



The Sojourner's Truth

Volume 32, No. 5

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

March 11, 2015

March Is Women's History Month



Local School Administrators and Principals: Treva Jeffries, Robin Wheatley, Ed.D, Cecelia Adams, Ph.D, Daphne Derden Willis, Teresa Quinn

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Politics of Steel: Et tu, Steven?

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

(Much leadership is) too hungry for status to be angry, too eager for acceptance to be bold, too self-invested in advancement to be defiant.

- Cornel West



Lucas County Democratic Party Executive Director Yvonne Harper got politically “shanked up” in her attempt to gain Toledo City Council’s approval for the appointment to represent District 4.

Many feel, however, that more political blood than Harper’s remained on the floor after the swift but brutal process that led to the choice of Scott Ramsey, an “independent,” to the seat instead.

“Can you believe the dysfunction? Steve Steel’s first act after being elected council president was to sell District 4 and the African American community lock, stock and barrel, down the river,” said one political insider. “This is a district that is 82 percent African American and 90 percent Democrat at a time when you’ve got four black people on council that couldn’t even agree on one damn candidate.”

Several residents see newly-elected Council President Steven Steel, who has “some of the best relationships with folks in the African-American community,” at the center of what they term as an outright “betrayal.”

Yet the true source of the black community’s frustrations appears to be political rather than racial.

“It looks to me like Shaun Enright cuts a deal to get Steve Steel to be president of city council by delivering Republican votes. In return, Steve delivers Democratic votes to the Republican’s candidate. Steel gets to be president of council and he gets to resign as chair of the Lucas County Democratic Party. But in just a week’s time, the choice for his successor with the Party goes past the vice chair, past the secretary, all the way down to Josh Hughes, the central committee chair, who replaces Steel and becomes acting chair,” said another insider.

“Josh is a real decent fellow, but he is an attorney for the buildings trade union. The perception is that he is merely an extension of Shaun Enright and is under the thumb of the union. So it appears that this was a unilateral process where Steel said, ‘There you go folks. Suck it up,’” he added.

So, the political assassination of Harper, by which Steel gained the council presidency in exchange for three Republican votes, merely cost him chairmanship of the Lucas County Democrats, a party which is now broke, divided and suffering from low morale.

Yet, perhaps the one with the most to lose is Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson, should she run for the remainder of the late Mayor Michael D. Collins’ term. With Collins’ widow Sandy Drabik-Collins poised to run also, Hicks Hudson, Toledo’s first African-American woman mayor, is facing fast-approaching filing deadlines. She also could

run without the support or infrastructure from Steel’s allies, who were also closely aligned with the late Mayor Collins.

In addition, Hicks-Hudson is challenged in her efforts to succeed in just trying to move the city forward on a daily basis. A major challenge confronting her as she attempts to present a balanced municipal budget by March 31 is approximately \$6 million in unanticipated costs due to contract settlements with the Toledo Police unions and loss of red light camera revenues.

“She’s surrounded by sharks right now. That much I know,” said a source close to the mayor. “I mean, she’s got an entire staff that she did not pick, surrounding her and helping her make decisions. And they’re feeding her a narrow set of information based on their own individual skill sets so she doesn’t have the complete lay of the land so they’re going to move her in a direction that is potentially dangerous for her,” the friend added.

For certain, the consequences of the “politics of Steel” have led to a monopoly of power exercised by a small, select group of political insiders. This in turn, has alienated the black community and led a fractured Lucas County Democratic Party away from inclu-

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Community Calendar

February 16 – March 31

Art Exhibit: Maumee Branch Library; 40 paintings by artists Larry Parker, Sr

March 12

Annual African American/Pastors Meeting: UT Scott Park Campus; 5 pm; Community pastors/ministers panel discussion

March 15

Kingdom Vision Ministries 1 Year Anniversary: Also the installation of Pastor Jewell Jones, Jr. and First Lady Kellie Jones; 11 am service with Rev. Eric Jones of Cincinnati and the UT Gospel Choir; 4 pm service with Rev. Jewell Jones, Sr. of Greater Vision MBC of Cleveland
Calvary MBC 26th Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor Floyd Smith, Jr; 4 pm service with Pastor Melvin Barnes and Greater Faith Fellowship

March 16

ProMedica’s Look Good ... Feel Better: 2 to 4 pm; ProMedica Memorial Fremont; Workshop by trained cosmetologists who teach women with cancer to understand and care for changes in skin and hair that may occur during treatment: 800-227-2345

March 22

Calvary MBC 26th Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor Floyd Smith, Jr; 4 pm service with Pastor James Willis and St. Paul MBC

March 29

New Prospect Baptist Church Annual Men and Women’s Day: Men’s Day during 11 am service; Women’s Day service at 4 pm
Indiana Ave MBC 50th Pastoral Anniversary Celebration: Spiritual Sons’ Service; For Rev. John E. Roberts; 6 pm

April 3

River of Life Church “Good Friday Food Giveaway:” Noon to 1 pm; Giving food away to families in the community: 419-380-9357

April 17

Indiana Ave MBC 50th Pastoral Anniversary Banquet: For Rev. John E. Roberts; Ramada Inn Secor; 6 pm

April 17-19

Calvary MBC Women’s Ministry 18th Spring Retreat: 419-531-9443

The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African American
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Carla Leonard – Social Editor
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Well, Excuse Me...!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

Do the drum roll. Roll out the red carpet. Let the trumpets blare. Hitch up the wagons. Get all gussied up. Put out your best silverware. Wash the car.

