



## INSIDE

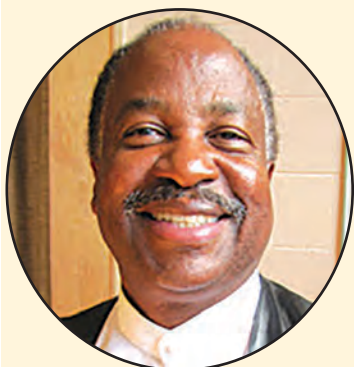
## INSIDE NEWS

Halima Aden Will Be First Model in a Hijab and Burkini



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TRUMP...THE  
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## SPORTS

Toledo's New  
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EVERYBODY IS  
SOMEBODY IN  
THE TOLEDO  
JOURNAL



## Center of Hope ELEVATE Program Celebrates State and Local Honors



SUBMITTED

Dr. Tracee Perryman, CEO honors Jeanette Martin with an Excellence Award for her volunteerism



SUBMITTED

An ELEVATE student from Old West End Academy prepares to give his father a "Hi Five."

*Submitted*

On April 23rd, 2019, the Center of Hope ELEVATE Program held its 5th Annual Recognition Day for staff and students at Scott High School. The ELEVATE Program is an After School Program funded by the Ohio Department of Education. The program serves 50 children at Old West End Academy and approximately 30 students at Martin Luther King School for Boys. This year has been an extraordinary year for the ELEVATE program, as they have won 3 major awards in just 5 months – one local award and two state awards.

On October 9th, 2018, the ELEVATE Program won the Nonprofit Innovation & Excellence Award for program innovation. This award is granted by the Toledo Community Foundation and The Blade, in partnership with The Center for Nonprofit Resources, Buckeye Broadband and WT-VG-13abc.

On October 19th, the ELEVATE Program won the Ohio Department of Education Statewide Summit for Enrichment and Education, 21st CCLC Summit Award for Academic Improvement in Reading/Literacy.

On February 22nd, the ELEVATE Program won the Ohio After-school Network Lights, Camera, Action! Video Competition for Best Message/Content.

According to Dr. Tracee Perryman, CEO, "These accomplishments are so gratifying because they are an outward acknowledgement of over 20 years of building, refining, growing, and most importantly – thinking outside of the box to make sure that the welfare and achievement of our children and families remain the first prior-



SUBMITTED

ELEVATE Students from Martin Luther King School For Boys engaged in performing the Children of Royalty Remix.



SUBMITTED

ELEVATE students prepare to receive awards.

*Continued on page 11.*



# Halima Aden Will Be First Sports Illustrated Model in a Hijab and Burkini



SOMALI-AMERICAN MODEL HALIMA ADEN

Somali-American model Halima Aden will be the first woman to wear a hijab and burkini in the *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit issue, an annual edition perhaps best known for its pictures of bikini-clad models frolicking

By Chelsea Lenora White

on the beach, the magazine said.

It was not clear if Aden would be the first Muslim model to appear in the swimsuit issue, which has been published for decades. But the magazine said she would be the first Muslim model to appear wearing a burkini, a full-body swimsuit worn by some observant Muslim women.

Aden referred to herself as a “burkini babe” in a video shared on Twitter by the magazine and called her appearance in *Sports Illustrated* “a dream come true.”

“Growing up in the States, I never really felt represented because I never could flip through a magazine and see a girl who was wearing a hijab,” Aden said in the video.

“Ladies, anything is possible,” Aden wrote on Instagram. “Being in *Sports Illustrated* is so much bigger than me. It’s sending a message to my community and the world that women of all different backgrounds, looks, upbringings ... can stand together and be celebrated.”

Aden was born in the Kakuma refugee camp in northeastern Kenya and moved to the United States when she was 7. She returned to Kenya for the photo shoot, the magazine said, and was photographed by Yu Tsai on Watamu Beach on the Indian Ocean.

The swimsuit issue will be on newsstands on May 8, *Sports Illustrated* said in a statement.

*This article originally appeared in the Houston Forward Times.*



# Alika Hope Becomes the First Black Woman to Be Crowned Ms. New England America

Submitted

Nationwide — Alika Hope, a resident of Connecticut, has been named

Ms. New England America 2019 by the Ms. America® Pageant, Inc. The pageant will be held August 22-24,

2019 in California. Alika is co-founder and president of The Ray of Hope Project, which works with

organizations across the U.S. to address issues of social justice through music and dialogue. She holds a B.A. from The University of Notre Dame and an M.A. from Columbia University, she earned a certificate in Diversity & Inclusion from Cornell University, and she is a soror of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc.

Alika has traveled extensively as an actress and singer, appearing on stages in New England (Berkshires, Western Mass, Boston, CT, VT), and nationally with Opera Company of Philadelphia, Cincinnati Opera, Chicago’s Navy Pier, Natchez Festival of Music, Oregon Jewish Museum, and other locations. She won a Gold Global Music Award for her album, *Hope for a Motherless Child*. Ms. Hope is co-host of “CT Perspective TV”, airing on Fox-61.

Known her entire life as “the girl with the loud, boisterous laugh”, Alika found a way to merge her laughter with her love of educating the public. After becoming a certified clinical trauma professional (CCLP) in 2018, Alika became interested in increasing awareness of the health benefits of laughter. As Ms. New En-

## MONTH OF MAY LEASING SPECIAL!!!!!!!!!!!!

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\$200 Gift Card

Continued on page 12.



Ongoing Events

Attention:

Did you play boys basketball for St. Mary’s Catholic School (Franklin & Page) during the Years of 1975 to 1985 ?? - Coaches were Jeff Culver, Bob Zitzelberger, Bill Perry, Jack McComis & Tony Wallace. Attempting to organize a reunion of the players. Interested?? Respond to: susan.perry4@rockets.utoledo.edu

Every Tuesday

The Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir  
Will begin its 2019 season @ 7:00 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church, 702 Collingwood. Brothers and Sisters you are invited to come out and be a part of this music ministry. For more information, please call 419-241-3330, or 419-241-7332. Rehearsals will be held on Tuesdays.

The Toledo Base Submarine  
Veterans Monthly Meetings

The second Tuesday of the month at The Genesis Village Events Center 2429 South Reynolds Road Toledo Ohio at 18:00 hours (6 PM). Our next meeting will be on Tuesday May 14, 2019. For further information you may contact our Base Commander Michael Meehan at 505-554-8636 or at wingsfaninnm@gmail.com.

Every Third Wednesday  
**Lucas County Human Trafficking**  
Coalition and Social Justice Institute  
Anyone interested in joining, meet at Kent Branch Library, 3101 Collingwood Blvd., from 9:15 a.m. until 11 a.m.

Every 1st and 3rd Saturdays  
of the Month  
The Redeemed Christian Church of God  
Food Pantry, 10 AM to 12 PM  
2239 Cheyenne Blvd, Toledo OH 43614

3rd Saturday of Each Month  
Widows Empowered Strengthened & I Inc.  
(Affectionately known as W.E.S & I Inc.)  
Are you a Widow? Come share with us. We cordially invite you to join us at our next meeting: 1-3pm. Reynolds Corners Branch Library, 4833 Dorr Street, Toledo, OH 43615. To learn more about WES & I, Inc.: Call 419-359-4001, Email: w.e.s.andlinc@gmail.com, Website: www.widowsempowered.com.

Every Saturday  
Glass City Church of Christ  
Soup kitchen now open at 901 Hoag. Hours: 1:00-2:00pm every Saturday. We are reaching out to individuals and families in need of a free meal. Please see our Facebook page for menu items and any updates.

May 11th  
Clarence Smith Community Chorus  
to Perform in The Peristyle  
The Clarence Smith Community Chorus (CSCC) will perform the Choral Odyssey, a program showing the power of the Negro spiritual, at the Toledo Museum of Art (TMA) Saturday, at 7 p.m. on the Peristyle stage. It will be an enlightening, poignant, entertaining program from one of Toledo’s outstanding choral organizations. The 30-member CSCC will highlight the beauty of the Negro spiritual, in addition to classical and gospel selections. General admission is \$15 and seniors are \$13. To purchase tickets, visit toledomuseum.org. Great Performances is supported in part by the Dorothy MacKenzie Price Fund and Hartmann & Associates.

May 19th  
Greater St Mary’s Missionary  
Baptist Church  
“Annual Usher Board Anniversary”  
The Usher Board of Greater St. Mary’s where Robert W. Lyons, Sr. is pastor will celebrate their Annual Usher Board Anniversary on Sunday @ 4pm, 416 Belmont Avenue, Toledo, OH. Their special guest will be Rev. Robert Bass, Pastor of United Missionary Baptist Church along with his Usher Board, Choir and Congregation. We are inviting all of Usher Boards in Toledo and the surround area to please come be a part of this celebration.

May 19th  
New United Church  
Weenie Wagon & Ice Cream Fellowship  
Sunday, Bible Study 8:45 am, Sunday Worship 10 am. FREE food served 12pm, 701 Phillips Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43612. Sponsored by our Ministry Partner: Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission.

May 21st  
Kwanzaa Meeting  
Meeting on Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. at the Sanger Branch Library.

May 25th  
2nd International Covenant Connection  
**Regional Leadership Workshop**  
End Time Christian Fellowship  
On Saturday, from 10:00 am-1:00pm, located at 2902 Auburn Avenue, Toledo, OH 43606. The theme is “Kingdom Living and Leadership”. In addition, there will be an informal panel discussion on relevant issues facing the church today. Bishop James M. Williams Sr. is the Host and Facilitator; pastor Edward Turner is the Co-Host and Co-Facilitator. It’s important if you plan on attending to call (419) 787-7466.

May 25th  
NHA’s Sister Care Series  
As part of NHA’s Sister Care Series, Ms. Sybrina Fulton will be the keynote speaker at the Seagate Cener on Saturday. The speaking engagement titled “Saving Our Sons, Saving Our Lives” is set to begin at 1:00 pm with a Q&A session immediately following. To register for this free event, go to www.nhainc.org/sybrina-fulton. If you are a parent or guardian that has lost a child to violence please make sure to indicate that on the registration form by checking the appropriate box or call 419-720-7883 x 216.

