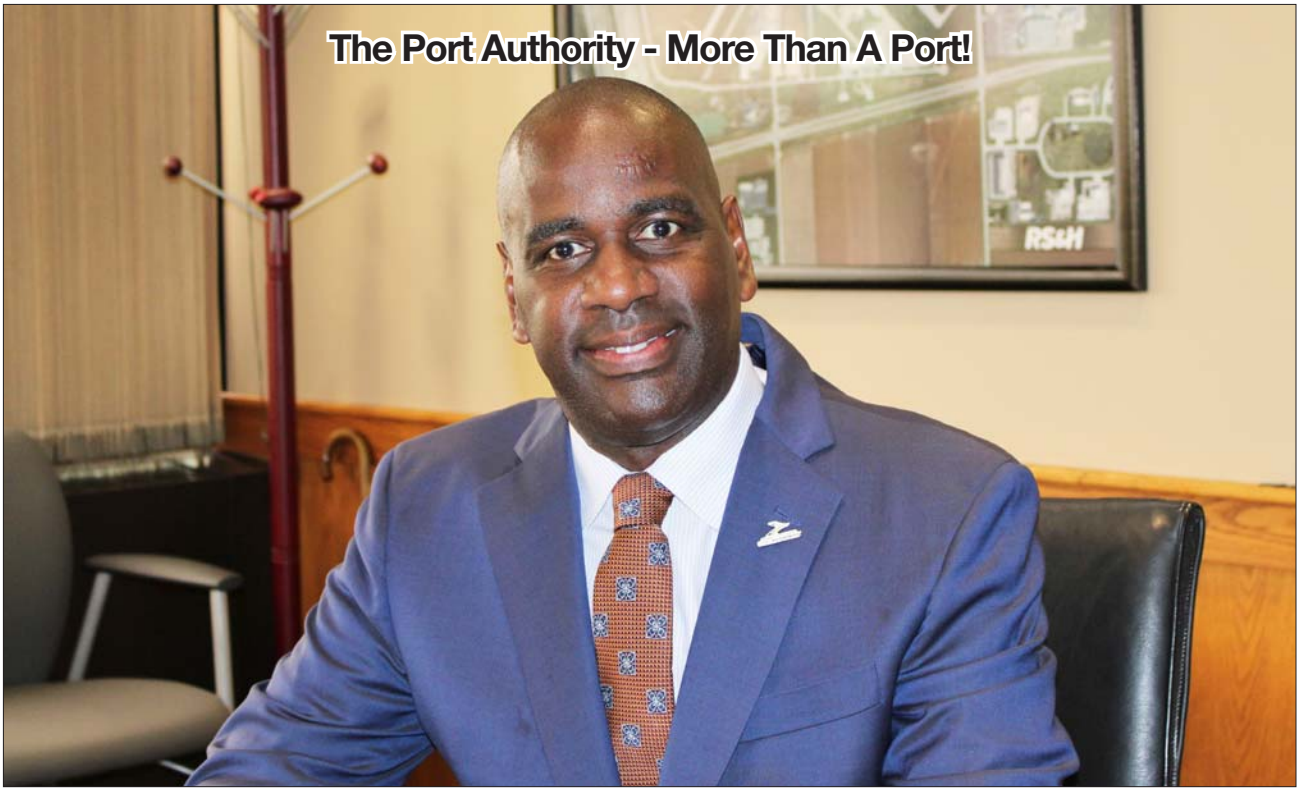




Volume 78 No. 2      “And Ye Shall Know The Truth...”      May 3, 2023



**The Port Authority - More Than A Port!**

Thomas Winston, President/CEO, Toledo Lucas County Port Authority

**TBL**

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# Leading with Agility and Stability

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

The Truth Contributor



*Each player must accept the cards life deals him or her: but once they are in hand, he or she alone must decide how to play the cards in order to win the game.*

– Voltaire

Covid-induced disruption of the business world created an urgent demand for change. But, unfortunately, it appeared to deal Thomas Winston a weak hand when he ascended to the Toledo Lucas County Port Authority's top leadership role in 2019.

The pandemic resulted in substantial financial losses for airlines due to reduced passenger traffic. In addition, escalating trade tensions, such as between the U.S. and China, have disrupted supply chains and led to a decline in the number of vessels making calls at U.S. ports.

Yet, Winston has been able to maximize the hand he was dealt by creating a carefully balanced system that utilized agile change to achieve organizational stability and sustainability.

Here is a portion of our recent discussion concerning his approach to leading the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority.

**Perryman:** Talk about your life path.

**Winston:** I was born and raised in the Wicker Park area of Chicago before it became Wicker Park which it is now. I attended high school at Lincoln Park High School on the lakefront. I did my undergraduate work at Ohio Wesleyan University.

**Perryman:** How about graduate school?

**Winston:** I went back home to Chicago after undergrad and worked for an investment banking firm, Nuveen Investments, a niche municipal bond investment firm. I pursued my MBA at Loyola University Chicago and finished in 1998 with a double major in finance and marketing.

**Perryman:** How did you arrive in Toledo?

**Winston:** I started with Pfizer serving as manager of international treasury in New Jersey, so I relocated, leaving Chicago, relocated right outside of New York City. That experience allowed me to travel the world and work with global affiliates.



Thomas Winston

**Perryman:** What were your duties?

**Winston:** I was doing more global finance work dealing with foreign currency, financial planning, and analysis work.

A similar role was opening at Owens Corning, which recruited me to the Toledo area. So, I came to Toledo in late 2003, taking a management position in the treasury department. At Owens Corning, I also did a lot of international traveling and mergers and acquisition work, where we acquired companies around the globe. So, I had a great experience at Owens Corning when the opportunity presented itself at the Port Authority in 2010.

**Perryman:** What made you attractive to the Port Authority's decision-makers?

**Winston:** We'll say, my predecessor, as he was recruiting me, he consolidated, as he mentioned, three jobs into one. They wanted somebody with a diverse background and experience, with my financial acumen, doing a lot of recruitment and H.R. work, and understanding the global business landscape. So, the role they put together at the Port Authority attracted me, and I took the role at that time in 2010.

Since arriving, I am intrigued by the breadth and depth of the Authority's work and the fact that it isn't just a maritime or seaport port authority. It also entails other development areas, including providing accessible capital through bond issuance and financing, which I previously had exposure to.

**Perryman:** Please tell our readers what the Toledo Lucas County Port Authority does

**Winston:** Well, we have this saying: "We're more than the port!" That's because when you look at a port, you think about water and maritime seaport operations. But, yet, the Toledo Lucas County Port Authority is quite broad in our operations.

So, when you look at our mission to develop expertise and assets that drive and grow the region's transportation and logistics infrastructure, our focus is on providing "economic prosperity for all."

We live out that mantra through our work as it relates to our maritime operations, airport operations, the work we do in our building management and our financing program.

**Perryman:** Since you assumed the role of president in 2019, much has changed that has affected port operations across the nation. As the "economic heartbeat" of the region, as your website describes, how have you dealt with the threat of a declining economy from structural changes?

**Winston:** My focus has been on ensuring that we invest in our infrastructure, which are our physical assets and our programs. Doing that provides value added to the community where we can undoubtedly make an important impact towards economic development for the community.

We did over 11 million tons of cargo that went through the Toledo Port last year, and we continue to see some growth in that area.

