



Volume 46, No. 6

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

September 6, 2017

Zimbabwean Sculpture at TBG



Aron Kapembeza, Kapembeza's Coming From The Field, Passmore Mupindiko, Vivienne Croisette

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OPEN LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY (September 6, 2017)

DAVID FLEETWOOD, BUSINESS MANAGER – LABORERS LOCAL 500

SPEAK FOR YOURSELF!!!

As the leader of a labor organization, I am privileged to be invited to many meetings whereby other business professionals and elected officials are making major decisions regarding our daily quality of life. More than a few times, those in attendance and making decisions aren't reflective of the communities we live, work and play. If we aren't at the table representing our own thoughts and desires, then who are the people speaking for us, our neighborhoods, and the businesses we own and operate? Are these people speaking for our communities or only for their own? **YOU HAVE A CHOICE TO HAVE A VOICE AT THESE TABLES.**

According to PEW Research, in the 2016 Presidential Election, White voter turnout increased, Black voter turnout decreased, and Latino voter turnout held steady from 2012. It is certainly your right to vote or not vote, but we must keep in mind that by not voting, someone else is voting and making decisions for us; these are the people in the room speaking for us, and sometimes against us. This is evident based on the results of the 2016 Presidential Election and is certain to happen in our local election on **Tuesday, September 12, 2017**, unless we make our voices heard and **get out and vote.**

If we feel that we often do not have a voice, it's because often, WE DO NOT! Could it be because a great majority of us don't vote? Short answer, YES. A small minority of "representatives" make the decisions for the "majority" of the citizens. There are politicians attempting to silence you by

purging you from voter rolls because you are not utilizing your right to vote. This is serious people! This is just the beginning of elected officials taking away your rights. **We must get off the sidelines and engage in the selection process of our leaders.** You may not be physically at every table, but you have a chance to elect those that will best speak for you. Through your vote, **you speak for yourself!**

Will the politicians we elect be all that we want them to be all of the time? Absolutely not, but we must learn how to hold them accountable while they're in office by making sure they know that we voted for them, and we'll organize our political strengths and vote against them if they fail to represent us. There are many politicians that genuinely care about YOU and genuinely want to represent YOU. However, many politicians no longer solicit your vote because your voting history tells them not to bother. Your inactivity in voting tells them that you are no threat to them. Let's change that immediately by voting today at the Early Vote Center or go to your designated polling location on Tuesday, September 12. **If you don't vote in September, your candidate may not make it to the ballot in November.**

Please.....Take this time and **SPEAK FOR YOURSELF!**

DAVID FLEETWOOD

Business Manager

LIUNA Local 500



David Fleetwood
Business Manager
LIUNA Laborers' Local 500

**LIUNA LOCAL 500
ENDORSEMENTS******TAKE THIS PAGE TO THE POLLS WITH YOU****

David Fleetwood
Business Manager
LIUNA Laborers' Local 500

The Early Vote Center Opened Tuesday, August 15, 2017
1301 Monroe Street (Ohio Means Jobs/Formerly The Source)

Mayor, City of Toledo
 **Paula Hicks-Hudson**

In order for Paula Hicks-Hudson to be placed on the ballot in November she needs you to get out and vote in September! Your vote matters!

**NO SEPTEMBER, NO NOVEMBER.
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Let's make sure Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson stays on the ballot!

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|-----------------|-----------------|
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| ✓ Gary Johnson | ✓ Larry Sykes |
| ✓ Nick Komives | ✓ Kurt Young |
| ✓ Sam Melden | |

Please Vote For These Candidates On Or Before
September 12, 2017!!!

Check Your Voting Status Online With The Lucas County Board Of Elections
Or By Calling Them At 419-213-4001

Every Vote Will Make A
Difference In This Election!!!



Opinion * Perspective

Central Catholic High School Imposes Dreadful Ban on Black Hairstyles

By Megan Davis

The Truth Contributor

Central Catholic High School, a private school, has a rule in its student handbook with regard to unacceptable hairstyles. While some styles on the list may pertain to all students, two styles in particular are specific to African Americans. This hairstyle rule has landed one student in detention.