May 30th  
Monroe Street Neighborhood Center  
**Free Wig Workshop**  
Learn useful techniques and tips to rock your favorite faux tresses and how to take care of them. Thursday 12:30 pm - 2 pm. B.Y.O.W. Bring your own Wig, small mirror, and your styling tools (brush, comb etc...) Monroe Street Neighborhood Center, 3613 Monroe Street. Donations accepted to benefit programming at the Monroe Street Neighborhood Center.

June 1<sup>st</sup>, July 6<sup>th</sup>, Sept 7<sup>th</sup>, and Nov 30<sup>th</sup>  
Four Free Disposal Days  
There will be four free disposal days at the Hoffman Road Landfill - 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Residents are permitted to bring a truck or trailer load of bulky solid waste items for free disposal to the landfill, 3962 Hoffman Rd., subject to the terms and conditions. A current utility bill and valid photo ID will be required to verify proof of residency. Acceptable bulky waste items include: excess trash, furniture, carpeting, mattresses, wood waste, scrap metal, etc. There will be 12 Drop Off Refuse and Recycling events this year. All events are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and open to Toledo residents.  
ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

May 18th and May 19th  
Southern Missionary Baptist Church  
**Women’s Day Weekend 2019**  
We the Women of Southern Missionary Baptist Church and First Lady Tyechia Carson would like to invite you and the women of your church to join us for our Women’s Day Weekend 2019. The theme for this year event is “Daughter of the King” 1 Timothy 5: 2, 10. We will begin our weekend Saturday, May 18, 2019 with Women’s Fellowship, movie and dinner. On Sunday May 19, 2019 @ 11:00 am we will continue with morning worship, the women will be in charge of service. Our speaker will be Pastor Rochelle White, New Beginning Bible Church of Detroit Michigan. Following morning worship there will be a Luncheon in The Robert P. Wormely Multi-Purpose Building. Our feature guest will be comedian Kelly Williams. Donation \$10.00 per ticket for the luncheon. For more information contact 419-244-2822. Rev. Roger Carson Jr. Pastor.

Electronic Waste: NO TVS and CRT MONITORS or APPLIANCES  
10 Tires (on or off the rim): NO COMMERCIAL TIRES  
Document Recycling  
Donation Trailer: Houseware goods, Clothing (wearable or unwearable), toys  
bulky Items and Refuse: NO TVS, AIR CONDITIONING UNITS, REFRIGERATORS/FREEZERS, OR LARGE APPLIANCES  
Latex Paint (\$1/Gallon)  
Household Hazardous Waste (Available only at select events)

June 3rd Thru June 7th  
United Missionary Baptist Church  
FREE: Vacation Bible School  
Monday Thru Friday, 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. FREE lite dinner served nightly 5:30 p.m. - 6 p.m. United Missionary Baptist Church, 2705 Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio 43606.

Remember  
Mom  
This  
Mother’s Day  
Sunday,  
May 12<sup>th</sup>

Mother’s Day Banquet

Yesterday is history  
Tomorrow is a mystery  
Today is a gift

SATURDAY, MAY 11TH  
6:00 P.M.

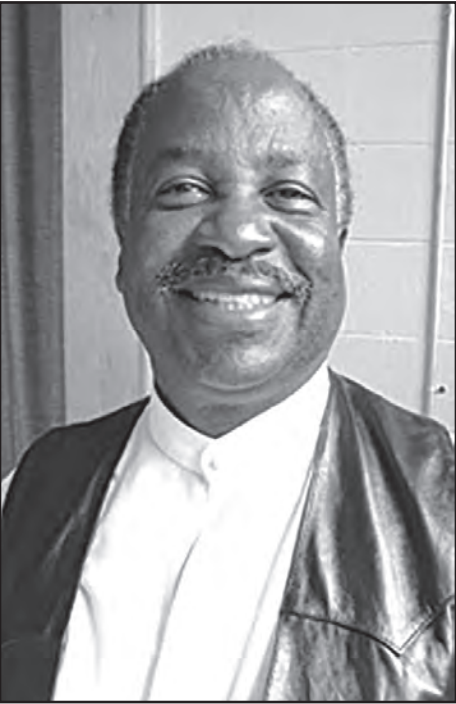
Greater St. Mary’s Missionary Baptist Church  
416 Belmont Avenue  
Toledo, Ohio  
Rev. Robert W. Lyons, Sr. , Pastor & Chef for the Evening

Donation \$15.00

RSVP Lady Lyons for Tickets  
419-973-4157 or greaterstmary@bex



# Trump...The Pied Piper Of Lost Souls



Lafe Tolliver,  
attorney

It is a siren call. A call to lull you to sleep. A sleep that results in parts of your spirit being chiseled away by a song that inwardly you know better than to listen to and much less obey.

It is a song of luring you to love that which is unlovable or at the least, unforgiveable. The song has no bass drum or clanging cymbals, but its allure is not in its sonorous metric beat but how the song makes you feel that you are part of something greater than yourself.

The song whispers to you that you are powerful, intelligent and are worthy of devotion and attention and that others who are not selected for such prominence simply do not understand your attraction to the song.

The Pied Piper of the song, winks and smiles at you as you grasp with the subtleties of what the song is demanding of you but yet, you want to be seduced by the song because it is so enticing to see yourself enveloped in its cocoon of power, perks and privileges that few other mortals will ever exercise or know.

You look around and see the few others like you, who also are starry eyed about they being selected for this adventure of power and influence by the Pied Piper.

The Pied Piper sees your soul and takes measure of your character and plays melody after melody that en-



trances you and you justify to yourself that all is well and what you are about to undertake is worth it all.

You swallow hard and justify to yourself that you are making a right decision and that one day you will receive praise, glory and honor for following this Pied Piper...a Piper you later find out is a collector of lost souls.

But for now, in the moment, you abandon all rational thought and throw your conscience to the wind and take up your bed and bowl and follow this Pied Piper.

Afterall, what could be so damaging as to following your instincts to follow your destiny of power and glory and honor?

Others are doing it and they seem to be rational persons whose resumes are studded with business successes and academic honors and awards!

Surely such a luminous crowd could not be cajoled into doing anything which is repugnant or ill-advised or a cause for shame?

But. The Pied Piper plumbs the depths of your conscience and morality and gauges that you are "ripe" for the pickings and you would be a devout follower. Willing to compromise when and where necessary and always, without a doubt, to consistently tell yourself and others that the song of the Piper is of value and worth; and since you have hitched your stars to his song, you also

are of worth and value.

The Pied Piper deftly and astutely plays his mind numbing melodies and you swoon to their enticing embrace and as you travel the road of this Piper, you, without discernment, start to shed values and beliefs that have guided you all your adult life.

And yet, this Piper with his powers of charisma and persuasion, transforms you into his liking and image and you, now somewhat lost and without the sure footings of a moral compass, nervously smile and say to yourself for the hundredth time, "It is alright. Every will work out OK."

But it does not work out. And everything is not fine.

You find yourself beginning to parrot the awkward lines of the Piper. You begin to think in gray tones and not clear black and white as to what is right and what is wrong.

Situations arise that in your former, "Pre-Pied Piper Days", you would assiduously take a stand against what is clearly amoral, unjust or unkind.

But now. You let the unkind remark or the bully-like commentary pass thinking you will address it later in private with the Pied Piper but time passes and you fail to do so...just like so many other similar situations that you allow to sit and fester and rip at your conscience.

The Pied Piper sees this and smirks

and laughs at your moral peccadilloes and tells you to that his facts are true and everything else is labeled, "FAKE NEWS" or, "those others" are conducting a witch hunt against him and he is being victimized.

You flinch and winch at being inculcated with such gibberish but you see others are also in lock step with the Piper and you do not want to lose their support and comradery; and so you quiet the shouting inner voice that says, "Say something now!"

You look up and the Pied Piper has spied you out and the devilish glint in his eyes tells you that he has just devoured a piece of your honor and integrity; and he knows (and you do too!) that you will not stand up and protest.

You, in quiet anguish and desperation, look around the table and see your fellow followers with their eyes now empty of compassion or humanity simply sitting and staring in soul less wonder at their Piper, Donald Trump.

At that moment, your memory turns to the Book of Genesis when Satan in the Garden of Eden, corrupted the Word of God by telling Eve, that God lied about the tree of good and evil and she will in fact not die as God told her, if she eats the apple.

The Piper, still taking stock of your moral discomfort, laugh and says, "I, I alone can fix it!"

Lafe Tolliver, attorney

## The Toledo Journal

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toledo411@aol.com

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## GOP, Not Russia, is Greater Threat to Free Elections



By Jesse Jackson  
Wire Columnist

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - We all have heard about WikiLeaks and Russian interference in the

2016 election. The report of Special Counsel Robert Mueller has once more put that on the front pages.

Too often lost in the furor, however, is the far more damaging TrikiLeaks — the tricks and laws used to suppress the vote by partisans, largely Republicans here at home. After the Supreme Court's right-wing gang of five gutted key sections of the Voting Rights Act in Shelby v. Holder, Republican-controlled states immediately ramped up efforts to create obstacles for voting, particularly for people of color.

They mandated specific forms of state ID, made it harder for students to vote, eliminated same-day registration, reduced early voting days, closed polling booths in African American

neighborhoods leading to long delays, purged voters from the rolls, perfected partisan gerrymandering and more.

In some cases, as in North Carolina, their discriminatory intent was so public that the laws were overturned in federal court, but in most places, the new barriers were in place in 2016. Did it make a difference? Voting rights expert Ari Berman says, "absolutely."

Overall 14 states had new restrictions in place, passed since the Shelby decision. Look at Wisconsin. Trump won by 22,000 votes. In Wisconsin, 300,000 African American voters didn't have the newly required strict photo ID. Black voter turn-

continued on page 5



# Homestead Act of 1862 – Closest Thing to Reparations, *Part II*



By Harry C. Alford & Kay DeBow  
Wire Writers

We now continue from where we left off last week. We had just discovered Harry's grandfather and great grandfather were recipients of a land grant (360 acres for two grants) located in Bellevue, Louisiana. It was shocking and we could find no one in the family who knew about this. All they knew was that Grandpa left us 40 acres – not the 160 acres that he received from the Homestead Act grant. Great grandpa, Cicero, had land, 160 acres from a Homestead Act grant, at the time of his death but that got steered away from our family. In fact, if we had not found this out through our research, no one would have known the difference.