We have a very aggressive capital improvement program (CIP) across all of the assets that the Port Authority manages, including an ongoing 5-year CIP plan to invest over \$150 million into our infrastructure. Most of that is at the port of Toledo. We've already secured over \$24 million through federal, state, and other funding to improve the infrastructure at the Port of Toledo.

But over \$150 million in capital improvement projects are slated throughout our infrastructure. That includes the Port of Toledo, the Martin Luther King Jr. train station, the airports, and the garages we own downtown. The invest-



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



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

... continued on page 12

# Imagine ... Just Imagine This!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

There you are. Almost mentally and emotionally maxed out at trying to get ahead in corporate America.

You were second in your class of 138 students at Columbia School of Business. The 3M Company pulled your resume for a possible slot in management. Your credentials are impeccable. Oberlin undergraduate in strategic organizations and an MBA from The University of Chicago in crisis management and supply chains. You also speak Yoruba, Spanish and Farsi.

You were born in Budpointe, Mississippi. Population: 873... on a good day. Father: postal worker. Mother: retail clerk.

The headhunter who is scoping you out for potential corporate hires, indicates to you on the third interview that companies want "diversity and inclusion and equal opportunity" in their now younger workforce.

You are all in! You get the acceptance letter that says you are wanted, golden and your start date and entry level pay grade. All is good. Life is sweet! But...three days before the start date of joining the corporate team at the 3M Company, you get a call from Human Relations (HR) indicating that there will be a temporary hiring delay due to unspecified litigation just filed against the company.

You are flummoxed. What litigation and for what reason? Corporate is mum on the specifics and so you call around to the other "minority hires" and find out that they too got the same call from HR basically stating, "Don't call us, we will call you."

Not one to sit and wait for the phone to ring, you jump on Google and start searching around for litigation and the 3M Company.

Bingo! Doesn't take too many searches before you hit paydirt. You discover to your amazement that 3M is being sued for being too progressive in its new hiring practices regarding diversity and inclusion. You read further to understand that a right-wing legal group called America First Legal founded by former Trump advisor Stephen Miller, has filed a complaint with the EEOC alleging that the corporate practices of the 3M Company, amongst other corporate entities, is in violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

A casual reading of that landmark legislation passed during the Johnson administration provides no legal cover or justification for so call aggrieved non minorities to successfully protest that they are the new "Negroes" being discriminated against!

If you know any history of the discriminatory Trump administration and its draconian policies and the nefarious influences that Stephen Miller had on Trump, you would quickly discern that such a lawsuit is a farce.

It is a media stunt to try to force public attention to attack and reject the authority of that civil rights legislation by declaring that is now, "woke" legislation and ergo...bad rule.

The same right wing legal battering ram also filed similar grievances against Bud Light for using divisive and illegal employment practices for offering leadership development courses for those historically underrepresented groups in corporate America.

You read further on and find out that the same white grievance legal group filed a complaint against diversity efforts by the mega private equity group, BlackRock, due to it offering scholarships to provide internships to members of underrepresented minority groups.

Yep. Hear it is. In black and white. Some right-wing GOP disgruntled white politicians want the courts to step in and invalidate civil rights legislation because they contend for all practicable purposes that too many minorities are gaining employment access to corporate America at the exclusion of their white sons and daughters.

Florida governor, Ron DeSantis, with his paper-thin sensitivity to criticism and being a champion of throttling all things, "woke", pulled billions of dollars of state monies from BlackRock over its policies that took into account the environmental, social and governance impact of its investments.

It is as if a certain vocal but well-funded arm of the far-right GOP party has found a position in America's now seemingly hostile and racialized culture to attack issues of fairness as being the new "woke" issue to excoriate and demonize.

People of the ilk of Stephen Miller who have both open and latent hostility to all things of color, want to gin up White America's racial grievances so they will impugn the goodwill and integrity of corporate

America who wants to do the right thing.

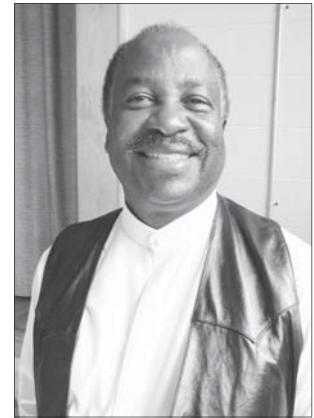
Open antagonisms against people of color by bitter and grieved White Americans will welcome these legal complaints as a means by which they wish to stop the slow drift of White America becoming a minority demographic in the next two decades.

If America First Legal can place a chilling effect on corporate America's campaign to employ more of those "others", then America First Legal will be seen as the vanguard to make further assaults on "woke" attempts to integrate America.

When the late President Lyndon Baines Johnson signed the historic civil rights legislation of 1964 and 1965, he commented to then Republican Senator Everett Dirksen of Illinois, "Well, we just lost the South!"

Prophetic and true. These new assaults on equal employment are trending in a line of other recent attempts to silence and thwart people of color from accessing full American citizenship, It reminds me of what my mother used to say: "If it is not one thing, it's another!"

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



Lafe Tolliver

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# Corrections to Perryman's Article

By: *Former Chairman of the Lucas County Democratic party*  
Michael Ashford

This letter is a response to Rev. Donald Perryman's article "Ashford Out as Party Chair?" (March 14, 2023).

The Chairman of the Lucas County Democratic Party (LCDP) is a "VOLUNTEER" position. I was Chairman of LCDP from June 2020 to March 2023. The pandemic (COVID-19) was ravaging the country, over seven million small businesses closed, and families were losing loved-ones. Philanthropy donations and political donations to local political parties came to a crashing halt. In the middle of this chaos, there was a President, Senate, 9th District Congressional and other key County, and local races. The leadership team started to rebuild the party. Through collective efforts by many, the party was able to raise money to pay for operations (utilities, insurance, payroll, etc.), win key political seats and invest in candidates.

I would like to address Perryman's comments and provide accurate information on the following specific issues:

## FINANCIAL ISSUES

The article stated, "money spent illegally." The LCDP financial system has multiple processes in place to ensure transparency and accountability. LCDP follows accounting guidelines to provide clarity, consistency, and the communication of financial information. We implemented a check and balance to record, document and deposit all revenue. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of the donations are checks and online donations that are received through a system known as ACT-BLUE. The checks are recorded and documented by the Office Manager and deposits are reviewed by the Office Manager, Treasurer, and Chairman. Seventy percent (70%) of expenses (bills) were paid on-line by the Office Manager. Other expenses (bills) that are not paid online are paid by written checks that require TWO (2) signatures.

## MISAPPROPRIATION

Your article mentioned "misappropriation of funds." LCDP has a financial



Michael Ashford

systematic design to deter any "misappropriations." The first step is that the Office Manager documents and deposits all funds. The second step is that the Treasurer reviews all revenue, deposits, and online donations. The third step is that the monthly budget is prepared by the Treasurer with assistance from the Office Manager and the Chairman. There are three (3) independent steps to account for all revenue. Financial statements are presented to the full body of the Executive Committee that details all revenue (incoming money) and expenses (bills) for that reporting period and is submitted for approval by the executive committee monthly.

## BUILDING

There have been NO improvements or investments in the building in over 30 years. There is a silver-lining in every cloud. This past winter, the water lines froze and burst. We filed an insurance claim, which will hopefully bring attention to the new leadership and body of all the upgrades and renovations that are needed for the building, this will address any possible asbestos issues.

## RECORD

There was a tremendous amount of growth and success. I want to share a few highlights.

