


Women's History Month



The Sojourner's Truth

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Honorees, Lucas County, Lisa McDuffie and Officials

WHAT'S YOUR VACATION FLAVOR?



The Primary is Over

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



I don't believe the accident of birth makes people sisters or brothers. It makes them siblings.... Sisterhood and brotherhood is a condition people have to work at.
- Maya Angelou

Last week's primary race for Lucas County Commissioner between Anita Lopez and Paula Hicks-Hudson showcased several significant insights, serving as a microcosm of broader political trends.

With control over nearly \$1 billion in annual spending at stake, the Lopez/Hicks-Hudson showdown highlighted the suburban ascent from the sidelines to the main event in emerging political battles.

Despite Hicks-Hudson's strong support in the urban core, Lopez's monopolizing win in the suburbs Maumee, Monclova, Oregon and Sylvania not only sealed the deal but also underscored a crucial lesson: winning elections necessitates strong support from suburban communities.

The race was extremely close after early and absentee votes were counted; however, Lopez clinched the victory by winning the election day vote tally by 2200 votes more than Hicks-Hudson.

Yet, low voter participation is a challenge, particularly in urban areas where it disproportionately affects African American candidates. Even with massive, door-pounding campaigns and lit drops in central city wards, the efforts seem only to yield a marginal difference in primaries, lessening their impact and the opportunity to place an African American into office.

With suburban voters increasingly acting as kingmakers, this election demonstrates the need to cultivate candidates capable of appealing beyond traditional central city wards if African American candidates are to taste electoral success in contested races.

It also appears that Lopez may have had a much larger campaign war chest and a sizeable advantage in signs, volunteers and superior organization on the ground and at the polls on election day, including Tina Butts' effective organizing machinery.

Therefore, a valiant Hicks-Hudson showed tremendous resilience given Lopez's domination of the suburbs, which experienced a much higher turnout than Hicks-Hudson's underperforming central city base. George Hilliard, though, should receive a standing ovation for garnering a higher turnout and support in Ward 6, which supported Hicks-Hudson by an 80 to 20 percent margin.

Paula Hicks-Hudson: Future Directions:

With another disappointing electoral loss, Hicks-Hudson faces a piv-

... continued on page 6



Paula Hicks-Hudson

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Tolliver to the Rescue for Trump!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
 Guest Column

Lest it be attributed to me that I am a cold-hearted person regarding the miseries and woes of my fellow man (or woman) and that ice water flows through my veins, therefore I have taken the liberty to assist Trump in his desperate bid to find cash monies to satisfy a nearly half billion dollar bond requirement.

Yes, the Dear Leader needs cash, a lot of cash and he needs it now to avoid the waiting clutches of New York State Attorney Letitia James who has said that if Dear Leader does not cough up the bucks, she will be at his front door with the padlock to close his various businesses and freeze his accounts.

For Dear Leader, the mere thought of a Black woman taking command of his assets with her sass and verve is enough to throw him into a mental and emotional panic!

Trump was under the vain delusion that he could avoid all consequences for his many acts of avarice and evil machinations and simply skip away like a newborn lamb in a sun-drenched clover field.

Now that Trump is facing the grim reality that facts matter, and the fact of the matter is that he has ripped off the citizens of New York for decades with his phony real estate valuation scams.

Using an old aphorism, Trump has danced to the piper for decades and now the aging piper wants to be paid and paid big time.

As some say, "The gig is up!" and Trump is flummoxed about how he is going to muster up the coinage needed to pay the dinner bill. I mean, after all, he has dined sumptuously for decades on caviar and lobster, fine cheeses and fatty desserts; and now the restaurant says the party is over, and he must pay his hefty tab of nearly a half billion dollars.

Not having a mean bone in my body, I, with charity aforethought, reached out to the Trump campaign and gave them the following suggestions as to

how that cash cow could be fed.

So, dear reader, why don't you examine my generosity and tell me what you think of these ideas to raise the needed capital.

ONE: Reduce the price of the \$499.00 golden sneakers to that of \$399.00 and toss in a MAGA red hat to seal the deal. Should be a big seller since Trump has intimated that Black youth simply love sneakers... like French Fries love ketchup!

TWO: Offer plane rides on your commercial jet for \$259.99 for a 30-minute trip. Booking four tickets would be a bargain at \$900.00! On the plane ride, you would have your buddy, Rudy Guiliani, croaking out the O'Jays hit song, Money, Money, Money!

THREE: Make a deal with a local McDonald's franchisee that you would autograph a Big Mac wrapper for \$100 for anyone who buys five or more. This would be a keeper for those who would later sell them on eBay.

FOUR: Convince Senator Tim Scott to pose in an 8x10 inch glossy photo with you where he is shining your shoes with a big toothy grin and wearing a red "do rag" on his head. A sure-fire crowd pleaser for white South Carolina voters! At 50 bucks a pop, tens of thousands of this photograph would sell.

FIVE: Release the unredacted "love letters" that you said Kim Jung Un of North Korea gave to you. If you swooned over them, imagine what Mitch McConnell and Lindsey Graham would do with those blush causing letters. At \$25,000.00 per letter, this is money in da bank!

SIX: Create an auction by which, to the highest bidder, you will release a secret map that shows the whereabouts of the purloined national security boxes that you secreted at your Westminster golf club. Such an auction will create a windstorm of controversy and bidders. The minimum price would be 10 million per box (there are over 50 boxes). Note: Putin would bid in from Moscow on this one!

SEVEN: Release both your college and graduate school transcripts with no redactions. Cost: fifty million. Imagine the public comparing your grades to that of Barak Obama! We would then see who the real genius is!

EIGHT: Sell the Bible that you held upside down outside of the church in Washington D.C. when you were trying to prevent the crowd from dissing you.

Price: One million or highest bidder.

Well...there you have it. Eight ideas, if done correctly, will raise more than enough cash to cover that pesky bond issue and keep Letitia James on the sidelines.

I done my small part to Make America Great Again and I hope dear reader that you and your friends will pony up some bucks to help avoid Trump being acutely embarrassed by any sale of his goodies. And... tell Rudy to do that plane singing gig, it's a winner!

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



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A Full Court Press to Get the Lead Out

By Ben Jealous
Guest Column

There's nothing quite like seeing a kid who was born healthy but now suffers cognitive impairment and is prone to outbursts of anger. As a volunteer restoring six-story walk-ups in Harlem in the early 90s, I saw how lead paint chips and dust were wreaking havoc on the kids in those low-income buildings.

