



Local and National News

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Volume 42, No. 5

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

December 21, 2016

Helping Santa



YMCA and 2nd Baptist Hold Toy Giveaways

In This Issue...

Perryman
Page 2

Tolliver
Page 3

Washington
Muhammad Honored
Page 4

The Kid of Pop
Page 5

Cover Stories

YMCA
Page 8

2nd Baptist
Page 9

The Economy Section

Social Security
and Kids
Page 6

First Fed Pays
It Forward
Page 7

Holiday
Gift
Tips
Page 10

Time
Page 11

Book Review
Page 13

BlackMarketPlace
Page 14

Classified
Page 15

NANBPWC
Page 16

When You Don't Know What To Do

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.

The TruthContributor

Let a Secretary of Peace be appointed.

- Benjamin Banneker



"What are we going to do, Rev," my activist friend asked, forlornly. The root of the friend's despair is the enduring gun violence epidemic that keeps us in tears and the community under siege.

Handguns are increasingly available and easily accessed. But with more guns comes the almost certainty that more and more black people will end up dead or in prison. Recent statistics show that a child or teen dies from a gun every three hours and 28 minutes because the widespread availability of guns has increased children's exposure to loaded and unlocked guns.

Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson recently announced a gunlocks program and other safety measures. In addition, Toledo police have confiscated more firearms this year than last.

Is it enough to make a difference?

For certain, the problem is complex. Blacks suffer gun violence disproportionately despite owning guns at a rate less than half that of whites (19 vs 41 percent), according to Pew Research.

Yet, realistic solutions are surprisingly simple.

What shall we do?

My perspective is to act first on what you already know. The second move is then, understanding that you don't know enough and to seek out more knowledge and understanding.

We know, first of all, that the racial disparity in impact of gun violence has become a national health crisis and "has everything to do with racism," according to the Centers for Disease Control's Camara Jones, MD, MPH, PhD. Sometimes the racism operates on an institutionalized level, where some groups lack access to opportunities that are available to other racial groups. But often, racism is turned inward where individuals accept negative societal messages and begin to lose self-worth and devalue themselves and others of their same racial group.

We've also known the risk factors for weapon-related behaviors of young African Americans and others.

For instance, African Americans suffer enormous emotional distress and many low-income minorities are disproportionately exposed to violence compared to others. The delinquency of peers and associates have also been identified as a risk for weapon involvement.

In addition, many blacks, not confident that law enforcement or

the government are able to ensure their safety, have decided to arm themselves believing that self defense is better than no defense.

Certainly then, if the problem of gun violence is to be adequately addressed, interventions will have to deal with the things we already know – risk factors such as reducing exposure to violence and emotional stress (including mental health) – issues that, in the words of Dr. Jones, "have everything to do with racism."

But secondly, it is critical to approach the gun violence epidemic with humility, understanding that, as a community, healthcare industry, social services industry or municipal government, we still do not know enough to solve the problem. Relevant and realistic solutions that we are unaware of are often present but perhaps hidden in plain sight.

For instance, much of what we know about gun violence and black youth is based upon a deficit model rather than from a strengths perspective.

Yet, there are many high achieving youth who navigate high levels of violence in their neighborhoods or communities and are still able to succeed. How do they do it? What are the protective factors that they are able to draw upon to help them deal positively with the negativity that they also face? We need to listen to their voices and find out more information that can help others.

Also, successful gun violence prevention strategies are being implemented in places like Chicago, Minneapolis, Los Angeles and Boston. Many of these programs have transformed violent communities into healthy spaces where people can live with both dignity and safety. Their success has been primarily due to the ability to understand both the challenges and successes associated navigating high-risk environments.

Gun violence is a public health crisis in Toledo and throughout the nation. However, I believe that we can prevent or reduce violence by focusing on the strengths of black youth who successfully navigate community violence and by identifying successful intervention strategies.

The challenge is finding the political will to do what we already know and developing a thirst for seeking out what we do not yet know.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min., at drdlperryman@center-offhopebaptist.org

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Community Calendar

December 25

Merry Christmas

Thomas Temple 13th Annual Free Christmas Dinner: 1 to 3 pm: 419-255-3447

December 26-29

Toledo's 50th Kwanzaa Festival: Frederick Douglass Community Association; Vendors, music, community speakers, drummers; Doors open 5 pm nightly, program starts at 6; Rahwae Shuman will speak on "A Thumbnail Sketch of African History" December 26; Audra Wilson will speak on "Kujichagulia/Self-Determination" December 27; Rahwae Shuman will speak on "The Physiological and Psychological Implication of Melanin" December 28: 419-509-0751 or toledodonald@aol.com

January 28

2017 Annual Gospel Extravaganza: "I Will Change the World;" Open to all youth artists; Vendors 3-4 pm; Music at 4; Warren AME: 419-450-0165 or 419-381-1558 or darlenesawyer25@yahoo.com

Take The Pledge

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

As many of you may know, I am the regional news director for the fledgling news network known as ANNN (All Negro News Network) and whose motto is: "If it is news about Negroes, read it first at ANNN!"

The headquarters is based in Meridian, Mississippi and, as with any new organization, we are trying to establish ourselves in various media markets where we can make a positive impact and difference.

Well, the bosses in Meridian were reading my past columns about the reticent and bashful black city council members and the corollary group of the local diffident clergy members who seemingly seem to share a common character trait or traits.