- Served as Chairman from June 2020 to March 2023.
- 88% winning record (highest among the last 9 chairs).
- Increased democrat Women elected positions in Lucas County.
- Won City Council seats in the Lucas County suburbs (2021).
- Historical - 1st African America male Democrat to win a judicial seat in the Court of Appeals
- Democrat Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur was re-elected in the toughest election in 40 years (2022).
- Democrat Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz was re-elected to a second term (2021) becoming only the 2nd Mayor to repeat since strong mayor platform started in 1993.
- For the 2nd time in 35 years, Democrats won the top 5 out 6 seats for Toledo City Council at large seats (2021).
- Democrat candidate for Lucas County Common Pleas Court beat an incumbent Republican Judge.
- Successful sold out "Fall Dinner" that highlighted the achievements of women in politics. The last Fall Dinner was 18 years ago.

## CONCLUSION

Perryman's article made it sound like LCDP was on its death bed, which is NOT True. The LCDP has been blessed with exceptional elected officials (past and present) that wake up every morning committed to improving the quality of lives for all, making Toledo and Lucas County one of the best places to live is a top priority. We have the greatest volunteers in Ohio that generously give their time (at the Head Quarters, serving as Club Chairs, standing at polls, phone banking, working on committees, and even supporting fundraisers) without hesitation.

There are challenges in every political party. In 1978, Songwriter Gloria Gaynor, had a hit song, "I Will Survive." The LCDP has and will continue to survive. I am the 10th Chair in nineteen years. I had to make tough decisions, which were not popular, but important for the next chapter.

I left the party better than I found it. I wish the next leadership all the good fortune, because at the end of the day, it's about helping people.

## Modeling is a career, it is not an activity.

If you are seriously thinking about getting into acting or modeling you are going to

need an agency that will be willing to work with you to find you paid assignments.

Alright let's get down to business, Do you have to pay to be a client of a modeling agency? NO

Do I need to pay for photos? Yes, However not out-of-pocket.....

What does that mean? Agencies work on commission and some will work with you, now that digital photos are what they work with.

The agency will have that in your agreement.

Do I have to sign with the agency? Yes if you want to be considered for work through the agency.

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# GTCF Equity & Access Fund Opens Fourth Round Application Process

The Truth Staff

The Greater Toledo Community Foundation staff has geared up for round four of its Equity & Access Initiative Fund dispersal and, to that end, held a community meeting for prospective applicants on Thursday, April 27 at the Mott Branch Library. The application process is now open.

About 30 interested parties turned out to learn more about the fund that is designed to assist new and experienced non-profit organizations, regardless of size, further their goals in four focus areas: advocacy, economic development, employment and nonprofit capacity.

Artisha Lawson, project manager, led the discussion and detailed the timing, the funds available and the GTCF assistance available during the application process.

Pariss Coleman, chair of the Advisory Committee, explained the origins of the Equity & Access Initiative Fund and the reasons for its development.

"On May 25, 2020, we witnessed the George Floyd murder and the protests that followed. The Greater Toledo Community Foundation moved quickly to establish the Equity and Access fund ... and to target ... and support people who may not have a seat at the table."

Keith Burwell, CEO of the GTCF, also spoke of the reasons for the fund stating: "we try to find ways to say 'yes,' not ways to say 'no.'"

The rest of the evening's session was devoted to an elaboration of the application process and what the GTCF is seeking in prospective grantees.

Applications to the next round of the Equity & Access Initiative will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. on July 2 and must be submitted through the GTCF's online application system. Applications should succinctly describe the proposed project and detail how it meets the priorities of the

fund.

Proposals will be reviewed by the Foundation's professional staff and the Equity & Access Initiative Advisory Committee. Recommendations will then be made to the full Board of Trustees. Determinations will be announced three months after the deadline.



Artisha Lawson

The primary applicant must have 501(c)(3) status, however, the primary applicant may have partners or collaborators on the proposal who are not of the 501(c)(3) status – quite all right as long as the lead partner is.

The GTCF does prefer collaborations so the status of the secondary partners should not deter an application from being submitted, said Lawson. "We really prioritize collaboration. Collaborations are preferred not just in this initiative but in general."

Individual organizations that submit a stand-alone application may request up to \$15,000. Collaborative applicants may request up to \$25,000.

Throughout the process, the Foundation staff will be available to answer questions and steer applicants through the online procedures. Learn more at [www.toledocf.org/equity-access-initiative/](http://www.toledocf.org/equity-access-initiative/) or call Artisha Lawson at 419-241-5049.

## Taylor Automotive... continued from page 15

of people with disabilities," notes the organization's website.

However, while the studio's artists are developmentally disabled, the work done there is inclusive, notes Kose. "We are an inclusive studio and provide that atmosphere. That's the heart of what we do."

What Unruly Arts also does is to take many objects that might be headed to the recycle bin and turn them into the objects that might decorate a home or office.

"We don't necessarily follow the rules," said Schoen. "We are in the community and embrace the community."

Part of the reason for such a cautiously economic approach to utilizing materials is that the studio "started on a shoestring," said Schoen. "And our artists don't care. People are willing to embrace the process."

"Art brings me joy," confirmed artist Matthew Dickendasher.

"Joan and Lori make it happen," said Tom Cole, Taylor community

outreach coordinator. "Steve Taylor, his willingness to give back in the community every day and the Unruly Artists do a great job. And it's great to have them here at Taylor Automotive."

"Unruly Arts is such a blessing in [my son] Kevin's life and all the artists life," said Janet Platec. "The Taylor family is so supportive. Steve, Steve, Jr., and all of them."

The goal of the evening was to sell the artwork – half of the proceeds going to the artists and the other half going to the studio for the purchase of materials to continue the mission.

The final portion of the evening was an auction, conducted by Steve Taylor, Jr., to provide those interested in obtaining more of the Unruly Arts Studio artists' works.

"I just think the impact what we, Taylor Automotive Family, are having in the community with our visibility has built an awareness around the annual Unruly Arts event and it grows bigger and bigger each year," said Terry Crosby, Taylor community ambassador.

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

# Friends and Relationships Can Extend Our Lives

By Paul Hubbard

Guest Column

If you feel that making friends as an African American adult and senior citizen isn't as easy as it used to be, you are right.

As kids, we had recess and gym where we felt free to interact with other kids. In 2023 we are very disconnected with each other. Psychologist and author Jody Carrington says the greatest predictor for overall well-being isn't how much we drink or smoke, or what we eat. It's social engagement.

Research by Brigham Young University has shown that loneliness is a major threat to longevity, on par with smoking 15 cigarettes a day. Or being an alcoholic. People who are lonely or socially isolated have a higher risk of impaired immune function, dementia and cardiac death.

On the flip side, healthy friendships can help us age better, cope with stress and live happier, longer lives. A Harvard study found that when a person is happy, their friends and family find happiness. People's happiness extends up to three degrees of separation according to the Harvard study.

One study, now in its 85th year, has shown that African Americans with strong connection to family, friends, and community are happier, physically healthier and live longer according to a Harvard study and the Washington Post. Relationships help us with social support, practical help, and valuable information.

Many African American Seniors cannot afford computers or broad band access so they cannot connect with others. Adult day care can be their answer.

In order to connect with other African American adults and senior citizens we should be proactive, optimistic, branch out, make a list of possible friends, expect awkwardness, put the time in, embrace vulnerability, practice how to socialize, find group settings like adult day care.

Let's get friendly and live longer with healthier lives.



Paul Hubbard

"Senior Moment" .