The kids not only lived in a cloud of despair but in a cloud of lead-infused dust. The former made achieving their dreams difficult. The latter made it impossible. Fast forward a few decades and the threat of lead poisoning has continued to manifest in public health crises. It was at the heart of the well-publicized water crisis in Flint, Michigan that started in 2014 ... and the subsequent not-as-well-publicized water crises in Benton Harbor, MI and Pittsburgh, PA just a few short years later.

Now, thanks to community organizers, advocacy groups, the federal government, and even some private companies, we're seeing a major push to eliminate the lingering threat of lead. It is thanks to the hard work of activists like Gabriel Gray. Gray is an organizer with Pittsburgh United, a local advocacy group that works on clean water and housing issues. She came to this work during her own city's water crisis.

Only finding out about the crisis once there was a run on bottled water in all the local stores, Gray applied with the Pittsburgh Water and Sewage Authority (PWSA) for a lead line replacement for her home and was denied. Then she started organizing with her neighbors. "Because of the work the Pittsburgh United Our Water Campaign did to hold PWSA accountable, it is now the only public water authority in Pennsylvania to be governed by the state's Public Utility Commission (PUC).

"However, my neighborhood borders an area with a different water authority not governed by the PUC – the Wilkesburg-Penn Joint Water Authority.



Ben Jealous

We're now working with Wilkesburg-Penn to stress the importance of equity in its lead line replacement plans, after finding that environmental justice communities had been slower to receive replacements than other communities in that authority's jurisdiction."

The increased focus on stopping lead poisoning is also thanks to tireless advocates like my friend Ruth Ann Norton, who heads the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) in Baltimore.

GHHI was recently chosen to administer \$50 million in grants across the mid-Atlantic under the EPA's Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking program created by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Norton says, "We can make homes, schools, childcare centers lead-free, as long as we have a comprehensive approach and flexible funding. And we can do this simultaneously as we address climate work, with some of the same funding. It's an opportunity we need to seize if we're going to end lead's toxic legacy."

There are additional rays of hope thanks to healthcare providers like GHHI partner Penn Medicine's Lancaster General Health. The Hospital put \$50 million into a community health improvement initiative to eliminate childhood lead poisoning in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. With a "goal of identifying and remediating lead hazards in at least 2,800 Lancaster County homes," LG Health is setting an example for the private sector. And the Biden-Harris administration's focus on environmental justice and access to clean and safe water is aiding the national effort.

The IRA and bipartisan infrastructure law offer a treasure trove of federal funding to clean up this mess. There are billions of dollars already flowing to states to improve water infrastructure and make drinking water safer. And billions more in environmental justice and energy efficiency investments that can be put towards lead abatement as well. Ruth Ann Norton described how states could apply for Climate Pollution Reduction Grants – a \$5 billion program in the IRA – to take a "whole house approach" that makes lead abatement and other key remediations part of a comprehensive approach to building maintenance and electrification. Lead is a global problem.

A recent study by Lancet Planetary Health estimated "5.5 million adults worldwide died in 2019 from cardiovascular disease attributable to lead exposure – a toll more than six times higher than a previous estimate."

That year, the combined price tag of the loss in IQ in children under five years old and cardiovascular mortality was an estimated \$6 trillion. There is no cure for lead poisoning other than prevention. The investment in future health makes good economic sense for lawmakers, government agencies, and companies alike. Most urgently, states and municipalities need to take advantage of the funds available through IRA and the bipartisan infrastructure law.

And they need to work with community organizations like GHHI and Pittsburgh United, as well as private companies where appropriate, to make sure the funds are administered correctly and equitably. If there was ever a worthy cause for an "all hands on deck" approach, wouldn't protecting our kids and their futures be it?

Ben Jealous is the Executive Director of the Sierra Club and a Professor of Practice at the University of Pennsylvania.

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.

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Black Business Ownership Numbers Around the Nation Boom

By Alvin A. Reid

Special to The Truth

Black business ownership is growing at the fastest pace in 30 years, and the share of Black households owning a business has more than doubled, from five percent to 11 percent between 2019 and 2022, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The number of women-owned businesses has grown dramatically. From 2019 to 2023, the growth rate of women-owned businesses was 94 percent greater than the growth of men-owned businesses.

Census Bureau data projects that a record-breaking 5.5 million new business applications were filed in 2023, making it the strongest year of new business applications on record. It is also the third consecutive year of historic small business growth.

SBA loans to minority entrepreneurs are also on the rise.

Since 2020, the share of the SBA's loan portfolio going to minority-owned businesses has increased from 23 percent to more than 32 percent.

The number and dollar value of SBA-backed loans to Black-owned businesses has more than doubled, reaching nearly \$1.5 billion.

The SBA backed \$3 billion in loans to Latino-owned businesses in FY23 — a record-breaking high.

Lending to women-owned small businesses is once again on the rise, with loan counts increasing by 70 percent since 2020 and total loan dollars exceeding \$5 billion in 2023.

"America's great diversity continues to propel entrepreneurship with Black, Latino, and women founders starting up at higher rates than ever," SBA Administrator Isabel Casillas Guzman said.

The SBA also reported that \$9.5 billion in federal contracts went to Black-owned businesses in 2022 — a \$490 million increase from 2021.

"That's not enough. You know, we celebrate that marker, but we need to do much, much more, and that that is our hope and our mission here," said Mark Madrid, associate administrator for the SBA Office of Entrepreneurial Development (OED).

"Black entrepreneurs are so important to the fabric of this country, not only socially but economically as well," Madrid said.

In addition to funding programs to help entrepreneurs start or expand their businesses, the SBA also provides counseling, training, and business development programs.

Guzman praised the Biden-Harris administration for its concentrated effort to increase small-business ownership.

"More Americans than ever are pursuing their dreams of business ownership as the rate of new business applications filed and establishments under President Biden continues to surge," he said.

"In the last year alone, Americans across the country and in a wide range of industries filed a record five and a half million new business applications, bringing the total number under this administration to a record-breaking 16 million."

Since President Biden took office, there have been 16 million new business applications — the highest recorded amount in three years. From 2021-2023, the U.S. has seen more new business applications than the prior four years combined.

