



Volume 84 No. 5 *“And Ye Shall Know The Truth...”* June 19, 2024



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Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Sponsors Health Fair

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

The men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, Xi Tau Chapter of Toledo sponsored a Juneteenth Community Health and Wellness Fair on the grounds of Martin Luther King Academy for Boys on Saturday, June 15, 2024. The fair featured DJ Chris Hollywood, free food, medical screening, and services.

“We wanted to provide free resources to our community,” said Richard Langford, event chairman. “The community has access to health screening, health services and mental health services. The city of Toledo also attended to share the succession plan and even an insurance provider to discuss the importance of insurance.

The fair kicked off at noon and concluded at 3:00 p.m. Neighborhood residents and community members were able to receive medical screening, health related and mental health related services without an appointment or insurance. These screenings included blood pressure, oral cancer screening and free mammograms. In addition to the health and wellness services, there were art activities for youth and free bike giveaways.

“Today demonstrates a 360 Que, we’re about bring our community, careers and families together while we represent excellence,” began Keith Jordan, chapter president.. “We have organized successful events over the years and wanted to give back to our community because taking care of your health will prolong your life.”

According to the chapter’s Facebook page, The chapter of Xi Tau of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc was founded in 1960 and serves as the graduate chapter for Omega Men living in the Toledo, Ohio area.

For more information about Martin Luther King Academy for Boys, which is an all-boys academic excellence academy that is located near Mott Branch and Smith Park, consider contacting the school at 419-671-4550 because open enrollment has begun under the leadership of Willie Ward, EdD, school principal.



Omega Men with MLK Principal Willie Ward, EdD, and Sheila Cook of MLK Academy



Richard Langford, Event Chairman; Brandon Armour, PR Chair; Keith Jordan, Chapter president



United Way table



The health screening booth

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Community Organizations Celebrate Juneteenth

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

Toledo Lucas County Library, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, Alpha Xi Lambda Chapter and Toledo NAACP collaborated to sponsor a Juneteenth rooftop party on Saturday, June 15. The celebration was held at the downtown library and featured a live DJ, delicious food, and fresh air in good weather.

"We've celebrated Juneteenth three years straight," said Kathy Selking, Toledo Lucas County Library Director of Development, Affinity and Events. "The celebrations have been received well by the community and we're excited to host it each year."

As guests enjoyed live DJ Money Knox and refreshments under the sunset, event dignitaries delivered welcome remarks. Kathy Selking welcomed



Event organizers Rev. Willie Perryman III & Anita Madison of NAACP, Rodney Eason of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Kathy Selking of Toledo Lucas County Public Library



Justin and Brittany Jones, PhD (Toledo City Council member)



Janelle and Michael Stubblefield DDS

... continued on page 5



Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. members



Brittany Burgess, Keenen Fisher and Craig Burney



Lavinia King and Beatrice Daniels



Rev. Lee Williams and Brenda Weatherspoon

CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH Freedom

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



Community Organizations... continued from page 4

everyone to the sold-out event, while Rev. Willie Perryman III, NAACP Toledo president and Alpha member Rodney Eason delivered warm greetings.

“Thank you for joining us,” said Rev. Perryman. “Thank you for to the library and Alphas for partnering with us. I hope everyone enjoys themselves tonight. See you again next year.”

“Happy to support and partner with the library and NAACP,” shared Rodney Eason. “Juneteenth is an important day in American history, which deserves to be celebrated.”

The library will be closed on Juneteenth – June 19, for additional information visit www.toledolibrary.org. For information about Toledo NAACP visit www.naacptoledo.org. For additional information about Alpha Xi Lambda Chapter visit www.toledoalphas.com



Rooftop event planning team



Lisa Johnson, Pamela Banner, Sabrina and Fred Hunter



Lois Bingham, Library Trustee Keith Jordan, Councilwoman Cerssandra McPherson, and Alex Huffaker



The Board of Lucas County Commissioners



Pete Gerken



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Anita Lopez

joins The Truth in celebrating

Juneteenth
Freedom Day
2024



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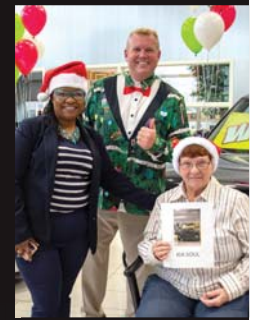

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On Juneteenth Let Us Remember, Racial Terror Did Not End with Slavery

By Ben Jealous

Guest Column

When Terence Crutcher, a father of four who sang in his church choir, was shot and killed by the police in 2016 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, his twin sister Dr. Tiffany Crutcher saw history repeating itself.

