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“And Ye Shall Know The Truth...”

March 25, 2026



Maritime Academy Art Teacher Jacqueline Hatcher with art students

Misha Stredrick and Nikola Welcome-Bovell

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When Naming the Truth Becomes the Crime

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

The Truth Contributor

America has a problem. It doesn't want to know what it has done.

- Ta-Nehisi Coates



The most dangerous thing a community can do is remember.

When Toledo City Council accepted a \$20 million federal infrastructure grant last Tuesday, about 15 members of the African American Legacy Project (AALP) rose united in silent protest as it passed.

Community leaders had asked for a temporary hold — not to kill the grant, but to ensure that the Art Tatum Business District — the central cog of the AALP's Dorr Street revitalization effort — was explicitly named in the ordinance language.

Council refused out of concern for losing the federal funds, they say. One councilwoman called the statements from those who question her commitment to her community “a lie from the pit of hell.”

That response deserves scrutiny. The community did not obstruct; it remembered, highlighting a historical pattern of harm. Such accurate naming is threatening because it compels those in power to confront their roles in that pattern.

In the 1930s, federal redlining maps designated the Dorr Street neighborhood too risky to invest in — because Black people lived there. In the 1960s, Interstate 75 was routed directly through that same corridor, demolishing homes and businesses that had made Dorr Street Toledo's Black Wall Street. Urban renewal followed, clearing away what the highway had not. By 1977, the city announced that widening Dorr Street would be an economic boon to the neighborhood, even though most of its buildings had already been torn down.

Drive down Dorr Street today. Where over 130 businesses once operated — barbers and grocers, insurers and tailors, nightclubs and pharmacies — four Dollar stores now bookend the corridor without a single historical landmark to honor it. The pattern does not require an argument. It requires only a calendar and a map.

Of the funding approved in 2023, \$700,000 was set aside specifically for Dorr Street. Ask anyone on that street what was built with it. Then ask yourself what \$700,000 was ever going to build, anyway.

Now comes \$20 million, with no explicit commitment to the Art Tatum Business District. The community that has read this ominous handwriting on the wall before is now told that its insistence on specificity is the obstacle.

That is not a misunderstanding. That is the same old pattern, repeating.

The current political moment is transferring infrastructure dollars from historic Black corridors to downtown bike paths while calling it equitable investment, as previous administrations “transferred” Black prosperity to the suburbs and are now blaming the people being robbed.

AALP's leaders were merely asserting that what is happening now is a continuation of what happened before. That simple reframing transformed a routine infrastructure vote into something council members were unprepared to engage with: a referendum on decades of institutional failure.

When Toledo City Council can't answer the factual history, they attack the witnesses. Right?

Councilwoman Cerssandra McPherson's response — a lie from the pit of hell — is not the language of someone calmly disputing a claim; it suggests feeling personally implicated. McPherson and Council President Vanice Williams both represent the affected area and are Black.

So, AALP's naming of the community's oppressive experience did not land as an accusation against a distant, indifferent power structure. It notably landed on people who have staked their political identity on being champions of this community. That is a more personal wound than a policy disagreement—and it elicited a more personal response.

Here is where naming gets complicated for Black elected officials operating inside institutions that have historically failed Black communities: it puts their presence in those seats on trial.

The community's counterargument — that representation in council chambers does not guarantee equitable outcomes on the ground — is harder to make in two minutes of public comment than to feel across 60 years of broken promises.

Therefore, the defense becomes about identity rather than policy. The question of whether the pattern is real never gets answered, because the energy goes entirely toward rejecting the implication that anyone in that room is responsible for it.

Council President Williams did not deny the history. She pivoted — to investment figures, to safety improvements, to an invitation for residents to call her office. But once a community has clearly articulated the specific pattern of harm, generic claims of progress no longer satisfy.

You cannot respond to ‘you have made us promises before and broken them’ with ‘but look at what we have done downtown.’

Wood, the former labor leader and a past president of the NAACP, quickly picked up on it. What he flagged was the temperature. The dismissal. He was all too familiar with the old institutional reflex: when you call someone out, and the naming has gotten too close to the bone, shift the story. Make the witness the aggressor. Make the grief the provocation. Make precision look like an attack — and suddenly the official is the one who was wronged, and the history that prompted the whole exchange never has to be answered at all.

Again, the most dangerous thing a community can do is remember. And the second most dangerous thing is to say so in public.

And this matters enormously in the context of the city's repeated betrayals and broken promises, because one of the most insidious things they can do is produce — not just material poverty, but a poverty of expectation.

When a community that once built banks, hotels, pharmacies, nightclubs, and doctors' offices from scratch is robbed and then disappointed by broken promises often enough, a poverty mindset develops, and survival becomes the aspiration.

Moreover, the system expects you to stop trying to thrive. Instead, you are being conditioned to negotiate for less, even defending yourself against hope itself, since hope has become a liability—the very thing used against you.

Yet, the African American Legacy Project remembers. They came to name what thriving looks like on these Black blocks and to insist that it is not nostalgia — but a standard.

Hold every ordinance, grant, and every allocation to it.

And every leader who won't, should say so plainly —so the rest of us know exactly where we stand.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at drldperryman@centerofshopebaptist.org

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Juliana Stratton's Victory Signals a New Era for Black Women's Leadership

The presence of two Black women in this race was not a problem. It was progress.

By Glynda C. Carr

Trice Edney Communications

On Tuesday, March 17, voters in Illinois did more than choose a nominee for the United States Senate. They made clear that the political landscape is changing, and that Black women are at the center of that change.

Juliana Stratton won the Democratic primary with 39.8 percent of the vote, defeating Raja Krishnamoorthi, who received 33.3%, and Robin Kelly, who earned 18.3 percent. If she wins in November, she can potentially become only the sixth Black woman ever elected to the U.S. Senate, and part of a first in our nation's history: three Black women serving in the Senate at the same time.

But this moment is bigger than one candidate. This race featured two dynamic, qualified Black women leaders, Stratton and Congresswoman Robin Kelly. For some, that reality sparked quiet conversations and familiar doubts. Questions about viability. Concerns about "splitting the vote." The kind of whispers that have long followed Black women candidates.

Let's be clear. The presence of two Black women in this race was not a problem. It was progress. For generations, Black women have been told to wait our turn, to step aside, to make space for others.

In Illinois, we saw something different. We saw what it looks like when there is not just one path, but many. When Black women are not competing for a single seat at the table, but building a bigger table altogether. That is what growth looks like. And it is the direct result of years of organizing, investment, and belief in Black women's leadership.

Illinois knows what it means to lead on this front. In 1992, the state made history by electing Carol Moseley Braun, the first Black woman ever to serve in the United States Senate. Yet it took 16 years before another Black woman, Kamala Harris, would follow.

Illinois has also been a launching ground for historic leadership, including the election of Barack Obama to the Senate before he became President of the United States. Since then, progress has accelerated, but it remains far too slow.

Laphonza Butler, Angela Alsobrooks, and Lisa Blunt Rochester have each added to that legacy, bringing the total number of Black women who have

ever served in the Senate to just five. Five. In a body of 100 members, across more than two centuries, that number tells the story.

The United States Senate remains overwhelmingly white and male. That is why this moment matters. As Illinois' Lieutenant Governor, Stratton has been a leading voice on advancing equity, expanding economic opportunity, and addressing disparities that impact working families. Her record speaks to what happens when Black women lead. From advancing maternal health initiatives to supporting the next generation of girls in leadership and championing policies that uplift communities across the state, she has demonstrated that representation is not just about who holds office, but about the impact they make once they are there.