That trait or traits involves their apparent morbid fear of engaging themselves as a collective political or economic force for change in the black community in Toledo.

In spite of the fact that Toledo City Council has five minority members, the city has a black mayor and the black churches in Toledo have an approximate collective financial intake of over \$40,000 per week via tithes and offerings, nothing of substance seems to be happening between those two ostensible powerhouses – city and church!

Nothing. Nada. Zilch. Zero. For the political class of black elective officials, be they Democrat or Republican, there appears to be a shameful reluctance to meet and organize themselves into a political fist that can stand up to power and demand and deliver much-needed financial change for black Toledoans.

For the pastors, it appears to be a problem that although they may like each other, they do not "love" each other enough so that they are willing to sit down and collectively share their weekly wealth for the specific purpose of economic empowerment or development in the black community.

That is the same community whence they derive their sustenance including the grand yearly fetes in which many are celebrated at fancy dinners and are showered with financial plums that can reach into the several thousands of dollars!

But yet, when you examine even on a cursory level the systematic involvement of the black church and the black politicians in economic development using their political muscle, in the opinion of this writer, both groups

get a D minus or on a scale of one to 10 with 10 being a Martin Luther King Jr., award for community involvement and risk taking, those two groups share a skimpy three!

When challenged, both groups display the polished expertise of ducking and hiding and basically saying, "No comment!"

My bosses in Meridian were not happy with those types of responses and their unhappiness is spilling over to me in that they believe that I am not pressing these

important community issues; and especially so in the upcoming draconian days of a Trump presidency.

So, in order to save my neck and also to show my bosses that these two targeted groups still display a "progressive" (joke) mindset of the early 50's, I decided to show my bosses that I would distribute the following pledge cards to the black pastors and black politicians and see what happens.

It is my belief that the pledge cards will not be signed and returned and thus I can shut down the opinion of my bosses that the minority community is underserved by people who want to do better but simply do not have the requisite skill set to do better.

So, here are the pledge cards that my bosses have Ok'd for me to send out to all of the black politicians and the black pastors.

And as for the membership of the fabled male fraternity Alpha Phi Boule (Note: as is my custom, whenever I mention the name of Boule, I pause and bow my head for a moment or two of humble reverence regarding their uncanny ability to simply, "Meet, Eat and Greet" at various times of the year and then go home and take a nap....pause taken).

I would daresay think that the mighty men of Boule would self appoint themselves to this Herculean task of community mobilization but alas, my hopes are always dashed when I scan the holiday society pages and note with alarm and sadness that for Boule, oftentimes, it is just another ho-hum, "Meet, Eat and Greet!" photo op.

But, I digress.

PLEDGE CARDS TO THE PASTORS:

I, _____ of _____ (church name) do with shaking knees and a trembling heart do affirm to attempt the fol-

lowing with my fellow clergy brothers and sisters:

THAT, I will, with great reluctance, regularly meet with my fellow clergy to plot and plan and implement stratagems that will uplift the very community from which I glean my financial well-being.

THAT, in spite of my history of not regularly sharing any of my church's collective financial resources, I will make at least a feeble attempt to "tithe" (10 percent) off of the weekly collection plate income and dedicate those funds to a community fund dedicated to financial progress for my community.

THAT, I promise that I will not be spooked or shaken if and when we are challenged by the media as to why we are banning together to enrich the lives of our parishioners; and to jumpstart small businesses and to be a blessing to the black family including curbing gun violence, teen age pregnancies and domestic violence in our communities.

THAT, I promise that I will not be a dupe and be a "leak" or a "sellout" and tell others about our inner workings and I will not be a stumbling block to progressive advancement of people of color.

Signed: _____

PLEDGE CARD TO THE BLACK POLITICOS:

I, _____ (name of city council member or mayor) with much trepidation and worry, do affirm to attempt the following with my fellow black members of Toledo City Council:

... continued on page 12

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Annual Kwanzaa Celebration to Honor Washington Muhammad

Special to The Truth

Brother Washington Muhammad, founder of the Community Solidarity Response Network and a local organizer in the Black Lives Matter movement, will be honored with a special Community Involvement Award at the annual Kwanzaa celebration, held at The Padua Center, located in the Kwanzaa Park Neighborhood on December 29, 2016



The Padua Center, 1416 Nebraska Ave., will host one evening of Kwanzaa in Kwanzaa Park. This cultural festival will be held on December 29, 2016 beginning at 5:30 p.m. with the candle lighting ceremony at 6:00. Food and fellowship will continue at The Padua Center until 7:30. Members of the community, as well as the city, are invited.



The Kwanzaa Celebration begins with a drum call

Oscar Shaheer, chairman of the Kwanzaa Park Neighbors, will welcome guests. Diane Gordon of Kwanzaa House will lead the celebration. Kwanzaa, a cultural celebration, is composed of a Libration Ceremony in honor of ancestors, the

lighting of the Kinara, education, family activities and food to share.

The Padua Center is located at 1416 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, Ohio. In June 2011 The Padua Center sponsored a contest, "Name the Neighborhood." Kwanzaa Park,

submitted by George Lee, was chosen by the community members assembled.



