

Volume 84 No. 3 *"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."* June 5, 2024



Brandon Upchurch, Frederick Wilson, Siti Dotson-Chambers, Steve Eaton, Washington Muhammad

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Selective Outrage: Waniewski's Campaign Strategy Unveiled

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

The Truth Contributor

A hypocrite is the kind of politician who would cut down a redwood tree, then mount the stump and make a speech for conservation.

- Adlai E. Stevenson



In a move that smacks of political theatre, the Lucas County Republican Party has called for an Ohio Ethics Commission investigation into County Commissioner Anita Lopez. The allegations of "harassment and bullying" by her executive assistant, Andrew Urrutia, have allowed the GOP to stage a performance of faux outrage, seemingly designed more to score political points than to uphold ethical standards.

Tom Waniewski, a former city councilman challenging incumbent Pete Gerken in the upcoming election, appears to be leveraging this situation for political gain. His indignation over the allegations against Lopez, a Hispanic woman, seems less about genuine concern for ethics and more about discrediting his opponent, especially given his history of derogatory comments referring to minorities as cockroaches and equating life in the inner city to a flower pot.

Similar to the negative public portrayal of Blacks and other minorities, the call for an investigation into Lopez exemplifies a candidate using insidious tactics to manipulate public perception in the run-up to an election.

This hypocritical maneuver becomes even more glaring when considering the Republican Party's sudden concern for ethics, which is particularly ironic given its track record at the state and national levels.

The GOP has consistently resisted state ethics reforms and has been deeply implicated in scandals such as House Bill 6. This controversial 2019 legislation provided a financial bailout for two nuclear power plants and several Ohio coal plants and tied itself to a massive bribery and corruption scandal. Waniewski's failure to address these issues within his own party while decrying supposed ethical lapses at the local level highlights the selective nature of his outrage.

This selective outrage extends beyond ethical concerns. Waniewski's criticisms of local governance distract from the broader sinister issue of gerrymandering, allowing his party to maintain one-party rule in Ohio. So, his selective concern for democracy rings hollow in light of the GOP's manipulation of electoral boundaries to entrench their power. Moreover, Waniewski's past controversial comments, such as comparing Black people to cockroaches, further undermine his current stance and expose a pattern of hypocrisy.

In contrast to Waniewski's approach, Lucas County's handling of the complaint against Lopez by the county demonstrates a commitment to good governance and oversight. An independent investigation was conducted, and Lopez has taken corrective actions, including completing workplace behavior training. This response starkly contrasts Waniewski's emotionally charged and performative rhetoric. The Democratic leadership, including Pete Gerken, appeared to

adhere to established procedures, ensuring transparency and accountability.

The eighth floor has always prided itself on having a good work environment. They picked a distinguished and experienced team of outside investigators who delivered an independent report in a process to get to the bottom of the incident.

Moreover, unlike Waniewski, the victim or his family is not known to have requested that the rest of the report be released. I understand that the county may have held back the unreleased parts of the investigation to protect the victim and the victim's privacy.

Political Strategy: Effective or Ineffective?

Waniewski's early campaign efforts, such as running radio commercials in May for a November election, reveal a need for more strategic acumen. Campaigning this early is unlikely to have a lasting impact on voters' minds through November. Instead, it wastes resources that could be spent closer to the election date when voter attention is more focused.

Furthermore, the race for Lucas County commissioner is part of a larger political battle, pitting the broader Democratic and Republican agendas against each other at the state and national levels. This contest is not just about Gerken versus Waniewski but also reflects the ideological clash between Joe Biden, Sherrod Brown and Marcy Kaptur on one side and Donald Trump, Bernie Moreno and Derek Merrin on the other. In this context, Waniewski's tactics seem even more misguided and out of touch with the more significant political dynamics at play.

Historically, no local sitting county commissioner has lost in a presidential year since 1982. Lucas County's strong Democratic-leaning electorate, evidenced by its support for George McGovern, even in his 1972 landslide loss to Richard Nixon, suggests Waniewski's chances are slim. The Democratic Party's deep roots and historical successes in Lucas County bode well for their candidates in the upcoming election.

All things considered, the Lucas County GOP's call for an investigation into Lopez is a prime example of political theatre designed to generate faux outrage. Waniewski's selective indignation, past behavior, and poorly timed campaign efforts reveal a lack of genuine commitment to ethical governance and effective political strategy.

As the November election approaches, voters should look beyond these theatrics and focus on each candidate's substantive records and policy proposals. It's time to see through the performance and hold politicians accountable for real issues, not manufactured scandals.

Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org

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Community Calendar

May 31

Application Deadline for UToledo Math Corps: A free four weeks summer camp for students – middle and high school – from underserved Toledo area communities: 419-530-2996, 419-530-2568, 567-343-3883

June 11

Toledo Branch NAACP June meeting; 7 pm; Jerusalem Baptist Church

June 12

ABLE Hosts Drivers License Reinstatement Clinic: FDCA; 1 to 4 pm; Ledal and community experts will be available on-site to help you with the next steps to re-instating license: 419-930-2319 or <http://bit.ly/4at8d7a>

June 14

Grand Opening – Ribbon Cutting Scott Center for Observation Treatment and Transition & the Kidney Foundation of Northwest Ohio partnership and shared office space; 10 am; 3100 W. Central Ave, Suites 202 and 206

June 16

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

June 23

The Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir Celebrates 35 Years of Music Ministry: Greater St. Mary's Baptist Church; 6 pm; Special guest Bishop Roger Hairston and Voices of Deliverance of Columbus: 419-350-9289 or 419-350-2124

America Is in the Valley of Decision (Turmoil?)

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

The trial of the century is over, and a jury of 12 men and women heard the overwhelming evidence presented against Donald Trump and agreed with the position of the state prosecutor which is: Trump is a con artist of the first degree.

Trump, the forever crybaby, went on a rant after the verdict and bemoaned the criminal justice system as being unfair and corrupt, knowing full well that if he were to have prevailed, he would be extolling how great things were and how there was no case to begin with.

These are my takes from the trial and the aftermath of the trial and in no particular order:

(1) Trump can now be called a convicted felon, a term that will drive him to distraction because his imperial armor has been pierced by a jury that was not in awe of his money (?) or name power. The aura of the name Trump has been soiled beyond repair.

(2) Alvin Bragg, the brilliant prosecutor of this case, and his highly skilled team of lawyers and paralegals brought the fight and won. And they won because these type of cases are the "bread and butter" of Bragg's public integrity department. Trump's mischief did not escape him, and he was not deferential to the name Trump and its vainglorious New York history.

