



The Sojourner's Truth

Volume 17, No.09

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

December 23, 2009

In This Issue

Tolliver
Page 2

Perryman
Page 3

Shooting Tragedy
Page 4

Hubbard In ... and Out
Page 5

Taylorman's
"The Glass City Power-
house"
Page 7

Number 7 – Book Review
Page 8

"Santa, Baby"
What The Minister Wants
Page 9

BlackMarketPlace
Page 10

Classifieds
Page 11

Culps' Birthday
Page 12

Gabriel's Birtday
Page 12

The week began with a shooting death by officers of the Toledo Police Department of a 62-year-old woman with a history of schizophrenia. It was the fifth time the police had used deadly force during the year, the third time such force involved the mentally ill.



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I'm Mentally Ill....Go Ahead and Shoot Me!!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column



This is a simple quiz. It is designed with no hidden or trick questions.

It is just a quick way for you to find out what value you place on human life. Answer each question within 45 seconds since the question practically gives you the correct answer.

The setting? Pretend you are in Toledo, Ohio and the victim is a person who is known to be mentally ill and the aggressors are the boys and girls in blue or the Toledo police. No other information is being provided to you to answer these questions.

Okay. Start! Oh... one other thing that might help you. Most of the victims are all minorities and are poor. Just thought I would throw in a little class/race conflict to juice things up.

Now start.

(1) Call goes out that a person is in the street and is acting strange. No weapon seen. Just being agitated and loud. Police come. What should they do?

A/ Kill or repeatedly Taser the person, it will save jail time and court expenses.

B/ Wait for backup including a crisis intervention team who will know how to handle these dicey situations.

C/ With no weapon seen, use non-deadly force such as mace, Taser gun, netting, rubber bullets, pepper fog machine or rush the person and sit on them until help arrives.

(2) Call goes out. Woman has a pair of scissors and is off her meds and is threatening people in a house. Caller asks for a crisis team to handle this type of scenario. Police arrive. What should they do?

A/ Use deadly force and smoke her and ask questions later.

B/ Secure the area and take others away from area and wait for crisis team to arrive.

C/ Get this person to commit to another part of the house and hold her hostage (even by closing a door on her!) until help comes.

(3) Call goes out. Man is known to be deranged and has pipe in his hands and will not drop it. Police are called. They know he is off his meds or has a history of mental illness. What to do?

A/ Blow his trouble-making rusty behind to kingdom come and wait for Chief Navarre to issue the standard mantra of..."our officers felt threatened and we train them to shoot at the body mass."

B/ Wait for crisis team to come and defuse the situation with non-deadly force and take the person into custody.

C/ Stall the person with distractions and conversations until family members arrive on the scene to try to talk him down.

All of the above scenarios or similar ones thereto have been acted out in Toledo within the past 12 months and invariably all were met with a common response: deadly force by the police and subsequently people crying and wailing about why these deaths of mentally incompetent persons continues to happen.

Could some or all of these deaths be avoided? Did class or race play a factor in the gunplay response of the arriving officers? Why was not Rescue Crisis called so they could play a pivotal role in these tense scenarios?

First, let's do the obvious. When a person is or has been adjudged mentally ill and/ or off their meds, the first thing that should come to mind is that the person is not thinking in a coherent manner and should be viewed as being with limited or no skills at receiving and computing messages from tense police or worried caretakers.

Secondly, too often police officers take any refusal to immediately respond as a sign of defiance. (Continued on Page 3)

Community Calendar

December 24

St. Paul's Community Center Holiday Dinner and Visit from Santa Claus: Noon: 419-255-5520 ext 213

December 25

Merry Christmas!!

Thomas Temple C.O.G.I.C. 5th Annual Free Christmas Dinner: 1 to 3 pm

December 26 – January 1

Kwanzaa 2009: "Hope, Change & Unity;" Wayman Palmer Community Center YMCA; Doors open 5 pm nightly: 419-471-1912

December 27

Last Sunday of the Year Church Service: World Healing Center; Noon: 419-322-1199

December 31

St. James "The Armory" Church's New Year's Eve Celebration: 10 pm; Communion and Baby Dedication

Braden United Methodist Church Watchnight Worship Service: 10 pm; Guest Pastor Arlene Hodges-Cole and Amazing Grace Zion AME

January 1

Happy New Year!!

January 3-8 and 10-15

Baptist Ministers Conference of Toledo and Vicinity Annual "Twelve-Night" Revival: two nights each at Eastern Star, St. Mark's, Jerusalem, Ebenezer, Southern and Indiana Avenue.

January 6

Free Bible Study Course at Braden UMC: "Kingdom Dwelling Principles for Kingdom Dwelling People;" Seven-week course; 7 pm: 419-386-2700

January 8-9

Auditions: Dramatically Inspired Works presents New Gospel Musical Play Solomon Love Him – Leave Him; St. Mark's MBC: 419-450-2022 or skybluelai@sbcglobal.net

January 9

Toledo Sister Cities Initiative Brunch: Hear about the medical mission to Tanga, Tanzania that Dr. Richard Paat and a team of 16 physicians undertook; 11 am; Inverness Club

January 10

5th Annual Appreciation Day: Pastor Sylvester and First Lady Anita Madison of People's MBC; 3:30 pm

January 10-12

St. James "The Armory" New Year's Fresh Rain Revival; Speaker Prophet Brian Carn; Sunday 11 am, Sunday 6 pm, Monday and Tuesday – 7 pm

January 30

26th Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth: "Living a Life of Service: Giving Back to Your Community;" Presented by the UT Toledo EXCEL Program; UT Student Union Auditorium; 8:30 to 10:45 am; Keynote speaker Malaak Compton-Rock: 419-530-3820, 3823 or 3830

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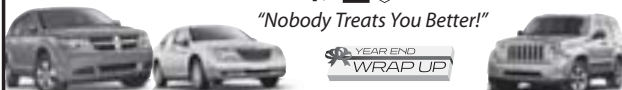


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Sad Contradictions and Bright Hopes

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.
The Truth Contributor



The acceptance of our present condition is the only form of extremism which discredits us before our children. —Lorraine Hansberry

One was an elderly female, mentally ill, weak and who died at the hands of a white female police officer. The other, a young, athletic urban black male—a former high school basketball player trying to do something positive with his life and employed in order to support himself while pursuing his dream to become a rap musician—was gunned down purportedly by a “would-be thief” who was also a young urban black male.