These Homestead Act land grants were issued in 160 acre "chunks". Smart people would make applications in succession tying 160 acres to a previous awarded grant and do that repeatedly. That's how many of the newly arrived immigrants from Europe would arrive in America and journey out West or down South and soon became great farmers owning square miles of land to farm on and become wealthy. Black recipients (freed slaves and their descendants) were not going to be allowed that opportunity. There were a few exceptions, but they were far and in between.

Our curiosity took us to the Bossier Parrish (Louisiana) courthouse which kept all land records. These southern courthouses could tell the true story



about land transactions. You could dig up some dirt or trickery about land ownership. That's why so many of the small courthouses would become totally damaged through mysterious fires. One of the most notorious cases was the fire of 1890 in the Bureau of Archives where so many census records were destroyed. These fires just did not "happen" on their own.

It was easy to track grandfather Tom Alford's land grant. Almost immediately, (like a few months) after he was awarded his 160 acres, he began to sell portions of it. 20 acres, 25 acres or so at a time. Before long he was left with just 40 acres. It was more than coincidental that the person who helped our grandfather with the Homestead Act application was a realtor named Mr. Roos. We went to the curator and sought her advice on this guy. She claimed, "Old man Roos is everywhere in these transactions. He was a rare Jew in this part of the country and did not make too many friends."

As we continued our search, it became clear that Mr. Roos was making a career of helping freed slaves get Homestead Act land grants and start immediately selling parcels of that awarded land to white people. It was kind of a pass through. The outreach that was

intended through this Homestead Act was for freed slaves and newly arrived immigrants or settlers. That became a "borrowed event" for the Black applicants. Like our forefathers in this case, they were completely illiterate and at the "mercy" of third-party participants like Old Man Roos.

Tracking the land awarded to great grandfather Cicero Alford was more mysterious. This is how it was verbally told to us. Cicero Alford was born in Noonan, Georgia on the Alford plantation. Plantation owner, James Alford, moved his plantation to Alabama just across the Georgia state line. Soon after he moved to Bossier Parrish, Louisiana. As he aged and as it is rumored, he decided to protect a portion of his biological grandchildren which were results of his affair with his slave female, Paulina. He "married" Paulina to Cicero. Soon after Cicero was awarded that 160 acres homestead grant. We guess it became quite clear that any inheritance was going to Paulina's children only. It appears that his land was destined for Paulina's children (mulattos) she gave to him. Harry's father once told him that this was common in the Jim Crow South. Exposing such a scheme would surely cost someone their life.

What is so curious is that Paulina's grave lies in our family plot. It is kind of isolated from the rest of our deceased relatives. None of her children are buried there. Did they pass over for whites? Where are they? We found the formal will of James Alford at the courthouse. There is no mention of his children from Paulina. There is a very successful lumber company in Bossier Parrish. Harry sometimes plays with the idea of matching his DNA with the owners of Alford Lumber Co. who are white. Are they cousins? Who knows?

The fact is that many descendants of slaves participated in this Homestead Act of 1862. It appears that the enormous amount of land transferred to Black ownership did not prosper or flourish amongst the generations thereafter like those of white recipients. Next week, let's wrap this up with examples at how they piece by piece brought that newly won land into white ownership. The benefits were mostly short lived.

Harry Alford is the Co-Founder, President/CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce®. Kay is the Co-Founder, Executive Vice President of the Chamber. Emails: halford@nationalbcc.org kdeb@nationalbcc.org

## GOP, Not Russia, is Greater Threat to Free Elections

*continued from page 4*

out in Milwaukee declined by 51,000 votes from 2012, while as Lawyers Committee President Kristen Clarke noted, voter turnout rates were depressed across the state. Now we're headed into 2020.

Republican bastions like Texas, Tennessee and Arizona witnessed surges of Democratic support in 2018. Not surprisingly, they are launching new efforts to suppress the vote. In Texas, the secretary of state announced a plan to purge 95,000 people from the voter rolls because they weren't citizens.

Independent research then demonstrated that in Harris County, which includes Houston, 60 percent of the 30,000 people on the list had received citizenship long ago. Some of the supposed research was 25 years old. Once more citizens had to go to court to try to stop the suppression.

In Texas, state lawmakers are also

moving to add criminal penalties for people who improperly fill out voter registration forms, an effort to intimidate nonprofit groups that work to register people to vote. In Arizona, Republicans are making it harder to cast an early ballot. In Tennessee, GOP lawmakers are pushing legislation to fine voter registration groups that submit incomplete forms, even by mistake, up to \$10,000.

Tequila Johnson, co-founder of the Equity Alliance that focuses on registering people of color, called them out: "We have never seen a bill like this on the floor, until we dared to register 86,000 black and brown people to vote. This screams racism." Much, much more attention should be paid to this battle.

Happily, the new Democratic majority in the House of Representatives has made voting rights a priority. Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD.), chair of the House Oversight Committee,

has launched an investigation of voter suppression in Georgia in 2018, where the victor, Brian Kemp, oversaw the election as secretary state.

And, as Cummings detailed, 1.4 million people were purged from the voting rolls from 2012 to 2016, 53,000 — 80 percent of them people of color — had their registrations put on hold; 214 polling places were shuttered, contributing to lines of more than four hours in heavily black precincts. Some states, happily, are moving to make voting easier and more accessible.

Florida citizens passed a historic referendum restoring the right to vote for felons who have paid their debt to society. (Now, Republicans in the legislature are trying to undermine that initiative). Automatic Voting Registration laws have passed in several states.

More states are providing longer times for early voting, adding voting

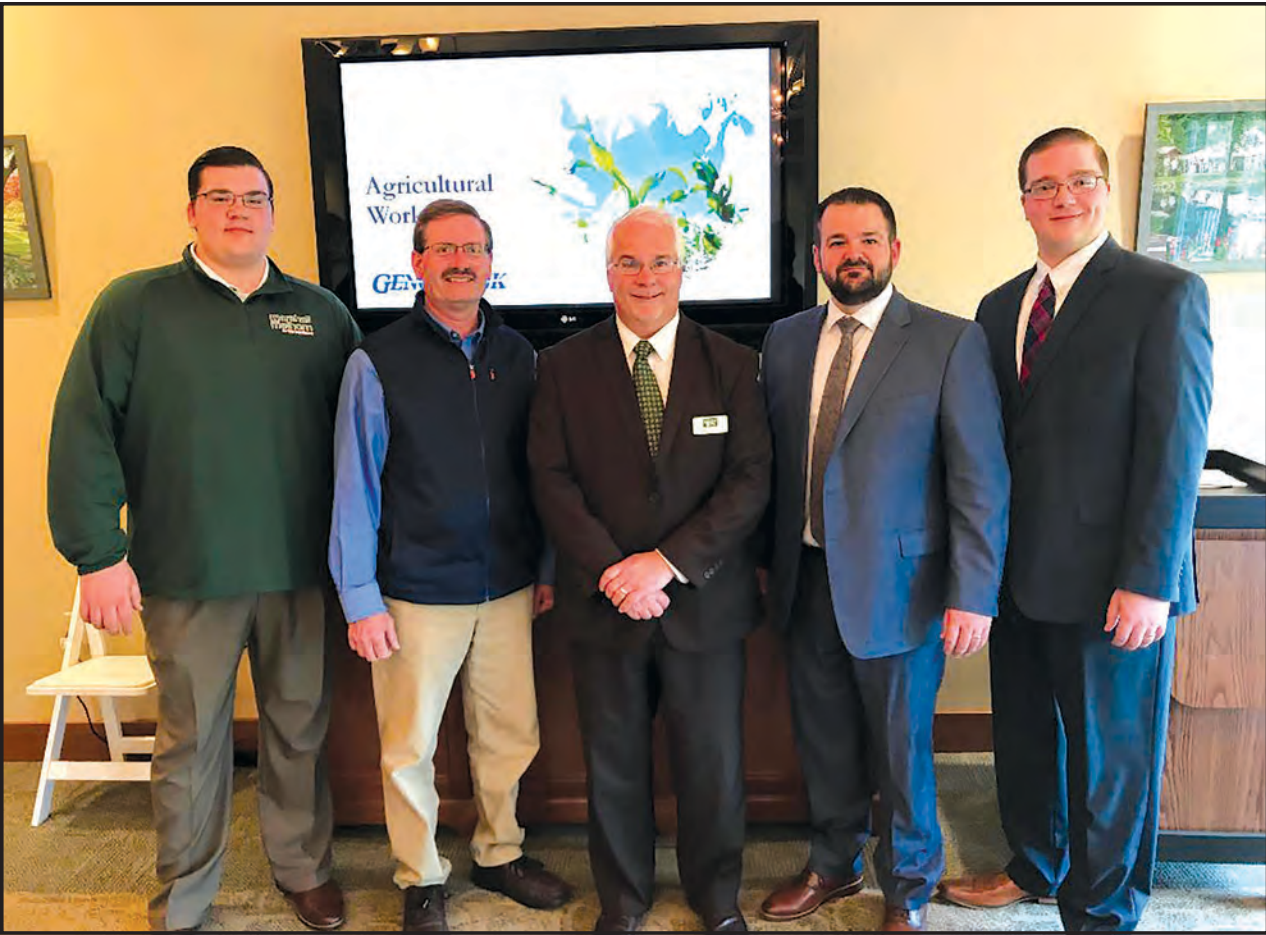
booths to reduce long lines and more. Cases to rollback partisan gerrymandering have been successful in federal courts — and now are headed to the Supreme Court. The Brennan Center reports that bills that expand voting rights have seen some movement in 35 states, while those restricting rights have moved in 10 states.

What's clear is that interference with our elections and with the right to vote will come far more from the efforts of domestic politicians than it will come from whatever mischief the Russians plan.

It is revealing that the Trump White House has little to say about Russians. It is even more telling that the Justice Department is absent without leave in the fight against voter suppression at home. The right to vote — the most basic right of a democracy — is still contested in too many states — and must be fought, state by state, by citizens of conscience.