Terence, who had his hands up, needed help but instead received a bullet. It was fired by the same police department that 95 years earlier had deputized members of the lynch mob that started the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre.

It reminded Dr. Crutcher of perhaps the most prominent victim of that Massacre, the renowned surgeon Dr. A.C. Jackson. Dr. Jackson was shot leaving his house, also with his hands in the air.

The Crutchers are direct descendants of a survivor of the 1921 Massacre, which destroyed Tulsa's historic Greenwood District. Dr. Crutcher is also a leader of the movement to get official recognition of and restitution for that destruction.

I was honored to stand with members of that movement in Tulsa this past week to commemorate the Juneteenth holiday. The Tulsa Race Massacre was probably the single worst incident of racial violence in American history post-slavery. Over an 18-hour period, as many as 300 Black residents were murdered. More than 10,000 others were displaced as refugees in their own country. Over 1,250 Black homes and hundreds of Black businesses and gathering places were burned.

Last week, the Oklahoma Supreme Court dismissed a lawsuit seeking reparations for the last known living survivors of the Tulsa Massacre (ages 110 and 109). But another important fight continues. That is the fight to create a national monument where the Greenwood District once thrived.

A bipartisan bill to do that has been introduced in Congress by Senators Cory Booker (D-N.J.) and James Lankford (R-Okla.). President Biden could also establish the monument with executive authority under the 1906 Antiquities Act.

A similar movement is underway to establish a national monument to the 1908 race riot in Springfield, Illinois. That riot, in the hometown of Abraham Lincoln, shocked the nation and was a major catalyst for the creation of the NAACP six months later.

Just one generation removed from slavery, Tulsa's Greenwood District was a 35-square-block bastion of Black prosperity. It was nicknamed "Negro Wall Street" by Booker T. Washington. An especially prosperous section of a thriving boomtown, it was seen as a Promise Land for the Black people who flocked there. In the age of lynchings and race riots, it seemed like an exception to the rule.

During Red Summer in 1919, when at least 26 cities across the country experienced intense racial violence, Tulsa remained peaceful. But the peace did not last. Resentment of the famed "Black Wall Street" and its residents' success simmered among white Tulsans.

As Dr. Crutcher notes, "in an era when white supremacy ran rampant, Black people were not supposed to thrive ... if you tried to live free, tried to vote, or even looked at someone the wrong way, it was an excuse to destroy and lynch Black people." The spark that lit the powder keg in Tulsa was the same that ignited so many other examples of racial violence in America. A Black boy was accused of assaulting a white girl.

A lynch mob formed. And when the mob was rebuffed, all hell broke loose.

This month, as we celebrate Juneteenth, which marks the end of chattel slavery in the U.S., Dr. Crutcher reminds us that "we celebrate an idea that has yet to become a reality." That is because when it comes to reckoning with and healing the wounds of our nation's history with race, we still have a long way to go.

For many decades following the Massacre, the history of that terrible event was buried in what Dr. Crutcher calls a "conspiracy of silence." Dr. Crutcher grew up in Tulsa just a few blocks from historic Greenwood and



even attended school in Greenwood. Yet she was never taught this history that so impacted her community – and her own family.

She first heard mention of the Massacre and Black Wall Street when she went away to college and would tell people she was from Tulsa. Home from college one weekend, she asked her dad about it. Dr. Crutcher learned not only about the Massacre but that her great-grandmother, Rebecca Brown Crutcher, had barely escaped it.

She found out her father had only learned about it himself when, amidst the assassination of Dr. King and the riots that followed in the late 1960s, "Mama Brown," as the family called her, whispered to him, "Something like that happened here."

She whispered because all those years later she was still afraid. Survivors were told if they talked about the events, they would be lynched or bring on another massacre. So for decades, the history was not only scrubbed from textbooks and schools, but even from families' oral traditions.

One reason a national monument is so important is the need to protect and learn from our history. As we commemorate Juneteenth, we must not just remember the history and end of slavery. We must remember the long shadow cast by the dehumanization of Black people in this country. And we must recognize that we still have not fully stepped out of that shadow and into the light.

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

I Am Not Making This Up!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

One of the greatest challenges and thrills of my life occurred when I graduated from Kent State University and was contacted by the State Department regarding possible employment in their division which surreptitiously records speeches of both foreign and domestic politicians.

Curious, I asked the interviewer why I was selected for this most unusual job and I was told that my aptitude testing showed that I highly demonstrated the uncanny ability to decipher cryptic and illogical sentence structures.

Even when I later left the State Department, I agreed, only on unusual occasions, was I to be contacted again to re-engage in that mind numbing work.