(3) If you peruse social media, the vile comments from MAGA world and others encourage acts of violence against the judge, the jurors and anyone else connected to this case simply because their Dear Leader has been held accountable to a power that he could not control or influence... a jury.

(4) Be on the lookout for further and future articles from MAGA world and the Steve Bannon's' and his ilk when they try to foment armed revolution against the Capitol and the judicial system. For Steven Bannon, it is his mantra that it all must be destroyed and yet he daily enjoys the fruits of the very system he rants against. Go figure! Hypocrisy, anyone?

(5) Up and until the day of Trump's sentencing date (it could be changed due to whatever motions may be filed by the defense team), Trump will enrage in negative histrionics and bellicose behavior that will set your teeth on edge.

(6) Don't you wonder why those who would rally you to engage in criminal or civil disobedience, never lead the charge of the light brigade? No, they are the tin foil hat wearing generals who spout a lot of gibberish but when pushed to pick up a baton or a gun and say, "Charge!," they are found shivering in a closet.

(7) The MAGA base has been duped about the facts of the case because they were fed an anemic diet of lies and distortions by Fox News and other outlets that are known for their history of being the news organs of Donald Trump.

They were told that the defense was shredding the prosecution's weak case, and that Trump would win. Now, they are shell shocked that it was not true as repeatedly stated to them by their legal experts.

(8) Sadly, Trump, at his presser the next day, railed against the judge and prosecutor and even his, not so swift son, Eric, reduced America

to a third world "sh*thole" country. Such nice language from a person, when given the chance to stay in this country or flee elsewhere, would fight you to the death to keep his Starbucks rewards card.

(9) This trial revealed the soft underbelly of an America which is so polarized along political, economic and racial lines that one would despair to think that can such a Grand Canyon gap ever be reconciled.

(10) The judicial system will have to be reexamined because if Trump is allowed to run for a federal office as a convicted felon,

what do we do with the thousands of ex-cons who served time in a federal prison regarding their rights to enter the federal civil service system seeking jobs.

(11) Based upon Trump's 10 gag order violations and his demeaning conduct at his trial, will Judge Merchan, at his date of sentencing, dole out a judgment of jail time? If not, why not? Trump more than deserves it and if he does not get some jail time (even suspended), Trump wins... again.

(12) Will Biden's re-election team use the moniker, 'convicted felon', as a tag for ads to run in the swing states? It is factual and they should not be scared of labeling Trump what a jury labeled him... a criminal felon.

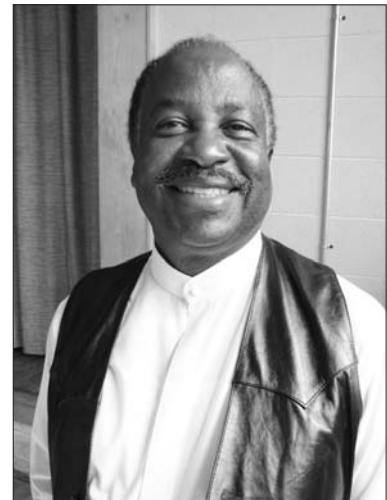
(13) Some of the white evangelical churches soiled their righteous garments by backing a man who committed adultery with a porn star and tried to buy her silence so as not to hurt his re-election chances.

Some of those 'leaders' were issuing sham statements about the trial being a farce and a mockery of justice but they were clueless as to their positions being a mockery of the Bible that they professed to believe in. Go figure.

You would not find Jesus backing a porn star payment hustle and the constant lies from Trump about it and his acts of adultery. But, then again, some of the so-called religious leaders are simply hearers of the Word and not doers of the Word.

Overall, this national outcry regarding the trial results and the mean spiritedness of the upcoming election forebodes troubling times in America and coupled with a renegade Supreme Court that is beholden to no one, we can say that we are living in interesting times.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



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The Blue Gill Club Members Present Scholarship to an Outstanding Student

The Truth Staff

During the Memorial Day weekend, Courtney Jones was crowned Miss Debutante 2024 by the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs Inc, Toledo Chapter, at their 56th annual Debutante Cotillion.

One weekend later, the honors continued for the Start High School senior as she was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship by the members of the Blue Gill Fishing Club.

Jones will be enrolling at Kent State University in the fall to major in fashion merchandising with a minor in marketing. Her longtime goal is to start her own clothing line.

At Start High School, Jones was involved in a multitude of activities. As a member of DECA, a global student group that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing and finance, Jones participated on the state level for the past two years.

She was a member of the African American Club, the varsity cheerleading squad (the captain this past year); the track and field team the last three years; the Homecoming Court and the NAACP Youth Club. Jones was one of a select handful of students who participated in this year's inaugural Alpha Esquire Beautillion held by the Alpha Xi Lambda Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Along with her Miss Debutante 2024 honor, Courtney also won the talent contest and was named Miss Congeniality.

Courtney, an honor student, maintained a 3.5 grade point average at Start while also working two jobs at the Boys and Girls Clubs and ProMedica.

Sleep, apparently, was optional!

The Blue Gill Fishing Club was organized in 1992 by five community

men, initially as a social club. Over the years, the Blue Gill has also evolved into a service club that raises funds for scholarships, to feed neighborhood youth and to assist community action organizations in their missions.



Al Chapman, Clarence Jones, John Chapman, Courtney Jones, Nate Greene, Freddie Tisdale, Gene Davis



Courtney Jones



Wade Barnett, Jr and Courtney Jones at the Cotillion



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

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Community Foundation Equity & Access Initiative

Submitted by Sarah Ronau

Greater Toledo Community Foundation

Director, Marketing & Communications

The Greater Toledo Community Foundation (GTCF)'s Equity & Access Initiative has invested \$485,390 in four rounds of Equity & Access Initiative grants. This initiative was launched in August 2020 as a proactive response to address concerns raised by communities that are disproportionately impacted by inequity and lack of access in the Greater Toledo region.

"The Equity & Access Initiative was launched in 2020 in response to inequalities laid bare by Mr. George Floyd's murder," said Pariss Coleman III Esq., Equity & Access Advisory Committee Chairman. "At that time, many corporations and other entities published statements of support for those with needs. Rather than make statements, the Foundation wanted to do something. The Foundation wanted to create opportunities to improve equity and access to funding opportunities for people and entities doing good work, but needing equitable access to funding opportunities not only at the Foundation, but at other foundations. Not only short term, but long term."

GTCF invites community nonprofits that are proactively and collaboratively addressing advocacy, economic development or employment or even seeking funding to support nonprofit capacity to consider applying for the grant. The Equity & Access Initiative 2024 deadline is July 2, 2024.

