

The Sojourner's Truth

www.thetruthtoledo.com

Volume 86 No. 9 "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..." November 20, 2024



Andrea Gwyn, President of Mercy Health St. Anne Hospital and Sylvania Medical Center,

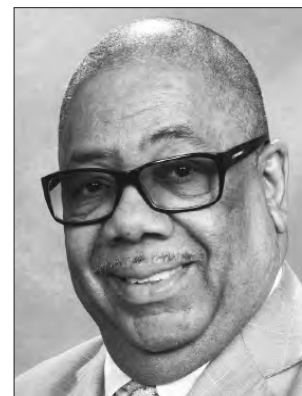
WHAT'S YOUR VACATION FLAVOR?

EUGENE F KRANZ
TOLEDOEXPRESS
AIRPORT
allegiant.com

A Call for Collective Self-Examination

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

The Truth Contributor



Everything that irritates us about others can lead us to an understanding of ourselves.

- Carl Jung

As the dust settles on local elections, where political outcomes were largely as anticipated in Lucas County, a more profound reflection demands attention from Democrats nationwide.

While stalwart figures like Marcy Kaptur hold their ground in close races and local Democratic Party politicians like Pete Gerken and Anita Lopez demonstrated their electoral reliability, the broader election results exposed the cracks in the Dem's strategy that helped give the keys to drive democracy over the cliff to a candidate who openly expressed misogyny, racism, Stone Age patriarchy, and authoritarianism.

These cracks spotlight the Party's urgent need for a collective self-examination, particularly regarding how it conveys its messaging in the 21st-century's informational warfare for the mind.

Whereas the Party's traditional political methods — door-to-door canvassing, ground-game strategies and reliance on name recognition still hold value, they flounder to counteract the Republicans' tidal wave of misinformation, emotionally charged rhetoric and digital disinformation campaigns that dominate modern electoral politics.

Metaphorically speaking, the Democrats entered the 2024 elections armed with brass.

Volunteers deployed from the Dems' extensive network of field offices in key swing states went out and passionately rang doorbells, armed primarily with clipboards and passion. They engaged in logic-based conversations, attempting to persuade undecided voters or energize the base sincerely.

In blunt contrast, the Republicans wielded iron — where social media platforms became a battleground for voters' minds, and echo chambers

became their campaign offices. Instead, they used carefully calibrated algorithms to ensure that once Republicans engaged voters, they stayed engaged. The Republicans then fed their voters a steady diet of tailored messages to align with and confirm their pre-existing beliefs or biases, thus solidifying their allegiance.

By weaponizing tools like Facebook and Elon Musk's Twitter (X), the Republicans exploited their base's existing discontent to magnify perceived injustices and drive engagement using AI to elicit strong emotional reactions, provoking outrage or anxiety.

True, the Republicans used misinformation and disinformation as their primary weapon.

For example, they painted the economy as collapsing despite record-setting steady economic growth, exaggerated crime rates to stoke fear, falsely blamed inflation and renewable energy for high costs rather than massive corporate price gouging, and amplified baseless claims about election fraud and cultural threats.

These AI-driven narratives tailored to voter biases not only reinforced their supporters' fears and deepened social and political divides but were also far more effective while requiring fewer resources than traditional Democratic outreach.

While the Democrats succeeded in maintaining high turnout among most (not all) of their loyal base in urban and suburban strongholds, they struggled to win over swing voters and other demographics like Hispanic voters and men in key battleground states. Their reliance on traditional canvassing methods couldn't compete with the Republicans' targeted messaging, which infiltrated voters' daily lives and dramatically shifted voters' perceptions.

Indeed, the outcome was as if two armies were fighting, one armed with tradition - ornate but inefficient and outmoded bronze swords that required constant care and resources despite having outlived their usefulness, the other with durable iron blades that were sharper, stronger, and more widely available.

As it stands, the 2024 election serves as a testament to Benard Ighner's classic song "Everything Must Change," which he wrote and performed on Quincy Jones' best-selling 1974 album, *Body Heat*. Just as iron usurped bronze and reshaped the ancient world, AI has begun to reshape our social and political landscape. Those who possessed iron in the transition from the Brass to the Iron Age ascended to power and dominated just as those who can master AI - for good or ill - today will dominate the future.

But as history shows, progress is rarely reversed. Once the superiority of iron over brass became transparent, societies that failed to adapt found

... continued on page 4

Community Calendar

November Zepf Center Safety Net Events

2024 Youth HOPE Month events include:

- Shining a Light on Youth Homelessness – Virtual Presentation
- o November 21, 5:30-6:30 p.m., 2005 Ashland Ave.
- Central Catholic vs Start HS Girls Basketball Game
- o November 23, 3:30 p.m., Central Catholic Highschool



YOUR LOCAL FOUNDATION REPAIR AND WATERPROOFING EXPERT.

For a basement, crawl space, or slab foundation, we guide you on the right path to a healthy home.

Family owned and operated since 1996, we treat your home like our own.



OUR SERVICES

- Cracked or Bowing Walls
- Sump Pumps
- Settling Foundations
- Waterproofing & Encapsulation
- Concrete Leveling
- Sagging Floors
- Crawl Space Repairs

CALL FOR YOUR FREE HOME INSPECTION
855-933-1343



94% **Angi** Reviews **Google** Reviews
*10% off any job over \$3,000. Up to a maximum of \$600. Coupons must be presented at the time of inspection. This offer may not be combined with any other offer. Limit one per customer. Valid through 06/30/2024.

ACT NOW!
UP TO \$600 off*

Offers can't be combined. Minimum purchase required. Please call for details.

The Sojourner's Truth

Fletcher Word – Publisher and Editor

Dawn Scotland - Assistant Editor

Tricia Hall – Reporter

Asia Nail - Reporter

Rev. D.L. Perryman – Columnist

Megan Davis – Columnist

Jennifer Retholtz – Webmaster

Jessica Crans - Layout

A Certified MBE

The Sojourner's Truth, 7 E Bancroft, Toledo, OH 43620

Phone 419-243-0007

thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com

www.thetruthtoledo.com

White Women Show Their True Colors!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

If the post-election analyses show anything regarding what “groupings” (as defined by the pollsters) voted for whom, what’s left is the discussion of the ‘why’ a certain group acted as they did when they entered the polling booth.

I read an article which triggered this column and that is the exit data is indicating that White women did not vote in the expected numbers that we were ‘polled’ to believe. They voted fifty-three (53) percent for Trump!

And especially so in the critical battleground states of Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin. Three vitally important states that could have led to a victory for Kamala Harris.

The mystery to discern is that why would White women vote against their own interest by voting for Trump? Or...did they in fact vote contrary to their own interest?

One would think that any semblance of “sisterhood” with Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Latina women would be strong enough on this single voting issue of saying no to Trump and his rampant misogyny. But. That did not happen. What did happen, I believe, is that White women, when it came down to brass tacks, had a change of heart when they entered the polling booth and pulled the lever for Trump. Why would a White woman or women of color intentionally vote for a man who has shown utter disregard and disrespect for all women with his vulgar comments and also expressed via his misogynistic spokespeople?

To me, it is telling that too many White women and some women of color (Cuban, Puerto Rican, Latino, Mexican, etc.) talked a good game of taking down Trump but choose otherwise when it was time to “put up...or shut up!”

To be frank, I raise the theory that some White women and some women of color chose white male dominance or so closely identified with the ingrained white male hierarchy in America that they simply succumbed and became obedient to voting for “one of their own”.... color, that is.

After the repeated verbal drubbings Trump doled out to White women and how he literally talked trash about other women of color, you would think that any self-respecting woman, would be more than willing to vote against such a pariah as Trump.

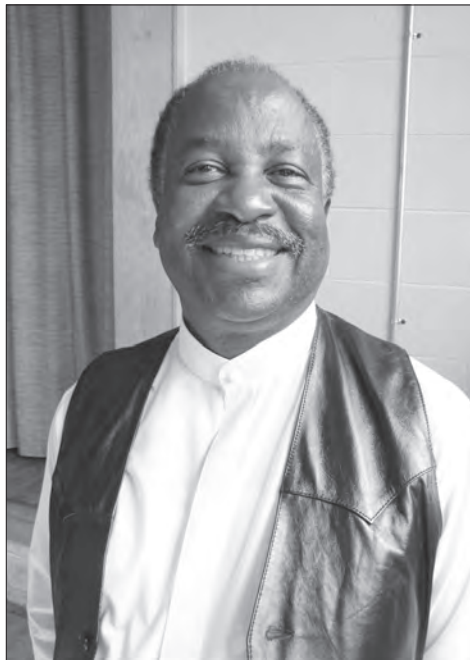
But not enough White women and other women of color have the moral spine to reject Trumpisms but simply folded themselves into their collective cocoon of safe whiteness, or that some women of color wanted to identify as being “honorary” white folks and voted accordingly.

