

20 years  
2002-2022

# The Sojourner's Truth

www.thetruthtoledo.com

Volume 78 No. 8

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

June 14, 2023

## In This Issue...

Juneteenth Coming Events  
Page 3

Perryman  
Page 4

Tolliver  
Page 5

What Is Juneteenth  
Page 7

Juneteenth Facts  
Page 8

Omegas and MLK Academy  
Page 10

Metroparks New Riverwalk  
Page 12

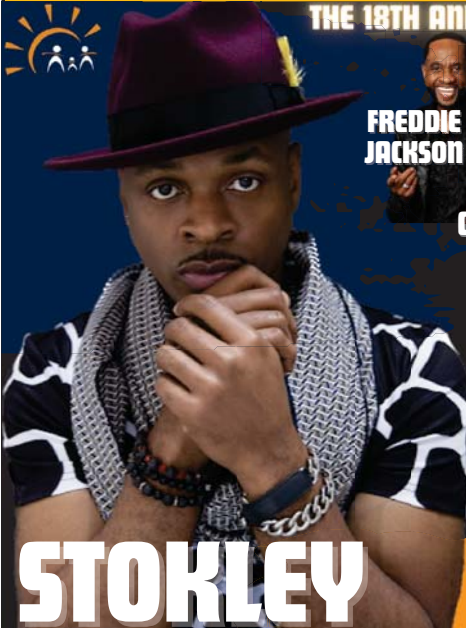
A Concrete House  
Page 13

Classifieds  
Page 14

Books  
Pages 16-17



THE 18TH ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL PRESENTS



FREDDIE JACKSON



GINUWINE

THE ZAPP BAND

PROMENADE PARK  
TOLEDO, OHIO

SOUNDS BY DJ LYTE II ROD PERFORMANCES BY DJARRIS COLEMAN HELLY WILLIAMS COMEDY PERFORMANCES BY



FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2023  
8 AM ET THE AFRICAN AMERICAN PRAYER BREAKFAST WILL BE AT THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART CLASS PAVILION, 2445 MONROE ST.

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2023  
THE AFRICAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL PARADE WILL BE AT 10 AM TO 12 PM ET ON THE CORNER OF DORR ST. & DETROIT AVE.

THE COMMUNITY DAY WILL BE AT NELSON GRACE PARK, 1001 N DETROIT AVE. FROM 12 PM TO 3 PM ET

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN PARADE AND COMMUNITY DAY ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC TO ATTEND

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL AND CONCERT WILL BE AT PROMENADE PARK, 400 WATER ST., THE GATES WILL OPEN AT 3 PM ET

TICKETS ARE \$45/PERSON GENERAL ADMISSION PRIOR TO THE FESTIVAL INCREASING TO \$50/PERSON THE DAY OF THE FESTIVAL

V.I.P. TICKETS ARE \$65/PERSON PRIOR TO THE FESTIVAL INCREASING TO \$70/PERSON THE DAY OF THE FESTIVAL

JULY 14 AND 15, 2023

SPONSORED BY TOLEDO URBAN FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

LIVING BETTER & LONGER LIVING BETTER & LONGER

# Celebrate JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE



Mrs. Billie Johnson  
President/CEO  
Area Office On Aging  
of Northwest Ohio



## Providing a PASSPORT to Independence

Celebrate Juneteenth and Independence while supporting Older adults' independence with the Area Office on Aging. The AOoA PASSPORT program empowers Older adults aged 60+, to regain and maintain their independence with personalized-care coordination, in-home assistance, home-delivered meals, and more. This Juneteenth, let's celebrate with resilience our community while uplifting Older adults and ensuring they can live life on their own terms. Contact us to learn how PASSPORT can enhance the lives of individuals 60+, allowing them to live independently and with dignity.

AREA OFFICE ON AGING OF NORTHWESTERN OHIO

# LIVING BETTER & LONGER

To find out how the AOoA can help, call  
**(419) 382-0624**

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

Search for ToledoAging on



# City of Toledo and Community Partners Celebrate Juneteenth with Exciting Events Leading up to June 19

The City of Toledo along with the Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Lucas County, Human Relations Commission, The Junction Coalition, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity-Xi Tau Chapter, and NAACP are thrilled to announce a series of vibrant and inclusive Juneteenth celebrations leading up to the commemoration on June 19th. This historic occasion marks the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States, and Toledo is proud to honor this significant milestone in our nation's history.

Highlighting the festivities will be a lively parade and a captivating dance ceremony held at One Government Center on June 17th.

These events promise to bring the community together in a joyous celebration of freedom, heritage, and unity.

The list of events includes:

\* Juneteenth Open Mic

Wednesday, June 7 from 5 - 6 p.m.

Washington Library, 5560 Harvest Ln.

\* Juneteenth Fusion Jubilee

Tuesday, June 13 from 6 - 7 p.m.

Lagrange Library, 3422 Lagrange St.

\* Kid Zone

Thursday, June 15 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Robinson Elementary/Park, 1075 Horace St.

\* Careers Workshops

Thursday, June 15 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Robinson Elementary/Park, 1075 Horace St.

\* Juneteenth Rocks!

Thursday, June 15 from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Washington Library, 5560 Harvest Ln.

\* Job Fair

Friday, June 16 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Robinson Elementary/Park, 1075 Horace St

Community Unity Celebration

Friday, June 16 from 3 - 6 p.m.

Gunckel Park, 751 Division St.

\* 3rd Annual Juneteenth Parade and Ceremony

Saturday, June 17, Parade begins at 10 a.m.

along Summit and Jackson St.

Special performances at 12:30 p.m.

Government Center (front), 640 Jackson St.

\* Juneteenth - Celebrating Freedom

Saturday, June 17 from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Frederick Douglass Center, 1001 Indiana Ave.

\* Community and Wellness Fair

Saturday, June 17 from 12 - 2:30 p.m.

Martin Luther King Academy, 1300 Forest Ave.

\* Juneteenth Celebration Job Fair

Saturday, June 17 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Main Library, 325 N Michigan St.

\* Level Up Your Career Workshop

... continued on page 15



We're proud to celebrate freedom, diversity, and all of the things that bring us together as we serve the mobility needs of the community we're so happy to call home.





# Fresh Winds of Change

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

The Truth Contributor



*Social change is contentious and emotional; successful movements arise when leaders are able to put aside their differences and mobilize around common goals.*  
– Leslie Crutchfield

Researcher Leslie Crutchfield's assertion that social change is "messy business" hits the nail directly on the head for all engaged in this work. For starters, change requires the highly challenging task of bringing people together from different backgrounds and experiences to change their living conditions. Forging relationships among people who may otherwise have nothing in common

to achieve a common goal together also requires those involved to reckon with "adversarial allies," a nearly impossible task.

Yet, we are beginning to see and feel the fresh winds of excitement flowing from the political activism taking root in Toledo that we have not experienced since Barack Obama's 2008 presidential campaign.

Gone are any past divisiveness, hostility, and acrimony among progressives. In its place is not a Black or labor-only movement but the beginnings of a broad multiclass, multiracial, multi-issue coalition. Labor, represented by the AFL-CIO, including the Toledo Federation of Teachers, Communication Workers of America, UAW, and the Building Trades, united with community organizations such as the NAACP, the Ability Center, Jobs with Justice, and the Unity Coalition. The Lucas County Commissioners, The Toledo-Lucas County Library, and the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department also partner in the renewed movement to "hear from people of color and learn more about each others' issues."

One of the coalition's main goals is to ensure that as many voters as possible have the valid photo IDs required by the new Ohio voting law and are not turned away when trying to vote.

Ohioans must now have a driver's license, state ID, military ID, or passport to vote. Past forms such as utility bills, government checks, or other documents are no longer acceptable.