# Genoa Bank Hosts A Free Agricultural Workshop For Local Farmers And The Agricultural Community



(L-R) Ben Sutter, Attorney for Marhsall Melhorn, | David Myerholtz, 4R Advocate and Farmer to Myerholtz Family Farms | Marty SutterChairman/President/CEO for GenoaBank | Luke Sutter VP Commercial Lending | Justin Moore, VP Senior Lender and Risk Management.

committed to partnering with farmers to preserve, protect, and finance their family farms. We want our local farmers to maintain a sustainable and environmentally sound operation while protecting the water quality of our communities and surrounding areas in Northwest Ohio.” said Martin P. Sutter, GenoaBank’s President and CEO. “We are not here to blame or point fingers - rather we are here to work together and find a solution.”

On Tuesday, April 23rd GenoaBank hosted a free Agricultural Workshop at Schedel Gardens, inviting farmers and the agricultural sector to join. “Genoa Bank has been providing financial guidance to neighbors, families, farmers, community groups and small businesses since we opened in 1902. We believe that a community empowered with financial knowledge will lead to better personal financial success and to a stronger more financially sound community.” said Martin P. Sutter, GenoaBank’s President and CEO.

This workshop served as an educational piece on wealth planning and trust services as well as value-added topics including national and regional trends in the farming area. Guest speakers included: Ben Sutter, Attorney for Marshall Melhorn, Aaron Moore, VP Genoa Financial, David Myerholtz, 4R Advocate and Farmer to Myerholtz Fam-

ily Farms, Luke Sutter VP Commercial Lending, and Justin Moore, VP Senior Lender and Risk Management.

Overall, approximately 70 individuals attended.

“At GenoaBank, we are here to serve, partner, and battle the issue together. We took this challenge and turned it into an opportunity.” stated Sutter. “We care for our communities and will continue to play our part.” GenoaBank launched the NEW Enviro-Line of Credit Program, which offers discounted financing available to provide nutrient stewardship using conservation easements and best management practices on agricultural land.

If you’re interested in integrating cover crops into your operation or currently using conservation easements and would like to learn more about financing to get started - contact GenoaBank and ask about Enviro-Line of Credit.

About Genoa Bank  
GenoaBank, founded in 1902, is now in its second century of providing a broad range of banking services to business and private customers in Lucas, Wood, Ottawa, and Sandusky Counties. The bank has assets of \$384 million and operates branch offices in Genoa, Elmore, Maumee, Millbury, Oregon, Port Clinton, Rossford, Sylvania and Downtown Toledo, Ohio.

Submitted

GenoaBank, a locally owned, independent, community bank, today announced their partnership with GenoaFinancial, Marshall Melhorn, and local farmer and 4R advocate David Myerholtz to host a free agricultural workshop to showcase commitment in PRESERVING/PROTECTING/FINANCING local, family farms.

“At GenoaBank, we’re

## After 1500<sup>th</sup> Property Finishes Early, Land Bank Sets New Goal



Announces New Plan to Renovate or Demolish 2,000 Properties in 1,500 Days

Submitted

Toledo, Ohio – If it’s worth doing, it’s worth doing well. That was the theme from leaders of the Lucas Coun-

Continued on page 16.

Toledo Museum of Art

Great Performances:

CLARENCE SMITH COMMUNITY CHORUS

Choral Odyssey: "Showcasing the Power of the Negro Spiritual"

Saturday, May 11: 7 p.m.

Peristyle

\$15 General Admission  
\$13 Seniors

To purchase tickets:

Visit [toledomuseum.org](http://toledomuseum.org)

Call (419) 255-8000 ext. 7448

Great Performances is supported in part by the Dorothy MacKenzie Price Fund and Hartmann & Associates



# Library Legacy Foundation host for Stacey Abrams in the Glass City

By Michael Daniels  
Journal Staff Reporter  
On Sunday evening April 28, the Toledo Public Library's, Library Legacy Foundation hosted a program at the Bowsher High School Auditorium featuring

Toledo was in a question and answer format with national columnist, Connie Schultz, asking a series of questions to Stacey Abrams. A variety of topics were discussed including Ms. Abrams bid to be Governor

pletely with an in-depth response, but during the interview process, they did not dwell on any one particular subject. The interview moved quickly from one question to the next. On the subject of trust and



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL  
Stacey Abrams speaking about her experience running for Governor

more than a decade building towards this and I found out that I'm more resilient than I realized because it was tough. One point nine million people cast their ballot that election as opposed to one point one million who voted in the previous state-wide election. The transformation of the increase voter participation, in part, meant that I was helping people own

their space for the first time, and they believed their voices would be heard. In the aftermath of the election, a part of what crushed me was that I had disappointed the voter in losing the race and that I had not done enough to warrant their investment in the electoral process. I re-

Continued on page 16.



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

## National columnist Connie Shultz interviewing Stacey Abrams

Stacey Abrams. Ms. Abrams rose to the forefront of the American political scene when she accepted the nomination of her Democratic party and ran for Governor of the state of Georgia in 2018. A daring and historical move all around. Unfortunately, after a recount and accusations of voter suppression, Ms. Abrams lost that race Sunday's program here in

of the state of Georgia, voter suppression, if she would run for Vice President with Joe Biden, if asked, Donald Trump President, trust and honesty, how she became a novelist and of course her new book, "Lead from the Outside". Ms. Abrams did answer all the questions com-

honesty, Ms. Abrams, who felt betrayed by some who worked on her campaign for Governor said, "I believe in

gain trust, but that is an active process." When asked about her experience running for Governor she said. "I spent

*"I spent more than a decade building towards this and found out I'm more resilient than I realized"*

## House keys+ welcome mat

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The same is true for banking. From preapproval to closing, First Federal Bank is right there with you to make settling into your new home a breeze. After all, that's what makes us **better together**.

**Contact:**  
**Susan Jester**  
NMLS# 43683  
Retail Lender,  
Toledo

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2920 W. Central Ave., Toledo | 419-537-9300

Offer of credit subject to credit approval.

## The Monroe Street Neighborhood Center

# Mothers Day Market

**May 11, 2019**  
**10AM-LPM**  
**FREE ADMISSION**

**3613 Monroe Street**  
**Toledo, Ohio 43606**

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**Shine**  
BOUTIQUE

**Mz Dee's**  
Sweet Treats

**Homemade Jams and**  
Jellies

**Custom Aprons**

**Linda "Heri Designz"**  
Jewelry

**LulaRoe**

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# Stroke, which killed film director John Singleton, is a leading cause of death and disability, among black men

by BlackmansStreet.Today

African-American men are at greater risk of having a stroke than any other group of men in the United States. Compared to white men, they are twice as likely to have a stroke, have strokes at younger ages, die from stroke, or have a stroke-related disability that affects their daily activities. These facts sound alarming, but there is some good news: Up to 80% of strokes can be prevented. This means it is important to know your risk of having a stroke and taking action to reduce that risk.

There is a link between high blood pressure and stroke among black men.

What Is a Stroke? A stroke, sometimes called a brain attack, occurs when blood flow to an area of the brain is cut off. When brain cells are starved of oxygen, they die. Stroke is a medical emergency. It's important to get treatment as soon as possible. A delay in treatment increases the risk of permanent brain damage or death.

Why are African-American Men at Higher Risk? • Two out of five African-American men have high blood pressure—a main risk factor for stroke. High blood pressure often starts at a younger age and is more severe in African-American men than in white men. African-American men with high blood pressure are also less likely to have it under control. • People with diabetes are at higher risk of stroke.

One out of seven African-American men has been diagnosed with diabetes, and many more have the disease but do not know it. • Sickle cell anemia is the most common genetic disorder in African Americans and can lead to a stroke. Strokes can occur when sickle-shaped cells block blood vessels to the brain. • Smoking doubles your risk of stroke. About one out of five African-American men smoke cigarettes. •

Being overweight or obese increases your risk of stroke. Seventy percent of African-American men are overweight. • Eating too much salt, or sodium can raise your blood pressure, putting you at higher risk of stroke. Researchers think there may be a gene that makes African Americans more sensitive to the effects of salt, which in turn increases the risk of developing high blood pressure. African Americans should limit their sodium intake to 1,500 milligrams per day.

If Stroke Happens, Act F.A.S.T. Strokes come on suddenly and should be treated as medical emergencies. If you think you or someone else may be having a stroke, act F.A.S.T.:

F—Face: Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?

A—Arms: Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

S—Speech: Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. Is the speech slurred or strange?

T—Time: If you see any of these signs, call 9-1-1 right away.



Calling an ambulance is critical because emergency medical technicians, or EMTs, can take you to a hospital that can treat stroke patients, and in some cases, they can begin life-saving treatment on the way to the emergency room. Some treatments for stroke work only if given within the first 3 hours after symptoms start.

National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention

Take Steps to Prevent Stroke— You Have the Power Almost half of African Americans have a risk factor that can lead to a stroke. Most strokes can be prevented by keeping medical conditions under control and making lifestyle changes. A good place to start is to know your ABCs of heart health:

Aspirin may help reduce your risk for stroke. But do not take aspirin if you think you're having a stroke. It can make some types of stroke worse. Before taking aspirin, talk with your doctor about whether aspirin is right for you.

Blood Pressure: Control your blood pressure.

Cholesterol: Manage your cholesterol.

Smoking: Quit smoking or don't start.

Make lifestyle changes: • Eat healthy and stay active. Choose healthy foods most of the time, including foods with less salt, or sodium, to lower your blood pressure, and get regular exercise. Being overweight or obese

raises your risk for stroke. • Talk to your doctor about your chances of having a stroke, including your age and whether anyone in your family has had a stroke. • Get other health conditions under control, such as diabetes or heart disease.

What Is CDC Doing About Stroke? CDC and its partners are leading national initiatives and programs to reduce the death and disability caused by stroke and to help African-American men live longer healthier lives. • CDC's Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention (DHDSP) provides resources to all 50 states to address heart disease and stroke. DHDSP and its partners work together to support efforts that reduce differences in health due to a person's ethnicity, income, or where they live. • The Paul Coverdell National Acute Stroke Program funds state to measure, track and improve the quality of care for all stroke patients. The program works to reduce death and disabilities from a stroke. • The Million Hearts® initiative, which is co-led by CDC and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, aims to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes by 2017. In 2015, Million Hearts® launched Healthy is Strong, a campaign that focused on African-American men in the Southeast, which has the highest death rates from stroke. The campaign provided educational resources and encouraged men to go to the doctor.

