



Local and National News

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Volume 35, No. 7

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

October 14, 2015

NAACP 100 Year Gala

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Ray Wood, NAACP President

From Victim to Survivor

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

In 2014, doctors diagnosed cancer for over a million and a half people. The enemy smiled at this death sentence. But Cancer does not have the final word; God does.

- Donna M. Cox



With breast cancer mortality 44 percent higher than in white women, the disease is a major concern for African-American women. Black women are also more likely to be untreated or undertreated than others and more often to have breast cancer detected at an advanced stage.

On Sunday, October 25, Center of Hope in partnership with Susan G. Komen Northwest Ohio will hold a Worship in Pink religious service to honor breast cancer survivors, caregivers and loved ones. The event will promote healing and bring awareness to the issue of breast cancer disparities, and encourage early identification and prevention.

Gia Haskins moved from breast cancer victim to become a nine-year breast cancer survivor. I spoke her in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness month. Haskins is a participant in the upcoming Worship in Pink service.

Perryman: Can you talk about your experience and how you survived breast cancer?

Haskins: My grandmother had breast cancer and I was working in the medical profession, so I started getting mammograms at age 34. The mammogram I had the year when I was 38 is when I was diagnosed. A week and a half afterwards I discovered a lump in my left breast even though the mammogram came out normal. Initially I had the lump removed, a minor surgery and went right back to work in the surgeon's office that did the surgery.

Pretty much that next day, which was like December 16, 2006, and the surgeon that I worked for indicated that she wanted to talk to me, so I knew it wasn't good news. When I went in to speak with her, she said that I was positive for cancer and that it was invasive and aggressive, and it started close where it eats the breast tissue pretty rapidly, and that I would need to have an additional surgery.

I chose bilateral mastectomy, which I had both sides done and breast reconstruction on both sides. After that, I did chemotherapy.

Perryman: How were you able to get through the surgery?

Haskins: The surgeon that I worked for was a Christian. She prayed for me and gave me my first prayer quilt, and then the oncologist was also Christian, so they both prayed for me. The surgery lasted 16-1/2 hours. I was in ICU the first three days. I received two blood transfusions on my first hospital stay and I ended up having to go into surgery again the next morning because of a large blood clot

that was in the right side opposite the side with the cancer.

Perryman: Would you discuss the post-surgery experience and the coping strategies that enabled you to navigate this life-threatening illness?

Haskins: Lots of prayer and support is key. It is an emotional rollercoaster but I had lots of support. My support system was of course, my husband Donnell, my sister and my brother-in-law and some co-workers. Between my sister and my brother-in-law, they sat with me through all my chemo treatments, as well as Donnell, who helped me with the recovery, and like I said, a lot of prayer. People from St. Luke's, people from work, the physicians that I worked with were also in prayer. So, prayer, a positive attitude, helping others, and continuing to go to church is key.

Perryman: Were you able to receive strong, positive spiritual support from your congregation?

Haskins: Actually, everybody that really knew me at that time at Bethlehem Baptist Church knew that I was going through breast cancer, so they would visit me. There were quite a few church members

... continued on page 12

Community Calendar

October 15

Fall Literary Workshop: Perrysburg Way Public Library; 6 to 9 pm; "Performance Poetry" and "Finding Their Unique Voice in Creative Writing;" Led by David Bush, executive director of Madd Poets Society

October 17

Josh Project Registration/Orientation for Swim Lessons: Noon to 1 pm; UT Scott Park Campus Room 1080C: 567-343-0766 or info@joshproject.org
Jerusalem Baptist Church Scholarship Ministry Concert: Interfaith Mass Choir; 6 pm; An evening of praise and worship
Flanders Church of Christ Clothing Giveaway: 9 am to 2 pm

October 16

Indiana Avenue MBC Anointed Mime Praise and Worship Night: 6 pm; Speaker Min. Sandel Harris

October 18

Charity MBC Annual Women's Day: 4 pm; Guest speaker Sis Tammie Knighten of Northwestern MBC
Indiana Avenue MBC Annual Youth and Young Adult Day: 10:50 am; Youth speaker Paula Smith; Young Adult speaker Shun Scott

October 24

Beauty, Beau and Business Brunch: Sponsored by Gamma Phi Delta Sorority and UAW Local 12 Jeep Civil Rights Committee; Vendors shopping event; 10 am to 3 pm; UA Local 12 Hall; Local business men will speak on management: butterfly99@gmail.com

October 25

Friendly MBC Women's Day Program: 11 am and 4 pm; "Christian Women Going to War, Armored Up and Fighting with Prayer:" 419-266-1935

October 30

Braden United Methodist Church All Saints' Day Celebration: 6:00 to 8:30 pm; Free games, prizes, food and fun for children of all ages: 419-386-2700

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Phone 419-243-0007 * Fax 419-255-7700
thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com
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Pssst....! Take This Advice and Run!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

Unless you have been overly preoccupied with the end of the world scenarios due to "Pastor" John Hagee's Blood Moon prophecies, you have not noticed how America is really ginned up with smoldering anger about the current state of affairs in these United States.

On the domestic front, the economic paralysis is far from over and the stagnant recovery is not making a lot of people very happy with Washington (a.k.a. the do-nothing Congress) and the seemingly laid back Obama administration.

