to report the gifts and to possibly declare them on his IRS filings. He did neither.

Now, Clarence Thomas is in serious damage control mode because it gives the appearance that he is a judge in the hip pocket of this billionaire who has had many, many cases of interest before the Supreme Court and on which Thomas voted.

There are calls for his impeachment but with Jim Jordan now heading the House Judiciary Committee, such calls, although appealing, will not materialize. And as for any meaningful response from the Chief Justice of the court, John Roberts, let's just say, he will simply wince and smile and click his heels hoping that this will all go away back to Kansas.

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HB 1 Will Be Bring Economic Chaos to so Many Ohioans

By State Rep. Elgin Rogers

Guest Column

Ohio House Republicans have introduced House Bill 1, which would see Ohio establish a flat tax on all income over \$26,000 at 2.75 percent. I strongly oppose HB 1. If passed and implemented HB1 will be devastating to residential property owners and farmers. It will automatically increase property taxes and adversely affect Commercial Agricultural Uses Values. This bill as presented is bad for Ohioans. One can liken this legislation and its intent to "shifting the chairs on the deck of the Titanic."



State Rep. Elgin Rogers

This tax proposal, more of a tax shift, would essentially tax everyone at the same rate, regardless of their income level. At first glance, this might sound fair. However, it would hurt low-income and middle-class families the most. By taxing income at a flat rate, local governments will be forced to raise property taxes in order to maintain vital government services.

For farmers, this would be particularly devastating. Many farmers operate on very thin profit margins, and a tax shift like this would increase their tax burden at a time when they are already facing significant challenges. We need to be supporting our farmers, not increasing their property taxes. This could lead to even more consolidation in the agriculture industry, as small and mid-sized farmers are forced out of business.

Similarly, homeowners would also be drastically impacted by the Republican's plan. Property taxes are a significant source of revenue for local governments, and this flat tax system would strip that revenue away. This money is necessary to provide essential services like schools, libraries, fire departments, and police departments. Local governments will be devastated; even if they raise property taxes, they may be unable to provide the same level of service to the community. We will see more levies placed on the ballot for citizens to consider.

Under this flat tax system, the wealthy would end up paying less in taxes overall. Meanwhile, low-income and middle-class families would be left with higher property taxes as local governments are forced to recoup lost revenue. Working-class households earning between \$23,000 and \$47,000 per year will only see a \$1 tax cut. Meanwhile, the wealthiest one percent of households making over \$617,000 per year will get an \$11,000 tax break. This would only exacerbate the wealth gap in our state as the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. Our libraries and public schools will be decimated as Ohio's richest residents line their pockets. It's simply not fair or sustainable.

To help make ends meet from the unimaginable cost of this bill, you'd need to shift billions of dollars from things like schools and local governments to offset the cost of the tax cuts. This does nothing but weaken Ohio's economic potential and our children's ability to earn a quality education at public schools.

The Ohio politicians must understand that you cannot take Ohioans for granted. If you gut our local governments, public schools, libraries, and other essential government services, people will leave. We must put people over politics and invest in Ohioans, who deserve the best.

Our economy isn't working for working people anymore. Yet, politicians in power want to tip the scales even more in favor of the wealthy. We need a tax system that is fair, progressive, and sustainable. HB1 is not fair nor does it make sense to increase the property tax burden. However, together, we can stop this.

Please call your local state representative and/or email Tell them "NO" on HB 1.

Shifting the chairs on the deck of the Titanic won't solve our problems. We need to focus on real solutions that benefit all of our citizens, not just the wealthy few.

Representative Elgin Rogers, Jr. represents Ohio's 44th House District which covers (Toledo, and parts of Wood, Ottawa, & Lucas counties).

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Perryman... continued from page 3

black churches, depending if it was election season. I have always had a strong awareness of all the cultures that make me who I am. I never really had a question about who I was.

Perryman: So, you never had questions about your identity?

Ford: I never really did, and that is important to me now. I have two light-skinned daughters that I raise with my husband, who is darker-skinned, and we're operating in that same fashion. They know who they are and what their culture is and have access to it. So, it's important for us to understand the backgrounds and the history that makes them who they are.

Perryman: How did growing up in Perrysburg impact you?

Ford: Until sixth grade, I grew up on Birkhead Place, off Cherry St., next to Central Catholic. It was not a great neighborhood. My mom was not making a lot of money at the time, so I got to see both worlds.

Going into Perrysburg, I had an appreciation for the other side, as folks would say. It wasn't until I went to Perrysburg that I started experiencing racism. My hair was different from some of my friends and classmates, which was a challenge. But, because I had access and was exposed to all facets of what made me who I was, there were tough days, but it equipped me to be able to deal with it and to be able to move forward.

Perryman: When did you realize you wanted to get into public administration?

Ford: In college, I had two internships in county government - one with the clerk of courts, Bernie Quilter, and then auditor, Anita Lopez. From there, it set the path forward and made me feel like I was at home here in Lucas County. In addition, I saw two different county government operations, both dealing with the public. So, I took some of the lessons I learned about public service from my parents and then put that into the real world for me. Also, I had the opportunity to work for the Treasurer of State, who gave me my first real job in this career. He impacted my life and career path, and I'm grateful for him. It grew from there.

Perryman: What do you like doing in your spare time?

Ford: My job is demanding, but my two kids are very demanding. So, their competitive sports activities are my number one hobby. The second hobby I share with my husband is traveling and having new experiences; we try to find time to do that. I'm a foodie, too. I like good food.

Perryman: What would you be up to now without your early exposure to politics?

Ford: That's a good question. I have a little affinity for beauty, hair, makeup, and even fashion. By no means do I think I'm a fashionista, but as I've gotten older, I have a greater awareness. Lately, I've been saying I wish I would've gone to beauty school, whether it was doing hair or makeup. That would be really fun or interesting, which is the opposite of government and politics. I don't know if it's because I'm a girl mom and Olivia's always wanting to try something different, and I'm like, 'Okay, I think I can do that. Let's figure that out.'