Learn more by visiting [www.cdc.gov/stroke](http://www.cdc.gov/stroke)

# Measles: Protect Yourself, Get Vaccinated

Submitted By Shannon M. Lands, PIO – Toledo Lucas County Health Department

The Toledo-Lucas County Health Department continues to observe measles activity and outbreaks occurring in neighboring states including Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. The Health Department recommends the community to take appropriate precautions to protect themselves from the highly contagious viral disease, measles.

A typical case of measles begins with mild to moderate fever, cough, runny nose, red eyes, and sore throat. Three to five days after the start of these symptoms, a red or reddish-brown rash appears, usually starting on a person's face at the hairline and spreading downward to the entire body. At the time the rash appears, a person's fever may spike to more than 104F. Infected people can spread measles to others from four days before through four days after the rash appears.

**Stay safe when traveling**

1. Ensure you and your family are fully vaccinated for measles at least 4-6 weeks before travel begins.

2. Review your shot record to ensure

you are up-to-date on all routine vaccinations before traveling to any destination. Some vaccines may also be required for travel. Ask your doctor if anyone in your family needs vaccines.

3. Avoid contact with people who are sick.

**Prevent the spread of measles**

"The best way to protect yourself and your family against measles and other vaccine-preventable diseases, is by immunization," said Health Commissioner, Eric Zgodzinski.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends all children get two doses of Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine, starting with the first dose at 12-through 15-months of age, and the second dose at 4 through 6 years of age. One dose of measles vaccine is about 93% effective at preventing measles if exposed to the virus. Two doses are about 97% effective. Measles vaccine does not cause measles illness. Adults should have at least one dose of MMR vaccine.

Certain groups need two doses of MMR, including: college students, health care workers, international travelers, and



persons at high risk for measles complications.

Adults born in the U.S. before 1957 are considered immune to measles from past exposures, but in situations where exposure to measles is likely, these adults may benefit from an additional dose of MMR vaccine. Individuals who are unsure of their vaccination status are encouraged to check with their physician.



Lucas County  
Board of  
Developmental  
Disabilities

2018

Report to the Community

The Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities

is guided by a Mission Statement that puts resources toward improving **LIFE** so that individuals with developmental disabilities reach their full potential. In the Mission Statement the word **LIFE** is capitalized because it stands as an acronym for our Core Values:

- I am Living the life I desire;
- I am Included and accepted in my community;
- I have Freedom to have my voice heard in decisions that affect me; and
- I have talents and abilities to share - Everyone has worth.

In the year 2018 the Board continued implementation of a major systemic change that ends the delivery of direct services, such as sheltered employment and transportation. This change, mandated by Medicaid, required realignment of staffing with the emphasis on service coordination, ensuring a safe environment, and supporting the more than 400 certified Medicaid providers in Lucas County.

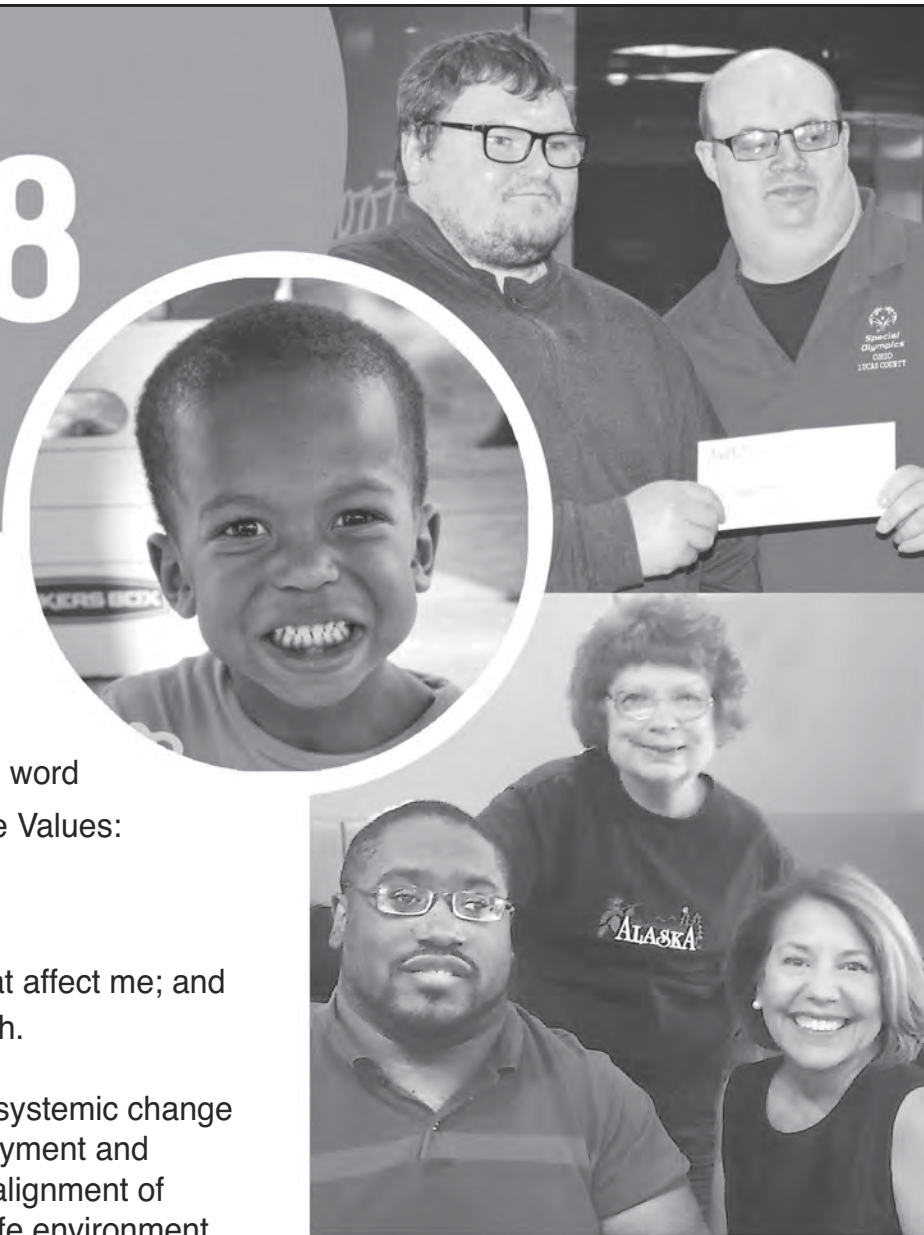
It is of primary importance to the Lucas County Board of DD to help these providers maintain a high level of quality service that allows individuals being served the opportunity to live the life they choose. That said, we recognize the providers have a significant need for additional staff and have initiated efforts, such as the Employee Resource Network, to help with recruitment.

In its role as the Medicaid Administrative Agent, the Board of DD determines eligibility for service, monitors services, and ensures an ongoing commitment to the concept of self-determination.

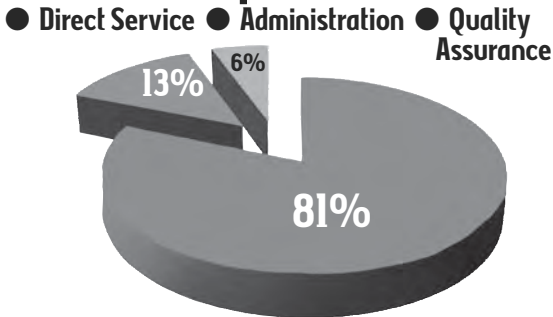
Priorities for 2019 include:

- Strengthening partnerships with local schools and child care centers to support inclusion;
- Board staff will utilize the principles of Trauma Informed Care to ensure individuals served feel physically and emotionally safe;
- The Board will continue assistance to the provider community in recruiting direct support staff;
- In recognition that individuals with developmental disabilities are among our most vulnerable population the Board will continue its leadership role with the Human Trafficking Network;
- Efforts will be made to strengthen relations with community partners to maximize resources for individuals with dual diagnoses; and
- An emphasis will be placed on the use of Technology First in order to assist individuals reach higher levels of independence and privacy.

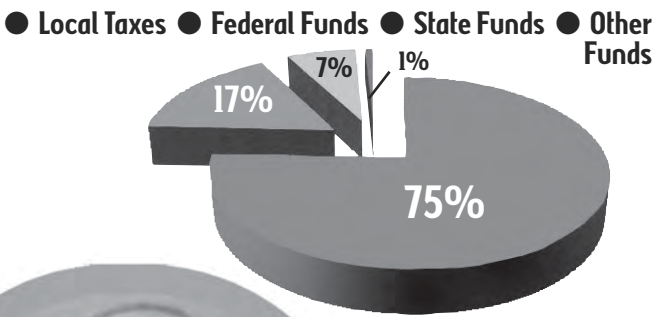
For more information about the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities, please visit our website [www.lucasdd.org](http://www.lucasdd.org)



2018 Expenditures



2018 Revenue





# Woodberry Park Chess students bring home 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup>



Yolanda Woodberry Woodberry Park Chess

Gabby Simmons 3rd

LaQuan Smith 5th MLK

Mario Walker 1st Place MLK

Warren Woodberry Woodberry Park Chess



Mario Walker of MLK, won 1st place as his family watched with pride.



Gabby Simmons, with family, won 3rd Place



MLK's LaQuan Smith, pictured with his mother, won 5th place.