Yet, the sad contradictions do not end with the violent gun deaths of Linda Hicks, Romeo Alexander or the two other killings this past weekend which swelled Toledo’s homicide totals to 31 this year compared to 20 last year and 13

in 2007.

The most lamentable contradiction is the African-American community’s growing numbness to the horror and terror of black men and women killed by other blacks, serving as an indirect endorsement of violence against people of color. “It’s like the rain,” one college student replied, “You almost just get used to it.”

Unlike in the Hicks tragedy, where the gun’s trigger was squeezed by hands of those from outside the community, for those who died at the hand of people who looked like them, there have been no press conferences asking for an inquiry or investigation. There have been no black shirts of solidarity for the black victims like the support shown for the Jena 6 who allegedly committed crimes. There was no public expression of anger or black outrage in Toledo for the violent injustices perpetrated against blacks by other blacks or for the young black men who continue to die over crumbs at the hands of other African-Americans.

One reason for the lack of public outcry may be that many of us—possibly by personal or organized design—are isolated, separated or removed from many of the painful realities of life in the inner city.

Also, black-on-black crime obviously does not exist in a vacuum. Research has identified structural and institutional factors that contribute to black-on-black violence including its correlated rise between 1980 and 1990 with the introduction of crack-cocaine into the ‘hood’ and the related crack economy which flourishes because of limited sustainable employment opportunities, the scarcity of adequate educational facilities and the deadly combination of drugs, guns and poverty.

Many of those who are safely secluded from inner city ghettos often dismiss these factors while gazing from afar upon those unable to climb out of poverty’s icy grip as if they are clothed with “garments of undeserving-ness.”

In addition, while possibly no other country in the world has ideals as lofty as America’s, it does not escape notice that no country is as violent as we are. Pictures of violent battlefields are pumped into our living rooms daily from Iraq and Afghanistan. We patrol borders and locations all over the globe—with guns. Our history is filled with wars.

Others blame hip-hop and a video culture, controlled and disseminated by those outside the black community, which exports for

profit inner-city crime and violence to mainstream media where it is promoted directly to eager and gullible young black children whose role models are rappers, athletes and entertainers because they represent the only success achieved by people from their surroundings. And so violence is glamorized, embedded in our culture and has become our entertainment.

Yet neither blaming history, the system, culture, white folks or even the purveyors of violence themselves solves the problem. However the demand for solutions can be legitimately made since violence is not just a black problem but a Toledo problem and an American enigma that requires us all to come together in order to improve society.

The questions are many. Why do young black males kill each other? Why doesn’t the system work for so many? Why is the relationship between the black community and the police

so fragile despite a mutual need and dependence? How can poverty be eradicated? How can opportunities be increased for more young people? How can all Toledoans feel safe including those good people in neighborhoods besieged by crime?

Of course, there are no simple solutions. But until all of us realize that we are all connected, decide enough is enough, and demand a taskforce, summit or some other process that deals with the problem, the unnatural tragedy of black violence will continue to be normalized and eventually like being in the rain, “at some point we will all get

wet.”

If the painful, premature extinguishing of young, black life in the community along with its noble dreams and aspirations provokes the same anger against black-on-black crime that we have for police brutality and causes us to demand solutions, then the life that shined briefly yet so brightly, was not lived in vain.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” Margaret Mead

Contact Rev. Dr. Donald Perryman at dhperryman@centerforfaith.org

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Group Home Resident, Linda Hicks, Shot to Death by Toledo Police Officers

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

The week began with a shooting death by officers of the Toledo Police Department of a 62-year-old woman with a history of schizophrenia. It was the fifth time the police had used deadly force during the year, the third time such force involved the mentally ill.

As the week progressed, local ministers held a news conference to express their concern over the shooting and, as the week ended, Mayor Carty Finkbeiner formed a review panel to investigate police handling of people with mental illness.

But there were still more questions than answers about whether police officers had handled the situation appropriately.

What was relayed to the officers from the dispatcher? What did the group home operator say to officers and what did they ask her? It appears that Ms. Hicks went to her room to calm herself, what strategy did the officers have before they went in to talk to her? Did the officers follow Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training



suggestions—not use threatening body language, not touch an individual, lower voice, start conversation to discover reason for agitation?

These were but a few of the questions posed by Marci Colton Dvorak, executive director of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) of Greater Toledo, who was present at the creation of Toledo's CIT program. That program, formed in 2000 out of a partnership between NAMI and the To-

ledo Police Department, brings in volunteer patrol officers to receive 40 hours of training in mental illness and in the local mental health system.

The Night of The Shooting

Tanya Murphy cares for the mentally ill in her state-licensed Marissa's Adult Family Home on Fernwood Avenue. When Linda Hicks became agitated and wielded a pair of scissors at her, Murphy called 911 and asked

for the "crisis police." She told the dispatcher that Hicks had a history of schizophrenia and was not taking her medication.

Officers Diane Chandler, who has had CIT training, and Rebecca Kenney arrived on the scene within three minutes, said TPD Chief Mike Navarre. They were told of the incident with the scissors, Hicks' schizophrenia history and the medication problem.

The two officers knocked on the door of Hicks' bedroom and, according to the chief, saw that Hicks had her hands under a pillow. She refused to comply with a request to show her hands.

The officers attempted to use a Taser on Hicks, but the instrument failed. They apparently tried a second time by making direct contact.

Hicks apparently became agitated, rose from the bed and, according to the police report, brandished the scissors at Chandler who fired her weapon four times, hitting Hicks twice in the head.

How long did the officers attempt to engage Ms. Hicks regarding her agitation before she was Tased? Is it correct she was Tased on top of bed clothing when that would not be effective? Why did the officers not back off and call for assistance if

needed to physically restrain Ms. Hicks? Why was there such urgency to recover alleged weapon when the officers knew Ms. Hicks was psychotic and not able to respond immediately to questions? – Dvorak.

The Police Response

Navarre held a news conference the following day and invited Dvorak and Jacqueline Martin, executive director of the Lucas County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board to attend. Both declined.

