



Volume 81 No. 4 *“And Ye Shall Know The Truth...”* **December 6, 2023**



A Supportive Network at The Entrepreneurs Club

Vince Evans, Founder of The Entrepreneurs Club

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Divisive Decisions

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

The Truth Contributor

If you can find ways to balance the differences within your teams, you can discover that a(n) [organization] can be a beautiful example of diversity and an antidote to [today's toxic] echo chambers.

- Kristen Sieffert



The local Democrats' "private" decision to appoint Anita Lopez as Tina Skeldon Wozniak's successor for Lucas County Commissioner appeared to be a seamless transition, reflecting a consensus within the Party. That is, until the tranquility was abruptly disrupted by Party Chair Paula Hicks-Hudson's unexpected challenge for the same position. This surprising twist has introduced a potential rift within the Party and also illuminated a complex strategic quandary.

Hicks-Hudson's delayed entry into the race is far more than a mere assertion of ambition; it's a pivotal moment that forces the Party to confront its approach to internal competition and consensus-building.

While Lopez's candidacy is bolstered by significant support from key Party factions, notably the Building Trades, which "owns" the central committee, and by the understated but powerful influence of David Fleetwood and Local 500, her path is not unobstructed.

Hicks-Hudson's challenge as party chair, reinforced with the power of the gavel, adds a dramatic twist. Her backing, especially from Tony Totty and the UAW, points to a divided base, with each faction rallying behind its chosen candidate.

The unfolding story has become noticeably rife with tension. Behind the scenes, there's a flurry of activity – meetings, negotiations, and scrambling to secure central committee votes as Lopez and Hicks-Hudson engage in a delicate power dance, each trying to outmaneuver the other.

However, a third option has surfaced in this charged atmosphere – appointing a temporary placeholder until a primary can be held, allowing voters to choose the replacement rather than the Party. This move, seemingly a mas-

terstroke of political strategy, could offer a temporary truce. However, this solution is tenuous, a mere band-aid over a deeper wound of division and rivalry that doesn't address the underlying tensions.

Indeed, the prospect of a primary battle between Lopez and Hicks-Hudson leaves the latter as a decided longshot. Lopez's formidable candidacy is built on her five-time countywide ballot appearances, property tax reductions, and gifted communication skills. She is well into her electoral strategy implementation - working on campaigning, raising money, making speeches, and trips.

With her established record and broad recognition, Lopez poses a daunting challenge to Hicks-Hudson, whose late start leaves much catchup work to do. Therefore, a primary contest risks becoming even more polarizing, drawing battle lines within and diverting attention from the Party's more pressing collective objectives.

Simultaneously, there's speculation around Hicks-Hudson potentially leveraging her candidacy for a strategic gain - specifically eyeing the Lucas County Auditor position that Lopez would vacate. This maneuver, extending beyond the immediate goal of securing the Commissioner seat, could reshape the Party's internal dynamics and affect other emerging leaders like Katie Moline, who may also have aspirations for the Auditor role.

Moreover, Hicks-Hudson's shift from vying for the Commissioner seat to potentially occupying the Auditor role is a pragmatic approach to maintaining influence while avoiding a direct confrontation with Lopez. This could either raise complaints of political opportunism and how leaders navigate their careers within Party structures or be applauded as business-as-usual hierarchy and succession planning within the Party.

Nevertheless, if Lopez and Hicks-Hudson both decide to run, the primary could transform into a battlefield, with each candidate leveraging their political acumen and support bases. This contest is critical for both candidates and, if divisive, also holds significant negative implications for the Party's prospects in the 2024 Presidential election and Senator Sherrod Brown's crucial re-election campaign.

So, as the plot nears its climax, the question of leadership and direction for the Party becomes paramount. Will the Party opt for the electoral appeal of Lopez or the experience of Hicks-Hudson as Toledo's first African-American female mayor? Or, will the Party find a middle path, preserving its unity and focus for the challenges ahead?

For Hicks-Hudson, her entry into the fray represents a test of her influence within the Party.

The Party, for its part, must begin proactively having the tough conversations necessary to balance fostering healthy internal competition and maintaining Party cohesion.

How it handles the Lopez and Hicks-Hudson situation will set a precedent for future leadership contests while building a solid foundation to weather the combative times in which we live.

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Community Calendar

December 16

St Marks Baptist Church Christmas Celebration: "The Wiseman;" Featuring the Fellowship Community Choir Toledo; 5 pm; 2340 N. Holland-Sylvania

December 17

NAACP Youth Council Meeting: 3 pm; Sanger Branch Library: 419-214-1551

December 22

Christmas Vendor Market: She Deziigns Event Hall; Presented by Bag Lady Financial; 4 to 8 pm: 419-450-2307

December 28

Padua Center Annual Kwanzaa Celebration: 4:30 to 7:30 pm

What Does Not Belong?

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

In my valiant effort to wake up those who are still slumbering from a Thanksgiving turkey overdose, I have posed the below questions and evaluations to see if you are activating your brain cells so that you are not caught off guard by specious arguments of what does or what does not belong in the following scenarios.

Caution! If you miss more than three, I plead with you to consider getting a mental wellness check up because you are beginning to miss the nose on your face!

So, get that second cup of java or tea and cross out the one that does not belong!

What does not belong?

ONE: eleven/three/nine/twenty-seven

TWO: ginger/coriander/flour/mace/paprika

THREE: Java/Cyprus/Sardinia/Iran

FOUR: ice/sleet/vapor/hail

FIVE: pew/chair/table/rocker

SIX: dinar/peso/yen/gold

SEVEN: pouch/wallet/purse/bucket

EIGHT: intellectual/Trump/scholar/maven

NINE: peas/collards/kale/greens

TEN: Columbus, Bismarck/Austin/Syracuse

QUESTIONS:

ONE: As a Black American voter, what reason would you give for not voting for Biden in 2024: (1) age (2) nonspecific programming for people of color (3) Kamala Harris being his running mate (4) all the above (5) none of the above.

TWO: If you are considering voting for Trump...why: (1) winning personality (2) younger than Biden (3) tough guy image (4) good economic policies (5) all the above (6) none of the above.

THREE: If Biden were to serve a full four-year term, would you endorse Kamala Harris as the next Democratic nominee for the White House. (1) yes (2) no (3) America is not ready for a Black woman to be president (4) depends upon whom she will select as her running mate.

FOUR: What accounts for low Black voter turnout. (1) apathy (2) not knowing the issues (3) the personality of the candidates (4) lost faith in the election process (5) makes no difference to me who wins.

FIVE: What is your top concern regarding the status of Black Americans. (1) lack of economic unity (2) low voter turnouts (3) crime (4) concerns over the cohesiveness of the Black family (5) education is not a high priority for our youths.

SIX: When you read or hear about so many White evangelicals abandoning Christian principals to support Trump, what is your concern. (1) they are shallow in their Biblical knowledge (2) they are concerned about America becoming more ethnically "diversified" (3) they seek power over principles (4) they want a theocracy to eventually rule in America.

SEVEN: If you could do a "redo" over your life, what would it consist of. (1) I would get more education (2) would avoid certain people who were not positive in my life (3) strive to get a more productive and profitable job (4) speak up when I see wrong being done (5) wait longer to get married to a better person (6) pay closer attention to my health.