If the polling was accurate and properly identified a true pattern of voting based upon ethnic backgrounds (and the polled people gave honest answers) and White women were asked pointed questions, maybe, just maybe, Kamala Harris could have adjusted her outreach message to be more articulate as to why White women should vote for her and in their best interest to do so.

Yes, there were campaigns of “Republican Women for Harris” and a campaign of “White Women for Harris,” but those campaigns were short lived and did not produce the needed turn out numbers to get Kamala into the White House.

Bottom line is that too many White women flamed out and could not bring themselves to vote for a woman that society identifies as a Black woman. The womanhood vote was lightweight in voting for the Democrats and with the presence of Kamala Harris heading up the ticket, it was not a foregone conclusion that many White women voters were, “not all that much into her.”

What does this bode for future political alliances between people of color and White women in particular? Not good since the charge may be that the White Woman had a chance to exert her political independence



by a vote for Kamala but out of fear or backlash (real or imagined), went for Trump.

Even though Trump is a proven convicted felon, an adjudicated a sexual abuser (not taking into account the dozens of other women who complained of being his victim); and paying money to a porn star, seemingly not enough White women had the courage or principle to stand up to him and voted for Kamala Harris.

Is this akin to the charge that during the South when a Black man was caught in a consensual romantic affair with a White woman; and as opposed to admitting the affair, the White woman, in order to maintain her status of being White and chaste, would yell rape and thus was exonerated and invited back into her white skin/class privileges?

Question: Did any White woman who initially was in favor of a woman being President, did that potential White voter yell words of gender support from the polling booth that said she was going for Harris, but nevertheless her vote was cast otherwise for fear of being “caught?”

In a race and class-conscious society such as in America, if you are striving to obtain favorable status as a Hispanic or a Latino, refuting or renouncing Black people can be a game ploy that can pay benefits when Trump sees such voters trending towards him...despite his “garbage” and “vermin” classifications of such people.

Using the age-old tactics of fear and anger, Trump, with no conscience, gladly uttered foul and divisive language if it meant that he could both get the White House and avoid facing his current legal trials of inciting a riot and stealing classified documents. Kamala Harris got “played” by too many phony White women.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



#GIVINGTUESDAY™ NWO

Path Finders Camp for grieving children

CAMP CHANGES LIVES

Provided at no cost to participants, this four-day camp provides opportunities for grieving kids to interact with others who have experienced similar losses in a safe, fun and supportive environment.

HELP US HELP
KIDS ON
THEIR PATH!

Be a part of the GivingTuesday global movement December 3, 2024 by supporting Path Finders Camp



Scan to donate online.



Path Finders
Camp



HOSPICE
OF NORTHWEST OHIO

hospicenwo.org 419-661-4001



We Will Not Go Back

By June Boyd
Guest Column

Brace yourself; following the general election, November 5, we are in for a long ride. It might seem like an end to equality, however, there were 72,875,230 of us who voted for Kamala, and we will not go back.

I am a 60 plus year politician. Dwight D. Eisenhower was president when I began to volunteer with the local Democratic Party in 1958; he served from 1953 to 1961, and was notable as an American military officer and a statesman. I have experienced a number of presidential elections and other races, but none like this.

Forward to 2024, the outcome of the presidential race was not what many of those in the Democratic party expected. However, do not blame Joe Biden or Kamala Harris. The fix was already in, it began when Donald Trump left the Whitehouse after the 2020 election.

Social media came alive, and combined with Truth Social with Trump, and ending with Elon Musk's Social Media X, we were doomed. Money talks! Elon Musk, who was born in South Africa into apartheid (before Nelson Mandela)

moved to Canada, then the United States and become the richest man in the world.

I am afraid the apartheid movement may be coming to America. Go figure. Who else would have had access to all the African Americans whose phones had texts relative to slavery, the plantation and picking cotton.

The NAACP needs to investigate through the FCC regulations and find out the source. Each person who had been subjected to such nonsense should be compensated for the hurt, and threat they were subjected to. The scheme was to play on those who were most vulnerable, and they believed everything that came via social media.

This is a very dangerous period, however, do not be afraid. The souls



of John Lewis, Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, W.E. DuBois, Malcolm X, Nelson Mandela, Mary McCloud Bethune, Sojourner Truth and so many, many others will inspire us to carry on the legacy of fighting for our God given rights.

We Have to Live Our Lives

By Paul Hubbard, President Comfort Home Care
Guest Column

Donald Trump is our next president. However, African Americans we still have to live our lives, take care of our families, support our communities, support our churches.

Monday morning Quarterbacking and excuses of why VP Harris didn't win the election will not give us a future livelihood. We as African Americans will have to learn how to live and survive under a Trump administration. We have to evaluate and analyze the governmental systems that we need to live.

We still need to educate our children. We need to learn more about charter and community schools because many of these schools serve our Black Kids. We need to see how we can be educational advocates with the State Board of Education as well as the governor's office. We need to watch dog textbooks to make sure our history is not removed. If our history is removed, how do we supplement it.

Don't let the unions make all the educational decisions for our kids. Black parents should be making decisions for Black Students.

Health care is a must to live a productive life. Fight to keep Obamacare. Write letters to state and county health departments about health care we like and don't like. Support the public health clinics for low-income people.

Care for African American senior citizens is a must because we are living longer and need assistance in our older years. We need to advocate with state and county senior citizen offices for home care, home health care, housing, recreation, counseling, meals on wheels, etc.

Low-income housing is a continuing need for low-income families. African Americans need to write elected officials in city government as well as county, state and federal governments to maintain support for housing for low-income families. We need to remember homeless services also.

Food is needed to live. We need to advocate with state and federal elected official to make food available to low-income people. Make sure churches and foundations continue to support food banks and other food programs. Homeless people especially need feeding programs as do low-income children.

There are nonprofits and churches involved with all of the above. These may be our only survival, so we need to get involved with them and support nonprofits and churches.

Latinos, Middle Easterners, the college educated, White women, the gay population, White union members (Union administration supported Harris) all voted for Trump, so they are already working in the present USA system. African Americans need to learn how to work within in our USA system by working both sides of the pollical system – Democrats and Republicans.



A celebration of women and their beauty, This photo sessions will capture Glamour that defines your essence it's where Fashion Meets Boudoir

Introducing

Wines Studio Portraiture




Boudoir Portraits

MINI SESSION \$195.00
ADD \$100.00 FOR HAIR & MAKEUP
12 DIGITAL IMAGES
PHOTO RELEASE

Call 419.514.1284
Book Your Photo session Today !!!
expressionsmodels@gmail.com



Portraits Fashion Glamour
www.winesstudio.com

Perryman...continued from page 2

themselves powerless, left behind, and eventually extinct.

Only through collective self-examination and a willingness to innovate and adapt to the modern era can the Democratic Party maintain its relevance and secure victories — not just in Lucas County but across the nation.

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

Andrea Gwyn: A Champion for Healthcare, Leadership, and Community

By Asia Nail

The Truth Reporter

When **Andrea Gwyn** walks into a room, it's not just her presence that commands attention—it's her legacy in the making. As president of **Mercy Health St. Anne Hospital** and **Sylvania Medical Center**, Gwyn has already achieved milestones many spend a lifetime pursuing.

She has elevated healthcare standards, championed mentorship and left an indelible mark on the Toledo community. With her recent recognition as one of this year's **20 Under 40** honorees, Gwyn embodies a vision of leadership and service that inspires not just her peers, but future generations as well.

For Andrea Gwyn, success is not just about accolades. It's about relationships, community and purpose. "Building solid relationships is key," she shared during our conversation. "I was new to Toledo when I took the role at Mercy Health Perrysburg, so I didn't know anyone. I had to be comfortable being the new person." That adaptability stems from her upbringing in a military family, which taught her early on how to connect with people in unfamiliar environments.