Perryman: What kind of legacy do you want to leave?

Ford: My father left a deep legacy, and I'm honored and blessed to be able to carry that on in some respects. But, while it's important to



Jessica Ford

do that, I want to create my own legacy because I'm my own person.

Undoubtedly, he helped mold me into who I am today. Still, especially as a woman, a known woman, a young woman of color in government and politics, you don't see that enough. So, it's more important for me to be a young woman and set this path. Then, when I think about my two children, my two girls, they can say, 'Wow, mom did it. I can do it.'

Even if it's not in government or politics, it's just driving home that message of girl power and women, and young women can do it too. So that's what I want my legacy to be.

Perryman: Finally, what is your favorite song, and what would be a good theme song for your life?

Ford: Closer by Goapele is both my favorite song and theme song.

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

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The 1st Annual Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration Begins in Toledo June 15-June 19

Special to The Truth

A Toledo Celebration Showcasing the Abundant History and Impact of African-Americans Kicks off an Epicenter of Black Culture and Community with Exciting Events in Englewood District For 2023

The 1st Annual Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration – a premier annual events commemorating a now federally-recognized holiday - begins an exciting three-day celebration, kicking off with several virtual and in-person events on Thursday, June 15, through June 19 an epicenter of Black culture and community.

The Juneteenth New York Celebration and now Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration was created to empower the Black community as well as advance the economic and cultural arts in the underserved areas of Englewood District and surrounding communities to champion equity around employment, education, and health.

With this year's theme "Kaleidoscope of Black Culture," this three-day weekend will feature the best in Black culture and community with live performances, exhibitions, authentic local cuisine, wellness, and other family fun activities, including The Celebration of Black Kings Awards Reception at The Toledo Club. Over the past 14 years, the umbrella organization, Juneteenth NY, has grown and expanded exponentially from a local gathering to a nationally recognized event, with this year's attendees expected to reach over 37,000+.

In 2021, historic and bipartisan legislation passed establishing Juneteenth as the newest Federal holiday, showcasing the power and progress of the work that continues to move African American history forward. Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration encourages people of all races, nationalities, and ethnicities to join together to support and participate in Juneteenth celebrations locally and across the country - a

true testament to resilience and humanity.

The 1st Annual Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration & Workforce Development 2023 will be held (rain or shine). All events, with the exception of The Celebration of Black Kings Awards Reception, are free and open to the public. Registration is encouraged. To learn more, please visit <https://toledo.juneteenthnyworldwide.com>.

The Celebration of Black Kings Awards Reception tickets are \$75. Proceeds will go toward the Employment Leadership In Training Englewood (ELITE) to address the forty percent unemployment in Englewood District and surrounding communities, Leaders In Health, a next neighborhood leaders program that focuses on Disparities in Maternal Health, and Workforce Development, which includes a Virtual and Lunch & Learn Series, in-person Career Expo and Job Fair to address job-readiness, in-demand job opportunities, career development and job placement for youth and adult residents.

For those interested in sponsoring Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration and Workforce Development, please email admin@englewoodsw.org.

Juneteenth - also known as "Juneteenth Independence Day" or "Freedom Day" - is a holiday that commemorates the June 19, 1865, announcement of the abolition of slavery in Galveston, Texas, and, more generally, the emancipation of African-American slaves throughout the Confederate South. The state official celebration is generally celebrated on June 19 and is now recognized as a national holiday. Juneteenth symbolically serves as a reference point from which to measure and appreciate the progress and contributions made by African-Americans to society.

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Christine Lyons: Renown Opera Soprano Will Grace the Valentine Stage in “Celebrazione del Coro”

By Fletcher Word

The Truth Editor

The Toledo Opera will present “Celebrazione del Coro” – a celebration of some of classical opera’s greatest choruses and arias – on April 21 and 23 at the Valentine Theatre and one of the visiting artists will be Christine Lyons, a critically acclaimed soprano who has been repeatedly praised and honored for her artistry by numerous critics and publications over the last decade.

An Atlanta native who has had a hugely successful operatic career, Lyons came to embrace such a career relatively late in life and by means of “a happy little accident,” she recalls.

Music, however, has always been part of her life. Lyons started playing the piano at the age of four and continued for a number of years as she also took up other instruments and did well enough by the age of 12 that she was winning state-wide competitions.

When she entered high school, however, she had to make a choice about how to continue her interest in music. The school told her she had to decide between band or singing. She decided “to take a chance and joined the choir,” she says.

That switch paid off immediately. “I started getting solos right ff the bat and when I auditioned for school musicals I was getting the leads.” She was also feeling the energy from audiences on stage that provides so much feedback to performers.

Lyons continued singing throughout her high school years and when it came time to think about college she decided to continue singing and focus on musical theatre. She applied for a scholarship to Carnegie Mellon and received a full ride but was told when she arrived that he would be learning much more than the theatre roles she was used to – she was about to enter the classical music arena and learn a range of music in a variety of languages.

After a summer at the schools before freshman year, she had the opportunity to sing for the mezzo soprano Mimi Lerner, then head of the voice department at Carnegie Mellon.

When Lerner asked the incoming freshman what she was going to school for, Lyons told her musical theatre. Lerner told her “no, you are not ... you are going to study opera. You have something I can’t teach but I’m going to teach you the rest.”

Lerner informed Lyons that she had a special gift and she wanted to help the young girl learn how to use that gift. The full scholarship would be thereafter changed to study opera.

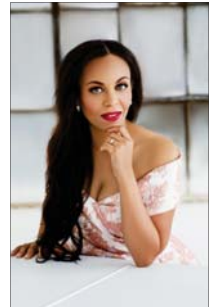
“I didn’t grow up hearing Black opera singers anywhere,” says Lyons. “Growing up in Atlanta, I don’t even know how I could have known that Black people sing opera.”