EIGHT: If you receive a million dollars, tax free, how would you spend it. (1) big house and car (2) invest it and conserve it (3) set up a family trust (4) support my favorite charities (5) travel and enjoy the good life.

OPINIONS:

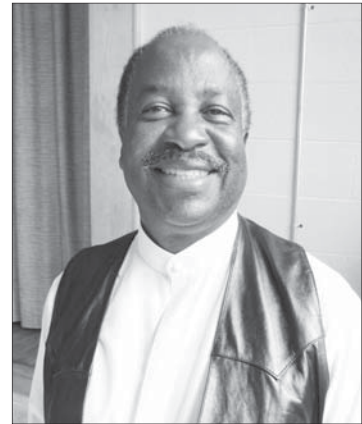
ONE: When you face discrimination, how do you react to it? (1) deny it (2) think that it could be something else (3) attack it directly head on (4) seek third party help in correcting it (5) do not let it affect me so that I am demoralized by it.

TWO: When you see a wrong being done in your presence, what do you do about it. (1) speak up about it (2) report it to the authorities (3) leave it alone, it is not my concern (4) offer what assistance I can to the offended party.

THREE: When you think back upon your life, what do you muse or ponder about. (1) what could have been.... if (2) why I did, what I did because now it makes no sense (3) accept it and move on to the next challenges (4) I have been blessed to get this far in life.

FOUR: Which of these choices would "spice up" your life. (1) travel the world (2) learn a new language (3) develop a hobby (4) reach out to others beyond my immediate circle of family and friends (5) learn a musical instrument (6) volunteer to assist others.

FIVE: When you have come to the end of your journey in this life, what do you think will be your most cherished thoughts. (1) raised upright and kind children (2) made a lot of money (3) married a wonderful person (4) did no harm to anyone (5) at peace with God.



Well, dear readers, the above questions and "evaluations" are just in time for the New Year!

Read and re-read them so that you can get a grip on the real you so that you can put off what may be a drag on your life and put on those attributes that will contribute to your

future success..

Be at peace!

Lafe Tolliver, Attorney

comments to: tolliver@juno.com

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Rep. Grim Announces More Than \$1M in Funding for Initiatives to Combat Lead Poisoning

State Rep. Michele Grim (D-Toledo) last week announced that the City of Toledo's Department of Housing and Community Development has received \$1.05M from The Lead Safe Housing Fund Community Primary Prevention Grant, provided through the Ohio Department of Health. The grant funds will provide for the lead housing registry, community education, and outreach initiatives.



"Lead exposure can be extremely detrimental to one's individual health and well-being, especially for children. Funding like this is essential to provide educational opportunities, giving community members the tools they need to identify dangerous lead hazards and take steps to protect their family," said Rep. Grim.

City of Toledo residents may register for lead service line replacement at no cost to the property owner until December 31st. Additionally, the City is offering Lead Paint Remediation for certain eligible homeowners. Residents can also find information at Lead Safe Toledo.

Congresswoman Kaptur Announces \$608,000 Federal NFWF Grant Award to Junction Coalition for Swan Creek Restoration and Planning

Last week, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-09), ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy & Water, announced that the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), through its National Coastal Resilience Fund, has awarded The Junction Coalition a \$608,000 grant to plan and implement wetland conservation and floodplain



U.S. Rep. Kaptur announcing Child Lead Poisoning Prevention grant to Junction Coalition in October

reconnection within a vital wildlife corridor in the heart of Toledo. The funding is made possible through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law which Kaptur helped to pass in 2022. The Junction Coalition is one of three organizations in Ohio to receive this grant through a highly competitive process.

"We are celebrating the Junction Coalition's enterprising efforts to bring vital funds home to Ohio's 9th Congressional District," said Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. "Working with our local partners to bring this funding home, I look forward to progress in the fight to protect the Western Basin of Lake Erie as the group identifies nature-based resiliency strategies to protect at-risk communities from flooding. With our other efforts at reconnecting neighborhoods, we are working to ensure Toledo's central city communities restore access to clean and healthy water recreation. The Junction Coalition will build on the work of past efforts to implement meaningful improvements within our neighborhoods. This funding was made possible by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, showing once again that our communities benefit when we access resources from bi-partisan legislation that makes sense."

"Junction Coalition is thankful for the bipartisan support and our Representative, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur for seeing the value of not only restoring and preserving our wetlands and water resources but also the lives and well-being of families that live in and around Swan Creek. Junction Coalition

...continued on page 7

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.

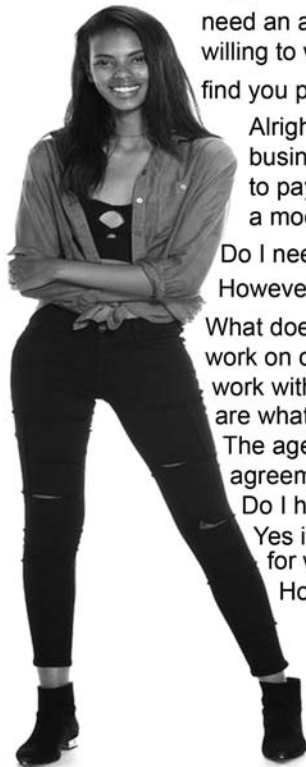
Do I have to sign with the agency? Yes if you want to be considered for work through the agency.

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you will get more information from your agency..... submit your photo to:

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TARTA Holds Open House to Introduce Expanded Oregon Services

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

The Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) held an open house at St. Charles Hospital in Oregon, Ohio to announce TARTA Flex which begins January 2024, along with fixed route and paratransit service to Oregon. The November 30 event invited Oregon residents, business owners and visitors between 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. to speak with TARTA staff.

"We have experienced good fortune during the past open houses to announce TARTA Flex; during the open house we're here to answer questions without a long presentation," shared Andy Cole, TARTA Communication and Marketing Manager. "It's really about having a conversation with individuals and residents who have questions."

Starting January 7, 2024, TARTA Flex will operate in three different zones. The service is designed to connect suburban and rural areas that already receive fixed-line service routes, though this new on-demand service.

"The expansion into Oregon allows us to stretch from East to West, these services will benefit all citizens," said Rev. W.L. Perryman, DMin, TARTA board member. "There is also an expansion of TARTA's fixed routes and para-transit, this expansion takes TARTA further as we promised the voters. I want to thank the voters for supporting us. I want to thank Oregon for being apart of TARTA's future because we can meet the needs of our community from the Central City to the suburbs. TARTA is the vehicle that brings people together, and we are key to economic development. TARTA has taken steps to further serve northwest Ohio."

Customers of TARTA Flex can schedule a ride with a day or two advance notice or 30-minute advance notice. Flex is available Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. weekends and holidays, each ride is \$3.00. Customers can book the ride by downloading the TARTA Flex app on Android and Apple or by calling TARTA customer service at 419-382-9901 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Customers can pay the fee by paying cash or downloading the EZFare app. To address accessibility, every TARTA Flex vehicle will be fully accessible, allowing greater mobility for TARPS-eligible customers and customers over the age of 65.

The three zones are:

- Northwest Zone: area previously covered by Sylvania Call-A-Ride, Toledo Express Airport, Holland, Ottawa Hills, Springfield Township, Sylvania and Sylvania Township.
- Southwest Zone: area previously covered by Maumee Call-A-Ride, Airport Hwy, Maumee, Monclova Township, Springfield Township, Waterville and Whitehouse.
- Rossford Zone: area previously covered by Rossford Call-A-Ride, including East Toledo and Oregon.