But Gwyn isn't just about fitting in—she's about lifting others up. From spearheading Wood County's first cardiac catheterization lab to achieving a 27 percent growth in ER volume, her career has been defined by bold decisions and measurable impact. Under her leadership at Mercy Health St. Anne Hospital, surgical volumes have increased by 22 percent, and patient satisfaction has soared, earning consecutive Press Ganey Human Experience Guardian of Excellence Awards.

Yet, Gwyn's story is not just a personal triumph—it's a collective one. She reminds us that when one person rises, they carry an entire community with them.

Leading with Integrity

When asked how she approaches challenges, Gwyn's answer is both humble and insightful: "Energetically, people will always meet you at the exact time you need them and they need you." Her faith in relationships and timing reflects her commitment to collaboration. Gwyn's leadership philosophy is rooted in Mercy Health's mission: Extend the compassionate ministry of Jesus by improving the health and well-being of our communities.

As the first president of Mercy Health Perrysburg Hospital, Gwyn successfully navigated increased patient volumes following a competitor's closure. Her ability to lead under pressure has made her a trusted figure in Toledo's healthcare system. "My word is my bond. I operate in integrity, serving people first," she says.

For Gwyn, leadership isn't about the title—it's about action. And her actions speak volumes. Whether it's advocating for her staff's safety or introducing administrative technologies to enhance patient care, Gwyn's focus is always on people. "People are at the heart of what we do," she emphasizes. "My heart loves serving our healthcare professionals so they can best care for our patients."

Mentorship: Building a Legacy

Beyond her professional achievements, Gwyn is committed to shaping the next generation of leaders. She mentors three young women and collaborates

with organizations like Jack and Jill to host programs that inspire youth. "Paying it forward is very important to me," she explains. "I'm standing on the shoulders of giants."

Her approach to mentorship is as much about listening as it is about guiding. "It's incredibly rewarding to be a part of someone's journey and to give the lessons on things you wish you would have known at that stage," she says. "It's a mutual exchange because mentor and mentee always learn from one another."

This philosophy reflects her deep understanding of community. Gwyn knows that every young person she inspires has the potential to become a leader who uplifts others.

The Future of Healthcare

In a post-pandemic world, the challenges in healthcare are vast, from workforce shortages to evolving patient needs. But Gwyn sees opportunity in these challenges. "It's an exciting and interesting time for healthcare, especially after an election. We keep an eye on changes in policies, but at the end of the day, people take care of people," she notes.

Under Gwyn's leadership, Mercy Health has embraced technology to support its staff and improve patient care. "Hospitals are open 24/7, so options that allow staff more focus on the patients' needs are critical," she explains. Initiatives like job shadowing programs and partnerships with Mercy College are helping to build a pipeline of future medical professionals.

Gwyn's vision is clear: healthcare is not just about treating illnesses—it's about creating systems that serve both patients and providers.

A Humble Trailblazer

From being selected for the prestigious HCA Executive Development Program to earning the Corris Boyd Scholarship, Gwyn's achievements are a testament to her hard work and dedication. But for her, these accolades are stepping stones, not endpoints. "Life is a continuous learning process," she says. "Some programs will land you a role and some will not, but it will pay off."

Her advice to young professionals is simple yet profound: "Go for continuous learning opportunities." Gwyn's own journey, which includes her participation in the Leadership Toledo Signature Program, is proof that investing in personal growth can open doors and build confidence.

A Win for the Community

As a young Black woman leading in healthcare, Gwyn's accomplishments resonate far beyond her immediate sphere. Her success is a beacon of hope for

...continued on page 13



Andrea Gwyn

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

Worship EXPERIENCE

Dr. John W. Williams, Pastor

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

A Grant up to \$1,500 towards your Mortgage Closing Costs!¹

DO YOU QUALIFY?

- Purchase of a primary residence located within State Bank's lending area²
- Must meet borrower or geography low- to moderate-income eligibility requirements³
- A signed purchase agreement must be presented to reserve funds

State Bank CARE Grant funds are limited, so **APPLY TODAY.**



statebank
YourStateBank.com

1900 Monroe Street, Suite 108
Toledo, OH 43604
419.508.0806

930 W. Market Street
Lima, OH 45805
419.228.3361



Program subject to change with or without notice. Other restrictions may apply. Please see lender for complete details. Subject to credit approval.

¹Actual amount applied at closing.

²Property must be located within one of the following counties: Allen Ohio, Allen Indiana, Defiance, Delaware, Franklin, Hancock, Lucas, Madison, Union, Williams, or Wood.

³Borrower income must be below 80% of the area median income, or property must be located in a low- to moderate-income census tract, as updated annually by the FFIEC (Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council).

Toledo Opera to Hold OPERAtunity Day & Triviata Night

Toledo Opera will hold OPERAtunity Day, a one-day campaign on November 21, 2024, with a goal to raise \$50,000 to expand its education and outreach programs. Contributions made throughout Operatunity Day will help bring opera's enriching cultural experiences to audiences of all ages, from preschoolers to adults, across Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan.

This second annual day of giving is supported by Craig's Pianos and Keyboards – who will match every dollar donated up to \$25,000. Thanks to their support, every gift will go twice as far in supporting Toledo Opera's mission to make opera accessible and impactful in the Toledo community.

Operatunity Day will conclude with Triviata Night – a trivia event at Toledo Spirits Company (1301 North Summit Street, Toledo, OH 43604) beginning at 6 p.m. Triviata Night will be hosted Toledo Opera General Director James M. Norman and Toledo Opera Artistic Director Kevin Bylsma. The event will feature a combination of general-knowledge trivia as well as opera trivia. Prizes for Triviata Night include gift certificates, with the grand prize being a walk on role in Toledo Opera's February production of South Pacific. Tickets to Triviata are \$25 for individuals and \$80 for teams of 4 or more. Tickets can be purchased at toledoopera.org.

For Toledo Opera General Director James M. Norman, OPERAtunity Day is more than just a fundraising event – it's a powerful expression of Toledo Opera's dedication to its community and the arts: "OPERAtunity Day is a celebration of the Toledo Opera's commitment to our community, a day when we come together to support the transformative power of opera. Every

gift, no matter the size, plays a role in bringing the beauty, passion, and artistry of opera to life for everyone in our region. Together, we're building a future where the arts are accessible, inspiring, and enriching for all."

"Every time I attend a Toledo Opera production, I'm amazed by the exceptional quality this company brings both on and off the stage," says Craig Whitaker. "I hope more Toledoans will take pride in our local arts and appreciate the unique impact organizations like Toledo Opera have on our community."

To learn more about Operatunity Day and/or Triviata Night, email Leah Whitaker at lwhitaker@toledoopera.org or visit: toledoopera.org. For media access, please contact Rachael Cammarn at rcammarn@toledoopera.org.



The Truth Colours Gallery

ART & CRAFT WORKSHOP

Painting, Crafting and Drawing!

check out the Gallery studio

STAY COOL

I LOVE STREET ART

7 East Bancroft St
Franklin n Bancroft

Facebook
The Truth Colours Gallery

Nikolacolours
347-286-9227

The Toledo Zoo Announces the Opening of the 2024 Lights Before Christmas Season

New Interactive Experiences and Fan-Favorite Events Return

The Toledo Zoo is thrilled to announce the opening of its highly anticipated 39th annual Lights Before Christmas season presented by KeyBank beginning with a spectacular tree-lighting on November 22. This treasured holiday event will once again transform the Zoo into a winter wonderland, captivating guests of all ages with dazzling displays, magical experiences and unforgettable memories.

The tree-lighting ceremony marks the beginning of the six-week ultimate holiday experience, featuring over one million twinkling lights, more than 200 illuminated animal images, our Dancing Northern Lights, sponsored by Cenovus and our Main Plaza Dancing Lights, sponsored by Comfort Line LTD – Fiber Frame. Guests will find delicious seasonal treats and warm beverages throughout the Zoo to enjoy as they stroll among the enchanting displays.