Although photo IDs are free at Bureau of Motor Vehicle locations, they re-

... continued on page 18

## Community Calendar

**June 13**

Toledo Branch NAACP General membership meeting; 7:00 pm @ Jerusalem Baptist Church

**June 17**

Real Food Give Away: Bethesda Christian Center (in the Pavilion Plaza); 11 am to 1 pm; Food, fellowship and love

**June 24**

Garage Sale: Friendship New Vision and Valley Bridge Apartments, 5301 Nebraska; 10 am to 4 pm: 419-534-5437

**June 25**

Toledo Branch NAACP Youth Council meeting; 3:00 pm @ Sanger Branch Library

**We Celebrate...**

**Juneteenth Freedom Day!!!**  
**June 19, 1865**

Lucas County Commissioners, Departments and Staff



**THE ARTS COMMISSION**  
INSPIRING A VIBRANT TOLEDO

## ACCELERATOR GRANT

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Financial support with a quick turnaround for local visual, performing, and literary artists to advance their creative projects and their careers.

### UPCOMING GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES

Cycle 2 | APPLY BY JUNE 26

Cycle 3 | APPLY BY JULY 24

Cycle 4 | APPLY BY AUGUST 28

Cycle 5 | APPLY BY SEPTEMBER 26

Applicants are encouraged to apply to all cycles until they receive a grant award.

Learn more and apply online at [www.theartscommission.org](http://www.theartscommission.org)

Photos provided by 2022 Accelerator Grant recipients, from left to right: Mariah Maddox, Aliyah Hicks, Matthew Johns, and She Speaks (Robin Jones)



# Get Ready ... Here Comes Goliath!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

Now that Herr Trump has finally been indicted by special prosecutor Jack Smith, the first round of the Hounds of Hell has been released!

It is as if someone threw a pail of ice-cold water on an unsuspecting sleeping alley cat and the now-drenched cat is ready to rumble!

Jack Smith threw the water on the cat and the cat is spewing nonstop Truth Social media tweets faster than the flying fingers of Art Tatum on a piano!

To say what is obvious, "It's On!"

The Carrie Lakes who, with blissful ignorance occupy the Trump info bubble, are even threatening violence by 75 million Americans who, with their guns, are ready to take to the streets to avenge the honor of their Darth Vader, Donald Trump.

The far-right GOP MAGA base is frothing with white hot rage, feigned or otherwise, that the DOJ will put on trial, their god-man, Donald Trump.

It matters not to them that the 49-page indictment is a fact-laden document dripping with texts, admissions, documents and recorded statements that starkly show that Herr Trump did conceal and attempt to hide highly sensitive classified documents.

For the morally compromised GOP, facts and truth are transactional and are of no import if those facts work against their agenda of power at all costs.

Depending upon what news station you checked into, you would think that what Trump is accused of doing was akin to writing chalk on the sidewalk and not cleaning it up after you have played three games of hopscotch.

The current crisis in America is that truth is deemed negotiable and foundational lines or boundary lines can be moved at will to suit the whims of the person in power...and his rabid base.

In the Bible, when Jesus was in discourse with Pilate, the conversation got to the point that a frustrated emperor blurted out, "What is Truth" when the personification of Truth was standing in his presence.

For the feckless followers of Trump and the sorely compromised GOP, truth is only a currency of value and allegiance when that truth supports your concocted "truisms."

Always be conscious of the blatant fact that Donald Trump did not cause this erosion of basic foundational truths in America, he simply, by his vile conduct, gave permission to millions of agitated and bitter people that it is permissible to vent their demons against those they believe are causing them such angst.

By his words and lifestyle and constant litany of lies and deceits and half-truths, Trump simply open the fabled Pandora's Box and said in so many words to the venial captives in the Box, "It is now safe to come out and play!"

Restraint, decency, modesty, courtesy, compromise and largesse, one to another, all have been ridiculed and debased and now the conduct of aggression, confrontation, abuse, lies and ill-will are the working standards of the political day.

When you speak of an avatar or representative symbol of all that has gone haywire in the past seven years, the image that should appear is that of a ranting Herr Trump seeking revenge against all enemies, real and imagined.

Politicos and people of good will who have access to the national stage and can commandeer a microphone that can reach millions, have for the

most part, failed in communicating that the deviances brought on by Herr Trump should not be the sought for norm but rather, they need to be repeatedly and soundly rebuked.

If America was looking towards its "religious" leaders for sustenance at this critical time of moralizing about what is right and what is wrong, those leaders have miserably failed because too many of them are morally compromised by being sycophants to Herr Trump.

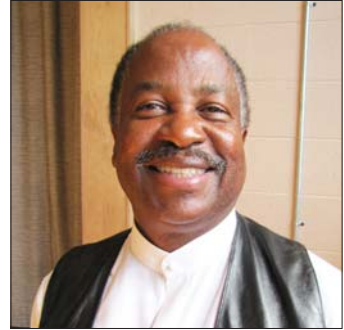
There are simply not enough Davids slinging righteous stones at this man made political Goliath. A Goliath who has a seemingly insatiable appetite to corrode and corrupt the national body politic.

Jack Smith, the special prosecutor, appointed by the attorney general has "slung" his 37 stones (number of federal indictments) at Goliath and now, the whole country is in watch mode to see if the stones hit their intended mark.

I perceive that the dangerous crossroads America is at, is not rallying the collective internal fortitude to resist the present evil of allowing lies to defeat truth or to simply wilt under the pressure to conform to a society that will resemble more and more the famous George Orwell novel, 1984.

My advice? Don't let Goliath intimidate you!

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



Lafe Tolliver

## Don't let asthma slow you down.

The Black community has higher rates and more serious complications from asthma. That includes being almost four times more likely than white people to be hospitalized because of asthma.

### THE GOOD NEWS?

If you have asthma, you can take steps to control symptoms and lead a full and active life.



Talk to a healthcare provider about making an asthma action plan.

nhlbi.nih.gov/breathebetter



National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

LEARN MORE BREATHE BETTER

**Join Us!**  
**Worship EXPERIENCE**  
 Every Sundays at 5:30 p.m.  
 Let's FELLOWSHIP together - Acts 2:42




**Dr. John W. Williams, Pastor**

Eastern Star Missionary Baptist Church  
 2102 Mulberry Street, Toledo, Ohio 43608  
 (419) 726-1180, FAX: (419) 726-6240  
 E-mail: EasternStarMBC@aol.com  
 Website: www.drjwilliams.org



# More Than One National Holiday Was Founded by Former Slaves

*The Truth Staff*

Juneteenth, now a national holiday, was first celebrated by formerly enslaved people in Texas when they were informed by Union soldiers on June 19, 1865, that they were now free. This was two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. That June 1865 celebration became a national holiday when President Joe Biden officially signed the paper work in 2021, however, Juneteenth is not the first national holiday that formerly enslaved people founded.

Several weeks earlier, on the morning of May 1, 1865, in the city of Charleston, South Carolina which had been a hub of Confederate activity, an estimated 10 thousand people, most of them former enslaved African Americans began a special ceremony led by Black schoolchildren – an estimated three thousand of them, who marched around the Charleston Race Course, each carrying roses and singing “John Brown’s Body.” Three hundred Black women followed the children, members of the Patriotic Association, a group organized to distribute clothing and food to the newly freed.

Next came the African American men, the Mutual Aid Society, marching in cadence around the track and into the cemetery where hundreds of Union soldiers, many of whom had died in a Confederate prison, lay buried.

(The race track in question was the Washington Race Course and Jockey Club in Charleston, South Carolina. In the late stages of the Civil War, the Confederate army transformed the formerly posh country club into a makeshift prison for Union captives. More than 260 Union soldiers died from disease and exposure while being held in the race track’s open-air infield. Their bodies were hastily buried in a mass grave behind the grandstands.)

The Black children, women and men, carrying wreaths and singing, were followed by thousands of other White and Black citizens, singing songs such as the “Star Spangled Banner” and “We’ll Rally Round the Flag.”

A dedication ceremony followed conducted by ministers of the Black churches in Charleston and, after that dedication, the crowds gathered at the Charleston Race Course to hear dozens of speeches by Union soldiers, Black ministers and abolitionists. Picnics followed, along with a brigade of Union soldiers and Memorial Days had been founded by now-free Black citizens.

