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Small Business is Good Business!

Advocating, Informing and Promoting Small & Minority Owned Businesses

JUNETEENTH
A Celebration of Freedom

**OLBC President
Reece: local
hiring ban will
harm African
American
communities -
page 2**



Legislative Black Caucus introduces bill to remove slavery from Ohio constitution

COLUMBUS— Ohio Legislative Black Caucus (OLBC) President and State Rep. Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati) and members of the OLBC recently introduced a resolution to remove slavery references from the Ohio constitution, calling the references archaic and offensive to all Ohioans, including those whose ancestors were kidnapped and held captive as slaves.

“No slavery, no exceptions,” said Reece. “Over 150 years after our nation abolished slavery, there can be no acceptable circumstance for slavery in our state, and our constitution must reflect that. In 2016, this General Assembly should give Ohioans the opportunity to take slavery out of our state’s guiding document.”



State Rep. Emilia Sykes (D-Akron)

Section six of the Ohio constitution’s Bill of Rights says “there shall be no slavery in this State; nor involuntary servitude, unless for the punishment of crime.”

“Any form of slavery, regardless of the circumstance, is immoral and abhorrent and should not be condoned by the state constitution,” said State Rep. Emilia Sykes (D-Akron). “The people of Ohio should have the chance to remove the antiquated, offensive slavery reference from our state’s founding document.”

Should the resolution receive approval from three-fifths of both the House and Senate, a statewide proposal to remove the slavery reference from the state constitution.

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OhioMBE welcomes letters to the editor from readers. Typed letters of 200 words or less are preferred; all might be edited. Each letter must include name, home address and daytime phone number. Some letter may appear on our website.

The 912 Group is an Ohio certified Minority Owned and EDGE business. The 912 Group is a certified FBE with the City of Columbus.

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government briefs

Columbus City Schools Business and Operations are welcoming certified LEDE Businesses to attend the June OhioMBE Procurement Fair



Over the past fifteen years Outreach Services has been a strong advocate for your businesses and paving the way for many of you to do business with the district, and I personally want to thank each of you for your continued support of the program.

The Board of Education's Community Inclusion Policy, policy 3210 states that 20% of contracting and procurement opportunities should be spent with Local Economically Disadvantaged Enterprises.

On June 16, Certified LEDE vendors will have the opportunity to meet with Key Decision makers in the various departments that encompass Business and Operations.

Vendors will be able to meet with the Directors and other designees in areas such as Buildings & Grounds, Information Technology, Food Services, Fleet &

See Columbus City Schools on page 4

OLBC President Reece: local hiring ban will harm African American communities

Lawmaker disappointed Kasich did not veto state-level restrictions

COLUMBUS— Ohio Legislative Black Caucus President and State Rep. Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati) expressed disappointment in the signing into law of House Bill (HB) 180, saying the ban on local hiring goals will disproportionately harm African American workers and minority communities while jeopardizing infrastructure projects in Cincinnati, Toledo, Akron and Cleveland.

"I am deeply disappointed that the governor ignored the request by the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus to veto these unfair restrictions," said Reece. "At a time when African Americans in our state are struggling economically and remain out of work at a rate two times higher than the state average, local hiring goals are a critical tool for urban communities trying to combat local unemployment. By banning local hiring goals, we are handcuffing our communities from making economic development decisions that put more money in the pockets of local residents and more money into local economies."

Reece and OLBC members earlier this month delivered a letter to Governor Kasich requesting that he veto House Bill 180. In their letter, the lawmakers highlighted the adverse effect the local hiring ban would have on the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as well as the city of Akron's \$1.4 billion sewer and water improvement plan, which currently has a local hiring target of 30 percent that would increase to 50 percent by 2018.

The OLBC also sponsored an amendment during the committee process to allow communities to set a five percent local hiring threshold, but the compromise was rejected by GOP lawmakers.

Taxation without Participation

By Ronda Watson Barber - OhioMBE Publisher

Taxation without Participation

Taxation without Participation is alive and thriving in the suburban schools of Central Ohio. The public schools districts are benefitting from the tax dollars derived from the attendance of students of color; the property taxes from the homes in which they reside and in some districts the tax assessed to income from their parents. The districts are not sharing the wealth. These publicly funded school systems do not have inclusion programs or purchasing goals.