For nearly four decades, Lights Before Christmas presented by KeyBank has been a cornerstone of the holiday season for generations of families. After securing the title of one of USA TODAY's Top10 Best Zoo Lights in recent years, the Zoo is excited to offer a fresh season of cherished traditions and new delights. Guests are encouraged to vote for this year's Lights Before Christmas on - 10 best.com (<https://10best.usatoday.com/awards/travel/best-zoo-lights-2024/lights-before-christmas-at-toledo-zoo-toledo-ohio/>).

This year's event includes the return of the reimagined Winter Village, sponsored by Kroger, in the historic Amphitheatre. Visitors can ride down our ice slide then cozy at up at our fire pits with a festive drink from Twinkle Tavern, explore seasonal treasures at Enchanted Gifts and enjoy holiday treats at The Sweet Shoppe. Santa will be available for photos and visits in the Winter Village from 4-8 p.m. daily, November 23 through December 23.

"We are proud to bring new interactive elements and maintain beloved

... continued on page 7

TARTA Announces Plans for Next Year

The Truth Staff

On Thursday, November 13, the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority hosted a community update at the Glass City Center and announced its vision and plans for 2025 to the several hundred people in attendance.

Three new initiatives were announced by Laura Koprowski, TARTA CEO and president. A new payment system, TARTA card, is coming soon. This smart card will enable long-term passengers to ride at more affordable rates. "The more you ride, the more you save," said Koprowski. Fares on the prepaid card are capped at \$3 per day, \$15 per week, and \$45 per month, regardless of how many trips are taken in those time periods.

TARTA will also update its paratransit system buses and rename the system. TARPS will become TARTAmore in order to avoid confusion and reflect that fact that all TARTA riders are treated equally. "Paratransit service is just as important as our other services," said Koprowski.

The third initiative, and perhaps the most significant of all, is the TARTA plan to start a feasibility study in February to look at introducing Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) to Toledo along six possible routes. BRT is a high-capacity system that provides more efficient service than traditional bus systems in a combination of



Cleveland Bus Rapid Transit

light rail and bus service.

BRT typically has a lane dedicated to bus traffic, more frequent service, various bus entries to ease boarding, elevated platforms at defined stations, offboard fare collection, and traffic signals designed to give buses the right of way.

Six cities in the US have already introduced BRT, including Cleveland and a team from TARTA, along with local officials have visited Cleveland to view that operation.

The feasibility study will be financed through a \$400,000 grant from the Federal Transit Administration along with \$100,000 contribute from TARTA.

Koprowski suggested that Monroe Street, from Sylvania to downtown, could be one of the six routes.

The guest speaker of the community update was Anna Letitia Zivarts, author of a book titled When Driving is Not an Option. Zivarts, an advocate for equitable transportation, is visually limited and unable to drive. Her book notes that there is such a significant number of people who cannot drive – as many as 30 percent – for a number of reasons and are therefore unable to access the societal benefits available to those who can drive and have the vehicles to do so.

TARTA also presented results of its ridership surveys, which show that satisfaction with Toledo's transit service is at an all-time high and above national averages.



A BRT prototype



The New TARTAmove bus

Toledo Zoo... continued from page 6

favorites in our Lights Before Christmas event," said Shayla Moriarty, chief operating officer and executive vice president of the Toledo Zoo. "Our goal is to be the ultimate holiday experience for all."

The 2024 Toledo Zoo Lights Before Christmas will be open November 22 – December 31, with hours as follows:

* Hours of Operation: * During the season, the Zoo will open exclusively

for Lights Before Christmas starting at 3 p.m.

- * Monday – Thursday: * 3 – 8 p.m. (Zoo closes at 9 p.m.)
- * Friday – Sunday: * 3 – 9 p.m. (Zoo closes at 10 p.m.)
- * Thanksgiving Day: * 3 – 8 p.m. (Zoo closes at 9 p.m.)
- * Christmas Eve: * 3 – 8 p.m. (Zoo closes at 9 p.m.)
- * Christmas Day: * 3 – 8 p.m. (Zoo closes at 9 p.m.)
- * New Year's Eve: * 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. (Zoo closes at 9 p.m.)

LET THE PROS HANDLE IT!

Say "NO" to Cleaning Out Your Gutters. → Protect Your Home With LeafFilter.

20% OFF + 10% OFF

Your Entire Purchase* Seniors + Military

USA ACCREDITED BUSINESS ++ We offer financing that fits your budget!

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE INSPECTION! **1-844-518-2952**

*See Representative for full warranty details. *One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. †Subject to credit approval. Call for details. AP 36482023 AZ ROC 348212 CA 1035795 CT HZ 0679520 FL 28095676 IA C127208 IL REC 51804 LA 555944 MA 156447 MD 446111226 MI 262909173 MI 262909174 MI 262909175 MI 262909176 MI 262909177 MI 262909178 MI 262909179 MI 262909180 MI 262909181 MI 262909182 MI 262909183 MI 262909184 MI 262909185 MI 262909186 MI 262909187 MI 262909188 MI 262909189 MI 262909190 MI 262909191 MI 262909192 MI 262909193 MI 262909194 MI 262909195 MI 262909196 MI 262909197 MI 262909198 MI 262909199 MI 262909200 MN 408981 NV 80290 NY 1119114 H-52225 OR 218254 PA 179643 061933 RI CC-41354 TN 10181 UT 1018268-5501 VA 2205168445 WA LEAFYMARKET32 WV 40059812

BEFORE AFTER We're looking to install our NEXT GENERATION gutter guard on your home!

WARRANTY

FULL SERVICE GUTTER PROTECTION – SCHEDULE YOUR FREE INSPECTION NOW! 1-844-518-2952

Musty Basement? WE CAN HELP!

Basement Waterproofing Indoor Air Quality
 Foundation Repair Crawl Space Service

BEFORE

AFTER

\$750 OFF

Plus FREE Home Air Quality Test (\$399 value)

CALL TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR FREE ESTIMATE

1-888-501-2812

New orders only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved.

The Fourth Annual Community CPR 419 Initiative

By Dawn Scotland
The Truth Reporter

The fourth Community CPR 419 Initiative was held at Bowsher High School Saturday, November 9. The large-scale community event offered free Adult, Child and Infant CPR certification, mammograms, health screenings, suicide prevention workshops as well as vendors, food and music for the entire family.

“We had 300 register, and we had over 100 people show up the first thing this morning,” stated Tashara B., organizer of the annual event.

“We’re pushing to save lives; we start with CPR making sure that everyone

has the skills and training for CPR. But we also create a community marketplace where we have our workshops with all the city businesses and organizations that provide services from mental health to insurance, all the way down to any level of care they may need,” she stated.

The event also featured vendors of locally owned holistic wellness products and services and a performance from My5tery Music.

The City of Toledo, Toledo Fire Department and Toledo Police Department provided instructors for the CPR training. Each participant received an Adult, Child and Infant CPR card from the American Heart Association that is valid for two years.

This has been the biggest event yet with plans to return and continue to grow next year in 2025!

To stay updated visit Community CPR Initiatives Facebook page.



Andre Tiggs and his Bowsher students



Brian Byrd and Terry Crosby



Kids and adults received free CPR training



CPR Training



My5tery Music performs

Lead Is
100% PREVENTABLE

toledoleadsafe.com



A Pop-up Shop at 32NINE and K'Janee Boutique

By Dawn Scotland
The Truth Reporter

Studio 32NINE Salon Suites and Spa hosted a pop-up shop Sunday, October 6 at Monroe 4062 Monroe St. The event featured women's apparel and accessories from the K'Janée Boutique and 11 vendors that sold handmade jewelry, accessories, handbags, candles, body butters, beauty products and spices.

"We have a variety of small businesses that come together, network and build each other. That's what Studio 32NINE does," stated owner Doug Keetion. "It is a platform that allows others individual businesses to be their best. We give you the platform."

Owner Doug Keetion of Studio 32NINE and his wife Curtina Keetion owner of K'Janée Boutique emphasize the importance of building the community and elevating other businesses through their work. This is one of the many experiences the couple hosts throughout the year.