When Lyons graduated from Carnegie Mellon, she headed off to New York, acquired an agent and auditioned for the musical theatre stage, television and movies. She wasn’t

quite sure if she was ready to pursue opera. “The voice needs time to marinate,” she says of the challenge she faced with her not quite fully-developed vocal muscles.

However, after about five years, she felt she was indeed ready. “All right, all right, this has been fun but ...” She sought out the famed Denyce Graves, a mezzo-soprano, for voice music lessons. Graves is another in a long list of Black women opera singers that have graced the world stages for decades – from Marion Anderson, to Leontyne Price, Jessye Norman, Kathleen Battle, among others.

“You have the ambiance, the soul, he essential in-
... continued on page 10



Christine Lyons

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“A Senior Moment,” Warren Sherman’s Annual Easter Egg Hunt

By Paul L. Hubbard, President of Comfort Adult Day Care Services
Special to The Truth

Warren Sherman Community Council celebrated Easter with an Easter Egg Hunt and Senior Citizens Dinner at Inez Nash Park.



Easter baskets also had dollar bills in them.

The senior citizens and parents enjoyed a meal of ham, fried chicken, green beans, corn, mashed potatoes and gravy, and assorted deserts. It was a great community event that provided fun for all ages.

Co-sponsors of the event were Seaway Market and Comfort Care Adult Day Care Services. The kids hunted for Easter baskets full of eggs and candy. The kids eyes lit up when they saw the



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Bishop McKinstry and Worship Center Adopt a School

The Truth Staff

Bishop Pat McKinstry believes that one path forward in helping youngsters find their right path is to increase the involvement of churches in the schools in their communities. To that end, Worship Center has adopted a school right around the corner – or at least right down the street – from its own location on Collingwood.

Scott High School is the beneficiary of the church congregation's desire to have a positive impact. This year, McKinstry and her flock have provided a grand Thanksgiving dinner to the freshman class – the class with the best attendance record; they have provided outfits for the school's cheerleaders and, this past week, they brought in Famous Dave's restaurant to once again thank the freshman class for maintaining the best attendance record.

"If we do this in every community, we will stop trouble and reward students' goodness," said Bishop McKinstry as she prepared to do just that last Thursday April 6 in the school's auxiliary gym.

Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que supplied the ribs, chicken wings, sausage, mac n cheese and corn on the cob, among other goodies, for the freshmen and teaching staff to enjoy.

Bishop McKinstry and members of her congregation, joined by Suzette Cowell of the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union, served the luncheon guests. All in the interest of "rewarding goodness," said McKinstry.



James Smith, Brenda Kynard-Holsey, Teresa Allen, Bishop Pat McKinstry, Cheria Bowie-Linzy



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| <p>FOOTBALL CAMPS W-F June 7-9 • 6:00pm-8:00pm Location: SFS Stadium For those entering grades 7-9 (Boys) Cost: \$60 W-F June 14-16 • 6:00pm-8:00pm Location: SFS Stadium For those entering grades 3-6 (Boys) Cost: \$50</p> <p>BASKETBALL CAMPS M-W June 12-14 • 9:00am-Noon Location: SFS Main Gym For those entering grades 7-9 (Co-Ed) Cost: \$75 M-W June 19-21 • 9:00am-Noon Location: SFS Main Gym For those entering grades 3-6 (Co-Ed) Cost: \$55</p> <p>SOCCER CAMPS M-W June 19-21 • 9:00am-Noon Location: SFS Stadium For those entering grades 1-5 (Co-Ed) Cost: \$80 M-W June 26-28 • 9:00am-Noon Location: SFS Stadium For those entering grades 6-9 (Boys) Cost: \$100</p> <p>STRENGTH & CONDITIONING CAMPS W-Th June 28-29 • 9:00am-11:00am Th-F July 13-14 • 7:00pm-9:00pm Location: SFS Weight Room For those entering grades 7-12 (Boys) Cost: \$30</p> <p>WRESTLING CAMP M-W June 5-7 • 8:00am-11:00am Location: SFS Mezzanine For those entering grades 6-12 (Co-Ed) Cost: \$50</p> <p>BASEBALL CAMP M-W June 5-7 • 9:00am-Noon Location: SFS Baseball Field For those entering grades 4-9 (Boys) Cost: \$60</p> | <p>SCIENCE CAMP M-W June 12-15 • 9:00am-Noon Location: SFS For those entering grades 6-8 (Boys) Cost: \$125</p> <p>GOLF CAMP M-Th June 12-15 • 9:00am-Noon Location: Heatherdowns Country Club For those entering grades 4-12 (Boys) Cost: \$125</p> <p>WATER POLO CAMP T-Th June 13-15 • 11:00am-1:00pm Location: SFS Pool For those entering grades 7-12 (Boys) Cost: \$50</p> <p>CHEERLEADING CAMP Th-F June 15-16 • 6:00pm-8:00pm Location: SFS Stadium For those entering grades PreK-6 (Co-Ed) Cost: \$30</p> <p>ROBOTICS CAMP M-W June 19-21 • 9:00am-Noon Location: SFS For those entering grades 4-8 (Co-Ed) Cost: \$125</p> <p>CREW CAMPS M-Th June 19-22 • 5:00pm-7:00pm M-Th June 26-29 • 5:00pm-7:00pm Location: Toledo Rowing Foundation Boathouse For those entering grades 7-12 (Co-Ed) Cost: \$75</p> <p>BOWLING CAMP W June 21 • 4:00pm-6:00pm Location: Interstate Lanes For those entering grades 6-12 (Co-Ed) Cost: \$20</p> <p>LACROSSE CAMP M-W July 10-12 • 4:30pm-5:45pm Location: SFS Stadium For those entering grades K-4 (Co-Ed) Cost: \$30</p> |
|--|--|

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Celebrating Easter and Giving Back! Celebrating Easter and Giving Back! • Celebrating Easter and Giving Back! Celebrating Easter and Giving Back!