“The war was over, and Memorial Day had been founded by African Americans in a ritual of remembrance and consecration. But the struggle to own Memorial Day in particular, and the Civil War in general, had only just begun.” (Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory. David W. Blight)

Memorial Day officially gained traction in 1868 and 1869 when General John A. Logan, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic called on Union Army veterans to hold ceremonies and decorate the graves of their fallen comrades. Over time over entities and government bodies adopted the rituals – the New York legislature in 1873 designated May 30 as a holiday and by 1890 every other Northern state had followed suit.



# JUNE TEENTH

JUNE 18, 2023

TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART



# What Is Juneteenth? How Did It Start? What Is Its Legacy?

Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery. Dating back to 1865, it was on June 19 that the Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free.

Note that this was two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation – which had become official January 1, 1863 – by which Lincoln proclaimed freedom for all of the enslaved in the Confederate states.

The Emancipation Proclamation had little impact on the Texans due to the minimal number of Union troops that were needed to enforce the new executive order. However, with the surrender of General Robert E. Lee in April 1865 and the arrival of General Gordon Granger's regiment of Union soldiers, the forces were finally strong enough to influence and overcome the resistance.

Later attempts to explain the two-and-a-half year delay in the receipt of this important news have yielded several versions that have been handed down over the years.

Often told is the story of a messenger who was murdered on his way to Texas with news of freedom.

Another is that the news was deliberately withheld by the enslavers to maintain the labor force on the plantations. And still another is that federal troops actually waited for the slave owners to reap the benefits of one last cotton harvest before going to Texas to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation.

All or none of these stories could be factual. For whatever reasons, conditions in Texas remained status quo well beyond what was statutory.

One of General Granger's first orders of business was to read to the people of Texas, General Order Number 3, which began significantly with:

"The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer."

The reactions to this profound news ranged from pure shock to immediate jubilation. While many lingered to learn of this new employer to employee relationship, many left before these offers were completely off the lips of their former "masters" – attesting to the varying conditions on the plantations and the realization of freedom.

Even with nowhere to go, many fled the plantation would be their first grasp of freedom. North was the logical destination and for many it represented true freedom, while the desire to reach family members in neighboring states drove some into Louisiana, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

Settling into these new areas as free men and women brought on new realities and the challenges of establishing a heretofore non-existent status for black people in America. Recounting the memories of that great day in June of 1865 and its festivities would serve as motivation as well as release from the growing pressures encountered in their new territory.

The celebration of June 19 was dubbed "Juneteenth" and grew with more participation from descendants. The Juneteenth celebration was a time for reassuring each other, for praying and for gathering remaining family members.

Juneteenth continued to be a highly revered in Texas decades later, with many former slaves and descendants making an annual pilgrimage back to Galveston on this date.

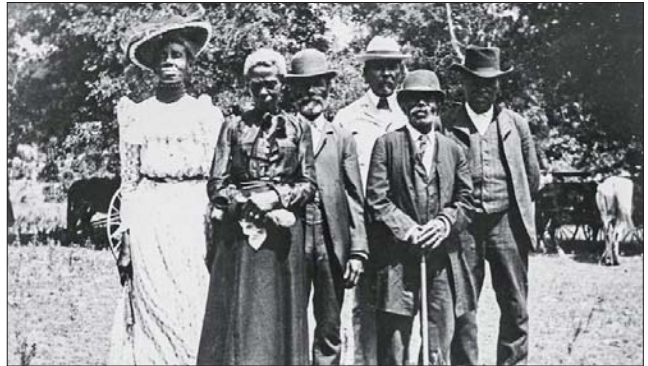
### Juneteenth Celebration Decline

Economic and cultural forces provided for a decline in Juneteenth activities and participants beginning in the early 1900's. Classroom and textbook education in lieu of traditional family and home-taught practices stifled the interest of youth due to less emphasis and detail on the activities of former slaves.

Classroom textbooks proclaimed Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863 as the date signaling the end of slavery – and little or nothing on the impact of General Granger's arrival in Texas on June 19, 1865.



Pres. Biden signs legislation for Juneteenth to become a national holiday



The Great Depression forced many people off the farms and into cities to find work. In these urban environments, employers were less eager to grant leaves to celebrate this date. Thus, unless June 19 fell on a

... continued on page 18

**UNTIL  
JUSTICE  
JUST IS**

www.ywcamo.org 419-241-3235

*Celebrating*  
**Juneteenth**

**A Day of Freedom & Empowerment**

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**  
northwest ohio

**Bernadette Joy Graham, LPCC, LLC**  
Licensed Professional  
Clinical Counselor  
**419.409.4929**  
Mental Health...Get Your Mind Right  
[www.bjgrahamcounseling.com](http://www.bjgrahamcounseling.com)  
2525 W. Bancroft  
Toledo, OH 43606  
[graham.bernadette@gmail.com](mailto:graham.bernadette@gmail.com)

**DIXIE** Auto  
Leasing  
Toledo, OH

5880 N. Detroit  
**Month to Month Leasing**  
419-476-8674

**WE ARE A FULL  
SERVICE  
BUSINESS**

**Welcome Home to Beautiful Sylvan Lakes Apartments!**

Our elegant apartments feature spacious bedrooms with ample storage, high ceilings and breathtaking views! Stop in today to see our beautifully landscaped grounds, resort-like swimming pool and clubhouse with its fully-equipped fitness center. Located just west of King road off of Sylvania Ave.

4045 A Langston Place, Sylvania, Ohio 43560  
P: 419-842-8480 E: [investekmanagement.com](mailto:investekmanagement.com)

**Sylvan Lakes**  
Apartments

# Ten Juneteenth Facts

**Fact #1:** Following the issuing of the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, not all enslaved people immediately found freedom.

The Emancipation Proclamation freed slaves in states then in rebellion against the United States. Union troops operating in said states gave teeth to the Proclamation. This, however, did not apply to the border states.

**Fact #2:** The Civil War ended in the summer of 1865. Union General Gordon Granger and his troops traveled to Galveston, Texas to announce General Orders No. 3 on June 19, 1865. June 19th would go on to be known and celebrated as Juneteenth.

General Orders No. 3 stated: "The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor."

**Fact #3:** Part of General Order No. 3 encouraged the newly freed people to remain with their past owners.

"The freedmen are advised to remain quietly at their present homes and work for wages. They are informed that they will not be allowed to collect at military posts and that they will not be supported in idleness either there or elsewhere."

**Fact #4:** The period after Juneteenth is known as the 'Scatter.'

Undeterred by the recommendation to remain in place, many former slaves left the area during the original reading. In the following weeks formerly enslaved people left Texas in great numbers to find family members and make their way in the postbellum United States.

**Fact #5:** Juneteenth has been celebrated under many names.

Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, and Cel-Liberation Day, Second Independence Day, and Emancipation Day to name just a few.

**Fact #6:** Emancipation Park in Houston, Texas was bought specifically to celebrate Juneteenth.

The 10-acre parcel of land was purchased by former slaves, Richard Allen, Richard Brock, Jack Yates, and Elias Dibble for \$800 in 1872.



Jack Yates



Richard Allen

**Fact #7:** During the early 20th-century Juneteenth celebrations declined.

The enactment of Jim Crow laws dampened the celebration of freedom. In addition, the Great Depression forced many black farming families away from rural areas and into urban environments to seek work—resulting in difficulty taking the day off to celebrate.

**Fact #8:** The celebration of Juneteenth was revived during the civil rights movement.

The Poor People's March planned by Martin Luther King Jr. was purposely scheduled to coincide with the date. March participants took the celebrations back to their home states and soon the holiday was reborn.

**Fact #9:** Celebrations of Juneteenth continue today.


Traditions include public readings of the Emancipation Proclamation, singing traditional songs, and reading of works by noted African American writers. Celebrations can also take the form of rodeos, street fairs, cookouts, family reunions, park parties, historical reenactments, and Miss Juneteenth contests.

**Fact #10:** Forty-seven states and the District of Columbia recognize Juneteenth as either a state holiday or ceremonial holiday, a day of observance.

New Hampshire became the latest state to formally recognize Juneteenth in 2019.