At Higher Heights, we often say that Black women are the architects of our democracy, as well as the protectors and the defenders. This moment proves that we are also its future. If we want to see more Black women in the Senate, a Black woman in a governor's mansion, more Black women shaping policy at every level, we have to keep doing the work. We have to keep organizing, mobilizing, and investing in Black women candidates and the communities that power them. Because this moment tells us something important. Our work is working. Now we have to keep going.

Glynda C. Carr is President and CEO of Higher Heights for America, a 501(c)(4) organization, and its connected federal political action committee, Higher Heights for America PAC, which works to expand Black women's elected representation and voting participation. Learn more at www.higherheightsforamerica.org.



Glynda C. Carr



Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton

Rep. Rogers Announces General Motors Investment in Toledo

Investment will support plant's capacity, development of new technology

State Rep. Elgin Rogers (D-Toledo) last week announced today that General Motors is investing approximately \$40 million into Toledo Propulsion Systems to increase capacity and introduce a new transmission variant to support the production of the Chevrolet Equinox and other GMC vehicles.

"This investment supports local manufacturing jobs and reaffirms Ohio's critical role in GM's manufacturing footprint," said Rep. Rogers.



State Rep. Elgin Rogers

Since 2011 GM has invested more than \$1 billion into the plant. This latest investment will ensure that the Toledo plant continues to work on the cutting edge of automotive technology.

Community Calendar

March 28

Coach Price retirement celebration: Scott HS Field House; Noon to 3 pm; Come share laughs, memories and celebrate this milestone

May 2

Warren AME Spring Tea: Bloom Where You Are Planted; 11:30 - 2:30 pm. Speaker, First Lady Sabrina Prince - The Cross Church. Vendor Tables Welcomed. Rsvp to: darlensawyer2751@gmail.com 419.243.2237

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What Spring Hides

By Ben Jealous
Guest Column

Spring arrives this week, and the world feels alive again.

Trees fill out. Birds return. The air softens. It is the season when nature tells us life is coming back.

But this spring also arrives with a number most Americans have barely heard.

This winter, scientists counted just 12,260 western monarch butterflies along the California coast. In 1997, the first formal count found roughly 1.2 million. In 2022, the count was 335,479. That means the western monarch population today is about 1% of what it was a generation ago — and only about 4% of what it was four years ago.

You do not need advanced science to understand that.

You only need subtraction.

And yet most Americans have heard almost nothing about it.

That silence says something important about how environmentalism changed.

There was a time when the country knew these stories.

When bald eagles were disappearing, the news was everywhere. Environmentalists shouted it from the rooftops until the whole country knew. People rallied. Laws changed. The birds came back.



When whales were being hunted toward extinction, the world knew. Environmentalists raised the alarm again. People rallied. Hunting slowed. Many whale populations began to recover.

For years, environmentalism asked people to protect what they loved.

It was a movement built less on fear than on love — on the simple belief that some things were worth saving before they were gone.

Thirty-five years ago, 78% of Americans said they considered themselves environmentalists. Around that same time, western monarchs still numbered in the low millions.

Then the movement began speaking more and more about climate change.

The science behind that shift was necessary and important.

But the public language changed too.

Instead of simple subtraction, we asked people to think more and more in terms of carbon concentrations, atmospheric models and long-range projections built from advanced physics.

At the same time, we talked less about habitat loss, species decline and the wild things people could still see disappearing.

We thought we could make the conversation more complex and still hold everyone.

We did not.

Today, the share of Americans who identify as environmentalists has fallen to 41%.

Meanwhile, the losses keep growing.

Scientists say species are now disappearing at more than 100 times the normal rate. That is why many believe we are entering the early stage of a sixth mass extinction.

What makes this one different from the five before it is simple: nature caused the others. This one is being driven by us, mostly through habitat destruction, along with overuse, pollution, invasive species and climate change.

We still need to talk about climate change. It is real and urgent.

But if we want to build a stronger movement, we also need to talk again in the language that has always moved people most.

Environmentalism first became powerful by appealing to people's love for wild things and wild places.

People still care deeply about wild things and wild places.

People are still moved more by love than fear.

And subtraction is still the math most people understand best.

Ben Jealous is a professor of practice at the University of Pennsylvania and former president and CEO of the NAACP.

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A Thank You Note from June Boyd

Recently, the "when it rains, it pours" quote embraced me with a series of misfortunes beginning with my catching COVID, followed by a burglary. The most painful dealing with my daughter Charlotte battling cancer and so many trips to Cleveland Clinic took a toll on my car and motor causing the bank account to hit the bottom.



A dear friend offered to assist me with a "Go Fund Me" project that has been very helpful. Ironically, on the day the project began, I attended a retreat at my parish St. Martin de Porres, which had a theme of Love and Peace, which included kindness. Today, which is so important.

I would like to thank any relative, friend, neighbor, Twila Page and Channel 11, Michael Sandlin and staff for the generosity. I will be forever grateful to everyone. I will keep my commitment to help as many people as I always have and pay it forward.. I place emphasis on the young, to embrace the need to Love, pray for Peace and above all be kind to your fellow man. Thank you again.....

Life in Rhythm: The Early Years of Robert L. Perry

By Asia Nail

The Truth Reporter

There are some stories that do not begin with degrees. They begin with music.

For **Robert L. Perry, PhD**, that music was jazz.

Not the kind people politely clap for now. Not background music floating through a restaurant. This was living music. Breathing music. The kind that carried whole lives inside of it.

Robert “Bobby” Perry was born in 1932, in Toledo, Ohio, the first generation of his family born in the North, a child of movement, of transition, of hope dressed in uncertainty. His parents, **Kathryn Bogan** and **Rudolph Perry**, were just teenagers themselves, 16 and 19, trying to build something steady in a world that rarely offered Black families stability without struggle. When his mother passed away in 1944, his world shifted. But if there is anything Perry’s life teaches, it is this: when the ground moves, you learn how to stand anyway.

He was raised by his grandmother, **Ella Wynn Perry**.

In her house, the doors did not lock against the world, they opened to it. People came hungry and left fed. Came weary and left seen. There was always room, always another plate, always the unspoken understanding that survival was a collective act. It is from such homes that a certain kind of man emerges, one who cannot ignore injustice because he has known, intimately, what care looks like.

Rhythms of Toledo

Music was everywhere, in the rise and fall of footsteps, in the voices that drifted from open windows, in the heartbeat of the city itself, shaping Perry before he even knew he was listening.

Jazz wasn’t something he chose; it was something that chose him.

His father, Rudolph, knew that world firsthand. A trumpeter, and master jazz musician, he—and his brother, Mozart—were foundational to the Toledo jazz scene.

With his trumpet in his hands and music in his blood, Rudolph Perry carried the city’s rhythms wherever the road led: Michigan, upstate New York, Detroit. Music spoke for him, opened doors, filled rooms, even when it did not always fill his pockets. And like so many Black artists, he navigated the balance between the life music offered and the life it demanded.

His brother followed a different rhythm.

Mozart Perry had a name that sounded like destiny. He carried the music with him and lived it fully.

“Uncle Mozart drove a motorhome around the country, moving between piano and clarinet like it was second nature,” recalls Robert Perry.

He was the kind of musician other musicians knew. The kind whose name might not be in textbooks but lives in memory, in stories, in the quiet respect of those who understand.

Jazz as Inheritance

Names like **Art Tatum** were not distant legends. These men were part of the same musical air. **Count Basie, Earl Hines, Cab Calloway, Louis Armstrong** and many female artists such as **Ma Rainey**, and **Ella Fitzgerald** have

passed through, leaving their mark in hotel ballrooms, club back rooms and the lively dance halls of Toledo. Local stages hosted trumpet, piano and vocal improvisation, building something in the spaces between notes that history rarely remembers. In that sound, there is a pulse, a proof that jazz is language, and Toledo its conversation.



Robert-Perry in the 1970s

Robert Perry understood. Because music was not a performance in his life, it was an inheritance.