As to the foreign scene, ISIS is shooting at will and cutting heads off at random and its copycat worldwide offshoots are imitating their savagery by kidnappings and executions, especially so in Syria and Nigeria (Boko Haram).

With such seething anger over America being perceived as being weak and effete in world affairs and the top one percent fat cats getting fatter and the middle and lower classes getting even skinnier, in step two perceived saviors...Donald Trump and a sleepy doe-eyed Ben Carson.

Both candidates have enough sound bite warts and political bad breath to spare as in their campaigns statements and also how they are pandering to their base, to wit: disillusioned white Republican voters who are saying by their blind obedience to anything "anti-Washington" that, "We do not care about credible policy positions, give us non-politicos who will shake things up!"

Both Carson and Trump are astute at reading the angst in the political tea leaves and they spout pithy statements to encourage their disgruntled base to continue to shower them with campaign money and promises of votes.

Both candidates gladly oblige as they continue to crank out, on national news programs, statements that border on sheer idiocy and the impossibility of being both funded and accomplished ... but who cares and who is dissecting such statements?

Carson will whip up his base with his wrong-headed statements about religion, Muslims, gun control and Obama (saying the President is akin to a psychopath and he has Nazi like followers) which only makes his camp followers wax and swoon at his loosey-goosey pronouncements.

Trump, a master showmanship, outdoes Carson by making empty promises that if he is in the White House, America will be great again!

As if pure military prowess can alone win the victory and much less the allegiance of the common people in the countries in which they are being oppressed by fanatic dictators.

Details? Don't bother yourself with such mundane and obtuse matters! Simply put your finger into the wind and gauge the emotional and mental anguish of those in the Republican Party and act accordingly and worry about course correction when the wind changes.

On the Democratic side of the political chasm, Hillary Clinton, scripted down to a tee and trying to appear authentic (although she gladly takes money from the very fat cats that she claims she can reel in from their economic excesses), talks a warmed-over populist game in hopes of blunting the appeal of Bernie Sanders.

As for Bernie Sanders, a socialist Democrat, will America elect such a person to the White House, who in the minds of his adversaries, is seen as being two shades away from being labeled a "Commie."

If Trump wins the Republican nomination and all appearances indicate that if he keeps winning in the polls as he now is, he will win the critical swing states of Ohio, Florida, Colorado and

Pennsylvania; he will get the title of Republican Presidential Nominee.

It is worth noting here that Trump indicated that if he wins the White House, he will have Ben Carson in his cabinet. A soft lob to the black vote and to the Republican fringe groups that are tone deaf rabid for Carson.

The best advice that you could get is that if Trump takes the White House, go out and sell your house and place all of the proceeds in defense company stock and building materials wholesalers because it is going to be a heyday on Wall Street with stockbrokers going bonkers pushing military suppliers and construction companies.

As for President Obama, I have said it before: Nice guy, great smile good intentions...BUT he was way in over his head as to not wanting to arm wrestle with a hostile Congress (including latent racial hostilities); and not willing to roll up his sleeves and slug it out with his detractors.

He was Mr. Nice Guy personified and it cost him dearly as to his image of being a wimp on the national and foreign affairs stage and not willing to get rid of his GQ image and to throw down with some authentic gruff.

Regrettably, it is only recently that President Obama has found his voice and is now willing to say what he should have been saying all along when he first got in the White House.

Into that political void now step Donald Trump, Ben Carson, Bernie Sanders and Carly Fiorina who are huffing and puffing away to show the angry voters that a better America is only a vote away...if you vote for them.

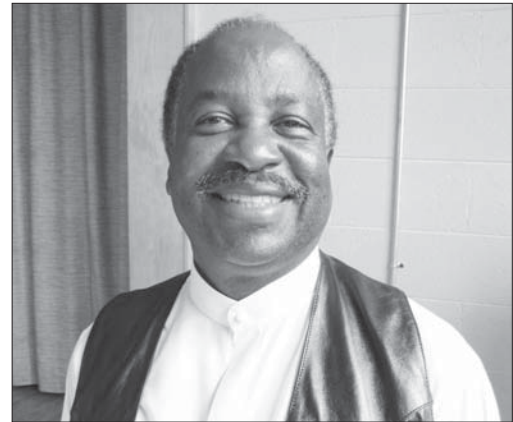
All things being equal (No, I do not think Joe Biden is going to run...he seemingly does not the heart or the fire in the belly for a bruising campaign battle with Hillary) it would appear that it will be Hillary v. The Donald in the next general election.

Bernie will fade away and Carson will try to mount a last ditch effort at the Republican National Convention but the Donald will make the deal of the century and edge him out during the convention's roll call vote of the states.


Carly Fiorina will be waving and shouting, "What about me!" but the convention delegates will tell her to do a song and a dance for a chance for a second place on the ticket...and she reluctantly will.

All in all, it will be the fat-cat owners of the media outlets and the printing press companies who will be smiling all the way to the bank when the confetti settles and the hundreds of millions of dollars will be spent on telling you, the voter, what you should do.

Contact Lafe Tolliver
at Tolliver@Juno.com



Lafe Tolliver



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Who Will You Vote for in the November 2015 Election?