Both police officers were placed on administrative leave, he announced. The chief also explained the department's use of deadly force policy which informs officers that they are permitted to use lethal force "when it's reasonable to believe that a subject poses an immediate danger of death or serious physical injury to the officer or others."

A complete investigation, he said, will take three to four weeks and be turned over to the Lucas County Prosecutor's Office.

The Community Response

On Thursday, December 16, a group of 20 ministers and community leaders gathered outside the group home

to express their concern over the tragedy.

"We are not here to bash the police," said Rev. Cedric Brock, pastor of Mt. Nebo Baptist Church and president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA). "As socially and morally conscientious leaders in our community, the pastors of the IMA are all greatly concerned about the inconsistencies surrounding the recent police shooting of Ms. Linda Hicks. We must call for full disclosure and transparency by the Toledo Police Department and the county mental health board relative to facts surrounding this tragic event."

"This group of ministers is here because we have an appreciation for the job our safety forces perform," said Rev. D.L. Perryman of Center of Hope Missionary Baptist Church. "But we are also concerned about a perceived possible rise in the willingness to use force beyond what is reasonably necessary and about what may be a growing culture of callousness when it comes to the most vulnerable in society, including the mentally disabled. There is an understandable sensitivity in the city towards the plight of animals but an inexplicable

(Continued on Page 6)

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Mayor-Elect Adds Four More High Level Positions ... Then Drops One

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor



At 10 a.m. on Friday morning last week, Mayor-elect Mike Bell announced four key appointments in his new administration for directors of Law, Human Resources, Department of Neighborhoods and Department of Public Utilities.

Among the intended appointees was Paul Hubbard as director of the Department of Neighborhoods. Hubbard had previously served in the same position during Mayor Carty Finkbeiner's first term in office and as acting director of Economic Development during Finkbeiner's second term.

At 3:30 p.m. on that same Friday, Bell held another news conference to announce the offer to Hubbard had been rescinded. Hubbard, Bell revealed, currently has an outstanding small-business loan from the City of Toledo that has not been repaid. That was information Hubbard had not given the transition team, said Bell. "I greatly respect Paul's vast knowledge of community development and housing issues, but I'm disappointed that this information was not disclosed sooner," said Bell. "Trust is of the utmost importance in moving this new administration forward. We lead by example and unfortunately this is an instance in which the standard needs to be set higher."

Hubbard is also a local business owner and has served as Community Builder for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"I'm going to enjoy it," said Hubbard earlier in the day of his return to public service. "The first thing I want to do is to take a look at federal and state money that's available such as stimulus funds and community development block grant funds and determine how we can get it back onto the streets with community development cor-

porations and start stabilizing our neighborhoods."

He never received that opportunity.

Hubbard, a native of Cincinnati, had spent most of his adult career in Detroit prior to his move here to join the first Finkbeiner administration. As head of the Department of Neighborhoods, Hubbard was responsible for development of "more than 1,500 new and rehab housing units for low income people," he told The Truth several years ago during an interview.

Another significant Hubbard accomplishment was his role in bringing the Urban League to Toledo and making the organization a viable player in the area. Prior to Hubbard's successful effort, there had been three failed attempts to bring the Urban League here. He has served in some capacity with the Greater Toledo Urban League ever since, including a recent stint as acting president/

CEO.

Hubbard would have succeeded Katie Bond as director and, according to the Ball announcement last week, Bond had agreed to remain in the department in another capacity in order to "work closely with Mr. Hubbard in the new administration."

Bond will now continue, at least in the short-term, as director.

Hubbard had earlier been appointed to serve on Bell's 31-member transition team and it was during this stint that he was approached by Bell and was asked to take over the Department of Neighborhoods on a temporary basis. According to Hubbard, this conversation took place on Monday, December 14 during a transition team meeting. He agreed to do so.

On Wednesday, December 16, during a Bell fundraiser, said Hubbard, Bell asked him to take the position on a permanent basis. Again, Hubbard agreed.

As a result of these overtures, Hubbard never submitted an application or resume for the position, nor was an interview ever held.

As for financial issue, the \$50,000 SBA loan was extended to Hubbard and two partners several years ago in order to assist in the opening of a Captain D's restaurant on Laskey Rd. After two years, the restaurant closed and Hubbard's two partners declared bankruptcy, leaving him with the entire debt.

According to Hubbard, he and his attorney worked out a payment plan with former city Law Director John Madigan that was not recorded in the Hubbard file.

"If [Bell] would have waited until Monday [to make the announcement], my attorney would have confirmed the fact that everything had been worked out, or we could have worked out a new agreement," said Hubbard in a statement released over the weekend. "It's unfair ... to ask me to take the job then make the statements they made about honesty when we never had a meeting or sat down to discuss the position. This situation could have been

handled more professionally and the SBA loan problem could have been resolved in a win-win manner."

Almost lost in the events surrounding the Hubbard appointment and withdrawal was the fact that three other appointments were announced by the mayor-elect.

Bell will appoint Adam Loukx to serve as the city's Law Director. Loukx is currently the acting Law Director. He joined the City Law Department in 1999 and became general counsel in 2007. Loukx earned his bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University and his law degree from Capital University Law School.

Peg Wallace, Ph.D., will assume the duties of director of Human Resources. Wallace has served in the Human Resources Department and the Toledo Civil Service Commission in various capacities since 1977 and is currently acting director of the department. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from St. Joseph's College in Indiana; a master's in psychology from the University of Dayton and a doctorate in Research and Management and

Health from The University of Toledo.

Tom Crothers also returns to city government as the director of Public Utilities.

"We need to restore a sense of urgency to [the department]," said Crothers who previously served as chief of staff, finance director and director of Natural Resources. "We need a renewed sense of customer service and a sense of partnership emanating from the department of Public Utilities."

Crothers is presently the executive director of the Downtown Toledo Improvement District and he has also worked with FirstEnergy/Toledo Edison as an account executive helping to manage client relations, special projects and customer service. He earned his undergraduate degree from UT in business management.

Friday's announcements were the second round of high-level appointments. Bell had previously announced his executive staff appointees—Dean Monske, deputy mayor for external affairs; Steve Herwat, deputy director of operations and Shirley Green, safety director.