Why? What is the fuss all about?

Haven't you heard? Her Ladyship, Hillary Clinton, is going to announce that she wants to be the next, and the first woman, president of the US of A.

Before you get all choked up and start writing out checks to her PACs or to her campaign...think.

What would make you vote for Bill Clinton, again, I mean Hillary?

Does the sight of Bill, I mean Hillary, make you go bleary eyed with nostalgia and a hope for any past good ol' days when Bill was in the White House?

I mean, why would Hillary running make her an automatic shoo-in for the White House?

Oh, sure. She will have to raise close to a cool billion to run an aggressive campaign since money is the mother's milk of political campaigns.

Yeah, she will have to air practically non-stop TV commercials touting how polished and experienced she is and how she is going to fight for the middle class and any other constituents that her policy advisors tell her is the new, "in" thing.

Hillary will sing the expected fight song of trashing the Republicans and they, in turn, will return the favor and try to destroy her credibility with stories from Whitewater, Bosnia, allegations of "missing" or wrongfully diverted emails regarding her tenure at the State Department, the embassy debacle in Libya and of course, who can forget America's favorite but unofficial, "Second Lady", Monica Lewinsky!

It will be a bruiser of a campaign fight with the Republicans firing up their base with stories that if Bill Clinton, I mean, if Hillary, gets in the White House, it will be an extension of the policies of the current occupant, President Obama.

The Republicans will scorch the airwaves and social media with tales of the sky is falling if Bill Clinton, I mean, Hillary, wins the White House.

If you thought the recent two campaigns against President Obama were bare knuckles throw downs, wait until you see what is launched when Bill Clinton, I mean Hillary, takes off with her campaign announcements.

Will Bill Clinton settle for the unique and new role of First Man if his wife wins the White House? Of course not!

If Hillary wins, Bill will be her alter ego. Bill will be the go to guy for input on both foreign affairs and domestic affairs.

Hillary would face a crescendo of prickly questions about the role that her husband would play in the Oval Office. Chief of Staff or Attorney General?

Of course she is not obligated to divulge to anyone their private "pillow talks" by which Bill and Bill, I mean by which, Bill

and Hillary, can get their act together and effectuate policy so when it appears, it will look as if it was generated solely by Hillary.

Make no mistake, Bill Clinton, who has served eight years as president, would get a chance to serve four more years (and an additional four more if Hillary does well and decides to run again in 2020).

The media, which loves to churn up controversy because it draws viewers, will be chafing at the bit to get at Hillary regarding rumors, if any, that Monica has a blockbuster story to sell and it is not good about or for Hillary.

The right wing media wingnuts will be apoplectic regarding any mud that they can sling at Bill, I mean, Hillary, regarding the ocean of funds that the Clinton Foundation has been pulling in from foreign "entities."

Let's not be coy here. The Clinton's are a money magnet. Their speaking fees are astronomical and legendary and they have no shame is picking up those fat checks from donors, both near and far and overseas.

The looming question will be, does Hillary have the political appetite to rally the troops around the hot button issues: economic class divisions, strained race relations, a crumbling infrastructure, a dysfunctional Congress, a disgruntled middle class that is fed up with the crumbs from the tables of the clueless and greedy one percenters, a bloated and biased tax code, immigration reform and climate control.

The only people who will benefit from this pending bruising campaign will be the owners of the radio and television stations who will make fortunes running political ads from both Democrats and Republicans; and the publishing companies who will be putting out those print ads and campaign paraphernalia that will wind up in the landfills or in storage sheds when the fight is over.

Of course, I have saved the best for last as my commentary. How will the African-American and Latino communities respond to Bill's, I mean' Hillary's, run for the White House?

Will the "black" vote be a homogenized block vote that will carry the day for Bill, I mean, Hillary, or will there be cracks in the wall that will allow a charismatic Republican contender to see some running and winning daylight?

I trust that the name Clinton has not become a magic talisman for people of color so that when they see or hear the name, Clinton... that all is well and the land of milk and honey is just a few Electoral College votes away.

Any Clinton, regardless of her first name, is not and will not and cannot be the "savior" of America or single handedly eliminate the continuing oppression of people of color. Voter ID anyone?

That is why I hope that when Bill, I mean, when Hillary announces her candidacy, that black folks will not have Bar-Bee-Q's on their front lawns or are caught signing, "Happy Days Are Here Again!"

Just as Bill Clinton, "smacked down" Sister Souljah when she got off the plantation and made remarks that were inappropriate, Hillary may have to have her "Sister Souljah" moment when she may have to discipline some unruly black politicians or intellectuals (maybe Cornel West or Michael Dyson?) when they might say something that impinges upon her political aspirations.

Of course if Bill, I mean, if Hillary wins the White House, the perennial question is always what "goodies" will the black and Latino voters get for their troubles or are they seen merely as a bridge for Hillary to get to the White House; and then she gives lip service to the voting blocs that made the difference with the White House having a woman in the driver's seat.

For me, one of the crucial litmus test will be concrete policies that narrow the income gap between the haves and the have not's. Any bleary promises on that issue from either side will have me sitting at home on election day.