Well, that fateful time came, and I was secretly contacted to decode and make sense of a recent Donald Trump rally speech he delivered in New Orleans, one of my favorite cities to visit and the home of crisp hush puppies and a mean Jambalaya. By private courier, they sent me the recorded video of the following bit of hubris by Donald Trump:

"I love New Orleans! The garlic toast here is amazing. I was downtown by the waterfront watching for leaping frogs and a man on a bike came up to me and said, 'Sir, I can see that you are an intelligent man by the size of your hands. What are your plans today. Can I go along with you?'"

I said to him, "Sir, I noticed that all the women here wear wigs and I need to find out if anyone is from Ohio because Ohio is an important state for me to win back the White House but only if Joe Biden can stay away from those delicious

Maryland crabcakes! I walked around the Fifth Quarter and asked if there was a Sixth Quarter somewhere and they told me no; but I was the only person to ever ask that question! I told them it was because my uncle went to M.I.T. and I am a smart man!"

Trump went on to say: "Sir, take me to the Hotel Pontchartrain so I can ask Jack Rose about the lack of moonbeams falling on the zoo at night. A big problem I hear in this city! When I get back into the White House, I will make sure that we construct a device to direct the moonbeams to fall on the zoo! Gotta have that done! Those commie Democrats hate moonbeams! Can you imagine anyone hating moonbeams?"

The man on the bike seemed puzzled but told Donald Trump to follow him and he would take him to Magazine Street for French toast and bacon. Not be outdone, Donald Trump thanked the nameless man and said, "Sir, I can tell that you are a patriot, and I would be honored if you would serve in my cabinet as head of housing and urban development so we can have the entire City of New Orleans moved to higher ground due to all of its flooding."



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Pioneering Second Chances: Anita Lopez's Bold Vision for a Fairer Community

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

The Truth Contributor

Redemption is not just a personal journey but a societal imperative. Our systems must be designed to allow for second chances, reflecting our belief in human potential and fairness.

- Michael Eric Dyson



A recent editorial criticizing Lucas County Commissioner Anita Lopez's decision to hire Brent Rombach as her executive assistant has "set it off" between The Blade and the 8th Floor at One Government Center. The Blade's inflammatory commentary fixates on Rombach's previous gun charge, questioning his suitability for public office and argues that his appointment signals a disregard for public safety.

However, the newspaper's petty perspective neglects broader and more vital discussions about second chances, the socio-economic realities facing marginalized communities, and the need for equitable policies that genuinely address public safety and employment opportunities.

Rombach, a 20-year-old who was arrested last September for having a loaded firearm in his vehicle, is a case study of the complexities young people face today. He explained that the gun was for protection—a necessity many young people in high-crime areas like east Toledo, where Rombach lives, understand all too well.

This context is significant: Ohio's Republican-led legislature has formally authorized open carry without training, meaning carrying a firearm, legally or not, can be seen as a reasonable measure for personal safety in some communities. In other words, common sense requires one to assume that everyone you encounter is "strapped," carrying a "heater."

Following his arrest, Rombach—a Central Catholic High School graduate who served on the student council, played football, received exemplary peer recommendations and volunteered at the East Toledo Family Center - took significant steps toward rehabilitation. He enrolled in a pretrial diversion program that required community service, payment of fines, and a commitment to lawful behavior.

After listening to the community, the Lucas County government adopted the stance several years ago that a felony should not define a person's entire

...continued on page 13

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Juneteenth at TMA June 21 3:30-7:30PM

The AKA Sorority Jazz Juneteenth Brunch

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

The ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter hosted a Juneteenth Jazz Brunch on Saturday, June 15 at The Pinnacle in Maumee, Ohio. Over a thousand sorority members and community members were in attendance and dressed in Afrocentric attire. In addition to the brunch, guests were treated to performances from J'Zillance Band and Sheila Brown, were able to participate in an auction to purchase local items and, most importantly, could celebrate four scholarship recipients.

Sonya Randall opened the program by introducing all special guests, this included sorority dignitaries and elected officials. Clara Petty, program co-chair and fundraising committee member served as the mistress of ceremony for the program.

"Welcome to our annual scholarship brunch," began Petty. "It warms my heart to see such a fantastic turnout which contributes to our successful en-

deavors. Thank you for being here and your unwavering support."

Richelle Watkins, chapter president, officially welcomed all individuals in

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Henry Bones, father; Dana Bonds (scholarship recipient) and Cozzetta McVay, mother.



Back (left to right) Patrice McClellan, PhD; fundraising committee; Desiree McGee, fundraising committee and historian; Pamela Jones, fundraising committee; Katrina Barry, vice president; Tracci Johnson, treasurer; and Donnetta Carter, regional communications
Front (left to right) Andrea Price, parliamentarian; Felicia Dunston, chairman; Richelle Watkins, chapter president; Clara Petty, co-chairman; Lisa Dubose, international membership committee



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HAPPY JUNETEENTH!!