Malachi Wattley, a freshman at the school, applied for and was accepted into the school while wearing his hair in locs, a hairstyle which he has had since the age of two. His mother, Maylin Wattley, told the local news that her son was raised in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and that he is Rastafarian, a religious and spiritual belief. Ms. Wattley stated that prior to enrolling her son, whose sister is already a student, the school assured her that his hair would not be a problem.

During the last school week, an announcement was made over the PA system, that dreadlocks are not an acceptable hairstyle. When Wattley returned to school following this announcement with his dreadlocks, he was disciplined and placed in detention.

The handbook reads:

For gentlemen students: *Fad hairstyles (spikes, mohawks, dreadlocks, twisty's, ponytails, carvings or man-buns) are not accepted. The assistant principal of campus ministry and discipline is the final judge of what is acceptable.*

For ladies: *All hair must be a natural color, neat, clean and well groomed (no dreadlocks).*

"This rule does not reflect the love of Christ towards all people. Nor does it reflect the heart of Pope Francis," said Marianne Barrera of Grand Rapids, MN a national supporter of the Wattley family.

Following the disciplinary action, Ms. Wattley and local parent advocate, Twila Page, met with the superintendent of the Catholic Schools, Vincent DePaul Schmidt, PhD. Schmidt, who is new to the schools as of August 1, 2017, came to Toledo after serving in Charleston, West Virginia and St. Louis (near Ferguson), Missouri. The previous cities in which he has served have been under scrutiny for their roles in keeping racism alive in America.

In November of 2016, then mayor of Charleston, WV, Beverly Whaling, resigned from office following backlash she received after posting a comment on a racist rant against former First Lady Michelle Obama, on Facebook. The racially charged comment was originally posted by Clay County Development Corp. director Pamela Ramsey Taylor who made the post following Donald Trump's election as president.

Her post said: "It will be refreshing to have a classy, beautiful, dignified First Lady in the White House. I'm tired of seeing a Ape in heels." The former mayor replied "Just made my day Pam." West Virginia itself is a state made up of only four percent African Americans.

Schmidt had been hired as the Charleston school superintendent after working several years in St. Louis, Missouri, which is near Ferguson, the location where Mike Brown was gunned down by police officers, sparking a national outcry for justice and reform in racism. His position on the current handbook's rule on dreadlocks and twistys is that he has no intention of changing or removing the current stipulation. He suggested that perhaps something could be done for the next school year. Page described Schmidt as condescending, bellicose and disrespectful during the meeting.

Tamara Eldridge of Myrtle Beach wrote "I am a former Toledo resident and I am concerned about how students of color, especially girls, are being victimized by such policies and made to feel shame about their natural beauty. This is an example of institutionalized racism. It must be stopped."

When the news of this hairstyle ban hit social media, several people, including many alumni, made phone calls, sent emails and wrote comments on the school's Facebook page. News of this ban has reached the US Virgin Islands, where the Wattley family is originally from and is being reported on media outlets, including catholicculture.org.

A new grassroots organization, the Ohio Natural Hair Coalition, started a petition, addressing the

local diocese and school administrators to not only remove the rule from their handbook, but to also take the time to learn about hairstyles that are specific to African Americans. Their rules

are based on bias, ignorance and fear of what they don't know or rather an understanding of what they think they know.

Their generalization of styles that are a fad, not well groomed, unclean and unprofessional include natural hairstyles such as dreadlocks and twists, both common styles worn by both males and females of African descent. The petition, in its updates, highlights the offense of the term "twistys" a term coined by whites who don't know what to call black hairstyles.

A portion of the petition states "This school, like others as well as employers around the US, should be educated on what natural hair is and what styles are worn by those who have natural hair, the hair that African Americans are born with. Being told that their twists or locs are unacceptable is an infringement on their rights to be who they organically are, melanated, with curly, coily and fluffy. Hair that naturally grows upward, has long been banned in school and employee policies.

... continued on page 9



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Access to Health Insurance Restored in All Ohio Counties

Insurance Department and CareSource announce Paulding County will have health insurance coverage for 2018

Special to The Truth

Ohio Department of Insurance Director Jillian Froment last week joined CareSource to announce Paulding County will now have health insurance coverage on the federal exchange in 2018. Following announcements made earlier this summer by other carriers, Ohioans in 20 Ohio counties faced the potential of not having access to health insurance. On July 31, the department joined five insurers, including CareSource, to announce coverage options in the other 19 counties.