Diane Gordon leads the Kwanzaa Celebration at The Padua Center, before she leads Kwanzaa at The Wayman Palmer Center, where it is held from Dec. 26, through January 1 beginning each night at 7:00 pm.

The Kwanzaa Park Neighborhood is bordered by Dorr, Brown, Klondike and Hawley Streets. Members of the Kwanzaa Park Neighbors meet monthly at The Padua Center to investigate ways to work together (Ujima) and improve the neighborhood. The next community meeting is February 2 at 1:00 p.m. at The Padua Center.

For information call: The Padua Center 419-241-6465.

Sister Virginia Welsh, Director



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Oscar Shaheer, chairman of the Kwanzaa Community Organization, gives directions during a recent Kwanzaa celebration




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Giving From the Heart

Nine-Year Old Entertainer Gives Back To Community

Special to The Truth

Ziynne also known as the Kid of Pop is an Internationally-known performer, a native of Toledo, OH, who has graced stages and warmed many hearts with his captivating dance moves.

On Saturday, December 10, the Kid of Pop made it a Merry Christmas for many, many families and children as he did a free concert for the children and families living at Hope Ministries. Hope Ministries is a homeless shelter in South Bend, IN.

After his 30-minute concert concluded, he surprised everyone by providing free Christmas gifts to all the children and their families! He also took the time to sign autographs and take pictures with every person in attendance. The children, both male and female, ranged in age from infants to age 16, and Ziynne the Kid of Pop provided gifts for all of them!

Ziynne (pronounced Zion), has appeared on national television, performed at the legendary Apollo Theater in New York City, and has toured with numerous artists including DJ Jazzy Jeff, Sisqo, Saved by the 90s, Pauly Shore and many more! Ziynne the Kid of Pop has also performed with the Jacksons, members of the Jackson 5, and brothers of the iconic Michael Jackson.

Following the example set before him by the great Michael Jackson, Ziynne the Kid of Pop is working to leave an indelible mark in the industry not just through his electrifying performances, but through his passion to help others through his philanthropy work.

Ziynne recognizes that Christmas time is the season of giving, but there are people... children, that need help all year. Ziynne plans to continue his efforts throughout the year to help children and families. Whether it be through concerts, giveaways, or other means, the Kid of Pop is on a mission to help. This mission is not one exclusive to one organization or city, but inclusive to everyone.

If you would like to know more about Ziynne the Kid of Pop, visit his website: www.Ziynne.com



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Dr. John W. Williams, Pastor



Social Security's Gift to Children Is Security

By Phil Walton, Social Security Manager in Toledo, OH

The Truth Contributor

This is the season of caring. No matter your religion or belief, December is also considered a time to focus on the children we love. Whether we're wrapping Santa's gifts, buying Hanukkah treats, decorating the house in celebration of Kwanzaa, or volunteering for a toy drive, children add joy to the holiday season. And we at Social Security definitely know a thing or two about helping children.

Often overlooked in the paperwork that prospective parents fill out in preparation for a child's birth is an application for a Social Security number and card. Typically, the hospital will ask if you want to apply for a Social Security number for your newborn as part of the birth registration process. This is the easiest and fastest way to apply. The Social Security card typically arrives about a week to 10 days after that little bundle of joy! You can learn about Social Security numbers for children by reading our publication, Social Security Numbers for Children, available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs.

A child needs a Social Security number if he or she is going to have a bank account, if a relative is buying savings bonds for the child, if the child will have medical coverage, or if the child will receive government services. You'll also need a So-

cial Security number for a child to claim him or her on your tax returns.

If you wait to apply, you will have to visit a Social Security office and you'll need to:

- Complete an Application For a Social Security Card (Form SS-5);
- Show us original documents proving your child's U.S. citizenship, age, and identity; and
- Show us documents proving your identity.

Remember, a child age 12 or older requesting an original Social Security number must appear in person for the interview, even though a parent or guardian will sign the application on the child's behalf. Children with disabilities are among our most vulnerable citizens. Social Security is dedicated to helping those with qualifying disabilities and their families through the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. To qualify for SSI:

- The child must have a physical or mental condition, or a combination of conditions, resulting in "marked and severe functional limitations." This means that the condition(s) must severely limit your child's activities;
- The child's condition(s) must be severe, last for at least 12 months, or be expected to result in death;
- If your child's condition(s) does not result in "marked and severe limitations," or does not result in those limitations lasting for at least 12 months, your child will not qualify for SSI; and
- The child must not be working and earning more than \$1,090 a month in 2016. (This amount usually changes every year.) If he or she is working and earning that much money, your child will not be eligible for benefits.

Learn the details about benefits for children by reading our publication, *Benefits for Children with Disabilities*, available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs. Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/people/kids to learn more about all we do to care for children. Caring for the next generation is a central part of securing today and tomorrow, during the holidays and all year long.

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First Federal Bank Funds \$10,000 Worth of Pay it Forward

First Federal Bank and First Insurance Group celebrated their third annual Pay it Forward day, in which each of the nearly 600 employees performed random acts of kindness. From October 11 through November 16, the bank and insurance group also asked the public for submissions on how they would pay it forward and offered up to \$10,000 in funding to help bring their ideas to life.

After receiving over 100 submissions, First Federal Bank and First Insurance Group have selected a total of 13 projects to fund, including nine projects in the Greater Toledo area.