In the meantime, I will not be waiving any rah-rah pom-poms if Bill, I mean, Hillary, decides to seek the unique title of, Madam President.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at Tolliver@Juno.com



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A Lifetime Achievement Celebration for Joan Bolden

Special to The Truth

On Saturday, March 28, 2015 from 4 pm to 6 pm, there will be a "Lifetime Achievement Celebration" for Joan Bolden held at Third Baptist Church, 402 Pinewood Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43604. Various musical groups from around the city will be performing. The celebration will be followed by a reception in Bolden's honor. All are invited to attend this celebration of love as we give Joan her flowers while she yet lives.

Joan Bolden, or JoAnn, as she is known by her friends and family, was born on September 15, 1946 in Toledo, Ohio. She is the oldest daughter of the late Deacon Thomas G, and Lessie Mae Graham Jr.

Bolden is a 1964 graduate of Jesup W. Scott High School. After graduation, Bolden attended Alabama A & M University from 1964-66. She also attended Toledo's Stautzenberger College.

She accepted Christ at the age of 11, was baptized at the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church under the pastoral leadership of the late Rev. Elijah Benton. At the young age of 13, Bolden became the music director and accompanist, eventually, of five different choirs at the church. They were the Senior Choir; the No. 2 Choir; the Inspirational Chorus; Grace Ensemble; and the Youth and Young Adult Choir. Joan played at Mount Zion for 27 years, while at the same time serving as musician for the Toledo City Wide Male Chorus Union for 25 years.

In the year 1989, Bolden came to the Third Baptist Church under the pastoral leadership of the Rev. Langston C. Bannister. She became the musical director of the Adult Fellowship Choir, and later the Women of Genesis and the Men's Chorus.

Bolden's musical training began classically under the tutelage of the late Mary Bell Shealey when she was only eight years old. Being rooted in the Baptist church, she was playing gospel music by the time she was 12, and accompanied her own family (The Graham Singers) during her twenties and thirties.



Bolden has been a faithful member of the Toledo Inter-faith Mass Choir for 25 years, and also sang with the David Carter Symphonic Choir for 15 years. As a soloist, she has graced many Toledo area churches, and also accompanied other church choirs and soloists.

At the 189th session of the National Baptist Convention, she received the Gospel Legends Award. Then in 2012, she was awarded the Music and Performing Arts Award by the Toledo Branch of the NAACP.

Bolden has one sister, Tommie McGhee; one son, James Ruffin (Aletha) two daughters, Sharisse Rowell (Rev. Chris), and Leslie Bolden. Six grandchildren, James Ruffin Jr., Sakiya Bolden-Hills, Jasmine Ruffin, Chris Rowell Jr., Joshua Rowell, and Caleb Rowell.

Other family members include two nephews, two nieces, two great nephews, three great nieces, two cousins, extended family, and a multitude of friends.

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A Celebration of Women's History Month: Educators Then and Now

Sojourner's Truth Staff

America's first African-American female principal of an integrated school was Maria Louise Baldwin in 1889 when she was selected to lead a white faculty and predominantly white student body at the Agassiz Grammar School in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Teaching, however, quickly provided an opportunity for African-Americans in general and black women in particular to participate in the nation's workforce as the 20th century arrived.

One of the most famous and influential 20th century black female educators was Mary McLeod Bethune. In 1904, Bethune found the Daytona Normal and Industrial Institute for Negro Girls in Daytona Beach, Florida. Bethune believed that education was the answer to any problems associated with racial inequality and social injustice.

In 1923, Bethune's college merged with the Cookman Institute for Men and became the Bethune-Cookman College.

In 1930, Euphemia Lofton Haynes, the first black woman to receive a doctorate in math, founded the math department at Miner Teachers College – renamed the University of the District of Columbia. E.V. Wilkins earned a masters degree from North Carolina Central University and accepted the role as principal of Washington County Union School in Roper, North Carolina. Wilkins raised funds to purchase a school but that provided transportation for black students. Until then, only white student were offered busing options.

After the turbulent 1960's, black educators continued to make their mark. In 1975, Marva Collins founded Westside Preparatory School, an inner-city school in Chicago, to serve disabled black children. Collins' work proved that labels placed on children were misleading.

Toledo Area School Principals and Administrators

Cecelia Adams, Ph.D.,

Toledo native and Scott High School graduate Cecelia Adams

had a long and very successful career with Toledo Public Schools prior to her retirement. Her career culminated as an administrator in the superintendent's office. No rest for the weary, however. Several years after retirement, she made the decision to run for office – for the Toledo Board of Education – in order to put that vast experience to work once again.



Adams, who earned her degrees from The University of Toledo, was a science teacher and a principal before becoming an assistant superintendent. When she ran for office in 2011, she had some mighty big footprints to follow. Her mother, Dr. Samantha Adams, was the first African-American female elected to the school board.

"I think very idealistically and about how things can be," she said during that campaign. "I consider myself to be a transformational leader. That is, you see what's wrong and you try to fix it."

Elizabeth Bethany



Bethany, now in her fourth year as principal of Edgewater Elementary School, is a Scott High School graduate and earned both a bachelor's in education and a master's in educational administration from UT.

A native of Sardis, Mississippi and the youngest of nine children, Bethany grew up in poverty and moved with her

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family to Toledo as a young child.

A long-time TPS employee, Bethany accomplished some legendary feats as a teacher before moving into the principal's office. During her tenure at the Old West End Academy, Bethany's students frequently passed all five portions of the Ohio proficiency tests. During one stretch, she taught the same group of students from their second-grade class until the time they graduated from the school – high achievers all through dint of hard work.