In addition to announcing TARTA Flex, TARTA shared with attendees the changes to Route 2, a fixed route that connects locations including: Flower Hospital and Franklin Park Mall to Oregon via Monroe Street. This route

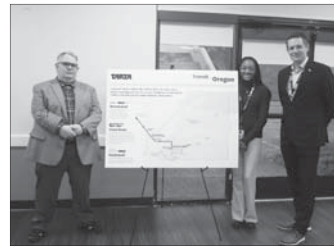
will begin January 7, 2024.

"This expansion of Route 2 into Oregon expands the fixed route locations," said Sam Melden, TARTA Chief External Affairs and Communications Officer. "This expansion into Oregon and TARTA Flex is really a product of TARTA Next, our strategic comprehensive plan which was supported by voters through Issue 12 in November 2021. This expansion is county-wide and since 2021 we secured vehicles, hired and trained staff, and reviewed the current fixed routes."

TARTA provides a vital link in the Toledo metro area to jobs, education, health care, and other destinations. It enables everyone in the community to have access to transportation regardless of their age, race, physical ability or economic background. TARTA serves seven communities in northwest Ohio. For more information about TARTA Flex or other services visit, <https://tarta.com/flex/>



Rick Bailey, TARTA Chief Customer Experience and Mobility Officer; Rev. W.L. Perryman III, TARTA Board member; and Sam Melden, TARTA Chief External Affairs and Communications Officer



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Vince Evans' Entrepreneurs Club Offers a Supportive Network

By Asia Nail

The Truth Reporter

In the medley of Toledo's transformation, Vince Evans is weaving a vibrant thread with the inauguration of *The Entrepreneurs Club*. This entrepreneurial haven, more than just a rental hall, stands as a beacon of community empowerment.

"I'm a born and bred proud Toledoan," says Evans.

"I've been a successful entrepreneur myself for many years renovating private real estate. Over the years I realized how much easier running a business is when you have a supportive network."

Through strategic partnerships and innovative solutions, Evans and the members of *The Entrepreneurs Club* navigate the complex terrain of business ownership, transforming aspirations into tangible keys capable of unlocking the doors of stability.

Nestled in the heart of East Toledo, *The Entrepreneurs Club* unfolds as a 5,000 sq ft. complex, located at 222 Fassett Street, and is meticulously curated by Vince Evans. Beyond the brick-and-mortar, it's a dynamic space where connections with downtown corporate, nonprofit, and self-employed professionals intertwine.

Step inside this thriving hub, where the air crackles with entrepreneurial spirit. Here the *Entrepreneurs Toastmasters Club* echoes with the power of words, and *The Black Wall Street Summit* paints a bright canvas of community development. Poetry Nights, Chicago-style steppin' classes, and the buzzing energy of pop-up shops all converge under the same roof.

Over the summer, this vibrant space opened its doors, offering two-hour windows for nonprofit organizations, entrepreneurs, freelancers, consultants, and instructors alike, to shine.

With a capacity for 200 attendees and hosting both free and paid events, *The Entrepreneurs Club* becomes a canvas for a myriad of occasions. Birthdays, graduations, retirements, corporate events, funeral repasses, baby showers, weddings—the list unfolds with limitless possibilities. The facility, renovated in 2020, boasts a full wet bar, multiple televisions, a projector screen, and blue tooth sound systems, creating an ambiance that transcends the ordinary.

More than a venue, *The Entrepreneurs Club* is a living testament to entrepreneurs who dare to dream. Whether you seek to network, socialize, or host a special event, this space is a magnet for those who crave a mature environment where ideas flourish and businesses thrive.

"Our vision is to be a helping-hand-network of businesses and entrepreneurs that support each other's growth," says Evans.

With an unwavering commitment to addressing the economic imbalances between Black families and the majority community, this club stands as a symbol of resilience and progress.

"We are an inclusive club and all are welcome. Still, our mission is to empower Black businesses, specifically," explains Evans.

Each business success story or lucrative event is a testament to the resilience of a community determined to transcend the confines of history. In the midst of Toledo's transformation, *The Entrepreneurs Club* stands as a chronicle of progress, a testament to the belief that through entrepreneurship, one can not only build businesses but also dismantle the financial barriers perpetuating inequality.

"We support many different business initiatives in the city," shares Evans. "Through mentorship programs and financial literacy workshops, we empower entrepreneurs with the tools to navigate the challenges of business ownership."

Within the walls of The Entrepreneurs Club, there's more than meets the eye. It houses an Outreach Program for adults, a testament to Evans' commitment to holistic community development.

And there's more—a Youth Empowerment Program that echoes with the laughter and determination of young dreamers. *The Entrepreneurs Club* unfolds its arms to embrace the next generation, offering more than just guidance. Picture a boxing gym, a space where the vigor of youth meets the discipline of the ring, sculpting not just bodies but also futures.

Within this club's dynamic walls free boxing is offered for kids aged five-18 emerging as a sanctuary for not just fitness but also mental well-being. In the ring, children don't just throw punches; they confront challenges head-on, fostering a sense of discipline that extends far beyond the boxing gloves.

...continued on page 7

Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities

The Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities has announced that it is accepting applications for the position of Superintendent. The Lucas County Board of DD, located in Northwest Ohio and serving approximately 4400 individuals, has a long history of providing quality person-centered services to all eligible individuals in that community. Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities values diversity and is committed to providing an inclusive environment where every employee, individual served, family and provider is heard and respected.

They are seeking a Superintendent who will lead the organization forward in meeting its mission of improving LIFE for individuals so they reach their full potential. LIFE is the acronym for Lucas County's core values of Living Life, Inclusion, Freedom of Choice and Everyone has Worth.

Leading the organization and fulfilling the mission requires experience managing complex systems, as well as having a proven history of being innovative, collaborative, and able to represent the organization at the local and state level.

Qualifications:

Master's Degree in Public Administration, Business Administration, Education, Rehabilitation, Counseling, Social Work or related field from an accredited college or university

Five years full-time work with individuals with developmental disabilities, including three years in a management or supervisory capacity

Current Superintendent Certificate or ability to obtain certificate through Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

Residency: Residing in Lucas County is preferred, but not required

Starting Salary: Commensurate with experience and qualifications

Please email cover letter, resume and other relevant information to: apply@lucasdd.org

Application deadline: 5:00 PM, December 22, 2023



Entrepreneurs Club... continued from page 6

"They're not just learning the art of boxing; they're crafting a resilient mindset," says Evans.

The rhythmic dance of footwork becomes a metaphor for life's ebbs and flows, instilling local youth with mental agility, discipline and self-confidence. "The ring helps the kids deal with their anxieties and worries, too," he says.

Evans' mission of giving back to his community is evident not only in what he is doing to assist other businesses or the area's youth, but also in what his east side complex offers for those who need a helping hand. Within the connected buildings sits a rooming house that Evans has renovated and offers to those who need a temporary place to stay – nine units for women and children and four on the other side for men.

"I don't get any funding for this, I do it out of my own pocket," he says. And out of his own heart undoubtedly. He doesn't have any set requirements for those whom he feels have a need for such housing. He meets with them and, if they need help, he is there to offer it. He will also work with the residents in their search for jobs and permanent housing as they try to improve their situations.