"Working through this challenge has been a priority for the department and our staff in recent weeks and I'm proud of the collaborative approach insurers have been willing to take so that we could

come together and solve this problem," Froment said. "There is a lot of uncertainty facing consumers when it comes to health insurance and these announcements will provide important relief."

In the coming weeks the department will work with insurers to finalize the products and rates that will be available on the exchange in 2018. The department's review of those filings will be completed by early September and insurers must sign contracts with the federal government by late September to sell coverage on the federal exchange.

Including Paulding County, the 20 counties where coverage has been restored are: Coshocton, Crawford, Guernsey, Hancock, Harrison, Hocking, Holmes, Jackson, Knox, Lawrence, Logan, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Paulding, Perry, Van Wert, Vinton, Williams and Wyandot. More than 11,000 Ohioans purchase coverage through the health care exchange in those counties.

"Making sure coverage is available has been our goal through this process, but this is a temporary solution and one that only applies to

... continued on page 6



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Community Calendar

September 7

Kwanzaa Park Neighbors Meeting: 6 pm; Padua Center; Guest speaker Ron Tijerina on TYRO: 419-241-6465

September 9

Umbrella of Care Outreach Programs of Friendship Baptist Church Annual Massage Fundraiser and Silent Auction: 8:30 am to 3 pm; Free admission, vendors, health screens

September 9-10

Bibleway Church Re-Dedication for Apostle Thomas Mitchell and Co-pastor Vesta Mitchell: Guest speakers and guest choirs; 7 pm service on Saturday; 10 am service on Sunday, dinner at 2 pm, 4 pm service: 419-246-9357

September 17

Monroe Street United Methodist Church Concert Series: Opening Concert "Afternoon Music with Friends;" 3 pm; featuring local artists Allison Klein, Gwen Senerius, Amanda Stierman, and Karen Vollmer
St. Paul MBC Women's Day: "Women Walking Worthy;" 9:30 to 10:30 am
Sunday School - speaker Rev. Marcia Dinkins; 10:45 am service - speaker Min. Crystal Dixon
Calvary MBC Roses of Calvary Ministry 8th Anniversary: 4 pm; Guest speaker Pastor Charles McBee of Family Baptist Church

September 20

Small Business Resource Day: 2 to 7 pm; Main Branch Library; Featuring a resource center with representatives from local programs and agencies; A presentation on financial management: To register - <http://www.ecdi.org/events/toledo/658/>

September 30

Flanders Road Church of Christ Clothing Give Away: 10 am to 1 pm; Clothing for men, women and children

October 14

Calvary MBC Women's Ministry Cancer Awareness Luncheon: 11 am; Agencies with information, vendors, free luncheon

October 22

Calvary MBC 88th Church Pre-Anniversary: 4 pm; Guest speaker Pastor Perry Harris of United Vision MBC

October 29

Calvary MBC 88th Church Anniversary: 4 pm; Guest speaker Brian Lamont Monford, Northwest Ohio Missionary Baptist Association **Moderator**

Joseph J. Howe: Candidate for Housing Court Judge Offers Win/Win Idea for Homeowners and Labor Unions

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

After Joe Howe earned his undergraduate degree in liberal studies from Bowling Green State University, the Dean's List student discovered that his potential in the jobs market was limited. Extremely limited.

A liberal studies degree only gained him a job as a repo man for a rent-to-own appliance/furniture store. In the year of work that followed, he arrived at two realizations. One, he was utterly disgusted at having to prey on the misfortunes of others; such a calling was "a travesty," he says. And, two, he needed to return to school to enhance his career opportunities.

Off to law school the Napoleon native went, graduating from the University of Toledo, College of Law; earning a spot on Law Review and entering a profession in which he could become extensively involved in consumer protection matters – first in private practice, then for the past 11 years, in the City of Toledo Prosecutor's Office working in the Housing Court. "The housing court was a natural fit for me with my civil background," says Howe of the transition into his prosecutor's duties. "My role is, in large part, a mediator trying to get [visitors to the housing court] in compliance with the law."