By Jay Black, President of the Toledo African American Chamber of Commerce
Guest Column

TAACC Mission Statement

The Toledo African American Chamber of Commerce (TAACC) advocates and promotes the economic growth and development of African American owned businesses by focusing on the development of business opportunities, business alliances, job creation in our community, and legislative advocacy.

As we approach Election Day I encourage all of you to vote. It is important for the African-American community to show up for every election and vote our interest. Listed below are some practical items that may help you decide who or what you support on Election Day:

Is election season the only time you see the political candidate or levy sponsor? Our community has let politicians and levy sponsors get away with this one for a long time. We need to be smarter and stop allowing this practice. One way to stop this practice is to vote against politicians and levy sponsors who utilize this strategy.

Did the candidates or levy sponsors keep the promises they made to our community from the last election? If they did we should consider voting for them this time. If they did not we should not vote for them.

What are the candidates'/levy sponsors' records for creating jobs in our community? If their records are good, good. If their records are not good we should not vote for them.

Did they use their authority and/or political influence to create procurement opportunities for black businesses? Very few politicians and levy sponsors have a good track record on this one. In fact, one City Council At Large candidate actually worked against a local black business in favor of out-of-town interests during her tenure on the Toledo Board of Education. We should stop voting for people and institutions that do not support our businesses with their economic resources.

Do you plan to vote for a candidate just because they are a Democrat or Republican? We hear this one all the time. Many local Democrats trip all over themselves to curry favor with the unions. They will do whatever the union

time to step up and represent our interests.

We need to send a clear message that we expect similar treatment. Many of our folks have no clue what the platform is of candidates/levy sponsors. We need to take the time to gather the information that will help us make informed decisions. Demand that both Democrats and Republicans represent our interests. If they don't or won't, don't vote for them. Better yet, stop voting for anyone who doesn't have a proven track record of representing your interest.

Are you planning to vote for a candidate simply because he or she is African American? Again, we need to be smarter than this. If candidates won't use their influence and authority to help create jobs in our community and allow your business to have equal access to their agencies' contracts, you should not vote for them. The color of the candidate does not matter if he or she is not representing our community's interest.

The same African-American At Large City Council candidate mentioned earlier voted to terminate an African-American administrator's employment with Toledo Public Schools in spite of an independent referee's (who the district agreed should review the case) report that stated that the employee's termination was not warranted.

This same person sided with the white colleagues on the board to block a fellow African-American board member from becoming vice president of the board. The point is, a candidate's color should not be the sole determinate whether we vote for them or not. A track record of representing our community's interest should be the most important factor.

Please vote on Election Day and make your vote count for our community. Also, we will be publishing the Toledo Zoo's Scorecard Summary very soon. Look for it.



Jay Black

African Art Has Arrived!!

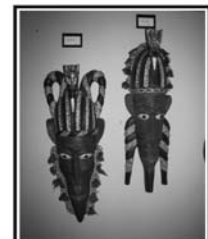
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The NAACP Celebrates a Century in Toledo with Three Mo' Tenors

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

"Normally they don't do fundraisers and normally they don't do halls," says Ray Wood, president of the Toledo branch NAACP. On October 24, however, a new normal will arrive as the esteemed group, Three Mo' Tenors, perform at the Stranahan Theater and Great Hall in order to assist the local NAACP celebrate of 100 years of service to the greater Toledo area.

Three Mo' Tenors are a trio of classically-trained opera singers who have woven a variety of musical genres into their concerts – opera, gospel, jazz, soul, pop, Broadway and spiritual. The group was formed in the late 1990's as a spinoff of the original Three Tenors – Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras – who had gained world-wide fame as they ventured from their operatic roots and incorporated a wide range of music into their many concerts and records.

Broadway performer, writer and director Marion Caffey determined that such a formula would work for African-American performers as well and founded the Three Mo' Tenors group which has cast a light on about a dozen black tenors since the first concert in 2001.

The current trio consists of Victor Robertson, Phumzili Sujolu and Duane Moody.

Wood is understandably proud of the fact such stellar entertainers will be in town to help spotlight a century of work by the local NAACP branch in its struggle to achieve equal rights for those in minority communities.

Toledo was one of the first cities to organize a chapter of the NAACP with the help of then Mayor Brand Whitlock, activist Ida B. Wells and national organizer W.E.B. DuBois.

Wood has led the branch for the last two years and the hundred-year birthday party is a perfect opportunity to highlight his staff and board's efforts to get the organization moving forward. He arrived in the top local office realizing that he was faced with challenges.

"We are trying to re-engage the organization," he says. "Throughout the years, there have been hits and misses with the NAACP locally in the area

...continued on page 7



Ray Wood



Victor Robertson



Duane Moody



Phumzili Sujola

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First Federal Bank Partners with the Toledo Zoo and Toledo Public Schools for Natural Science Education Program

Special to The Truth

First Federal Bank announced Sunday, September 27 a \$5,000 commitment to bring natural science education programs to the Toledo Public Schools.

The bank will fund "Zoooper Challenges" offered by Toledo Zoo designed for grades K-8, to educate students on animals and their needs. This program will be given for students at Spring, Rosa Parks I, Robinson, Old Orchard, Harvard, McTigue I, Keyser and McKinley Elementary Schools as well as East Broadway Middle School.