“Maybe that is where this truth took root: that what is created out of pain must never be surrendered to those who cannot name its cost.”

Sitting with Perry, his words linger like a memory.

Before the titles. Before the honors. Before a university would one day place his name on a building. There was Toledo.

And Toledo was not quiet.

There was movement. Migration. Horns warming up in back rooms. Piano keys telling stories nobody had written down yet. The Great Migration did not move in straight lines. It moved like music. From the South to Kansas City. Chicago. Detroit. And yes, Toledo. Always Toledo.

“History has a habit of skipping steps when it tells our stories. It rushes to New York and calls it the beginning,” Perry remarks.

“The Harlem Renaissance becomes the headline, as if nothing lived before it.”

But Perry leans forward, even now, and gently corrects the record.

“Toledo was big,” he says. “Not once. Not casually. Big.”

Jazz did not arrive fully formed in New York. It passed through cities like Toledo, picking up stories, pain, style, and soul along the way. Musicians stopped here. Played here. Lived here. Built something here.

Even in Netflix’s *Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom*, where Chicago takes center stage, Toledo is there. Not announced. Not celebrated outright. But present. A character named *Toledo*. A quiet nod. A whisper of truth in a loud room.

A city remembered without being fully named.

And that matters.

Because, as Robert Perry makes clear, “what is not named is often what is forgotten.”



... continued on page 7

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TARTA Names Bond Chief Capital Officer

In preparation for continued improvements to Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) facilities in the coming years, TARTA has promoted Kattie Bond to Chief Capital Officer. Bond joined TARTA in September of 2024 as Director of Capital Projects, and since then has played a major role in several projects that have elevated the long-term viability and customer experience at TARTA facilities. In part due to her efforts, in the last 18 months TARTA has:



Kattie Bond

- Completed renovations to Operators areas at the Central Avenue garage and TARTA's Transit Hub
- Completed renovations to employee restrooms, with renovations continuing at Central Avenue
- Replaced the bus apron at Central Avenue and the fence around the employee lot
- Added dozens of new bus shelters to stops and dozens of new vehicles to the fleet, including TARTA's first full-sized electric vehicles

"We have a wonderful team here at TARTA, and I am honored to be asked to take an expanded role in it," Bond said. "Over the past year and a

half, we've made real progress improving our facilities while still being a great steward of public funds. That's something we'll look to continue in the coming years as long overdue updates take place in our maintenance garage, our Hub and elsewhere."

In this role, Bond will provide strategic oversight for all capital programs. TARTA's Facilities, Buildings and Grounds Department will now also report to Kattie, placing all capital and facility-related functions under a single leadership post.

"We have come a long way as an organization in a few short years, and Kattie's contribution will be crucial to continuing that momentum," said TARTA Deputy CEO Rick Bailey. "Capital projects have an impact on customer satisfaction, team morale, public perception and so much more. The projects we're planning will have a significant positive impact on TARTA and the people who depend on it every day for years to come."

Hello Friends, Neighbors, Colleagues, Kindred Spirits

On behalf of the Community Organizing Committee for the 2026 Toledo MLK Our Time to Break Silence, along with our cosponsors Toledo Public Schools and the UToledo Black Student Union, we invite you to participate in this year's Toledo MLK Our Time to Break Silence on Sunday, April 19, at 3 pm at Monroe Street Church, 3613 Monroe Street. Please put it on your calendar!

Given one year to the day before his assassination, Dr. Martin Luther King's Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence motivated the American public across lines that had formerly divided groups, urging all to break silence and to fight against the "evil triplets" of militarism, materialism, and racism and against violence of all types. (You can hear speech at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJhgXKGldUK> or read the transcript at <https://www.crmvet.org/docs/mlk-viet.htm>.)

Today, the speech inspires us to ask: WHAT ARE YOU and OTHERS BREAKING SILENCE ABOUT? ARE WE LISTENING AND ACTING? The event acknowledges all the ways individuals and groups today break silence on vitally important issues and needs, while providing a networking space where we can learn about and support each other's voices and efforts.

Many of you have already participated in the event, reading a part of the speech and representing one of the 75+ organizations that have participated since our first event in 2017; many of you would be new participants. All of you are welcome. We encourage you to share this information with any other individuals and groups you know whose work is consistent with the organization's mission to:

- Honor Dr. King by sharing his words, so that they can continue to inspire us today,
- Inform and educate young people about Dr. King's important impact,
- Expand outreach to be fully inclusive of all groups and individuals in Greater Toledo and Northwest Ohio seeking to realize civil rights and to improve and protect our community and world,
- Build the movement to break silence, promote dialogue, and engage in nonviolent direct action, and
- Recognize the relevance of Dr. King's words half a century later and continue to "Break the Silence" today.

Life in Rhythm...continued from page 5

The *M and M Club*. The *Writers and Bellmen's Club*. *Murphy's Place*, near the water. The *Peacock*. *Rusty's*. *Lucille's*. Rooms where musicians passing through would stop, play, and stay a while longer than planned. Jam sessions that stretched past midnight into something close to morning.

And the city played on, through prohibition, through quiet corruption, through the long American habit of looking away; and the music, indifferent to all of it, told the truth anyway. It told of longing and laughter, of injustice and insistence, of a people who, denied the luxury of forgetting, chose instead to remember out loud.

In that relentless, improvisational act of being, Toledo did what so many cities could not: it raised a generation not just to survive the world as it was, but to imagine, and then demand, something better.

Integrity in Action

Perry went on to serve his country in the Air Force. He monitored oceans for enemy sonar during the wars in Korea and Vietnam, tracking threats that could not be seen, only sensed.

There is a metaphor there, if you are willing to look.

Because long before he became a scholar, Perry was already trained to detect what others ignored, to read what was hidden beneath the surface. To understand that danger is not always loud, and injustice is not always obvious, but both are always present.

Robert Perry met the love of his life in 1966. Her name is LaRouth. She is a native of Little Rock, Arkansas, a graduate of Fisk University, and a soprano with the famed Fisk Jubilee Singers. Her love for music was matched only by her devotion to family and the English language. By 1969, they were married, beginning a life that would raise three children and nurture entire communities. LaRouth Perry, PhD, had not yet founded the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo or launched the Young Artists at Work program, but even then, the seeds of music, education, and art were quietly taking root.

They moved through life like a jazz composition, sometimes soft, sometimes brassy, but always alive. Together they set the rhythm behind a man whose conscience and career would soon command attention in Toledo and beyond.

And yet, even then, the world was preparing its tests.

For Robert Perry, that moment came in a courtroom in the late 1960s, where he served as one of the first Black juvenile court referees in the region. A Black boy stood before him, guilty of the same crime as a white boy weeks earlier. The expectation was clear, if unspoken: the sentence would not be the same.

It rarely is.

He was told, plainly, to be harsher.

And in that moment, the machinery of America revealed itself, not as abstract theory, but as instruction. Do this. Uphold this. Continue this.

But there are men who understand that survival at the cost of truth is another form of death.

So he resigned.

Not loudly. Not ceremoniously. But definitively.

"I wasn't going to be an instrument of my own oppression," he says.

There are those who will call such acts radical. But they are not radical, they are honest. And honesty, in a dishonest system, always appears extreme.

Building a Legacy

By the time he arrived at Wayne State University to pursue his Ph.D. in sociology, he was no longer a young man trying to find his place, but a man who



had already refused the terms of belonging. He would go on to become one of the first Black men to complete a Ph.D. in sociology from that institution.

"I don't believe in symbolic gestures; that's just 'window dressings' on the set," explains Dr. Robert Perry. "Essentially, representation without transformation is nothing more than decoration."