The *Entrepreneurs Club*, a hub of empowerment, extends beyond the tangible, becoming a testament to the transformative power of investing in the mental health and well-being of the community's future.

Beyond the glitz of events, the club's programming is quickly becoming the pulse of connection, reaching out to bridge the gaps that conventional avenues may overlook.

Like a symphony of ambition, *The Entrepreneurs Club* orchestrates its mission, recognizing that increasing minority businesses are the linchpins to dismantling the barriers that hinder prosperity for underserved communities.

Evans is offering the Club to Black-owned start-up businesses or Black-owned business organizations free availability to the Club in their efforts to develop and



Vince and his daughter, Clarence Evans

grow enterprises.

"I offer two-hour time slots to use the facility for any type of customer appreciation, for any type of seminars that are trying to get someone to understand their [Black-owned] business," he says. "Or if they want to hold poetry events or art events ... strictly for us ... the Black business owners."

Toledo, often overshadowed by larger urban landscapes, now boasts a collective of visionaries determined to reshape the narrative. In Vince Evans' creation, *The Entrepreneurs Club* isn't just a structure; it's a living entity, pulsating with the rhythm of community growth. Here, the clinking glasses and the echoes of mentorship reverberate together, crafting a narrative where entrepreneurship is not just a business venture but a force that transforms lives.

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Kaptur... continued from page 4

is thankful to all our partners for the support in writing and implementation of this rewarding project," said Alicia Smith, executive director of the Junction coalition. "Swan Creek, one of Toledo's three rivers, forms part of the southern boundary of the Junction Community. The possibility of restoring a vital wildlife habitat corridor, creating a scenic greenspace for recreation and relaxation, teaching our young people the importance of protective edge vegetation—these are just a few of the environmental and community benefits presented by this grant. The City of Toledo and our community will benefit because of the several city and Metroparks found along Swan Creek as well."

Earlier this year Congresswoman Kaptur announced other funding opportunities secured in partnership with the Junction Coalition, including a \$600,000 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Child Lead Poisoning Prevention program grant award to help reduce lead poisoning in the Toledo community, and a \$20 Million US Department of Transportation (USDOT) RAISE grant award to the City of Toledo to assist the city's "Connecting Toledo Neighborhoods to Opportunity" initiative to reconnect downtown neighborhoods in Toledo and the nearby Junction neighborhood. The effort will include a protected sidewalk across the Dorr Street overpass of Interstate 75 and a new 10-foot-wide multi-use path that will extend approximately 0.75 miles from the downtown area into the Junction neighborhood.

The Junction Coalition is a non-profit, grassroots organization located in the Junction community of Toledo, Ohio providing a viable voice to its neighbors. The Junction Coalition seeks to promote healthy relationships with local, state, and federal government to build a better quality of life for community members and for business owners who benefit the Junction community.

Juanita Terrell and Family Celebrates 100 Years

By Dawn Scotland
The Truth Reporter

“She’s the glue that keeps the family together”, remarked Annette Ferguson niece of Juanita Terrell who turned 100 years old on November 27.

Juanita Terrell was born in 1923 in Oak Grove, Louisiana to the union of Hines and Rosa Wilder. She is the last sibling of five brothers (Johnnie, Ruby, Tommie, George and Lemon Wilder) and two sisters (Millie Terry and Willie King). She’s devoted her life to the Lord, her family, the education of children and to the church.

On Friday November 24, family, friends, and church members gathered at United Missionary Baptist Church to celebrate the centenarian on her special day – the same church she helped found 40 years ago. Guests donned red 100-year birthday shirts, enjoyed food from Ms. Sonia’s Catering and birthday cake.

“She’s blessed me in so many ways.” her niece continued, “Her strength has made me strong. Her wisdom has made me wise. Her love and made me loving.” Family came from out of town and locally to celebrate.

“She’s just been a fabulous [and] beautiful person.... She’s truly a woman of God. She loves God, she loves her family and she’s always sharing. Whatever she has or whatever she knows she shares it with everybody,” she added.

Terrell believes in the value of education and wore many hats in her lifetime, always remaining active.

She attended public school and graduated from high school in Pioneer, Louisiana. After high school she worked at the Rossford Ordinance Depot beside her longtime friend, the late Marian Thomas, better known as (Nana). She enrolled in beauty school, passed the state board, and was a licensed beautician for many years.

..continued on page 10



Juanita Terrell celebrates 100 years!



Annette Ferguson (niece) and the centenarian



Jarod Terrell (grandson), Juanita Terrell and Wanda Terrell-Galloway (daughter)



Church members of United Missionary Baptist Church



Church members of United Missionary Baptist Church



Family members join hands to pray



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Open Arms Transformation Living Empowers Girls

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

Open Arms Transformation Living concluded a semester delivering hands-on social emotional and empowerment programming at Longfellow Elementary on Friday, December 1. The West Toledo school and the local nonprofit collaborated to provide eighth grade girls with the tools to elevate their self-esteem, build inner-peace and implement conflict mediation tools. The collaboration ran 15-weeks, during which 30 girls meet with OATL once per week to discuss pre-determined topics while creating a safe space for the girls.

“Open Arms Transformation Living were here to help the students become more respectful in dealing with conflict, and own their body and mind. It’s about fostering better young women and empowering them,” said Yolanda Johnson, principal of Longfellow Elementary.

On the program’s final day at Longfellow, the girls received a special gift from the OATL Executive Director Fonda Royster, and the girls hand delivered gifts to the school’s staff. The special gift included a notebook to journal, blanket, stuffed animal and snacks.

“We talked about how to distinguish health relationships from unhealthy relationships, the importance of consent and their positive self-image. During the program we create a vision board and today the girls created a rose that they were able to keep,” said Royster.



Fonda Royster, Open Arms Transformation Living Executive Director (middle) with Longfellow Elementary secretaries Amy Crookton and Leah Delatorre

In addition to the program at Longfellow, OATL delivers a community-wide program, once per week, at Lagrange Library for females between the ages of 12-20.

Open Arms Transformation Living was established as a non-

profit in 2022 by founder and executive director Royster. The overall objective of the nonprofit is to provide a lifeline between teens that have or may experience teen violence and essential resources including law enforcement.

To reach that objective, their mission is to provide basic needs, such as housing resources, food, clothing, case management and other essentials to the unhoused, runaway and exploited youth between the ages of 16-20. They also seek to educate females between the ages of 12-18 how to identify and combat youth violence and human trafficking at the same time.

In addition to the Longfellow Elementary and Lagrange Library programs, OATL documented survey success while serving at Woodward High School and has several active partnerships including: Nirvana Now!, Mental Health

...continued on page 10



LaDonna Knabbs, Open Arms Transformation Living board member, Longfellow Elementary principal Yolanda Johnson and Fonda Royster, Open Arms Transformation Living Executive Director



Longfellow Elementary principal Yolanda Johnson and Fonda Royster



Longfellow Elementary eighth graders Emery White and Za'Niya Boose with principal Yolanda Johnson (middle)



School Counselor Marya Singleton and Fonda Royster, Open Arms Transformation Living Executive Director

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The Sense of Smell and Its Transformative Power

By Paul Hubbard

Guest Column

Of the five senses, the sense of smell is believed to have the most transformative power to make us remember things in the past such as Mama's Apple Pie and what fragrances our past girlfriend or boyfriend put on.