Paul L. Hubbard ,MSW , President Comfort Care Adult Day Care.

## IN MEMORIAM: Harry Belafonte, Entertainment Icon and Human Rights Activist , Dies at 96

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent  
@StacyBrownMedia

Renowned singer, actor, producer, and legendary civil rights trailblazer, Harry Belafonte has died at the age of 96.

His publicist confirmed that the beloved icon died of congestive heart failure at his home in New York.

In addition to his children Adrienne Belafonte Biesemeyer, Shari Belafonte, Gina Belafonte, David Belafonte and two stepchildren Sarah Frank and Lindsey Frank, Belafonte leaves behind eight grandchildren: Rachel Blue Biesemeyer, Brian Biesemeyer, Maria Belafonte McCray, Sarafina Belafonte, Amadeus Belafonte, Mateo Frank, Olive Scanga, and Zoe Frank.

Known globally for both for his artistic ingenuity and humanitarian ideals, Belafonte became an early, vocal supporter of the Civil Rights Movement, a confidant of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and financial backer of countless historic political and social causes and events, including the anti-Apartheid Movement, equal rights for women, juvenile justice, climate change and the decolonization of Africa.

He was one of the organizers of the 1963 March on Washington and led a delegation of Hollywood luminaries including his best friend Sidney Poitier, as well as Paul Newman, Sammy Davis, Jr, Marlon Brando, Rita Moreno, Tony Curtis, James Baldwin, Burt Lancaster, Joanne Woodward, Diahann Carroll, Bob Dylan, Mahalia Jackson, Peter, Paul and Mary and Joan Baez, Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis and Tony Curtis.

The following is from Belafonte's bio on the HistoryMakers:

Born to immigrant parents in Harlem on March 1, 1927, Harry Belafonte spent much of his youth in his mother's home country of Jamaica.

Though difficult, life in Jamaica was full of rich cultural experiences that influenced Belafonte's art.

At the beginning of World War II, Belafonte returned to Harlem with his mother and brother. He had trouble integrating into the new environment and later dropped out of high school to join the U.S. Navy.

After Belafonte was honorably discharged, he went back to New York, where he worked odd jobs until two free tickets to the American Negro Theatre (A.N.T.) changed his life.

Belafonte auditioned for the A.N.T. and earned his first leading role in *Junjo* and *The Paycock*.

In 1953, he made his film debut opposite Dorothy Dandridge in *Bright Road*. He won a Tony in 1954 for his performance in *Almanac*.

At the same time, Belafonte developed his singing talents, having parlayed a series of nightclub performances into a record contract.



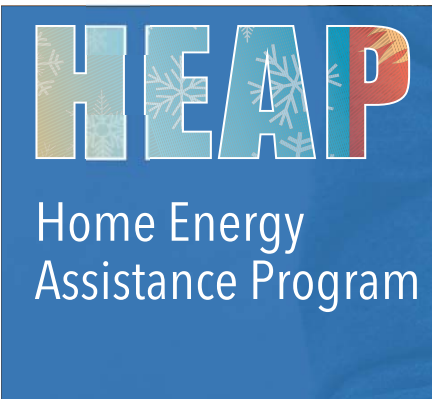
Belafonte in 1954

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...continued on page 13



## Stay Warm During The Cold Winter Months!

The Ohio Department of Development and the Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio (AOoA) want to remind senior citizens in Ohio that assistance is available to help with their home energy bills. The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps Ohioans at or below 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines pay their heating bills.

Applied directly to the customer's utility or bulk fuel bill, HEAP benefits can help manage heating costs. Older adults (60 years or older) may visit AOoA for help with assembling the required documents and completing their HEAP application. Older adults may also visit [www.energyhelp.ohio.gov](http://www.energyhelp.ohio.gov) or [areaofficeonaging.com](http://areaofficeonaging.com) to apply online or to download a copy of the application.

Applicants must have the following documents when applying:

- Most recent utility bills
- A list of all household members (including birth dates and Social Security numbers)
- Proof of income for the past 30 days for all household members (12 months for certain income types)
- Proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members
- Proof of disability (if applicable)

**HEAP benefits are applied to an individual's energy bill after January 1st. Applications for the HEAP program must be received by May 31, 2023.**

To be connected to your local Energy Assistance provider, call (800) 282-0880 (hearing impaired clients may dial 711 for assistance) or visit [www.energyhelp.ohio.gov](http://www.energyhelp.ohio.gov), call (800) 282-0880 (hearing impaired clients may dial 711 for assistance) or visit [www.energyhelp.ohio.gov](http://www.energyhelp.ohio.gov).



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# Next Steps: Walker Protestors Ready For Police Reforms\*

By Lynn Lee

Reporter News Team

(Akron, OH) -- The aftermath of a grand jury decision not to file criminal charges against eight police officers involved in the deadly shooting of Jayland Walker, let the air out of a balloon. So many are feeling emotionally deflated. Protestors are not without options: politics and civil rights education.

"The law allows officers to use deadly force to defend themselves or others against a deadly threat," Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost said in announcing the decision. "

The decision has left so many emotions running high, and the willingness to accept the outcome is just incompatible, they just won't mix. Those in the Black Community are hurt and angry about a decision that is viewed unjust.

The citizens of Akron have felt uneasy about the treatment from law enforcement, which seems to have the two sides clashing much too often.

Not too long ago, citizens took their voices to the ballot box voting to create a Citizen's Police Oversight Board to review local policing policies and procedures of the City of Akron Department of Public Safety.

Now with the "No Bill" decision from the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, there are those who beg to question where do we go from here?

"This question seems to come up after so many tragedies across the country and we haven't been able to answer it yet," said concerned citizen Renee Green.

"Personally, I don't think we should go anywhere from here -- I don't think we should move from this spot until the issue is resolved that is amenable to the public or citizens."

The former Akron City Ward 4 Councilwoman said, "If people want to continue to march to keep the attention in the public's eye, that's fine, but the legalese need to resolve this with the public behind them."

"We've gotten the attention from a Cleveland attorney because of a water bot-

tle thrown at a peace rally (last Wednesday night) and the police are so antagonized and ready to strike (spraying tear gas and throwing smoke bombs at non-violent young and old protestors) tells me that a lesson for them has not been learned because officers got away again."

Mistrust and alienation between Black men and the police have become so entrenched. When it comes to the relationship between police and citizens, particularly young Black men, the collective experience of Black men is sobering.

Numerous studies have shown that Black men are disproportionately targeted, stopped, frisked, and searched through the practice of racial profiling.



The Jayland Walker family, along with family attorney and Judi Hill, Akron NAACP president



Protesters march down Copley Road after grand jury decision not to charge the eight police officers

... continued on page 9



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Next Steps...continued from page 8

Black men end up in prison more often, receive longer sentences than white men, and are more likely to be killed during police encounters than white men – 21 times more likely.

"It's our job to prepare them for what may lay ahead, and we work hard with young Black men to basically show them that their actions when encountered by police may very well play a role in the outcome of their encounter," said Michael Irby- President of 100 Black Men of Greater Akron.

His answer, to where we go from here, is to be vocal – "speak up and speak out. "We show them that it's OK to protest and be vocal but do it in a way that is respectful and peaceful. We also make sure they know what they are protesting about, that you are not out there just to be vocal. Have in mind what changes you seek and why you are seeking them."

According to Irby, violence is unnecessary. "You can get your word across

without destroying or being violent."