Perry pursued sociology not as an abstraction, but as a necessity. To study society, after all, is to study power: who holds it, who is denied it, and how those arrangements are justified. And he studied during a time when the country itself seemed to be unraveling under the scrutiny of its own myths.

Detroit was burning. The riots in 1967 tore through the city like a reckoning long overdue. Not far away, the Kent State shootings would lay bare the violence of the state against its own children.

But here is what must be understood: these were not interruptions to his education. They were his education.

Because what does it mean to study society while watching it fracture? What does it mean to analyze systems that are actively collapsing around you?

It means you either learn to tell the truth, or you learn to protect the lie.

Robert Perry chose the former.

By then, the music had long since taught him tenacity.

For jazz, at its core, is a discipline of integrity. You may improvise, yes, but you must never betray the truth of the note. You must never play what is false simply because it is expected.

And so, carrying that same insistence into the university, he began to imagine what did not yet exist.

He had seen enough of absence to understand its danger. He had seen classrooms where Black life appeared only as a footnote, where entire cultures were reduced to elective curiosity, where the lived experience of millions was treated as peripheral to the "real" story. And he knew, the way a musician knows when a note is flat, that this could not stand.



... continued on page 12

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A Females Empowerment Event Brought “Understanding My Who & Why”

The Truth Staff

The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Toledo Club, brought together the 2026 Debutantes for a Females Empowerment Event on Saturday, March 14, in order to explore an “Understanding My Who & Why.”

The event, which united female mentors and role models with young ladies, took place at Vista on the Docks and for both the attendees and the room décor the color of the day was a brilliant yellow.

Pastor Marquisa Horton served as the mistress of ceremonies and attendees were greeted by Club President Tyra Smith-Williamson and NANBPWC District Governor Denise Black-Poon.

Marcel Hampton, the only area Black female chiropractor, sang “Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing,” after which the 2016 Debutantes performed an ice breaker exercise by “introducing you to me and my mirror.”

And then, the message of the day was “confidence.”

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2016 Debutante Dajjah Blackburn; Tyra Smith-Williamson; 2025 Cotillion Debutante Paris Waites



Pastor Marquisa Horton introduces Delvata Moses, PhD



Debutantes perform - Introducing me to you and my mirror



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The Truth Travelogue • The Truth Travelogue

The Trip That Almost Went Wrong

By Ricky Tyus, Tyus Tours & Travel

The Truth Travel Consultant

Jasmine had been planning her dream vacation for nearly a year. She saved every extra dollar, carefully picked her hotel, and finally booked a beautiful beachfront stay in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. It was supposed to be a week of sunshine, relaxation and unforgettable memories.

Her friends were excited for her but when Jasmine mentioned she purchased travel insurance, one of them laughed and said, "Why waste money on that? Nothing is going to happen."

Jasmine simply smiled and said, "I hope you're right... but I'd rather be safe."

The day of her flight finally arrived. Bags are packed. Her passport is ready. Vacation mode is fully activated. Everything seemed perfect—until a sudden snowstorm hit her departure city and her flight was canceled.

Passengers crowded the airport desks trying to figure out what to do next. Many were frustrated because rebooking meant extra hotel nights, meals, and new flights at higher prices.

Jasmine calmly opened her email and contacted her travel insurance provider. Within minutes she knew her unexpected hotel stay, meals and rebooking costs would be covered. While others worried about hundreds of dollars in surprise expenses, Jasmine simply relaxed and waited for the next available flight.

Two days later she finally arrived in Cabo San Lucas and checked into her resort. The ocean view was just as beautiful as she imagined.

But halfway through the trip, another unexpected moment happened. While exploring the marina, Jasmine slipped on a wet dock and injured her ankle. Thankfully it wasn't serious—but she did need a doctor's visit and medication.

Instead of worrying about international medical bills, Jasmine remembered her travel insurance again. Her policy covered her treatment, saving her from

paying expensive out-of-pocket costs in another country.

When Jasmine returned home, she told her friends about the trip—the delays, the injury, and how everything worked out because she had travel insurance.

One friend asked, "So... was it really worth it?"

Jasmine laughed and said, "Travel insurance didn't just protect my money. It protected my peace of mind."

Because when you travel, you plan the memories—not the unexpected.

That's why smart travelers purchase travel insurance. It can protect you from:

- Trip cancellations or delays
- Lost or delayed luggage
- Medical emergencies abroad
- Unexpected travel interruptions

Travel is an adventure—but even the best adventures need a safety net. Travel insurance makes sure that when unexpected happens, your dream trip doesn't turn into a financial nightmare.

Before finalizing your trip, it is highly advisable to consider adding travel insurance. This small investment can provide significant protection for your entire travel experience. Travel insurance can cover unexpected events such as flight delays, cancellations, or medical emergencies while you are abroad, preventing you from incurring unexpected expenses. By securing travel insurance, you gain valuable peace of mind, allowing you to fully enjoy your trip without the stress of "what if" scenarios. It's an essential consideration for any traveler. Would you like assistance in adding this coverage to your plans? For more information call or contact Tyus Tours & Travel at 866-547-5362 or email travel@tyustours.com



A Moment of Truth will explore some of the issues that are so critical in the lives of the residents of Toledo's African American community. The Sojourner's Truth has spent a quarter of a century speaking with and listening to those in our community who make a such a difference in our lives.

Join us now on WGTE 91 FM on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. as our hosts—Asia Nail, Stacy Fowler, Ricky Tyus and Alexandria Leatherberry—hold conversations with community members and examine how all of us can learn and benefit from those who are blazing paths for us in a number of critical areas such as community activism, business, health and travel.

The Sojourner's Truth
A MOMENT OF TRUTH

THE LOCAL THREAD

wgte Public Media

Captions for photos: Asia Nail, The Truth Reporter; Ricky Tyus, of Tyus Tours and Travel; Stacy Fowler, Publisher, Pursuit Magazine; Alexandria Leatherberry, The Truth Reporter.

Stories, Sites and Legacy: Kentucky's African American Heritage Trail

Special to The Truth

When it comes to learning history, there is something about the act of walking around a historical site that will drive a lesson home in a way that is nearly impossible to replicate with films, books and other media.

For instance, there are thousands of pages written on the historical importance of places like Camp Nelson in Nicholasville, Kentucky, where the Union Army used the installation as a vital supply depot, forward operating base, and safe haven for enslaved people escaping bondage in the south. Entire books have been written on how Camp Nelson was responsible for recruiting and training regiments of United States Colored Troops, which helped hasten the end of the nation's bloodiest war. All of this can be read and understood without leaving one's house or classroom.

However, there is a certain perspective that can only be gained while standing on the same ground that turned people who had once been referred to as property, into soldiers fighting for the freedom of all Americans. And a feeling of heaviness that can only be experienced during a quiet walk amongst the pristine rows of Civil War headstones in the Camp Nelson National Cemetery; each marker a reminder of the ultimate price someone had to pay for

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The Truth Travelogue • The Truth Travelogue

The Cookout at South Beach Wine & Food Festival: A Must-Experience Culinary Event

By Shana Lee

The Truth Travel Correspondent

There are food events, and then there are experiences that stay with you long after the last bite. Attending The Cookout during the South Beach Wine & Food Festival this February was exactly that, an unforgettable celebration of culture, community and cuisine. Hosted by JJ Johnson and presented by Sonrisa Rum, this event was more than just a walkaround tasting. It was a powerful storytelling experience rooted in heritage.

Chef JJ Johnson's mission to amplify underrepresented voices through food came to life in every detail of the evening. The Cookout beautifully honored African American culinary traditions, showcasing dishes that reflected history, resilience and creativity. Each bite told a story, crafted by a diverse group of talented chefs who are committed to preserving and reimagining culturally significant flavors and techniques. It felt like walking through a living archive of foodways, one plate at a time.