The monthly average of 440,000 new business applications during the first three years of the Biden-Harris Administration — is 46 percent higher than the average of the prior four years combined. The surge has featured out-sized growth in entrepreneurship among women, Latinos and Black Americans.

This post was originally published on St. Louis American.



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Kent Branch Hosts Talk with Abdul Alkalimat

By Dawn Scotland

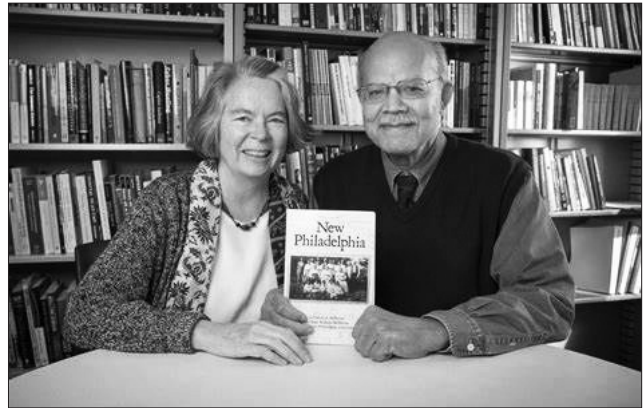
The Truth Reporter

The Kent Branch Library Tatum Center hosted a virtual discussion with former University of Toledo Chair of Africana Studies Abdul Alkalimat, PhD, and his wife Kate Williams, PhD, regarding their book *Roots and Flowers: The Life and Work of Afro-Cuban Librarian Marta Terry González* (2015) Thursday, March 21 at Kent Branch Library. The zoom meeting included catered Cuban fare from Carlos Poco Loco.

Guests listened to the two scholars discuss Afro-Cuban life and history during the 20th-century and the emergent librarianship during the Cuban Revolution. The book introduces readers to 1) the role of Afro-Cubans in Cuban history and culture, particularly in the 20th century, and 2) librarianship in the context of the Cuban revolution through the life and lens of Dr. Marta Terry who directed three centrally important Cuban libraries in her lifetime. Her work serves as an example for other Africans in the Americas and for all library workers in times of social change. (Source: litwinbooks.com/books/roots-and-flowers/)

Abdul Alkalimat (Gerald A. McWorter) is a founder of the field of Black Studies and author of many books and papers about Black liberation including *Black Toledo: A Documentary History of the African American Experience in Toledo, Ohio* (2019). He wrote the first college textbook for the field, *Introduction to Afro-American Studies*, which has seen seven editions, the last one free and online.

A lifelong scholar-activist with a PhD from the University of Chicago, he has lectured, taught, and directed academic programs across the US, the Caribbean, Africa, Europe, and China. Two of his early contributions were serving as chair of the Chicago chapter of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and co-founding the Organization of Black American Culture (OBAC) in 1967. He is now professor emeritus



Kate Williams, PhD, and Abdul Alkalimat, PhD

of African American Studies and Information Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Much of his work is freely available at <http://www.alkalimat.org>

Kate Williams is an associate professor emerita in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and holds a PhD, Information, University of Michigan.

To learn more about the Kent Library Art Tatum Center or view upcoming events at the Toledo Public Library visit www.toledolibrary.org.

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Perryman... continued from page 2

otal moment in her political journey, prompting a reassessment of her strategy and engagement approaches. Despite her extensive experience and significant roles throughout her career, she now stands at a crossroads, contemplating where her brilliant legal mind, expertise and governance experience can be most effectively utilized.

Hicks-Hudson may be out as party chair of the Lucas County Democrats. Schuyler Beckwith is spearheading a shift in direction, as evident by her recent efforts to assemble a new slate.

Acknowledging the need for change, she has taken proactive steps to gather support and solidify her position. Despite the sensitivity surrounding Paula's potential candidacy, Beckwith has moved forward with her own plans, reaching out to garner endorsements from promi-

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The 29th Annual YWCA Milestones: A Tribute to Women

By Asia Nail

The Truth Reporter

The Glass City Center, resplendent in its newly renovated glory, served as the radiant stage for the 29th Annual YWCA Milestones: A Tribute to Women, an event steeped in honor, recognition and the collective spirit of empowerment. Attended by community leaders, supporters and honorees alike, this prestigious event symbolizes a moment of unity and celebration, highlighting the significant contributions of trailblazing women across various fields.

As I made my way down the corridor overlooking the Fifth Third Field baseball stadium, I was captivated by beautiful large-scale photographs of each honoree. The inspiring gazes of these women seemingly guided me forward with determination and purpose. Persimmon orange, the emblematic hue of the YWCA, adorned every corner, infusing the space with warmth and vitality.

Lisa McDuffie, president/CEO of the YWCA of Northwest Ohio, expressed her gratitude as she announced that all honorees this year were bestowed with custom brooch pins designed by Ivan & Michelle of Harold Jaffee Jewelers.

"It is with great honor and appreciation that we present you with this circle brooch representing a woman's continued work, set with seven diamonds in the YWCA insignia."

In addition to the stunning brooches, honorees were also presented with proclamations from government officials, including the offices of Senator Sherrod Brown and Representative Elgin Rogers, Jr. - District 44.

Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz himself underscored the significance of this recognition, emphasizing that it is the highest honor a public woman leader can receive in our city. Lucas County Commissioners Pete Gerken and Lisa Sobocki also thanked honorees for their unwavering dedication to Toledo.

Diane Larson from WTVG-TV, Channel 13, presented honorees, guiding the proceedings with grace and poise. Her words, a rallying cry for the transforma-

tive power of supporting women, echoed through the ballroom, setting hearts aglow with hope and inspiration.

Before the spotlight was individually cast on the honorees of the day, a moment of reverence was shared—a collective homage to the torchbearers who had paved the way. A thunderous round of applause erupted as both past and present YWCA Milestone Honorees walked together in front of the stage—a chorus of gratitude, respect, and admiration for their tireless contributions to

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Honorees with Diane Larson and Lisa McDuffie



Bishop Pat McKinstry; Tracee Peryman, PhD; Dawn Buskey; Catherine Hoolahan; Marie Bush, PhD; Dr. Eleanore Awadalla; Ann Heckler



Vallie Bowman English, Bishop Pat McKinstry, Alethea Easterly, Suzette Cowell

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YWCA... continued from page 7

our community.