There are almost 200 references to perfumes and fragrances in the Bible; Jesús being gifted frankincense is the most Christmas familiar verse. However, the scents we smell also have consequential physiological power. According to a study published in Medical Hypotheses, many fragrance ingredients have been shown to disrupt healthy hormone balance. These compounds are called endocrine-disrupting chemicals because they mimic natural hormones and therefore dysregulate the body's delicate endocrine system.

Janet Nudelman, of Campaign for Safe Cosmetics for Breast Cancer Prevention Partners, says the body cannot distinguish between naturally occurring and synthetic hormones. Nudelman said EDC (endocrine disrupting chemicals) and synthetic fragrances can contribute to early puberty and in-

creased breast cancer risk.

The Epoch Times notes that multiple studies have shown that EDCs such as Phthalate, a common ingredient of synthetic fragrances, impair fertility and are associated with an increased chance of breast cancer.

Natural fragrances are made with botanical ingredients found in nature, but synthetic fragrances are made of man-made chemicals. There is no Food and Drug Administration (FDA) nor Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirement for labeling ingredients in fragrances. The African American and low-income communities experience a lot of synthetic fragrances being sold within them.

The impact of fragrances doesn't just affect perfume enthusiasts and cologne connoisseurs. Fragrances affect most folks, considering that we implemented in most household cleaning and personal care products. Watch the type of candles we buy also. Our ancestors had all the natural scents with flowers and spices.

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

Open Arms Transformations... continued from page 9

Recovery Services Board of Lucas County, United Way of Greater Toledo and Simply Divine Boutique.

Royster has over 20 years of social service experience and is currently the Domestic Violence Resource Specialist at the Lucas County Juvenile Court. Her education background includes an associate's degree in Social Work, bachelor's degree in Sociology, master's degree in Addiction Counseling and master's degree in Human Services.

For additional information about OATL email (fonda.royster@gmail.com)

Juanita Terrell's 100th Celebration... continued from page 8

Mrs. Terrell was married to William Terrell Sr. for 45 years before his death in 2001. The pair had two children: Jimmie and Wanda and stepchildren: Bonnie and Billy Terrell, three grandchildren: Jimmie, Jarod and Jarrell; four great grandchildren as well as special nieces Annette Ferguson and Patricia Lee and many nephews and nieces.

Juanita graduated among the top 10 out of 357 at Owens Community College, Early Childhood Development program and earned a bachelor's degree with Cum Laude distinction in Early Childhood Development from University of Toledo where she was the speaker for the graduating class.

She was employed as a lead teacher for Head Start program over 30 plus years and is a member of the 30 plus club. Her love for children has had a lasting effect on the children she taught.

Juanita Terrell is a charter member of United Missionary Baptist Church. She was a member of the Nurses Guild and a Sunday school teacher over 40 years. She firmly believes in the power of prayer. Her favorite music is Gospel music and favorite singers are James Cleveland and Mahalia Jackson. Her favorite television shows are The Price is Right, Family Feud and court cases.

"To call her mother, grandmother, granny T, aunt, Nita and Mrs. Terrell was a great honor" shared daughter Wanda Terrell-Galloway. "To have called her a child of the King, blessed beyond measure for 100 years, highly favored and had a great relationship with the Lord is really Juanita Terrell."



Caretaker Elizabeth Heathcock holds proclamation from the State of Ohio for Juanita Terrell



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Drive Imagination With These Holiday Gift Ideas for Kids

Special to The Truth

To fill the holiday season with magic and joy for little ones, consider these five gift ideas that will spark the imagination and create endless opportunities for fun.

1. Great books: Listening to a book read aloud is a chance to imagine oneself in the setting and circumstances of the characters. This is especially true when the literature is personalized. Build out a child's library this holiday season with a book that allows you to customize the story with the child's name and an illustrated character that resembles them.

2. Construction fun: The Go! Go! Smart Wheels Spiral Construction Tower from VTech is not just a regular track set. It features five play pieces, 11 movable parts, and seven interactive SmartPoint areas so kids can imagine they are in a real construction zone. From spinning down the spiral tower to hauling the boulder in the talking dump truck to transferring the steel with the cargo hook, there is no shortage of playful ways to cruise through the construction site, all the while building first words and motor skills. A companion to other Go! Go Smart Wheels sets such as the 4-1 Zig-Zag Raceway, the Fast-and-Friendly Garage and the Rescue Tower Firehouse,

young vehicle enthusiasts can race, repair and rescue during pretend play.

3. Costumes: Playing dress up doesn't need to be an annual occasion reserved for Halloween. Whether it's a superhero, a princess, an animal, or a character from a book or show, a costume makes playing pretend more thrilling all year round, and is an excellent and unexpected gift for the holiday season.

4. Puppets: Role-playing games are always more fun and creative when puppets are involved! For very young children, consider machine-washable, all-plush puppets to make play time more cozy and hygienic.

5. Occupation playset: From doctor's kits, complete with toy stethoscopes and thermometers to tool sets with toy hammers and saws, occupation playsets build confidence and offer up chances for kids to pretend to be grown-ups hard at work.

Thoughtfully selected holiday gifts can brighten the season for little ones, and help them have more creative and imaginative playtime adventures in the year ahead.

Courtesy StatePoint

First Annual Macomber-Whitney Alumni Association Thanksgiving Food Basket Give-A-Way

By Annette Wright

Special to The Truth

On November 18, 2023, the Macomber-Whitney Alumni Association (MWAA) of Toledo, Ohio hosted its First Annual Thanksgiving Food Basket Give-Away. The endeavor was co-sponsored and supported by Meijer Inc., Taylor Automotive Family, Choices Behavioral Health Care of Toledo, Johnson's Produce Market and Alafia Foundation of Hope International of Detroit, MI.

David Johnson, board chair of the MWAA and owner of Johnson's Produce Market, located at 524 Pulaski, allowed the 100 Families who pre-registered for the Food Baskets to pick up their Thanksgiving Meals at the Market.

Included in the Food Baskets were turkeys, home-baked bread, fresh locally grown cabbage, onions, sweet-potatoes, and squash. Also stuffing, macaroni and cheese, corn, and cranberry sauce were included in the "fix-ins."

Ms. D. Harris was among the individuals who were truly grateful to receive the Food Basket for her family. "I am so grateful to all of you for doing this. I know you didn't have to do this," she said. This sentiment was shared

and expressed by many others.

The MWAA is a newly-formed 501(c)(3) based in Toledo, OH. The mission of the MWAA is to actively engage in community events and affairs and their First Annual Thanksgiving Food Basket Give Away is a testament to its dedication and commitment to strengthening and empowering the community. More information about the MWAA can be obtained by visiting its web site, MACOMBERWHITNEYALUMNI.ORG



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Lena Horne: Goddess Reclaimed by Donald Bogle

Black TV: Five Decades of Groundbreaking Television from Soul Train to Black-ish and Beyond by Bethonie Butler

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

The person on the screen looks just like you.

And that's important. Once was a time when you rarely saw a

Black face in entertainment unless you were specifically looking for one – which is why these great books on Black entertainers are so essential to read...