"Our hope is that by coming together, we can offer solutions to our community challenges in creative and inclusive ways," noted Keith Burwell, president of Greater Toledo Community Foundation. "We will continue to hold ourselves accountable to help heal and connect our community. And we will continue to work with others to build a livable, equitable and just community, where everyone feels safe."



Artisha Lawson

...continued on page 6



The Movement Team Lucas County Project Graduation



Belonging Excellence Program with University of Toledo Foundation Project

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Toledo Urban Announces 2024 African American Festival Events and Performers

The Truth Staff

The 19th annual African American Festival will be held this summer on July 19-20. The annual Prayer Breakfast will take place on Friday, July 19, at the Toledo Museum of Art's Glass Pavilion. The parade and music festival the following day, Saturday, July 20, with the music happening at the Huntington Center.

Last week, at the TUFCU's Monroe Street location, President and CEO Suzette Cowell was joined by the Lucas County Commissioners to announce the details of this year's events. The commissioners have supported the festival since the earliest days and continue to do so.

"This is a great event for downtown Toledo," said Pete Gerken, president of the Lucas County Commissioners. "We are happy to have the [event] inside our Huntington Center. This is a county building and the county should count on us. We fund community projects all year round."

This year's 8:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast will honor eight community members and will feature a number of prayers offered by area church leaders. This year's honorees are Terry Crosby, community representative for Taylor Automotive; Bishop Pat McKinstry of the Worship Center and TUFCU board chairman; Toledo City Councilman John Hobbs, III; George Thomas, CEO and general counsel of the Toledo Fair Housing Center; Jodie Summers, author, poet and community activist; Angela Cattledge, TUFCU executive services manager; Shariva Sutton, TUFCU compliance officer; Sha-reese Norwood, TUFCU member.

Cowell announced the entertainers that will perform on Saturday at the Huntington Center. They include comedian Kelly Williams, saxophonist Mike Williams, Jodie Summers, Bootsy Collins, Raheem Devaughn, Pokey Bear, the Zapp Band and Jagged Edge. Doors open at 2 p.m.

Saturday morning's parade will kick off at the TUFCU Dorr Street location (corner of Dorr and Detroit) at 10 a.m. and march towards downtown along Dorr Street.

Cowell noted that enthusiasm for the festival starts early in the calendar year. "The community looks forward to it and they start calling us about it [in early] January."

"Thank you for organizing this event," said Commissioner Lisa Sobecki. "It started as a dream 19 years ago but the dream has become a reality."



Commissioner Lisa Sobecki, TUFCU CEO Suzette Cowell, Commissioner Pete Gerken, Fair Housing CEO George Thomas, Commissioner Anita Lopez, TUFCU Board Member Rev. Jerry Boose

"I'm honored to be a part of supporting the African American Festival," added Commissioner Anita Lopez.

Community Foundation... continued from page 5

The grant has awarded grants to 22 local nonprofits and the majority of the applicants operate under an annual operational budget of \$100,000 and fewer than five permanent staff. Applicants can submit a solo applicant request for \$15,000 or a collaborative application request for \$25,000. Local nonprofits can begin the application by visiting the GTCF website and search for the initiative on the grants page, and follow-up questions can be sent to Artisha Lawson at 419-250-5239 or Artisha@toledocf.org

"This initiative prioritizes smaller permanent staffed, grassroot approach and collaborative applications," said Artisha Lawson, GTCF program officer. "Nonprofits that have questions about the application questions, the review process or even the four focus area can call the office and speak with me."

The Initiative has awarded grants to these local nonprofits: JumpStart, Inc. (collaboration partner Economic and Community Development Institute), Arts Commission of Greater Toledo, Inc. collaboration partners Issue Box Theatre, Toledo Opera and University of Toledo School of Social Justice, La Conexion, GreaterGenerations in collaboration with CityPark League Resource Group, Inc., Women of Toledo, Wilbur A. Williams Community Life and Technology Center, EqualityToledo, Inc., Believe Center, Inc., Midstory, St. Martin de Porres Parish in collaboration with Community RE Investment Coalition Englewood SW and Robinson Community HUB, Reinvest Toledo, Hope's Landing, The University Church in

...continued on page 11



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Juneteenth in Toledo – Days of Celebration for the National Holiday

The Truth Staff

Only a few years ago, even in pre-COVID times, there were very few activities in Toledo during Juneteenth. What a difference a few years can make! And what an abundance of activities will be in the Glass City during Juneteenth (June 10) to mark the first day of the month that will take up most of the month!



An African American band at an Emancipation Day celebration in Austin in 1900



Emancipation Day celebration held on June 19, 1900, in Austin

This year's activities get off to an early start with a Minority Health Summit on June 9 organized by JuneteenthNY Toledo in partnership with Toledo Public Schools and the Community Reinvestment Coalition – Englewood SW. It's the first of many activities organized this year by JuneteenthNY Toledo – under the stewardship of Kathleen Greely. The Summit will be held at the Glass City Enrichment Center.

JUNE 13

The full slate of activities really kicks in on June 13. JuneteenthNY Toledo is hosting the **Englewood Festival Community Day & Kids Zone** at Robinson Park/Smith Park from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. featuring vendors and com... *continued on page 2*

JUNETEENTH NY TOLEDO 2024 UNVEILED
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OUR EVENTS

- JOB CLUB | JOB FAIR** ROBINSON ELEMENTARY | PATHWAY STARTING MONDAY, APRIL 8TH THRU FRIDAY, JUNE 28TH 12P - 4P EST
- MINORITY HEALTH SUMMIT** DAY-1 GLASS CITY ENRICHMENT CENTER SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH 4P - 5P EST
- BLACK WALLSTREET | SPEED FUNDING** TERNION TRAINING EDUCATION CENTER THURSDAY, JUNE 13TH 4P - 9P
- ENGLEWOOD FESTIVAL | KIDS ZONE** ROBINSON PARK | SMITH PARK THURSDAY, JUNE 13TH 10A - 8P EST
- JUNETEENTH CRAWL** VARIOUS BLACK-OWNED RESTAURANTS THURSDAY, JUNE 13 - 16TH 12P - 10P EST
- THE CELEBRATION OF BLACK KINGS** THE TOLEDO CLUB WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19TH 5P - 9P EST

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HORACE STREET | FERNWOOD AVENUE (OFF FOREST) | TOLEDO, OHIO 43606

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African American Sports Legends

Smoker
6:00 pm, Friday, June 14, 2024
Renaissance Hotel — Downtown
444 N. Summit

Induction
1:00pm, Saturday, June 15, 2024
Jerusalem Baptist Church
445 Dorr Street

The Scouting Report

Our Sports Legends event is one of the fastest growing events in northwest Ohio. The African American Sports Legends Smoker and inductions celebrates top notched talented in an extraordinary way.