Good Friday Service at Mt. Nebo Baptist Church

The Truth Staff/The Truth Contributor

Religious leaders from around the city joined Rev. Cedric Brock and the congregation of Mt. Nebo Baptist Church for Good Friday service on April 7 at noon, during which the leaders expounded on "The Seven Last Words of Jesus Christ."

Pastor Damon Horton, of Corinth Baptist, opened the Good Friday Service with a message from Luke 23:34 ("Father, forgive them, for they do not

know what they do").

After a musical selection, Pastor Marquisha Horton, also of Corinth Baptist, followed with another quote from Luke 23:43 ("You will be with Me in Paradise"). Pastor Timothy Clark of Harvest Christian Center addressed the congregation about a quote from John 19:26,27 ("Woman, behold your son").

The music ministry performer again and Bishop Darrell Sheares of Darrell Sheares Ministry spoke of Matthew 26:46 ("My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?")

After the offering, Bishop Michael Carter of The Well Church addressed John 19:28 ("I thirst"), followed by another music ministry selection and Bishop Christopher Rowell and John 19:30 (It is finished").

Bishop Tony Winfree and Luke 23:46 expressed the final words of Christ on the cross ("Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit").

The host pastor, Cedric Brock, completed the Good Friday Service with the Invitation-Benediction.



The Area Office on Aging to Put a Hop in the Step of Older Adults with Easter Meals

Special to The Truth

Thanks to the generosity of Buckeye Broadband and the Northwest Ohio Area Office on Aging Foundation, hundreds of older adults had a little extra hop in their steps with free Easter meals. On Easter Sunday, 150 older adults were eating lunch prepared by J'Mae's Home Cooking Restaurant at Senior Centers Inc., 2308 Jefferson Avenue, Toledo, OH 43604. The Easter Bunny made an appearance for photos with those in attendance.

Live music was provided by Gene Zenz. While the festivities were scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. the doors opened at noon. This was a great opportunity to share a meal with others on the holiday, socialize as well as to make new friends. Easter can be a lonely time of year for many older adults who may have recently lost a spouse or other loved ones.

The Area Office on Aging encouraged those who were able to do so to invite an older adult they knew who might be lonely to join them for this holiday meal. It might just help improve the health and well-being of the older adult. A recent study found that for those who identify as being lonely, it has a negative impact on their health equivalent to smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

Meals were also separately being provided for the holiday to residents at several affordable senior apartments as well as to many grandparents and relatives raising children.

Christine Lyons... continued from page 7

redients to sing opera," Graves told the young Lyons. "She taught me the ropes."

Both Lerner and Graves proved to be accurate in their assessments of the youthful Lyons' ability and potential. Lyons has gone on to an outstanding career, acclaimed for performances such as Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, Puccini's *Mimi in La Boheme*, Handel's *Alcina* and Massenet's *Manon*.

This 22-23 season, Lyons joined the San Francisco Opera for the world premiere of John Adams' *Antony and Cleopatra*, the Maryland Opera for *Lucia di Lammermoor* along with her appearance here in Toledo.

She has garnered praise from a variety of opera publications such as *Opera Magazine* and *Classical Voice America* and won the top prize in competitions such as the Mary Truman Art Song Vocal Competition in New York, the Greda Lissner Foundation, the Vocal Art DC Discovery Art Top Song, among others.

With the Toledo Opera's "Celebrazione del Coro," Lyons will be performing a scene from *Cavalleria Rusticana* by Mascagni and an aria from *Turandot* by Puccini.

That Puccini aria is a particular favorite of Lyons. "Right in my wheelhouse," she says.

"It's a gorgeous aria, it shows so many different colors of Puccini, with the harps playing delicately, a long silvery floating – it's one of the most gorgeous things I have ever heard in the operatic canon."

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Monday, June 19, 2023
Black Kings Dinner

5pm - 9 pm EST
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DEADLINE TO SUBMIT: APRIL 30, 2023

Honorees will be notified by May 1, 2023

Lourdes University offers Summer Camps

Athletics, Nursing and Vocal Music Camps

Lourdes University is pleased to announce a variety of fun and educational Summer Camps at its campus, 6832 Convent Blvd. in Sylvania.

Athletic Summer Camps

Many Gray Wolf Athletic Coaches are offering summer camps within their sports. Each year, Lourdes has 25 teams competing in 15 sports including baseball, basketball, bowling, cheer, cross country, dance, esports, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, track, volleyball and wrestling. For a list of summer camps and costs, visit <https://lourdesathletics.com/sports/2019/3/8/camp-offerings.aspx> or contact Ryan Wronkowitz, Sports Information Director, at rwrnkowicz@lourdes.edu.

FREE Summer Nurse Camps

The Lourdes University College of Nursing offers the following Nurse Camps for High School students. The camps are offered on select dates from 9am to 2pm and include lunch and a campus tour. There is no cost for participants. For more information or to register for a nurse camp,

visit www.lourdes.edu/summer-nurse-camps or contact Jennifer Daley at jdaley@lourdes.edu or 419-824-3882.

- * Friday, June 16 – open to Bedford High School students only
- * Friday, June 23 – open to Bedford High School students only
- * Wednesday, July 12 – open to ALL high school students
- * Tuesday, July 18 – open to ALL high school students

Summer Vocal Music Camp

Lourdes University Music is offering a Summer Vocal Music Camp from Monday, July 10 through Thursday, July 13 from 9 to 11:30am daily. Students can perform fun music with Betsy Bellavia, Lourdes University Director of Vocal Music and be part of a concert and lunch on the last day. Cost is \$50 per person. Lunch is \$10 per guest. For more information and for a link to register, visit www.lourdes.edu/events/summer-vocal-music-camp

Wilberforce University Alumni Weekend Boosts Local Businesses

More than 1,000 Gather in Greene County

Special to The Truth

Dawn Dance is the traditional invitation for alumni to return to their alma mater to celebrate the spring season and honor Wilberforce, the nation's first, private historically Black college/university (HBCU).