The energy of the evening was unmatched. From the vibrant atmosphere at the Eden Roc Miami Beach to the incredible lineup of chefs, every moment felt intentional and elevated. And just when you thought the night couldn't get any better, Fat Joe took the stage and brought the entire crowd to life. The fusion of food and music created this electric, joyful vibe that perfectly matched the spirit of the event.

If you're planning your culinary adventures for next February, consider this your sign. The Cookout is a must. It's not just about amazing food, although there's plenty of that. It's about connection, culture and celebration. I left inspired, full in every sense of the word, and already looking forward to experiencing it all over again next year.



Stories, Sites and Legacy... continued from page 10

that freedom.

This emphasis on experiencing history firsthand is what led to the creation of the Kentucky African American Heritage Trail. This trail includes more than 50 sites located across Kentucky that collectively tell the story of how African Americans overcame, innovated and thrived, while playing an essential role in forming the commonwealth and the nation as a whole.

The trail is a collaboration between the Kentucky Department of Tourism, Kentucky Historical Society and the Kentucky Heritage Council, and was formed with the purpose of teaching accurate and culturally significant lessons to all visitors. By working together, the sites on the trail are able to further amplify marginalized voices and contributions while supporting local economies through tourism.

One such site is the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville, which not only celebrates the life and personal achievements of one of the world's greatest boxers, but also calls attention to Ali's contributions to global humanitarianism and social justice. Visitors learn about the society Ali was born into and what he overcame to become a champion boxer and a champion for people. Another is the SEEK Museum in Russellville, which shines a spotlight on Kentucky's "Struggles for Emancipation and Equality" by telling the story of five buildings in a National Register Historic District. These buildings take visitors on a journey through centuries of enslavement, emancipation, Jim Crow segregation and the Civil Rights Movement, all within a few city blocks.



The Kentucky African American Heritage Trail serves as a way of teaching visitors about Black Kentuckians, their achievements and related narratives in specific places, while helping to connect those stories to the vast and vibrant tapestry that is Kentucky's story.

The trail can be found on Apple Maps as well as www.kentuckytourism.com. Plan your journey through Kentucky history today.

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Humbled and Honored!

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, Center of Hope Church and founder of United Pastors for Social Empowerment, for his recommendation for me to join the Advisory Board of Metroparks Toledo.

It is with great honor that I accept this position and I am committed to serving and advocating for the entire community.

Donnetta Carter, The Social Butterfly



Females Empowerment...continued from page 8

Daijah Blackburn, Esq, 2016 Debutante, addressed that subject first. "Where is your confidence?" she asked the young ladies in attendance. "Is it in your clothes, is it in your car, is it in your accomplishments or is it in the people you know?"

"Our confidence must remain firm; our values must remain firm, we were created in the image of God. I am confident because this is my Father's world," she added. "I am who I am, where is your confidence?"

The afternoon keynote speaker, Delvata Moses, PhD, deputy director of Human Relations and Community Services for the City of Lansing, MI, elaborated on this theme.

Moses spoke of her early years as a child when her intelligence, her out-

spokenness and even her skin color brought some blowback from others. She retreated, backed away from interactions with others.

"It was the beginning of a pattern, a pattern of questioning myself ... 'maybe I should be different,'" she recalled. "I began practicing how to make myself smaller, I learned how to dim my light."

But she came back and overcame that doubt and uncertainty. "I made me who I am; I may not be everybody's cup of tea – that's why they make coffee."

Encouraging her listeners to walk their own paths, Moses told them "you are good, no matter what others say." She also told them that they can create their own feeling of being confident.

"Confidence comes from understanding who you are and why you are here."

The 58th Annual Cotillion Debutante will be held in May 2026.

Life in Rhythm...continued from page 7

The country, meanwhile, stood at a precipice.

Between Protest and Possibility

The late 1960s and early 1970s were not merely years of protest; they were years of reckoning. Stu-

dents were demanding more than access, they were demanding recognition. Black scholars across the nation were beginning to articulate what had long been felt: that education, if it is to mean anything at all, must tell the truth about the people it claims to serve.



It is here, in this tension, between what was and what could be, that Robert L. Perry took his stand.

Not with noise, but with vision.

Not with spectacle, but with structure.

He would help build something that had not yet been granted legitimacy, something that would challenge not only curriculum but consciousness itself.

But before the doors could open, before the courses could be taught, before the institution could claim what it had once ignored, there would come a moment. A meeting. A presence.

A voice that had already begun to shake the moral foundations of America.

And when that voice arrived in Bowling Green, it would not arrive quietly.

To tell a story like this requires patience. It requires listening. A willingness to let a life unfold in its own rhythm. This is the journey of a movement within a man: jazz as language; justice as choice; education as confrontation; and a legacy that lives, breathes, and moves through his children and all those he has touched.

And still, the story does not rest. It leans forward, because a moment is coming when every lesson, every refusal and every note will become something real, something built, something named, something that will change a university and echo across generations.

What comes next is not just another chapter. It is a beginning: the making of the Ethnic Studies Department at Bowling Green State University, and the voices of colleagues, students, and one unmistakable presence who will give it breath.

The story continues in Part 2. Learn about the leaders of BGSU's Ethnic Studies Department who transformed education, culture and community.

LUCAS METROPOLITAN HOUSING 45-DAY PUBLIC NOTICE & HEARING

A. SIGNIFICANT AMENDMENT TO PHA PLAN & CAPITAL FUND 5-YEAR ACTION PLAN

Lucas Metropolitan Housing proposes a Significant Amendment to its Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan to support Energy Performance Contract (EPC) Phase II activities.

The amendment will revise the Capital Fund 5-Year Action Plan to authorize the use of Capital Fund Program (CFP) in two areas:

- 1. Energy Conservation Measure (ECM) Implementation Support**
LMH proposes committing Capital Fund resources toward eligible EPC Phase II energy conservation measure implementation costs.
- 2. Related Capital Improvements**
LMH proposes committing Capital Fund resources for associated capital improvements that support building performance, infrastructure, and modernization needs.

This amendment is subject to funding availability and final project approvals.

B. PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACOP REVISION

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) hereby provides notice of a proposed revision Section 4-III B, Selection Method of the Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy (ACOP).

The proposed revision establishes a lottery waiting list process for public housing applicants. LMH proposes to use a combined preference and chronological selection method, including a randomized electronic lottery as a tiebreaker and, when opening the waiting list, to establish initial applicant order when applications exceed available units. Local preferences will continue to be applied in determining final selection order.

C. PUBLIC NOTICE OF SALE OF PROPERTY

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) gives notice of its intent to sell the property at **211 South Byrne Rd., Toledo, OH**. No public housing residents are affected, and the nearest LMH property is approximately **one mile** away.

These proposed provisions will be available for public review on LMH's website: <https://www.lucasmh.org>, at LMH's downtown headquarters, or any property management office beginning **3/29/26**.

Written comments may be submitted to LMH's main office, any property management office, or through e-mail:

- For comments related to **LMH Proposals A or C** – (1) Significant Amendment for PHA Plan/CFP 5-YAP or (2) Sale of Property: Contact Keith Smith: ksmith@lucasmh.org
- For comments related to **LMH Proposal B** – LMH ACOP Waiting List Lottery Language Revision: Contact Darren Burroughs: dburroughs@lucasmh.org or Jennifer Todd-Warfield: jtodd-warfield@lucasmh.org

A public hearing about these proposals will be held on:

- Date: **5/29/26**
- Time: **11:30 a.m.**
- Location: **424 Jackson St. Toledo, OH 43604**

All residents and community members are encouraged to participate.

The Mixed Marriage Project: A Memoir of Love, Race, and Family by Dorothy Roberts

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

The first thing you noticed was that smile.