We would love for your team to join our team on Friday, June 14, 2024. It's a wonderful opportunity to get up close and personal with our 2024 Inductees.

We have built a package just for our "Community Supporters." Talk to one of our Sports Legends representatives today.

		2024 Sports Legends Community Packages	
Community Pkd #1	\$500	Full Page	5
Community Pkd #1	\$250	Half Page	3
Community Pkd #1	\$100	Half Page	No tickets
Tickets per/person	\$50		

Celebrating men and women of accomplishment!

Toledo's Juneteenth Events • Toledo's Juneteenth Events • Toledo's Juneteenth Events • Toledo's Juneteenth Events

Juneteenth...continued from page 1

munity resources. The day opens at Smith with a swimming clinic, golf clinic and 3-on-3 basketball clinic for the youngsters. A tennis clinic and football clinic will then be conducted at both locations. Later at Robinson – mid afternoon – a kickball tournament will take place, followed by a state performance for youth K-12. The evening ends with an R & B performance and a baseball clinic/baseball game at Robinson.

Meanwhile, for adults who own or want to own businesses, the Black Wall Street Community Development (a partnership among The Juice radio station, The Sojourner's Truth

newspaper and Stalwart magazine) are hosting a Speed Funding Event at Ternian Training Education Center (TTEC) from 6 to 9 p.m. Potential funders will be meeting with businesses in a one-on-one format.

The Lucas County Fatherhood Coalition is holding a Fatherhood Conference: The Urban Fathers at Mott Branch Library from noon to 3:30 p.m.

Starting on June 13 – and continuing until June 18, JuneteenthNY Toledo has organized a restaurant crawl to a variety of Black-owned food establishments. Jamaican Spice, the Lyte House, Club Evolution, This Is It, Bertha Mae's Kitchen and Jera's Heavenly Sweet are the featured eateries on successive days from the June 13 to the 18. The establishments will offer specials and entertainment.

...continued on page 4



ROBINSON | SMITH PARK

8:30AM VENDOR CHECK-IN

10:00AM ENGLEWOOD FESTIVAL COMMUNITY DAY
VENDORS 10A -5P

10:30AM 3-ON-3 BASKETBALL TENNIS KICKBALL FOOTBALL SWIMMING GOLF

3:30PM DJ ROC "LIVE" ENTERTAINMENT BASEBALL CLINIC & SOX BASEBALL GAME AT 6:30PM

06.13.24

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Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter
Richelle Watkins, President

JUNETEENTH JAZZ
BRUNCH & SILENT AUCTION

Special Guest Artists: J'Zilliance Band and Ms. Sheila Brown
Honoring our 2024 Scholarship Recipients

Saturday June 15, 2024

The Pinnacle
1772 Indian Circle, Maumee
11:30 a.m. - Doors open at 11:00am
Afrocentric Attire Encouraged
Ticket: \$45 via EventBrite

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COMMUNITY UNITED

JUNETEENTH PARADE CELEBRATION
JUNE 15TH 2024

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Celebrating Extraordinary Accomplishment

AI Baker - Football Mr. Baker is Chairman Emeritus of the University of Toledo. This Scott H.S. alum was a star receiver on UT's undefeated team 35 and 0 team. Mr. Baker distinguished himself by being selected for to the All MAC Conference for three consecutive years. Mr. Baker retired as Vice President of Owens-Illinois in 1976.

Myron Bell - Football Myron left his mark on Macomber in football and basketball. 1988 Bell and his high school teammate Jim Jackson won a state basketball championship. After Bell completed extraordinary football career at Michigan State. Drafted in the fifth round of the 1994 NFL Draft, Bell became a force to reckon with at safety for the Pittsburgh Steelers and Cincinnati Bengals. He was drafted.

Jerry Blanton - Football A standout full back and linebacker at DeVilbiss H.S. Blanton was the 1st freshman in the history of the University of Kentucky to earn a varsity starting position. He led UK to a Peach Bowl victory in 1976. Blanton received numerous accolades and awards both at UK and during his exceptional NFL career as linebacker with the Kansas City Chiefs.

Robert Clark - Golf He has been a PGA Golf Professional for more than 40 years. This former business executive - a 1960 Central Catholic H.S. grad - earned his BS degree from Central State University, Wilberforce, Ohio. He became a PGA professional in 1985. Later founding the Portland Youth Golf Association before becoming an asst coach at Alabama State University in 2011.

Donald Collins - Basketball Donald Collins is an amazing, a Scott High School "phenom" who earned the distinction as Pac-10 Player of the Year for Washington State University. Collins a formidable NBA who played with the Washington Bullets and the Atlanta Hawks also played professionally overseas in both France and Switzerland. Even today, Collins is often referred to as the best player to ever wear a Washington State basketball uniform.

Nigel Hayes Davis - Basketball While maintaining a 4.3 GPA, Nigel at DeVilbiss H.S. Blanton was the 1st freshman in the history of the University of Kentucky to earn a varsity starting position. He led UK to a Peach Bowl victory in 1976. Blanton received numerous accolades and awards both at UK and during his exceptional NFL career as linebacker with the Kansas City Chiefs.

Melvin Newbern - Basketball During his senior year at Scott H.S. Melvin Newbern averaged 23.4 ppg leading the Bulldogs to the city, sectional and district championships... Kansas' Player of the Year, the Golden Globes offered the National Basketball Coaches Association All-American a scholarship to University of Minnesota. "Tough as nails," Melvin played with several teams in the CBA and with the Detroit Pistons. Since his basketball retirement, Mr. Newbern remains fully engaged with basketball while serving his community of Robbinsdale, Minnesota.

Theresa Early - Track Ms. Early still holds the Scott HS record in the 800 and 1600 meter run. Kentucky State University immediately offered her a scholarship in Track and Field. Holding a M.Ed. is a leadership Oakland XVII Graduate (Michigan) Ms. Early is currently a Policy Analyst in the District of Columbia. Ms. Early's honors includes memberships in the of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated and is a former United Way of Greater Toledo/Mental Health Board Fellow.

Che' Snelling - Track Che' Snelling was once described as one of the most versatile athletes in Rogers H.S. history. This talented athlete led the Ram's as a quarterback, demonstrated his gifts on the hardwood while locking up the school's pole vault record for the last 25 years before heading off to Kentucky State University. Committed to community, Snelling - a FedEx manager - is completely immersed in community as a Girls Track Coach at Sylvania Southview and a Defensive Backfield Coach at St. Johns High School.

For tickets \$50.00 per person , see a Sports Legends Committee or...call 419-720-

The Lucas County Fatherhood Coalition presents...