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my 58

DJ Reese

Linda Hicks

(Continued from Page 4)

culture of callousness towards human life."

One by one, the assembled ministers expressed their "concern" about how the situation was handled and asked for full disclosure about the events in question.

Rev. Robert Culp, pastor of First Church of God, called the events a "community problem" that involved not just an issue of race but one of the mentally ill.

The Events Foreshadowing Hicks Death

Pyon Yong Su Simmons was shot to death by police officers on October 29 after he had stabbed his mother twice and attacked the officers with metal pipes.

"We knew that Pyon was bipolar and not taking his meds before communication from the dispatcher went out to the crews," said Navarre at the time.

Nevertheless, no officers with CIT training were dispatched to the scene.

"It was a Code 3 response," said Navarre. In that case, we don't have time

to shop persons to respond, we send the closest unit."

The police department has only 80 CIT-trained officers and sometimes the availability of such officers is "very thin" said Lt. Mark King, coordinator for TPD.

Betsy Johnson, associate executive director for NAMI Ohio has said: "The problem is getting the right officer to the scene. Mentally ill persons don't respond to commands and sometimes act in contradictory or unexpected ways so it is imperative that someone knows how to talk to them in a way that won't

set them off."

The greatest contributor to tragic incidents involving the mentally ill, said Johnson, is budgetary. "The state budget has recently cut mental health funding by 34 percent," she said. "Yet jail and the costs of violence are more expensive than actual treatment and making sure that patients take their medicines."

The Mayor's Response

Several days after the fatal shooting, Mayor Carty Finkbeiner formed a six-person task force to study the

police department's approach to dealing with the mentally ill. The first meeting was held this week in the mayor's office.

Members of the committee include: Perryman; Navarre; Martin; Culp; Juanita Greene, executive director of the Toledo Board of Community Relations and Toledo police Captain Ray Carroll.

The group has been charged with reporting how the police and the mental health community can improve communications and to study the training of police officers who respond to such incidents.

Dvorak has asked a few questions the group might

want to consider:

Why has there been such a turnaround in CIT supervisors/leaders in TPD—five in nine years? Why were there so few officers trained in the last class? Is the de-

partment committed to maintain a certain number of CIT officers and what is that number? Are there resources committed to the CIT program for tracking calls and dispositions?



Revs. Cedric Brock and D.L. Perryman

His Family Honors De'vin Hughes

Today's youth often say that the odds are against them but they may not understand how difficult it is for those with a disability.

De'vin Amille Hughes graduated from Libbey High School in June 2009 and also received a special honor certificate from Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. De'vin is autistic. Autism is characterized by impaired social interaction and problems with verbal and non-verbal communication.

De'vin really amazed professionals and particularly educators and physicians by his accomplishments and because of how far he came. His participation in the graduation ceremony astonished many. So this is for De'vin and for all those individuals who think that a difficult event is an impossible event.



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Taylorman Releases "The Glass City Powerhouse"

Sojourner's Truth Staff

How do you get everyone in the Toledo music business on the same page?

Torell Taylor (a/k/a "Taylorman") solves the problem with "The Glass City Powerhouse" as he interviews people with a range of musical perspectives.

The DJ's in Taylorman's documentary "let artists know the procedures and the steps to getting airtime," says Taylorman.

Conversely, the artists interviewed "speak to let the DJ's and radio stations know that they need a local home," he says.

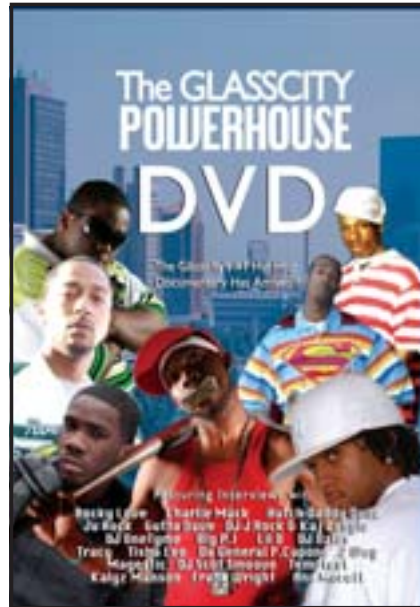
"The Glass City Powerhouse" is a 90-minute trek through Toledo's hip-hop scene. Filmed over the course of three weeks, the documentary features interviews with almost 30 artists, producers and radio personalities. According to Taylorman, the DVD is a music conference.

His next project is another documentary on Toledo mayoral race. Then a new CD called D2M (Determination to Maintain).

"The Glass City Power-

house" is available on DVD for \$9.99 at local music stores such as Culture Clash, Allied Record Exchange, Ramalama Records and Sound Asylum.

To view a clip, go to www.myspace.com/taylormantv and www.youtube.com/taylorman14.



Eberly Center's Volunteers at Stewart Academy

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The University of Toledo's Catherine S. Eberly Center for Women gathered 16 volunteers to tutor the students at the Ella P. Stewart Academy for Girls during the fall semester.

The volunteers came from both UT and the community and met with Stewart students twice a week from September through December.

The program will be starting again after the holiday break.



NEW YEAR'S RAFFLE

YOUR BEST ODDS TO WIN
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DRAWING HELD ON JANUARY 2, 2010.

OH! LOTTERY.

Drawing date subject to change.

TICKETS ARE LIMITED. \$20/TICKET

www.ohiolottery.com

Lottery programs are subject to Ohio laws and Commission regulations. Please play responsibly.

Book Review**7: The Number for Happiness, Love, and Success by Jacqueline Leo**

c.2009, TwelveBooks

\$23.99 / \$28.99 Canada

261 pages, includes index

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

Every night when you get ready for bed, you empty your pockets.

You'll have a few coins. Lint, and a scrunched dollar bill. And dozens of scraps of paper, each with something scrawled on it; a phone number, an address, a to-do list.

Why is it that you can't remember anything any more? Is your brain overloaded that much? It

shouldn't be so hard to remember a client's information... should it? Until you learn the answer to that, you live by scrap of paper.

Maybe you're trying to remember too much, says author **Jacqueline Leo**. For centuries, scientists, thinkers, and philosophers have believed that your mind has a set point, and in the new book *7: The Number for Happiness, Love and Suc-*

cess, you'll find out where it lies.