Sheri Copanic, the steadfast Treasurer of the YWCA, shared a poignant plea, urging all present to join hands in creating a more welcoming atmosphere for the more than 250 children who seek refuge in our downtown Toledo flagship shelter each year by donating to meet the YWCA's 15 million-dollar pledge. Her words resonated with a sense of urgency, a call to action that stirred hearts and ignited passions.

The Milestones Awards Luncheon stands as the largest fundraising event hosted by the YWCA of NW Ohio, fueling vital initiatives and programs that uplift women and families in need. With the planned renovations to the YWCA's core facility, including the expansion of the shelter's capacity to accommodate more families in crisis, we were reminded of the transformative impact of collective action and solidarity.

As the luncheon unfolded, each honoree took center stage, their stories weaving a tapestry of courage, resilience and unwavering dedication to their respective fields.

Starting with **Arts Honoree, Ann Heckler**. A luminary in the world of dance, Heckler's passion for inclusivity and innovation shone brightly as she shared her journey. From humble beginnings in her neighbor's dance studio to her current role as the Toledo Ballet Adaptive Dance Director and Outreach teacher, Heckler's commitment to celebrating the beauty in every body type reverberated through the room. Her dedication to creating a space where all can thrive, regardless of ability, left an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of hearing her speak.

"Many of the students in adaptive dance are non speaking," Heckler explained.

"To watch us dance is to hear our heart speak."

Next, **Business Honoree, Dr. Eleanore Awadalla, DDS**, took the stage, her presence commanding attention as she recounted her remarkable journey from Egypt to America. Her narrative of resilience was deeply inspiring, woven with the thread of a family legacy steeped in medicine. With her father as a Surgeon and Anesthesiologist, her brother as a Reproductive Endocrinologist, and her sister as a Neurologist, the tradition of healing runs deep in her lineage.

Furthermore, her own children continue this noble tradition, with her daughter excelling as a Periodontist and her son as an Orthopedic Spine Surgeon.

A respected dental professional, mentor, and advocate for women in business, Dr. Awadalla's tireless efforts



to uplift others were met with thunderous applause. Also, as a significant gesture, Sylvania Mayor Craig Stough officially declared March 19 as Dr. Eleanore Awadalla Day, for her dedication to community wellness in the city of Sylvania. Her poignant reminder of the importance of education, instilled in her by her parents, struck a chord with all who listened. "Work hard despite adversity," she shared.

"Most importantly, love one another and the community we built together."

Marie Latham Bush, Ph.D and **Education Honoree**, stood as a beacon of
..continued on page 9



Karyn McConnell and Valerie Thompson



Past Honorees - Clara Petty, Ireatha Hollie, Billie Johnson and Deborah Barnett

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Perryman... continued from page 6

ment groups such as the Building Trades and IBEW. With key endorsements and a cohesive slate, Schuyler's candidacy appears formidable, signaling a potential shift in leadership dynamics within the Party.

Currently holding a secure seat in the Ohio Senate, Hicks-Hudson's options for her next steps are varied. While she may continue in public service or contribute to policy development, leveraging her leadership in advisory roles is another potential avenue. These possibilities signify a new chapter in her journey that builds upon her past accomplishments while addressing the challenges highlighted by her recent dismal electoral experiences.

Analyzing Hicks-Hudson's political trajectory further reveals areas for potential growth and development. While she has considerable experience and support within specific "voter niches" or confined voter areas, she has faced challenges in building a robust political organization and donor base. This aspect of her candidacy has hindered her ability to effectively navigate broader competitive electoral races.

Moreover, Hicks-Hudson's decision-making regarding potential career opportunities has also been scrutinized. Despite opportunities to groom for future roles such as Lucas County Clerk of Courts or Lucas Metropolitan Housing, she has preferred positions that offer greater visibility and influence. However, this inclination may limit her options, particularly in administrative roles where her expertise could be valuable.

Looking ahead, Hicks-Hudson's future endeavors must align with her skills and aspirations. If rumors of Vallie Bowman-English's planned retirement are trustworthy, a possible spot leading Toledo Municipal Court could rescue Hicks-Hudson from the arduous and unforgiving back-and-forth travel to Columbus to serve in the Ohio Legislature. With her policy expertise and superb credentials, I would not rule out a local appointment as an administrator or in a policy role.

Ultimately, Hicks-Hudson's journey represents challenges and opportunities, necessitating strategic decision-making and adaptation as she charts her course. With a clear understanding of her strengths and ambitions, she will successfully navigate the complexities of the local political landscape and carve out a path that reflects her values and aspirations.

Democratic Party Strategy:

Nevertheless, the public has now spoken. Campaigns were run, a primary was held and is over, and primaries are a fundamental part of our Democratic system. However, we need to shift our focus to the general

YWCA... continued from page 8

unwavering commitment to excellence and equity in the field of education. From her role as an administrator in Toledo Public Schools to her leadership as Owner + CEO of Latham-Bush Educational Consultants, Bush's dedication to ensuring quality education for all was met with resounding admiration. Her call to future female educators to 'stay the course and remember your purpose' echoed throughout the room. She imparted upon us the guiding principles instilled by her parents and honed through years of educational experience:

"Students don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. Don't ever think having a degree makes you better than anyone else. Treat everyone the same, from the janitor to the administrators."

Next **Catherine Hoolahan** *Government Honoree*, a force to be reckoned within the realm of law, took center stage. "I started law school when my 2 boys were both in diapers. I was 35," she shared.

Hoolahan offers legal support and advocacy for trafficked and exploited individuals, serving as a guardian ad litem for minors and offering counsel to adults. With over 27 years of experience in litigation, she has worked across various legal areas, including civil rights, criminal defense, and personal injury law. Notably, she has dedicated her practice to assisting survivors of abuse, particularly those affected by clergy abuse in Ohio.

Hoolahan worked for years with Ohio Senator Teresa Fedor, a former YWCA Milestone Honoree herself, to pass Senate Bill 235 which established human abuse in Ohio as a stand alone 2nd degree felony. In 2006 she was appointed to the Toledo City Plan Commission where she served voluntarily under six mayors, overseeing projects like Westgate Village, the ProMedica downtown expansion, the Warehouse District, and UT's Student Housing Complexes just to name a few.

Her message to young women attorneys was, **"Persevere, no matter the obstacles. Know you can do it. It may take you longer but it can be done."**

The spotlight shifted to Sciences Honoree, Dawn Buskey. As President of

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Anita Lopez and Tina Butts

election, which holds far greater importance.