*proud supporter of*


# THE SOJOURNER'S TRUTH JUNETEENTH SPECIAL EDITION



**TOLEDO | LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY**

▶ MORE THAN A Port

toledoport.org



**ATTENTION: PARENTS of newborns and expecting PARENTS are welcome**



**UMADAOP**  
Lucas County

**GIVEAWAYS**  
DIAPERS • BABY ITEMS • CAR SEATS • STROLLERS • & MORE  
(LIMITED QUANTITIES)

**UMADAOP LUCAS COUNTY PARENT RESOURCE FAIR**

You and your family are invited to join us for a day filled with giveaways & resources

Indiana Avenue Baptist Church  
(Stephenson-Roberts Fellowship Hall)  
640 Indiana Ave. ~ Toledo OH

**June 29th, 2023**  
**11:00AM - 3:00PM**

For more information contact Dr. Marjorie Holt at 419.320.8571 (cell) or 419.255.444 (office)







**THE TAYLOR  
AUTOMOTIVE FAMILY  
IS PROUD TO SUPPORT**

★ ★ ★

**JUNETEENTH**  
FREEDOM DAY

JUNE 19

**Terry Crosby**  
Taylor Ambassador Toledo



**Victoria Kimmel**  
Taylor Ambassador Lima



**Mary Helen Darah**  
Taylor Ambassador Toledo



**Tom Cole**  
Taylor Ambassador Toledo



**Stephen Taylor**



**Joan Brown Kose**  
Taylor Ambassador Findlay





**TAYLOR AUTOMOTIVE FAMILY**






*LOCALLY OWNED, LOCALLY COMMITTED*

**www.TAYLORAUTO.com**



# Students at MLK Academy Get an Early Glimpse Into College!!!

*Special to The Truth*

The Brothers of the Xi Tau Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Inc. coordinated a successful campus visit to the University of Toledo (UT) with 25 students from the Martin Luther King Academy. Students had an opportunity to meet the faculty & staff at the University, engage in discussions about the importance of academics and career awareness.

Students were met in the morning with greetings from the vice president of Student Affairs, Sammy Spann, PhD. Spann oversees student involvement and leadership and has been highly instrumental in providing opportunities for all students at the University of Toledo.

Valerie Simmons-Watson, assistant to the President for Community Engagement and Strategic Partnerships, shared with students the significance of setting academic and career goals. Simmons-Watson also shared strategies adults could use as parents to engage with students about careers other than sports.

The students of MLK met the president of the University, Dr. Gregory Postel, MD, who offered words of encouragement throughout their tour and engaged in Q & A with students about the campus.

Next, students met with the Upward Bound Program, Toledo Excel Program and the Equity & Diversity Administrators. Parents and teachers were able to hear about the benefits of the Upward Bound Program and the pathways to support success through the program.

Students learned about the critical role the youth program has had on high school and college graduates, some of whom share testimonials of the benefits of participating in both the Upward bound and Toledo Excel programs.

The MLK students then made their way to the Athletic Department, where they met Bryan Blair, vice president of Intercollegiate Athletics and Director Athletics, and Austin Kowalski, Athletic Events and Operations Manager al-

lowed students to tour both the indoor and outdoor fields.

Bryan Blair discussed balancing sports and academics. In conjunction, Austin reiterated the importance of practice and improving self-discipline with physical, social and scholastic goals.

Students ended the day having lunch and leadership discussion groups with enrolled UT students who shared their experiences of campus life, making good decisions, and the importance of remaining focused on your goals.



*Frederick Pruitt; Jarett Barnett; Sammy Spann, PhD; Chitranjan Greer-Travis; Richard Langford*

**CELEBRATING**

**JUNE TEENTH FREEDOM DAY**

**LOURDES UNIVERSITY**

LOURDES.EDU

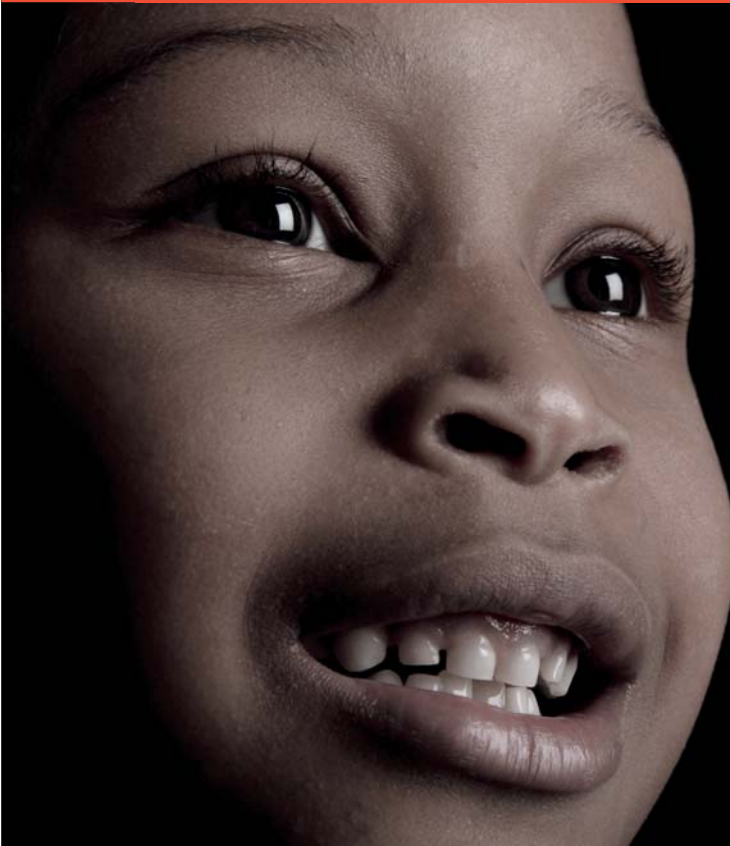


Every day at Center of Hope we look into the eyes of our **ELEVATE!** students and we see hope. We see the courage and the confidence to rise up and begin again each new day. We honor emancipation and freedom for African Americans by equipping children with the intellectual tools to experience greater freedom in their futures.

# HOPE

Elevating Futures

*Celebrating Juneteenth*



Hope begins **today**.  
Hope begins **with you**.



# Glass City Metroparks Dedication and Celebration

By Angie Hayes  
The Truth Reporter

Glass City Metroparks Dedication and Celebration event was held on June 9. An event to celebrate the creation of phase two of the Glass City Metropark Riverwalk development.

The Friday event was hosted by the Metroparks and a variety of participants supported and offered information to the audience, to explain the process and highlight the benefits for the community.

The event was not only a celebration for the opening of the park but also an acknowledgement of more to come in the future. This is not the end of the project as an even bigger park is on the way. Still in development is a Glass City Enrichment Center on Front Street that will open next year to provide community resources, in addition, a campground is coming too.

A restaurant just opened, for the first time in a metropark. The Garden by Poco Piatti is located inside the Market Hall and is focused on serving visitors and providing resources for good times and will be open seven days a week and

year-round! Market Hall is a new facility established in Phase 2 with indoor resources.

...continued on page 15



## IN CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH!



**JUNETEENTH IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE AFRICAN AMERICAN PEOPLE, OUR CULTURE, HISTORY, AND OUR ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE TIRELESS FIGHT FOR EQUALITY, DEMOCRACY, FREEDOM, AND JUSTICE. WHAT BETTER TIME TO REFLECT UPON THE PAST WHILE CRAFTING A BIGGER AND BRIGHTER FUTURE.**

**"WE'VE COME THIS FAR BY FAITH... AND...THE JOURNEY CONTINUES...KEEP THE FAITH!"**

**ELGIN ROGERS, JR.  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE (44)**

**HAVE A HAPPY AND FESTIVE JUNETEENTH**



# A Concrete House on Franklin Is a Model of Energy Efficiency

The Truth Staff

NeighborWorks Toledo and the City of Toledo joined forces to build a house at 2421 Franklin Street – a house built entirely of concrete walls that is guaranteed to save the new homeowners great sums of money on energy costs.

A ribbon cutting was held on Friday, June 9, to celebrate both the concrete structure and the opportunity the building offers to improve Toledo neighborhoods.