This year, March 29 - April 1, more than 1,000 alumni, prospective students, and friends attended on and off campus events in Greene County.

The weekend's highlights began with a fashion show featuring a production by Nubiance, a student-led modeling company. Events then advanced to a chapel service that included the university chorale and a reception with '07 alum, master poet Jay Martinez.

Nearly 400 guests attended Preview Day. These visitors are prospective students and their families who visited the campus for tours and presentations. Among those who spoke, Provost Dr. Emily Lewis, President Alfred Anthony Pinkard, Ms. Gernisha Parnell, director of CASS, the university's center for student success, and alumni who are now employed by Dawn Dance event sponsors PNC Bank and the local law firm, Wright and Schulte, LLC.

Cheerleaders offered a special welcome, and the WU marching band, the Hounds of Sound, strutted that blazing, rhythmic flair. The Saturday evening wrapped up with a sold out, HBCU style Greek fraternity and

sorority step show that had more than 500 people in attendance.

These events not only drove campus interaction, but according to the city of Xenia's economic development coordinator, 1,000 extra people in the campus area over the weekend can create what is known as the multiplier effect.

"That many people coming to an area for a weekend has a positive effect on the local hotels, restaurants and shops," said Steven Brodsky. "You hope that they have enjoyed themselves enough to want to come back to this area."

Over the years, Wilberforce has helped bring additional income to the Greene County area. One study by the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) estimated that Wilberforce University has driven approximately \$124 million in economic spending to the region annually and has the capability of creating more than 1,000 jobs.

This is the first in-person Dawn Dance in the three years since the COVID pandemic closed many public events. The annual weekend is rivaled only by the fall season's homecoming festivities.

The university acknowledges the residents and business owners in Greene County and the surrounding communities for their warm hospitality during the fun filled weekend.

Great Ways to Encourage Imagination During Playtime

Special to The Truth

There's no better time than playtime to encourage an active imagination. Here are a few ways to bring more inventiveness into the fun.

Introduce Toys

Look for toys that allow kids to imagine themselves in new roles and sce-

narios. For example, little ones can transform into super-duper, fixer-uppers with the Drill & Learn Toolbox Pro from VTech. Featuring a toolbox, tool belt, hammer, wrench, plastic nails, screws and a working toy drill, along

...continued on page 12



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Poetry Books By Various Authors

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

You have a story to tell.

It's not a long one, but you like to think of yourself as a person of few words anyhow. So why not see how others tell their tales in verse, in form, in total, and with great meaning. Take a look at these new poetry books...

Black culture and the women's movement feature heavily in the poems of **Anastacia-Renéé** in her new collection, *Side Notes from the Archivist* (Amistad, \$16.99).

Beginning in the 1980s with "a badrillion girl bands & boy bands & big group bands," this book looks at life in "retroreflect" from a middle-schooler's point of view – which feels quite nostalgic, until the author reaches adulthood in her narrative. From there, the collection reads like a list of "episodes" of a TV show, tales of love of self and others, Black queer life, and a surprisingly overwhelming sense of power to round up the book.

Side Notes from the Archivist is a book for older teens and adults only.

When you pick up a copy of *No Sweet Without Brine* by **Cynthia Manick** (Amistad, \$16.99), you'll see that the title tells you everything you need to know: this book will make you smile with bits of gentle poetry that'll suddenly sneak up on you and smack you with the vinegar of reality.

In this random-not-random collection, you'll find an "Ode to JET Magazine," an out-loud musing on parental love, and a list of "Fears and Questions." There's advice for Black girls in this book; advice on living a good life despite disrespectful (and unnecessary) words from a doctor; musings on movies, celebrities, history; being a woman in today's world; and dealing with racism that borders on ridiculousness.

Check it out first, but *No Sweet Without Brine* is a book that might fit for readers ages 15 to adult.

And finally, there's no better time to introduce your 3-to-6-year-old to poetry than today, and *The Knowing* by **Ani DiFranco** (Penguin, \$18.99) may be a great start.

This is a book about a very young girl who has a story to tell. She has color in her hair and skin but that's not who she is. She has many favorite belongings, foods she prefers, games she loves to play, songs she likes to sing, a family, and a village she's lived in all her life. What's important is that she has "The Knowing," which is "underneath all that I know," she says.

c.2023
Amistad, Penguin
\$16.99-\$18.99
various page counts

This book takes a little getting used-to, but poetry lovers may cherish it. Young readers are never exactly clued in on *The Knowing* but artwork by **Julia Mathew** gives them imagery that can help parents to spark imagination and spirituality.

If these poetry books don't quite fit what you're looking for, then get yourself to your favorite library or bookstore and let them find for you the book you need. Rhyme, not rhyme all the time, that's fine but not needed, not heeded, not conceited. Don't you want to glory in a poem story?

Encourage Imagination...continued from page 11

with realistic tool sounds, songs and information about how the tools are used, little DIYers will have all the basics for pretend home repair.

For kids who may have watched older siblings and friends get their game on, another fun toy is the Level Up Gaming Chair. This preschool game station features a swivel chair, joystick and pretend headphones, and a real interactive gaming tablet that teaches letters, numbers, animals and music with gaming sound effects. With no Wi-Fi needed, you can turn game time into learning time safely and without worries, while giving young kids an opportunity to feel like big kid gamers.

The Pop & Spin Mower features an engine that rumbles, a sparkly, pretend blade that spins and popping beads that mimic grass clippings. Little gardeners will enjoy pushing this lean, green mowing machine, and those not quite ready to walk can sit and spin the roller or press the light-up buttons to explore gardening themes and colors. While this is a great way to play pretend, the toy also teaches lawn mower safety to help keep kids safe around the real thing.