Juneteenth Books by various authors

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

The park shelter has been reserved.

You've told everyone where to be and what to bring (Grandma's favorite dessert!) and someone will set up games to occupy the kids. Your whole family celebrates Juneteenth, so maybe it's time to bring these two great books to your jubilee...

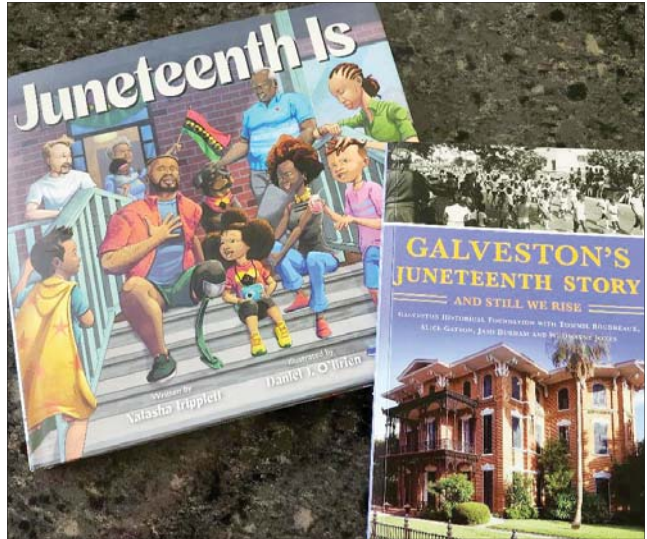
c. 2024
The History Press /
Chronicle Books
\$24.99 / \$17.99
141 pages / 40 pages

If you sometimes feel like you're always the last to know, then read *Galveston's Juneteenth Story: And Still We Rise* by Tommie Boudreaux, Alice Gatson, Jami Durham and W. Dwayne Jones (The History Press, \$24.99). Because sometimes, you are the last.

Some sixty years before the end of the Civil War, Britain and the U.S. both "banned the international trade of enslaved people..." Slavery still existed, of course, and "Galveston [Texas] was known as the largest slave market west of New Orleans..." Roughly a thousand people were enslaved there, and "many more... passed through the city's slave trading houses." It's estimated that "thousands" also tried to escape slavery through Galveston and Brownsville, over the Rio Grande to Mexico.

Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation proclamation on September 22, 1862. The Civil War ended in April 1865. On June 19 of that same year – two months after wars' end – Black Texans finally learned that they were free. The slaves in Galveston were the last in the country to be notified.

This essential look at the history of Juneteenth goes beyond that historic



day to show more of what happened in the immediate aftermath of the posting of General Order No. 3. The authors don't stop there, though: they take their narrative well into the early 20th century, through Jim Crow laws, and into modern times and today's celebrations. Complete with lots of illustrations, *Galveston's Juneteenth Story: And Still We Rise* is a great book to browse and to keep around for reference.

You know your child wants to understand the history of this holiday, too, so look for the new picture book, *Juneteenth Is* by Natasha Tripplett, illustrated by Daniel J. O'Brien (Chronicle Books, \$17.99).

The morning has just started. The sun is up and today is the day for Jubilee. Everyone's heading for the park and a parade with drummers and steppers. They throw candy to everyone along the parade route. There are red, green, and black flags everywhere!

After the festivities at the park, it's time to get together with family. Juneteenth is a time to "be thankful." It's "the ladies singing in the kitchen," an uncle's jokes (groan!), basketball in the front driveway, prayer around the table, and "generations of family recipes." And, of course, Juneteenth is a solemn time to acknowledge "things not taught in school." That's the lesson to be learned, and children ages 3 to 8 will love learning it with this book.

If these Juneteenth books aren't exactly what you're looking for, be sure

HAPPY JUNETEENTH!



Cersandra McPherson, Toledo City Councilwoman At-Large

Celebrating a Day in African American History – a Celebration of Progress

Cersandra.McPherson@toledo.oh.gov

to ask your favorite bookseller or librarian. They can put lots of other Juneteenth books for anyone of any age, directly in your hands. Ask for help, or be sure to put these two great books on reserve soon.



LUCAS COUNTY Land Bank

Juneteenth Freedom Day

The story of Juneteenth reveals that freedom and justice will always prevail. This year, and every year, let us work together to eradicate racism and inequity in our society wherever we find it.