Seven-Card Stud. Send your daughter to a Seven Sisters college. Read *7 Habits of Highly Successful People* or the seven Harry Potter books. Sail the Seven Seas. Seventh-inning stretch and seven-layer cake. The Chicago Seven and Seven Dwarfs. Seven colors in a rainbow. Roll the dice for a Lucky 7.

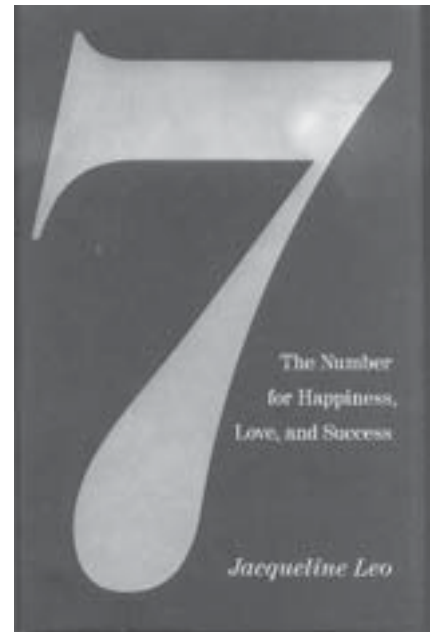
And your phone number—seven, sans area code.

The point is that the number 7 shows up in a surprising number of places in literature, pop culture, philosophy, ancient cultures, nature, and more—and it's been showing up for as long as mankind has been recording information: Greek philosophers said that there are seven kinds of love. Confucius taught seven ways to a good life. Mesopotamians divided the earth and heaven into seven zones. And when God created Earth, there were seven divine commands, one for each of the seven days.

Fine—but what does this have to do with you and your inability to remember? Leo says that the number 7 is "a gift," inherent in our humanness. To make life easier and more productive, she says, take advantage of seven by breaking down your tasks into seven steps or focusing on seven todos for the day. Embrace the seven words that can lead to "a smarter, simpler life:" Yes, No, Stop, Go, Start, End and Be. Look for opportunities to use seven in your day-to-day existence.

And if you still aren't convinced, you've got a hole in your head—seven of them, to be exact.

Quirky but impossible to put down, *7: The Number*



for Happiness, Love, and Success almost defies categorization. It's part new-age, part Book of Lists, part history and philosophy, mixed with motivational information and life-lessons, as well as lots of amazing I-never-noticed-that trivia. And it's very enjoyable.

Broken down in (what else?) seven general chapters, author Jacqueline Leo shows how we've naturally embraced a simple number in many different areas of

life—a number, incidentally, that most people claim when asked to choose. She also borrows from experts in business, science, mathematics, and history to offer tips and hints that are useful to anyone, 24/7.

Businesspeople, students, historians, numerologists, and the curious will get a kick out of this eclectic, easy-to-browse, fun-to-read book. For them, "7" is a solid 9.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2010

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Fashion Show
Food Tasting
Prize Giveaways
entertainment
Marriage Renewal

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MTAN
Scholarship
Fund

Model—Marissa Austin
Photographer—Dan Bart

Garden Lake Banquet Hall
5359 Dorr Street, Toledo, Ohio
12:00 Noon—5:00 P.M.
Vendor Information: 419-346-5275
Email: gcreationsproductions@yahoo.com

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Complete new management and staff

Open Monday – Saturday 11 am to 9 pm
Same entry as the Old West End
Restaurant (corner of Delaware and Collingwood)

All I Want for Christmas ...

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



With this edition of The Truth coming out two days before Christmas,

I felt it only fitting to let you all know what I asked for this year.

So as it makes its way to the North Pole just in time, here's a look at what I hope to find under my tree (or at least nearby).

DEARSANTA,

Many don't believe in you but I have found so much craziness in my environment lately that I just have to believe in something good.

I've been good but not great, yet not naughty as most.

So maybe if this wishlist makes it to you, you can hook a brother up.

MY WISHLIST:

Santa please bring my city a police force that truly makes its citizens feel SAFE.

I've noticed a lot of violence this year committed by members of law enforcement and so many upstanding residents of this city fear brutality and even senseless murder.

So please Santa, bring Toledo a police force that protects the lives and rights of people.

Also, I really need a shiny, brand-spanking, new attitude for my fellow Toledoans. A new attitude, a make-over... I don't know which one would

be easier for you to put on your sleigh but either way I'm gonna need that, Santa. ASAP! The low self-esteem, the fighting, the hatred, the lack of pride in community and in self is becoming suffocating. So if you could bring a new attitude, maybe even a little bit of dignity if you have any lying around no one else is using.

We sure could use it, Santa!

Okay, now this next item... you may have to work closely with my President on this one so if you can't deliver this exactly on December 25th, then it's cool. But, maan, we really, really, REALLY need economic recovery. I know you notice it, Santa.

All the mommies and daddies who usually help you out by running to the stores trying to help you stuff stockings and grab up gifts ... I'm sure you've noticed they aren't doing so much to help you out this year. Nothing personal, it's just that many of them have lost their jobs.

Okay, not just many... like... a historically high number of them have lost their jobs.

Jobs that rich men have moved to other countries, jobs that won't likely come back.

So if you could work something out with our government/politicians or whom-ever.

Most of them take our money and don't listen to us, maybe they'll listen to you.

If you can work this out, I think next year you'll have more mommies & daddies shopping for loved ones and helping you make Christmas happen!

Big homie Kris Kringle, can I be all the way real with you? Okay, Christmas time and winter months you know is all cold weather for us. Some of us go through really silly situations just to have a

cuddle partner to keep warm with. You know how you've got your list and you're checking it twice?

Well, most of the naughtiness you may be aware of is ... okay, nevermind.

I just think if you could bring everyone the gift of comfort, it would be better.

Either comfortable being alone or comfortable in seeking whatever they want.

From where I am, I see a lot of people going to extremes to get and/or keep someone who may not bring much joy at all.

In fact, sadly, some of these situations are bringing the exact opposite of joy and people are abused. Sure would be nice if we could all wake up Christmas morning with a way out of bad relationships and into good ones...even if it's just with ourselves. But actually, we may be more equipped to handle this one. Just make sure you provide some mistletoe!