On behalf of the Black Elected Officials of Summit County (BEOSC), member Veronica Sims recognizes the hurt of the Walker family at the decision of the grand jury not to charge the eight officers- that they feel killed their son.

"We know this is another incomparable, agonizing painful moment that you must endure, and we request that the city and police department recognize the hurt of the Walker family and community by not standing in the way of nonviolent protests which is an afforded right guaranteed by the First Amendment.

We ask the community to continue in nonviolent protests and we urge outside groups and those with malicious intentions to steer clear of our city, we don't need any more hurt or pain in our city.

"The BEOSC stands ready and willing to collaborate with the city, Police department and any other organization to bring resolve and forward progress to Akron in the days, weeks, and months ahead."

\*Reprinted from The Reporter - April 29, 2023 edition.\*

# Opera Outdoors Returns

Opera Outdoors returns this May with weekly performances at Wildwood Metropark and the Toledo Farmers' Market. The first performance will take place at the Manor House at Wildwood Metropark on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m..

Opera Outdoors is a series of pop-up live performances at outdoor commercial, recreational, and community hubs throughout Toledo. The upcoming spring series will feature the Opera's 2022-2023 cohort of resident artists, selected from an international pool of more than 150 applicants for a one-year residency in Toledo. Resident Artists Sara Mortensen (soprano), Julia Gries (mezzo-soprano), Brendan J. Boyle (tenor), Matthew Payne (baritone), and Steven Naylor (pianist) will perform iconic vocal selections from the classical repertoire, along with musical theatre and other American standards.

"This Opera Outdoors series is the sixth installation of the program since its inception in September 2020, in response to the pandemic," said Suzanne Rorick, executive director of the Toledo Opera. "Since then, it has become part of our core programming, and we are honored to work along side our fantastic community partners to share engaging and accessible live music from the vocal repertoire with everyone," Rorick added.

Opera Outdoors Schedule: Spring 2023


Wednesday, May 3	Wildwood Metropark	6:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 6	Toledo Farmers' Market	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, May 10	Wildwood Metropark	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 17	Wildwood Metropark	6:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 20 Toledo Farmers' Market 10:00 a.m.

The performances are presented in partnership with returning community organizations Metroparks Toledo and Toledo Farmers' Market. All events are free and open to the public. Events may be postponed or cancelled in the event of inclement weather. For more information, please contact Grace Wipfli, Education & Development Coordinator, gwipfli@toledoopera.org, or visit toledoopera.org. For media access, please contact Rachael Cammam at rcammam@toledoopera.org.

### CORRECTION


We erred last week in our article on Laborers Local 500 when we wrote that David Fleetwood, business manager negotiates provisions for union members such as seniority rights, job bidding and layoff protections. In fact he does not negotiate such matters for the union.




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# The Truth HEALTH



## A Mental Health Moment On Being Mother

By Bernadette Joy Graham, MA, LPCC, CCHt  
Licensed Mental Health Therapist  
The Truth Contributor

If you were born a female there is a high probability that you may one day become a mother by giving birth to a child. Some women born female may decide not to give birth to a child or they may have a medical condition that prevents them from conceiving, carrying or giving birth. Additionally, the women who can conceive, carry a child and give birth may decide not to keep the child by giving it up for adoption or being a surrogate for those who are unable or who do not want to carry the child themselves.



Society has placed so many roles on individuals throughout time such as little girls play with baby dolls and little boy play with fire trucks. Or the color pink denotes girls and the color blue denotes boys. Are little girls playing with baby dolls supposed to prepare them for one day becoming a mother? Are little boys playing with fire trucks prepared to choose a career field mostly dominated by men?

In 2023, many of us can look back in time and see the patterns but today we have men caring for children and women putting out fires. As long as the job at hand is done with much success does it really matter

who does what? Yes, there are some limitations, men cannot or will not ever be able to conceive, carry or give birth to a child regardless of the many surgeries being carried out all over the world.

Each of us have/had a mother and a father. It would be fantastic if we could all be raised in a two-parent home full of love and support that teaches each child how to carry out their future relationship as a two-parent home, with love and support but we all know that is not the case. Many children have no clue who their parents are even after looking at one's birth certificate, the mother's name will always be listed but the father will either be left blank or read unknown.

Once we are born unto this earth, our destinies really depend on a number of factors; factors that will often be spoke as "you have to deal with the hand you were dealt." A child just wants and needs love. Someone who says they are proud of them and teaches them right from wrong and displays positive behaviors such as the importance of education.

May is the month of the celebrated Mother's Day. While not everyone has a mother who is still living, or who raised them up to be decent and kind human beings, who fed them, clothed them and taught them strength and protected them until it was time to leave the nest. Many had someone if they were lucky that filled that role whether it was a man, an aunt, a foster care parent, an adopted parent, grandma, big mama, sister, brother, or just a caring person who brought them into their home that is mother to that child and did their best to ensure that child had a chance to be the best they could.

Take a mental health moment to think about the cards in your hand. Did you get a good spread or did you shake your head and say "oh this is gonna be rough" Regardless of who "mother" was to you say thank you if not more. It may not be the woman who conceived, carried and gave birth but an individual who carried out the role of a real mother. They sacrificed out of the love and kindness of their heart to make sure a child did not become a statistic, a child who grew into an adult who never felt the love, the protection and safety of someone they could count on regardless of the DNA or bloodline.

... continued on page 11



### LIVING WITH LUPUS

2023 EVENTS

**"You Can't Break Her Soul"**  
Donate A Wig & Join Us For A Night Of Fun!  
Friday, May 19th from 6 PM-1 AM  
The Trunk

**Wig Giveaway**  
Saturday, May 20th from 1-4 PM  
Mott Library (Pink Room)

**"9 is Fine" Bowling**  
Saturday, May 20th at 7 PM  
All Strikes Lanes

**Lupus Walk**  
Sunday, May 21st at 10 AM  
Ottawa Park (ProMedica Toledo Hospital Entrance)

The Weekend is Dedicated to the Loving Memory of Our Lupus Sister, **Schatzla Depp (10/16/88-3/28/23)**

For inquiries, please contact **Rachelle Roy at 419.304.1343**

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# Infused Water

By Patrice Powers-Barker, OSU Extension, Lucas County

The Truth Contributor

Not everyone loves drinking plain water, so infused water is a healthy alternative to beverages that are high in sugar. It is as simple as adding some clean, rinsed and sliced fruits, vegetables and herbs to your glass or pitcher of water. There is no right or wrong way to make infused water, but these tips might enhance the flavor:

- Depending on the added ingredients, either slice, chop or lightly mash fruits or vegetables, and either tear or julienne fresh herb leaves.
- Although the flavored water will be served in a single-sized glass, it could be made in either a drinking glass or a larger amount in a water pitcher.
- No special kitchen equipment is needed, although there are pitchers and water bottles designed to contain the produce so those ingredients are not floating in the water when it is time to drink it.
- Infused water could be served immediately after it is mixed, but it will not have the maximum amount of flavor. It's also nice chilled. It is recommended that the water is chilled in the refrigerator from thirty minutes to overnight for optimum flavor. Often, the longer it is chilled, the more flavor it will have.
- As in any food or beverage preparation, do not forget to wash hands with soap and water before handling the food, as well as wash all produce with clean running water. Use clean containers and sanitize preparation surfaces before starting.
- For food safety, treat the infused water as you would treat any other refrigerated food. The water can be enjoyed today, stored in the refrigerator until tomorrow or freeze it for longer storage. Do not take a batch of infused water from a previous day and add to it - go ahead and make a fresh pitcher!
- The produce used in infused water is often thrown away in the trash or down the disposal. Don't forget, the kitchen compost is always a great option for these waterlogged ingredients.