Daphne Derden Willis

Derden Willis, TPS director of Career Technology, is a Toledo native and a Notre Dame Academy graduate who earned her undergraduate degree in from Bowling Green State University marketing education, her master's, also from BGSU, in guidance counseling and an administration certificate from the University of Findlay. A 20-year veteran of TPS, Derden Willis had been a teacher and guidance counselor at Scott High School before assuming her current duties at Career Technology.



One of the best-kept secrets at TPS, Career Technology has nearly 30 programs to offer students in five departments. Derden Willis supervises 80 teachers around the school district.

"We're a viable option," says Derden Willis. "When a student says 'I want to be a ...,' we fill in that blank. They can work and develop skills on their way to an advanced degree, if they prefer."

Treva Jeffries

More than most people, Jeffries realizes that Thomas Wolfe was wrong when he wrote: "You Can't Go Home Again." Jef-



fries, principal of Scott High School, is a graduate of Scott as well and was thrilled beyond measure when she was appointed to lead the students roaming the same halls she had roamed years before. "I bleed maroon and white," she says of Scott.

She inherited more than the building in which she had once studied. She was able to go home again to a new and vastly improved home. Scott High School is the beneficiary of a \$40 million-plus renovation project that, among other improvements, brought the school up to date from a technology standpoint.

Jeffries, who earned her undergraduate degree from Kentucky State University in biology/chemistry and her masters in curriculum and instruction from BGSU is working on her doctorate in educational administration and leadership studies.

Rhonda Jemison

Jemison, principal in her first year at Springfield High School, has been with that school district for nearly eight year. Prior to that, she worked in the Bedford School District for seven years after starting her professional career with Toledo Public Schools.

A product of TPS herself, Jemison graduated from Devilbiss and earned degrees from UT. For her, the Springfield experience – she is the first African-American principal of the high school – with its different demographics, has been interesting and challenging.



"That has enhanced my ability to deal with everybody, see different perspectives and to take everywhere I've been and create new things," she says.

Martha Jude

Jude, the principal for the past four years at Pickett Academy, is a Toledo native with more than two decades years of experience in education. She graduated from Macomber and earned her undergraduate degree in education from UT and masters from UT in administration and supervision.

Prior to her appointment as principal at Pickett, Jude served as assistant principal at the school for several years.

For Jude, her choice of career has never been in doubt from as early as she can recall. "I knew I wanted to be a teacher from early on," she recalls. That calling was reinforced when she was in the fifth grade at Gunckel and had Ms. Stevens as a teacher. Ms. Stevens, she says now, was the perfect role model for her students especially for someone who would aspire to follow in her footsteps.



Teresa Quinn

Quinn, principal of the Ella P. Stewart Academy for Girls, has quite a track record at TPS's single gender academies. She was appointed principal of the former Lincoln Academy for Boys for the 2007-2008 school year. When that facility was closed several years later and the boys were moved to the renovated MLK building on Dorr, Quinn moved over to Stewart.

Quinn earned her undergraduate ad masters degrees from

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UT and has been with TPs since the early 1990's and has served in administrative positions at Waite High School and Deveaux Junior High School. Having grown up in Toledo, Quinn recognizes the need for students to identify with someone who has undergone similar experiences.

"I was very drawn to this position and realized too that students need a true role model in terms of someone growing up in the city," she has said.

Kathy Taylor

Taylor, principal of Navarre Elementary School for the past eight years, is a Toledo native and has been a principal with TPS for a total of 18 years starting at Mt. Vernon Elementary School. She earned her undergraduate degree in education from UT, her masters in administration and supervision from UT and an educational specialist degree from UT as well.



In her years of administration, Taylor has implemented a wide array of programs to recognize staff and students but her greatest enjoyment has come about when "I know that I have made an impact in their lives," she says.

"When I see them out and about in later years, functioning, going to college, getting a job and career, that's the most fulfilling part."

Deborah Washington, Ph.D.



Washington, principal of Harvard Elementary School is a 27 year- TPS veteran in her 10th year as principal of Harvard, a perennial high achiever on the State of Ohio report card. A native of Monrovia, Liberia, Washington left her homeland in 1972 to come to America.

She subsequently earned her Ph.D. from BGSU.


"I make it a point to learn all my children's names," she says regarding the school's 450 student enrollment.

"There is an African proverb. 'If you don't have anything, your name is what you have.'"

Robin Wheatley, Ed.D,

Wheatley, the principal of Toledo Early College High School since the 2006-2007 academic year - the second year of the school's existence - has overseen the school's first graduation, a steady stream of excellent marks on the state report cards and scores of successful students earn their degrees - associate degrees from TECH and bachelor's degrees as they move on.

A Toledo native, Wheatley graduated from DeVilbiss an earned her undergraduate degree from UT, a master's in journalism from BGSU and a doctorate in administration and supervision from BGSU. She served as assistant principal at Waite High School for eight years before taking over at TECHS.

The City of Toledo

Invites you to attend an outreach event for all interested general contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers to learn about upcoming project opportunities at the Collins Park Water Treatment Plant. Approximately 145M this spring in contract opportunities.

Monday, March 16, 2015 - 5-7 p.m.
Networking begins at 5 p.m.
Followed by presentations.

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Learn about current construction contracting opportunities at the Collins Park Water Treatment Plant in Toledo. Topics to be covered include contracting requirements, scope of the projects, bid schedule and services needed. The City of Toledo Department of Public Utilities encourages MBE & WBE city certified inclusion.