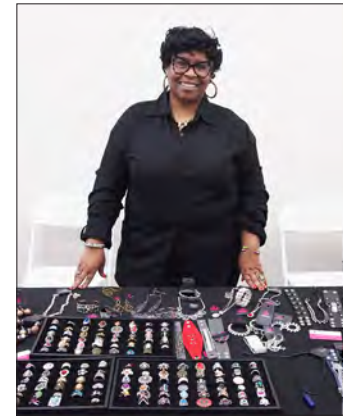
The event was packed! Guests enjoyed food, shopping and refreshments. The next event hosted at Studio 32NINE will be Small Business Saturday



Da'Nelle Beauty, LLC



Donnetta Carter and Dorothy Gray



Eye Candy by Tee

November 30 from 11am-5pm. Vendor spots are almost full – if interested contact Studio 32NINE at (419)-535-1862.



Customers shop at Studio 32NINE's packed event



R&R Holistic Healing Services



Doug and Curtina Keetion, owners



Exquisite Eats & Treats



LadiNProgress models her handcrafted jewelry



HER Academy of Beauty



DeFlame Candles



Elegance by Vione

The Clarence Smith Community Chorus, Mercy Health, Area Office on Aging for Northwest Ohio
Present
A Community Celebration of Christmas
Featuring
The Clarence Smith Community Chorus
With Special Guests
Ballet Studio L.A.B. Toledo School for the Arts
Olivia Woodard-Klahn, Violinist and Karen Volmer, Collaborative Pianist



Saturday, December 14, 2024
Performances at 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM
Monroe Street United Methodist Church
3613 Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio 43606

Tickets:
\$18 for Adults and \$10 for Children under 18
Purchase them online at <http://www.CSCChorus.com>
Community Chorus Members or
Henry's Jewelers: 4909 Dorr Street Toledo, OH 43615

For More Information Contact: 419-283-1434
Facebook: Clarence Smith Community Chorus
Website: <http://www.CSCChorus.com>

"Embracing the Future While Presenting the Past"



In Memoriam – Patricia Ann Hogue – March 9, 1954 – November 2, 2024

With deep love and admiration, we celebrate the life of Dr. Patricia Ann (Hendley) Hogue, who transitioned peacefully on November 2, 2024, at the age of 70, from a chronic cognitive condition. Born in Norristown, Pennsylvania, Patricia was raised by her beloved parents Robert & Frances Mary Hendley along the scenic Schuylkill River, where she enjoyed an idyllic childhood. As a young girl, Patricia's bright spirit shone through as a cheerleader at A.D. Eisenhower Senior High School, where she graduated in 1972, embarking on a lifelong journey of caring for others.



Patricia's dreams led her to Montgomery County Community College in Pennsylvania, where she began her studies to become a registered nurse. However, her passion for medicine and desire to make an even greater impact led her to Hahnemann Medical College, now part of Drexel University College of Medicine, where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Physician Assistant (PA) Studies in 1987. It was here that her calling as a PA flourished. Driven to expand her expertise, Patricia would go on to earn her Master of Science degree in 2000 from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science in North Chicago, Illinois.

In 1996, Patricia became a pioneering figure in medical education, co-creating the first accredited PA program in Ohio at the University of Toledo (UT). For over three decades, Patricia made her mark as a Clinical Coordinator, Associate Professor, Academic Department Chair, and Associate Dean at UT. Her dedication led her to obtain her PhD in Public Health/Health Education at UT in 2007, where she also served as the Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion, ensuring that all students—especially those from underrepresented, international, and first-generation backgrounds—felt welcomed, supported, and empowered to succeed.

Dr. Hogue was more than an academician; she was a mentor, advocate, and second mother to many. Known for her unwavering commitment, Patricia often invited students into her home, guided them through challenging times, and offered the compassionate support that many PA students today credit as the foundation of their success. Her legacy lives on in the hundreds of PA professionals she trained, many of whom now serve communities across the globe.

In addition to her remarkable career, Patricia was deeply involved in service organizations and cherished her friendships in The Toledo Chapter of The Links, Incorporated (inducted in 1991), and the Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, Inc. (pledged in 1995). She and her beloved 21 other AKA line sisters pledged under the Candy Reign line name.

She was also a co-founder of BDIG (Bankers Dozen Investment Group), an investment group that fostered lasting friendships, and a devoted golfer with the Tee Town Swingers, a women's golfing group. Her church family at Friendship Baptist Church was central to her life, where she and her husband Ron Hogue shared their faith, kindness, and opened their home to countless friends and family members.

Patricia and Ron's love was evident in their shared passions for travel, church, golf, and creating a warm, art-filled home where all felt a sense of belonging.

Patricia will always be known for her beautiful humor and warm personality. Always in a jovial mood, she made others feel so positive by her undeniable effervescent energy.

Preceding her in death is Robert Hendley Sr. (Father); Frances Mary Hendley (Mother); Anthony "Smack" Hendley (brother), and sisters Annette Fowler and Dorothea Blackson.

She leaves behind Husband Ronnie; stepchildren Janae, Corey & Lamarr; brother-in-law Clarence; sisters Barbara and Deborah, brothers Robert and Willie and a host of family members - all of whom carry forward her legacy of



Deborah Barnett, Lisa McDuffie, Rhonda Sewell, Patricia Hogue



Links Sisters - Ardenia Jones-Terry, Cecelia Adams, PhD; Laneta Goings; Rhonda Sewell, Deborah Barnett, Patricia Hogue, EdD; Billie Johnson



Pat and Ronnie Hogue

... continued on page 13

TRUGREEN

Don't wait until spring to get a lawn you love

Get **50% OFF** One Application*

Experience the TruGreen Difference

- Satisfaction Guarantee**
We'll gladly visit your property as needed between scheduled visits to ensure your satisfaction*
- Certified Specialists**
Our extensively trained and licensed specialists use their expertise to maximize your lawn's potential.
- Local Lawn Plans**
We understand no two lawns are alike, which is why we customize our plans to your specific region.

Call for your **FREE, no-obligation quote today!**
1-833-978-4736

*Special price is for first Lawn service only. Requires purchase of annual plan, for new residential EasyPay or PrePay customers only. Valid at participating TruGreen locations. Availability of services and/or products may vary by geography. Not to be combined with or used in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Additional restrictions may apply. Consumer responsible for all sales tax. **Guarantee applies to annual plan customers only. TruGreen will gladly visit your property as needed between scheduled visits to ensure your satisfaction. BBB accredited since 07/01/2012. In Connecticut, B-0153, B-1380, B-0127, B-0200, B-0151.

sonobello

ONE VISIT PERMANENT FAT REMOVAL

- ✓ Targeted fat removal from stubborn areas like: Stomach, chin, arms, thighs and more!
- ✓ 150+ Board-Certified Surgeons
- ✓ 25,000 5-Star Ratings

855-200-8068

LIMITED TIME OFFER!
GET \$500 OFF TODAY

Kristen B., Age 34
Sono Bello Ambassador
Individual Results May Vary

Terry Crosby Publishes Autobiography *Do You Have the Balls?*

By Dawn Scotland
The Truth Reporter

"I will do whatever I can, whenever I can, for as long as I can."

That's the personal slogan of Terry Crosby, legendary two sport athlete, philanthropist and community ambassador in Toledo, Ohio. The sports hero, who has written an autobiography *Do You Have the Balls?* available on Amazon, became a published author this year in August.

The journey took him five years. "I felt that my life has been extraordinarily blessed by God and so unusual and unique, that I felt that it was a necessity for me to write about my life's journey," shared Crosby.

Do You Have the Balls? details all aspects of Terry Crosby's journey from his childhood, famed sports career, relationships, mentorship, community work and more.

"It's not just about my life legacy it's about those who had a positive impact in my life... I appreciate and respect to the highest those who had an impact on my life because if it wasn't for those same people I would not be the man I am today," Crosby said.

He emphasizes his parents Leon and Dorothy Crosby and their immeasurable impact, his friends, family and mentors growing up on the west side of Toledo -- from the teammates, coaches and teachers that helped to mold Crosby's future.

Many would say Crosby was one of the best two sport athletes (football and basketball) to come out of the city of Toledo. He played for DeVilbiss High

... continued on page 12



Terry Crosby at his book signing - with Ken Cunningham

Tom Cole Authors *Black in the Pocket: African American Quarterbacks That Changed the Face of American Football*

By Dawn Scotland
The Truth Reporter

Tom Cole, the renowned Toledo sportscaster, held an 'An Evening with Tom Cole' a question-and-answer session and book signing October 17 at the Lourdes University Franciscan Center. Cole discussed his new and fourth book *Black in the Pocket: African American Quarterbacks That Changed the Face of American Football*.