As a prosecutor he views himself as being in a position to "promote the interest of our neighborhoods," while trying to ensure that parties are in compliance with laws that protect consumers, neighborhoods and the city in general.

Howe is the endorsed candidate for the Lucas County Democratic Party to succeed Judge C. Allen McConnell who is age-barred from seeking another term on the bench. As judge, Howe feels he would be in a position to continue the work he has undertaken since his graduation 20 years ago from law school. "As a judge, I would look for a fair and equal application of the law; those who are damaging our neighborhoods need to be punished." And, as a judge, Howe would propose some ideas that he believes will make life better for a host of Toledoans and, thus far, a number of labor unions who have endorsed him tend to agree. More on that later.

Howe explains that his reliance on the rule of law determined how he would approach the now-famous Thomas Jackson matter when it surfaced. Jackson, an urban farmer, was ultimately fined \$3,000 for his use of wood chip composts on his property that neighbors said attracted rodents. "It's about a fair and equal application of the law," says Howe. "In our first meeting I told him 'I understand what you are trying to do, but as it stands now, there are no urban agriculture laws that allow the large scale composting that you are doing now.'"

The Jackson matter dragged on for over a year and the tragedy of the situation, says Howe, is that the City of Toledo is without legislation that would help citizens in such instances. "The City of Toledo is behind the curve," he says. "There is no urban farming legislation such as other cities have, that would provide guidance to the farmers and would provide reassurance to the neighbors."



Joe Howe

As for Howe's ideas, there are several he mentioned in a chat with The Truth and one is particularly striking. Noting all the people who come into the housing court needing help because they have been cited for deficiencies by inspectors but do not have the wherewithal or funds to make the necessary repairs, Howe has proposed to a variety of building trades labor unions that they form a partnership with the court and provide apprentices to work voluntarily on such dwellings. The residents need the help, the apprentices need the work.

"All the unions have agreed that it's a wonderful idea," he says, and have agreed to the proposal and endorsed his candidacy. It is a win/win idea for homeowners and the building trades unions, he says, and will serve the additional goal of "getting rid of illegal contractors" – those scofflaws who prey on vulnerable homeowners and provide shoddy service.

To date, Howe has received endorsements from: Northwest Building and Construction Trades Council, Roofers Local 134, Sheet Metal Workers International Association Local 33, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 8, Carpenters Local 351, Cement Masons and Plasterers Local 886, Iron Workers Local 55, Plumbers, Steamfitters and Service Mechanics Local 50, Laborers Local 500, AFLCIO, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 75 and International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers Local 45.

"I care deeply for the city of Toledo," says the Democratic candidate. "I have a vested interest in helping Toledo be the best that it can be. I have good ideas about how to do that with the insight and experience that no one else has."



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Statement Regarding President of the United States Lifting Ban on Military Equipment For Police

I am a strong supporter of providing our public safety employees with all essential equipment to insure they can do their job and provide for their safety. However, I was alarmed by last week's news that the President of the United States has lifted the ban on providing certain surplus military equipment to police departments. In particular, *The Toledo Blade* printed a front page story: *Military equipment ban for police lifted: Restrictions went too far*, Sessions says that in part stated:

Mr. Obama issued an executive order in 2015 that severely limited the program.

His order prohibited the federal government from providing grenade launchers, bayonets, tracked armored vehicles, weaponized aircraft and vehicles, and firearms and ammunition of .50-caliber or greater to police.

As of December, the agency overseeing the program recalled at least 100 grenade launchers, more than 1,600 bayonets, and 126 tracked vehicles — that run on continuous, tank-like tracks instead of wheels — that were provided through the program.

I have communicated my concerns to Chief of Police Kral about the City of Toledo acquiring equipment which by design is not appropriate for use in the civilian policing environment. I will likewise communicate the same to the City Administration and I will strongly oppose any effort to acquire this level of weaponry for use by the City of Toledo.

Sincerely,

Larry J. Sykes



Larry Sykes

Health Insurance... continued from page 4

2018. Beyond that, insurers are still looking for predictability in the health insurance market," Froment added. "Now is the time for Congress to work on reforms that will strengthen our health insurance markets in ways that improve access and affordability."