I witnessed first-hand the diversity of the Pickerington Local School District. I recently attended one of their high school graduations. There were a bunch of Black and brown folks in the audience and receiving their diplomas. Thirty percent of students who attend Pickerington Schools are students of color. The district does not actively engage in outreach opportunities targeting minority or woman-owned businesses. They make no special efforts to include special populations in purchasing opportunities. They simply state we have a non-discrimination policy.

If you are a taxpayer and voter in the Pickerington and other suburban school districts this is an important issue. How many people of color sit on suburban school boards? Our dollars and votes have power. When electing school board members, are you putting people in office who care about inclusion in purchasing and economic empowerment? Are your tax dollars being taken for granted? Does your elected school board member know your thoughts on purchasing opportunities for small businesses? How is it that public school districts can eagerly and readily accept your tax dollars but not accept moral responsibility for providing economic opportunities for small businesses?

Shout Out to the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus

OhioMBE Award Winner, State Rep. Alicia Reece and other members of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus deserve a mega shout out! They are working overtime. They are fighting for jobs for Black folks down at the Statehouse. They are fighting to combat taxation without participation. I still don't understand the mindset and reasoning of the GOP and Governor Kasich. Does your state representative know your opinion on hiring practices on construction projects? Does the governor know your opinion on hiring goals on taxpayer-funded construction projects? Jobs for these major construction projects should go to Ohioans FIRST. These good paying construction jobs should go to Ohioans in the neighborhoods where the

See Publisher on page 6

There are several reasons why you should get your business certified:

1. Some entities have purchasing goals. Only certified businesses can participate.
2. Certification adds legitimacy to your business. You have gone through a process that has determined that your business is owned and controlled by a minority, woman or disadvantaged business.
3. Certification can afford you loan and bonding opportunities. The State of Ohio has loan and bonding programs specifically for certified minority owned businesses.
4. Certification can be a marketing tool for your business. You can add your certifications to your marketing materials, business cards, website, etc. Many consumers like doing business with veteran, minority or woman owned businesses.
5. Certification can be used in the private sector. Many companies don't have a certifying program but in an effort to have supplier diversity, will accept the certifications from some governmental agencies.



Attend a class and learn how to get your business certified. Visit www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com for the upcoming class schedule. For more information on certification, call 614.522.9122 or attend a certification class.

Letters to the editor are welcome and will be considered for publication or posting online. The preferred method is to text within an email. Please include contact information including letter writer's city and state. The letter must be fewer than 300 words. No more than four signatures per letter.

We edit and/or trim letters as little as possible, but we reserve the right to do so as necessary.

Send to news@ohiombe.com



Increase CDC Microenterprise Training Graduates

The Increase CDC recently held their spring graduation for the Microenterprise Training Program cycles 1 & 2 at the OSU Extension Center. This spring's 2016 graduates are: Quentin Hannah, Katina Hughes, Tia Johnson, Theresa Kelley, Roxanna Summerall, Destiny Ward, Ashley White, Sheronda Baker, Larry Cermak, Andrea Gillam, Yezmean Greggs, Rebecca Hairston, Kasim Henry, Susan Carlos, Martina Flemings, Ebony Gladney, Carletta Griffis, Qiana Harvelle, Akilah Holloway, Aziza Jackson, DeAndrea Jones, Torrey Moss, Ahleeyah Kirkland, Shavon Wiggins, Tamala Williams and Saige Ollison.

Columbus City Schools from page 2

Vehicle Maintenance, Safety & Security, Transportation, Capital Improvements, Real Estate, Custodial Services, Purchasing and Outreach Services.

Business owners are encouraged to have plenty of business cards with them and be ready to discuss business.

This is a great opportunity for you to continue to show your support of the program and offer suggestions to the departments on how that department can better serve your needs.

I look forward to seeing each of you as you continue to support the children of our district and help us meet our LEDE goals for the 2016-2017 School year.

Terri L. Wise, Outreach Coordinator
 Outreach Services
 Columbus City Schools
 twise@columbus.k12.oh.us
 Registration: www.ccsledefair.eventbrite.com
Please direct questions to rbarber@ohiombe.com

OLBC continued from page 1

tion would be put on the ballot this November.

"This issue is about more than language – it's about our values and what we stand for as a state," said House Democratic Leader Fred Strahorn (D-Dayton). "A constitution is not just an arrangement of governing laws, but a set of fundamental principles that guides its people. Slavery has no rightful place in our state's founding document."

The OLBC also announced they will hold their decennial convention, required by the caucus' bylaws, from July 15 to 17 in Cincinnati.