Please remember that to gain the most nutrition benefits from fruits and vegetables, it is recommended that you eat the produce. While infused water is a great way to stay hydrated, these will not count as your servings of fruits or vegetables for the day. The next time you are slicing fresh produce to eat, consider adding a handful to your water pitcher. Infused water can be low-cost by using ends and pieces of produce that are not going to be used for meal preparation. Because it's so easy to make, and there is not a right or wrong recipe to try or invent.

There is nothing wrong with purchasing lemons and limes at the grocery store, but as our garden season gets growing, we are fortunate to have many options of flavors growing in containers, backyards, community gardens, school gardens and farms this spring and summer.

### Ohio Fruits to flavor water:

- Berries – strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, mulberries, blueberries
- Melons – cantaloupe, honeydew, watermelon
- Apples, Pears, Peaches, Grapes

**Ohio vegetables:** While vegetables are not as common as fruits in infused water, it is not unusual to use cucumber. Some additional vegetables to add color and flavor include: celery, red or yellow peppers, spinach or zucchini.

### From the Herb Garden:

While this list is not exhaustive, the following herbs can maximize options for water flavor combinations: basil, rosemary, sage, lavender and lemon balm.

Mint is a common flavor to infuse water and there are many varieties of mint beyond the traditional peppermint and spearmint. Try pineapple mint or grapefruit mint for a tropical taste. One variety of mint, mojito mint is growing in a raised garden bed near the OSU Extension office at the Toledo Botanical Garden Metropark. See below for details on an upcoming garden walk.

### A Sample of Local Food Combinations for Infused Water:

- Strawberry Melon (choose any variety of melons)
- Pear Blackberry
- Pear Rosemary
- Watermelon Rosemary
- Peach Sage
- Strawberry Basil
- Match mint with any of the following: cucumber, cantaloupe, watermelon or blackberry

Please join us at upcoming, in-person classes, free and open to everyone, [www.lucas.osu.edu](http://www.lucas.osu.edu)

• **Friday, May 5th, 12 – 1pm, From Plant To Plate,** Garden Community Program held at the ProMedica Ebeid Institute, 1806 Madison Avenue, 2nd floor above Market on the Green.

• **Saturday, May 6, 2023 – Toledo Plant Exchange at Lucas County Fairgrounds,** 1406 Key Street, Maumee, Ohio. Bring your plants or gently used garden paraphernalia. Event opens at 8:30 am with exchanged scheduled to begin at 10:00 am. Check out the Facebook Page for more information - Facebook, Toledo Plant Exchange

• **Thursday, May 18th, 6 – 7:30pm, Family Walk** during Blue Week at Toledo Botanical Garden Metroparks with OSU Extension. All ages welcome.



### Mental Health Moment... continued from page 10

There are more children than there are “mothers” in the world in which we live. When my own mother died when I was 14, a woman whom I had never met before and never saw again said “honey find all the good people you can in your life, learn their ways, and take cover under their protection as much as you can but most importantly allow them to teach you strength because there are snakes everywhere and while they can only protect you for so long, that strength will show you a snake a mile away, and take out that snake before it gets to you.

To all the Mothers, regardless of how you look, your age, your gen-

der, your flaws, your finances or mistakes who has taken the time to strengthen a child...Happy Mother's Day to you! There is not a more difficult job on this earth than being a mother. May you be blessed, cherished and loved for all the days of your life. I am a very proud and great mother of two boys. I know the pains, the worry and the sacrifices made being in position of a mother. So, mother's get out your capes this month and wear them with pride because you are super heroes with the greatest powers on earth.

**Bernadette Graham is a Licensed Professional Clinical Mental Health Counselor, Accepting new clients ages 13 and older. Contact 419 409 4929.**



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*Perryman... continued from page 2*

ment also includes One Government Center and our building 1 Maritime Plaza where our offices are.

**Perryman:** Your strategy also includes economic investments in the community. Your engagement with the community is a core strength.

**Winston:** Yes. When we talk about economic development and all the things that the port authority does, a lot of it is through our financing programs, which are quite varied that reach small, medium and large size organizations both on the private side and on the public side.

We've offered to our small businesses programs consistent with the US SBA 504 Program and for businesses dealing in manufacturing and warehousing, the Ohio 166 Program.

But we also know that there are other businesses that don't fit in that category. So, we went out and successfully secured a \$2.4 million grant from the U.S. and put \$600,000 of port authority funds into it to create a \$3 million revolving loan fund. That revolving loan fund is intended to help those small businesses that require a little extra assistance to, in essence, get them over the hump to allow their entrepreneurial endeavors to come to fruition.

I'm happy to report that the first loan we did on the revolving loan fund, we did a groundbreaking for the Quality Time Childcare Daycare Center, and I was ecstatic. This was a 1500-square-foot facility at 2337 Dorr Street, and it was the first loan in this program. We did it in partnership with other financial institutions, including Signature Bank and our own Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union. There will be more of these that will be derived from our revolving loan fund.

**Perryman:** Are you working with nonprofits as well?

**Winston:** We are working with nonprofit organizations supporting groups and some of the initiatives that they are undertaking. We've worked with the Historic South Initiative, St. Paul's Community Center, Lutheran Social Service Foundation, the Mareda, and the Padua Center. We've helped support the Center of Hope, The First Tee of Lake Erie, and the Boys and Girls Club. I could go on and on.

We've supported Lucas Metropolitan Housing and financed their new headquarter building downtown. We worked with the Lucas County Homelessness Board or provided some grant funding for that organization. The Toledo School of the Arts has been our great partner in their expansion; we're providing fi-



ancial assistance for financing their expansion that's taking place downtown.

So, there are just several institutions that we've worked with.

**Perryman:** I'm impressed that you've given community economic engagement more high-profile attention than your predecessors. But I've also heard you're doing a marvelous job, traveling across this country trying to drum up business for our airports. What is the future of our two airports?

**Winston:** Let me say this. All of us in economic development express a desire to attract businesses here and particularly a big-plan operation. So, there is a lot of due diligence that's being performed. We've operated and managed them, but the City of Toledo owns the airports. So, it has all the right to explore the future of any airport they have. So, we'll see what that leads to.

As it relates to Toledo Express Airport, there are certainly a lot of discussions on that, and it has centered on commercial service. I would say to you, as it relates to commercial airline service, the industry has changed.

The industry has changed, and that change has been global and has been exacerbated by the last few years through our pandemic. However, when it comes to air service, it's continued to be a challenge for many reasons, including shortages of human capital, particularly pilots.

We're impacted by those events coupled with the fact that we have very close proximity to an international hub airport only 45 minutes away with several hundred daily flight options for those within an hour-and-a-half to two-hour drive to them. So many legacy airlines are concentrating much of their activities not at smaller alternative airports like ours. Instead, they are focused on much of their activity at the large international hubs.

You're right; we're going around the country meeting with them regularly, and this is just the new norm. It's nothing that we like, but the realities of the industry and change in dynamics are such that the phenomenon is pushing business to hub locations.

**Perryman:** What has been your strategy to play the hand you were dealt as a result of changes? It's obvious you are not just standing pat.