Neither Paula nor Anita should be "all up in their feelings." Instead, they should let bygones be bygones.

In November, Marcy Kaptur and Sherrod Brown are involved in the elections of their political lives. According to respected polls, Marcy has, at best, a 50-50 chance of defeating Derek Merrin in the volatile race for the U.S. Congress's 9th District.

So, instead of getting caught up in emotions, the community needs to move forward. The upcoming challenges require us to set aside personal sentiments and focus on the task at hand. As we face the impending storm, we must take proactive steps to fortify our defenses and unite.

It's time to prepare for what lies ahead and build the necessary barriers to overcome division and achieve our collective goals.

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



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

Public Invited to Connect with MLK's "A Time to Break Silence"

By Lynne Hamer, Ph.D.

Special to the Truth

The sixth annual *Our Time to Break Silence: A Community Reading of Dr. Martin Luther King's A Time to Break Silence* will take place on Sunday, April 14, at 3 pm at Monroe Street Church, 3613 Monroe Street, Toledo. Doors open at 2:30 for this FREE event.

One year to the day before his assassination, on April 4, 1967, Dr. King gave this speech at New York's historic Riverside Church. With it, he spoke as a world leader for human rights, expanding beyond his previous role as a national leader for civil rights.

In 2017, the National Council of Elders called for communities across the nation to present *A Time to Break Silence* in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the speech and as a call for contemporary action. Toledo citizens answered the call and Toledo has had a reading every year since 2017, except during the pandemic shutdown.

So far, this year 32 community organizations are sending readers and many will have information tables at the punch and cookie reception following the reading. Any additional organizations wishing to send readers for this year's event should contact the organizing committee by April 1.

While Monroe Street United Methodist Church has hosted the event each year, the event is an independent community undertaking. The *MLK Time To*

...continued on page 11



Br. Washington Muhammad, Tom Galloway, and Sean Nestor read for the 2023 event and are returning in 2024



Diane Gordon, Hope Bland, Vernita Lewis Taylor, and Oscar Shaheer performed at the 2023 event and will return in 2024



MLK event includes reception and information tables, here pictured in 2023



Diane Gordon, representing Toledo Kwanzaa House, at the 2023 event



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"A Time to Break Silence"... continued from page 10

Break Silence Organizing Committee, comprised of community members who have participated in the event over the years, develops the program every year. Since 2023, Toledo Public Schools has cosponsored the event.

TPS's Dr. Joan Waldorf directed the Rogers High School choir for the event last year; this year she is part of the organizing committee. Waldorf explained, "Hearing King's words spoken by people of all backgrounds moved me to join the planning committee. Being a teacher, I am always balancing the voice of critique, care and justice for my students. Knowing that, at some point, all of our voices are silenced, and that laws are being put into place by people who may or may not have our best interests at heart, I am always cognizant of what my relationships with others ask of me. I am honored to be chair for the music and spoken word this year."

The event brings together representatives of many local groups, ranging from religious to civic to activist, that work to realize King's ideal. The mission is (1) "inform and educate young people about Dr. King's important impact," (2) "build the movement to break silence, promote dialogue, and engage in nonviolent direct action," and (3) "recognize the relevance of Dr. King's words half a century later and to continue to Break the Silence today."

The event promotes positivity and connection for all by highlighting the good work groups do and by providing an opportunity for others to join them. This is crucially important for our youth: The National Institutes of Health routinely issue reports on the grave effects of isolation on teen mental health, as well as teens' dangerous levels of anxiety about political issues. The organizing committee hopes that the event helps youth connect with empowering organizations to break isolation and take action.

Groups that students and others might join range from the NAACP Youth Council, Ohio Unity Coalition and League of Women Voters, to the Citizens Solidarity Response Network (CSRN) and Move to Amend/Democracy Day, to the Sacred Spaces gardening initiative and the MultiFaith Council of Northwest Ohio. Punch and cookies after the speech fuel conversations that make these connections.

In the music and spoken word program prior to the speech, students from TPS's Scott High School and Grove Patterson Academy, Perrysburg High School, Ann Jerkins-Harris Academy of Excellence, Toledo School for the Arts, Toledo Islamic Academy, University of Toledo, and others will perform and display artwork on the theme of breaking silences and working together for peace and self-determination.

The Scott High School Choir, under the direction of Waldorf, will perform pieces reflecting the range and scope of the speech—from *Aya Nygena*, an authentic Zulu folk song, to *Nothing is Gonna Stop Me*, a driving piece about inner determination by Pinkzebra.

The heart of the event is King's speech. It will be performed in its entirety (approximately 40 minutes) by representatives of community organizations. Each takes a paragraph and reads it verbatim, with hopes of making it relevant for today.

This year, the audience will also have the opportunity to be part of the reading. Led by TPS's Vernita Lewis Taylor, audience members will be invited to read together thirteen key lines during the performance of the speech.

For example, early in the speech the audience will read Dr. King's foundational observation, "Life and history give eloquent testimony to the fact that conflicts are never resolved without trustful give and take on both sides." This is a core message of the speech: we must listen to others.

Later in the speech, the audience will contribute King's insight that such trust requires love: "Love is the ultimate force that makes for the saving choice of life and good against the damning choice of death and evil. Therefore the first hope in our inventory must be the hope that love is going to have the last word."

In between these big ideas, the speech provides a history lesson on the sorrows and inequities of the Vietnam War—sorrows echoed in armed conflicts across the world in 2024.

Vietnam War history will be localized in an educational display focused on Toledoans, which audience members can examine before and after the program. Joyce Stubblefield joined the organizing committee this year to contribute the history of Toledoans who fought and died in Vietnam, which was

assembled by Glenn Stubblefield, her husband, prior to his death. Joyce will display Glenn's work as well as her own work extending it, and will invite attendees to contribute memories of their own loved ones to the project.

Audience members can also practice listening during the reception. Students from the University of Toledo will tell their family and community stories of oppression informally, following the speech. Under the guidance of Dr. Fatima Aldajani, students' t-shirts stating "Ask me my story" will invite individuals to reach out to them to listen. Telling these stories of gives young people the understanding of their history necessary for them to break silence and take action in the present—and their stories educate the rest of us.