At slightly over 1,000 square feet, the three bedroom/two bath home occupies what would have been two lots during earlier times.

“The exterior walls are entirely concrete cast in the factory,” said Bill Farnsley, CEO of NeighborWorks Toledo. The result of the concrete structure is that heat during the winter can be retained for hours after it is turned off, as can cool air during the summer.

The City of Toledo contributed \$150,000 to the project and NeighborWorks America added another \$50,000. The house will be on the market for the asking price of \$130,000

The ribbon-cutting ceremony featured remarks by a number of city and elected officials.

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur was among those who spoke and said: “I can see Toledo on the rise on every corner, whether the Junction neighborhood or here.” Kaptur praised the work of the national Inflation Reduction Act in bringing much needed infrastructure funds to areas such as Lucas County.

Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz mentioned various city projects that are underway, such as the ribbon-cutting earlier in the day at the Metroparks Glass City site but observed that: “programs that benefit neighborhoods are special – these investments where real people live really move the needle.”

“We are going to reinvest in our neighborhoods,” added Toledo City Councilwoman Cerssandra McPherson. “We are going to make this thing work and

our neighborhoods are going to look like neighborhoods.”



“If you know whence you came, there is really no limit to where you can go.”

James Baldwin  
Writer and civil rights activist

This Juneteenth, Metroparks celebrates progress, acknowledging that there is still much work to be done.

FOR YOU. FOR US. FOREVER.  
METROPARKS TOLEDO

## Funding Opportunity OPEN NOW



### Mental Wellness Community Grants

This round of funding includes ten Grants of up to **\$20,000** per awarded project.

We are looking for proposals that aim to reduce the impact of mental illness & addiction on individuals and families in Lucas County and reduce violence and its effects in Toledo.

This is a unique opportunity to bring your innovative ideas to life to make a real community impact.

Visit [www.lcmhrsb.oh.gov/minigrant](http://www.lcmhrsb.oh.gov/minigrant) for more info and to apply.

**THE LONGEST DAY**  
ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

**Hat & Jewelry Fashion Show**  
Saturday  
June 17, 2023  
2pm-5pm EST.

\*Raffle  
\*Refreshments

\*Help us to raise funds and awareness for care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association

Westbrook Senior Village (community room)  
715 S. Holland Sylvania Rd.  
Toledo, Oh 43615

**Pamela Anderson (419) 984-3540**

\*Vendor space available

POWELL'S BARBER & BEAUTY SUPPLY  
PARADISE SHOES  
BODY BLING BY CHERYL  
HENRY'S JEWELRY



### PROJECTS SPECIALIST

The Lucas County Land Bank is a non-profit organization working to build and strengthen our community's neighborhoods. Since our founding 13 years ago, the Land Bank and its energetic staff have renovated ~1000 abandoned properties, demolished thousands of blighted buildings, and improved quality of life & increased property values throughout our community.

We are seeking a talented individual to join our diverse and energetic team as a Projects Specialist. The Projects Specialist is a professional who provides support to the Land Bank's property planning & acquisition, demolition, development, and disposition projects with high attention to detail. The most attractive candidate will have training or experience in real estate transactions, paralegal services, or community development work.

Salary range of \$53,500 - \$63,500, with excellent benefits including affordable health, dental, vision, and prescription drug coverage, a retirement plan with generous employer match, and robust paid time off. The position will remain open until filled.

Join the movement to rebuild our neighborhoods!

To apply, visit <https://lucascountylandbank.org/>

The Lucas County Land Bank is an equal-opportunity employer.

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS TARTA CENTRAL CAMPUS BUS WASHING SYSTEM PROJECT

The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) seeks bids from qualified contractors to provide 2-bay bus washing system for TARTA's garage, located at 1127 W. Central Avenue in Toledo.

The scope of work for this project includes but is not limited to: demolition and removal of old systems, installation of two (2) brush type bus washing systems. For a complete scope of work, visit [tarta.com/news-alerts/tarta-business/open-procurements](http://tarta.com/news-alerts/tarta-business/open-procurements).

TARTA has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal for this project of 11.65%.

Sealed bids must be received by TARTA on or before June 23, 2023 at 2:00 p.m., via sealed envelope or email. Mailed bid packages should be in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the bidder's full name, address and telephone number and "TARTA BUS WASH PROJECT," and sent to:

**Sophie Giviyani-Kermani, Chief Financial Officer**  
Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority  
1127 W. Central Avenue  
PO Box 792  
Toledo, OH 43697-0792

Email submissions should be marked with the same information and sent to [sgiviyani@tarta.com](mailto:sgiviyani@tarta.com).

TARTA officially distributes bidding documents from the Purchasing Department. Copies from any other source are not considered official copies. Only those vendors who obtain bidding documents from the Purchasing Department are guaranteed to receive addendum information if such information is issued.

Questions about this project should be directed to John E. Jones, Director of Maintenance, [jojones@tarta.com](mailto:jojones@tarta.com) or phone 419-245-5234.

### BUILDING SERVICEPERSON

Metroparks Toledo has an opening for an individual to serve as a Building Serviceperson to perform a variety of housekeeping, janitorial and basic maintenance functions to help maintain the Wildwood Manor House and provide a clean, safe environment for volunteers, park visitors, and staff. This position is located within Wildwood Metropark. High School Diploma or equivalent required, \$15.00/hr, up to 35 hrs per week. To review complete job description and apply, go to [www.MetroparksToledo.com/careers](http://www.MetroparksToledo.com/careers) <<http://www.MetroparksToledo.com/careers>> EOE"

### LEGAL NOTICE TO BIDDERS TOLEDO LUCAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY 2023 TLCPL BRANCH RENOVATIONS

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 June 27, 2023, 12:00 P.M. to be opened immediately thereafter for furnishing the necessary labor, equipment, tools and materials for renovations for the 2023 TLCPL Branch Renovations

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 June 20, 2023, at Kent Branch Library, 3101 Collingwood Blvd, Toledo, OH 43610

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

### MANAGER OF QUALITY AND EVALUATION MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICE BOARD OF LUCAS COUNTY

The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County is accepting applications for the Manager of Quality and Evaluation position. The position requires a highly responsible professional capable of collaboratively designing and researching project plans and submitting and presenting data-driven reports that inform accomplishments of designated quality improvements. Develops and manages a system-wide Performance and Quality Improvement (PQI) program and establishes systemic processes for continuous improvement. The salary range is \$51,200 to \$57,000 annually, plus a full range of benefits. Additional information regarding the duties is available on the Lucas County website ([www.co.lucas.oh.us](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us)). Click on "Apply for a Job" and then select "Manager of Quality and Evaluation" from the list to read more or apply. Resumes are also accepted by email to [ssylak@lcmhrs.oh.gov](mailto:ssylak@lcmhrs.oh.gov)

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*



**PATHWAY INC. BROTHERS AND SISTERS UNITED WISH YOU A  
HAPPY JUNETEENTH!**



*Glass City Metroparks... continued from page 12*

The tallest playground in Northwest Ohio is part of Glass City Metropark: twin 41-foot Grosbreak Towers located in the play area for the kids. The Mini Maumee water play area provides water play areas for the kids and includes cabanas, gardens, trails and awesome scenic views. An opportunity for fun times, walking, sitting/relaxing and enjoying the views and playing in water areas. Rain towers are present too. A 1000-foot-long roller skating trail is available and transforms into ice skating in winter. The location is available year-round.

Many leadership partners offered support for the development and growth such as: Dana, Mercy Health, Bob & Sue Savage, Hylant Family Foundation, and Sam & Alice Carson!

“So, Phase One was actually started and completed and Phase Two started in the midst of a global pandemic: challenging circumstances, anxiety, uncertainty,” said Metroparks Executive Director David Zenk. “Many of us were working from home, teaching our kids, and worrying about how to keep our family safe. But this group of people had the most amazing year in our agency’s history.

“Let me tell you in one year what they accomplished: they opened three new parks spread around the community and made good on a promise to place to place a metropark within five miles of every resident in the entire county They opened the country’s largest TreeHouse Village which was privately funded. They passed a levy to support this park. And if that wasn’t enough, they decided to go out and be named the country’s best park district in any city.