Consumers with questions can contact the Ohio Department of Insurance at 1-800-686-1526.

STATEMENT FROM CARESOURCE

"The Marketplace provides vital health care coverage to more than 10.3 million Americans and we want to be a resource for consumers left without options. Our decision to offer coverage in the bare coun-

ties speaks to our mission and commitment to the Marketplace and serving those who are in need of health care coverage."

Pamela Morris, President & CEO of CareSource COMPANY COVERAGE BREAKDOWN OF PREVIOUSLY BARE COUNTIES

Buckeye Health Plan: Harrison, Logan, and Van Wert
CareSource: Guernsey, Jackson, Lawrence, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Paulding, Perry, and Vinton

Medical Mutual of Ohio: Crawford, Knox, Hocking, and Hancock
Molina Health Care of Ohio: Coshocton, Hancock, and Holmes
Paramount Health Care: Williams and Wyandot

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Fall 2017 Programs

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Commission on Racial Understanding

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"The end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the Beloved Community. It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opponents into friends.... It is this love which will bring about miracles in the hearts of men [and women]."
The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Empowering Loving Responses To Racism:
A workshop to experience, respond to and discuss our everyday encounters with race and difference

September 17, 2017 4pm-6pm
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2770 W. Central, Toledo
Childcare provided

Colins Imoh, facilitator and a doctoral scholar at the Department of Educational Foundations & Leadership at the University of Toledo. His areas of interest are multicultural movement, diversity, and peace.

Coming Events:

Sunday October 15, 4-6pm, St. Paul's Maumee
Multi Cultural Children's Book Day: Children and adults explore our diverse world through stories, craft, and music.

Sunday November 19, 4-6pm, St. Timothy's Perrysburg.
The Chains of Institutional Racism: A Panel Discussion on Housing, Criminal Justice, and Education.

2017 CityPark League Championship Festivities

With nearly 4,000 youth and families gathered for the 2017 CPL Championship Festivities, the CityPark League (CPL) provided activities that impacted all aspects of community and social empowerment. Buckeye Health Plan offered its commitment to help provide a healthier lifestyle for the individuals and families they serve.

On Sunday August 13, CPL hosted their friends LeRoyna Drayton (A-1 Bonds), Devon Fagan (Pinnacle Auto Body and Repairs/WTG), Glenita Kenney (Comm. Center of Hope/Si'Si's Lounge) Jo-Jo Bouncy Land, Ashlee Robinson Play-Land and many more! This event was arguably the largest event at an "inner city park" in the State of Ohio.

In support of those efforts, Councilwomen Yvonne. Harper; Cecilia Adams, PhD and Sandy Spang; City Council candidate Harvey Savage Jr (Kitchen for the Poor); Councilman Larry Sykes; Parks and Recreation Commissioner Lisa Ward; TFD Deputy Chief Brian Byrd; Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken; Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union CEO Suzette Cowell and others joined in for the festivities.

The 2017 CPL Summer Basketball marks the fourth year CPL friends from Buckeye Cable System (BCSN) provided coverage of the championship game. Also, joining our media friends The Toledo Journal, 13Action News and various other media outlets. In addition, guests from all over the country attended this historical day at Savage

Park, Toledo Ohio.

In addition to the game, spotlighted activities by Buckeye Health Plan, A-1 Bonds, HoodStock INC, Center of Hope, CPL and friends provided:

- *Hundreds of book bags, supplies, school uniforms vouchers.
- *Free food – Cotton Candy and ice cream throughout the day
- *Over 100 Girls received hairstyles for Back2School - Free
- *Over 100 Boys received haircuts for Back2School - Free
- * 12 different Bounce Houses
- *Staged Live – musical performances, artists, and entertainers
- * TFD Fire Truck water hose spray
- * Horseback Riding and Car Show
- *T-Shirt giveaways and much, much More.