"Our goal is to inspire members of the community to pay it forward and encourage others to do the same. We were thrilled with the number of people who wanted to make an impact and are pleased to be able to provide these opportunities for others to make a difference," said Donald P. Hileman, CEO and president of First Defiance Financial Corp. "By empowering people to express compassion, we can truly demonstrate how we are better together."

The following Toledo area projects will receive funding:

- Project Hope Equine Assisted Therapies will receive funding to provide therapeutic horseback riding classes to children coping with a recent death of a family member.
- Cheryl of Swanton, OH, will receive funding to surprise unsuspecting people at local restaurants with free lunch.
- Dawn of Bryan, OH, will receive funding to assemble duffle bags for foster children filled with personal care items and toys.
- Siena Heights University will receive funding for their students to perform purposeful acts of kindness.
- JJ's Safe Place will receive funding to open the first shelter for domestic violence victims in Fulton County.
- The Boys and Girls Club of Lenawee will receive funding for art supplies that will promote achieving academic success, healthy lifestyles and develop strong character.
- Hudson Food Pantry will receive funding to support their food pantry.
- Children's Lantern will receive funding to deliver holiday meals to families in need.
- Adelante will receive funding to support their Holiday Celebration efforts.

First Federal Bank and First Insurance Group will continue to Pay it Forward in the communities that they serve throughout this year and next. All submissions will be saved as the bank and agency work to improve their communities one small act at a time.

First Federal Bank will post updates to their Facebook page and website for the Pay it Forward ideas and how each of the funded projects is progressing.

Cherry Street and Goodwill Double Donations for Cold Weather Relief to Homeless Guests

Special to The Truth

Cherry Street Mission Ministries and Goodwill Industries of Northwest Ohio are partnering together to turn Goodwill donations into vouchers for winter clothing for Cherry Street guests.

As temperatures continue to plummet, Cherry Street Mission Ministries has an urgent need for winter clothing for guests staying at the organization's emergency shelter. On Wednesday, December 21, 2016, donations of items and goods collected at select locations will be turned into vouchers. The vouchers will then be provided by Cherry Street to shelter guests for redemption at any Goodwill store.

The following Greater Toledo locations are participating:

- Cherry Street

... continued on page 11

Bump, Slide and Ride this Christmas

Slide, glide and bump your way around the track — it's fun for everyone. Or grab an inner tube and experience the thrill of our ice slide.

Come enjoy some holiday food and drink, exhibits and activities surrounded by over a million lights and the music of Trans-Siberian Orchestra. There's no better way to get in the spirit!

Come see Trans-Siberian Orchestra and support the Zoo's conservation mission. We receive a portion of every ticket sold for their two shows Friday, December 2 at the Huntington Center! Tickets available at ticketmaster.com.

Check out the schedule at toledozoo.org

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Central-city Youth Receive Funds for Shopping Trip

Children, families and the community attend festive event with Santa

Special to The Truth

On Saturday, December 17, 2016, approximately 50 central-city youth, enrolled in Wayman D. Palmer Community YMCA afterschool care programs or who participate in youth sports programs at the branch, each received \$50.00 to purchase clothing for themselves during the YMCA's annual holiday shopping trip.

The shopping trip and party to follow was made possible by Edna Vena, who left a generous gift to the YMCA of Greater Toledo in 1938 to provide clothing for central-city children during the holiday season.

The children shopped at Walmart on Glendale Ave. from 7:30 – 9:30 am. YMCA volunteers and staff were on hand to assist the children with their purchases.

After the shopping trip, the children returned to the Wayman Palmer YMCA, 2053 N. 14th Street for a holiday party. The party was free and open to the community.

Pizza was served at 11:00 a.m., followed by fun activities including a Christmas Program featuring the YMCA Child Care children. There were also games to play, Christmas carols to enjoy and the opportunity to meet a special guest, Santa Claus.






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Second Baptist Annual Christmas Toy Giveaway

On Saturday, December 17, Second Baptist Missionary Baptist Church hosted its third annual children's toy giveaway and dozens of families from within and around the Holland area gathered at the church's community center on Irwin Road.

The toy giveaway is part of a non-profit church organization titled Agape Second Chance Corporation that develops programs to serve the community. After being formed just more than two years ago, the non-profit has already developed tutorial programs and has brought in a health clinic managed by Neighborhood Health Association at the community center.



T O L E D O



DECEMBER 26 ★ NOON-8PM

Didn't get what you want for Christmas? Drive away in your very own Jeep Cherokee!
Enter now and get to the grand prize drawing at 7PM.

ROCK THE CLOCK
NOON - NEW YEAR'S DAY!

DECEMBER 31

Make plans for the hottest New Year's party in town featuring live music all day & all night long!

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Last Minute Holiday Gift Tips

Special to The Truth

Everyone needs to find great holiday gifts in a pinch from time to time. But just because you're shopping last minute doesn't mean these gifts shouldn't be thoughtful.

Here are a few tips to make sure that presents purchased in the 11th hour are appreciated and enjoyed.

Strike the Right Mood

There is good news. You don't need to break the bank on a day-long shopping excursion in order to find great items. Consider simple gifts that create that special feeling of home, such as American Home by Yankee Candle. The line features candles with holiday fragrances -- such as Fresh Balsam Fir and Holiday Apple Wreath -- for under \$20 and are great for holiday entertaining. Jars, tumblers, tea lights and wax cubes all make warm, thoughtful gifts and are available at the grocery stores, drug stores and big box stores you visit every day, so you can conveniently do your holiday shopping during a busy time of year. Visit YCAmericanhome.com to learn more.