Real quick:

Please bring Tiger Woods, Rihanna, Chris Brown and Kanye West the gift of better decision-making skills.

Please bring Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh the gift of retirement and deafening solitude with no ears to hear their evil ranting.

Please bring my President Barack Obama a bigger hater shield, I think I'm starting to see some cracks in the one he's been wearing so far (btw, I might need one of those too ... in my size, thanks).

Please bring real universal, quality, free healthcare to all United States residents. (Residents, not just citizens).

Please bring 50 Cent's ego back down to a human level and perhaps raise his rhyme talent to an average level. (which reminds, Jay Z's hater shield...maybe get him a back

up just in case).

Please bring Allen Iverson a near .500 regular season so he won't look bad.

I'm sure you're a fan, Santa ... who doesn't love A.I. ?

I know this list is kinda thick.

Of course I'll understand if you can't get to everything. But I had to ask.

I mean if I don't ask you to make these changes... if I can't depend on you to help make the world right, who can I ask? Who else can do so much?

Who else could we all depend on when all of us have such serious and urgent needs?

Who else could... oh yeah, that's right.

Well, hey, never hurts to ask right?

We need all the help we can get.

Thanks, Santa. "When we give ourselves the gift of imagination, we give ourselves possibility to improve" - me.

glasscitytruth@yahoo.com

Shoot Me

(Continued from Page 3)

commands as a personal affront or slap and before you know it, the department issued Glock 9mm is belching smoke and fire.

Thirdly, has this police department ever heard of other non-lethal means by which to subdue a person other than a gun or a Taser? Has Chief Navarre ever heard of: netting to throw over a person to subdue them or pepper spray for a non-armed person or rubber bullets to take down a person who may have a lead pipe or glass shards in their hands or a fog machine to spray into a confined area to subdue a person who does not have a deadly weapon?

Why is it and especially so with people of color and those who are poor, that the first choice of confrontation is with deadly force...even when there is no deadly force opposing the arriving officers?

In the police training manuals, are all of the pictures of the bad guy or the gun practice targets colored with a black or brown crayon?

If you are black or a minority in Toledo and are poor to boot and are mentally ill, you may want to change your zip code to a city that has a grasp of what it means to use deadly force only when confronted by imminent deadly force; and not against an unarmed person who is mumbling gibberish about seeing evil aliens disguised to hot dogs at the sports arena or that billboards start to chase him whenever he wears yellow pants with pink socks.

Come on, Navarre, you can do better. The goal should be the least drastic means by which to regain control of the situation.

By the way, the answers to the above quiz: B.B.B.

Email comments to: Tolliver@Juno.com

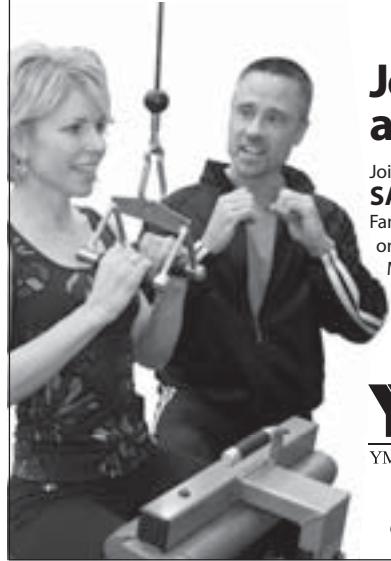
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Kids are FREE when their parents join!

PLUS save an extra **10%** on monthly payments.

Now is the time for things that matter – your family, your faith, your YMCA/JCC.

At the YMCA and JCC, you'll find top-quality facilities and fitness equipment, pools, gymnasiums, classes and free fitness coaches to help design a fitness program just for you.



Join NOW and Save!

Join by December 31st and **SAVE \$200** on a Max Family Membership or \$132 on a Max Individual Adult Membership.

PLUS take an additional **10%** off monthly payments.



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ymcatoledo.org

Offer valid on automatic payment plan. Only one discount applies.

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Weds, Senior Day Discounts
Shampoo/Style with Manicures for \$40 -
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Refreshments - Handicap Accessibility

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Full pinch, net and quick weaves \$85-\$140 Reg. \$175 and up

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and Michelle (Owner)

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New PSAs Encourage African Americans To Consider Adopting From Foster Care

Special to The Truth

African Americans know the importance of families. Many have taken steps to extend their families further by serving as adoptive parents.

Today there are approximately 496,000 kids in the American foster care system, and 130,000 of them are available for adoption, according to the U.S. Department of

Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families.

Thirty-one percent of the children in foster care are African American—an overrepresentation of children relative to the U.S. population, possibly due in part to children of color waiting longer to be adopted and having lower overall adop-

tion rates than children who are not of color.

As a result of these staggering statistics, the Children's Bureau, the Ad Council and AdoptUsKids have partnered on a new campaign to encourage the adoption of children from foster care.

The PSAs feature the tag line, "You don't have to be

perfect to be a perfect parent" to communicate a humorous angle about the seemingly daunting task of adopting a child from foster care. The goal is to reassure prospective parents that even if not "perfect," they can provide the stability and security that children in foster care need.

The latest series of ads in

this award-winning campaign target the African American community. They portray parents in humorous, everyday situations sincerely attempting to connect with their children, including through a game of paintball, a family BBQ and a recorded birthday card.

Another spot features a father's valiant efforts to bring

his children their forgotten lunches. These new spots are meant to illustrate to potential parents that children in foster care don't need perfection, they need the commitment and love a "forever family" can provide.

For more information, visit www.adoptuskids.org or call 1.888.200.4005.

Black Market Place

Homes For Sale!!!
Grant Money & Tax Credit Funds Available!
 1347 Craigwood, West Tol, \$99,999, 3 beds, 2 Car
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 If you have foot problems such as bunions, hammer-toes, heel spurs, fungus, thick toenails, diabetes, neuromas, callouses, or are in need of orthotics or diabetic shoes. **Please do not wait!**
 Visit Dr. Jean today at 1857 N. Reynolds Rd. - Tel: 419.537.9877
 Almost all insurances are accepted including Medicaid and Caresource.