**1ST, 3RD & 5TH PLACE AIN'T BAD**

**WOODBERRY PARK CHESS WINNERS**  
**AT THE APRIL 10TH GREAT LAKES**  
**CHESS TOURNAMENT HELD AT OTTAWA HILLS**  
**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Great family turnout to watch their sons and daughter win 1st 3rd and 5th place n their categories at the Great Lakes Chess Tournament held at Sylvania Elementary School on April 10th, 2019. winners were trained at The Woodberry Park Chess program at Jones Leadership Academy of Business. MLK took first and 5th place and Ms. Gabby Simmons took 3rd place

The Above was submitted Special to The Toledo Journal

# HBCU Prostitution Ring Near Atlanta Allegedly Involved AKA Sorority



7 people have been indicted so far

Submitted  
Black News - Fort Valley, GA—Fort Valley State University, an HBCU located about 100 miles south of Atlanta, Georgia, was shocked with a scandal

last year that involved the apparent sex trafficking of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority members. Seven people have recently been indicted in connection to the case, including Alecia Jea-

netta Johnson, a graduate adviser to the AKA Sorority who allegedly served as the pimp for the students. In April 2018, reports surfaced about students who resorted to prostitu-

tion out of desperation to pay pledge fees to join Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. The alleged pimp for the students is 49-year old Alecia Johnson, an AKA member and faculty ad-

visor for the FVSU chapter. She also served as an executive assistant to the president of Fort Valley State University since 2004. According to reports,

Johnson performed sex acts in exchange for money and gifts. She also helped provide the students to prominent Black men in the college community, identified as Ernest Harvey, 47, Kenneth Howard, 56, Ryan Jenkins, 35, Charles Jones, 57, Arthur James Nance Jr., 46, and Devontae Little, 26. Last week, Johnson was charged with six counts of prostitution, three counts of pimping, and two counts of solicitation of sodomy. The six men were also indicted on one count each of solicitation of sodomy. Johnson is facing a maximum of up to 12 months in prison and up to a \$1,000 fine per count. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated is the oldest Black sorority in the U.S. which was founded on Howard University in 1908. AKA leaders have suspended the privileges of Alpha Beta Chapter of AKA at FVSU while an investigation regarding the case is ongoing.

SUBMITTED



# Center of Hope ELEVATE Program Celebrates



SUBMITTED

Row 1: Deontae Lawrence (ELEVATE Student) Row 2: ELEVATE Grandparents Martha Corbitt and Minnie Brown, Jeanette Martin (ELEVATE volunteer), Willetta Perryman (Chief Operating Officer), Tracee Perryman, PhD (Chief Executive Officer), Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD (Pastor, Center of Hope Church), Rev. Robert Lyons (Director, Center of Hope Family Navigator Program). Row 3: Eric Pruitt (Keyboardist), Andre Bell (Percussionist), Marcus Devine (Music Director)



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Dr. Tracee Perryman and Mom Willetta Perryman



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

Children of Royalty performed at the center of hope ELEVATE Progam

ity. We consider creden-  
tialed, experienced, and  
competent staff serving  
our children and families  
as a baseline expectation.  
It is the love, determina-  
tion, cross-cultural under-  
standing, and sometimes,  
a knowing when to ‘get  
out of the way,’ so that  
our children and families  
can thrive. They also bring  
knowledge to the table,  
and we have to be atten-  
tive and flexible enough  
to integrate their perspec-  
tives into the learning envi-  
ronment.”

For this celebration,  
children and families were  
certainly center stage. Dr.  
Perryman, a songwriter  
and performer, remixed  
one of her current singles  
– “Children of Royalty,”  
and brought in nationally  
reknowned record produc-  
er and musical director,  
Marcus Devine, to direct  
the students. Sound En-  
gineering was provided  
by Duval Overton and the  
Overton Project. Students  
were dressed in Children of  
Royalty T-Shirts designed  
by Willetta Perryman,  
Chief Operating Officer.  
The ELEVATE students  
will record the Children of

Royalty Remix, and shoot  
a companion video at the  
ELEVATE Music Camp,  
June 3rd through June 7th  
at Scott High School. The  
day ended with a buffet  
reception, attended by 200  
children, family, and com-  
munity members.

Spaces are still available  
for the ELEVATE summer  
camp, as well as the 2019-  
2020 school year. For  
more information, or to en-  
roll a child in grades K-4,  
contact 419-213-6641.

The University of Toledo’s  
National Youth Sports Program is NOW  
accepting applications for 9-16 year olds  
for the summer 2019 program!

NYSP is a completely **FREE** program offered by the  
University of Toledo; the program includes Sport &  
Educational Instruction, Lunch, Swimming, and Field trips  
including a trip to Splash Universe!

**Program Dates June 3—June 21, 2019**  
**10:30am to 3:30pm MONDAY-FRIDAY**

Enrollment is limited to **ONLY 150 participants**  
according to **AGE**. A **completed application** and a  
**current 2019 physical** are required for enrollment.

Applications are available at these locations:  
UT’s Health and Human Services Building and Health  
Ed. Building, Mott, Kent, LaGrange, Reynolds Corners,  
Sanger and Heatherdowns Branch Libraries,  
Toledo/Lucas County Health Dept.  
Online: <http://www.utoledo.edu/hhs/clinics/nysp/>

For more information, contact the  
NYSP office at 419-530-2888

ONE MISSION

THREE EXPERIENCES

COUNTLESS MEMORIES

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Remember Mom

This Mother’s Day



# Spiritually Speaking.... Faith and Power



By James A. Washington,  
The Dallas Weekly

Hopefully, this a different  
take on a familiar subject.

Scripture refers to one's  
faith, "the size of a mustard  
seed," as a true indicator of  
its power.

Faith, for all we talk about

it, is probably one of the  
more misunderstood and  
unappreciated concepts in  
Christianity, I think. I believe  
this because, in truth, real  
faith evokes tangible power.  
Now, the power I'm speak-  
ing of seems to only be  
recognized in very extreme  
circumstances.

We all know people who  
have heart-wrenching testi-  
mony about faith's mani-  
festation in tremendously  
dire situations in their lives.  
When the chips are down  
and backs are up against  
the wall, I too can recall  
how God has interceded  
and positively impacted  
very negative and hopeless  
moments. And I believe if

you're honest with yourself,  
you can too.

But that's not what I'm  
talking about. I'm talking  
about the faith that puts  
God's full armor on each  
and every day. The kind  
that is as habitual as getting  
up, showering and getting  
dressed every morning. You  
know, it's just part of who  
you are.

Dare I say, most of us  
don't do this? If I had to put it  
into words, I'd probably de-  
scribe it as being a constant  
Standard bearer for Christ.

My biblical example  
would be Paul. When all is  
said and done, Paul's faith,  
clearly, is an all-day deal.  
He, just like most of us, had

his "thorns" which plagued  
his walk with the Lord. But  
in reading Paul, it dawned  
on me that faith is so much  
more than its simple declar-  
ation — a declaration we all  
habitually say, "I believe!"

But, as you've heard me  
write and say constantly,  
faith is a verb. When activat-  
ed in your life, all things get  
placed into God's hands,  
i.e.: worry, family problems,  
health matters, money con-  
cerns. Even the most trivial  
of things get undergirded by  
one's real faith.

When the faith I speak  
of becomes as habitual as  
dressing oneself, I believe  
we release tremendous  
power within ourselves that

the rest of the world is com-  
pelled to see. Once seen by  
others and experienced by  
ourselves, there is only one  
source to which to attribute  
it: God, Jesus and the Holy  
Spirit.

That source allows us to  
endure, persevere, with-  
stand, stand strong (some-  
times alone) and be victori-  
ous.

Paul said, "Three times  
I pleaded with the Lord to  
take it away from me. But  
He said, 'My grace is suffi-  
cient for you, for my power  
is made perfect in weak-  
ness.'

## Black Legacy: Today in history

**May 10, 1775:** Black patriots helped cap-  
ture Fort Ticonderoga.

**May 14, 1897:** Sidney Bechet, jazz musi-  
cian and composer, born.

**May 8, 1950:** Jackie Robinson, first time an  
African American is featured on the cover of  
Life.

**May 12, 1958:** Summit Meeting of National  
Negro Leaders called for stepped up campaign  
against discrimination and desegregation.

**May 9, 1899:** John  
Albert Burr patented  
an improved blade for  
the lawn mower.

**May 13, 1914:** Joe  
Louis, heavyweight  
boxer, born.

**May 11, 1981:** Hoyt J. Fuller (57), literary  
critic and editor of First World magazine and  
former editor of Black World, dies in Atlanta

## Alika Hope

Continued from page 2.

gland 2019, her platform  
focuses on the health and  
psychological benefits

of laughter. "The Laugh  
of Hope Project" ([www.laughofhopeproject.com](http://www.laughofhopeproject.com))  
is a unique program cre-  
ated by Ms. Hope that  
brings workshops directly  
to community organiza-  
tions. The workshops ed-  
ucate on the connections  
between laughter and  
health, help people clear-  
ly identify the things that  
bring them joy and laugh-  
ter, and how to incorporate  
more of these things into  
everyday experiences.


Thanks to corporate  
and individual sponsor-  
ships, these workshops  
are offered free of charge  
to non-profits, assisted-liv-  
ing facilities, and other  
community programs.

As Ms. New England  
America 2019, Alika is  
also available to sing the  
National Anthem and God  
Bless America at com-  
munity and sports events  
upon request.


The Laugh of Hope Proj-  
ect focuses on increasing  
awareness of the health  
benefits of laughter. Their  
mission is to help peo-  
ple find moments of joy  
throughout their day, find  
their authentic voice, and  
use that authentic voice to  
spread joy and hope.