The audience will conclude the speech with the pledge that inspires the event: "Now let us begin. Now let us rededicate ourselves to the long and bitter, but beautiful, struggle for a new world." They will end with King's hopeful note:

If we will make the right choice, we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our world into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. If we will but make the right choice, we will be able to speed up the day, all over America and all over the world, when "justice will roll down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream."

Please contact the committee by April 1 to send a reader or have an information table at the event. Please attend the event on Sunday, April 14 at 3 pm (doors open at 2:30 and refreshments and conversation till 5:30), Monroe Street Church, 3613 Monroe Street, Toledo. Contact the MLK 2024 Break Silence Organizing Committee at 419-283-8288 (call or text) to participate or with questions. The author is a professor with the UToledo Judith Herb College of Educations and is part of the committee.

YWCA... continued from page 9

ProMedica's Acute Care division overseeing 11 hospitals, she has steered the organization to unparalleled heights, with accolades such as being ranked #1 in the Toledo area by U.S. News & World Report's 'Best Hospitals' report for the past four years. Buskey is President of Toledo Hospital and Russell J. Ebeid Children's Hospital. Her dedication to fostering gender diversity within ProMedica's executive team and her unwavering support for women in health-care stands as a testament to her visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to excellence. "We have many women leaders at Promedica," Buskey expressed.

"Nearly 50 percent of our executive team are women and our nurse workforce is nearly 95 percent women. We are very proud of that."

We then turned our attention to Tracee Perryman, PhD, Social Services Honoree, whose transformative initiatives have touched countless lives in urban settings. As the Founder+CEO of Center of Hope Family Services, she has spearheaded a myriad of programs aimed at improving life outcomes for underserved youth and families. From juvenile re-entry and delinquency prevention programs to workforce development initiatives incorporating parenting and life skills training, Dr. P's visionary leadership has brought about tangible change. Moreover, her partnership with the Moses Project to reduce infant mortality underscores her commitment to addressing pressing social issues. Center of Hope Family Services provides access to innovative afterschool education, affordable mental health services, and cohesive family support, elevating the lives of entire families in Toledo communities. Perryman's gratitude to her parents and her unwavering dedication to her mission radiated through her words. "First I would like to thank God for opening every door," she expressed.

"As a 3rd generation educator and entrepreneur, I thank both of my parents Dr. Donald & Willetta Perryman for demonstrating what it means to parent for a lifetime."

The spotlight then turned to Bishop Pat McKinstry, Volunteerism Honoree, for her lifelong commitment to ministry. With over six decades of service to her name, Bishop McKinstry has embodied the essence of selfless giving and spiritual leadership. Throughout her illustrious career, spanning 64 years in ministry and 34 years as a pastor, she has served as a beacon of wisdom and compassion, touching countless lives with her mentorship and guidance. Recognized as a mentor and life coach to numerous high-profile women in the community, Bishop McKinstry's influence extends far beyond the walls

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Seventy Years After Brown v. Board: The Erasure of Black Educators

Schools may be legally desegregated, but the profession is mostly white and female – and that's not good for Black children

By Sharif el-Mekki

Guest Column

I celebrate the upcoming 70th anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education, the Supreme Court decision that put America squarely on the road to eliminating the scourge that was “separate but equal.” I truly do.

“Separate but equal” condemned generations of Black Americans to a lesser life under the law. To barely camouflaged contempt and outright racism from the governments they themselves paid taxes to sustain. To artificially limited opportunity and potential.

But its abrupt end in education 70 years ago had an unforeseen consequence—one that should be of great concern to anyone who cares about racial justice, educational equity, and true equality of opportunity: Black educators and their pedagogy.

In antebellum America, teaching Black children was illegal in many parts of the country. A Black person learning to read could face a literal death sentence. But even during these abject years, there were brave Black educators who continued to teach in hidden corners of society.

How many Black role models, mentors and protectors did we miss out on as a result of the gutting of Black educators after the end of separate but equal?

After the Civil War, during the separate-but-equal era, schools at all levels were segregated, especially but not exclusively in the South. Black-serving institutions were, of course, chronically underfunded and marginalized by the white power structures of the day.

This systemic bullying belied the “...but equal” part of the equation, impacting the quality of education Black students received. However, there was one clear “upside” to having a white power structure that truly didn't

care who taught Black students.

It gave space and opportunity for generations of exceptional Black educators who created, sharpened, and shared their craft and delivered the best possible education to their Black students, despite working within, and often adjacent to, the most inequitable system imaginable.

But school integration and the dismantling of segregated schools changed this dynamic. Those in power cared very much about who led these newly formed integrated classrooms.

It was so taboo for Black teachers to instruct white children, let alone lead “their” schools. It didn't matter that the white teachers who were kept were often far less qualified and credentialed. In this cruel way, Black educators were systematically driven from the profession.

Today, as a direct legacy of this injustice, Black teachers remain drastically underrepresented in the American teaching force, especially when you consider the growing diversity of the student body.

Although 15 percent of public school students in the United States identify as Black, only seven percent of public school teachers identify as Black. The number of Black teachers would need to grow by approximately 280,000, based on today's numbers, to meet the proportion of students of color in America's schools.

The result is that most students go through 13 years of public education without a single Black teacher to support and mirror a future of greater possibilities. And all indications are that things are about to get worse.

Typifying what's happening nationwide, in Pennsylvania, there has been a 60 percent drop in interest among Black college students enrolling in educator prep programs and declaring education as a major, even as the demand for new teachers is expected to increase significantly over the next few decades.

Why should Black youth have an interest in teaching when studies show the teachers they know, the majority of whom (if not all of them) are white, have under-expected them to achieve while unfairly over-disciplining them?

A Black teacher can change a Black child's life trajectory. Research shows when a Black student has one Black teacher by third grade, they're 13 percent more likely to enroll in college. With two Black teachers, that jumps to 32 percent. For Black boys from low-income households, their on-time high school graduation rates soar by almost 40 percent.

Black teachers matter because they save and change the lives of Black children.

It should also go without saying that all students benefit from a teacher corps that reflects society. A true diversity of teachers brings more opportunities for educational experiences that counter racism, promote cross-cultural understanding, and prepare our children for an increasingly complex world.

How many Black role models, mentors and protectors did we miss out on as a result of the gutting of Black educators after the end of separate but equal? How could they have influenced and informed curricula, pedagogy, policy and practices? How could they have bolstered Black children's sacred trust in our education system?