Sign Them Up

A subscription service is a gift that keeps on giving all year long. In this regard, you can think beyond magazine subscriptions these days. "Subscription boxes," which offer great products on a monthly basis, are an on-trend and fun gift that can be purchased in an instant. Themes for boxes are as eclectic as your gift recipients themselves

and include books, socks, healthful snacks and beauty products.

Go Gift Cards

Crunched for time? Not exactly sure what a friend or family member wants or needs? Opt for a gift card that you can easily email or print out and put into a card. Many third-party gift card aggregators exist online, where you can quickly dash to a website and complete your transaction. Large online retailers also offer online gift cards to help you find a present fast -- no matter his or her personal sense of style or interests.

Wrap Smart

Having extra materials for quick gift wrapping just makes sense all year long, but particularly during the holidays. Stay organized with a designated gift wrapping station throughout the season that features greeting cards, tape, scissors, ribbon, wrapping paper, gift bags, and tags. Gift bags and a bit of tissue paper can make a last minute gift go from flat to festive in moments, so stock up on these items in a variety of sizes so you are always ready to wrap.

Don't get stressed about last minute gifting this holiday season. Being prepared can help ensure you put smiles on the faces of everyone on your list.

Courtesy StatePoint

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Time- and Budget- Stretching Tips for the Self-Employed

Special to The Truth

The ability to stretch a budget can help businesses or those who are self-employed weather lean times and flourish in good periods, and being efficient with time can mean surviving a busy season with your sanity intact. But these principles can be hard to uphold.

To help, here are a few tips to assist freelancers, entrepreneurs and small business owners to make more happen with existing resources.

Seek Out Resources

Taking care of certain logistics is easier these days, as retailers like Staples offer resources for small businesses, such as their Small Business Hub, where you can design and order business cards, print marketing flyers and posters, get invitations, announcements, calendars and brochures, many on the same day that you place the order.

"When you are on a tight schedule, having one place where you can go that meets a bulk of your small business needs is extremely useful," says Melanie Salinas a photographer and the blogger behind "Story of Five."

Salinas, who recently partnered with Staples as part of their #MakeMoreHappen campaign to help small business owners learn about resources to help them get things done, is a frequent user of both Staples' online hub, as well as their in-store Copy & Print center.

Keep Expenses Organized

"Don't mix business with pleasure. Easier said than done when you're working from home, but it's a must. Keep business expenses separate from family expenses," says Salinas.

It may seem like an extra step now, but you can avoid accounting

headaches and help make tax time a breeze by staying organized. Good organization will also help ensure you don't overlook expenses that could lower your taxes.

Create a Workspace

If you are looking to take your business to the next level, it's important that you have a dedicated workspace where you can get stuff done. Look to programs like Staples Rewards to get cash back on purchases, special coupons and deals.

"Even if it's just a corner of your bedroom, creating a functional workspace will help you boost productivity," says Kayla Buell, who runs "Gen Y Girl," a Millennial career and lifestyle blog, who recommends sprucing up the area with supplies and décor that inspire and motivate you.

Use Time Wisely

Marketing yourself or promoting your business can be tough, especially if your days are full working for existing customers and keeping your business going.

"Promoting sounds like a lot of work when you're bursting at the seams, but you have to communicate with people you want to hire you," says Susan and William Brinson, who own a thriving photography business and blog at "House of Brinson." "We use the weeks where we're slow -- around the holidays for instance -- to work on promotions."

More business ideas to save time and money can be found by visiting Staples.com and by following #MakeMoreHappen on social media.

Give yourself a cushion -- both on your calendar and in your wallet. Smart approaches to running your business will boost your productivity and stretch your budget.

Courtesy StatePoint

Cold Relief Donations... continued from page 7

- Country Squire
- DeVeaux
- Genoa
- Glendale
- Holland Sylvania
- Navarre
- Perrysburg
- Point Place
- Reynolds Road
- Sylvania/King

On Tuesday, December 27, the Goodwill store located at 525 Cherry Street, Toledo, will be closed to the general public in order to serve voucher recipients between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Goodwill accepts donations of gently used clothing and household goods during business hours at any retail location or donation station throughout Northwest Ohio. For more information regarding acceptable items or donation locations visit goodwill-nwohio.com/how-to-donate/.

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Please note that the Toledo Lucas County Public Library will be CLOSED the following days:

December 24 (Saturday) - Christmas Eve
 December 25 (Sunday) - Christmas Day
 December 26 (Monday) - In observance of Christmas
 January 1, 2017 (Sunday) - New Year's Day
 January 2, 2017 (Monday) - In observance of New Year's Day

For further information, please contact the Library Information Line: 419.259.5200 or consult the Library's Holiday Hours and Closing Schedule online: <http://www.toledolibrary.org/holiday>

NANBPWC.... continued from page 3

ra Tucker; Frances Collins, PhD; Lillie Watkins; Clara Brank and Black-Poon.

After the fashion show a healthy lunch was provided which gave the residents a chance to relax and fellowship. The audience enjoyed singing popular Christmas songs to make the season bright. Selections such as *Deck the Halls*, *Joy to the World*, *Silent Night*, *We Wish You A Merry Christmas* and more, really helped to make

the season bright and brought joy to everyone in the room.