First of all, elegance almost oozes from *Lena Horne: Goddess Reclaimed* by Donald Bogle, a gorgeous book presented by TMC.

Bogle begins his narrative in the spring of 1993, when “a radiant Lena Horne entered the famous MGM recording soundstage for the first time in nearly forty years.” She was there to shoot footage for a compilation movie on entertainment and, says Bogle, it was “a bittersweet experience.”

From there, he takes readers through the briefest of childhood biographies before getting to the good stuff: Horne's career that began in Harlem. It was the Depression, and competition for the best positions at the Cotton Club was fierce; despite that the Club had other beautiful women onstage, it was Horne who “caught the eye of just about everyone who saw her.”

Filled with everything you want to know about Lena Horne, her life, loves, and many of her contemporaries, *Lena Horne: Goddess Reclaimed* is comprehensive and wide. It's one of those books you'll want to keep on your coffee table, to browse and show off. Bonus: carefully chosen photos enhance what you'll read.

If the small screen is more your thing and you want to remember how far

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television's come over the decades, then you'll want *Black TV* by Bethonie Butler.

Ask any TV viewer about their favorite show or series and if it's got a full cast of Black actors, you'll probably find it in this heavy volume. Comedies, dramas, even variety series have their own chapters; Flip Wilson, Redd Foxx, Arsenio Hall, Diahann Carroll, they're all in here.



With this book on your lap, you'll take a trip to the Soul Train studio, and visit the Huxtable living room. Remember how *In Living Color* skewered almost everything? Remember the night James Evans died? Which Sister, Sister twin was your favorite? Is the new version of *The Wonder Years* realistic enough for Black audiences?

This book is absolutely packed with insider information, memories, stars, guest stars, and lots of pictures to nudge your nostalgia and send you looking for something to binge-watch on repeat or to catch new. It's a great book to share with generations who missed seeing these shows live. Or just sit and read *Black TV* and let that be tonight's entertainment.

If these books on Black entertainment aren't enough for you, then be sure to look around for more. Author Bogle has several other biographical volumes on the shelves. You'll find books about and by Black stars, books about specific movies and TV shows, retrospectives that will take you way back, and more behind-the-scenes peeks of your favorite series. Your bookseller or librarian will be able to put these books in your hand because they're good like that.

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A Holiday Book Gift List, Part II

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

One thin line.

There you are, you've just crossed off your last person, thereby finishing your Holiday Gift List for the year. But oops, you forgot that one hard-to-buy-for aunt, and you haven't gotten anything for your babysitter. And, and, and... you're out of ideas. So how about something to read? See if these great books don't give you some guidance...

RACISM and RACIAL ISSUES

What has racism looked like throughout history? Your social-justice-minded giftee will get a peek in *The Stories Whiteness Tells Itself* by David Mura (University of Minnesota Press). Meant for both Black and white readers, this is a conversation-starter. Wrap it up with *The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy and the Path to a Shared American Future* by Robert P. Jones (Simon & Schuster) for a perfectly thought-provoking gift.

No doubt, your giftee knows how life has been like since Black Lives Matter stepped into the news. In *Our Shoes: On Being a Young Black Woman in Not-So "Post-Racial" America* by Brianna Holt (Plume) is a book that examines the feeling further, in ways that relate to both culture and pop culture. Wrap it up with *Real Friends Talk About Race* by Yseult P. Mukantabana and Hannah Summerhill (Park Row Books), for a gift that takes this sometimes-squirmy subject and makes it possible to discuss.

The activist on your list wants to do best, so look for *We Need to Talk About Antisemitism* by Rabbi Diana Fersko (Seal Press). We discuss racism against Black people? Why not this, says the author. How else can we fight it? Pair this book with *The Cost of Free Land* by Rebecca Clarren (Viking), a book about a Jewish immigrant success story and what it meant to the Native Americans in their territory.

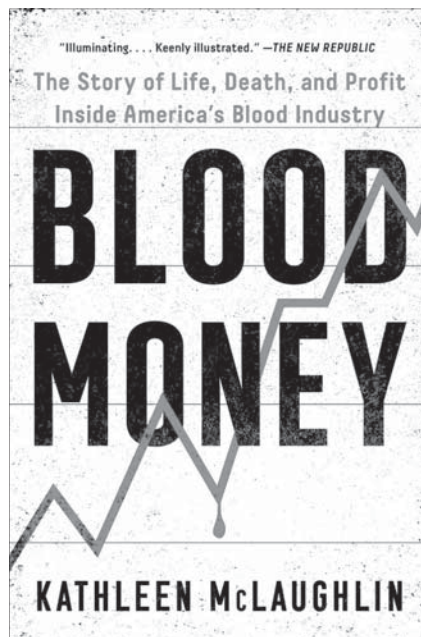
Gangbuster: One Man's Battle Against Crime, Corruption, and the Klan by Alan Prendergast (Citadel Press) tells the story of a Denver district attorney and his efforts a century ago to eliminate the KKK and corruption. True crime fans with a social justice streak will love this book. Pair it with *The Place We Make: Breaking the Legacy of Legalized Hate* by Sarah L. Sanderson (Waterbrook Press), the story of a woman who discovers a terrible wrong in 1851 Oregon... and then she's related to the two men who helped the grievance happen.

BIOGRAPHY / MEMOIR

For your music lover, *To Anyone Who Ever Asks: The Life, Music, and Mystery of Connie Converse* by Howard Fishman (Dutton) will be a welcome gift this holiday. It's the story of a singer / songwriter who never quite made the Big Time, although her music haunted the author and spurred him to try to understand why she disappeared one day. Wrap it up with a book-mark; it's a big book. Wrap it up with *Too Late to Stop Now: More Rock 'n' Roll War Stories* by Allan Jones (Bloomsbury). It's a collection of tales about a genre, from someone who was there.

Is there a Sherlockian fan on your list? Then imagine the excitement when

Doyle's World Lost & Found: The Unknown Histories of Sherlock Holmes and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle by Daniel Friedman, MD and Eugene Griedman, MD (Square One Publishers) is beneath the tree. This book fills in a lot of the cracks between the Holmes mysteries with info from the tales' author's life. Fans of literature will want this book, and so will Holmes readers. Wrap it up with *A Mystery of Mysteries: The Death and Life of Edgar Allan Poe* by Mark Dawidziak (St. Martin's Press), the story of the great author and the how he may have met his end.



The runner on your gift list will love to unwrap *Choosing to Run* by Des Linden (Dutton). Linden was a Boston Marathon Champion and this is her story. If your athlete needs inspiration and a reason to lace up those shoes each morning, this book is it.

For the farmer or rancher on your list, *A Bold Return to Giving a Damn* by Will Harris (Viking) is a book about a farm, but also about the way things were and how they should be, the love of land, and the problems ahead with climate, raising food, and making a living.

Struggling to find the right biography for the history fan? Try *King of Diamonds: Harry Winston* by Ronald Winston & William Stadiem (Skyhorse Publishing, Inc). It's the Gilded Age story of a rags-to-riches man whose name meant "diamonds" to generations of fine jewelry-wearers, and the times in which he lived.