His latest work is dedicated to all the African American Quarterbacks who persevered and struggled in the 1960's, 1970's and 1980's to create a level and fairer playing field that exists today in pro football for Black quarterbacks. (Source: www.authorhouse.com) In his book, Cole details the discrimination many Black athletes faced to break barriers in American football. Cole gives his detailed insight into the careers of local to national players including Chuck Ealey, Doug Williams and more.

"The history of quarterbacks in pro football is that if you were an African American, and you were a quarterback, the first thing the coach said to you most times when you got to the NFL was "You're a really great athlete BUT. There was always a but.... You're a really great athlete BUT-- you're going

... continued on page 12



Tom Cole at his book signing



DIXIE Auto Leasing Toledo, OH
5880 N. Detroit
Month to Month Leasing
419-476-8674
WE ARE A FULL SERVICE BUSINESS

Bernadette Joy Graham, LPCC, LLC
Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor
419.409.4929
Mental Health....Get Your Mind Right
www.bjgrahamcounseling.com
2525 W. Bancroft
Toledo, OH 43606
graham.bernadette@gmail.com

Welcome Home to Sylvan Lakes Apartments!

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

Sylvan Lakes
Apartment Homes

4045 A Langston Place, Sylvania, Ohio 43560
P: 419-842-8480 E: investekmanagement.com

Terry Crosby... continued from page 11

School and the University of Tennessee, was drafted to the NBA with the Kansas City Kings in 1979 and later led a 17-year professional basketball career overseas in England where he holds a Guinness World Record. Now he serves as Community Ambassador for Taylor Automotive.

"My life is so much more complex than just the sports side," he shared. "All throughout my book I mention the word God, because He is the one who has placed me on this Earth to basically follow His instructions. Everything you see me do – it's not me– it's God's work. So I give all praise and all glory to Him."

While Crosby has experienced astounding success on the court and in life, he said one of his biggest accomplishments is becoming an author.

"Writing a book is one of the toughest challenges I've ever faced in my life," he reflected. On August 21, 2024 he published his first book. "I've never felt the feeling that it gave once I became an official published author. It's hard to explain. It's a feeling of euphoria to the highest limit."

"I really wanted to open up to the world and give them an opportunity to get to know the real me because I'm a very private person... even though I'm out in the community everyday that's part of my job... people make assumptions about me and they have to because they don't really know me as the man that I am," Crosby added.

"Most people don't know me... there are a lot of things that I want people to know that they don't know," he continued.

The takeaways he hopes people of all ages and walks of life will receive: "The part about perseverance, believing in yourself more than anyone else because if you don't believe in you how are other people going to believe in you."

"Also, emphasizing that I have had a lot of lifetime achievements in my life, but those achievements weren't given to me. I had to work for those, and it's not always been cake and ice cream for me throughout my life," he shared.

Crosby hopes to shed a deeper light on one of Toledo's legends as well as inspire the future generation of leadership with a book that he believes will impact many people even after he is gone, "the book will be here much longer than I will," he shared.

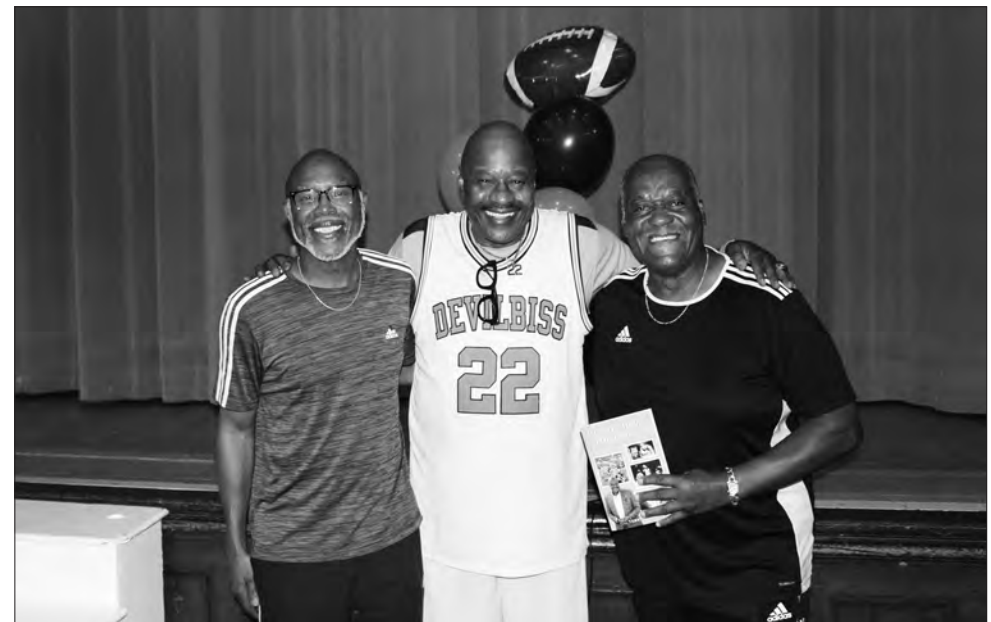
Crosby would like to thank his publisher Carla DuPont, based in Atlanta, for her work on the project.

Do You Have the Balls to face the challenges in life and how will you handle

THE SOCIAL Butterfly PRESENTS
The 13th Annual
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
SATURDAY DECEMBER 14TH
11AM - 3PM
FREE ADMISSION | VENDORS | FREE PARKING
ST. CLEMENT HALL
2990 TREMAINSVILLE RD. TOLEDO OH 43613
SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:
THE SOCIAL BUTTERFLY, THE SOJOURNERS TRUTH NEWSPAPER, ADVENTUROUS TRAVELS
FOR VENDOR INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.THESOCIALBUTTERFLYLLC.COM
OR EMAIL: EVENTS@THESOCIALBUTTERFLYLLC.COM OR CALL (419) 367-9765

them?

'Do You Have the Balls?' by Terry Crosby was listed as Amazon.com #1 New Release Best Seller, ranked #28 in the World for Teen/Youth Sports Biographies and is available on Amazon.com. To learn more or purchase visit Amazon.com.

*Tom Cole... continued from page 11*

to be a wide receiver, defensive back or a running back. Not even giving them the opportunity to show what they could do," he stated.

The reality is that for a large stretch of sports history Blacks couldn't become quarterback. That continued in the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s. Doug Williams was noted to be the first African American to start in and win a Superbowl in 1988 breaking the ceiling for many. Cole shares this story, "From that point – no one could ever say that an African American quarterback could not lead a team and win a Superbowl. That stopped it. That took a long time. Now today it's where it should be."

While Cole highlights the triumphs and success stories of Black athletes, he also uses his book and his platform to underscore those Black athletes who were overlooked and never received their just due.

"We all stand on other people's shoulders. How many people do you know that did great things, but they didn't really get recognized for it... but people stood on their shoulders. To me, this was kind of an homage to all these gentlemen that fought this fight and maybe didn't get recognized. This is my little way of recognizing them," he shared.

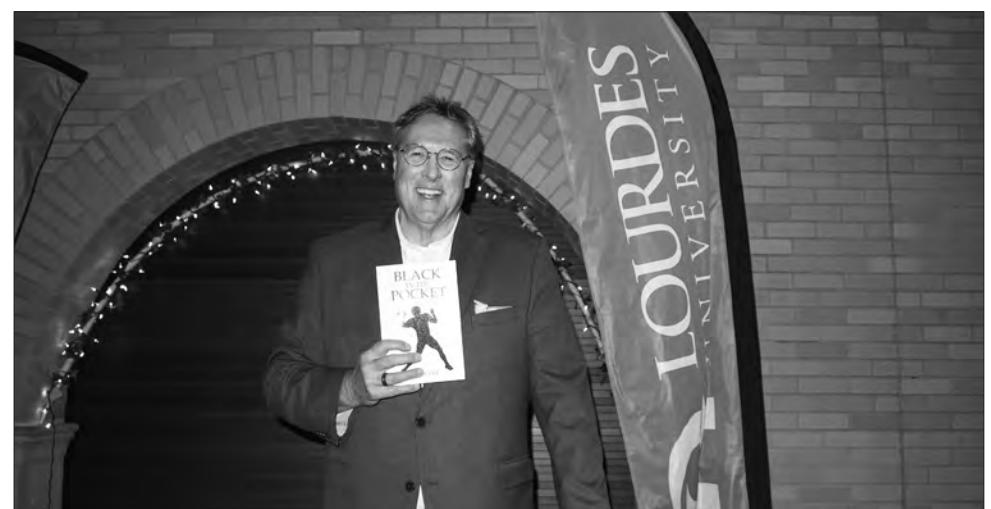
A signed copy of the book and refreshments were included in the event as well as a mix-and-mingle opportunity to meet the author.