Our path forward is clear. We must do more to encourage Black youth to enter and remain in the teacher pipeline from high school through college and on to careers leading highly successful classrooms.

We need to rally around rebuilding — not building — the national Black teacher pipeline that was lost in the aftermath of the demise of separate but equal.

It's the only way we can truly deliver on the promise of Brown v. Board and provide an equally excellent education for all.

Sharif El-Mekki is the founder and chief executive officer of the Center for Black Educator Development. The Center's mission is to build the Black Teacher Pipeline to achieve educational equity and racial justice. El-Mekki is a nationally-recognized principal and U.S. Department of Education Principal Ambassador Fellow. He's also a blogger on Philly's 7th Ward, a member of the 8 Black Hands podcast, and serves on several boards and committees focused on educational and racial justice.

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Pride and Joy by Louisa Onomé

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

You never have just one.

That's how it goes when something bad happens: another undesirable event usually follows it, then another, layer by layer until you think you can't handle it anymore. You offer up a prayer, please stop, and eventually, you find your way. You catch a breath.

As in the new book *Pride and Joy* by Louisa Onomé, you live to rise again.

Mama Mary Okafor said she didn't want a fuss on her birthday. It was Good Friday, God's day, and she wasn't competing with Him. Then her daughter, Joy, convinced her that people would also be going to church to celebrate her day, too, and that changed everything.

Mama wanted a party and, good daughter that she was, Joy rented a six-bedroom Toronto mansion for it. She hired caterers, a DJ, florists, there'd be a tent by a swimming pool and cousins and Aunties and Uncles were coming.

The thought that one little thing might go wrong made Joy feel sick.

She was a therapist, for heaven's sake. She should know how to deal with anxiety brought on by being the imperfect daughter of a Nigerian mother. She should know how to deal with people who'd be asking where her husband – her ex-husband – was.

It would be fine, until it wasn't: Mama went to lie down for a nap and she never woke up. Hours before the party, with caterers on their way and family arriving late, Joy's mother was dead and her brother hadn't yet arrived. Then Joy's Auntie Nancy announced that she'd seen a brown cow on the way to be with Mama at the hospital, and a cow portended a miracle: by midnight the next night, Mary Okafor would wake up and resume her life.

As news spread among Toronto's Nigerian community and the house filled with strangers and family that Joy didn't want to deal with, she wished her twin sister was still alive. Heaven help her, she wanted her ex-husband to come. She dreaded seeing her brother.

Most of all, Joy simply wanted her Mama...

c.2024
various publishers
\$12.99 - \$18.99
various page counts

First things first: are you going to cry?

Maybe, but *Pride and Joy* isn't really a tear-jerker. Much of what you'll read here is hilariously chaotic, as author Louisa Onomé pulls a great big family together in a large house that somehow gets smaller by the page. This restriction leaves readers with a tight story, despite many layers of irritation, total disorder, culture clashes, intergenerational exasperation, and love – heavy on that latter. Even better, we appreciate the slammed doors, eye-rolling, and kissed teeth because Onomé makes the family in this novel complicated but entirely relatable.

You don't have to have a sprawling family to understand that, but you might wish you did after you enjoy this book. Bring tissues, to be sure, because you might need them. Bring a dictionary, too, because Igbo and Italian both feature in here (but only a little). Overall, if you're looking for a sweet, funny book to read, *Pride and Joy* is the one.



Pride and Joy author, courtesy Photograph by Linda Arki

YWCA... continued from page 11

of her congregation. Her message of faith, resilience, and the transformative power of vision resonated deeply with all in attendance, serving as a powerful reminder that with steadfast belief and unwavering dedication, anything is possible. As the Founder and CEO of Rise and Shine Academy and Mckinstry Midwest College of Theology, she has been a tireless advocate for education and community empowerment. "I get up every morning and ask God, 'Who will I be able to bless today?'" she declared.

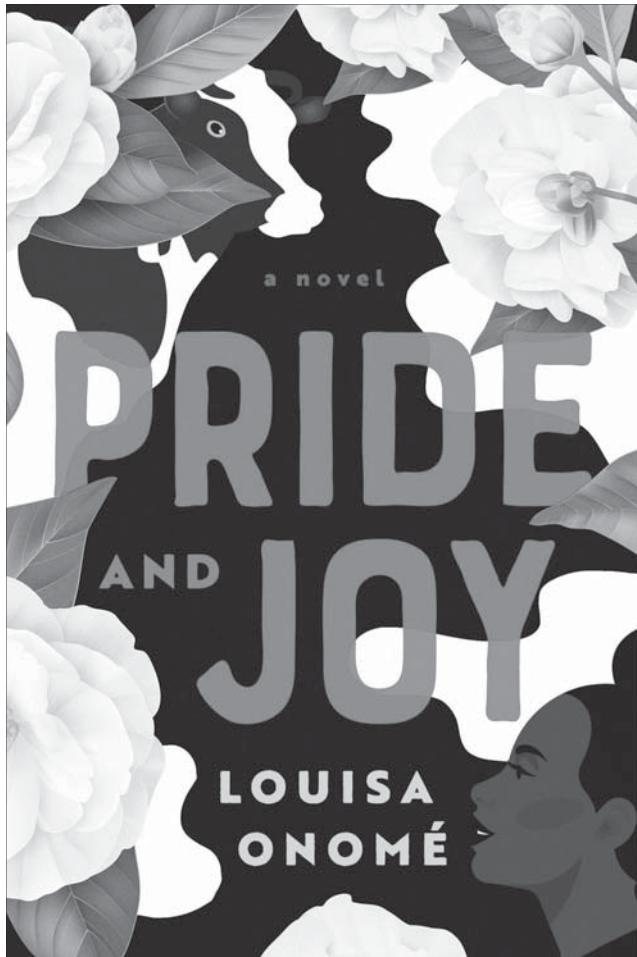
"Leaders write your vision down. Though it may tarry, it will come to pass."

As the event drew to a close, the stories of these extraordinary women lingered in the air, a testament to the power of resilience, compassion, and unwavering dedication to service. And as the applause filled the room one final time, a sense of gratitude and reverence washed over us all—a collective recognition of the profound impact that each of these remarkable women has had on our community and the world at large.