It was so genuine, so appealing that you couldn't help but smile back. You were drawn to that grin, that face, the whole package. When you fell in love, did you notice your beloved's skin color? Maybe – but as in the new book, *The Mixed Marriage Project* by Dorothy Roberts, the heart doesn't always care what the eyes see.

The pile of boxes had been kicked down the road for years.

Newly-landed in Philadelphia, Dorothy Roberts knew it was past time to deal with them. Her father, the creator of the boxes' contents, was long gone, as was his wife. And so, steeling herself one afternoon, Roberts opened the first cardboard container.

She found paper - piles of fragile, yellowing, crisp-edged paper filled with words from an old-school typewriter. Each scrap represented her father's life's work.

In 1937, when he was a young man, Robert "Bob" Roberts began studying interracial marriage in the Chicago area, hoping to write a book. He knocked on doors, conducted interviews and asked for referrals of similarly-paired friends. He met families and learned their stories in a project that his daughter believed was an "obsession" that sprang from his love of his wife, a Black Jamaican woman. The truth was, though, that his study had started long before Bob met Iris, long before they had three bi-racial daughters.

"Awestruck" by the volume of the work and the implications, Roberts kept reading.

She wasn't surprised by the segregation most of the couples endured, but by the unique barriers they experienced. There were couples of all ages and "all walks of life," each having crossed

c. 2026
Atria / One Signal
Publishers
\$30.00
320 pages

considerable "social boundaries." Still, most had a community of support and many had memberships to clubs of like-minded people.

Roberts was astounded by the backgrounds of the people in her father's work, she says. She was pleased to see the friendships he cultivated through it.

She was shocked and delighted to learn that her mother had also worked on the project...

Word to the wise: there are times when a book's perceived subject can be a little misleading, even confusing. That goes doubly here.

Though *The Mixed Marriage Project* contains a detailed overview of a lifetime of work, it's just as much a memoir, which can be too much in two possible ways. Author Dorothy Roberts offers many personal stories and family history going back generations, mixed with thoughts on her father's "project," and the switching comes fast. So

... continued on page 14



Mixed Marriage Project author, courtesy Chris Crisman





LUCAS METROPOLITAN HOUSING

AVISO PÚBLICO DE 45 DÍAS y AUDIENCIA

A. MODIFICACION SIGNIFICATIVA DEL PLAN PHA Y DEL PLAN DE ACCIÓN DE 15 AÑOS DEL FONDO DE CAPITAL

Lucas Metropolitan Housing propone una Enmienda Significativa al Plan de su Agencia de Vivienda Pública (PHA) para apoyar las actividades de la Fase II del Contrato de Rendimiento Energético (EPC).

La enmienda revisará el Plan de Acción de 15 Años del Fondo de Capital para autorizar el uso del Programa del Fondo de Capital (CFP) en dos áreas:

- 1. Apoyo a la Implementación de la Medida de Conservación de Energía (ECM)**
LMH propone destinar recursos del Fondo de Capital a los costos elegibles de implementación de la medida de conservación de energía de la Fase II del EPC.
- 2. Mejoras de Capital Relacionadas**
LMH propone destinar recursos del Fondo de Capital a mejoras de capital asociadas que respalden las necesidades de rendimiento, infraestructura y modernización de los edificios. Esta enmienda está sujeta a la disponibilidad de fondos y a la aprobación final del proyecto.

B. AVISO PÚBLICO DE PROPUESTA DE REVISIÓN DE LA ACOP

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) notifica la revisión propuesta de la Sección 4-III.B., Método de Selección de la Política de Admisión y Ocupación Continua (ACOP).

La revisión propuesta establece un **proceso de lista de espera por sorteo** para los solicitantes de vivienda pública. LMH propone utilizar un método de selección combinado por preferencia y cronología, incluyendo un sorteo electrónico aleatorio como desempate y, al abrir la lista de espera, establecer el orden inicial de los solicitantes cuando las solicitudes superen las unidades disponibles. Las preferencias locales se seguirán aplicando para determinar el orden de selección final.

C. AVISO PÚBLICO DE VENTA DE PROPIEDAD

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) notifica su intención de vender la propiedad ubicada en **211 South Byrne Rd., Toledo, OH**. Ningún residente de vivienda pública se ve afectado, y la propiedad de LMH más cercana se encuentra aproximadamente a **una milla** de distancia. Estas disposiciones propuestas estarán disponibles para consulta pública en el sitio web de LMH: <https://www.lucasmha.org/>, en la sede de LMH en el centro de la ciudad o en cualquier oficina de administración de propiedades a partir del 3/30/2026.

Los comentarios por escrito pueden enviarse a la oficina principal de LMH, a cualquier oficina de administración de propiedades o por correo electrónico:

- Para comentarios sobre las **Propuestas A o C de LMH** – (1) Enmienda significativa al Plan PHA/ CFP E-YAP o (2) Venta de la propiedad: Contacte a Keth Smith por email a: kamith@lucasmha.org
- Para comentarios sobre la **Propuesta B de LMH** – Revisión del texto del sorteo de la lista de espera de LMH ACOP: Contacte a Darren Burroughs por email a: dburroughs@lucasmha.org o a Jennifer Todd-Warfield por email a: jtodd-warfield@lucasmha.org

Se celebrará una audiencia pública sobre estas propuestas:

- Fecha: **12/30/2026**
- Hora: **11:30 a.m.**
- Lugar: **424 Jackson St., Toledo, OH 43604**

Se anima a todos los residentes y miembros de la comunidad a participar.

Why Teaching Black History Is Sacred Work

From scripture to family stories, passing down history helps Black children understand who they are – and whose shoulders they stand on

By Rev. Dorothy S. Boulware, Word in Black
Guest Column

American Civil rights activist Claudette Colvin, 7th April 1998. On March 2, 1955, at the age of fifteen, Colvin was arrested for not giving up her seat to a white person in Montgomery, Alabama. This predated the arrest of Rosa Parks and the 1955 Montgomery bus boycott by nine months. (Photo by Dudley M. Brooks/The Washington Post via Getty Images)

In January, after Claudette Colvin died, she was probably talked about in more churches than in her lifetime. Her passing propelled her into a wave of news coverage, making her courageous stand in 1955 more widely known than at any other time in history. Many admitted they'd never heard of her.

Most schools still don't teach Colvin's story — or the stories of countless other Black Americans whose courage, intellect, and creativity shaped this country. Which means the work of telling those stories has always fallen somewhere else: to families, to faith communities, to the grandparents who understood, with a clarity borne of experience, that a child who doesn't know where she comes from is a child who can be told she came from nowhere.

It is historically, socially, and spiritually important work. Black history did not begin with slavery. It begins — and continues — with a people of deep heritage, whose contributions to science, medicine, art, music, and the architecture of this nation stretch back to the beginnings of recorded time.

The scriptures understood this imperative long before modern educators did. "Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart," reads Deuteronomy 6:6-7. "Recite them

to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise."

Which is why parents, grandparents, and churches have expanded their efforts to tell Black stories year-round. Nowadays, church plays, dance, concerts, vignettes and sermons bring this history to life in ways that reach across generations.

Family: Our First Black History Teachers

Many parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles became the first and greatest history teachers — ensuring children know they descend from kings and queens, scientists and physicians, artists and sculptures, composers and performers of all genres and that they know who they are and who they have the capacity to become in this world.

"Our grandparents were our history books and taught us who we are, what we could become and that no one is better than we are," says Lucille Singletary, now a grandmother.