"As we continue to grapple with modern day forms of slavery such as human trafficking, it is important that our state constitution does not

condone any form of involuntary servitude," said Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo).

"OLBC legislators will be introducing companion resolutions in both the House and the Senate that will remove the mentioning of slavery from the Ohio Constitution," said Ohio Sen. and Senate Assistant Democratic Leader Charleta Tavares (D-Columbus). "The implementation of this legislation is critical as we attempt to move Ohio forward. Having the following six words, 'unless for the punishment of crime' stricken from the Constitution will help rid ourselves of any vestiges of our dark and brutal past. We cannot continue to allow this exception to remain in the Ohio Constitution and we will not allow ourselves to go backward. We will fight this issue until the victory is won."

Support Black Businesses!

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business directory

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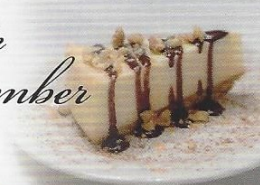
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Email news@ohiombe.com to reserve your spot.

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construction is occurring. There should be goals to include all taxpayers. The unemployment rate in the Black community is too high. These construction projects are a way to stimulate the economy in the Black community. We have posted recent hearings in the Ohio House available on our website ohiombe.com.

S.A.L.U.T.E. Rep. Reece and the OLBC.

Our votes and dollars have power! Just my thoughts...

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legal notice

To post a legal or bid notice, call 614-522-9122 or email news@ohiombe.com

Notice Correction

Notice of Opportunity to Comment on a FY 2017-2019 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) plan and overall Goal of 6.0% for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise contracts or subcontracts at the Van Wert County Airport Authority. The DBE plan and percentage goals are avail-



able for inspection at the Airport Manager's Office, Van Wert County Airport Authority, 1400 Leeson Avenue, Van Wert, OH 45891 for thirty (30) days following the date of the notice. The Van Wert County Airport Authority and the United States Department of Transportation will accept comments for informational purposes only on the goals for forty-five (45) days from the date of the notice at the following:

Airport Manager
Van Wert County Airport
1400 Leeson Avenue
Van Wert, OH 45891
419-232-4500

Alternate:
Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc.
800-553-0863 Ext. 292

United States Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration
Great Lakes Region – Civil Rights Staff
2300 East Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018

Find us online: #ohiombe

bid opportunities

To post a bid notice, call 614-522-9122 or email news@ohiombe.com



NOTICE TO VENDORS

Columbus City Schools is seeking vendors to provide Elementary Prepackaged Pizza for the Food Service Production Center. Quotes will be received from May 30, 2016 through June 20, 2016 and will close by 12:00 noon at the Food Service Production Center, located on 450 E. Fulton Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. More information can be found on the District's web site at <http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us> under the vendor services link.



Columbus City Schools Transportation Services is soliciting bids for Temporary Substitute School Bus Drivers. Responses must be provided via Public Purchase at <http://www.publicpurchase.com> by 12:00:00 AM EDT on June 10, 2016. New vendors to that site must register with that website prior to responding. (Registration is free.)



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Proposals will be received for the following by Tammy Zents at tzents@akronhousing.org no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 24, 2016.

Request for Proposals (RFP) for a **Payroll/HRIS System Provider for the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA)** for a period of three years with successive optional one-year renewals.

Those interested in submitting a proposal for the aforementioned service may obtain the information package (RFP No. 2016-PR01) by contacting the AMHA Finance Department at 330-376-9118 or via email at tzents@akronhousing.org.

Written questions regarding this RFP will be accepted no later than 1:00 p.m. Monday, June 6, 2016. Send written questions to Tammy Zents via e-mail at tzents@akronhousing.org.

Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Anthony W. O'Leary
Executive Director

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bid opportunities

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kokosing
INDUSTRIAL



"Attention Certified MBE/WBE Companies"

Kokosing Industrial, Inc. is preparing bids for the Werk & Westbourne EHRT Facility in Cincinnati, Ohio which bids June 1, 2016. We are seeking quotes for any portion of the project listed that you are qualified to perform or provide supplies for which includes the following: Seeding/Landscaping, Concrete Reinforcing, Masonry, Dampproofing, Roofing, Caulking/Firestopping, Overhead Doors, Acoustical Ceilings, Flooring, Painting/Coatings, Fire Suppression Systems, Plumbing & HVAC, Electrical, I&C, Fire Alarm Systems, Paving, Fencing, and Overhead Crane. Bidding documents can be examined at Kokosing Industrial, Inc., 6235 Westerville Rd., Westerville, OH 43081 or by calling Sonja Nichols at 614-212-5701. Please have your quote to Chad Lampe by 12:00 PM May 31, 2016: e-mail snichols@kokosing.biz or Fax 614-212-5711.