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Community Calendar

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

July 13
Padua Center Rummage Sale: Items needed – clothing, small furniture, appliances, odds & ends: 419-241-6465

Tolliver... continued from page 8

At this point, the cyclist slowly moved away from Trump and his entourage and peddled off to the Baker Hotel to have breakfast with a psychic who had known Trump in a prior life. INTERPRETATION: Donald Trump is experiencing what is known in our profession as “disjointed hypothetical axis two memory losses.”

This is indicative of problematic future memory losses in which the person makes up non sequitur images and statements to fill in for what he is losing at the same time while he is speaking in disjointed sentences.

A person suffering from this noncurable mental illness, fabricates people and events making him out to be special and possessing superpowers to re-configure his reality...as he thinks it should be.

In his comments to the man on the bike, Trump sees frogs jumping and wig wearing women as symbols of what he dreads the most and, that being, the frogs indicate the unknown and the wigs represent only a temporary cover.

His obsession with moonbeams shows that he wants to be transported out of this world to another and his fixation with food items from New Orleans means that it is through his diet that he finds solace and comfort.

By elevating the city to a higher ground, Trump is engaged in magical powers thinking that he can change even the location of cities if allowed to do so. His illness indicates that he would appoint people to powerful positions that he does not even know but since they were nice or kind to him, he overreacts to anyone who shows him kindness.

He mentions the Sixth Quarter (there is none) and M.I.T. because he wants to exude the appearance of being knowledgeable even on matters that he has no expertise.

Overall, the statements by Trump indicate that his mind is in serious disarray and decline and his rational thoughts are few and far between.

My conclusion to my State Department bosses: This man is a danger to himself and those around him and he needs an immediate psychiatric intervention to prevent future damage, possibly irreversible.

Lastly, it was agreed upon that upon my report being sent in and studied that it would be secretly destroyed for fear of reprisals if Trump were to recapture the White House.

Contact *Lafe Tolliver*, former intelligence officer, at tolliver@juno.com

Coalition... continued from page 20

The panelists began the discussion by providing one word to describe either being a father or fatherhood, while sharing life experiences.

“I was raised by my aunt and don’t want my children to be raised the same way,” said Demarco Peacock. “I want to communicate with my children and to be there for my children.”

“My father was every other weekend father,” shared Pastor William Foster. “I felt unprotected but was raised with my step father and mother. I want my son to feel protected and not to operate in a space of trauma. I want to prepare him to be a father and husband.”

“I had a great father who was home every night,” said Eric Williams. “He was there for all 11 of us. I give my kids the resources to deal with life and we have open conversations.”

“I was fortunate to be raised with my mom and dad,” said Terry Crosby. “When that happens it is impactful. Both parents need to be responsible. It was not just my parents but a village there for me. I feel the village is missing today. Even if we impact one person, collectively the village impact, we need to bring that resource back.”

“It’s easy to blame the black man when he’s not in the home,” said Eduardo Adams. “My father wasn’t in the home and I turned out okay. It’s not just about being absent in the home, because that doesn’t mean that he’s absent.”

“We need to keep being positive because impact won’t occur overnight,” shared Eric Daniels. “We can’t save the world, but we can do our part.”

“When we look at the prison numbers, you can’t show me where 60-70 percent of crimes are committed by Black people. Once they are sentenced,

Perryman... continued from page 8

life, especially for young people. This and other rehabilitation programs reflect the county’s belief in redemption and second chances. This principle should likewise guide our entire society’s actions and policies.

Commissioner Lopez’s decision to hire Rombach aligns with this framework of second chances and justice. Young people make mistakes, which is true even for some current local elected officials.

Notwithstanding, Lopez’s choice to appoint Rombach to a meaningful position is more than just an employment decision; it reflects faith in his potential and supports Lucas County’s “ban-the-box” initiative to reduce employment barriers for individuals with criminal records. To truly support such initiatives, we must apply them consistently and demonstrate a genuine commitment to second chances.

While advocating for second chances, we must also recognize the urgent need for policies that ensure fairness and safety in our communities. The policies should include eliminating arbitrary or disparate requirements that hinder residents from obtaining jobs and ensuring that our streets are safe from gun violence.

Outdated or unjust requirements must not be allowed to thwart equitable access to employment. Policies should prevent such barriers and promote equal opportunities for all residents. This approach supports rehabilitation, reduces recidivism, and strengthens the community by allowing individuals to contribute positively, regardless of their past.

Addressing public safety requires a comprehensive approach that establishes a fair criminal justice system and enforces laws to protect residents while acknowledging the realities of those compelled to carry firearms for protection. Citizens deserve to walk down their streets without the fear that gun violence could abruptly end their lives. The collective need for a safe, peaceful community, therefore, requires establishing a fair and just criminal justice system that residents can trust and believe in.