"We at TPS are delighted to receive First Federal's support in bringing the exciting world of natural science into our elementary classrooms with the Zoooper Challenge," said Thomas Dimitrew, Director, Agriculture, Construction, & Engineering Technology at Toledo Public Schools. The Toledo Zoo and its staff are invaluable community resources for instilling a love of the natural world within our young people, while also making them aware of the unique opportunities for further study available to them at the zoo and the TPS Natural Science Technology Center. With a growing national demand for professionals in both plant and animal-related careers, this exciting partnership reflects an ideal pairing of school and community resources, thanks to the generous support of First Federal Bank," said Dimitrew.

"As part of the Toledo community, we feel it is important to invest in organizations that prove to empower and leave a lasting, positive impact on individuals," said Donald P Hileman, president and CEO of First Federal Bank. "Toledo Public Schools and the Toledo Zoo do just that. We are ecstatic about the opportunity to gift the Zoooper Challenge and look forward to the roll out of the program," he added.

TPS Holds Fifth Annual College Night

Special to The Truth

Toledo Public Schools hosted its fifth Annual College Night on October 8, 2015 at the University of Toledo Scott Park Campus from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

Nearly 100 recruiters from local, state and regional colleges, as well as representatives from various trade industries, Career Tech programs and branches of the military were on hand to answer questions from both students and parents/guardians.

Organizers estimated that more than 2,000 area high school students attended this year's event – in addition to parents and guardians who were encouraged to attend College Night with their student. Buses brought students from the district's six comprehensive high schools to and from the event.



... photos continued on page 7

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College Night Photos... continued from page 6



Mo' Tenors... continued from page 5

of civil rights."

In order to re-engage, Wood and the current board are focused on two areas of concern as they strive to move the organization.

First, says Wood, it's important to get the faith-based community re-committed to the cause. Ministers, he believes, can use the power of the pulpit to aid in addressing critical issues such as racial profiling, housing problems, lead paint poisonings.

Secondly, the organization wants to get youth and young adults more involved. "They are our future but there has been a disconnect with them and our chapter," he admits. "They want to be engaged and they realize that if they can get involved, they can see immediate results from their participation. They are passionate and we have some intelligent, articulate young people."

The NAACP has recently been conducting meetings which bring in young adults in order to gauge their enthusiasm for becoming active in community affairs.

"We feel that we can reach out especially through other organizations," he says.

Working with and through other organizations is a key for moving forward, adds Wood. Given the sometimes splintered relations that community organizations have with each other, Wood envisions that one of the NAACP's objectives in the future should be encouraging cooperation among such entities.

He also feels a need to strengthen the NAACP itself by bringing on board, literally onto the board, more contributors, thereby, adding more skills and experiences to the organization. Currently few of the 26 board seats are filled.

Wood, a Toledo native, graduated from Macomber and attended the University of Toledo. He then served a four-year stint in the U.S. Air Force and joined Powertrain 30 years ago becoming a union representative about 22 years ago. His daytime job is serving as president of United Auto Workers Local 14.

The Toledo Chapter NAACP's 100 year anniversary celebration will take place at the Stranahan on October 24. The performance will start at 8 p.m. There will be a VIP reception from 6 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, go to www.toledonaacp.org.

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Mecca Court #73 2015 Commandress Ball

Special to The Truth

The members of Mecca Court #73, Auxiliary to Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of North and South American and Its Jurisdictions (A.E.A.O.N.M.S.) held their 52nd annual Commandress Ball on October 10, 2012 at the Grand Plaza Hotel commemorating the many years of their existence, charity and benevolence and honoring Daughter Jeanne R. Harris, Illustrious Commandress.

At the ball this past weekend, the members also awarded a scholarship from the "Charlesena Harrison Smith Scholarship Foundation" to La'Shay Macon, a freshman at North Carolina A & T State University.

Mecca Court #73, with a membership of 92, has been instrumental in numerous community projects over the past 89 years, having been in

the news promoting charity and benevolence within the local community and the state and annually at the host convention.

The organization stresses the development of powerful leaders, encourages health awareness and

career planning among youth and adults, provides services to help disabled and senior citizens, provides for effective networking among its members and other organizations, recognizes and cel-

... continued on page 9



Harris and Dt. Dee Bates, past Illustrious Commandress



Illustrious Commandress Dt. Jeanne Harris, Scholarship awardee's mother Shontrell Flanagan; Scholarship recipient La'Shay Macon; Scholarship Committee Chairman Dt. LaVera Scott; Imperial Deputy for the Oasis of Toledo Dt. Charlene Miller

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Mecca Court.. continued from page 8

celebrates the historic and current achievement of African-American women, exerts positive influence and utilizes role modeling for youth, teenage mothers, high school and college students.

The initial organization of 12 courts has grown to over 200 located in the United States, Canada, the Bahamas, Germany, Italy and Japan.

This past year, under the leadership of Dt. Harris, Mecca Court was active in the following community projects: providing school supplies and book bags to Pickett Academy students, providing clothing and personal items to Fairview Nursing Home and Sparrow's Nest, presenting items to the Ronald McDonald House, along with numerous fundraising activities.

Additional presentations are to come in the next months.

This year's scholarship recipient, Macon, a graduate of Central Catholic High School, is an elementary education major with a minor in psychology. She was a member of Sideline Spirit, track, gospel choir, the African American Club, the drama club and yearbook throughout her years in high school.