This program is a special favorite for the residents of the Alpha Towers. The senior residents ask for the Christmas program to return each year. The members of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. feel honored and enjoy the smiles on their faces and the love in their hearts. "A smile is worth a million words and doesn't cost a thing." Said Black-Poon. "We support our youth and very proud of them."

The Youth Club Advisor, Frances Collins, and Assistant Advisor, Alexii Collins, have been working with the youth club to help develop the youths leadership skills, creating interesting awareness programs and workshops to prepare them for life skills, health issues, etc. The youth club members attend conferences, do community service and participate in workshops and other training program with the adult club.

The Toledo Youth and Adult Clubs send seasons greetings and warm wishes to everyone and hope that everyone has a very special and safe holiday season and a Happy New Year.



Tolliver... continued from page 3

THAT, I will, in spite of my political affiliation, will humbly work with each other for the good of the black community both in word and deed.

THAT, I will meet in a private caucus format for the specific intents of passing legislation that will mitigate any current laws that adversely impact the black community and will sponsor legislation that is geared towards our depressed community.

THAT I will be willing to determine if we can use set asides for minority business development including my being vocal on the lack of minority participation in the work force of both public and private contractors.

THAT, I will not panic if we are called on the carpet for our collective acts since we as a minority body of five black members must use our collective political muscle now or we may never have a such chance in the future to accomplish these laudable goals.

Signed:

Well, readers...there you have it. I will let you know if I get any of these pledge cards returned. But in the meantime, we will continue to bumble along like a nation lost in an economic desert until a Moses or a Miriam comes forth and says, "Enough Is Enough!"

Contact Lafe Tolliver at lafe5x@gmail.com

Dramatically Inspired Works
 Casting Call for Upcoming 2017
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 & (FEB 4th @ 11am and 6pm)
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 Website www.dramaticallyinspiredworks.org
 Email: dramaticallyinspiredworks@gmail.com






Courage to Soar: A Body in Motion, A Life in Balance by Simone Biles with Michelle Burford, foreword by Mary Lou Retton

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

It took a leap of faith.

A new job, a big move, a new skill, a major purchase, a ring on your finger and "I Do." Even if you knew you were on the right path and you could handle whatever came next, you still felt like you were stepping off into the unknown. It definitely took a leap of faith but, as in the new book *Courage to Soar* by Simone Biles (with Michelle Burford), sometimes, you just have to close your eyes and jump.

It all began with a rainy-day field trip to a Houston, Texas gymnasium.

Simone Biles was six years old then, but she'd already endured more than many adults. She and her siblings were born in Ohio to a mother who was unable to care for them, so the children circled between foster homes, grandparents and mother. Finally, it was decided that the younger two would be adopted by their grandparents and would stay in Texas, which turned out to be a fortuitous decision: there was a trampoline at their Texas home, and Biles almost couldn't stay off it.

Always an active child (and later diagnosed with ADHD), Biles was a tiny tornado on that first day in the gym. She flipped and ran and tumbled until she caught the eye of a trainer who invited her and her younger sister to classes. It turned out to be "the perfect outlet" for a "little bouncing bean" like Biles.

In short order, she worked her way up the various levels of training with her eyes on winning more and bigger. She was "a dork" at school and sometimes a "brat" but always a star on the mat and she knew

c. 2016
Zondervan
\$24.99 / \$31.00 Canada
251 pages

she wanted to "go the farthest I can," even if a dream of a gymnastics career meant giving up a dream of "normal" high school and being on a NCAA team. Her parents helped her find the best coaches. They even built a gymnasium for her and her team. And after achieving the goal of landing a spot on the junior national team, Biles then "quietly asked God to please help me do everything I could to be part of the 2016 Olympics team."