As Women's History Month comes to an end, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the YWCA and all the remarkable honorees celebrated at this year's Milestones event. Thank you for your dedication, your resilience, and your tireless efforts to make a difference. Your unwavering commitment to empowerment, advocacy, and service inspires us all to strive for a more just and equitable society.

Together, we continue to champion progress, elevate voices, and pave the way for a brighter, more inclusive future.

Newly added as a separate event in 2024 will be YWCA's *Women On The Rise* awards event hosted this August recognizing 3 outstanding young change-makers making an impact early in their career. Follow ywcanwo.org for updates.



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Walk-Through: Immediately following Pre-Bid.

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

More Info: Questions submitted at <https://bidexpress.com>

INVITATION FOR BIDS MAINTENANCE AND SMALL GENERAL CONSTRUCTION SERVICES IFB24-B005

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive bids for **Maintenance and Small General Construction Services in accordance with IFB24-B005**. Received in accordance with law until **April 12, 2024 at 3:00 PM ET**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



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SCOTT HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1969

Calling all Scott High School class of "69" classmates. We have begun making plans for our 55th reunion. Please call Evelyn at 419-4906851 or Tommy at 419-7041835, so we can update your address and phone number. Looking forward to hearing from you. The Class of "69" reunion committee.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR AVIATION CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

The Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority (TLCPA) is seeking qualified aviation consulting firm(s) to provide professional Architectural, Engineering, and Planning services for the Eugene F. Kranz Toledo Express Airport, Toledo Executive Airport, and Seagate Heliport.

These services are to be provided in connection with the capital improvement plan (CIP) for both airports, as well as assist in the development of a potential CIP for the heliport. This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will result in a multi-year agreement with a consultant or consultants for a period of five (5) years. The selected consultant(s) will then negotiate and enter into sub-agreements for services, based on the scope of work, with the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority on a project/assignment basis during the term of the five (5) year period.

The selection process of consultant(s) is being done in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Advisory Circular 150/5100-14E, and applicable Ohio statutes and laws.

The required format for the proposal to be submitted to the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority is described in detail in the full copy of the Request for Qualifications, and is available by either (1) emailing Tina Perkins at Tperkins@Toledoport.org or (2) visiting the Port Authority's website at <https://www.toledoport.org/public-notice>. Proposals are due no later than 10:00 a.m. (local time), Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

Thomas Winston, President and CEO
Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority

INVITATION FOR BIDS BOILER REPLACEMENT AT FLORY GARDENS & VISTULA MANOR IFB24-B006

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive bids for **Boiler Replacement at Flory Gardens & Vistula Manor in accordance with IFB24-B006**. Received in accordance with law until **April 23, 2024, at 3:00 PM ET**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS ARCHITECTURAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES (A&E) QUALIFICATIONS RFQ24-Q001

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive qualifications for **Architectural & Engineering (A&E) Services in accordance with RFQ24-Q001**. Received in accordance with law until **May 1, 2024 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.



Eight Women Honored during Warren AME Women's History Month Celebration

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

To celebrate women's History Month, a number of notable local women were honored on March 24, 2024 at Warren AME Church. The celebration was co-sponsored by Warren AME in collaboration with the University of Toledo's Office of Community Engagement and Strategic Partnerships.

The recognition portion was facilitated by UT's Valerie Simmons-Walston, special advisor to the president for Community Engagement and Strategic Partnerships. She introduced each honoree and shared a brief bio. "I have received so much love as a guest," began Simmons-Walston. "Thank you to Warren AME and thank you to the Pastor for the partnership. We are here to celebrate women, women that have worked in secret to benefit the community."

The honorees were selected in recognition of their excellence, service and leadership to the community. The honorees received a plaque to acknowledge the occasion. The 2024 honorees:

- Monica Holiday-Goodman, PhD., and Monica Mungo, PhD., from The University of Toledo,
- Dione Somerville, EdD., Owens Community College president,
- Pamela Moore from the Minority Business Development Center,
- Kaye Moore Aldridge, PhD., retiree from The University of Toledo,



Pastor and Alethea Easterly



Pastor and Dione Somerville, EdD



Pastor and Kaye Moore Aldridge, PhD



Pastor and Margaret Huntley



Pastor and Monica Mungo, PhD



Pastor with Monica Holiday-Goodman, PhD

- Margaret Huntley, retired educator and community leader,
- Alethea Easterly, Quality Time Learning Center owner,
- Regina Kynard, community leader.

The celebration was held during the 11:00 a.m. morning worship service at Warren AME, which was also Palm Sunday. The service opened with the Call to Worship, hymn, invocation, scripture reading from the Old Testament and New Testament, and selection from the youth choir. The pastor of Warren AME Church is Rev. Brandon Davis, DMin.



Warren AME Youth Choir

The celebration serves as the inaugural community-based partnership between the University of Toledo and a number of faith-based institutions that are near the university. The goal is to reach 10 before the end of 2024. "We didn't want to close out March without strengthening our relationship with Warren AME," said Simmons-Walston. "Next month we're partnering with St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church and we also have a program planned with Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church."



Pastor and Regina Kynard



Pastor and Pamela Moore



All honorees and coordinators

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Rogers High School Art Festival

The Truth Staff

Roger's High School teamed up with the elementary schools in its learning community to host an all-inclusive event dedicated to the arts. The Roger's Art Festival was held at Rogers High School Friday March 22 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This event was part of a district-wide showcase of TPS artistic talent at the various public high schools. The art festivals are free and open to the public.

Toledo Public Schools offers an array of art and music-related curriculum and programs. The fine arts allow students to express their creativity through painting, ceramics, photography, dance and the musical performing arts.

Each high school is partnering with the elementary schools in their area to host an all-inclusive event dedicated to the arts.

The events feature:

- Musical performances by students in orchestra, band and choir
- Art demonstrations
- "Make It and Take It" art projects
- Student artwork for sale at some schools

The upcoming dates of the festival are:

Start Learning Community

Start High School

2010 Tremainsville Rd, Toledo, OH 43613
April 17 | 6 – 8 p.m.

Woodward Learning Community

Woodward High School

701 E Central Ave, Toledo, OH 43608
April 18 | 5 – 8 p.m.

To learn more visit tps.org.



Rogers High School Band performs

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Tanya, UTMC primary care patient

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Rogers students perform at the Arts Festival



McTigue Fifth graders play songs on recorders



McTigue Elementary School sixth Grade Band performs