“So, the Metropark Team, thank you for what you did; not only in that time period because it’s not even unique! You do that every single day to represent this community and I am so proud to call you co-workers, friends, and peers,” Zenk added.



*Juneteenth Events... continued from page 3*

- Saturday, June 17 from 12 - 1 p.m.  
Main Library, 325 N Michigan St.  
\* Juneteenth Celebration on the Library Rooftop
- Saturday, June 17 from 7 - 10 p.m.  
Main Library, 325 N Michigan St  
\* Juneteenth
- Sunday, June 18 from 4 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
Toledo Museum of Art, 2445 Monroe St.  
\* 4th Annual Juneteenth Celebration
- Monday, June 19 from 12 - 8 p.m.  
Walbridge Park, 2761 Broadway St.  
\* The Celebration of Black Kings
- Monday, June 19 from 5 - 9 p.m.  
Toledo Club, 235 14th St

The Juneteenth parade, a spirited procession through the heart of Toledo, will showcase a rich tapestry of cultural expressions, vibrant costumes, and uplifting music. Starting at 10:00 a.m. along Summit St. and Jackson St., the parade will wind its way through downtown, featuring local community groups, organizations, and passionate individuals, all coming together to honor the legacy of Juneteenth.

Following the parade, a momentous dance ceremony will take place at One Government Center, located at 640 Jackson St. Toledo, OH 43604, at 12:30 p.m. The dance ceremony will be a soul-stirring display of traditional and contemporary dance forms, paying homage to the resilience and triumph of the African American community. Attendees will have the opportunity to witness captivating performances by dancers and local artists, as well as participate in interactive sessions celebrating the cultural heritage of Juneteenth.

The City of Toledo invites all residents, families, and friends to join in these Juneteenth celebrations. This is a moment to reflect on the progress we have made, remember the struggles endured, and strengthen the bonds that unite us as a diverse and inclusive community.

For more information about the Juneteenth events and other related activities, please visit the official City of Toledo website at [www.toledo.oh.gov/the-juneteenth-experience](http://www.toledo.oh.gov/the-juneteenth-experience) <<https://toledo.oh.gov/the-juneteenth-experience>>.

# Books for Father's Day by Various Authors and Illustrators

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

Dads are pretty good people to have around.

They can make you laugh and make you behave. They teach you fun things and help you when you need it. Moms appreciate Dads and you should, too. So why not look for these great books to share with your Papa, Dad, Pa, Father, or Daddy...

For the brand-new Dad who wants to start his child off right, This is **The First Book I Will Read to You** by Francesco Sedita, illustrated by Magenta Fox (Viking, \$18.99) is a great gift. Meant for the youngest kid, it's a gentle tale full of amazement and love for a newborn baby, and it may be one of the sweetest books you'll read this week.

If Dad has a little helper around, **Papá's Magical Water-Jug Clock** by Jesús Trejo, pictures by Eliza Kinkz (Minerva, \$18.99) is a great summertime read. Little Jesús is going to help Papa today and right away, Papa puts Jesús in charge of a water jug that's also a magic clock. It's a big responsibility. Can Jesús handle it without getting fired from his job? Wrapped into this fun and lively story, there's a lesson here that's appealing to kids ages 3-to-6.

For the Dad who does it all, **Daddy Dressed Me** by Michael & Ava Gardner, illustrated by Nadia Fisher (Simon & Schuster Kids, \$18.99) is a biographical tale of a little girl who needed a special dress for a special day. Where would she ever get something like that? Kids ages 4-8 will be charmed to find out...

For the 4-to-9-year-old whose Dad is deployed, **When Your Daddy's**

c. 2022, 2023  
various publishers  
\$17.99-\$18.99  
various page counts

**a Soldier** by Gretchen Brandenburg McLellan, illustrated by EG Keller (Viking, \$17.99) is the absolute perfect book to have around. It's a tale of saying goodbye too often, missing a parent so much it hurts, and how a child can support (and find support!) until Dad comes home again. For sure, this is one of those books that makes a great gift.

And finally, for the slightly older kid who appreciates an afternoon of baseball with Dad, **Contenders: Two Native Baseball Players, One World Series** by Traci Sorell, illustrated by Arigon Starr (Kokila / Penguin, \$18.99) is the right book for both. It was 1911, Shibe Park, Philadelphia, when pitcher Charles Bender of the White Earth Reservation went head-to-head with catcher John Meyers of the Cahuilla Reservation. Opposite teams. Two men who were pro baseball players. Both had faced a lot of discrimination to get to where they were. Who would win? Your eight-to-12 year old and your grown-up baseball fan will want to know...

If these great books for Dad don't quite fit him or your child, head to your favorite bookstore or library and ask for help. Your librarian and bookseller have access to millions of books, and they'll know how to find the exact thing you need for a happy read-aloud session or for sharing. Dads are pretty handy people to have around. A dad with a book is even better.



Equality Starts With You.

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](http://toledocf.org/equity-access-initiative)

## Prepare for power outages today

WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE

CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE

(866) 967-3358

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty\* – A \$695 Value!

\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.



# Juneteenth Books by Various Authors and Illustrators

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

The celebration is coming soon, you can feel it in the air.

Your entire family will gather together for one special day. There'll be picnics and tasty foods, dancing, and storytelling. No, it's not Christmas or your birthday, not Easter or Ramadan. It's Juneteenth and these three new books will help you understand why that day is important....

c. 2022  
various publishers  
\$5.99 - \$18.99  
various page counts

For the uninitiated, Juneteenth has a lot of traditions! In *Jaylyen's Juneteenth Surprise* by Lavaille Lavette, illustrated by David Wilkerson (Little Golden Book, \$5.99), a young boy learns how all the pieces fit in his new favorite holiday. The fun begins when Paw Paw Jimmy comes to visit, and he introduces Jaylyen to the frottoir, a musical instrument that means there's going to be dancing. With the cute and simple illustrations in this book and the excitement it conveys, you know it's gonna be a party, and this book is a great (and inexpensive!) Juneteenth introduction for kids ages three to five.

In David's house, Juneteenth doesn't start until Grandma's ready to tell stories and in *The Night Before Freedom: A Juneteenth Story* by Glenda Armand (Crown Books / Random House Kids, \$18.99), the best one is the one that her grandmother told her. Mom Bess was just a little girl when the first Juneteenth arrived, and hearing the story is a can't-miss for David and his family. Five-to-eight-year-olds will love this tale, told as a beautiful, fantastical memory. Parents will love the artwork by Corey Barksdale inside the covers.

*Find A Flag for Juneteenth* by Kim Taylor (Neal Porter Books / Holiday House, \$18.99) for your five-to-eight-year-old, and share it with your favorite seamstress. Here, all the illustrations are quilted, crafted, and embroidered, leaving readers with nostalgia to match the tale of almost-10-year-old Hulda, who wakes up on her birthday morning to hear the best news ever. "All slaves are free," she and her parents are told, and everyone celebrated - everyone, that is, except the plantation owners. And while her neighbors danced, some women sat down and sewed freedom flags that looked like warm, soft quilts. The children found branches for use as flagpoles, and their fathers carved

the branches with designs and symbols like the intricate "Fawohodie. It means independence and freedom." Be absolutely sure that you read the author's note at the end of this story; it's a great explanation, written for parents who will appreciate knowing about the work that went into this book.

These three tales might not be enough for your family, which is why your favorite librarian or bookseller is waiting for you. They'll have something perfect for every age group and everyone in your household who'll partake in your Juneteenth picnic or party. They'll know just the thing you want to read for yourself, or read aloud.

One of the best parts of Juneteenth is the storytelling, and these great books will help you do that in a way your child can understand. Make them a new tradition in your house, and add to the celebration.



**FREE INTERNET**  
Qualify today for the Government Free Internet Program

YOU QUALIFY for Free Internet if you receive WIC, SNAP, Medicaid Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline and Tribal.