For more information,  
including sponsorships or  
booking interviews and  
appearances, please con-  
tact:

Emille M. Bryant, MHR  
Director of Outreach  
The Ray of Hope  
Project and The Laugh of  
Hope Project  
(571) 210-5867  
[laughofhopeproject@  
gmail.com](mailto:laughofhopeproject@gmail.com)

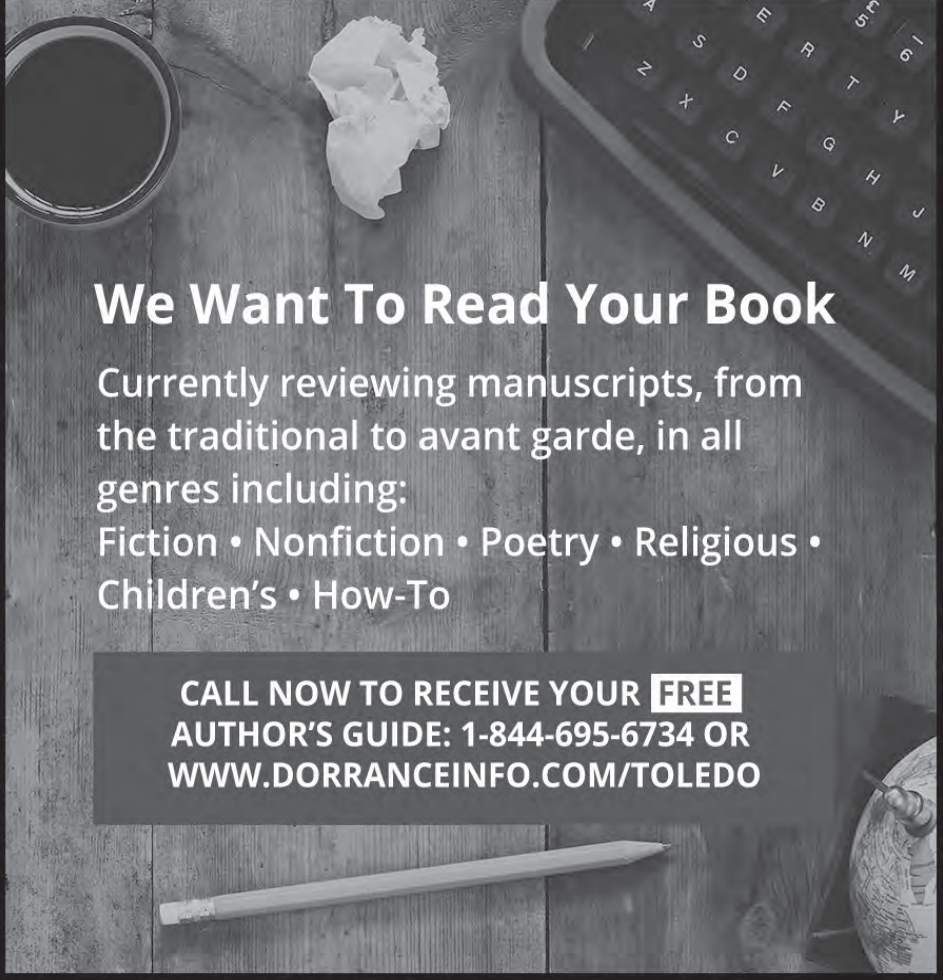


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**ASK YOUR  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS**  
*A word from C. BROWN and  
C. BRIAN BROWN DIRECTORS*

**Funeral Terminology 101**  
**Mortician/Funeral Director/Coroner**  
A Funeral Director in Ohio is a person licensed by the  
state to give guidance to families in the arrangement  
and performance of funeral services. A funeral Director  
or Embalmer is sometimes called a Mortician. Each  
term replaces the older term of Undertaker. The  
Coroner in Ohio is an elected person whose duties are  
to investigate the cause of death under questionable  
reasons to include homicides, suicides and accidents.  
There are times a person has not been under medical  
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With a commitment to improving the human condition, The University of Toledo and University Medical Center are seeking qualified candidates for multiple positions.

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For a complete listing of our openings and desired qualifications or to apply, please proceed to our website at  
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HELP WANTED

Position Available

Joseph R. Tafelski Fellowship in Housing and Community Economic Development



Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), a non-profit regional law firm that provides high-quality legal assistance to people living, working, and raising their families in poverty in Western Ohio, seeks a dynamic, creative, hardworking attorney for its Toledo office. This position will be made available through the Joseph R. Tafelski Fellowship in Housing and Community Economic Development, which honors Joseph R. Tafelski's extraordinary 45-year career in public interest law. The term of service will begin in August 2019, with possible renewal. Please visit ABLE's website at [www.ablelaw.org](http://www.ablelaw.org) to review full details of the Joseph Tafelski Fellowship.  
EOE

BLACK HISTORY FACTS

Estevanico was a black slave who participated in an exploration from Mexico into North America in 1540. During his explorations he discovered the territory that would become Arizona and New Mexico.

In response to the **Brown vs. Board of Education** decision the White Citizens Council was formed. Their primary goal was to continue segregation, despite the ruling that "separate but equal was unconstitutional."

Born the son of a French planter and a slave in New Orleans, **Norbert Rillieux** was educated in France. Returning to the U.S., he developed an evaporator for refining sugar, which he patented in 1846. Rillieux's evaporation technique is still used in the sugar industry and in the manufacture of soap and other products.

The son of escaped slaves from Kentucky, **Eijah McCoy** was born in Canada and educated in Scotland. Settling in Detroit, Michigan, he invented a type of lubricator for steam engines (patented 1872) and established his own manufacturing company. During his lifetime he acquired 57 patents.

**Dr. Henry Sampson** co-invented and co-patented the gamma electric cell in 1968, which produced stable high voltage output and current. He also holds three patents concerning solid rocket motors and one on the direct conversion of nuclear energy into electricity.

Tennessee was the first state to pass a law for the enlistment of "all male free persons of color between

the ages of fifteen and fifty years of age."

**Fredrick Eversley, an African American sculptor**, created a stainless steel sculpture of two wing-like shapes framed by neon lights at the entrance to the Miami International Airport.

**Fanny Jackson Coppin, bought into freedom by her aunt, was an educator and missionary.** Her innovations as head principle of the Institute of Colored Youth included a practice teaching system and an elaborate industrial training department.

**George Washington Carver designed the concept of a moveable school**, with teachers and equipment traveling to remote areas to instruct the poor in agriculture and nutrition. This concept was later adopted in underdeveloped areas around the world.

METROPARKS NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on **Fort Miamis Improvements** will be received; opened; and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537 **Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.** local time.

THE SCOPE OF WORK consists of park improvements including construction of 312 feet of aggregate path, 100 feet of wooden boardwalk with overlook deck, fabrication & installation of a steel observation tower, and replacement of failed sheet piling with 290 feet of precast concrete retaining wall along the Maumee River with stepped canoe/kayak access. Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents and planholder's list through Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, Ohio 43604 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (check made payable to Newfax Corporation) or via the Newfax Digital Plan Room at [www.newfaxcorp.com](http://www.newfaxcorp.com). Newfax can be contacted at 419-241-5157 or 800-877-5157. A non-refundable fee of \$20 is required for each set of full-size documents obtained. For additional information, please contact Jon Zvanovec @ 419-360-9184, [jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com](mailto:jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com).

EACH BIDDER MUST FURNISH either (1) a bond for the full amount of the bid or (2) a certified check, cashier's check or irrevocable letter of credit in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid with its bid. The successful bidder must furnish a 100 percent (100%) Performance Bond and a 100 percent (100%) Labor and Materials Bond.

THIS PROJECT IS FEDERALLY ASSISTED. Contracts to be awarded under this invitation for bids will be subject to all applicable Federal laws and related acts.

No bidder may withdraw its bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in bidding.

By order of the Board of Park Commissioners  
METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA

David D. Zenk, Director

HELP WANTED

SERVICE & SUPPORT SPECIALIST

Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities has an excellent opportunity for a Service and Support Specialist (SSA) to assess needs of individuals with developmental disabilities, develop and monitor service plans, and ensure that services are effectively coordinated and provided.

The successful candidates must possess a Bachelor's degree in Social Work, Counseling, or related area, plus one (1) year of experience in coordinating, assessing, and linking services and supports and/or developing, and assessing habilitation programs and activities for individuals with DD or in a related area. Will be required to obtain and maintain Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities certification for Service and Support Administrator. Comprehensive training provided.

All candidates must submit by May 17, 2019 a resume and cover letter along with an employment application, which is available at [www.lucasdd.org](http://www.lucasdd.org). If in need of ADA accommodations, contact us directly at 419-380-4033.  
EOE



Ask Alma

Taking Care of My Elderly Parents Is Taking a Toll

Dear Alma:  
I am a 64 year-old divorced woman who lives with my father. Some years ago, when my marriage fell apart, and Mom was diagnosed with dementia, I moved back home to help my dad with her. I was also working part-time, so I couldn't afford my own apartment. Two years ago, Dad and I could no longer care for Mom at home, so we put her in a care facility, and I retired. During this time, I have made new friends, three of them live in the state of New Mexico. A few months ago, I went to visit these friends, and fell in love with New Mexico. The cost of living isn't as high as it is here, and the laid-back, small city life seems to mesh well with my personality. I feel this is the place I am meant to live the rest of my life. My problem is that Dad is 87, and I'm leery of moving hundreds of miles away, knowing there are some thugs in the neighborhood, who may try to break into the house once they learn Dad is there alone. Although I have a sister, she has never been there for our parents the way I have been. In fact, our parents haven't seen her in seven years. Some friends and relatives say I should go for it, since I'm divorced and childless, and also reminding me I'm no longer a young woman. Then, there are those who feel I'm being selfish for wanting to make this move and finally live my own life. Am I wrong?



Sincerely,  
New Mexico is Calling Me  
Dear New Mexico,  
Hello, my darling, thank you for taking the time to email me and to allow me the privilege to weigh-in on your situation. It takes a special person to care for elderly and/or invalid family members. I'm sending a big hug your way.  
I want to start by sharing that my mom lived with me and my family for the last two years of her life. She had come to a place where she could no longer live alone. Was my life on hold? Yes, but I wouldn't take a dime for that time, as I'm sure, neither would you. You've already lived through the thick of it, so, there isn't much more I could share with you about the "role reversal" regarding parental care. It's hard, it's thankless and it's heartbreakingly some of the best times you'll spend with your parents, unconditionally caring for them as they did for you. It's an honor for us, but not so much for strong-willed parents. Their eyes always seem to see you as the child they raised. It doesn't matter how old you are, how many children you have or how many times you've been married. LOL.

I can't help but think, now that your mom's gone on to glory, that you should continue to be there for your dad. Don't abandon him now. Stay, give him the same love and commitment you gave to your mother. Your dad, I take it, doesn't need as much attention, but that shouldn't determine your decision. You're doing it just, because it's the right thing to do. Is it selfish for you to want a break, to want to relocate and start living your own life? Absolutely not at all, that's normal and you have every right to feel that way.

You've been an attentive, dedicated and loving daughter... don't stop now. There's no need to relocate, just yet. Take care of your Dad and, every three months or so, go visit your friends for a week or two. Sadly, when your dad's no longer with us—it'll be time to make your move.

I don't have either one of my parents anymore, and I regret the extra time I missed spending with them every day, because I was busy, I had a family, I had people to see, places to go, things to do. So, trust me, you'll never regret putting your life on hold by choosing to honor your mother and father. God is watching and will undoubtedly grant you the desires of your heart. Hold on a little longer, your day is coming. You gave and it will be given back to you in good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over.