**FATHERHOOD
FIRE** *Igniting the change.*

FATHERhood Week: June 10-15, 2024

Monday, June 10, 2024

Press Conference | 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Lucas County Department of Job and Family Services
3737 West Sylvania Ave. Toledo, Ohio 43623

Monday June 10, 2024

Get in the KNOW... A conversation with Lucas County Child Support
and Ohio Means Jobs | Information sharing in the community
Questions and Answers will be accepted

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Let's talk health- Physical and Mental | FB Live – 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Show Fathers Love Sign Day
Look for team members on several corners in the community

Urban Fathers and Violence: A discussion of violence in our community

Mott Branch Library | 1010 Dorr St., Toledo, Ohio 43607
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Thursday, June 13, 2024

Fatherhood Conference: The Urban Fathers Voice
Mott Branch Library | 1010 Dorr Street, Toledo, Ohio 43607
12:00 pm - 3:30 pm | Lunch will be provided

Friday, June 14, 2024

FATHERS and Families Day
Port Lawrence Housing Development | 201 Belmont Ave., Toledo Ohio 43604
Activities for FATHERS and Families: All Are Welcome

Saturday, June 15, 2024

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Juneteenth Community Health and Wellness Fair
Martin Luther King Academy Parking Lot | 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Health Screenings, Free Food, Bike Giveaways, Activities for Children

Please join us throughout the week to celebrate urban fathers in Lucas County
Avis Files, Chair, David Kontur, Co-Chair

Toledo's Juneteenth Events • Toledo's Juneteenth Events • Toledo's Juneteenth Events • Toledo's Juneteenth Events

Juneteenth... continued from page 2

The Toledo Lucas County presents a **Juneteenth Trivia Challenge** from 5:30 – 7 p.m. at the Kent Branch. Test your knowledge of Juneteenth, which commemorates the abolition of slavery in the United States. **Jamaican Spice** is the featured restaurant on this first day

JUNE 14

FATHERS AND Families Day, sponsored by the Lucas County Fatherhood Coalition, will be held at the Port Lawrence Housing Development with a variety of activities for Fathers and Families – all are welcome to attend.

The African American Legacy Project will be honoring Sports Legends again this year starting with a **Smoker** at 6 p.m. at the Renaissance Hotel. This year the sports legends being saluted are Al Baker (football); Myron Bell (football); Jerry Blanton (football); Robert Clark (golf); Donald Collins (basketball); Nigel Hayes Davis (basketball); Melvin Newbern (basketball); Theresa Early (track); Che' Snelling (track).

The Restaurant Crawl continues at the **Lyte House** featuring burgers and billiards and live entertainment with Carmen Miller.

JUNE 15

Who doesn't love a parade! On Saturday morning a **Juneteenth Parade**, sponsored by Community United in conjunction with The Juice FM 107.3 will start St. Clair and Monroe, down to Summit, up to Jackson and end up at One Government Center with a ceremony at One Government Cent to follow. Dance teams, slingshots, Corvettes, seats and more will be on parade.

The African American Legacy Project's second phase of honoring **Sports Legends** continues with the Induction at Jerusalem Baptist Church at 1 p.m. Call 419-720-4369 for more information.

The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc Juneteenth Community **Health and Wellness Fair** will be held in the parking lot of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy for Boys from noon to 3:30 p.m. – health screenings, free food, bike giveaways and activities for children are all part of the day's fun.

Meanwhile, starting at 11:30, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. will host a Juneteenth **Jazz Brunch & Silent Auction** at The Pinnacle. Guest artists are J'Zillance Band and Ms. Sheila Brown. The event will also honor the sorority's 2024 Scholarship Recipients. Afrocentric attire is encouraged. Tickets are available via EventBrite.

Bowling Green will also be celebrating the holiday. During the town's fifth annual **Juneteenth Festival**, from 2 to 8 p.m., there will be activities for the family in the arts, with live music and food at Wooster Green – 100 S. Church Street

And you can round out the Saturday activities by attending a **Juneteenth 2024 Rooftop Celebration** – the third such annual event – at the Main Branch Library from 7 to 10 p.m.

The rooftop event is a collaboration between the NAACP Toledo Branch and the AKL chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Tickets are available at EventBrite.

Club Evolution is the day's hot spot in the restaurant crawl

JUNE 16

On Sunday, diners are treated to a double treat of restaurants participating in the Crawl. **This Is It** is offering a jazz brunch and **Turkey Up Toledo** presents gospel music with their brunch.

JUNE 17

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library presents **Juneteenth Rocks!**

From 2 – 3 p.m. at Lagrange Branch

Create inspirational art and motivational messages on rocks in observation of the Juneteenth holiday.

Also at the Library - **Juneteenth Campfire Story Time**

From 3 – 4 p.m. at Mott Branch

Make a summer treat using an ice cream cone, chocolate, and marshmallows, then listen to a story about Juneteenth while you sit around your pretend campfire.

Register (<https://events.toledolibrary.org/event/10287546>)

Bertha Mae's Kitchen is the restaurant of the day. Open from 11 am to 6 pm for their fried fish specialties (along with menu items such as wings and smash burgers), the band Hollywood Connection will provide the live entertainment and the Bar Party Truck will provide the cocktails!!

JUNE 18

The Toledo Lucas County Library presents **Juneteenth Fusion Jubilee**

From noon – 1 p.m. at Lagrange Branch

Celebrate the Juneteenth contributions of the Afro-Latino community while making a refreshing and healthy meal. You will blend ingredients and cultures to create a Juneteenth Fusion Jubilee. Registration required.

Register (<https://events.toledolibrary.org/event/10914011>)

It's dessert time at **Jera's Heavenly Sweet** and what an appropriate, and heavenly, way to close out the Restaurant Crawl. And desserts will be available from noon to 7 p.m. along with entertainment.