Her extracurricular activities include Delta Gems, Toledo Stand group, a volunteer at Living Hope Church, St. Paul Community Center Soup Kitchen, Blankets for Moms' House, hostess for Celebrity Wait Dinner, Walk the Word Ministry Scholarship committee, Open House at school and the Holland Branch Library. She was on the honor roll every quarter for all four years of high school.

Mecca Court's guests for the annual gala traveled from every major city in Ohio as well as from Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky.



Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson and Illustrious Commandress Jeanne Harris

Domestic Violence Begins at Home: A Candid Conversation

On Thursday, October 22, Toledo City Councilman Tyrone Riley will host a community forum at the Eleanor Kahle Senior Center to discuss the issue of domestic violence, which starts in the home.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Current statistics indicate that one in four U.S. women will experience domes-

tic violence in their lifetime. Nearly three-fourths of all Americans know someone who has experienced domestic violence.

Also taking part in this candid discussion will be: Cary Brown, assessment manager at Lucas County Children Services; Lynn Jacquot, Ohio Domestic Violence Network; Jennifer Tucker, Adult Program coordina-

tor, Bethany House; Carol Smith, Ph.D, Batterer Intervention Program and Augustine Abbott, domestic violence advocate.

The community forum starts at 6:00 p.m. and lasts until 8:00 p.m. All residents are invited and encouraged to attend.

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2015 Newbury Children's Medal Winner Author Kwame Alexander to Appear in Toledo October 22!

By Rhonda B. Sewell, Library Governmental Affairs and Media Strategist
The Truth Contributor

The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library and The Blade are proud to welcome children's author **Kwame Alexander** at 7 p.m. on Thursday, **October 22** in the McMaster Center of Main Library, 325 Michigan St. Alexander is the recipient of the prestigious 2015 John Newbery Medal for the Most Distinguished Contribution to American Literature for Children for his book *The Crossover*. Alexander will be the second speaker for the 2015-2016 20th Anniversary season of Authors! Authors!, an historic series which embodies such success and meaning due to its noted authors who deliver keynote lectures for community residents.

Alexander, an award-winning Young Adult/Children's book author, poet, teacher and literacy advocate, has been dubbed a "phenom" in the poetry world by *The Charleston (SC) City Paper*. He has written for television, the stage, and authored 14 books including the best-selling *Do The Write Thing: 7 Steps to Publishing Success, And Then You Know: New & Selected Poems*, and a young adult title, *Crush: Love Poems*.

He speaks, and conducts writing/publishing workshops at schools and conferences throughout the country. Alexander resides in the Washington, DC area, where he currently serves as founding director of Book-in-a-Day, a literacy program that teaches and inspires youth in the writing and publishing process. Recently, Alexander served on the advisory board for Nikki Giovanni's *The 100 Best African American Poems* (Sourcebooks, 2010).

His children's book, *Acoustic Rooster and his Barnyard Band*, illustrated by New York Times Bestselling Illustrator Tim Bowers, was published by Sleeping Bear Press in September 2011; and his debut YA Novel *The Crossover*, was published by Harper Collins. The Kwame Alexander Papers, a collection of his writings, correspondence, and other professional and personal documents is held at the George Washington University Gelman Library.

Other 2015-2016 season authors scheduled:

- **Wednesday, November 18** – (7 p.m., Stranahan Theater, 4645 Heath-

erdowns Blvd.): **Gloria Steinem** – Toledo-raised American feminist icon, author, journalist and social/political activist.

SPRING 2016 lineup:

- **Wednesday, March 2** – (7 p.m., Stranahan Theater): **Kareem Abdul-Jabbar** – Global icon that changed the game of professional basketball, *New York Times* bestselling author, filmmaker and appointed United States Cultural Ambassador. The National Basketball Association's (NBA) All-Time Leading Scorer with 38,387 points, a six-time NBA Most Valuable Player (MVP), a member of six NBA championship teams, he was twice voted NBA Finals MVP.
- **Thursday, April 14** – (7 p.m., McMaster Center, Main Library): **Luis Rodriguez** - Award-winning poet (appointed Poet Laureate of Los Angeles), activist, bestselling Author (*Always Running: La Vida Loca, Gang Days in L.A.*) and "reform through art" advocate.
- **Friday, May 20** – (7 p.m., Stranahan Theater): **Lynda Barry and Matt Groening** – Barry is an Eisner Award-winning cartoonist and graphic novelist, and **Groening** is an Emmy-winning cartoonist, screenwriter, producer, and creator of *Futurama* and the long-running *Life in Hell*, as well as the longest-running U.S. primetime television series in history – *The Simpsons*.



Kwame Alexander

At each program, authors speak for about an hour, followed by a short question and answer session. Following the program, the featured author is usually available to sign copies of their works. Books will be available for purchase at the program from Barnes & Noble Booksellers.

An anticipated treat for the community, for some 20 years, Authors! Authors! has welcomed some of the biggest names, straight off the best-sellers' lists. Some of the exciting names from past appearances include David McCullough, Anna Quindlen, Isabel Allende, Neil Gaiman, Sebastian Junger, Nicholas Sparks, Bob Woodward, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Ray Bradbury, John Updike, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., P.J. O'Rourke, Sherman Alexie, Zadie Smith, Henry Winkler, Sue Grafton, Cokie Roberts, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sandra Cisneros and Jacques Pepin, to name a few.