**Winston:** In the interim, we now have what we call leisure service through Allegiant. We're ecstatic about this service. They are delighted with the offering out of Toledo Express Airport. Last year, we were able to add a new route to Phoenix/Mesa, Arizona, due to the community supporting the offering provided by Allegiant Airlines.

We had a record year of passengers flying on Allegiant through Toledo Express last year. We had over 120,000 passengers travel through the airport last year, and this year, year to date through March, we're up from last year's numbers.

Based on discussions, particularly with Allegiant and some of the other carriers, I'm confident that we will begin to add additional service to destination locations as we continue to go through some of the challenges in the airline industry. The opportunities for us are what we call ultra-low-cost carriers like Allegiant.

**Perryman:** Please talk about alternative programs and services at the Airport.

**Winston:** Other than the air service, I always talk about when you look at Toledo Express Airport; you have to look at it in totality. We did a study last year, and the economic impact of Toledo Express contributes over \$580 million to the community's annual economic output and has an effect of over 2,900 jobs, which is a result of a number of things.

You have the national air guard, and you have Tronair, a business there that does manufacturing for the aviation industry and has over 400 jobs operating at that airport. You hear very little about this. In addition, we successfully secured an Amazon air gateway operation, one of only 35 in the country, and they have over 110 jobs in that operation at the airport.

We also have operators like Toledo Jet that do manufacturing on aircraft there. We have fixed space operators like Grand Air and National Flight Services that do great work. We also have Interjet West, one of the country's leading woman-owned operations dealing with aircraft operations. We have that at the airport. So, you have to look at that.

In addition, we're one of the leading aviation education airports in the region. We have TPS Aviation School operating out there, and specifically, we have the TPS Aerospace and Natural Science Academy of Toledo; they call it ANSAT Aviation Center. These kids are graduating with certifications to work on any aircraft worldwide. They're leaving as 18-19-year-olds with these certifications, earning \$60,000 upon graduation or more. In addition, we have the Federal Aerospace Institute (FAI), an adult program that provides certification for individuals to work on any aircraft.

So, what we're doing in Toledo Express through the TPS ANSAT School and FAI is filling the gap for an industry that needs individuals with certifications to work on these aircraft.

That's the adaptability that I mentioned. Just at that airport, so many other things are going on that make it viable and conducive to the economic output for our community.

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

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# House of Cotton by Monica Brashears

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

The role is yours, if you want it.

You can play the part on a stage or in a film, but there are a few requirements: you have to be able to sing and dance and speak with an accent. Can you convince an audience that you're someone you're not? As in the new book, *House of Cotton* by Monica Brashears, can you play dead?

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Mama Brown wouldn't have liked all the praying and singing, not at all. Nineteen-year-old Magnolia knew that for sure. Also for sure, Mama's funeral was the last time Magnolia would go to church. Wasn't anything there for her anymore.

No, she'd just go to her overnight job at People's Gas Station, and try to avoid her landlord, Sugar Foot, who offered to trade sex for rent. She'd try to keep homeless "Cigarette" Sammy from eating out of trash barrels. She'd swipe on Tinder and, using a pseudonym, she'd sleep with random men.

She'd try to forget that she was pregnant and alone.

And then one night, a well-dressed man came to the gas station and told Magnolia that she could be a model. Was it a come-on, a cliché that every almost-pretty girl hears? She couldn't afford to ignore his offer and so she walked across Knoxville, walked across town, to a funeral home where her new job was ready for her.

Cotton was the man's name; he said he was a seer and he'd inherited the business from his uncle. Under his ownership, the funeral home was offering a new feature: for a fee, mourners who didn't have closure over a loss could talk to Magnolia, who was made to look like their dearly departed, thanks to professional make-up and lighting. For an hour of her time, Magnolia would earn more money than she would in a month at the gas station.

It was an easy job. Cotton didn't charge her rent for living in the home. For once in her life, Magnolia had money. She also had ghosts from the past, nudg-

ing her for her sins...

Sitting somewhere between fairy tales and a suspense novel, hovering around both an erotic tale and a humor story, it's pretty safe to say that *House of Cotton* is unlike any other novel you've ever read. It's weird, and it's heartbreakingly beautiful.

Author Monica Brashears' main character, Magnolia, is someone you want to reach into the pages and hug – if you weren't sure she'd push you away for it. She's just learning how to be an adult, and not liking it; she's smart, but innocent yet and that's a bad combination in this great story. Once she finds a job with Cotton and his Aunt Eden, then, the book takes a dark, ominous turn, like a modern-day old-fashioned Gothic novel.

Readers shouldn't be one bit surprised if they become nervous by then. It's for good reason.

*House of Cotton* will surprise you. It's not what you think it might be, and more; it's a vacation read here for the packing, if you want it.

## Harry Belafonte... continued from page 6

His third album, *Calypso*, topped the charts for thirty-one consecutive weeks and was the first record to sell more than 1 million copies.

Belafonte also secured a television outlet with his hour-long special, *Tonight with Belafonte*, which won him an Emmy.

He became the first African American TV producer and his company, Har-Bel, went on to produce one Emmy nominee after another.

In the early 1950s, Belafonte developed a strong relationship with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Belafonte worked tirelessly to mobilize artists in support of the civil rights movement.

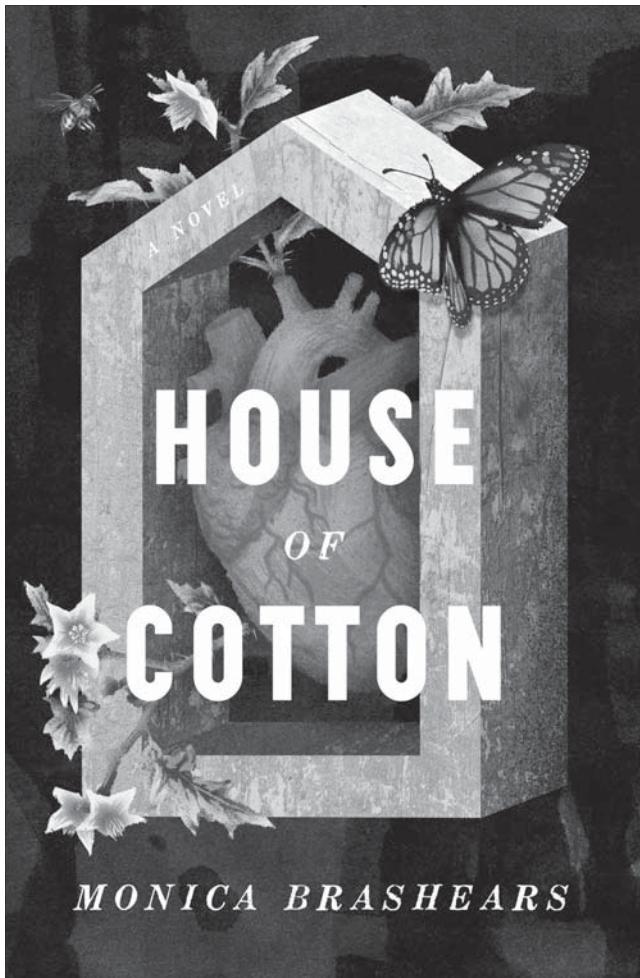
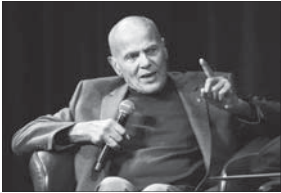
In 1985, he again rallied the global artistic community to raise awareness of the famines, wars and droughts plaguing many African nations.

USA for Africa raised more than \$60 million for this cause with "We Are the World" and Hands Across America.