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 2 Bedrooms ~1 Bathroom~ Walk In Closets
 ~Central Air Full Basement~ A MUST SEE
 Down Payment Assistance Available for Income Eligible Applicants Call Toledo Community Development Corporation 419-255-7500 And more!!

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 Hair Stylist: Clyde * Dell
 Latest Techniques in Hair Styles for Ladies & Men

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 Everything New: Paint, Carpet, Stove, Refrig. Section 8 OK
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2029 Joffre St. - \$54,900
 Well maintained 3 BR, 1 BA home with newer furnace & hot water tank. Full basement & 1 car detached garage
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Good Credit or Bad Need a Car? New or Used Call JP the Stork He Delivers 419.320.0863

534 Mettler - \$50,000
Priced to Sell - 3 bdrms, 1 full bath, Beautiful Brick Home, 1.5 story, Large Finished Dormer with lots of storage, 2 car garage
 Call Alma Dortch-Gilbert 419.297.2301 for appointment
 adortchgilbert@sbcglobal.net

125 W. Delaware - \$39,900
West End Area!
 3 beds, 2 full baths with double lot. Totally remodeled!!
Grant Money Available!!
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NO MORE STAIRS!!!
1500 Roosevelt Avenue
 All Brick 3 bed w/h
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GRANTS AVAILABLE!!
 Call Emory Whittington, III * 419.392.5428 Emory

West Village - \$149,500
 2139 sq. ft. condo. Really great unit. Looks like Pottery Barn decorated this home. Ready to move in. Extras, extras, extras. Upgrades everywhere - flooring, cabinets, lighting. Patio gives a feeling of Paris Bistro.
 Seaway Asset Management
 Call Kimberly Brown - 419.810.7097

4522 Oak Creek \$84,500
 3 BDRM brick/vinyl ranch home 2.5 baths and Master Suite. Large LR/DR with updated kitchen. 2.5 car attached garage and inground pool. **Subject to lender approval.**
 Call Alma Dortch-Gilbert 419.297.2301 for appointment
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Woodley Court - \$259,000
 6 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, 3488 sq. ft. Custom-built home. Must see to believe. Located in the quiet Trail Acres subdivision. Built for entertaining or large family. Easy to show and ready for buyer.
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 901 Nebraska, Tol, OH 43607
Complete Line of Barber & Beauty Supplies
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 Mon: 10 - 6 & Tues: Sat. 8 - 5
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210 Bloomfield - \$50,900 GREAT BUY!
 3 bdrms - 1 full bath - livingroom/dining combo with cozy kitchen. Beautifully landscaped with fenced in yard. Move in ready!
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Services include: Roofing - Dry Wall - Flooring - Basic Wiring - Plumbing - Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling
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 Salon and Spa
WANTED HAIR STYLIST BOOTH RENTAL
 reg \$110.00 a week/ NOW \$65.00 a week
 For information call 419.944.8350
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Brookley - \$59,900
 3 Bedroom, 1257 sq. ft; Finished basement
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HOUSES FOR RENT!!!! SECTION 8 WELCOME!!
 Website: www.whittgrouprealty.com
 Click on Featured Listings and Navigate
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 Body magic system - designed to re-shape, restore & revive
 Vitamins
 Variety of nutritional supplements
 Lose inches without exercise or surgery
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Hillandale - \$92,000
 Ottawa Hills condo. 1440 sq. ft., 2 full baths. Location, location, location. Bright home, new carpet, newly painted. Spacious one floor. Lots of storage, private garage. One great unit.
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 Call Kimberly Brown - 419.810.7097

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 1303 Grand * 1044 Lincoln * 234 Maumee * 851 Oakwood * 1027 W. Woodruff Down payment and closing cost assistance available for income eligible. Lease-Purchase option available. Call Toledo Community Development Corporation at (419) 255-7500 or Julia Bryant, Key Realty at (419) 320-0909.

NEW PRICE!! PERFECT STARTER IN MOVE-IN CONDITION!! 1818 MACAMBER
 2 bds, living rm, dining rm w/hardwood floors. All new windows. Newer roof, furnace, and hot water tank. C/A, Security System & Patio in rear yard. Appliances stay
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CLASSIFIEDS

December 23, 2009

Page 11

E.O.P.A./TOLEDO HEAD START PROGRAM EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SERVICE AREA WORKER

\$9.53/hour (post-probation), 24 hours/week—35 week/year. Serve as a substitute worker in various capacities throughout the Agency after successful completion of required training. Qualifications: A flexible schedule is required. One (1) year verifiable experience working with 3-5 year old children.

STIMULUS PROJECT MANAGER-STIMULUS

\$17.00/hr (post-probationary), 40 hours/week, Position ends: Sept. 30, 2010

Coordinate and manage all projects generated by the ARRA/CSBG funds from the State of Ohio. **Qualifications:** Associates Degree Preferred. Must have a solid understanding of budgets, the implementation of non-profit programs and case management plans.

RE-HOUSING SPECIALIST-STIMULUS

\$17.00/hr (post-probationary), 40 hours/week, Position ends: Sept. 30, 2010

Provide case management services to displaced customers from their existing housing through foreclosure, eviction or general homelessness. **Qualifications:** Associates Degree preferred in Business, Finance/Accounting, Counseling or related field. 2-3 years of experience managing caseloads and negotiating loan terms on foreclosed mortgage accounts.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE COORDINATOR-STIMULUS

\$19.12/hr (post-probationary), 40 hours/week, Position ends: Sept. 30, 2010

Provide comprehensive case management (financial literacy, home ownership, employment and life skills, etc.) to low to moderate-income individuals. **Qualifications:** Some post secondary education in social work, psychology, or related field. Ability to facilitate trainings. Excellent computer, organization, and communication skills.

Application deadline: **Monday, January 04, 2010.** Apply at EOPA, 525 Hamilton St., Ste. 202., 8:30-3:30. Must have High School Diploma or GED. Must have reliable transportation and possess a valid Driver's License with proof of auto and liability insurance. Employment is contingent upon successful completion of background check and possible drug testing. **NO RESUMES ACCEPTED WITHOUT A COMPLETED APPLICATION. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!** Please visit www.eopa.org for complete details.