This event was coordinated through a community partnership by Lourdes University, Starlite Theater Group, Finch & Fern Book Co., and Red Bird Sylvania and sponsored by Taylor Automotive Family.

To learn more or purchase the book go to Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble or anywhere books are sold.

About the Author: Tom Cole

Tom Cole was the first quarterback at St. John's Jesuit High School. He played quarterback at Ohio Wesleyan University and majored in History with a minor in English. He taught and coached in High School and college. In football he coached quarterbacks and was offensive coordinator. He also was a TV Sports Broadcaster on Buckeye Cable and the Buckeye Cable Sports Network for 26 years, broadcasting MAC Football and Basketball on BCSN and ESPN III. He also did over 10,000 interviews on the BCSN Network. He is currently the Community Outreach Coordinator for the Taylor Automotive Family. Cole is also in the City of Toledo Athletic Hall of Fame and the St. John's Jesuit High School Hall of Fame. Cole has won 7 Ohio Cable TV Broadcast Awards, plus he was named MVP at BCSN. *Black in the Pocket* is his fourth sports book. Tomcole1717@gmail.com 419-870-1931



Growing Up Urkel by Jaleel White

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

At some point in the next few weeks, somebody's going to bring up That Story.

You know the one: That Story happened 15 or 20 years ago, when you were a kid and did something dumb that became a hilarious tale for an elder to pull out every holiday. Har-dee-har-har. As in the new memoir, *Growing Up Urkel* by Jaleel White, being an adult doesn't give you a pass.

It was only meant to be a single appearance.

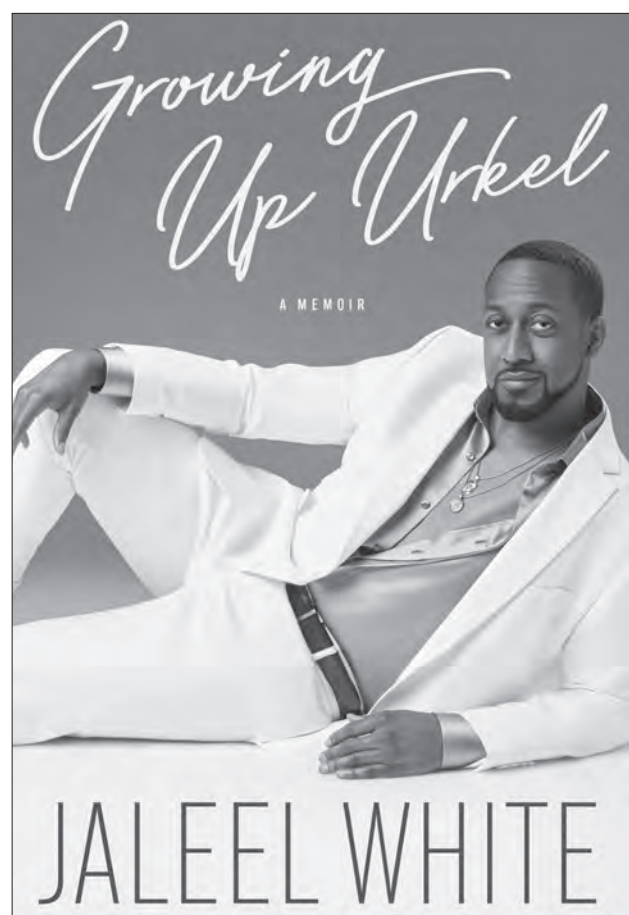
Twelve-year-old Jaleel White was a veteran of television, having already appeared in a handful of TV shows and commercials, so he knew what he needed to do to land a bit role on a popular ABC sitcom. He dressed the part, showed up for the audition and was cast in a one-time role of a neighbor of the Winslows on *Family Matters*.

c. 2024
Simon & Schuster
\$28.99
336 pages

up for the audition and was cast in a one-time role of a neighbor of the Winslows on *Family Matters*.

That episode was so well-received that White became a permanent member of the cast.

As an only child, White says he was raised with a sort of humbleness: his parents encouraged him to reach for his dreams, but they never told him that he was "famous." Like all Hollywood stars, he had an agent, a contract and a salary but when he wanted money, his mother never gave him more than \$300 at a time. Wealth, to White's



parents, was never the goal. College was, and they made sure that funding his education was part of the deal.

Years later, by the time the show was canceled, White was ready to move on. He'd gone from a five-foot-tall adolescent into an athletic young man. He'd taken the character as far as he figured he could, while learning to stand up for himself and how to write for TV.

"My life started the day that *Family Matters* ended," he says.

Even so, he writes, years would go by before he was able to merge the man he wished to be with the nerd most people remembered him as.

If you were ever a fan of '90s sitcoms, you might not know it but you've been waiting for a book like this. Author Jaleel White is a big boy now and in *Growing Up Urkel*, he shares with readers what it's like to become an adult in front of millions.

But that's just part of That Story.

White also gives readers repeated peeks behind many different Hollywood curtains to reveal the warts of stardom: agents who take advantage of naivete, people who talk big but never deliver, actors who turn nasty behind the camera, and an entire you-scratch-my-back-I-scratch-yours industry that's only survivable with fortitude and perseverance. This book isn't just about broken dreams, though. White remembers former cast members and other actors with affection, and he shares anecdotes that will make you nostalgic.

As told by a boy-turned-man, a former kid in the limelight looking back, *Growing Up Urkel* is an interesting take on Tinseltown and it may spur you to set up a binge-watch date soon. For anyone who loves a good memoir, you'll like That Story.

Open Arms... continued from page 16

Royster is a survivor of teen homelessness herself and offers a unique perspective to serve her clients. "I was homeless at the age of 14 for six months. My second mom is from New Jersey, and she had someone transport me from here to New Jersey to save me from the streets," she stated.

Her professional experience also led her to expand beyond the traditional for the affected youth population. "I've been in case work for 22 years," stated Royster, "and I just have problem that kids are in the system for 18 years and then they get kicked out. No support and no basic life skills... so within a month people are surprised that they're locked up selling their bodies on the corner," she stated.

Beyond the immediate relief OATL provides through essential resources like food, clothing, hygiene products and housing assistance, Royster stated that OATL educates their clients on what healthy relationships should look like, fostering long-term change.

The evening included testimonials from survivors and participants of the program.

Sponsors included Joe and Sandy Fox, Crystal Communications - Crystal Taylor, Harbor Youth Services, Owens Corning, Lucas County Children Services, Lucas County Metropolitan Housing Authority, Northern Ohio REACH, JRM Mentoring, Urban Beat WIMX, Juice 107.3 Henry Garcia, and One Me to Be.

To learn more about the organization or to donate visit oatltoledo.square.site.

Andrea Gwyn... continued from page 5

other women of color aspiring to leadership roles in industries where they are often underrepresented.

When Andrea Gwyn rises, she takes her community with her. She challenges us to ask ourselves: How can we lift as we climb? How can we build relationships that create a ripple effect of positivity and progress?

Her story is a reminder that every step forward—whether it's mentoring a young professional, improving patient care, or breaking barriers in leadership—is a step toward a brighter future for us all.

So, the next time you hear about a young leader making waves in Toledo, remember Andrea Gwyn. Her journey is not just her own; it's a win for the entire community.

For more on Andrea Gwyn and other 20 Under 40 honorees, visit 20under40toledo.com.

Patricia Ann Hogue... continued from page 10

compassion, dedication, and boundless love for family and community.

In honor of Patricia's lifelong commitment to her students, the Dr. Patricia A. Hogue Legacy Fund, operated by the UT Foundation, continues to support disadvantaged and first-generation students who are dedicated to serving marginalized communities. Additionally, her AKA line sisters have established the Dr. Patricia A. Hogue Candy Reign Scholarship via the Zeta Alpha Omega AKA Chapter, which aims to assist high school seniors pursuing medicine.