Use Creative Prompts

Art is one of the best avenues for the imagination to run free. And when it comes to different forms of art, the sky is limit. Encourage kids to create music, poems, stories, paintings and plays. Feeling stumped? Give them prompts to get them started. Here are a few to try:

- Paint a picture of a beautiful place you want to go.
- Draw a picture of your favorite animal.
- Tell me a story about a kid and their dog.
- Paint a picture of the way you are feeling right now.
- Put on a play about two friends who are lost and trying to find their way home.

With fun role-playing toys and a bit of resourcefulness, you can make the most of playtime by letting imaginations run wild.

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CLASSIFIEDS

April 12, 2023

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATOR

WGTE Public Media, Toledo, Ohio, a community licensed public TV and radio broadcaster, seeks a full-time Information Technology Administrator.

The Information Technology Administrator reports to the Director of Engineering Services and serves as a key staff member of that department with principal responsibility for the implementation, organization, and troubleshooting of the network, hardware, and underlying communications protocols and other functional areas by providing technical and organizational support for departmental networks, servers, printers, phone system, and application resources. The Information Technology Administrator provides direct and proactive support in network hardware and server operating systems and software operations.

Qualified candidates will have demonstrated knowledge of PCs, network hardware, operating systems, and software. A Bachelor's degree in Computer Science or a related field and three years of relevant experience with LAN and WAN technologies, including systems configuration and support, software installation, and set-up, is preferred. However, equivalent experience in related fields and education will be considered.

WGTE Public Media provides a competitive salary and excellent benefits and is committed to attracting and retaining a diverse staff that honors your experience, perspective, and unique identity. Together, the team at WGTE strives to create and maintain working and learning environments that are inclusive, equitable, and welcoming. EOE/ADA

Send your letter and résumé to: Human Resources, P.O. Box 30, Toledo, OH 43614, or at [mailto:employment@wgte.org]employment@wgte.org. EOE/ADA

ABUNDANT LIFE OF PERRYSBURG ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Abundant Life of Perrysburg is accepting applications for its subsidized apartment communities. Abundant Life #1 offers independent living for senior citizens 62 years of age or older and individuals 55 or older with a physical impairment. Abundant Life #2 is a supportive living complex for people 62 and older. To apply individuals must meet the age and annual income requirement of no more than \$27,250.00 for one person or \$31,150.00 for two people.

We are located in the Three Meadows subdivision near the Manor of Perrysburg. Our garden style apartments offer an open floor plan one bedroom, secured buildings with private patios and individually controlled heat and air conditioning.

We have a bus that transports all resident to area grocery stores and monthly outings. We offer exercise, worship services and variety of opportunities for our active and not so active seniors. Please call (419)874-4371 to find out more about our fabulous communities and our availability for apartments. You may also visit us on the web at abundantlifeperrysburg.org.

BUSINESS FOR SALE

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LEGAL NOTICE TO BIDDERS TOLEDO LUCAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY MAUMEE BRANCH LIBRARY WATER CHILLER REPLACEMENT

Sealed proposals will be received at the main Toledo Lucas County Public Library, 325 N. Michigan St., Toledo, Ohio, 43604 (Dispatch Office addressed to the Fiscal Officer) until April 25, 12:00 P.M. to be opened immediately thereafter for furnishing the necessary labor, equipment, tools and materials for the water chiller replacement for Maumee Branch Library.

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

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

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

A voluntary pre-bid meeting will be held at 11:00 am local time, on April 17, 2023, at Maumee Branch Library, 501 River Road, Maumee, OH 43537

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

LEGAL NOTICE TO BIDDERS TOLEDO LUCAS COUNTY MAIN LIBRARY MAIN LIBRARY ACCESS CONTROL REPLACEMENT PROJECT

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be received at the main Toledo Lucas County Public Main Library, 325 N. Michigan, Toledo, Ohio 43604 (Dispatch Office addressed to the Fiscal Officer) until **Tuesday May 2, 2023** 12pm to be opened immediately thereafter for furnishing the necessary labor, equipment tools and materials for replacement of the access control system and door hardware.

Copies of the bid and contract documents including instructions to bidders and specifications may be obtained at **Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Rd., Toledo, Ohio 43615, 419-385-5303**.

Bidding Documents also may be examined at Ohio plan rooms and similar locations/services and online at orders@beckerimpressions.com.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Guarantee and Contract Bond in the amount of 100% of the bid; or a certified check; cashier's check or letter of credit in the amount of 10% of the bid which will require a 100% Performance bond upon award of the contract. All bids shall be submitted on forms of proposal supplied by the Engineer. All bidders, by bidding, agree to pay wages not less than the minimum as determined by the State of Ohio, Department of Industrial Relations, and agree to comply with Executive Order No. 11246 of the President of the United States. The Board of Trustees, Toledo-Lucas County Public Library reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities in bidding. No Bidder may withdraw his or her bid for a period of sixty (60) days after bid opening.

A pre-bid conference/walk through will be held at **10:00 a.m. on April 11, 2023** at the **Toledo Lucas County Main Library 325 N. Michigan St., Toledo, Ohio 43604**. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is highly encouraged but is not mandatory.

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

CLASSIFIEDS

April 12, 2023

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DIGITAL MARKETING OPERATIONS SPECIALIST

WGTE Public Media seeks a highly organized, creative, knowledgeable professional to support sponsor execution and revenue growth for all WGTE Public Media digital assets.

This person will have a unique and integrated view of WGTE digital platforms (Websites, Podcasts, Live audio streaming, app, TV and radio broadcast, and E-Newsletters) and will be responsible for creating and executing digital underwriting with businesses and non-profit organizations.

A successful candidate will have proven strong written and oral communication skills and attention to detail. A bachelor's degree in marketing/communications, journalism, media, or a related discipline is strongly preferred, or a minimum of an Associate's degree in a similar discipline or two years of related experience.