For media inquiries please contact **Ben Malczewski**, Humanities Department Manager, and Authors! Authors!/Open Book series Coordinator at Benjamin.Malczewski@toledolibrary.org or 419.259.5193/419.259.5193. Authors! Authors! presentations begin at 7 p.m. Ticket information will be available beginning Monday, August 3 for the 2015-16 season. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students. For further details please call 419.259.5266/419.259.5266 or visit toledolibrary.org.

Mayoral Candidates Forum




The Toledo branch NAACP in partnership with the Toledo Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and The Sojourner's Truth Newspaper, will sponsor a

"A Mayoral Forum"
October 15, 2015
Calvin M. Woodward High School
701 E Central Ave, Toledo, OH 43608
From 5:30-8:30 pm

We are pleased to offer this event to help the public learn more about where the candidates stand on the issues.

It is important that voters become better informed about the candidates before casting their ballots, for the November 3rd, General Election".

This forum promises to be enlightening, and we believe the public will benefit from the discussion.



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October is National Bullying Prevention Month

Special to The Truth

With children back in their school routines, October is the perfect time for local communities nationwide to unite to raise awareness of bullying prevention through education, outreach and activities. This is the message from the organizers behind National Bullying Prevention Month, which occurs each October.

What was once historically viewed as "a childhood rite of passage" is no longer the case, as far from "making kids tougher," bullying can result in such demoralizing effects as anxiety, self-esteem-loss, depression and school avoidance -- and even lead to physical injury or worse.

The special month has its roots in a week-long campaign by the PACER Center, an organization that assists young people with disabilities. It has since expanded to a month-long initiative to combat bullying, and is recognized in communities across the country, with hundreds and hundreds of schools and organizations contributing as partners.

This year, such celebrities as Lea Michelle, Zachary Quinto, Emma Roberts, Robin Roberts and others have taped special videos to campaign to stop bullying. More details are available at www.stompoutbullying.org, where students can share their own anti-bullying videos, as well. Other organizations, like The Kind Campaign, are pitching in with school programs and assemblies. Information about The Kind Campaign is available for parents, students and educators at www.kindcampaign.com.

PACER, which developed the initial National Bullying Prevention and Awareness campaign back in 2006, has gone on to forge partnerships with such education organizations as the American Federation of Teachers, the National Education Association and the National PTA. To help individuals and communities respond to bullying, PACER is providing free resources for schools, parents and students at www.pacer.org/bullying.

Of course, all the anti-bullying resources can be used beyond the month of October, urge experts, to help inspire, educate and encourage people to better deal with and prevent bullying year-round.

Courtesy StatePoint



Mt. Nebo's 85 Ushers anniversary with (clockwise from bottom right) Sr Betty Williams, Br Edward Sanders, Pastor Andrew Maize and Pastor Cedric Brock



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For more information call 419.255.8876**

The Responsible Ohio Issue 3 Campaign

By Sylvester Gould, Senior Advisor

Guest Column

Toledo and Lucas County, like all of Ohio, has faced tough economic circumstances in recent years. Between a loss of jobs, the recession and cuts to the Local Government Fund, Toledo has had an especially tough time bouncing back. Yes on Issue 3 and marijuana reform could be the answer to decreasing our outrageous unemployment rates, to generating new small businesses and to finding a source of new tax money to make our cities safe and beautiful places to live again.

Yes on Issue 3 has released economic projections for Lucas County that show a significant amount of much-needed new tax revenue for our neighborhoods. When the market fully stabilizes in 2020, Yes on Issue 3 estimates that the new green industry will bring an estimated \$17.6 million in annual tax revenue for Lucas County and its townships and municipalities.

And that's not all. One of the state's 10 marijuana growth, cultivation and extraction facilities will be located here just outside of the Toledo city limits. Together, the grow site along with dozens of retail licenses will create hundreds of new good-paying jobs and business opportunities.

Hard work is at the heart of Lucas County. Northwest Ohio is made up of some of the hardest-working people in America. We are proud people who build, who create and who innovate. That's exactly why Issue 3 and the growing site investors want to build businesses and help kick start new businesses here.

We can help Toledo and make northwest Ohio a crucial part of this new industry by making sure we vote yes on Issue 3 in November.

Sylvester M. Gould is a graduate of the University of Toledo School of Law, and President and Owner of Gould Development Company, LLC.



Sylvester Gould

Ashford: Health Care Compact Could Hurt Minorities, Seniors

Legislation would allow Ohio to re-write rules for Medicare, Medicaid

Special to The Truth

The Ohio House of Representatives last week voted to approve legislation that critics fear will dismantle Ohio's healthcare infrastructure and negatively impact seniors, minorities, and the working poor.

The measure, House Bill 34, enters Ohio into a Health Care Compact. If the compact receives congressional approval to move forward, Ohio would be allowed to suspend the operation of all federal health care laws, rules, orders and regulations (i.e. Medicaid, Medicare, and the Affordable Care Act).

"The successful implementation of the Health Care Compact will end Medicare and Medicaid as we know it," said Michael Ashford (D-Toledo), who voted against the bill. "All Americans deserve the same basic level of access to healthcare services, including our seniors and minority communities. This extreme, partisan legislation will endanger the health of our state's most vulnerable populations."