A celebration of Dr. Patricia Ann (Hendley) Hogue's life was held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 16, 2024, at Friendship Baptist Church, 5301 Nebraska Ave. In lieu of flowers, contributions are welcomed in her memory to the Dr. Patricia A. Hogue Legacy Fund: (<https://tol-edo.org/hogue>), or the Dr. Hogue Candy Reign Zeta Alpha Omega Scholarship: <https://zetaalphaomega.org/contact2/>

Dr. Patricia Ann Hogue's life was a testament to the power of kindness, commitment, and compassion. She leaves an indelible legacy that will inspire generations to come.

Hit the
road with
Glass City
auto financing!

- New & used auto loans
- Competitive rates & terms
- Convenient payment options

Apply online or at a branch.
Or ask for Glass City financing
at an area auto dealership.

**GLASS CITY
FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION**

Toledo • Maumee • Bowling Green
419-887-1000 • glasscityfcu.com

Financing subject to credit approval & membership eligibility.

Federally insured by
NCUA

We're working for you!

NO WRAPPING REQUIRED:

When you give the gift of Ohio Lottery Holiday Scratch-Offs!



INVITATION FOR BIDS LMH UNIT TURN SERVICES IFB24-B015

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive bids for **LMH Unit Turn Services in accordance with IFB24-B015**. Received in accordance with law until **December 5, 2024, at 3:00 PM ET**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROJECT BASED VOUCHERS RFP24-R001 N

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive proposals for **Project Based Vouchers for the HCV Program**. Interested parties should be owner/developers, management agent, and/or project sponsors for projects concentrating on Supportive Services. LMH has reserved up to 151 PBV for this rolling RFP. Received in accordance with law until **December 5, 2024, at 3:00 PM ET**. See documents: www.lucasmha.org; 424 Jackson Street, Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246). This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



PATHWAY, INC.

P/T Data Assistant – Brothers and Sisters United

\$21.00/hr. x 20 hrs./wk.

Essential Functions: Evaluating, collecting and maintaining program data; completing all intakes; performs work and ensures all data is put in the Well Family System and other databases; performs weekly review of Case Managers data entry identifying issues; analyzes data for patterns and trends; builds reports; reviews participants progress; and enters all data points.

Office Aide BYOUth/SYOUth

\$17.00/hr. x 40 hrs./wk.

Essential Functions: Provides support in the initial stages and throughout the program; completes phone call log; responsible for recruitment; follow-up with participants; completes Case Management; manages an active caseload; links and refers participants with resources; responsible for completing assigned monthly, quarterly and annual reports; and coordinates developing a community, outreach, and recruitment plan.

Case Manager BYOUth/SYOUth

\$21.00/hr. x 40 hrs./wk.

Essential Functions: Provides support in the initial stages of the program and throughout; completes phone call log; responsible for recruitment; follow-up with participants; completes Case Management services; manages an active caseload; links and refers participants to community resources; follow-up to ensure contact with service providers; responsible for completing assigned monthly, quarterly and annual reports; and coordinates in developing a community, partner, outreach, and recruitment plan.

Employment Specialist P/T

\$21.00/hr. x 20 hrs./wk.

Essential Functions: Responsible for recruitment and entering into the ETO system; provides linkages and referrals; completes case notes; follow-up ensuring program completion; supports recruiting efforts by reviewing yearly, monthly, and weekly goals for youth ages 18-24 and fathers 25 and older; builds outreach efforts and plans by researching and contacting community services, hospitals, clinics, and working with CHW through Healthy Start or Pathways HUB; assists with making presentations; and maintains rapport with community partners.

Apply at pathwaytoledo.org

MARKETING CONTEST ANNOUNCED AT BWSCD MEETING

A marketing contest was announced at Toledo Black Wall Street meeting which includes Juice FM 107.3 Grand Prize 1 month radio/online advertising package valued at \$5,000.

If you weren't there, we're making sure you don't miss it! Toledo Black Wall Street media founders are putting their money where their mouth is as they encourage and support local business to increase their marketing efforts and maximize potential growth. At the Toledo Black Wall Street meeting held last Wednesday October 30 at The Truth Colours Gallery, a phenomenal marketing competition was announced.

Knowing the importance of incorporating mass media in every business plan, Juice FM 107.3 is leading with a Grand Prize Package valued at \$5,000. Stalwart Magazine added a full page ad & the Sojourner Truth Newspaper is adding in as well with a full page ad or its equivalent. A customized apparel package from KPK Unlimited is also a part of the Grand Prize Package.

How to enter? Simply submit a 30 second audio or video message promoting your business to TheJuice1073info@gmail.com by midnight Friday, November 22, 2024. Creativity is the name of the game. Impress the judges! The Grand Prize winner will also receive support creating the print components of the prize. Included in the Juice FM 107.3 Package are online digital banners that click through to the business website.

The best part is that all entries are eligible for 20 percent off of a \$500 or more one month Juice FM 107.3, The Peoples Station, advertising campaign.

The exciting thing is that any video created can usually provide audio needed for the radio commercial and also be shared on Tik Tok, YouTube Shorts & Facebook.

So let's get started!!! Collaborate with staff, young people in your life and partnering businesses to help with the creative explosion.

For more information contact Toni Battle of Juice FM 107.3 at 313.920.2270. Remember, deadline for entries is Friday November 22nd at Midnight.

Multiple entries welcome. Start working on your digital entry today!!!

Call to place your ad:

419-243-0007

www.TheTruthToledo.com

Open Arms Transformation Living Hosts Gala

By Dawn Scotland
The Truth Reporter

Open Arms Transformation Living hosted its first Brick by Brick Capital Campaign Gala at the Premier Banquet Hall Thursday, November 7. The event featured dinner, a silent auction and raffles to raise funds to continue to combat youth homelessness and for OATL Toledo to purchase a home and open the second Youth Shelter in Lucas County.

TaTiana Cash, WTOL 11 News Anchor, served as mistress of ceremonies. The evening featured keynote speaker Cecelia Williamson, Ph.D., executive director of the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute at the University of Toledo.

Open Arms Transformation Living is a nonprofit dedicated to empowering marginalized female youth aged 12 to 20 who face the challenges of homelessness, exploitation, and running away.

The mission began as a response to the growing issues of youth homelessness, teen dating violence, and human trafficking. (source: oatltoledo.square.site)

Open Arms Transformation Living was established in March 2022 as a 507 (c)3 nonprofit addressing youth homelessness in Toledo, where approximately 2,000 local teens are homeless.

- Some statistics on affected youth:
- 50 percent of foster care children face immediate homelessness upon aging out of the system.
 - Additionally, within 48 hours of being released from foster care, a staggering 75% of homeless young adults resort to engaging in various forms of survival sex, such as street prostitution, working in strip clubs, or participating in pornographic activities online. (The National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE))
 - The average age of entry into prostitution is typically between 13 and 14



Fonda Royster, Founder and Executive Director of OATL



Legal Aid of NWO and Bethany House

years old. (Hampton & Lieggi (2020)

- Suicide is the primary cause of death among homeless youth, with a staggering 32% of them having attempted suicide at least once. (source: oatltoledo.square.site)

“The purpose of the gala is to bring awareness regarding youth homelessness, teen dating violence and human trafficking,” stated Fonda Royster, founder and executive Director of OATL. “It’s also to raise funds to get brick and mortar because the majority of the clientele we serve are human trafficking survivors , teen dating violence survivors and children that struggle with poverty.”

... continued on page 13



DJ Mpress



TOLEDO URBAN FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

CHRISTMAS LOANS

12% APR UP TO \$1200 FOR 12 MONTHS

VISIT TODAY

1441 Dorr St., Toledo OH 43607
3053 Monroe St., Toledo, OH 43606

Contact info@ToledoUrban.net
or CALL 419-255-8876 for more information



Kentucky Derby Packages

Churchill Downs - Louisville, Kentucky, May 3, 2025

Our 2025 Derby Hotel Packages offer Kentucky Derby Tickets, unique experiences, and lodging near Churchill Downs or Lexington, along with transportation to the Kentucky Derby and Oaks.

For more information call **866-547-5362**