WGTE Public Media provides a competitive salary and excellent benefits and is committed to attracting and retaining a diverse staff that honors your experience, perspective, and unique identity. Together, the team at WGTE strives to create and maintain working and learning environments that are inclusive, equitable, and welcoming.

Send your letter and résumé to: Human Resources, P.O. Box 30, Toledo, OH 43614, or at-[mailto:employment@wgte.org]employment@wgte.org, EOE/ADA.

LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 5101:2-25-03 of the Ohio Administrative Code, Lucas County Department of Job & Family Services (LCDJFS) will hold a virtual public hearing prior to the submission of the County's Final 2023-24 Title XX County Profile to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services for incorporation in the Comprehensive Social Services Plan for the State of Ohio.

PURPOSE:

1. To highlight pertinent data and information regarding identified social services problems, needs, resources, and gaps in service along with recommendations to the proposed 2023-24 county profile.
2. To elicit public comment, suggestions, and recommendations relative to the County's proposed 2023-24 county profile.

DATE: April 26, 2023 **TIME:** 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

Meeting Link: https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting_NjQ0ZWZhMzYtM2Y3Zi00ZDRmLTk5YmUtN2IwMGNkOWE1YTk0%40thread.v2/0?context=%7B%22Tid%22%3A%2250f8cc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2C%22Oid%22%3A%22c63c31a5-7691-4e94-8d41-9fcb85529582%22%2C%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3Atrue%22%22role%22%3A%22a%22%7D&type=a&role=a

Microsoft Teams meeting link for this 2023-24 Title XX Lucas County Profile public hearing can also be accessed on the Quick Links Tab at <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/858/Job-and-Family-Services>

Entities wishing to have their points of view captured in the County's submission to the State must email proposals (not to exceed two pages) to Lucas_Contracts@jfs.ohio.gov

by 4:00 p.m. on April 20, 2023. If individuals would like to present their proposals virtually at the hearing as well, they must indicate that at the bottom of their proposal. This should include the speaker's name and contact information. Those wishing to speak must notify LCDJFS at Lucas_Contracts@jfs.ohio.gov by April 20, 2023 and all efforts will be made to accommodate everyone who would like to speak. If time constraints don't allow for that to happen, individuals will still have their written proposals reviewed and included in the LCDJFS summary report to the State

POSITION AVAILABLE BILINGUAL OUTREACH WORKERS (TOLEDO AND DAYTON)



Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), a non-profit law firm, is hiring bilingual outreach workers to help the attorneys and staff in both the Dayton and Toledo offices to extend legal services to agricultural workers and their families throughout Ohio.

Please visit ABLE's website at <https://www.ablelaw.org/careers-with-able/> to review full details for the position and apply.

ABLE is an Equal Opportunity Employer and places a high value on diversity in our workplace, including diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, and physical ability. Applicants requiring accommodation for the interview/application process should contact the Recruitment Coordinator at able-jobs@freelawyers.org.

PUBLIC BID ADVERTISEMENT (ELECTRONIC BIDDING) STATE OF OHIO STANDARD FORMS AND DOCUMENTS

Project # 1080-23-303
West Mall Hardscape Improvements
The University of Toledo
Lucas County

Bids Due: 2:00pm, 4/18/2023; through the State's electronic bidding system at: <https://bidexpress.com>

EDGE Participation Goal/Diverse Supplier Goal: 15.0% of contract
Domestic steel use is required per ORC 153.011.

Contract **Estimated Cost**
General Contract **\$1,100,000.00**

Pre-bid Meeting: 4/4/2023, 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 4/4/2023, immediately following Pre-bid.

Walkthrough Location: Plant Operations Building

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

More Info: Project contact: The Collaborative Inc, Dave Serra, 419-242-7405, Ext 220, dserra@tc.design

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FIRE PUMP REPLACEMENT AT DORRELL MANOR IFB23-B003

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for **Fire Pump Replacement at Dorrell Manor in accordance with IFB23-B003**. Received in accordance with law until **April 13, 2023 at 3:00 PM ET**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY WHITE BOX GRANT & FACADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT

The City of Toledo, Department of Economic Development, is accepting applications from April 3 - May 3, 2023.

For guidelines and application, visit toledo.oh.gov/business/vibrancy-initiative.

In Memoriam Melissa Awls (Hendricks) July 13, 1960 – March 30, 2023

Melissa passed away peacefully in her home at the age of 62. She was born at Toledo Hospital to Colleen Hendricks (Moore) and Canadian Pro football player Gerald Palmer. (Both parents have preceded her, passing way in 1985 and 1984. She was also the niece of Wayman Palmer who served as Toledo's previous executive director of EOPA and one of the first black officials for Ohio high school athletics.

Melissa graduated from Central Catholic High School in 1978. She

The King Memorial... continued from page 16

thy of inclusion. He said, "As far as I was concerned, we had to reach a bar of excellence, second to none..."

Next Week: The King Memorial Pt II: The Task

"We realized the site that had been selected is where the cherry blossoms come in bloom every year – late March, Early April – and they are actually in bloom during the same period that Dr. King was Assassinated", Dr. Ed Jackson, Jr.

Jackson's book can be purchased on Amazon or at: www.kingmemorialbook.com

Listen to the full interview with Dr. Jackson on radio station WJUC, 107.3FM, 1:00 pm, Sunday April 23, 2023

worked for Spencer Gifts for over 20 years in Toledo, Romulus, Michigan and Northern Virginia as a District/Area Manager. Melissa leaves behind two sons, Brandon Awls (September Ware) and Loney Awls, three grandchildren, Brandon II and Braniah Awls and Mariah Ware, siblings, Bernadette Graham (Temple), Brent Temple, Brad Temple, Antionette Williams, and Michelle Hendricks. As well as a host of many nieces and nephews, loving friends and other family members.