JUNE 19

JuneteenthNY presents the **Celebration of Black King at The Toledo Club** starting at 5 p.m. This year's honorees are: Lee Williams, Joseph Peterson, Tracy Knighten, Milt McIntyre, Truman Claytor, Willie Knighten, John Preston, Clarence Smith Jr., Elgin Rogers, Wakeso Peterson, Randall Parker, Rev Cedric Brock, Judge Ian English, John Glover, Edward Cook, Judge Myron Duhart, Dr. Calvin Burney Jr., Emilio Ramirez, Josh Williams, Larry Jones, James Gant, Maurice Morris, Ronald Rice, Richard Jackson, Roy Hodge, Victor Coleman, Lesean Shaw, Anthony Atkins and Shawn Mahone

JUNE 21

The **Toledo Museum of Art's Juneteenth Celebration** takes place at the Family Center from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Celebrate Juneteenth with your family and create a work of art together

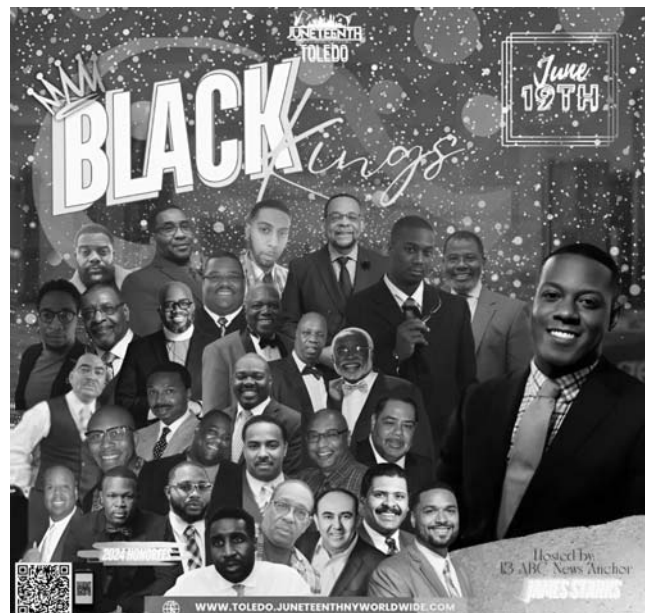
Africa Unmasked: Teaching Collection Touch Art with Ask Me Docents – 4 to 6 pm

Drawing in the Galleries – 4 to 6 pm

Meet the Artist Q & A with James Dickerson "dirtykics" – 5 to 6 pm - His artwork is currently on display in the Robert C. & Susan Savage Community Gallery

TMA Pop Up Bar - 5 to 7 pm

Urban Art Orchestra – 6 to 7:30 pm – TMA Terrace



Community Groups Gather to Protest Police Use of Dogs

By Fletcher Word
The Truth Editor

New Order National Human Rights Organization, joined by the Community Solidarity Police Accountability and Review Council (CSPARC) held a press conference on this past Sunday afternoon to protest the actions of officers of the Toledo Police Department and their use of dogs to attack people held in custody.

"When the dog attacked my brother, Mr. Upchurch, the dog attacked me, the dog attacked the community and we will not stand for that, we will not tolerate it," said Siti Dotson-Chambers, a New Order representative.

"We've done everything that we can do to show them that we're a peaceful people and we've relied on them for justice – at one point we've got to take it into our own hands and provide justice for ourselves," said Washington Muhammad of the CSPARC.

The incident occurred on April 11 after a license-plate reader erroneously identified Brandon Upchurch's pickup truck as a stolen vehicle. When he was stopped, he was approached by Officer Adrian Wilson with gun drawn and declined to get out of his truck initially until he could discover the problem.

When he did finally exit the vehicle "to de-escalate the situation," said Upchurch, a series of mishaps followed. Ordered to lie down, Upchurch searched for a proper place to do so, was not deemed fast enough and Officer Wilson directed his canine partner to attack Upchurch.

Upchurch was treated for the dog bite by the Toledo Fire Department which cleaned and bandaged Mr. Upchurch's wound; he was taken to St. Vincent Hospital to be examined and then transported to Lucas County jail.

He was charged with obstruction and resisting arrest and, after a number of postponements, now has a court date of June 12 for the misdemeanor offenses. He has pleaded not guilty.

A TPD internal review found that the officer acted properly with respect to use-of-force guidelines and will not be disciplined for ordering his dog to attack Upchurch but he did receive a verbal reprimand for carelessness in his failure to verify the license plate was stolen.

That action has not been deemed enough said the community activists this past Sunday as they stood with Upchurch and his passenger on that day, Frederick Wilson.

"I would like to let the chief know we are not okay with the dismissing of any type of wrongdoing by those officers," said Dotson-Chambers. "I would like to let them know that this does not stop here. If the police do not police



Brandon Upchurch, Frederick Wilson, Siti Dotson-Chambers, Steve Eaton, Washington Muhammad

themselves, then we will police them. They will be held accountable, we will not tolerate them using dogs, punching people, calling community citizens out of their names ... we are watching"

Muhammad suggested that his group CSPARC has been formed in an effort to establish a citizens' review board outside of the purview of government agencies.

"The Community Solidarity Police Accountability and Review Council will work vigorously to ensure that everyone in our community is treated with dignity, respect and due process by law enforcement officers and agencies in the Toledo area and beyond regardless of race, sexual orientation, gender identity, income level, mental health status, disabling condition, citizenship status or any other identity."

Muhammad suggested that further legal action will be pursued by the CSPARC.

"We seek to file charges and testify and prosecute when they are outside the color of law – 42 U.S. Code, Section 1983," he added.

Community Foundation... continued from page 6

collaboration with Rogers high school HUB, The Movement Team Lucas County in collaboration with Lucas County Children's Services, National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women's Club Maumee Bay Club in collaboration with National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. Beta Gamma Chapter, New Leaf Group, Inc., New Life Church of God in Christ, Toledo Urban Youth Sports League, and Toledo Elite Student Athletics, Families for Fitness, Inc., The Program, Inc., collaboration partner Junior Achievement, Ivy Entrepreneur Institute, Inc., and Poohs Kidz Coats.

Greater Toledo Community Foundation is a public charitable organization created by citizens of our community to enrich the quality of life for individuals and families in our area. In existence since 1973, the Foundation has more than 900 funds with assets of approximately \$435 million. The Foundation provides philanthropic services for individuals, families, businesses and corporations to meet their charitable giving needs. For more information about Greater Toledo Community Foundation, visit www.toledocf.org

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The Black Wall Street Community Development Coaching Session

By Dawn Scotland

The Truth Reporter

The Black Wall Street Community Development held its fifth coaching session "Selling the Sizzle" at TTEC (5212 Hill Ave.) Wednesday, May 29. This was the final session in the five-part series leading up to BWSCD's Nineteenth Speed Funding event June 13. The session featured local Black media experts and was aimed at helping entrepreneurs hone their marketing strategies to better their business.

The event featured presentations from:

- Toni Battle-Gaines (Juice 107.3 WJUC)
- Fletcher Word (The Sojourner's Truth Newspaper)
- Kristie Knighten (KPK Unlimited)
- Tessa Ballard and Brittany Johnson (WTVG 13 ABC)
- Stayce Fowler (Stalwart Magazine)

"The key to all advertising is consistency," stated Toni Battle- Gaines, long time marketing representative for WJUC 107.3 The Juice, "If you just throw it out there and they never see you again and you don't remind them that you're out there and you don't consistently keep your company's name in front of them - it's not going to work for you. It's not going to work long term."