Equal Employer Opportunity

For Rent

Beautiful three-bedroom, living and dining room Full basement, 1 1/2 car garage, deck
247 Majestic
Contact Aisha's Housing
419-514-4011 or 419-810-1300

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Nice North End section 8 three bedroom home with garage and fenced yard.
Newly painted. 2508 Locust Street.
\$600/ mo plus alarm system.
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Wanted

I buy diabetes supplies
Call 419-740-7162
Please a leave message

Pre-School Teacher

Position requires an associate degree in early childhood education and one year experience working with pre-school children. Teaching experience with Head Start.

Fax resume to 419-475-3999

Teachers Wanted

Certified K-12 teachers and highly qualified applicants sought to tutor after school in students' homes in Toledo. Must pass BCI/FBI background checks, have reliable transportation and be willing to tutor in students' homes. Hours are flexible and pay is competitive.

Send cover letter and resume to toledo@tutoringinyourhome.com or post pre-application on www.tutoringinyourhome.com.

Associate Vice President, Finance / Controller

Owens State Community College
Toledo, OH

Go to <https://jobs.owens.edu> for details!

Hiring Experienced Bartenders, servers, kitchen staff

Apply in person
3535 Byrne Rd
Hill Street Blue Café
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Chief Information Officer

Owens Community College invites you to learn more about this exciting job opportunity at <https://jobs.owens.edu>.

Become part of our inclusive culture that embraces and celebrates diversity.

AA/EOE

Owens State Community College
Toledo, OH

Go to <https://jobs.owens.edu> for details!

The University of Toledo

The position's primary responsibility will be to manage the recruitment and enrollment plan for the College of Pharmacy. This position will work cooperatively with the University Office of Admissions to develop and implement recruitment and enrollment strategies for the College. Please visit <http://www.utoledo.edu/depts/hr/main/employment/career.html> for a complete description.

Qualifications for this position:

- Bachelor's degree in education, communications, business, pharmaceutical sciences or a related field is required

- Excellent oral & written communication skills including proficiency in PowerPoint are essential

- Considerable knowledge of and experience with Access and Excel, particularly in the development of queries and databases are required

- Excellent problem solving, organizational, and analytical skills are required

- A valid driver's license and good driving record are required

- A minimum of 2 years professional admissions/recruitment or advising experience or related college student personnel experience is preferred

To apply, submit a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to: The University of Toledo, 2801 W. Bancroft, MS 205 Toledo, Ohio 43606-3390 or email recruit@utoledo.edu (preferred). Use only one method of application. **Resumes must be received by December 23, 2009.**

UT is an EEO, AA Employer and Educator.

First Class Instrument Mechanics

Sunoco, Inc., an independent refiner and marketer of petroleum in Toledo, has an immediate need for four (4) First Class Instrument Mechanics. The selected applicant will be responsible for installing, repairing, maintaining, and troubleshooting various types of instruments such as: differential pressure transmitters, flow meters, level transmitters, level switches, pressure switches, control valves, smart positioners, thermocouples, and control systems.

Applicants must:

- Have a 2 year Technical Degree in Process Control Instrumentation/Electronics or completion of an instrument mechanic apprentice program

- Have a minimum of 4 years experience in repairing, maintaining and installing instrumentation in the chemical, refining or other similar industries.

- Have a working knowledge of good industry practices for repairing instruments

- Be a self-starter in repairing and demonstrate the ability to make sound decisions while working with limited supervision

- Be able to work 8-hour shifts and temporary off-shifts to include weekends, holidays and overtime, and a willingness to perform physically active job tasks in all types of weather

For confidential consideration and additional job requirements, please submit your resume through our website career center at www.sunocoinc.com. Resumes will not be accepted at the refinery location.

EOE/M/F/D/V

NORTHGATE APARTMENTS Now Accepting Applications 1 AND 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS

Mature Adult Community for Persons 55 and Older or Mobility Impaired. Rent Based on Income. Heat, Appliances, Drapes and Carpeting Included. ASK ABOUT



OUR MOVE-IN SPECIAL Call (419) 729-7118 for details.

Special Notice

RE: Examinations for Journeyman Wireman

Applications for the Journeyman Inside Wireman test will be accepted January 11 – 15, 2010 at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 8, 807 Lime City Road, Rossford, Ohio between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The qualifications to be eligible for this examination are:

1. Must be 18 years of age or over.
2. Must live in the jurisdiction of Local 8 for one year prior to application.
3. Must have proof of 4 years employment in the commercial/industrial electrical construction industry.

Gym Attendant

Monroe Street Neighborhood Center is seeking a part time open gym coordinator and assistant for its afterschool open gym program.

Candidate must possess a high school diploma, associates degree preferred.

Send resume with salary requirements by December 30, 2009 to:

Monroe Street Neighborhood Center
3613 Monroe Street
Toledo, Ohio 43606
Fax: 419-475-1148
Email: cpetty@monstnc.org

The Big Birthday Bash – “Yes, Indeedy, Sweety”

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Theresa M. Gabriel, assistant chief of staff for the City of Toledo, celebrated her birthday in grand style on Friday evening, December 18, in the company of family, friends and co-workers – including Hizzoner himself.

Naturally the gala was held at the Peacock Café on Monroe, which Gabriel owned for many years and is now owned by her son, Bobby Gabriel.

The party started shortly after the workday ended at 5:30 p.m. and continued for hours for, as the program noted, “the one and only, Ms. Theresa M. Gabriel.”



Calvin Lawshe and Gabriel



Peg Wallace, future director of Human Resources and Gabriel



Friends help Gabriel celebrate



Gabriel and friend



The Culp Brothers Birthday Celebration

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Hundreds of family and friends gathered at the Genesis Dreamplex Ballroom on the night of November 28 to celebrate the recent birthdays of three Culp brothers.

Fred Culp turned 90 in November; Rev. Robert Culp, pastor of First Church of God, turned 75 in October and Bernard “Pete” Culp will be 70

this upcoming January.

The Culp family, originally from Sharon, Pennsylvania, started trickling to Toledo about 50 years ago. Robert Culp arrived 1961, Pete in 1962 and Fred in 1966. The three brothers are part of a 10-sibling family – one brother has passed away.



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