HB 34 has the potential to negatively affect the nearly two million Ohioans who currently receive Medicare benefits, and the almost two million Ohio Medicaid recipients.



Rep. Michael Ashford

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Perryman.. continued from page 2

that came out for my initial surgery, and I had several surgeries after that. I had one of the ladies from my church's Caring Ministry to take me to surgery. The church members helped me to keep a positive attitude with their supportive phone calls, visits and things like that. You have to keep a positive attitude.

Also, I started to get better when I looked to do things, so I went and started a breast cancer support group myself. I went to the board at St. Luke's Hospital, me and another survivor, told our stories and why we thought a support group was needed. We started the group, began meeting regularly, got larger, and started going to surgeries with people or maybe going to an appointment with one of the people that you're supporting or just provided whatever kind of help that was needed. My thing is once you get through the experience, then it's your turn to go help the next person. You've got to know that there's a person that's surviving cancer, it's your turn to go and help them.

Perryman: What else can others learn from your experience in moving from victim of the disease to breast cancer survivor?

Haskins: Getting mammograms. A lot of people wait too long and are already at stage four, the point where the cancer's already spread. I feel our numbers are so much higher because we don't get checked up enough, checked out enough. It's only 15 minutes, going in and getting a mammogram. It's a little uncomfortable for 15 minutes, but then you're out the door, but you just saved your own life.

But once you get the diagnosis, the very next step is that you've got to have support. You have to have that person that goes to those appointments with you after that, because when you get the diagnosis, your mind is so focused on the cancer. You're going to get a whole bunch of information thrown at you and because you hear so much stuff that you're ingesting, it's a lot to take in at one time. You'll need to have that second person. You've got to have somebody support you.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org

Grant Park by Leonard Pitts, Jr.

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

Open mouth, insert foot.

Maybe it doesn't happen often, but there are times when you have a knack for saying what's on your mind at precisely the wrong time. You can't un-say things, though, especially if you mean them but as you'll see in the new novel *Grant Park* by Leonard Pitts, Jr., at least those words won't kill you.

In his heart, Malcolm Toussaint was always an activist.

The son of a Memphis sanitary worker, Toussaint grew up seeing the lack of equality around him, and he understood that higher education was a means of escape. Once at college, he grew an Afro, wrote angry pamphlets, and spoke his mind but, though he wasn't alone in his radicalism, he was expelled from white-man's school anyway.

That was February 1968; it was cold but so was life, which Toussaint learned the spring before he returned to college, chastened and wiser.

Four decades later, the award-winning newspaper columnist hadn't forgotten those days, which was why, early one morning, he snuck into his editor's office and quietly inserted a rant in the paper, a column that had been rejected by his superiors, a tired-of-white-people column that Tousse-

c. 2015
Bolden
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400 pages

saint knew would kill his career.

As the paper's editor, Bob Carson was the first to reject the column so it especially stung that Toussaint's action caused Bob to lose his job, too. Being fired was a shock, and there was more: not only was Toussaint missing, but an old girlfriend, Bob's first love whom he hadn't seen in years, was in Chicago with the Obama campaign and was hoping to have lunch with Bob.

That was fine. He had nothing else to do. Toussaint had seen to that, hadn't he?

For most of his life,

Clarence Pym was bullied, abused, and didn't have many friends, but he had Dwayne and their carefully-laid plans for Something Big. Recently, they'd formed the White Resistance Army, and Dwayne said it was time for white men to take America back. It didn't matter who died – starting with that black writer from the newspaper...

It's-only-a-book, it's-only-a-book, that's what to keep reminding yourself here. It's only a book which, because you're immersed in history and authentic events and because the fictional parts feel natural, is easy to forget when you're reading *Grant Park*.

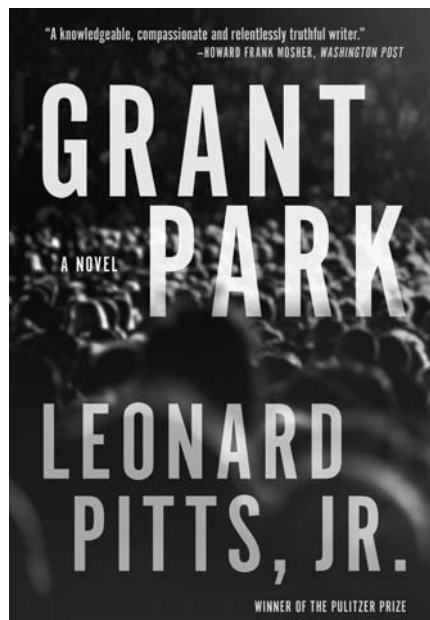
And then there are those thrills – gasping, mouth-gaping page-turners that author Leonard Pitts, Jr. weaves through another realism: truthful, brutal plot-lines about racial issues of the last five decades, mulling over exactly how far we've really come. That makes this will-they-live-or-won't-they nail-biter into something that also made me think, and I absolutely loved it...



Author Leonard Pitts Photo
courtesy Carl Juste

Until three pages from the end. There's where Pitts, Jr. inserted a tiny little thread that almost made me cry with frustration and cliché-repulsion.