Finally, the criticism of Rombach’s hiring reveals a troubling inconsistency in societal attitudes toward gun ownership and criminal records. Many critics who now oppose his hiring have supported more lenient gun laws, contributing to the environment where carrying firearms is normalized. The Blade’s selective outrage fails to account for the lived experiences of those in marginalized communities. Instead, the newspaper’s perspective highlights a bias that prioritizes condemnation over constructive resolution.

Conversely, Commissioner Anita Lopez’s decision reflects a compassionate and forward-thinking leadership approach. By focusing on Rombach’s potential rather than his past mistakes, Lopez exemplifies how public officials can support rehabilitation and reintegration through fair policies, fostering a society where everyone can contribute.

Given many other critical issues our community faces, The Blade would better serve the public by addressing those broader challenges instead of “trippin’” over Lopez’s decision to offer a young person with a past felony a chance to rebuild their life.

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

more time is spent away from their kids at a higher rate,” noted Devonnie Fagan. “We need the village. It takes a lot and I’m going to keep going.”

“We need to create safe spaces for our brothers, we are not enemies,” said Victor Colman. “We’re afraid to soften up because the streets have taught us to toughen up. I know there’s two brothers on this panel that were impacted by violence and I should have reached out to them and checked on them. They are my brothers. Even though I wasn’t affected, he was and I should have taken a pause from the grind to check on my brother. I shouldn’t wait until someone is on a T-shirt to say that I love them.”

In addition to the panel discussion, the week opened with a press conference on June 10, continued with a conversation with Lucas County Child Support and Ohio Means Jobs, discussion about health and mental health, community-wide fatherhood conference, fathers and family day at Port Lawrence and concluded with a health fair in collaboration with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

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CLASSIFIEDS

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June 19, 2024

BUS TRIP

Blue Chip Casino Trip. Sat, June 22nd also shopping at 47 store outlet mall.
Firekeepers Casino Trip July 6th and 7th. For more info contact Ms. Nixon at (419)901-1515.

Position Available: Grant Writer



Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), a non-profit law firm that provides free, high-quality civil legal assistance to people living in poverty, seeks a Grant Writer. This position can be based out of ABLE's Toledo or Dayton office.

Please visit ABLE's website at <https://www.ablelaw.org/careers-with-able/> to review full details for the position and apply.

ABLE is an Equal Opportunity Employer and places a high value on diversity in our workplace, including diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, and physical ability. Applicants requiring accommodation for the interview/application process should contact the Recruitment Coordinator at ablejobs@freelawyers.org.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY TOLEDO, OHIO

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Electronic Bids will be received by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority for all labor, material, insurance, and equipment necessary for the Airfield Crack Seal and Remarking project at Toledo Executive Airport, 28331 Lemoyne Road, Millbury, OH 43447, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications, for the Port Authority at One Maritime Plaza, Toledo, Ohio 43604.

The project "Airfield Crack Seal and Remarking" project consists of the rehabilitation of Runway 4-22 and Taxiway B paved surfaces at Toledo Executive Airport (TDZ). The rehabilitation scope includes approximately 10,000 LF of crack routing and sealing of asphalt pavement, application of micro-surface seal coat (FAA specification P-629) over approximately 47,000 SY of pavement, and new nonprecision runway and taxiway markings. Also included in the project is the replacement of existing faded airfield sign panels.

This project may be awarded by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority at its sole discretion. The engineer's opinion of probable construction cost for the project is approximately \$458,937.00 and is anticipated to require 15 calendar days for completion.

Coordination with project engineer for pre-bid site visit(s) as well as site access, scheduling, and airfield closures during construction will be required. All materials procured, construction methods used, and construction activities must be done in accordance with FAA material specifications and guidance on operational safety on airports during construction referenced in the project manual.

Bids will be received through Bid Express, an online electronic bidding system until Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 11:00 AM, at which time all bids will be opened through the Bid Express website.

The plans and bid proposal documents are available through Bid Express at: <https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/66075/home>. Bidders new to the electronic bidding system must first register on the Bid Express website (www.bidexpress.com). Registration is Free. It can take up to five (5) business days to process a Digital ID and it is highly recommended that a Digital ID be enabled 48 hours in advance of submitting an electronic bid. Bidders must plan accordingly. For additional guidance regarding electronic bidding, bidders must contact Bid Express directly. Each bidder shall be responsible for submitting its electronic bid before the bid deadline.

Electronic Proposals must be submitted on the form(s) included in Bid Express and shall be accompanied by a certified check or an acceptable Proposal Bond with satisfactory surety specifying the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority as the obligee, in the sum of not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount.