... continued on page 15

LUCAS METROPOLITAN HOUSING

إشعار عام لمدة 45 يوماً بشأن عقد جلسة استماع عامة

أ. **تعديل جوهرى على خطة وكالة الإسكان العام (PHA) وخطة العمل (5) الخمسية لصندوق رأس المال**

تقترح هيئة الإسكان متروبوليتان لوكاس (LMH) إجراء تعديل جوهرى على خطة وكالة الإسكان العام (Public Housing Agency) لدعم أنشطة المرحلة الثانية من خطة الطاقة (EPC) بتخصيص تعديل مراجعة خطة العمل (5) الخمسية لصندوق رأس المال بهدف توفير استخدام برنامج صندوق رأس المال (CFP) في مجالين محددين:

1. دعم تنفيذ معايير ترشيح الطاقة (ECM)

تقترح هيئة الإسكان متروبوليتان لوكاس (LMH) تخصيص موارد صندوق رأس المال لتغطية تكاليف تنفيذ إجراءات الحفاظ على الطاقة الواردة ضمن المرحلة الثانية من خطة الطاقة (EPC)

ب. **التخصيصات الرأسمالية ذات الصلة بالمشروع**

تقترح هيئة الإسكان متروبوليتان لوكاس (LMH) تخصيص موارد صندوق رأس المال لتخصيصات الرأسمالية الواردة التي تدعم أداء المباني والكلفة السكنية والتعليقات التحسينية. يندرج هذا التعديل لتوفير التمويل والموظفات النهائية على المشروع.

ج. **إشعار عام بشأن المراجعة المقترحة لمسياسة القبول والإسقاط (ACOP)**

تقدم هيئة الإسكان متروبوليتان لوكاس (LMH) بموجب هذا إشعاراً بشأن المراجعة المقترحة لتقسيم III.B.4، شريطة الاختيار في سياسة القبول والإسقاط (ACOP)

تتضمن المراجعة المقترحة على إنشاء قائمة انتظار بنظام الترقية لتعظيم طلبات الإسكان العام. تقترح هيئة الإسكان متروبوليتان لوكاس (LMH) اعتماد آلية اختيار تجمع بين تحقيق نظام الأفضلية والترتيب الزمني للطلبات، مع اللجوء إلى فرقة الترتيبية عشوائية كوسيلة لصفوح حالات التعديل، وكذلك لتحديد الترتيب الأولي للمتقدمين عند فتح قائمة الانتظار (إذا تجاوز عدد الطلبات عدد الوحدات السكنية المتاحة) ستتم معايير الأفضلية المعينة في التطبيق عند تحديد الترتيب النهائي للاختيار.

د. **إشعار عام بشأن بيع عقار**

تعلن هيئة الإسكان متروبوليتان لوكاس (LMH) عن نيتها بيع العقار المثلث في 211 South Byrne Rd., Toledo, OH. لا يتأثر أي من سكان وحدات الإسكان العام، والرقب عقار تابع لهيئة الإسكان متروبوليتان لوكاس (LMH) يقع على بعد حوالي ميل واحد. ستكون هذه الأخطام المقترحة متاحة للاطلاع العام على موقع هيئة الإسكان متروبوليتان لوكاس (LMH) <http://www.lucasmh.org> وفي المقر الرئيسي للهيئة بوسط المدينة، أو في أي مكتب لإدارة العقارات ابتداءً من 2/26/2023.

يمكن تقديم التعليقات المكتوبة إلى المكتب الرئيسي لهيئة الإسكان متروبوليتان لوكاس (LMH)، أو أي مكتب لإدارة العقارات، أو عن البريد الإلكتروني.

• فيما يخص التعليقات الخمسة بمقرحات هيئة الإسكان متروبوليتان لوكاس (LMH) أ أو ج - (1) التعديل الجوهرى لخطة وكالة الإسكان العام/خطة العمل الخمسية لصندوق رأس المال (PHA Plan CFP 5-YAP) أو (2) بيع العقار يرجى التواصل مع كيث سميث (Keith Smith) ksmith@lucasmh.org

• فيما يخص التعليقات الخمسة بمقرحات هيئة الإسكان متروبوليتان لوكاس (LMH) ب - مراجعة سياسة قائمة الانتظار بنظام الترقية في سياسة القبول والإسقاط (ACOP) يرجى التواصل مع دارين بوروغز (Darren Burroughs) dburroughs@lucasmh.org أو جينيفر تود وارفييلد (Jennifer Todd-Warfield) warfield@lucasmh.org

سيتم عقد جلسة عامة لمناقشة هذه المقارحات في:

- التاريخ: 2/26/2025
- الساعة: 11:30 صباحاً
- المكان: 424 Jackson St. Toledo, OH 43604

يتخضع جميع السكان وأفراد المجتمع على المشاركة



Dorothy Boulware

Mixed Marriage Project...continued from page 13

fast and frequent, in fact, that it can feel jarring in its unexpectedness. Yes, you can subject-switch easy enough, but the overview seems repetitive and it sometimes bogs before you need to switch your mind back. Maintaining your attention can be challenging.

Still, as the child of a mixed-race marriage, Roberts has a lot to say and her thoughts are particularly meaningful in today's world. Because of its bumps, this might be a hard book for you to read. In spite of them, *The Mixed Marriage Project* may make you smile.

Teaching Black History... continued from page 14

"They taught us that we should always do our best and God will bless us, to respect your elders and yourself, and most importantly, we are unstoppable."

Actor and singer Damon Evans says he grew up in a family of strong Black women, some of whom were teachers, and they believed their mission was to save all the little Black kids. "My grandmother was a strong and true matriarch who'd overcome a lot to teach school with a two-year certificate," he says. "Then one day, the state of Maryland demanded a four-year bachelor's degree. Three children later, she returned to Morgan State with her youngest daughter and received her degree in education."

But it was his grandfather, a prolific reader, who taught their family the achievements of Black people.

"He taught me about Paul Robeson, Roland Hayes and Marian Anderson," Evans says. "And one day in 1954 or '55, he called to me while I was playing on our marble steps, 'Boy, come in this house and hear the colored girl singing opera.'"

He said the opera happened to be "Tosha" and the colored girl was none other than the great Leontyne Price.

"You Come Out of Somebody's House"

Knowing our history also ensures we understand the sacrifices and work of generations of Black folks to help us get where we are today.

"We stand on the shoulders of someone else. Stop trying to act like you're so cute and holy today," Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III told the congregation at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago in early March.

Moss noted that someone always made a way. "There was somebody before me, who made a way for me. It's my responsibility to tap into their genius and their intelligence," he said.

Then he got specific: People have "got to know they come out of the house of Jesse Louis Jackson, Harold Washington, Barbara Jordan, Shirley Chisholm, Fanny Lou Hamer, W.E.B. DuBois, Ida B. Wells, Malcolm X, Martin Luther King Jr., Fred Hampton, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass. Do not act like some bougie Negro who did it all by yourself. You come out of somebody's house. Tap into your ancestral intelligence."

His message was less a rebuke than a reminder: no one arrives fully formed.

What the Research Confirms

Studies show that children with a strong sense of cultural pride demonstrate higher academic engagement and lower vulnerability to internalized bias. Cultural affirmation correlates with confidence, leadership capacity, and social-emotional health. When identity is affirmed early, children are less likely to be

destabilized by negative societal messaging later.

"If young people are exposed to images of African-American academic achievement in their early years, they won't have to define school achievement as something for Whites only. They will know that there is a long history of Black intellectual achievement," Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum said in her book, "Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?"

"Sometimes the assumptions we make about others come not from what we have been told or what we have seen on television or in books, but rather from what we have not been told. The distortion of historical information about people of color leads young people to make assumptions that may go unchallenged for a long time."



Claudette Colvin

Tatum emphasizes that racial identity development is a critical part of healthy self-concept. When children lack positive cultural mirrors, they may unconsciously absorb society's stereotypes and stories to correct that imbalance.

One thing's for sure, Claudette Colvin knew who she was when she refused to move. She had been taught her history. She knew she came out of somebody's house.