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The First Festival at Promenade Park



Prince Tribute Musicians

The Arts Commission, Toledo Symphony Orchestra, presenting partner ProMedica, and the business and philanthropic communities are honored to join together to offer this free community celebration to our region. Join us for Momentum, a three-day art and music festival in downtown Toledo. The Toledo Symphony Orchestra and members from New Power Generation will kick off the weekend with a free community concert on Friday night – A Symphonic Tribute to the Music of Prince on Friday night. Enjoy the two-day festival of Glass, Music and Art in Promenade Park and witness newly commissioned works of public art, mobile hot shops, live demos, art vendors and more. Visit the month-long Juried Competition and Exhibition with significant prizes for new works in glass, building on our identity as the birthplace of the Studio Glass Movement. Saturday night will also feature Momentum After Dark, in partnership

with over 10 music venues in the Warehouse District – featuring The Commonheart at Fleetwood's Outdoor Stage.

There's truly something for everyone!

Get involved and volunteer!

Sign up to volunteer

Weekend Schedule

SEPTEMBER 15

7:30pm-10:30pm | A Symphonic Tribute to the Music of Prince featuring members from the original band New Power Generation and Toledo Symphony at Promenade Park – Address: 400 Water St, Toledo, OH 43604

SEPTEMBER 16

10am-5pm | Glass, Music & Art Festival at Promenade Park

4:30pm-5:30pm | Hot Shots Reception at AIGA – 11 One-of-a-Kind Works Created by Glass Artists Partnering with Design Agencies – Address: 705 Monroe St, Toledo, OH 43604

5:30pm-10pm | Juried Competition and Exhibition Opening Reception and Awards at The Secor Building – Address: 425 Jefferson Ave, Toledo, OH 43604

8:30pm-1am | Momentum After Dark at multiple venues in the Warehouse District

SEPTEMBER 17

10am-5pm | Glass, Music & Art Festival at Promenade Park

Momentum Exhibition at the Secor Building

Public Art Projects | ECHO by Kristine Rumman and Dane Turpening, Tower of Light by Erwin Redl and Unity by Erin Peterson.

Heating Assistance
Is Available for Older Adults

Now is the time eligible older adults can receive \$175 to help with their heating bill costs through the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP). Single-member households with an income of \$20,597.50 or less and two-person households with an income of \$27,877.50 are eligible to apply. Older adults may get a HEAP application by contacting the Area Office on Aging at 419-382-0624.

Many people who are eligible for HEAP are also eligible for another program to help stay warm. By checking a box on the HEAP application, people can get information about the Home Weatherization Assistance Program.

Call the Area Office on Aging at 419-382-0624 for more details.

Hairstyle Ban... continued from page 3

When Afro hair is groomed, it is most often fashioned into braids, twists and locs; to ban this from any institution is a subtle effort to remind African Americans that they are not welcome or accepted as they are, lest they change or alter themselves in a way that is more comfortable for others. Even in that, the African American will always be considered threatening, hard, angry, aggressive, unintelligent, special needs or unacceptable. "The petition entitled "Unlock Biases Toward African Americans With Natural Hair and Locs in School" has reached over 600 signatures since it was created on August 31.

This is the second time Central Catholic has been under public scrutiny for this type of rule. In 2011 they were challenged by the community when a senior, who was enrolling for classes, was told that her dreadlocks were unacceptable and she was to cut them off prior to returning. It was assumed that the school, after receiving many letters and phone calls, eliminated the rule in its online handbook to appease those who called in against it. But in a shocking revelation last week, that student came forward and admitted that she was only permitted to complete her high school education and graduate without incident if she agreed not to go to the news or encourage community members to protest in front of the school. It was also revealed that while the online handbook was altered to remove the rule on dreadlocks, the in-print handbook remained the same throughout the years.

In spite of all the attention this story has received, the school has refused to budge on its position citing that the students should simply comply. In a letter sent to Ms. Wattley, Central Catholic High School's, Head of School, Therese B. Hernandez stated:

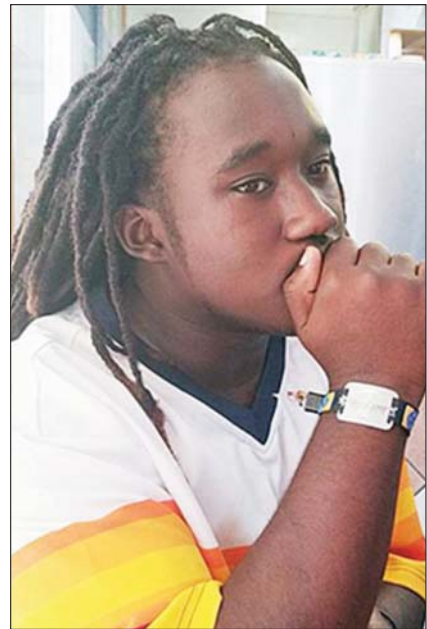
"Malachi's current hair length and color do not comply with the handbook and will need to be adjusted before he is allowed to return to school on Tuesday September 5, 2017. Failure to do so will result in Malachi not being permitted to attend classes. Central Catholic High School is rooted in the mission of the Catholic Church and the message of Jesus Christ. All parents and students are expected to respect and support our philosophy of education, policies and procedures..."

Ms. Wattley shared this letter on her social media page along with videos of her son talking about his connection to his hair and culture. While there are many who are supporting the family in their efforts to resolve this issue with the school, there are others who do not support them, stating that they should follow the rules or leave. There are also several African-American men who, while they appreciate the cultural and spiritual significance of dreadlocks, they prefer that their sons select shorter hairstyles.

Some of these men, who are often faced with racial profiling and assumptions from law enforcement have an authentic fear of their sons being profiled because of their hairstyles, so it is less stressful to have their sons clean cut and clean shaven. One father even stated that just as women enjoy getting their hair done, there is something about stepping down from a barber chair with a fresh cut that makes them feel good about themselves.

Because the school's handbook also states that the final judgment is up to the school's assistant principal, it leaves the rules in limbo as some

... continued on page 11



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2017 Fall Business and Health EXPO

Special to The Truth

On this sunny Sunday, August 27, the Fall 2017 Business and Health EXPO was held at the St. Clements Hall. There were over 75 small business owners in attendance with goods and services: artwork, massages, manicures, insurance and investments, health products, men's accessories, natural products, jewelry, wedding planning, women's apparel, homemade baked goods, gift baskets and much more.

This year's sponsors, Mercy Health provided complimentary health screenings and Toledo Family Pharmacy offered education and lecture information to attendees. Finally, there was EMPIRE DJ (a/k/a Steven Wolfe) who entertained the audience with a great genre of music.

Additionally, there were several food vendors and door prizes - giveaways throughout the entire day - and the guests ate, shopped and explored the expo until closing time. A special thanks was extended by organizer Donnetta Carter (a/k/a The Social Butterfly) to corporate sponsors: The Leona Group, LLC, Toledo Family Pharmacy, Mercy Health, Paramount, The Sojourner's Truth Newspaper, Tyrell L. Betts Production, OMG Production-Tracy Roberts, Toledo Convention Visitors Bureau, Social Butterfly Volunteer Sharon Crawford and Shawnterra Glasow, executive manager.

The Seventh Annual EXPO is scheduled for Saturday, April 28, 2018 at 640 Indiana Ave Toledo, OH at the Stephenson-Roberts Fellowship Hall (Indiana MB Church) for more information contact (419) 367-9765 or via email donnetta_c@msn.com or you can follow her on Facebook "The Social Butterfly - Donnetta Carter."



Annie Newell



Sonja McCreary



Asja Wynn, The Good Gift Co.



Harvey Savage and Jeffrey Roberts



Sharon Crawford, Volunteer



A Woman's Guide to Mastering the GAME Book Release Celebration

MAN CODE: DECODED – Woman's Guide to Mastering THE GAME's official release date is Sunday, September 17 and you are invited to be a part of the festivities at The Truth Art Gallery, 1811 Adams Street (Toledo) from 4 til 7 pm.

Featuring Delinetta Ashe with Beauty for Ashes – Let's Talk Skin!

Offering beauty tips and skin care services for women and men.

Books will be on sale for only \$15.

Log on to www.ljhamilton.com/shop to pre-order your copy of this insightful and informative tell-all.

Light refreshments and drinks will be served, good music will be played and great people will be in attendance. Join us!