"Kokosing Industrial is an equal opportunity employer."

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WALSH

Walsh Construction encourages bids from all qualified subcontractors/suppliers including MBE, WBE and SBE firms for the **NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL**

**SEWER DISTRICT SUPERIOR STONES CANAL
CSO IMPROVEMENTS Contract SSC-CSO-1 Project No.
1379** until 12:00 PM EST, on June 7, 2016.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:

Project Description: This project consists of rehabilitation of Superior Avenue Pump Station (SAPS); replacement of Stones Levee Pump Station (SLPS); construction of CSO storage tank and pumping facility adjacent to SAPS; construction of trenchless and open-cut force mains and gravity sewers; modification of flow regulators, construction of stormceptors; and related work. See project scope in Specification 01 11 00, Summary of Work.

Drawings, Specifications and Bid Forms and subsequent addenda will be available for download from a project-specific NEORSD Sharefile site. Prospective bidders will be required to register to obtain a Sharefile account to access these documents. The NEORSD will post the link to the Sharefile site on the NEORSD's Bids website (www.neorsd.org/bids). Prospective bidders are strongly encouraged to frequently monitor the Bids website for project updates and addenda. The NEORSD will not be responsible or liable for project addenda that are not downloaded by the bidder.

The Contract will be subject to the NEORSD policies and goals regarding the use of minority, women, and small business enterprises (MBE/WBE/SBE). This policy is contained in the Contract Specifications. The MBE/WBE/SBE goals for this Contract are 10% MBE/WBE and 8% SBE.

Work scopes include: concrete, cast in place concrete, misc. metals, roofing, doors and frames, glazing, finishes, signage, toilet and bath accessories, fire protection specialties, plumbing, and HVAC.

If you have any questions regarding this project please contact Joe Grant at 313-456-6534 or jgrant@walshgroup.com

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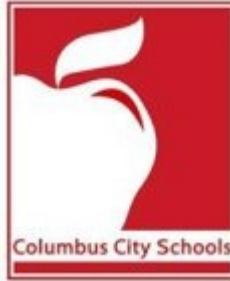
bid opportunities

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“Attention NEORS Certified
MBE/WBE Companies”

Kokosing Industrial, Inc. is preparing bids for the Superior Stones Canal CSO Improvements project in Cleveland, Ohio which bids June 7, 2016. We are seeking quotes for any portion of the project listed that you are qualified to perform or provide supplies for which includes the following: Electrical, Plumbing & HVAC, Masonry, Painting, Misc. Metals, Metal Roofing/Siding, Doors & Windows, Drywall, Fencing, Paving, Trucking, Seeding & Landscaping. Bidding documents can be examined at Kokosing Industrial, Inc., 6235 Westerville Rd., Westerville, OH 43081 or by calling Sonja Nichols at 614-212-5701. Please have your quote to John Rigo by 12:00 PM June 6, 2016: e-mail snichols@kokosing.biz or Fax 614-212-5711.



LEGAL NOTICE: Central Enrollment Center Renovation

Sealed proposals will be received by the **BOARD OF EDUCATION**, City School District of Columbus, Ohio, Office of Capital Improvements, 889 E. 17th Ave, Columbus OH 43211 until Thursday, June 16, 2016, at 2:00 PM and will be opened and read publicly

immediately thereafter for the Central Enrollment Center Renovation #14038, according to the plans and specifications, dated June 16, 2015, prepared by Miller Watson Architects. The total estimated cost for materials and labor for this Bid Package – General Contractor is \$4,211,026. Plans and Specifications may be secured at the bidder's expense \$300. plus shipping costs from ARC Document Solutions, 1159 Dublin Rd, Columbus, OH 43215, (T) 614-224-5149 or www.e-arc.com/oh/columbus. Public inspection may be made at the McGraw Hill Construction Dodge / Builders Exchange of Central Ohio Plan Room, 1175 Dublin Road, Columbus, Ohio 43215; the Minority Contractors Association, 1393 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43203; and Columbus City School Capital Improvements Office, 889 E. 17th Ave, Columbus OH 43211. A pre-bid conference will be held Wednesday, May 26, 2016, at 2:00 PM at the following location: Office of Capital Improvements, 889 E. 17th Ave, Columbus OH 43211. Inquiries concerning these plans and specifications shall be directed to Kevin Miller, Miller Watson Architects, 161 N. 4th Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215, PH: 614- 614.224.9743 kmiller@millerwatson.com Any written addendum will be sent to all plan holders. Each bid must be accompanied by a bid guaranty and contract bond meeting the requirements of Section 153.571 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Prevailing Wage Rates do not apply to this Invitation to Bid. By Order of the Board of Education, Gary L. Baker II, President; Stanley J. Bahorek, Treasurer.