LUCAS METROPOLITAN HOUSING 45天公告与听证会

A. 公共住房机构规划及资本基金五年行动计划重大修订案

卢卡斯都会区住房管理局 (LMH) 拟对其公共住房机构 (PHA) 规划提出重大修订, 以支持能源绩效合同 (EPC) 二期相关工作:

该修订案将包括五年行动计划作出调整, 批准在两大领域使用资本基金项目 (CFP) 资金:

- 节能改造 (ECM) 实施配套支持**
LMH 拟划拨资本基金, 用于支付符合条件的 EPC 二期节能改造实施相关费用。
- 相关资本性改造工程**
LMH 拟划拨资本基金, 用于开展房方维修性能提升、基础设施完善及现代化升级的相关资本性改造工程。

本修订案的实施取决于资金落实情况以及项目最终审批结果。

B. 入住申请与持续居住政策拟修订事项公告

卢卡斯都会区住房管理局 (LMH) 特此发布公告, 拟对《入住申请与持续居住政策》(ACOP) 第四章第三节的条款的修订方式作出修订。

本次拟修订内容为公共住房申请者设立**摇号等候名单机制**, LMH 拟采用优先政策与时间顺序相结合的修订方式, 若出现非特殊情况将通过随机电子摇号确定顺序, 等候名单非排他性, 若申请数量超出房源数量, 亦将通过该方式确定申请者初始顺位, 确定最终选租顺位时, 仍按执行本优先政策。

C. 房产出售事项公告

卢卡斯都会区住房管理局 (LMH) 特此公告, 拟出租位于 **211 South Byrne Rd., Toledo, OH** 的房产。

本次的房产出售不会对任何公共住房住户造成影响, LMH 旗下最近的房产项目约一英里。

自 **2026年3月30日** 起, 上述租赁事项可在 LMH 官网 (<https://www.lucasmta.org/>), 市中心总部及各物业管理处供公众查阅。

公众可将书面意见提交至 LMH 总办事处、各物业管理处, 或通过电子邮件提交:

- 针对 **LMH A 项或 C 项** 拟议事项——(1) 公共住房机构规划/资本基金项目五年行动计划重大修订案, (2) 房产出售事宜的意见, 请联系 Keith Smith: ksmith@lucasmta.org
- 针对 **LMH B 项** 拟议事项——ACOP 等候名单摇号相关条款修订的意见, 请联系 Darren Burroughs: dburroughs@lucasmta.org, 或联系 Jennifer Todd-Warfield: jtodd-warfield@lucasmta.org

本局的拟议修订案将召开公共听证会, 具体安排如下:

- 日期: **2026年5月20日**
- 时间: **上午11:30**
- 地点: **424 Jackson St. Toledo, OH 43604**

本局鼓励所有住户及社区民众参与本听证会。

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Maritime Academy Students' Weekend Art Exhibition

By Paul Hubbard, MSW, Maritime Academy Board Chairman

Special to The Truth

The Maritime Academy of Toledo showcased its art students' creativity during its first art exhibition held at Truth Colours Art Gallery on the weekend of March 20-22.

Maritime Superintendent Misha Stredrick, EdD, wanted to recognize the creativity coming out of art teacher Jaqueline Hatcher's Maritime classroom.

"She is just phenomenal," said Stredrick of the art teacher. "Each day, I go into her classroom and the atmosphere is just amazing. It's almost like a therapeutic mood – calm, dim lights, music playing ... and the students are creating all types of things. I said what we need is a showroom."

Stredrick approached The Truth Colours Gallery. "I wanted to reach out and see if we could make a connection, especially seeing that it is a Black-owned gallery."

That's when Stredrick met Nikola Welcome-Bovell, an accomplished artist herself and the manager/curator of The Truth Colours Gallery.

"It was like talking to an old friend," Stredrick said of that connection. "The ideas that we threw out ... and the idea [for this art show] was birthed out of those conversations."

The exhibition featured student artwork including stained glass, yarn panting, acrylic paint markers, watercolor, oil pastels and ebony pencils, noted Stredrick. The collection also included images of TV characters, flowers, fruits, animals angels and family situations, she added.

"My reason for this exhibition is to give the youth an opportunity to showcase their work – to showcase their work in our gallery so our children can see their potential," said Welcome-Bovell.



Paul Hubbard



Maritime Board Members, Administration, Faculty and Staff



Maritime Academy Superintendent Misha Stredrick, EdD, and The Truth Colours Art Gallery Manager Nikola Welcome-Bovell

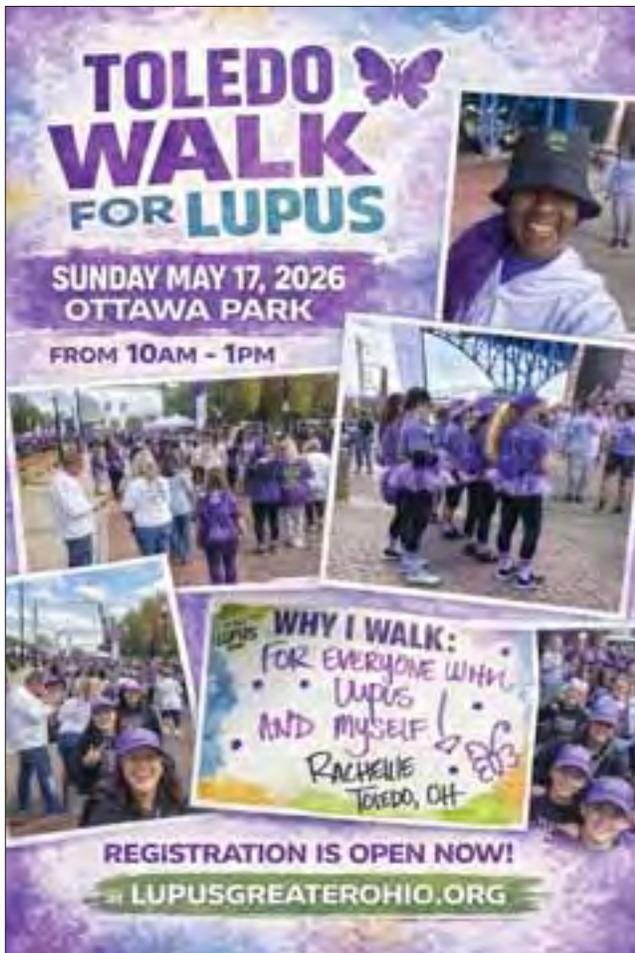
The exhibition was more than just art, however. Guests enjoyed great finger food prepared by Maritime Culinary Art's program headed by its teacher, Christopher Lowe. This is another program Maritime offers that will lead to employment. Students can also major in business at Maritime.

In 2026-2027 Maritime hopes to expand its study majors to health care, welding and dental assistant.

Jim Rush from Thread PR firm who attended the art show was duly impressed and said that corporate Toledo should start using this Art Gallery for a variety of events. This will bring corporate executives closer to the community they sell to and serve.

In addition to the art students and their families, other Maritime notables included Joy Goodner a Maritime board member as well as Tamar Campbell, a Community School Coordinator from Maritime's sponsor in Columbus Ohio; Kathy Sampson, business manager and Principal Jacob Lofton. They all remarked on the amazing art event.

St Clair Art Gallery in Hensville has offered their gallery for the next Maritime Art Show. Maritime's board wants to thank Misha Stredrick for her planning and input. Also a shout out to Maritime's art teacher Jaqueline Hatcher. Many thanks to Fletcher Word, owner of The Sojourner's Truth and The Truth Colours Gallery.



Carmella Jackson



Daquon Carter



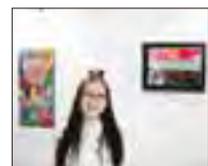
Jayden Ayala



Savannah Osley



Phoebe Lane



Skye Zahs