A longtime anti-apartheid activist, Belafonte hosted former South African President Nelson Mandela on his triumphant visit to the United States.

Belafonte maintained his commitment to service as a UNICEF goodwill ambassador.

"The lifelong commitment, courage, global leadership, and legacy of The Honorable Harry Belafonte will always be cherished and remembered by billions of people throughout the world," said NNPA President and CEO, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. "Belafonte was a gifted, talented and transformative freedom fighter for all of humanity. The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) salutes the memory of Harry Belafonte and recommits to the struggle for freedom, justice and equality that Belafonte so boldly epitomized and embodied."



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# CLASSIFIEDS

May 3, 2023

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## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS GEOTECHNICAL CONSTRUCTION TESTING & REPORTING SERVICES RFP23-R004

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for **Geotechnical Construction Testing & Reporting Services in accordance with RFP#23-R004**. Received in accordance with law until **May 2, 2023 at 3:00 PM ET**. For documents: [www.lucasmha.org](http://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.



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH), located in Toledo, Ohio is seeking experienced applicants for the following position(s): **Vice President of Development & Modernization**. For complete details, visit <https://www.lucasmha.org> and click on Careers. **Deadline: 05/20/23**. This is a Section 3 covered position. HUD recipients are encouraged to apply and are to indicate on the application if you are a LMHA Public Housing client or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. **NO PHONE CALLS**. Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, religious creed, gender, military status, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin.



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS COMPENSATION CONSULTING SERVICES RFP23-R005

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for **Compensation Consulting Services in accordance with RFP23-R005**. Received in accordance with law until April 27, 2023 at 3:00 PM ET. For documents: [www.lucasmha.org](http://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.



## TOLEDO LEGAL AID SOCIETY

**Multiple Assistant Public Defender and TLAS Fellowship positions:** Successful candidates must be licensed with the Ohio Supreme Court. Graduates from an accredited college of law that are awaiting Ohio bar results; have a UBE score that transfers to Ohio; or are eligible for Practice Pending Admission will be considered. Please see <https://www.nlada.org/node/63311> for more detailed descriptions.

**Case Manager/Social Worker:** Opportunity Project Case Managers identify client needs and provide meaningful connections to behavioral health and other services. LCDC II, LSW, LISW, LPCC, preferred but not required. Please see <https://www.nlada.org/node/63321> for more detailed descriptions.



## NOTICE OF JOB VACANCY

**Title:** Public Information Officer  
**Classification:** Full-time, Exempt, Salary \$45,000-\$55,000  
**Supervision:** Reports to the VP of Planning & Program Development  
**Responsibilities:** The purpose of this position is to promote and build awareness of the Agency's programs, services, and to increase outreach. The position will lead communications, outreach, preparing and overseeing the production of all Agency publications, including newsletters, brochures, annual reports, flyers, advertisements, etc. to ensure they are consistently adhering to the AOoA's Brand Guidelines.  
**Job Description:** Coordinate the Agency's digital presence with the updating and developing of the Agency's Website, social media, e-newsletters, and digital advertising. Develop creative, engaging, and effective advertising. Prepare and distribute news releases to increase earned media coverage. Build relationships internally and with external media partners to build awareness of the Agency, its programs, and events. Serve as an outreach liaison to the Northwest Ohio Area Office on Aging Foundation (the Foundation) Coordinating with Leadership to identify the departments, programs, services, events, and publications that need help with outreach throughout the year.  
**Qualifications:** Master's degree preferred, **must have at least a bachelor's** with one or more years of public relations, special event planning, marketing, advertising, graphic design, media, social media, or related experience. Ability to multitask Experience using website content management systems and Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, InDesign, Premiere, Illustrator)... Excellent communication skills, both oral and written. Note: A driver's license and criminal background check are required for this job.

**Deadline for application:** Until Position Filled

Submit resumes to:  
Samuel H. Hancock Ed.D. SHRM-CP  
Vice-President of Human Resources  
Area Office on Aging of NW Ohio, Inc.  
2155 Arlington Avenue  
Toledo, Ohio 43609

Or  
[jobs@areaofficeonaging.com](mailto:jobs@areaofficeonaging.com)

*This description is intended to indicate the kind of tasks and level of work difficulty required of the position. The title of this job shall not be construed as declaring the specific duties and responsibilities of the position. This position description and/or job vacancy notice is not intended to limit or in any way modify the rights of any supervisor to assign, direct, and control the work of employees under supervision. The use of this expression or illustration describing duties shall not be held to exclude other duties not mentioned.*

## 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](http://abundantlifeperrysburg.org).



Call to place your ad:

419-243-0007

[www.TheTruthToledo.com](http://www.TheTruthToledo.com)

# Taylor Automotive Hosts Unruly Arts Studio and Guests

By Angie Hayes  
The Truth Reporter

The Taylor Automotive Group hosted the third annual Taylor Community Connection with Unruly Arts on Thursday, April 27 at the Group's Perrysburg Hyundai location and visitors were treated to dozens of pieces of art by the Unruly Arts members – all of which were available for sale.

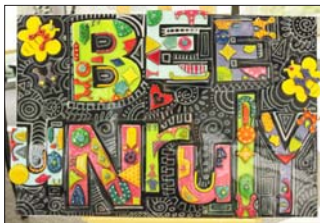
Taylor Automotive Group organized and set up a welcoming experience for the annual event: food, drinks, music and opportunities for communication and entertainment was provided to the attendees.

Lori Schoen and Joan Browne Kose run Unruly Arts, a “nurturing, inclusive and joyful environment that supports the artistic vision and needs

... continued on page 5



Taylor's Terry Crosby, Tom Cole and Nick Marconi - back row - with Unruly Arts Lori Schoen and Joan Browne Kose



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## Want to become a nurse? There's never been a better time.

The University of Toledo, Owens Community College and ProMedica have come together to diversify the nursing profession through QUEST for Success.

### QUEST for Success provides:

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- Financial support may be available from ProMedica's Ebeid Diversity in Nursing Scholarship and/or other tuition assistance programs
- Career opportunities through ProMedica

Scan the QR code with your smart device or visit [utoledo.edu/nursing/partnerships/quest.html](http://utoledo.edu/nursing/partnerships/quest.html) to learn more!



A NURSING EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

# Suzette Cowell Earns a Doctorate of Public Service Degree

The Truth Staff

The University of Toledo held its annual Multicultural Graduation on Thursday April 27 and among the 230 students from around the various undergraduate and graduate colleges on campus who donned their caps and gowns for the ceremonies was Suzette Cowell, CEO and treasurer of the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union. Cowell received an honorary doctorate of Public Service.

"It means the world to me," said Cowell. "It's such an honor for the university to award an Honorary Doctorate of Public Service for serving my community and others. I hope to be a role model for not only multicultural students but for all students."

Cowell earned her doctorate because of her longtime service at the helm of the credit union, the variety of her overall community service and her educational achievements. She has also recently been appointed as an advisor to



Dr. Suzette Cowell

the Federal Reserve Board of Governors, Cleveland Regional Bank.

As busy as Cowell is, she has found the time to return to college and take classes all while guiding the credit union, which she founded 26 years ago, to its current significant place in the community – over 5,000 members and a critical part in the revitalization of Dorr Street.

The multicultural graduation is a way for UToledo to bring together students of various cultural identities and give them a sense of belonging at such a critical time in their lives.



The new doctor and family



Photos courtesy Albert Earl



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