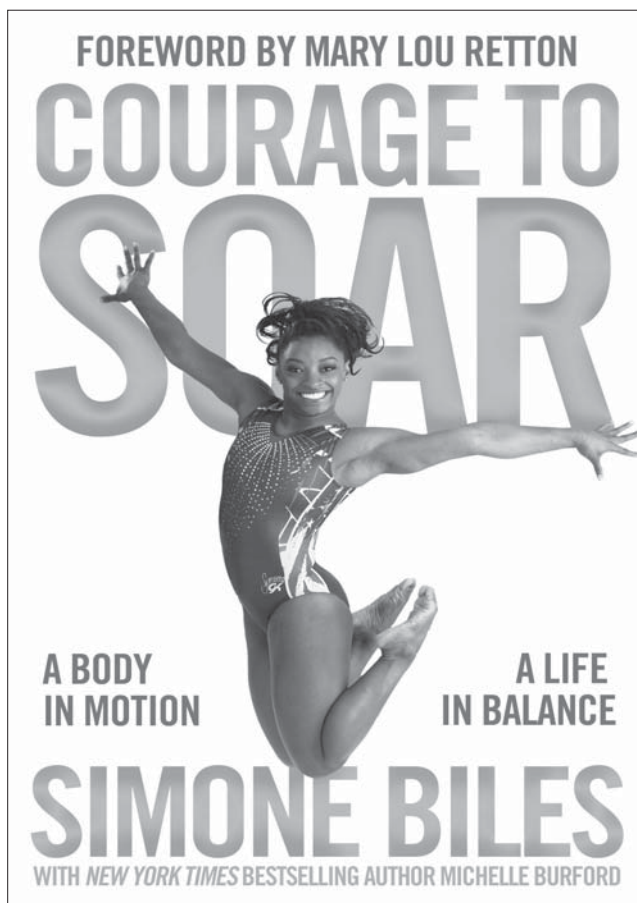
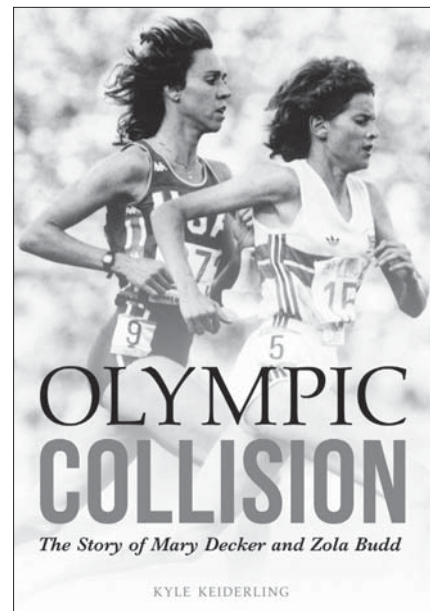
Out of my chair. That's where I was last summer when author Simone Biles nailed that floor routine at Rio. But in my chair is where this book kept me this week because I really couldn't put *Courage to Soar* down.

Fans who notice that Biles (with Michelle Burford) is bubbly-but-focused will be happy to know that that's how her biography reads, and it's a delight. What's also refreshing is that it's not boastful athletic chest-thumping. There is some teenage-angsty drama here, but mixed with the pressure of competition, it's not a distraction. Instead, it and the pure joy inside both serve to enhance the appeal of this book.

This is a story you can share with anyone; in fact, when you've finished *Courage to Soar*, you'll probably want to. A book like this, you'll fall head-over-heels for.

* * *

Olympics fans absolutely can not miss *Olympic Collision* by Kyle Keiderling. It's the story of one of the biggest moments in the Games' history: the tangled feet, the fall, and the finger-pointing when South African Zola Budd collided with American runner Mary Decker. What happened then, and what's happened in the years since? I'm not telling – you really need to read this book!



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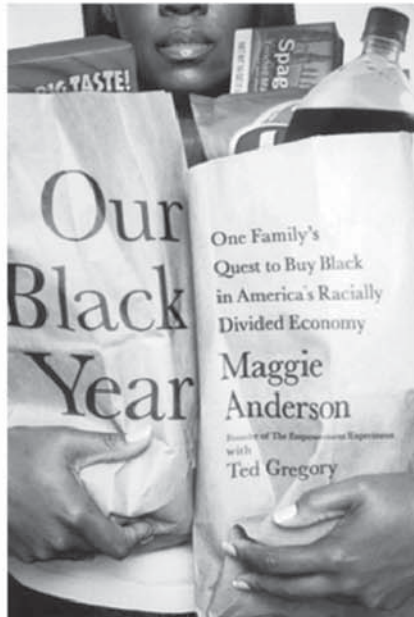
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Youth & Young Adult 4th Sunday

When: Every 4th Sunday
Time: 11:00 am

Where: Crusaders for Christ Church
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CLASSIFIEDS

December 21, 2016

Page 15

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

Full-time position available for an accounting assistant. Duties include accounts payable, data entry, financial reporting, maintaining files and other projects as assigned.

Associates degree or working on bachelor's degree in accounting or finance. Strong PC skills including Excel and Word. Prior experience with accounting software

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
2310 Jefferson Ave.
Toledo, OH 43604
Fax: 419-936-7574
Visit our website: unisonbhg.org

COMMUNITY PSYCHIATRIC SUPPORTIVE TREATMENT CLINICIAN

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc. is seeking a full-time Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment Clinician to provide community support services to adults with serious and persistent mental illness. Duties will include assessment of client needs, assisting in the development of the treatment plan, coordination of the treatment plan, crisis management and stabilization, advocacy and outreach, education and mental health interventions addressing the mental illness.

Bachelor's degree in social work or psychology and a valid driver's license required. Master's degree preferred. Current Ohio LSW or PC license and experience preferred. Premium pay rate is provided to compensate for the additional responsibility of working as a CPST on this team.

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2310 Jefferson Ave.
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GIS ANALYST

Metroparks of the Toledo Area is looking for a GIS Analyst for our natural resources department. Bachelor's degree in Geography, Global Information Systems or related field, or equivalent combination of education and work experience required. Master's degree preferred. Two years' experience applying Esri-based GIS technology. \$17.45/hr. 35 hour workweek and may include weekend and evening hours as needed. Go to www.metroparkstoledo.com for complete list of position requirements and duties; must submit online application and resume by December 27. EOE

PROGRAM MANAGER, NURSING SERVICES

Full-time

This is a management position responsible for planning, directing, supervising and evaluating all psychiatric and physical health nursing services provided at all sites. Primary duties will include insuring quality nursing care is provided in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations, standards and practices, developing and implementing nursing policies and procedures, insuring compliance with certification standards, overseeing the infection control program and monitoring the budget to insure department fiscal goals are met.