Black media experts offered tips and advice as well as special promotions in advertising for attendees. The event offered presentations across multi-media platforms including radio, newspaper, apparel, video and magazine.

"You have to do your research," emphasized Fletcher Word, editor and publisher of The Sojourner's Truth Newspaper. "You have to determine



Kristie Knighten (KPK Unlimited)



Toni Battle-Gaines, The Juice 107.3 FM

what you want, where you want to go and who you want to reach. And then you have to do your research on the various outlets that are available." Each representative offered exclusive advice on how to better mar-

...continued on page 13

TIRED OF DRIVING YOUR KIDS ALL OVER TOWN?

THIS SUMMER: AGES 6-19 RIDE TARTA FOR FREE

The Youth Summer Blast Pass (YSBP) is intended to help passholders, ages 6-19, find independence while learning more about how to use public transit.

From June 1st - August 31st, the YSBP provides unlimited rides on all TARTA services:

- Fixed Route
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- TARTA Paratransit

Get started today at TARTA.com/blast.



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Black Wall Street...continued from page 12

ket in today's world and provided knowledge on questions asked from the group in the hour-long session.

The Black Wall Street Community Development is an organization established by local Black-owned media – The Juice 107.3 radio station, The Sojourner's Truth newspaper and Stalwart magazine. Started in 2023, the group has hosted a wealth of events and sessions to help empower the Black business community in NW Ohio.

The Black Wall Street Community Development's mission statement "is to empower a community of business owners through activities such as mentorship, networking, leadership coaching and financial literacy initiatives for advocacy, support."

During April and May, the group hosted a five-part series of events for Black entrepreneurs on topics pertinent to success and viability in today's market. The sessions included such topics as "Scaling Your Biz," "Brand Strategy" and "Financial Snapshot."

On June 13, the BWSCD will be hosting an epic speed funding event held at TTEC for Juneteenth at 6 p.m., in partnership with Toledo JuneteenthNY, to help entrepreneurs catapult themselves into the next level of



Tesha Ballard and Brittany Johnson (WTVG 13 ABC)



Stayce Fowler (Stalwart Magazine)

their business.

To learn more about BWSCD visit Facebook @ Black Wall Street Community Development. To learn more about Assets Toledo visit assetstoledo.com or their Facebook page.

Giving Circles – A Powerful Vehicle for Philanthropy

What is a Giving Circle? A Giving Circle is a group of people that pool their donation dollars to make a bigger impact in their community. Members nominate and vote on the charities that receive the pooled donations. Grapevine is one of the leading online networks of Giving Circles and the Northwestern Ohio Women's Giving Circle is Toledo Women Together.

Toledo Women Together started in the summer of 2022 as Toledo Women for Good. The recent rebranding was due to a stall in growth and a desire to increase the social, networking, and volunteer aspects of the organization. A brand-new newsletter and monthly coffee hours are two ways the group is trying to increase engagement with their membership and the community. The first coffee hour in May was a great success and others are being scheduled.

Local charities that have benefited from Toledo Women Together's mem-

bership donations include So All May Eat, Bethany House, Light the Way, and Alzheimer's and Dementia Care Services of Northwestern Ohio. The group is always looking for new members to increase their donor pool and provide introduction to other charitable causes in the area. If interested in learning more about the mission of Toledo Women Together check out their website at <https://tinyurl.com/TolW419>.



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A WILL IS NOT ALWAYS THE WAY

Getting Your Affairs in Order Launch

In Partnership with Area Office on Aging & Toledo Lucas County Public Library

Join us for this informative session on
Saturday, June 22, 2024 from 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library – Main Branch
325 North Michigan St, Toledo, OH 43604

Learn what you can do to better prepare you and your family.

Back by Popular Demand - Series I Launch - Topic Discussion:
Wills, POAs, Transfer of Assets, Trust & Final Arrangement Instructions




RSVP by June 18 at
<https://events.toledolibrary.org/event/9726537>

ADDITIONAL DATE & TOPIC OF DISCUSSION:

Saturday, October 19, 2024
Living Will, Transfer on Death Deed
RSVP by October 15
<https://events.toledolibrary.org/event/9726545>

For questions please call 419-259-5311

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Negotiating While Black: Be Who You Are to Get What You Want by Damali Peterman

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

Absolutely not.

And that's the final answer. Nobody's budging on it, nobody will hear any argument, it's done, the answer is just plain "no." Or is it – because isn't there some wiggle room in nearly any controversy, a toenail's worth of space to find a middle ground? Read *Negotiating While Black* by Damali Peterman, and you could find maybe between the N and the O.

You want something. You're denied, and it's frustrating. Between your ask and the other party's rejection, what went wrong? Damali Peterman wondered that, too, when she tried to buy a new car before the pandemic and the first dealership all but turned her away.

Was it because she's Black, a woman – both or neither?

Peterman is the founder and CEO of Breakthrough ADR, and an expert in dispute resolution. "Negotiation is my life," she says, and she knows there are always two sides to an argument. Finding a happy middle to a dispute or negotiation is usually possible; at the very least, there may be compromise to be found.

First of all, don't be afraid of negotiation; any time you make a decision or figure something out with someone, you're negotiating. Also know that there's not a "one-size-fits-all" way of give-and-take; you need to find what works best for you.

When you're asking for something, keep in mind the "Five Elements in Every Negotiation": know what you want, what you need, how to listen closely, how to communicate, and when to close the deal. Pay close attention to the other person's body language and properly validate what they are saying. Always "be your authentic self"; not doing so is why things collapse well after the deal is set. Do your research and "peek inside their bag" so you have "more material... to work with" in negotiating. Always be

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Putnam
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239 pages

the first to make the offer, but don't show your hand too quickly. Know how to overcome bias. Apologize when needed. And know what to do when "high-stakes negotiations" could be a matter of safety...

You're the sort of person who knows what they want. You've thought it through and you want it now. So learn how to get it by reading *Negotiating While Black*.

Ask pretty please? It often doesn't work that way in real life, so author Damali Peterman shows readers a number of better ways of talking things over and reaching a consensus that works for both parties in nearly any situation, in or outside of the office. Her methods are gentler but firm, smart but not smug, flexible but not bend-over-backward, and kind but not pushover. Yes, some of the advice here is common-sense but it also comes with new perspective, including easy-to-grasp lessons for marginalized readers who want to go beyond the frustration of being abruptly dismissed.

When "please" doesn't cut it anymore and demanding is not the right move, *Negotiating While Black* is the book you want. It shows you the way to ask with a velvet fist.

Should you miss it?

Absolutely not.