**maxsip**  
CONNECTS

**CALL TODAY (833) 431-2358**

Bonus offer: 4G Android Tablet with one time co-pay of \$20

ACP program details can be found at [www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-faq](http://www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-faq)

**Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.**  
Xi Tau Chapter | Toledo, OH

**Juneteenth 2023**  
Community Health & Wellness Fair

**SATURDAY**  
June 17, 2023  
Noon- 3:30PM  
Everyone Welcome! Come Join US!  
Martin Luther King Academy  
1300 Forest Ave, Toledo

Community Partners:



**FREE** MEDICAL SCREENINGS & SERVICES PROVIDED  
FIRST AID & PSA Testing  
Blood Pressure & Blood Sugar Checks  
Oral Cancer Screenings  
Free Mammograms  
Art Activities for Children  
Bike Giveaways  
Free Food & More

For more information: Contact  
Richard Langford - 419-309-1237  
Frederick Pruitt- 567-907-0648

Juneteenth Legacy... continued from page 7

weekend or holiday, there were very few participants available.

July 4 was the already established Independence holiday and a rise in patriotism steered more towards this celebration.

Resurgence

The Civil Rights movement of the 1950's and 1960's yielded both positive and negative results for the Juneteenth celebration.

While it pulled many of the African-American youth away and into the struggle for racial equality, many linked these struggles to the historical struggles of their ancestors. This was evidenced by student demonstrators involved in the Atlanta civil rights campaign in the early 1960's who wore Juneteenth freedom buttons.

Again in 1968, Juneteenth received another strong resurgence through the Poor People's March to Washington, D.C. with Rev. Ralph Abernathy's call for people of all races, creeds, economic levels and professions to come to Washington, to show support for the poor. Many of those attendees returned home and initiated Juneteenth celebrations in areas previously absent of such activity. In fact, two of the largest Juneteenth celebrations founded after this march are now held in the far northern reaches of Milwaukee and Minneapolis.

Texas Blazes the Trail

On January 1, 1980, Juneteenth became an official state holiday through the efforts of Texas State Representative Al Edwards, an African-American legislator. The successful passage of this bill marked Juneteenth as the first emancipation celebration granted official state recognition. Representative Edwards has since actively sought to spread the observance all across America.

Juneteenth in Modern Times

Throughout the 1980's and on into the 21st century, Juneteenth has continued to enjoy a growing and healthy interest from communities and organizations across the nation. Institutions such as the Smithsonian, the Henry Ford Museum, the Toledo Museum of Arts and others have begun sponsoring Juneteenth-centered activities.

In recent years, a number of Juneteenth organizations have arisen to take their place alongside older organizations - all with the mission to promote and

cultivate knowledge and appreciation of African-American history and culture.

Juneteenth today celebrates African-American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures. As it takes on a more national and even global perspective, the events of 1865 in Texas are not forgotten, for all of the roots tie back to this fertile soil from which a national day of pride continues to grow.

Interestingly, the orders issued on Juneteenth by General Granger applied only to Texas. Slavery didn't end in states like Kentucky and Delaware, which hadn't seceded and therefore weren't covered by Lincoln's proclamation freeing slaves in the Confederate states, until Dec. 18, 1865, when the 13th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution was adopted.

Forty-six of the 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia have recognized Juneteenth as either a state holiday or ceremonial holiday, a day of observance. The four states that do not recognize Juneteenth are Hawaii, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana.

Perryman... continued from page 4

quire a birth certificate which costs 25 dollars to purchase.

This past week the coalition helped 29 people purchase birth certificates, paid for by the Lucas County Commissioners, aided 47 individuals obtain new social security cards or help for other needs, and knocked on over 2,000 doors in a neighborhood canvassing effort. The coalition remains active in registering community members to vote and following up to ensure citizens meet the new voting requirements.

The coalition's work comes just in time for the August 8 fight over State Issue 1, one of the most consequential elections in Ohio history.

If approved, State Issue 1 will eliminate the current 50 percent simple majority standard to change the state constitution that has existed for over 100 years. Issue 1 would also tighten mandatory signature-gathering requirements for constitutional amendment campaigns, making it harder for potential ballot issues to qualify.

Instead, the current simple majority standard to change the Ohio constitution would require future amendments to get a 60 percent statewide supermajority in a statewide vote to pass.

The Toledo coalition feels that State Issue 1 removes Ohio citizens' ability to check legislative power and urges its defeat, especially with potential voter-inspired constitutional ballot measures such as abortion-rights-related or anti-gerrymandering looming.

So, kudos to leaders like Petee Talley of the Ohio Coalition on Black Civic Participation; Erika White, Communications Workers of America; Pastor Willie L. Perryman, NAACP; and Lisa Sobocki, Lucas County Commissioners.

Also, the Ohio Senate's Paula Hicks-Hudson is worthy of special recognition and continued support. Hicks-Hudson not only has risen to the challenge of unifying a fractured Lucas County Democratic Party but is "up to her elbows and swimming up against all the alligators" in fighting an oppressive budget bill and other ugly issues in Columbus on our behalf.

At a time when citizens have never been more divided since the civil war, this coalition brings a fresh wind of reciprocal, complementary efforts between dominant and subdominant entities such as labor, government, and community groups.

Every organization should find a role to actively participate in the goals of this notable effort.

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

**Open for caring**

**OPEN FOR YOU**

From preventative health and wellness to management of chronic conditions, we are open to care for our community.

Dr. Basil Akponunu  
Internal Medicine Physician

utmc.utoledo.edu

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO  
MEDICAL CENTER

**Expanding Access to Homeownership**

**APPROVAL CRITERIA:**

- No minimum loan amount
- Locked-in interest rate lower than current conventional rates
- First Time Home Buyer Education course
- Financial Wellness Center Coaching program

**LENDING PROGRAM:**

NeighborWorks® Toledo, KeyBank®, and The Fair Housing Center have partnered to offer a non-traditional lending program with relaxed borrow requirements such as no minimum loan requirement for borrowers.

**LENDING APPROVAL:**

Approval decisions are based on NTR's approval standards which consider:

- higher debt to income ratio
- borrowers' individual circumstances

**CONTACT US:**  
Alesha Hall | Mortgage Loan Officer  
419-691-2900 Ext. 346  
ahall@utmc.utoledo.edu

NeighborWorks® TOLEDO REGION

the FAIR HOUSING center

KeyBank



Juneteenth NY... continued from page 20

ment & job readiness, featuring both resume and interview preparation sessions. As adults immerse themselves, you are free to bring your children to the Kidz Zone, full of surprises and giveaways to keep them busy. Attendees can also engage in captivating panel discussions exploring the realms of entrepreneurship and mastering the art of nurturing a flourishing Pop-Up Shop venture.

Immerse yourself in an array of community services. "Discover a realm of holistic healing and care resources, too. We are supplying access to exceptional elder daycare facilities, along with a myriad of child daycare providers," says Kathleen. "You also don't want to miss live musical performances by Toledo's own Dr.P and Lisa 'The Oracle' Hightower."

**Robinson Elementary & Robinson Park Day 2: Job Fair (Friday)**

Over 100 Employers and Community Organizations will be represented for this urban strategy and workforce development solution at Robinson Elementary campus. Stop by, network and enjoy local vendors, Black business and an amazing assortment of onsite food trucks.

**The Toledo Club (Juneteenth, Monday) DAY 3: Kings of Kwanzaa Celebration**

On Monday, June 19, the Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration will host its signature event, The Juneteenth Celebration of Kings Toledo Awards. Inspired by the Kwanzaa Principles, this Awards Reception will honor and recognize the achievements of 28 Black Kings raising our nation from within the Toledo community.

"Each man honored will receive an award based on one of the seven Principles of Kwanzaa, they most represent through their work," explains Greely. "It was beautiful that the community of Toledo chose to recognize its men after several community discussions and dialogues about equity."

The Black man holds significant importance within the Black culture. First, he often serves as a pillar of strength, providing emotional support, guidance, and stability. As a father, he plays a crucial role in the upbringing of children, imparting values, discipline, and cultural heritage.

"The Black man's presence is essential in challenging and combating societal

stereotypes and systemic barriers faced by the black community," says Greely. "We look forward to a myriad of future community directed discussions and celebrations around our Black women and children, too."

The Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration & Workforce Development extends an open invitation to the community, promising a transformative journey that will enlighten minds, empower spirits and set the stage for a future brimming with progress and equality. Let us stand hand in hand, embracing the transformative power of Juneteenth as it heralds the dawn of a brighter and more inclusive tomorrow.

For more information: <https://toledo.juneteenthnyworldwide.com>

**COLLECTIVE**  
TERRY CROSSBY  
DR. ROMULES DURANT  
DAVID BUSH  
CHIEF BRIAN BYRD  
JOHN HOBBS III

**UNITY**  
LEROY BATES  
JAY BLACK  
DARRELL DOON  
JOHNNY HUTTON  
DENNIS HOPSON

**DETERMINATION**  
ERNE BANKS  
WASHINGTON MUHAMMAD  
CARNEL SMITH  
SAMMY SPANK  
NATHANIEL YOUNG

**CREATIVE**  
MICHAEL DAY, JR.  
RAHWAE SHUMAN  
DAVID FLEETWOOD

**ECONOMICS**  
CALVIN BROWN  
MICHAEL DAY, SR.  
KEARY SARBIA  
ROBERT SMITH  
LARRY SYKES  
JOHN TOOSON

**PURPOSE**  
DOUGLAS JONES  
KEITH MILLER  
LAMAR SMITH  
REGGIE WILLIAMS  
DAVID YOUNG

**FAITH**  
REV. DAMON HORTON  
REV. JOHN JONES  
REV. DL. PERRYMAN  
REV. JERRY BOOSE

WWW.TOLEDO.JUNETEENTHNYWORLDWIDE.COM

**HONOR OUR HISTORY BY TEACHING OUR HISTORY**

Celebrate Juneteenth 2023 by Reciting the Accomplishments of Our Ancestors

And Register to Vote by June 23 to Honor All Our Ancestors Fought For That Right

**SENATOR PAULA HICKS-HUDSON OHIO SENATE DISTRICT II**

THE 18TH ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL PRESENTS

PROMENADE PARK TOLEDO, OHIO

**STOKLEY**

PERFORMANCE BY DARIUS COLEMAN FREDDIE JACKSON GIMUWINE THE ZAPP BAND

COMEDY PERFORMANCE BY WELLY WILLIAMS

SOUNDS BY DJ LVTE N AOD

Friday, July 14, 2023  
8 AM ET the African American Prayer Breakfast will be at the Toledo Museum of Art Class Pavilion, 2445 Monroe St.

Saturday, July 15, 2023  
The African American Festival Parade will be at 10 AM to 12 PM ET on the corner of Dorr St. & Detroit Ave.

The Community Day will be at Nelson Grace Park, 1001 N Detroit Ave. from 12 PM to 3 PM ET

The African American Parade and Community Day are FREE to the public to attend

The African American Festival and Concert will be at Promenade Park, 400 Water St., the Gates will Open at 3 PM ET

Tickets are \$45/Person General Admission prior to the Festival Increasing to \$50/Person the Day of the Festival

V.I.P. Tickets are \$65/Person prior to the Festival Increasing to \$70/Person the Day of the Festival

**THE BLADE** **TOL City of Toledo**

**BUCKEYE BROADBAND** **TOLEDO LUCAS COUNTY GOVT AUTHORITY**

**FIFTH THIRD BANK** **ECDI** **TRCA**

**LUCAS COUNTY** **THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO** **Toledo Museum of Art**

**JULY 14 AND 15, 2023**

SPONSORED BY TOLEDO URBAN FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

# Juneteenth NY Toledo Coming This Weekend

By Asia Nail

The Truth Reporter

Prepare for an unforgettable experience as Toledo, Ohio proudly presents its first inaugural *Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration*. This Juneteenth, now elevated to the status of a federally-recognized holiday, marks the beginning of an exhilarating three-day extravaganza that will captivate the hearts and minds of all who attend. From Thursday, June 15, through the recognized Emancipation day, June 19, our vibrant city will transform into an epicenter of Black culture, unity, and boundless community spirit.

June 19, 1865 echoes the triumphant notes of emancipation, when the enslaved in Texas learned of their newfound freedom, two years after President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. The air pulsated with cries of joy, blending with the whispers of liberation, creating an orchestration of jubilant laughter and tears of elation.

Now, Juneteenth is a holiday woven with the vibrant colors of unity, where diverse voices unite in a chorus of celebration for African-Americans reclaiming our heritage with pride.

Juneteenth NY Toledo's Celebration pulsates with

vibrant rhythms of positivity!

This year's theme, '**Kaleidoscope of Black Culture**,' showcases the brilliance of Black creativity with its boundless depths of ingenuity, and the awe-inspiring innovations that have shaped history. Prepare to be immersed in a sensory feast as the event unveils live performances that electrify the air, exhibitions that champion vivid storytelling from our own perspectives, and tantalizing aromas of authentic local cuisine that dance through the atmosphere.

"What began as a humble gathering has now blossomed into 37,000+ attendees expected to attend our various events this year," shares Kathleen Greely, CEO of Community Reinvestment Coalition – Englewood SW and JuneteenthNY Board Member.

"Every corner of our first inaugural Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration beckons with an invitation to explore and indulge in the richness of Black culture."

Greely has been a board member of Juneteenth NY for the past three years, sharing, "Our partnership with Toledo includes an urban strategy and

workforce development solution in response to the 40 percent unemployment rates in Englewood and Junction Districts."

The Greater Toledo Community Foundation's Board of Trustees, driven by a proactive vision, has approved grants to address the pressing concerns of communities disproportionately impacted by inequity and limited access in the greater Toledo area.

Among the recipients, St. Martin De Porres Parish has been awarded this remarkable \$40,000 grant. This funding serves as the catalyst for launching a groundbreaking resident-driven leadership training program and a transformative job readiness initiative in the Englewood neighborhood. Collaborating closely with the Community Reinvestment Coalition - Englewood SW and Robinson Elementary.

*The Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration* augments this urban strategy and workforce development solution while directly responding to the needs highlighted by the grant award. "This expansion will forge diverse community partnerships, promote equity and inclusion within urban spaces, and allow us to gather in unity as we celebrate the profound richness of our Black history," says Greely.

Overflowing with pride, Greely declares, "We take immense pride in establishing *the Juneteenth NY Toledo tradition and Celebration*, a momentous occasion that stands tall as one of the largest gatherings of Black individuals, committed to uplifting one another and providing an extraordinary space for the flourishing of creativity, culture, and Black excellence."

In recent news, we have witnessed attempts to diminish the importance of Black history and African-American studies. However, events like the Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration & Workforce Development possess the transformative power to educate, uplift, and enlighten the people of the Englewood District and surrounding communities.

They aim to champion change by ensuring that Black history, both past and present, takes its rightful place at the forefront of societal consciousness. By creating a safe haven within the Robinson Elementary school campus, Juneteenth NY Toledo Celebration & Workforce Development are not only reshaping the narrative but also paving the way for enduring change that will leave a lasting generational impact across Northwest Ohio and beyond.

**Robinson Elementary & Robinson Park**

**DAY 1: Exciting Career Extravaganza & Concert (Thursday)**

Embark on a thrilling journey of career develop-

... continued on page 19



**NAACP Toledo Branch**  
**Celebrating Freedom**  
*Juneteenth*

You're Invited to our Events in partnership  
with The Toledo Lucas County Public  
Library  
**Saturday, June 17, 2023**

**10am -2pm Job Fair & Job Ready**  
Employers will be on site seeking to hire. There will be workshops on resume building and interviewing skills. Lunch will be provided if you register. We are Featuring Lisa's Closet, who is providing business attire free!

**7pm - 10pm - Roof Top Party**  
The Roof Top Party featuring the MGM Band, includes light refreshments by Family Affair Catering and Jara's Heavenly Sweets, along with beer, wine and other beverages. Tickets can be purchased at a reasonable cost on our facebook page.

**SAVE THE DATE: October 28, 2023**  
Freedom Fund Banquet 2023




Kathleen Greely