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St. Paul Sponsors Annual Men's Day Weekend Celebration

Sojourner's Truth Staff

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church (Pastor James Willis, Sr.) held its annual Men's Day Celebration this past weekend, March 7-8, with a Prayer Breakfast on Saturday morning and a Worship Service on Sunday.

The Saturday Prayer Breakfast brought together about 70 people to feast on eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns, grits, fruit and yogurt and to hear the guest speaker, Rev. Floyd Smith of Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, bring the word and address the weekend's theme: "Christian Men Manning Up."

The master of ceremony for Saturday's event was Deacon Darryl Reed who, along with Deacons Joseph Diggins and Dwayne Smith, were the co-chairmen of this year's event committee.

Rev. Floyd Smith, a Toledo native, assumed pastor's duties at Calvary (his childhood church) in 1989 and is celebrating his 26th pastoral anniversary this month.

On Sunday, the guest preacher was Rev. Aaron Murray, also a Toledo native and Toledo Public Schools product. Murray serves under Pastor John E. Roberts at Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church.

Murray received the call to the gospel ministry in 2005 and was licensed to preach the Gospel on

June 5, 2014 at Indiana Avenue. He has served in numerous ministries at Indiana Avenue including the Trustee Board and the Youth Ministry.

Sunday's worshippers were welcomed by Reed and enjoyed musical selections by the St. Paul Men's Day Choir.

"You have heard this from me before," wrote Rev. Willis to the men in his congregation, "when we are given a task to do, it doesn't matter who works the hardest on the accomplishment. All that matters is that God gets the glory. For this 11th year of service as pastor, I applaud you for all of your efforts."



Pastors James Willis and Floyd Smith



Deacon Darryl Reed, Pastor James Willis, Rev. Aaron Murray, Deacon Joseph Diggins



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Little Scientists Week

March 10 - 15

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Ruth Ashford: Candidate for Toledo City Council District 4 Seat

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"I understand how governments are run financially; I understand the appropriation of funds and I understand the accountability and the allocation of those dollars," says Ruth Ashford as she launches her first bid for elected office.



consistently involved in politics."

For Ashford there are four issues which she believes are of paramount importance to the residents of District 4 and the city as a whole.

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Ashford, longtime resident of Toledo City Council District 4, will be competing in the May 5 special election for the seat vacated by now-Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson and, prior to Hicks-Hudson's tenure, held by Ashford's husband, State Rep. Michael Ashford. Hicks-Hudson, former president of City Council, was sworn in as the city's chief executive when Mayor D. Michael Collins passed away in February just 13 months into his term.

Ashford, who worked for the State of Michigan for 17 years as an account examiner, departmental analyst and senior auditor before her retirement in 2013, spent years examining the financial and accounting records of businesses.

Although she has not run previously for office, she does consider herself in possession of the political acumen necessary to represent the citizens of District 4 by dint of her long familiarity with politics. "I come from a political family," she says. "I have always been around politics." Her grandfather, she notes, ran for office. Her family, during her childhood, was always involved in unions and politics and, of course, during the course of her marriage to Michael Ashford, she has operated behind the scenes to assist him and other local politicians in the Democratic Party – hosting fundraisers, organizing mailings.

"There are a lot of things that go on behind the scenes that people don't talk about," she says of the experience she has gained over the years. "I have been

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For Kids, Books Make Great Easter Surprises

Special to The Truth

The best way to treat kids this Easter may not be with the typical sweets. While candy is predictable, you can really make a child's day with a different approach.

"This Easter, think books," says Jaimie Cona, sssociate director of Marketing at DK, a publisher of adult and children's books. "Fill baskets to the brim with books, and consider including them in your egg hunt."

Here are some titles that are fun enough to be a sugar substitute:

- **Super Heroes:** Discover a thrilling, action-packed world with "LEGO DC Comics Super Heroes: Amazing Battles!," which features the bravest of heroes as they foil yet another evil villain's scheme. Dynamic images and scenes will appeal to reluctant readers.

Super hero fans may also love "Ultimate Factivity Collection: Marvel Avengers," which combines facts about the Earth's mightiest super heroes – the Avengers – with fun activities and interesting puzzles.

- **Pop-Out Surprises:** Using flaps, touch-and-feel textures and pop-out surprises, "Pop-Up Peekaboo Farm," introduces young minds to sheepdogs, tractors, cows, horses and more.

- **Creepy Crawlies:** "Eyewitness Explorer: Bug Hunter" includes more than 30 hands-on learning activities and step-by-step project instructions. Enter the kingdom of creepy crawlies and learn everything there is to know about beetles, bees, spiders and more. Experiments that can be done at home include raising a caterpillar.

- **Little Chefs:** Encourage your budding chef's aspirations with creative recipes that are safe for children. The "Mommy & Me Bake" cookbook is designed to offer parents and children the opportunity to work together as a team while teaching basic baking skills. From simple kneading and mixing to creating whimsical and tasty treats, the book empowers kids to experiment in the kitchen.

- **"Frozen":** For fans of the mega hit film, fill up Easter baskets with a great crop of new picks, including "Frozen: The Essential Guide," a fact-filled reference book about the characters, locations and themes of Disney's beloved princess tale. A sing-along companion, "Frozen: The Essential Collection," features lyrics to the famous songs, as well as a full-color sticker book. "Ultimate Factivity Collection: Disney Frozen," a jam-packed activity book, combines facts with games, challenges and sticker activities; and aspiring princesses everywhere are sure to love the "Ultimate Sticker Book: Frozen," which lets kids re-create their favorite scenes from the movie with reusable stickers.