Negotiating While Black
author CREDIT Lumumba
David of David Media
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L O V E

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Negotiating While BLACK

BE WHO YOU ARE TO
GET WHAT YOU WANT

DAMALI PETERMAN

CLASSIFIEDS

Page 14

June 5, 2024

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Electronic proposals will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Lucas County, Ohio, by the Purchasing Department, One Government Center, Suite 480, Toledo, Ohio 43604-2247 until 2:00 P.M. (local time), July 12, 2024 and opened immediately thereafter for **#2147-Brand Refresh & Logo Upgrade** for the Lucas County Commissioners and Lucas County Canine Care & Control (LC4), according to specifications available for examination, or download the proposal by going to the site, <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.asp>. Suppliers interested in doing business with Lucas County must register in the Supplier Portal.

To access the Lucas County Oracle Supplier Portal, please visit:
https://eieb.fa.us6.oraclecloud.com/fscmUI/faces/NegotiationAbstracts?prcBuld=300000007278812&_adf.ctrlstate=l5ps8sau3_1&_afLoop=7126760101772357&_afWindowMode=0&_afWindowId=avudlxmca&_afFS=16&_afMT=screen&_afMFW=1920&_afMFH=932&_afMFDW=1920&_afMFDH=1080&_afMFC=8&_afMFCI=0&_afMFM=0&_afMFR=96&_afMFG=0&_afMFS=0&_afMFO=0

Prior to 2:00 P.M. (local time), July 12, 2024 each proposal shall contain the full name of each person submitting the proposal and the name of every person or company interested in same.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Pete Gerken – President
Lisa A. Sobecki – Commissioner
Anita Lopez – Commissioner

SCOTT HS CLASS OF '69 REUNION

Calling all SCOTT HIGH CLASS OF "69" CLASSMATES. We are currently updating all addresses and phone #'s for our 55th reunion. Please contact Evelyn Wilson at 419-490-6851 or Tommy Johnson at 419-704-1835 for details. See you all soon. The Class of '69" Reunion Committee

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Ms. Mixon

KICK OFF SUMMER WITH FAMILY FUN DAY!

Mercy Health, Ohio Department of Children & Youth, and Ohio Children's Trust Fund, Northwest Ohio Region host free fun-filled event

Area families are invited to dive head-first into summer with a day of activities and festivities, including enjoying some of the best of the region's metroparks.

Family Fun Day is 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, June 8 at Glass City Metropark, 1505 Front St., Toledo.

Be sure to come early as the first 220 participants receive FREE access to the portable rock-climbing experience wall - the Mercy Health FitPark Climb! Additionally, these early birds will have free access to skates or scooters for the Glass City Ribbon and free lunch and ice cream.

If you can't make it until later in the afternoon, still plan to come by! There is free entertainment throughout the day at the cabanas including face painters by Talented People; caricature artists by About Face Entertainment; the magic and balloon artistry by Eli as well as information from the Metroparks naturalists. Kids activities and community information and resource tables will also be on hand.

The event is intended to offer family-friendly fun while enjoying one of our community treasures - Glass City Metropark. Families are encouraged to experience all that the park has to offer, including play areas designed to celebrate our region's natural beauty including the Maumee River and its tributaries; area flora and fauna; and our native birds.

Family Fun Day will bring families and the community together while focusing on kids. The Ohio Department of Children's & Youth, Ohio Children's Trust Fund and Mercy Health work together to ensure parents, caregivers, and families have the support and resources they need, so that children get the nurturing environments they deserve.

BUSINESS OUTREACH COORDINATOR

WGTE Public Media (WGTE) is seeking a motivated and results-driven Business Outreach Coordinator to join our dynamic team. This role is vital in identifying, securing, and generating financial support for WGTE's on-air broadcast and digital programs. The ideal candidate will collaborate externally with both for-profit and nonprofit business partners across WGTE's broadcast region and internally with leadership and support staff to exceed annual financial goals, thereby supporting WGTE Public Media's mission.

Qualifications:

- * Minimum of 2 years of experience in sales, fundraising, or business development, preferably in a media or nonprofit environment.
- * Proven track record in developing and managing productive business relationships.
- * Strong negotiation, communication, and interpersonal skills.

At WGTE Public Media, we offer a competitive salary (non-commission-based) and outstanding benefits. We value and celebrate your unique experiences, perspectives, and identity. Our dedicated team at WGTE works collaboratively to foster inclusive, equitable, and welcoming working and learning environments.

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

PATHWAY, INC. CEASES EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Pathway, Inc. has announced that effective immediately they will no longer accept Emergency Rental Assistance Program applications via the American Rescue Plan Act Home Relief Grant (ARPAHRG).

In a statement, Pathway said the completed applications previously submitted will be processed subject to the availability of funds. They encouraged individuals facing a housing emergency to contact 2-1-1 or 800-650-HELP.

Since late 2020, Pathway, Inc. has disbursed more than \$30 million in rental and utility assistance to individuals and families in Lucas County, including current, past due, and future rent, security deposits, and utility payments.

For more information on Pathway, visit pathwaytoledo.org.

The Wayman Palmer YMCA Holds Topping Off Ceremony

The Truth Staff

The Wayman Palmer YMCA is well underway to meeting the agency's goal of opening its newly constructed facility in early 2025. On Monday, May 20, a topping-off ceremony was held on site to mark an important step in the process.

The last beam was placed on top of the building as staff, elected officials and other attendees were invited to autograph the beam before it was lifted aloft.

"The topping-off ceremony signifies a significant step forward in the journey towards the opening of the new Wayman D. Palmer YMCW," said Brad Toft, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Toledo.

"We're building not just a structure but an opportunity to create unity and community," said Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz.

The 50,000 square-foot facility has been funded at a cost of around \$30 million by the City of Toledo using monies from the American Rescue Plan Act, noted the mayor. The facility will include a swimming pool, and outdoor splash pad, a multipurpose space, wellness center among the many amenities.

Of course, the question for those living in the community surrounding the new Wayman Palmer facility will be – will the construction price tag make it too expensive for those in the neighborhood to have access to those facilities.

"I think we are going to give the community the programs and services at a very high level," said Eric Williams, director of the Wayman Palmer Y. "We also want to make sure that no one gets turned away and that we have pricing structures to make sure that happens."

As an example, the Y is partnering with the Toledo Public Schools Head Start



The Topping Off Ceremony

Early Childhood program, the Toledo Northwest Food Bank for a food pantry and the T.A.C.K.L.E. Program, a youth mental health agency.



Planting the last beam



Brad Toft, Greater Toledo YMCA President and CEO; Rosalyn Clemens, Toledo Housing and Community Development Director; Eric Williams, Director Wayman Palmer YMCA



Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz

Photos courtesy Kelli Miller, YMCA Graphic Designer

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