Alma Gill's newsroom experience spans more than 25 years, including various roles at USA Today, Newsday and The Washington Post. Email questions to: [alwaysaskalma@gmail.com](mailto:alwaysaskalma@gmail.com). Follow her on Facebook at "Ask Alma" and Twitter @almaaskalma.

Three Characteristics Every Man Should Have Dating a Woman



By Felicia T. Simpson  
From (ThyBlackMan.com)

All men are not the same and neither should they be. However, there are three characteristics that every man should have: be a leader, a great listener and respectful, while dating a woman. These three characteristics are in no particular order but are necessary to have.

Be a leader:

A woman wants someone who can lead her in life and biblically speaking, lead her closer to God. Although women are nurturers, a woman does not want to date a man that she feels more like she's raising a child. Note that being a leader does not mean that you are dictator. The greatest leaders are the greatest servants to mankind. Think of Malcolm X, Gandhi, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and so forth. All great leaders who provided great service to mankind in some type of way. So in order to be of great service to a woman or a leader, you have to genuinely serve her emotional, physical and spiritual needs. Get rid of the "I'm the king of this castle" mentality because those days are long gone. From the way you treat a woman you're dating, sets the tone for your entire relationship.

Be a great listener:

Allow the woman you're dating to speak her mind. Do not cut her off, make decisions for her without conversing with her first or disregard what she's saying to you. Women appreciate a man who is a great listener. If you are dating, you may be the closest person that she feels like she can confide in so she unravels the struggles of her days to you. Just listen! If you want to

give her advice on something, ask her if she wants it first. Don't start rambling off what she should've, could've, would've done. A woman will more than likely appreciate you for listening and your actions will confirm that you value her thoughts and opinions.

Be respectful:

This goes without saying but please be respectful while you're dating a woman (and in life). Respect her mind, body and soul. Respect her boundaries at all times. Being of service to her and being a great listener should equate to you respecting her if all are done cohesively. You cannot disrespect a woman and demand that respect be giving to you. Women are human beings and showing your partner respect shows that you value the relationship and her. Being respectful towards the woman you're dating will ignite her to reciprocate that same level of respect. Being respectful to her intersects with being faithful to the woman you're dating or be honest and respect her enough to tell her that you dating multiple people at this time. This will keep down a lot of confusion and drama.

Dating in today's society is not something that is a 1-2-3 steps rule that will help you master the art of understanding the opposite sex. Some women (and men) enter into relationships with unrealistic expectations from their partner. However, these are three basic characteristics that any man needs to have while dating a woman no matter her age, religious beliefs or race. Step up in the relationship when needed and always take a step back and listen to her. Respect the boundaries that she has in place with herself and within the relationship.

LL Cool J reveals how cancer has touched him

By Rollingout.com

LL Cool J opens up about how cancer has touched his family

LL's wife, Simone Smith, was diagnosed with chondrosarcoma, a rare bone cancer, in 2004, and had to undergo a 15-hour operation to have her right tibia removed and replaced with her left fibula, a steel rod, screws, nails and micro veins from her other leg, but when doctors explained the procedure, her now 51-year-old husband instantly offered to donate the bone from his own limb instead because he thought it would be "stronger."

Smith told "Entertainment Tonight," "I was working out with my trainer, walking, talking, not paying no mind, walked into the wastebasket and it hit that little knot. That sent me to the doctor, and that's when I found out I had a chondrosarcoma stage three tumor in my right tibia bone.

"I remember sitting in the doctor's office, and he [LL Cool J] wanted to give his fibula bone ... because he felt that his fibula bone would be big-



ger and stronger."

The "Doin It" hitmaker — whose real name is James Todd Smith — made sure that any visitors coming to see his wife post-surgery were composed and full of "positive energy."

Smith — who is in remission — said: "Todd would tell them ... 'You can't go in there crying.'"

Her husband added: "Because you need positive energy. I learned that you got to be grateful, and you can't take things for granted. I learned that left turns could come, right turns could come.

"You can't always see around every corner, but you just have to have faith and you have to







# Stacey Abrams in the Glass City



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown with members of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

*Continued from page 7*

alized that name may have been on the ballot, but it was their dreams that were on the line. Understanding this has made me a better person.”

Stacey Abrams attracted a fairly diverse audience with the exception of there being slightly more women than men, otherwise it was a crowd made up of all ages of racial and social back-

grounds. Throughout her presentation from start to finish, Ms. Abrams held the audience in the palm of her hand and she could do no wrong.

The one thing the audience shared in common was a certain level of intelligence, and they were all on the same page as they stuck with Ms. Abram throughout the program. There were no negative responses such as boos or moans of disapprov-

al. The sold-out audience accepted all Stacey Abrams had to offer with open arms.

The closest thing I did hear that which might be considered as a complaint came from a local African-American attorney who said to me, “I wish she had spent more time talking about her bid for Governor in the state of Georgia and the end results of that campaign,” he said. A sentiment I’m sure others may have



PHOTO CREDIT / TOLEDO JOURNAL

The Toledo Ohio Chapter, The Links Incorporated came out to see Stacey Abrams

felt as well.

However, if you keep in mind that this evening was not a political speaking engagement for Ms. Abram, but rather a tour promoting her latest book. If you look at the program, from that perspective, the evening has more clarity.

This program and its format gave the Toledoans the opportunity to meet the real Stacy Abrams. Not just

Stacy Abrams the politician or the novelist, but Stacy Abrams the person, who is in so many ways just like all the rest of us. A person, who has ups and downs in life, a person who has ambitions, dreams, and goals. A person, who can put a smile on your face and make people laugh with just a few words. And, most of all a person who has an overwhelming power to lead others.

During the program, Ms. Abram gave no clear indications of her plans for the future. All one can say is that after meeting and listening to her that night is that its clear, Stacey Abrams is here to stay. Whatever it is that she was sent to do, she will complete that task. She is not a quitter and she won’t stop until she is finished!

*Continued from page 14.*

have gratitude, you got to roll with humility, you got to believe. I believe in God strongly, and you got to believe in yourself too.”

The couple has teamed up with the American Cancer Society for a new campaign called “Beat Cancer Like a Boss,” which

features Mary J. Blige, Jhene Aiko, Remy Ma and Salt-N-Pepa giving encouraging messages to those affected by cancer, and the singer said he was inspired to be part of the

initiative because of his wife’s strength.

He said: “The campaign is ‘Beat Cancer Like a Boss,’ and when it comes to that, she’s definitely been a boss. I think

that so many people, if you can inspire others to learn more, dream more, do more, that’s being a boss and that’s why we did this campaign for the American Cancer Society

and for Simone Smith, her jewelry, which a portion of all the proceeds [will] go to the ACS.”

This article originally appeared in Rollingout. com.

## Land Bank new goal to start this summer

ty Land Bank as they announced that their goal to renovate or demolish 1,500 properties in 1,500 days, begun in summer 2016, has finished 500 days early. Standing in front of a beautifully restored home in Toledo’s Old West End neighborhood, those gathered made clear they weren’t finished and that another 500 properties would be tackled in the next 500 days.

“There are very few times when an organization finishes a goal this massive this

early, but that’s exactly what the Land Bank has accomplished,” said Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz, who serves as the Chair of the Land Bank’s Board of Directors. “And even better – before we complete these 1,500 days, we now hope to renovate or demolish a total of 2,000 properties.”

The news conference was held in front of a home on Glenwood Avenue that the Land Bank took ownership of due to tax delinquency in 2017. Sold to Kathi & Gary Taub – who live next door –

and Wanda & Larry Tibai for \$1,500, the couples invested thousands of dollars to turn the once blighted home with boarded windows and falling gutters into one of the best looking homes on the block. They intend to list the property for sale in the coming weeks and bring a new homeowner to the neighborhood.

“The Land Bank could not have reached the goals we’ve set without the blood, sweat, and tears of neighbors like the Taubs and Tibais,” said David Mann,

President & CEO. “Whether someone buys a home from us to renovate or takes control of that vacant lot next door after a demolition, it is residents who are slowing bringing back our neighborhoods.”

In the past 1,005 days, the Land Bank has seen 222 homes and business properties renovated with another 184 in progress. In addition, 1,284 blighted properties have been demolished. This work has been accomplished largely due to a \$29 million commit-

ment by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency and the United States Department of Treasury from the Hardest Hit Fund. The Lucas County Land Bank’s award is the largest per capita in the State of Ohio.

Also speaking at the news conference were Lucas County Treasurer Lindsay Webb, Lucas County Commissioners Tina Skeldon Wozniak and Gary Byers, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Toledo City Councilwoman Yvonne Harper, and State Representative Paula

Hicks-Hudson.

Those interested in the learning more about the Land Bank can visit its website at [lucascountylandbank.org](http://lucascountylandbank.org).

The Lucas County Land Bank is a community organization dedicated to strengthening neighborhoods and preserving property values by returning vacant, abandoned, and tax-delinquent properties to productive use.

Since its inception in 2010, the Land Bank has returned 3,300 vacant lots, residential homes, and com-

### Full brows are the Rage! And Microblading is the Latest Trend!

Brows are making statements and microblade can make your brows look the way you want. It fills in sparse brows or reshapes them. Your brows will last between 1 to 3 years, 18 months is typical for most.

Microblade is a semi- permanent procedure.. The technician create crisp hair like strokes that resembles natural eyebrow hairs.

If you’re a person that would not leave the house without filling in your bows or you avoid activities that cause you to sweat, because you might wipe off your brow pencil. This procedure could be for you. Microblade changes the way people feel about themselves.

You can save on your Microblade procedure with me by going to Groupon. I will also honor their price.

Miracle Hicks Says:

“My microblading experience at Colour & Style by Powell was exceptional. The service was amazing, and the salon was very clean and relaxing.

In the past, I’ve always wanted full eyebrows. I would use eyebrow pencils and other makeups for a quick fix, but the process was tedious and time consuming. I then turned to microblading and I will never look back.

Since I’ve had this procedure done, I get so many compliments on how “perfect” my brows look. I would definitely recommend this service to anyone who wants to enhance their brows.”



Maria Powell, Microblade Technician  
Colour & Style by Powell’s 2463 Nebraska Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43607  
To make an appointment, call: 419 466-2355