Here's the book to wrap up for the feminist on your list: *Young and Restless* by Mattie Kahn (Viking). Here, your giftee will learn about the teenage girls who made change happen in this country: suffragettes, activists, and unsung young women who stood up for what they thought was right. Make it an even better gift by adding *Women We Buried, Women We Burned* by Rachel Louise Snyder (Bloomsbury). It's a story of survival, triumph, and a deep perspective on both.

The reader who loves a good reinvention story will truly love *The Many Lives of Mama Love* by Lara Love Hardin (Simon & Schuster). Years ago, the author was a thief and a heroin addict and then she went to jail. Once released, she takes what she learned from the cell and uses it to do good things for herself and others. Readers who love second chances will read this gift first.

BUSINESS

Here's an unusual business book for the unusual business reader: *Blood Money* by Kathleen McLaughlin (One Signal / Atria). Donating blood saves lives. Donating blood plasma is a big business, and it's banned in all but five countries in the world. This book will make a great gift for a business reader or for your favorite health care professional.

For the future mom or the mother-to-be who's still trying to figure out her work situation, *Carry Strong: An Empowered Approach to Navigating Pregnancy and Work* by Stephanie Kramer (Penguin Life) may be the best gift ever. Bonus: case studies and real stories so the new mother can read about real life.

The future business leader on your gift list will want to own *Power to the Middle: Why Managers Hold the Keys to the Future of Work* by Bill Schaninger, Bryan Hancock, and Emily Field (Harvard Business Review Press). Middle managers, as the authors argue, is no longer a throwaway position that takes pressure from above and below. Today's middle manager is as important as everyone else in an organization, if not more so. Give this book and see what kind of a difference it makes. Wrap it up with *The Unlocked Leader* by Hortense Le Gentil with Caroline Lambert (Wiley), a book on being the kind of leader that people ask to work with.

...continued on page 14

Holiday Book Gift List... continued from page 13

If there's someone on your gift list who's heading for a leadership role, wrap up *To the Top: How Women in Corporate Leadership are Rewriting the Rules for Success* by Jenna C. Fisher (Wiley). Gone are so-called old-boys' networks. Today's corporations run differently. Support it by giving this book. Here's another unusual look at the top: *Disneyland on the Mountain: Walt, the Environmentalists, and the Ski Resort that Never Was* by Greg Glasgow and Kathryn Mayer (Rowman & Littlefield). It's the story of a proposed feature at Disneyland and the fight that kept it from being made. How it left an impact on business and leisure is a great story for your giftee.

Any business-minded person on your list is going to be happy you gave *Know What Matters: Lessons from a Lifetime of Transformations* by Ron Shaich (Harvard Business Review Press). Shaich is the founder of Panera Bread and this book is about his life, his achievements, and what he has to share with entrepreneurs who won't stop until they reach success.

LGBTQ INTERESTS

Fiction

For the person on your gift list who'd love a boy-meets-boy story, wrap up *Bellies: A Novel* by Nicola Dinan (Hanover Square Press), the tale of a playwright and the man who loves him wholly, until a transition threatens to change everything.

If there's a romantic on your list, then you're in luck: finding a gift is easy when you wrap up *10 Things That Never Happened* by Alexis Hall (Sourcebooks), the story of Sam, whose job is okay, and his boss, Jonathan, who should have never hired Sam. Too late now, except for the romance. Wrap it up with *Time Out* by Sean Hayes and Todd Milliner with Carlyn Greenwald (Simon & Schuster), the story of a basketball player who's newly out of the closet, and a politically-minded boy who could easily get his vote...

For the person on your list who likes to read quick, short articles, wrap up *Inverse Cowgirl: A Memoir* by Alicia Roth Weigel (HarperOne). It's a collection of essays on life as an intersex person, and the necessity for advocating for others who are, too.

HEALTH-RELATED BOOKS

For the giftee who loves reading true medical mysteries, *Girls and Their Monsters* by Audrey Clare Farley (Grand Central) will make a great gift. When researchers studying schizophrenia heard of quadruplet sisters who'd been recently diagnosed, they hoped that the women could unlock secrets. Instead, they found secrets that resonate even today. Wrap it up with *Scarcity Brain: Fix Your Craving Mindset & Rewire Your Habits to Thrive with Enough* by Michael Easter (Rodale Books), for a better look at how our minds work and how we can enhance them.

If there's a giftee on your list who seems to be on an internal struggle, *What Women Want: A Therapist, Her Patients, and Their True Stories of Desire, Power and Love* by Maxine Mei-Fung Chung (Grand Central) may be the right gift. In a series of case-studies, Chung shows that women aren't as complicated as some say. It's a story of healing and finding one's best self. Wrap it up with *What About Men?* by Caitlin Moran (Harper), a

witty (but serious) look at the other side, making a nicely rounded, double-ended gift.

For the person who remembers the pandemic all too well and wants to know what the heck just happened there, wrap up *Foreign Bodies: Pandemics, Vaccines, and the Health of Nations* by Simon Schama (Ecco). More than a health book, this is also a history of how pandemics have been perceived and investigated through the centuries, what people in the past did about them, and what we can anticipate in the future.

Your giftee professes to want to live forever, so wrap up *The Well-Lived Life: A 102-Year-Old Doctor's Six Secrets to Health and Happiness at Every Age* by Gladys McGarey, MD (Atria). McGarey is considered to be "The Mother of Holistic Medicine" and this book explains how she's stayed healthy and active for more than a century. Readers will love the advice here, but they'll also love the biography inside. Wrap it up with *Fit Citizens: A History of Black Women's Exercise from Post-Reconstruction to Postwar America* by Ava Purkiss (The University of North Carolina Press), a book about what experts told Black women about exercise and how that factored into the fight for equality.

If someone on your list is hurting from a loss this year or recently, carefully look for *The Urgent Life: My Story of Love, Loss, and Survival by Bozoma Saint John* (Viking). It's a book about the death of a spouse, yes, but also about taking tragedy and making things as best as they can be.

SCIENCE

If there's a person on your list who loves animals, then *Beastly: The 40,000-Year Story of Animals and Us* by Keggie Carew (Abrams Press) may be just what they'll love. It's a long, deep look at creatures, including us, and it includes tales and true anecdotes your giftee will enjoy.

The environmentalist and the gardener on your list will both love *How to Read a Tree: Clues and Patterns from Bark to Leaves* by Tristan Gooley (The Experiment). It's the story of trees, of course, but it's also a volume of information and all the things we can learn by looking at or living near a tree. Give it to your homeowner, too, for a great holiday.

KIDS AGES 1-6

The littlest kid on your gift list will love reading *Mister Kitty is Lost!* by Greg Pizzoli (Little, Brown for Young Readers). A little girl's kitty has gone missing. Young readers will be delighted with the hunt and surprised at the solution.

KIDS AGES 9-12

The kid who loves a bit of history with a great adventure story will want to read *White House Clubhouse* by Sean O'Brien (Norton Young Readers). It's the story of two kids whose Mom is the new President of the United States. That's cool and all, but it's even cooler when they find a secret tunnel inside the White House...

Your giftee who loves the Baby-Sitter's Club books will truly want to unwrap *Curlfriends: New In Town* by Sharee Miller (Little, Brown Young Readers). It's the story of Charlie, who's starting at another new school and struggles again with making friends. Can the Curlfriends, a group of Black girls who hang out together, make her year better? Middle-schoolers who wrestle with the preteen years will love this graphic novel.

TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS

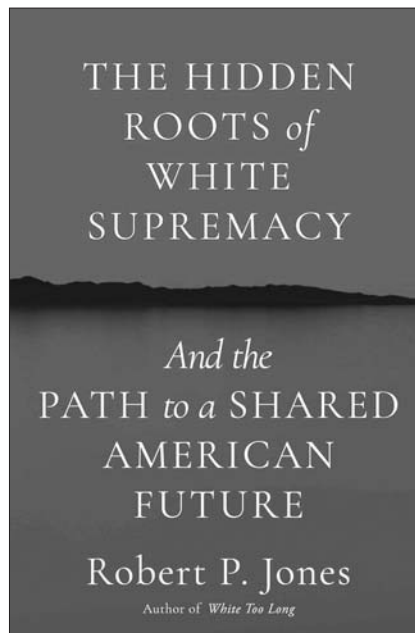
For the romantic on your gift list, try *Chaos Theory* by Nic Stone (Crown). It's the story of two teens who are outcasts in their new school. They gravitate toward one another as friends with something in common. Could it be more than just that, though?

For the teen who needs to read the story of bravery and history, wrap up *The Girl Who Survived Auschwitz* by Sara Leibovits & Eti Elboim (Harper Collins / One More Chapter). It's the tale of Leibovits' family's journey to a concentration camp, and it's not for the faint of heart or the weak of mind.

And now for the housekeeping: books change, publishing dates change, and if you can't find these books or something like them, be sure to ask the elves at the bookstore for the exact thing you need. They know books and they'll help you find the best gift for that hard-to-find person and they might even wrap it for you.

Hint: you're almost done with your shopping. Buy yourself a book.

Season's Readings!



CLASSIFIEDS

December 6, 2023

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FLOORING REPLACEMENT & INSTALLATION SERVICES RFP23-R012

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for **Flooring Replacement & Installation Services in accordance with RFP23-R012**. Received in accordance with law until **December 08, 2023 at 3:00 PM EST**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS BASIC ELECTRICAL SERVICES RFP23-R013

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for **Basic Electrical Services in accordance with RFP23-R013**. Received in accordance with law until **December 08, 2023 at 3:00 PM EST**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE (CNI) – GRANT WRITER SERVICES RFP23-R008

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for **CNI Grant Writer Services in accordance with RFP23-R008**. Received in accordance with law until **November 30, 2023 at 3:00 PM EST**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



PASTOR WANTED

Southern Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a pastor. For more information, go to the South Baptist Facebook page.

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR DESIGN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library is accepting qualifications from design professionals to provide services for its New Washington Branch Project. The Project is anticipated to include renovation of an existing 55,000-square-foot structure for a new Washington Branch and ancillary Library services. Interested firms may request an RFQ from Mike Graybeal,

Director of Operations/Deputy Fiscal Officer at Mike.Graybeal@TOLEDOLIBRARY.ORG. Qualifications will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. local time, DECEMBER 8th, 2023.

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/69656> for more detailed descriptions.

Public Bid Advertisement (Electronic Bidding) State of Ohio Standard Forms and Documents

Project # 1130-23-301 (2)
University Utility Infrastructure
Improvements – Ph2
The University of Toledo
Lucas County

Bids Due: 2:00pm, December 29, 2023, through the State's electronic bidding system at: <https://bidexpress.com>

EDGE Participation Goal: 5.0% of contract of the contract sum with EGDE-certified business(es) AND additional 10% EDGE-certified OR Diverse Supplier vendors including MBE, WBE, VBE, BSVI, SDVOB, and LGBTBE

Domestic steel use is required per ORC 153.011.

Contract	Estimated Cost
General Contract	\$1,140,000

Pre-bid Meeting: Tuesday, December 5th, at 10:00 a.m. – Plant Operations Building – Room 1000, The University of Toledo, 2925 East Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606

Walkthrough: Immediately following Pre-bid.

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

Project Contact: Osborn Engineering Company, Kurt Lohrmann, 614-556-4272, ext.5021, klohrmann@osborn-eng.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROJECT BASED VOUCHERS RFP23-R001 N

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMH) will receive proposals for **Project Based Vouchers for the HCV program**. Interested parties should be owner/developers, management agent, and/or project sponsors for projects concentrating on Supportive Services. LMH has reserved up to 250 PBV for this rolling RFP. Received in accordance with law until **December 07, 2023, at 3:00 PM ET**. See documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street, Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246). This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



Community Gathers to Support Families for Fitness

By: *Tricia Hall*

The Truth Reporter

Toledo's own Families for Fitness held their first fundraiser on Saturday, November 25, 2023 at The Pinnacle located in Maumee, Ohio, where WTOL's TV on-air anchor TaTiana Cash served as the mistress of ceremonies. Youth across Toledo have benefited from the wholistic wellness programming provided by Families for Fitness, a nonprofit which has served northwest Ohio for years to actively reduce youth obesity.

"Everything here, all the proceeds, all of the donations will support our program that will begin on December 12 at Martin Luther King Academy for Boys," said Marsha Hill, executive director of Families for Fitness. "We're so happy with the turn out and support this year and looking forward to next year's event."

The event was called "Crowns, Bows and Pearls." The venue welcomed over 100 supporters who had the opportunity to enjoy conversation with a full course meal, and a chance to support local vendors.

Vendors included: Color Street, Melanated Halo, Nonnie's 3J Jewelry, and Simply D'Vine Boutique.

The third act of the event was the main attraction featuring a parade of models, of various sizes, who displayed fashions provided by Simply D'Vine Boutique. The boutique is owned by Terrie Cook and located at 3606 W Sylvania Ave, unit 10 in Toledo. The models strutted the runway for over six different themes including: jungle, accessories and faux leather. All items were available for purchase following the show.

"We're here for a good cause. We're here to celebrate Families for Fitness," shared fashion commentator Jacqueline Banks. "You're in for a show, everything is for sale. Today is small business Saturday, so let's buy local."

Everything here, all the donations will support our program that will begin on Dec 12, at MLK Academy for Boys. -Marsha Hill

Families for Fitness was founded and still under the leadership of Marsha Hill. Their mission is to communicate with great urgency the seriousness of obesity, to engage in obesity prevention and intervention through education in nutrition, exercise, family counseling and intense follow-up. The nonprofit was incorporated by the State of Ohio in 2008 and established as a 501c3 by the IRS in 2011.

Families for Fitness provides in-school and after-school programming. The in-school programming consists of eight topics that include: reading food labels, exercise, nutrition, sleep, school and life stress, using technology and hydration just to name a few. The afterschool

program focuses on physical activity, teamwork and the importance of encouraging and supporting others. In 2023, Families for Fitness was awarded a grant from the Greater Toledo Community Foundation's Equity & Access Initiative which seeks to support minority-led smaller permanent staffed nonprofits in the areas of advocacy, economic development, employment and nonprofit capacity, in order to proactively address barriers that impact communities.

The \$15,000 grant will fortify ongoing efforts in three areas: strengthening administrative and development efforts, revitalizing programming and expanding community reach. To contact Families for Fitness, email fam4fitinc@yahoo.com



Where could **lead** be in my home?

Lead can be found in the air, soil, dust and paint inside or outside of some homes and other buildings built before 1978.

ToledoLeadSafe.com

TOL **LeadSafe**
City of Toledo TOLEDO