- **Bedtime:** There's always time for a little play before bedtime. Capture the attention of infants with "Baby Touch & Feel Ani-

mals," which features blankets, stars, sleepy stuffed animals and a range of novelty textures.

- **ABC's:** Children around the world have fallen in love with Sophie, the popular giraffe teether toy from France. In the "Sophie la girafe" book series, Sophie and her friends teach new concepts, such as colors and basic vocabulary. "Peekaboo ABC" features every letter of the alphabet illustrated by familiar objects found in Sophie's world.

More kids' book ideas for Easter can be found at www.dk.com.

With a few literary surprises, you can indulge more than just your child's sweet tooth on Easter.

Courtesy StatePoint

Perryman... continued from page 2

sive politics, a model that has been successful in "spreading the wealth" to a much more diverse constituency in the past. Although a small narrow elite group may benefit politically or even economically through upcoming projects such as Jeep and ProMedica, these and other benefits will ultimately come at the expense of the African American community and the party.

Where do we go from here?

With Right-to-Work a potential political wedge issue in the 2016 general election, Democrats cannot afford to be dominated by one viewpoint, leaving not only blacks, but others, such as the LGBTQ, feeling as if they are on the outside looking in. Someone who knows the lay of the land in both labor politics and in communities of color needs to assume leadership of the party.

Finally, well-known Republican candidates coming out of politically-powerful District 2 and formidable opponents such as Ruth Ashford are poised to challenge Hicks-Hudson for her political future. The time for Hicks-Hudson to decide whether she will run for mayor, her old city council seat or not at all, is soon and very soon. She will need a substantial majority of the Democratic base and a higher than normal turnout in the black community to win. An ineffective crippled party definitely is not good for her chances.

Certainly, standing closely by and ready for "such a time like this," is Lucas County Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz, an "alpha Democrat." Kapszukiewicz confidently carries enormous name recognition, massive grass roots support, money, youth and the infrastructure to possibly withstand any political challenge.

"My cholesterol is perfect, my credit is perfect, and I've never smoked a cigarette in my life," he tells anyone who listens.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdperryman@center-ofhopebaptist.org

How to Get Your Teenagers to Become Lifelong Readers

Special to The Truth

In today's age of technology, it's easy for teens to reject books in favor of gadgets. As these emerging technologies become increasingly important in society, parents should reinforce the educational and entertainment benefits of reading.

Here are a few tips for encouraging your children to love the written word.

Treat Reading Like a Privilege

If your kids believe that reading is a chore, they'll stop as soon as your influence over them begins to wane or they are no longer required to read for school. Instead, show them that reading is a source of fun.

In order to do this, position reading as a "reward." When they get good grades, take them to the bookstore. When they finish their homework in the evening, give teens "reading privileges," as you may be inclined to do with electronic sources of media.

Offer Compelling Literature

One of the most important things you can do is make sure that your kids have positive early experiences with books. This will shape their opinions of reading for the rest of their lives. Beyond school assignments, be sure your teens are reading compelling literature for fun.

The best way to do this is to give them books that you know they'll enjoy -- that way, they'll always be either reading or anticipating their next read. Serial literature can be a great way to accomplish the goal of keeping kids interested.

One great example is "Hollow City," the second novel in the "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children" series, a unique combination of fantasy and haunting vintage photography. And since that first book is in the process of being adapted into a movie, kids awaiting its release can read "Hollow City" in the meantime.

Model Good Reading Behavior

Let your kids see you reading. If they know that you like to read, then they'll imitate your behavior. Teens may not always act like it, but they do look up to you.

Don't replace reading with interacting with your teens; instead, read at a time when they are already engaging in independent activities.

Start your own little household book club. During dinner or another portion of the day spent together, discuss what you both are reading and what you like about the books. Make recommendations and swap great books.

So when your kids are staring at their screens, remember that this generation can find just as much joy in books as you did when you were younger. All you need to do is give the extra push.

Courtesy StatePoint



Dear Parents and Community Members,

We thank you for all of the support you have shown for the mission and work of the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (MHR SB) of Lucas County. We understand that many parents are dealing with mental health and/or addiction needs of their children whether they are youth or adults. We are asking for you to help us better understand what these needs are and ways we can better serve parents and their children across our communities.

Please consider taking a few minutes to respond to some questions, visit the link below to fill out this brief survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MHR SBfamily>

Thank you for your time and your continued support!

Sincerely,
Scott Sylak, Executive Director




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The deadline to apply is Friday, May 29, 2015 for the 2015-2016 school year.

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29 Qualify for State Speech Tournament Diyepriye Ngo Qualifies in Student Congress

Sophomore Diyepriye Ngo is one of 29 Notre Dame Academy young women who qualified for the Ohio High School Speech League OHSSL State Tournament on March 6 and 7. Ngo qualified in Student Congress. Notre Dame Academy is a member of the prestigious National Speech and Debate Association 200 Club being one of the top 200 programs in the country out of 7,890 and the only northwest Ohio school. This year Notre Dame Academy was the Tarhe Trails District Champs and National Speech and Debate District Champions. Close to 90 girls participate in the program.



Diyepriye Ngo

Ruth Ashford... continued from page 9

"We deserve safe neighborhoods," she says of her first concern. "It's a must, an absolute must." To that end, she believes the city should be doing more to increase police presence and to maintain cleanliness in streets and alleys.