Please note that there will be a pre-bid meeting for this project for all prospective bidders on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 11:00 AM, at the Port Authority's administrative offices at One Maritime Plaza, 2nd floor conference room, Toledo, OH 43604. Attendance is suggested, but not mandatory. Please submit all questions through the Bid Express service by Friday, June 14, 2024, at 9:00 AM local time. Questions submitted after the deadline will not receive a response. Additional information can be found at <https://www.toledoport.org/public-notice>

Thomas J. Winston
President and CEO
Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library is requesting statements of qualifications pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 9.33, et seq., from firms to provide construction manager at risk services for its New Washington Branch Project. The Project is anticipated to include a new 23,000 square foot branch library and renovation of an existing 43,000 square foot structure for ancillary library services. Questions may be directed to, and Requests for Qualifications may be obtained by written request from Mike Graybeal, Director of Operations/Deputy Fiscal Officer at Mike.Graybeal@TOLEDOLIBRARY.ORG. Qualifications will be accepted until **12:00 p.m. local time, July 15, 2024.**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS DISASTER CLEANING SERVICES RFP24-R005

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for **Disaster Cleaning Services in accordance with RFP24-R005**. Received in accordance with law until **June 28, 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.



CONSTRUCTION SPECIALIST

Be a part of something incredible!
The Lucas County Land Bank is looking for a hard-working and capable Construction Specialist to join our team! The Construction Specialist works with our Director of Construction to manage our residential construction projects, support homeowners, inspect properties, estimate renovation costs, and oversee contractor relationships. Annual salary of \$60,000 - \$75,000, depending on experience. Very generous benefits, including high-quality health care coverage, significant paid time off, a retirement plan with competitive employer match, and a company-provided vehicle.
The Lucas County Land Bank is a non-profit organization working to build and strengthen our community's neighborhoods. Since our founding 14 years ago, the Land Bank and its energetic staff have renovated almost 1,000 properties, completed hundreds of construction projects, demolished thousands of blighted buildings, and made countless contributions to the stability of Lucas County neighborhoods and residents. To learn more and to apply, visit lucascounty-landbank.org
Position open until filled. The Lucas County Land Bank is an equal-opportunity employer.

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AKA Sorority Jazz... continued from page 10

attendance, while the event's purpose and acknowledgements were presented by event chairman Felicia Dunston.

"I want to extend a warm welcome to our community partners," said Watkins. "To our recipients, welcome and congratulations."

"Welcome to our jazz Juneteenth brunch," said Dunston. "As we honor this day, we acknowledge the power of education which empowers individuals to achieve their potential."

The program continued with prayer and event blessing delivered by Debra Brock, the chapter chaplain. Immediately following brunch and guest artist presentation by Sheila Brown, Kimberly Fisher publicly recognized five scholarship recipients.

The 2024 scholarship recipients: Dana Bonds of Scott High School plans to attend the historic, and only public HBCU in the state of Ohio, Central State University; Giselle Maldondo of Waite High School plans to attend Bowling Green State University; Serenity McIntosh of Start High School plans to attend Jackson State Community College; Courtney Jones of Start High School plans to attend Kent State University and Jordyn Knighten of Rogers



Back (left to right) scholarship recipients: Dana Bonds, Giselle Maldondo, Jordyn Knighten and parent of Courtney Jones Crystal Jones. Front (left to right) Katrina Barry, vice president; Felicia Dunston, chairman; Richelle Watkins, chapter president; Kimberly Fisher, scholarship chairman, and Lisa Dubose, international membership committee



Back: (left to right) Cheryl Phillips, scholarship committee; Sydnei Miller, scholarship committee and Lamonica Bronaugh, scholarship committee Front: (left to right) Katrina Barry, vice president; Felicia Dunston, chairman; Richelle Watkins, chapter president; Kimberly Fisher, scholarship chairman, and Lisa Dubose, international membership committee

High School plans to attend The Ohio State University.

"I plan to major in business administration," said Bonds. "I wanted to have a real college experience and a HBCU experience. When I visited a few HBCUs while on a college tour through BGSU Trio Program, I knew I wanted to attend one because they are so welcoming."

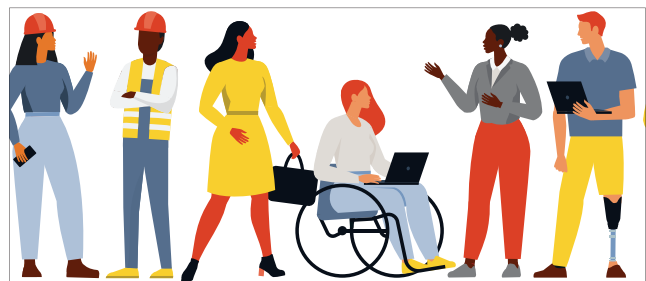
The brunch concluded with Clara Petty presenting the scholarship acts of love, a performance by J'Zilliance Band, a silent auction results and the closing remarks by the chapter president.