Must have current Ohio licensure as a RN. Must have Med/Surg experience as well as Psychiatric Nursing experience. Position must be able to work a flexible schedule and will travel to various locations where services are provided.

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
2310 Jefferson Ave.
Toledo, OH 43604
Fax: 419-936-7574
Visit our website: unisonbhg.org

EOE



REFINERY PROCESS OPERATOR

Overview

Toledo Refining Company LLC is located in Oregon, Ohio and is owned by PBF Energy LLC. The refinery has a crude oil processing capacity of 170,000 barrels per day. **The refinery is currently accepting applications for Refinery Process Operator positions.**

Description

Process Operators operate, maintain and repair units and equipment. A Process Operator works 12 hour rotating shifts on various units within the refinery which process crude oil as a feed stock in order to produce gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, various chemicals and other products. Process Operators are trained in the operation of plant processing equipment, including pumps, compressors, furnaces, heat exchangers, valves, distillation columns and other equipment common to refinery operations. Our Company is committed to a foundation of safe and environmentally compliant operations so Operators must follow all procedures and safe work practices. New hires will be required to complete a 36 month apprenticeship program. Starting pay is \$28.02 per hour.

Responsibilities

An Operator may be responsible for: maintaining equipment and operations; climbing ladders, tanks and towers up to 250 ft.; taking samples/readings of various process streams; initiating work orders and permitting for work related to the assigned unit; maintaining proper and safe process operations of the operating equipment; and communicating effectively during the shift and at shift relief regarding key process unit and equipment information.

Basic/Required Qualifications

Must be at least 18 years of age; be legally authorized to work in the United States without restrictions; hold a High school diploma or equivalent; and hold a current driver's license.

Must be willing to perform/comply with the following: working overtime; working on holidays and weekends; working in enclosed/confined spaces, such as tanks and towers; working with large, hot, high-speed machines; lifting a minimum of 50 pounds; working around chemicals; wearing fire retardant clothing and personal protective equipment; maintaining/shaving your face daily so that a respirator/face mask can seal properly; performing fire fighting duties; working outside in harsh weather conditions; and working with petroleum products and support systems that are under high pressure and heat.

Conditions of Employment

Written tests and assessments; meeting physical criteria for the job; a physical skills demonstration test; ability to demonstrate basic computer skills; pass a background check and drug screening; be eligible to qualify or hold a Transportation Workers Identification Credential (TWIC card); and be eligible to qualify or hold a State of Ohio 3rd Class Steam Engineer License (SEL) within 24 months of employment.

In order to be considered for this position, applicants must submit their resume in Microsoft Word or .pdf format per the following process on or before 11:59 P.M. of January 2, 2017. All interested candidates may apply by going to www.pbfenergy.com/careers and select "Refinery Process Operator" (Oregon, OH). **All applicants must provide a valid e-mail address where they can be contacted regarding updates on the recruiting process.** Applicants will receive an email containing a link for a supplemental screening that must be completed for further consideration. Should an applicant be selected for testing after completion of the screening, contact will be made via email. All contact information must be accurate and up to date. There will be 4 stages of the hiring process. Phase 1 consists of 4 tests. Relocation is not available for this position. Phone calls will not be accepted.

EOE/M/F/D/V

Call to place your ad

419-243-0007

www.TheTruthToledo.com

NANBPWC, INC Annual Christmas Program

The Christmas spirit was in the air as the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. Toledo Youth Club planned a very festive Annual Christmas Program for the residents of Alpha Towers Senior Center on Saturday, December 10, 2016.

NANBPWC, INC. Toledo Youth Club President Keon Snodgrass and Adult Club President Denise Black-Poon welcomed the residents.

The program consisted of a fashion show which included the Toledo Youth Club and Adult Club as models. The senior residents really enjoyed themselves as the club members modeled African-American attire for Kwanzaa, hats, little black dresses, western attire and more. Models in the show were youth club members Daejaun Bumpus, Jada Collins, Jordan Collins, Melissa Smith and Kevon Snodgrass. Adult Club models were Alexii Collins; Barba-

...continued on page 12



Winter 2017 updates effective January 1.

On Sunday, January 1, 2017, the TARTA winter route schedule will begin. As some routes will be affected by routing and time changes, new timetables and maps are available at TARTA.com/Winter2017



- **1/4 Ottawa Hills/Sylvania/Sylvania Twp Call-A-Ride**
 - weekday Franklin Park Mall scheduled times reduced for improved service flexibility
 - Spencer Twp service discontinuation
- **20/24 Central/Westgate**
 - service extended to Wal-Mart bus shelters off N Holland Sylvania Rd just south of W Central Ave;
 - new connection with routes 5 and 27H
 - will no longer serve Executive Pkwy
- **20M Central/Meijer Drive**
 - inbound-only service extended to Wal-Mart bus shelters off N Holland Sylvania Rd just south of W Central Ave; new connection with routes 5 and 27H
- **27N Nebraska/Airport-Wenz**
 - timepoint moved from Angola Rd and Wenz Rd to Airport Hwy and Wenz Rd
- **28 Indiana/Smead**
 - schedule adjustments
- **30 Oakwood/Smead**
 - schedule adjustments
- **39M Monroe/Centennial-Sylvania**
 - two inbound morning trips and one outbound afternoon trip are to be discontinued



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