"We need a good educational system for our children," she says and also notes that Toledo Public Schools Superintendent Romules Durant, Ed.D, is doing "an excellent job" in getting the school dis-

trict back on track.

"We need opportunities for our kids," she says of what the city can do to provide such amenities – pools, parks and activities. "Toledo is a good city for kids but there is not enough opportunities for them. Why drive up Monroe to go skating, for example."

"And, of course, economic development is critical to the success of our city," says the candidate. District 4 includes the residential neighborhoods of the Old West End and parts of central and north Toledo, as well as more commercial areas of downtown, UpTown and the warehouse district. A critical component for economic development and rebuilding in these areas, says Ashford, is the "inclusion of minority representation."

Ashford also says that, in general, these commercial areas in District 4 need to generate activity and that the City of Toledo needs to remove the roadblocks to progress. "Activity draws people to the area," she notes.

"Residential construction in these areas also increases activities," she says. "However, there is a whole segment of young people who have trouble buying their own property."

The May 5 special election will be followed by a primary in September and a general election in November to elect a district councilman for a full term. All six city district seats are up for election this year.

Ashford will likely face a number of opponents this spring including Yvonne Harper, a long-time Democratic Party operative who the party nominated to fill Hicks-Hudson's seat. City Council declined to vote for Harper and, instead, named local businessman Scott Ramsay to serve until the special election. Ramsay owns Dart Boat Company in the Up-Town area.

Other possible opponents include Terry Shankland, a catering business owner; Steven Goldman, a former University of Toledo professor; David Johnson, a UT professor; Scott Sands, an afternoon host on New Radio 1370 and Jewell Lightner, former ProMedica corporate director of diversity. They all sought the temporary appointment.

Ramsay has not yet let it be known if he will run.

Ashford notes that the ability to operate a business does not necessarily translate into the type of financial acumen that is helpful in operating a government.

"A person may be good at rebuilding boats or installing drywall but I'm the person they call when they need to deal with the financial aspect of their business," she says. "Just because you are a small business owner does not mean you know anything how a government operates financially."

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It's Not Rocket Science by Mary Spio

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Be the best you can be, he said. Never let obstacles get in your way. Strive for success and challenge yourself – all excellent advice, but how can you harness astronomical success in this, or any economy? In the new book *It's Not Rocket Science* by Mary Spio, you'll find some stellar ideas.

Back when you graduated from high school or college, you were expected to find a job, work hard, and move up the ladder until it was time to retire. The "new dream," though, is to find work that will allow you to create "a lifestyle of freedom by defining success your way..."

Mary Spio, as it turns out, lives that statement.

Born in Syracuse, New York, Spio's family moved back to their native Ghana when she was a little girl. She grew up hearing her father's urge to reach for the stars and she took that advice to heart: as a teenager, she came back Stateside,

finished high school, joined the Air Force and went to work for NASA. Her passion, however, lay elsewhere and she's now a serial entrepreneur and "Game Changer."

Game Changers are a new "tribe" of businessperson, says Spio. They "change our world in some way... by altering the way we think... work or the way we live." Not only do Game Changers ignore the rules, but they ignore conventional, old-school advice, too. Think Copernicus, says Spio, Bill Gates, or Oprah. They share "seven key traits" with all Game Changers.

A big imagination is at the top of the list of Game Changer attributes. Imagination leads to inquisitiveness, creativity and ideas, and "curiosity drives action."

Game Changers have a deep passion for their work, and they live that passion in their everyday lives. Their compassion drives them, and their days are spent "doing something meaningful." They possess laser-focus in their actions and their "relentless hustle." Game Changers are audacious, they make friends with risk and fear, and they have "pit bull tenacity." Above all, they leave a "mark on the world."

Lately, it seems, the math is simple: idea + passion + desire for change = success. And with *It's Not Rocket Science*, that adds up nicely.

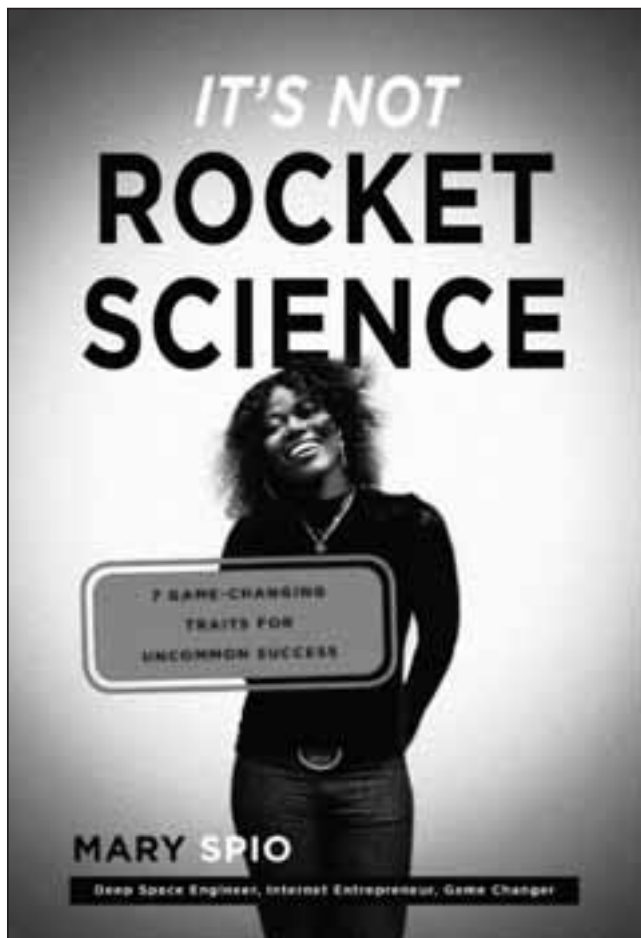
At first, though, on the surface, it doesn't appear that there's much new here. Author Mary Spio essentially reiterates a lot of what you'll find inside similar books. We're encouraged to follow blueprints comparable to what other volumes espouse... but look closer. The twist is in illustrative stories Spio uses: they're different, more approachable, more common-man in their scope. Here, impossibly high-