The silent auction contributors: Cooper's Hawk, TolHouse, Toledo Museum of Art, The Port Authority, Imagination Station, Aesthetics By Jeanette, Dunadi: Garden of Slay, GroupUp, Be Sweet Treats, Restore Studio Premium Bodywork & Wellness, Simply D'Vine, Big Daddy Backyard BBQ, Sow and Reap Gardens, Callisto Terra, Soul Essentials Wellness, That Special Lady, Jelise Gynn, K'Janee Boutique, Pound Cake Expressions and members of Zeta Alpha Omega.

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Joins

Sojourner's Truth In

Commemoration Of JUNETEENTH



TOGETHER, WE'RE BUILDING A BETTER TOMORROW

At the Rudolph Libbe Group, we're committed to building an inclusive community that works for everyone, celebrating the contributions of our associates past and present. As we continue to build a diverse team that recognizes the distinct skills, backgrounds, and areas of expertise of each of our employees, we invite you to consider adding your unique talents to our growing group of Rudolph Libbe Group construction professionals.

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AREA OFFICE ON AGING OF NORTHWESTERN OHIO

Celebrates Juneteenth!

National Independence Day

As we celebrate **Juneteenth National Independence Day**, we are reminded that there is still much work to be done to right the injustices of the past. In northwest Ohio, the neighborhood that has the lowest life expectancy is the Vistula neighborhood where 70% of the population are minorities living on average to only 62 years old.

The Area Office on Aging and its partners who live and work in the Vistula neighborhood are helping those in the Vistula neighborhood live long and independent lives so they can let freedom ring well into their golden years.



Living at Age 60+ or Caring for an Aging Loved One?
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BETTER & LONGER

For more information, call AOoA at
(419) 382-0624

www.AreaOfficeOnAging.com
Search for ToledoAging on



Juneteenth Parade Opens Saturday's Juneteenth Activities

The Truth Staff

So, who doesn't love a parade! On Saturday, June 15, hundreds of spectators had the opportunity to enjoy Toledo's Juneteenth parade that symbolized the celebration of this national holiday.

Dozens of organizations – schools, community agencies, politicians and candidates, groups looking to make a statement – walked the route from the corner of Monroe and Summit Streets, north on Summit to Jackson Street and ended with a brief ceremony at One Government Center during a morning blessed with beautiful summer weather.

Slingshots, Corvettes, tiny cars and a few horses joined the various dance teams for

...continued on page 19



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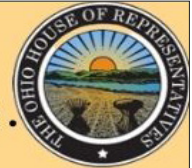
Juneteenth Parade... continued from page 18

the annual event organized by Community United 419.

The 10 a.m. holiday parade was just the start of the day full of activities that were designed to celebrate the holiday.



PLEASE JOIN REPRESENTATIVE ELGIN ROGERS, JR. IN HONORING JUNETEENTH



Today, we celebrate freedom and democracy, honoring the courage of those who fought and sacrificed. Let us acknowledge our history, as we remember the struggles of the past and build a brighter future together.



Office of Elgin Rogers, Jr. State Representative District 44

Sign up for our newsletter at: https://ohiohouse.gov/members/elgin-rogers-jr/newsletter-sign-up or by phone at 614-466-1401

Coalition Celebrates Fathers, Hosts Discussion about Urban Fathers and Violence

Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

The Lucas County Fatherhood Coalition presented a week to celebrate fathers, titled "Fatherhood Fire, Igniting the Change." The fatherhood week began on June 10 and concluded on June 15.

One of the activities was a discussion that centered around urban fathers and violence in the community. The discussion was facilitated by James Starks II, local news anchor of 13abc, and featured eight local fathers at various stages of life.



Eric Daniels, center, with Mom's House staff

The discussion was held on Wednesday, June 12, at Mott Branch Library.

"Thank you and welcome," said Avis Files, Pathway, Inc. director of Family and Supportive Services and Coalition chairperson. "The coalition is here to serve the community in a way that is different. We wanted to hear from fathers today. I thank the panel and James for their time."

...continued on page 13



Mike and Avis Files, center, and the Brothers United team



Panel - Pastor Williams Foster, Terry Crosby, Victor Coleman, facilitator James Starks II, Demarco Peacock, Eric Daniels, Devonne Fagan, Eduardo Adams, Eric Williams



Panel and audience

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"Know from whence you came. If you know whence you came, there are absolutely no limitations to where you can go."

James Baldwin
Writer and civil rights activist

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

COMMON GROUND METROPARKS TOLEDO