THE BLADE, TOLEDO, OHIO
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toledoBlade.com

THE BLADE/ANDY MORRISON

Toledo Walleye ice crew member Ian Graves loses his grip as he carries off a walleye thrown to the ice after Toledo scored against the Ft. Wayne Comets in an ECHL playoff game at the Huntington Center.



St. John's Jesuit fans cheer prior to a basketball game against St. Francis de Sales. St. John's defeated St. Francis 74-47.



■ For more of the Blade photographers' best photos of the year, go to toledoblade.com



THE BLADE/AMY F. VOIGT

A senior prays quietly while congregation members sing during Sunday morning service at Worship Center.

Images of

2017

Blade photographers pick

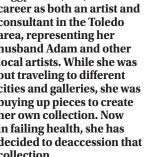
their favorites of the year



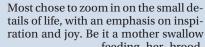
THE BLADE/DAVE ZAPOTOSKY

Peggy Grant, left, carved a career as both an artist and consultant in the Toledo area, representing her husband Adam and other local artists. While she was out traveling to different cities and galleries, she was buying up pieces to create her own collection. Now in failing health, she has decided to deaccession that collection.

BELOW: Brooke Robbins, 18, right in green tutu, holds a white lantern with other survivors during the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's annual Toledo Light The







which images best capture the thrust of a story or, standing alone, convey a heightened mood and con-Today, we threw out the rule book and

very day, editors decide

which photos appear in the

asked Blade staff photographers to choose one or two of their favorite photographs from 2017.

newspaper,

Did they focus on drama and tragedy? The struggle for existence? Hardly.

ration and joy. Be it a mother swallow

feeding her brood, cancer survivors brandishing lights against the night, or the exuberance of a woman discovering that her dog had survived an apartment fire, most reflected our capacity

for hope.

Individually, each tells a small story. Collectively, they paint a larger portrait of Toledo.



THE BLADE/KURT STEISS Young mud barn swallows open their mouths to receive food from their mother as she flies by the nest at Judith Learner's home.



Halsey checks the surgery staples on her foster dog Mekos, a 7-yearold male Bulldog mix, at her home. Mekos came to the Halsey family through Planned Pethood.

RIGHT: Trevon Mathis, Toledo head coach Jason Candle, and quarterback Logan Woodside, who was player of the game, hoist the trophy after winning the **MAC Champion-**



THE BLADE/KATIE RAUSCH

ship football game against Akron. THE BLADE/LORI KING