Mary Spio

per-famous CEOs are not held up as the only examples of achievement. That gives readers a sense that, indeed, mega-success truly is attainable by anyone.

In the end, I liked this book quite a bit because of the above and because it makes entrepreneurship sound fun again. And if that's the kind of approach you need to become the next sensation, then *It's Not Rocket Science* is out of this world.



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CLASSIFIEDS

March 11, 2015

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County Building Official

Building Regulations Department has an opening for a County Building Official. The successful candidate oversees the enforcement of adopted building codes; conducts commercial plans reviews; manages the Building Regulations division and supervises assigned staff, and performs advanced level managerial work.

For more details, please visit our website at www.co.lucas.oh.us.

Please apply on-line or submit a cover letter, employment application/resume and professional references to the Lucas County Human Resources/Personnel Department, One Government Center, Suite 450, Toledo, OH 43604 by March 13, 2015.

The Lucas County Land Bank is seeking a Field Technician that will make regular site visits to vacant and abandoned properties owned and targeted by the Land Bank; inspect properties and document estimated cost of repairs to Land Bank specifications; and assist homeowners with home maintenance and renovation technical assistance through its Heritage Home Program. An ideal candidate will demonstrate a sincere commitment to the Land Bank's mission of strengthening neighborhoods and restoring property values. Demonstrated experience in construction, property management, historic preservation, or property maintenance is required. Salary commensurate with experience. For more information or to apply, visit www.LucasCountyLandBank.org. Deadline: March 23, 2015. EEO/AA.

Request for Proposals Housing Choice Voucher Program - Project Based Vouchers RFP#15-R007

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for Housing Choice Voucher Program - Project Based Vouchers. Received in accordance with law until Fri., Mar., 27 2015, 3 PM ET. For Documents: www.lucasmha.org, 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604 or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Proposers required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. Sec. 3 Compliance Applicable.



Request for Qualifications Lawn-Cutting & Field Services

The Lucas County Land Bank is seeking interested businesses for lawn-cutting and ancillary field services on properties owned by the Land Bank for the 2015 growing season (April - November). Interested businesses must have a demonstrated track record of cutting a large volume of properties to owner's specifications. A mandatory informational meeting for interested businesses will be held on Wednesday, March 25th at 10:00 a.m. at One Government Center, Suite 800, Room A. Proposals will be due no later than Monday, March 30, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. to the Land Bank, One Government Center, Suite 580.

For more information, please visit www.lucas-countylandbank.org or call (419) 213-4293.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNER II

The Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG) is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill a professional position within the Transportation Department. This position is responsible for facilitating and working with local, state, and federal government agencies; community organizations; regional business interests; and the general public to develop regional transportation plans.

Candidates must have a Bachelor's Degree with an emphasis in urban, regional, or transportation planning, plus at least two years of planning experience. Master's Degree is preferred. AICP Certificate is desirable. Successful candidate must have excellent oral and written communication skills, be able to communicate tactfully and effectively with co-workers, committee volunteers, public officials, and members of the general public, and be able to demonstrate outstanding interpersonal skills and the ability to involve all transportation stakeholders in the plan development process. Preference may be given to applicants with prior transportation plan development and writing experience with a metropolitan planning organization. Bilingual ability in Spanish may be considered favorably. Detailed job information can be found at http://www.tmacog.org/info_employment.htm. Applicants must be legally able to work in the U.S., possess a valid current driver's license. Successful completion of a comprehensive background check and drug screening are required to complete the hiring process. Annual salary is \$50,000 DOQ. Interested candidates should forward a letter of interest, resume, and professional references by April 3, 2015 to TMACOG, P.O. Box 9508, Toledo, OH 43697-9508 or resume@tmacog.org. No phone calls. TMACOG is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

PROGRAM ASSISTANT

OSU Extension, Lucas County is hiring for a Program Assistant position with the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). The Program Assistant, EFNEP will work 40 hours per week. This position will work in the Lucas County communities teaching nutrition education to diverse adult audiences. This person should be indigenous to the community.

For complete position description and on-line application instructions, please go to www.jobstosou.com and search by requisition number 405464. To assure consideration you must apply by **March 15, 2015**. To build a diverse workforce, Ohio State encourages applications from individuals with disabilities, minorities, veterans, and women. EEO/AA employer.

Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY15-44, (Project # 1020-15-964) for Campus Infrastructure Improvements for the University of Toledo. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 10, 2015. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$35.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from David Oz of The JDI Group at 419-725-7161. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 12.5%. Project Estimate: \$2,520,000.00; Breakdown: HVAC: \$2,380,000.00 & Electrical: \$140,000.00.

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The Sojourner's Truth

Volume 32, No. 5

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

March 11, 2015

March Is Women's History Month



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