I could cry now, in fact, but instead, I'll recommend this book with one caveat: stop before you finish it. If you can, you'll love it wholeheartedly with no disappointment. If you absolutely must read to the end, well, then liking *Grant Park*, is for open discussion.



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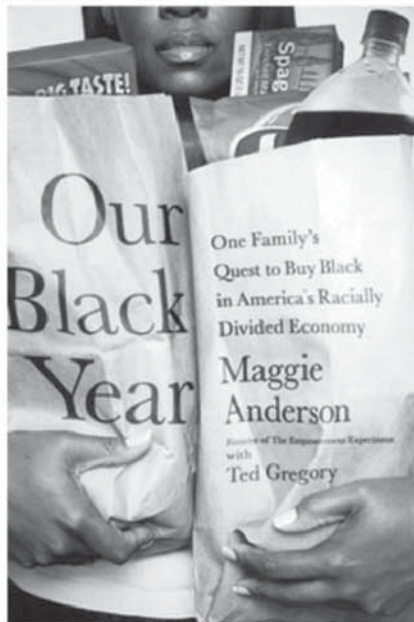
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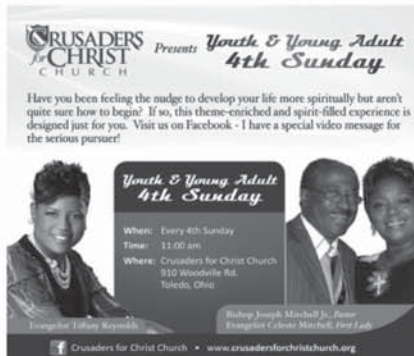
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CLASSIFIEDS

October 14, 2015

Page 15

SPECIAL NOTICE

RE: Examinations for Journeyman Wireman

Applications for the Journeyman Inside Wireman test will be accepted October 5-9, 2015 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.

Request for Proposals Training Services for Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Programs

RFP#15-R017

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for **Training Services for PH and HCVP. Received in accordance with law until Fri., Oct. 23, 3 PM ET.** For

Documents: www.lucasmha.org, 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604 or 419-259-9446/419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711).

Proposers required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. Sec. 3 Compliance Applicable.



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Date/Time

Saturday, Oct 17 2015 11:00am-3:00pm

Location

Holland Branch General Space

Instructor

Library Staff

Note

11am - 1 pm: Extreme Couponing with LaTisha Williams; 1-2pm Activities and Information tables; 2-3 pm Ten Ways Americans Lose Money—and How NOT To. Jean Kujawa, Professor of Business, Lourdes University.

Status

No Registration Required

Date/Time

Saturday, Oct 03 2015 12:00pm-4:00pm

Location

Mott Branch General Space

Instructor

Library Staff

Note

12-2 pm: Activities and Information tables; 2-4 pm: Extreme Couponing with LaTisha Williams

Status

No Registration Required

Tommy James Celebrates His 79th with Family and Friends

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Dozens of family members and friends joined Thomas James at Forrester's on the River on Sunday, October 4 to celebrate his 79th birthday. The party was hosted by his brother, Louis James, president of Motor City Logistics of Detroit and his wife, Donna James.

James was feted during the evening by an eclectic group of people who love him dearly including his children – Lesa, Steve and Tanya; his stepchildren – Carla, Thomas, Brittany and Amanda; his grandchildren – Steve, Jr.; Randy, Patrice; Nikki and Lily.

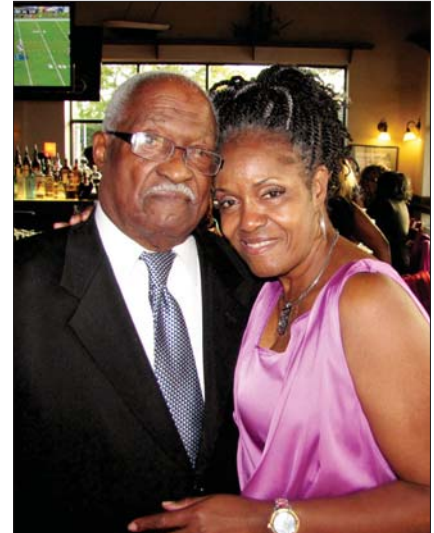
Out-of-town guests included Dolores McCarroll, sister, of Starkville, MS;

John James, brother of Farmington Hills, MI; Sarah Hall, sister-in-law, of Columbus, OH; Mr. and Ms. Cornell Moore of Detroit; Mr. and Ms. Keith Moore of Detroit, among others.

James' friends, old and new, were able to "Light Up the Night" with a little cigar smoking on the patio overlooking the Maumee River. DJ Victor Taylor entertained the guests while they feasted on hors d'oeuvres, champagne and cake. Thanks to the artistic talents of James' cousin and decorator, Charlene Miller, the cake was topped with two of his favorites – a brandy sniffer f Grand Marnier and a couple of cigars. All ready to "Light Up the Night."



Charlene, cousin; Sarah Hall, sister-in-law; Thomas James; Donna James, wife; Louis James, brother; Pamela James, sister-in-law; Dolores McCarroll, sister; stepdaughters – Carla Fitzgerald, Brittany Moore, Amanda Moore



James and wife Donna Moore-James



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James with children - Tanya, Steve and Lesa James