INVITATION TO BID

Super Excavators, Inc. is requesting quotes from qualified MBE, WBE and SBE Subcontractors & Suppliers for the following project: Superior Stones Canal CSO Improvements, Project No. 1379, bidding on June 7, 2016 at 01:00PM with the NEORS. We are soliciting quotations for all trades including the following segments of work and any others that may have inadvertently been left off of this list: site work / restoration, electrical work, instrumentation and control, structural and architectural engineering, pump station mechanical, HVAC, and plumbing, hauling & disposal, pipe supply, traffic control, site security, etc. Please contact Justin at (262) 252-3200 or email justin@superexcavators.com for additional information. Complete all negotiations prior to June 3rd, 2016. Super Excavators, Inc., N59 W14601 Bobolink Avenue, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Email: news@ohiombe.com for
login information

**Thursday, June 2,
2016 at 5:30pm**

Columbus WBC –
Computer Fundamentals 2: Using
Microsoft to enhance your business

**Tuesday, June 7,
2016 at 5:00pm**

Columbus WBC –
Intermediate Quickbooks Training

Thursday, June 9, 2016 at 12:00pm

Worley Law Presents: HR Lunch & Learn

Thursday, June 9, 2016 at 6:00pm

Columbus WBC – Introduction to Self-Defense

Monday, June 13, 2016 at 5:55pm

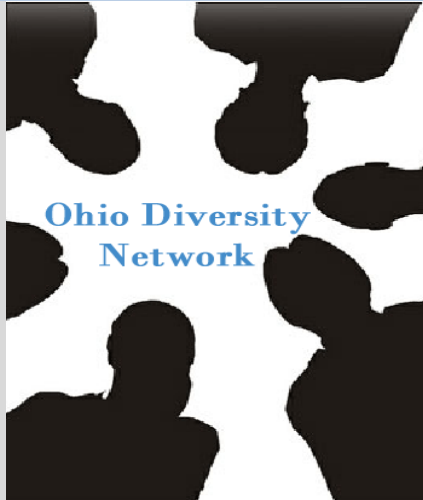
NAACP General Membership Meeting

Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 1:00pm

OhioMBE Procurement Fair sponsored by Columbus City Schools

Saturday, June 18, 2016 at 11:30am

OhioMBE – Certification 101



Ohio Awards

October 26, 2016

Recognizing Minority Businesses
& Advocates

www.OhioMBEAwards.com

The HUB Community Development Corporation logo features a stylized green and blue 'H' and 'U' icon next to the word "HUB" in large blue letters, with "Community Development Corporation" in smaller text below. The event details include the date "MAY 25, 2016" and time "11am - 1pm". A central graphic shows a group of colorful human figures standing on a network of white dots connected by lines, symbolizing networking. Text describes light refreshments and the goal of promoting business. The event is part of the "Wealth Wednesday Series" at 1336 East Main Street. Sponsors listed include UnitedHealthcare, G. Warren Wealth Enterprise, and Regions Accounting & Consulting. The graphic design is credited to DPI Graphic Design.

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*Yesterday is not ours to recover, but
tomorrow is ours to win or lose. --*

Lyndon B. Johnson

Looking for New Customers?

The OhioMBE Procurement Fair Can Help!

The OhioMBE Procurement Fairs introduces small, minority and female-owned businesses to area purchasing agents. During this fast-paced session, small businesses are allocated 15 minute appointments to meet one-on-one with represented companies/agencies.

The goal of the OhioMBE Procurement Fair is to engage minority businesses and small businesses with contracting opportunities.



Register TODAY!

www.ohiombe.eventbee.com

www.OhioMBEProcurementFairs.com

Need to meet your EDGE/MBE or Good Faith Contracting Efforts?

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We reach the MBE, DBE, EDGE and the small business community.

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