Services will be held April 15 Saturday 2-3 p.m. at House of Day Funeral Home.



Melissa Awls

ADVOCATE FOR AN ABUSED CHILD

CASA Volunteer Information Meeting

Sunday, May 7
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Sanger Branch Library
3030 Central Ave., Toledo, OH 43606

Lucas County CASA trains community volunteers to advocate in court for the best interests of abused and neglected children.

APPLY TODAY AT WWW.CASAKIDS.NET

Funding Opportunity OPEN NOW

We have several mini-grants of up to \$5,000 available to organizations that serve our community.

For more details and to submit your proposal on our easy-to-fill online application, go to www.lcmhsrb.org/minigrant/.

Mini-grants are an essential strategy in our efforts to encourage and enhance activities throughout Lucas County that promote positive mental wellness.

This biannual opportunity provides support through funding to grassroots organizations that will provide programs and/or services aligned with our mission and goals to Lucas County residents.

For over 50 years, the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board (MHSRB) has served Lucas County residents, ensuring a safety net for their mental health and recovery support services. Visit www.LCHRSB.org for more information.

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The King Memorial: Thousands of Ideas Bound by a Single Vision

By Robert Smith, African American Legacy Project
Special to The Truth

"Public Art speaks to the Identity of a nation, especially if it is Public Art on the National Mall itself." -- Dr. Ed Jackson, Jr

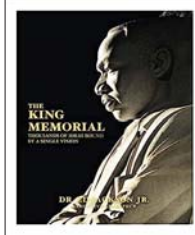
Fifty-five years ago, [1968] Dr. Martin Luther King was assassinated. Twenty-seven years ago [1996] five African American men initiated an act which led to the pursuit of a national monument honoring the fallen civil rights leader and international humanitarian. Twelve years ago [2011] the living memorial dedicated to Dr. King was unveiled on the National Mall in our nation's capital.



Ed Jackson

Ed Jackson, Jr., PhD, served as the Executive Architect for the Washington, DC, Martin Luther King, Jr., National Memorial Project Foundation, Inc. from November 1996 to March 2012.

In 1996, the United States Congress authorized the Secretary of the Interior to permit Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity to establish a memorial on Department of Interior lands in the District of Columbia, giving the fraternity until 2003 to raise \$100 million and break ground. In 1998, Congress authorized the fraternity to establish a nonprofit foundation – the Washington, D.C. Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation, Inc. – to manage the memorial's fundraising and design, and approved the building of the memorial on the National Mall. In 1999, the United States Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) and the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) approved the site location for the memorial.



Ed Jackson, Jr., ArchD
Executive Architect
Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial

Sitting and listening to Jackson, describe his leadership responsibilities as directing and managing the programming, planning, site selection, design, and construction of the memorial, you just might say Jackson led with grace, fluidity and a sense of purpose moreover... a sense of duty.

Jackson managed an elite group of thinkers and artisans, while at times having to navigate dark political climates. Nevertheless, he had one promise to fulfill. That promise was to Mrs. Coretta Scott King when he whispered, "... I won't let you down."

Listen long enough and you might just get the impression that Jackson's journey was really an experience ordained and choreographed by a higher being. His reply to those who want to confer high praise upon him is, "...it is not about me."

Jackson wrote about his experiences in a book entitled: **The King Memorial: Thousands of Ideas Bound by a Single Vision**. You would have naturally thought Jackson's recent visit to northwest Ohio was to promote his book? Nothing could be further from the truth.

Recently, this architect of enormous experience and clear accomplishment drove nearly a thousand miles to share his professional experiences and life lessons with a group of burgeoning architectural students at Bowling Green State University.

Jackson was invited to present at BGSU by a student, Darius Calhoun, the president of BGSU'S chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architects [NOMAS], sought out accomplished African American architects to speak to BG's fledging NOMAS group organized by Adjunct Professor Andre Ballard – himself [Ballard] a minority architect who graduated from Hampton University, an HBCU.

Darius reached out to Jackson and others with a heart full of hope, but... no budget. Quietly and effortlessly Jackson found himself on BG's campus with the unwavering intent of helping this group of architectural neophytes prepare for what lies ahead. Wholeheartedly embracing NOMAS, Jackson dared these young men and women to dream.

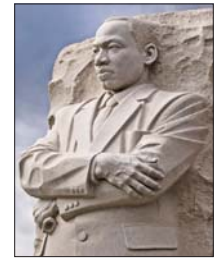
Ballard collaborated with Yong Huang an assistant professor of architecture at BGSU; thus, the two men were able to give a second group - sixth year Master of Architecture students - an opportunity to engage with this architect of international consequence whose name will forever be linked to Dr. King.

Jackson was just nine months old when his dad was killed in a car accident while his parents were visiting family in McComb MS. Jackson's mom made McComb their home and she pursued a college education and went on to become an elementary school teacher.

Jackson says his family worked hard to shield him from the old southern "Jim Crow" way of life. Jackson says, "For whatever reason, our parents wanted us to grow up void of the notion that you had constraints on you, and... that level of freedom of thought - of being - allows you to move beyond present circumstances." Thankfully, that sense of self-awareness, as well as, his educational accomplishment, combined with his understanding of the historical context which penetrated the moment, found Jackson fully prepared to lead.

He said, during those early years of development, his team struggled trying to decide what the memorial should represent. He says, "Early on, my team agreed the monument had to be a living memorial." He continues, "Moreover, it was our design program committee's hope that the memorial could somehow speak to future generations metaphorically and literally about the importance of freedom, peace, justice, democracy and hope."

One of the first things Jackson did, after agreeing to take on the project, was to drive to Washington D. C. to a bookstore. He wanted to view images of the existing monuments on the National Mall. After all, this new work was going to be directly compared to the existing historical presence. Jackson wanted to know what he and his team could add to the existing tapestry of monuments on the national mall that would be wor-



King Memorial Statue

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