Thank you in advance for your support



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Jerome Clark & Friends
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Dave McMurray
6:00pm

Zac Kreuz
w/ The Urban Sound Track
featuring Michelle Shelton
1:30pm

Latin Jazz Players
4:15pm

3rd Annual Great Lakes Jazz Festival

Saturday, September 9, 2017 • 12noon - 7:30pm

Ottawa Park Amphitheater

2205 Kenwood Blvd. • Toledo, Ohio (Park @ Toledo Hospital Parking Garage)

Early Bird Tickets: \$5 (at Jack's Men's Wear & on website)

\$7 (at the gate) • children under 12 - free

A portion of festival proceeds will help start a scholarship fund to buy instruments and music/art lessons for Toledo-area children.

greatlakesjazzfestival.net

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Contact: Eugene (Pie) Holmes 419-699-2207 or Michelle McCaster 313-623-9313

Deadline for registration August. 18, 2017

Facts and Myths About Germs at School

Special to The Truth

Everybody seems to have an opinion about germs -- what causes them, where they're located, how to avoid them -- especially when it comes to children.

Experts say that American children miss 22 million days of school annually due to colds, flu and other infections.

"Avoiding germs at schools isn't as simple as just washing your hands in the bathroom or sneezing into your sleeve," says Charles Gerba, Ph.D., professor of microbiology and environmental sciences at the University of Arizona. "Germs are on everything kids touch in the classroom, as well as around the hallways, cafeteria and playground."

With this in mind, it is important to separate facts from myths about germs in schools.

- **Fact: Desks Are Among the Most Germ-Prone Items.** It's true! Students spend most of the day at their desks -- sneezes, coughs and all -- and, in some schools, they often switch classrooms and share desks with others. At the end of the day, students bring home that cocktail of germs to their families.

- **Myth: Any Hand Sanitizer Will Do.** According to research from the University of Colorado at Boulder, people carry an average of 3,200 bacteria on their hands. While most hand sanitizers are 99.9 percent effective at killing germs, some only last for a few minutes or until the application dries on the skin. Therefore, parents should consider applying hand sanitizers for their children that last throughout the day, such as Zoono's GermFree24, which is proven to last for 24 hours on skin and is available as both a foam and a spray.

- **Fact: Germs Can Affect Kids Outside the Classroom.** Germs in schools aren't just isolated to classrooms. They are everywhere, including cafeteria trays, playground jungle gyms and sports equipment. In fact, the Clinical Journal of Sports Medicine found 63 percent of gym equipment is contaminated with rhinovirus, which causes the common cold. Reminding children to wash their hands before and after using these items (and wiping them down) will go a long way toward preventing sickness.

- **Myth: Sticking Things in Your Mouth is Child's Play.** Sure, curiosity might drive preschoolers to stick items in their mouths that don't belong. However, older students who nervously chew on pen caps, especially ones they borrow from classmates, or on their own fingernails during tough tests, are susceptible to picking up the germs that are traversing through school.

- **Fact: Backpacks Carry More Than Just Books.** Backpacks go everywhere -- to classrooms, inside lockers, in the cafeteria, in locker rooms -- and collect various germs throughout the day. Periodically clean backpacks inside and out. And make sure lunches and other food items, as well as gym clothes, are packed in separate bags to avoid cross-contamination of germs.

- **Myth: Sharing is Always Caring.** Just about every school supply -- from pens and pencils to headphones to sport jerseys -- can be a vehicle for harmful bacteria. Make sure children are armed with their own items, including mechanical pencils to avoid using the classroom's pencil sharpener, and avoid sharing their supplies with classmates.

When it comes to germs, separating myths from facts can help you have a happier, healthier school year.

Courtesy StatePoint

Hairstyle Ban... continued from page 9

rules may be enforced while others are more relaxed. Since Ms. Wattley went to the school to address his hair before enrolling her son and paying his tuition, she has been blindsided with the sudden change of heart and is left in a panic, not knowing what next steps to take regarding her son's education.

Kimberly Dale of Canton, MI wrote: "I am an African American woman practicing in a health-care setting with a doctorate degree and I wear my hair in a form of dreadlocks. They are not unclean nor ungroomed. Your school would do well to learn more about a variety of hairstyles rather than assuming that they are 'fads,' or not Natural."

This has long been an issue that many African-American adults have faced in the workplace, but today, it is trickling down to our children, causing them to challenge who they are; to make

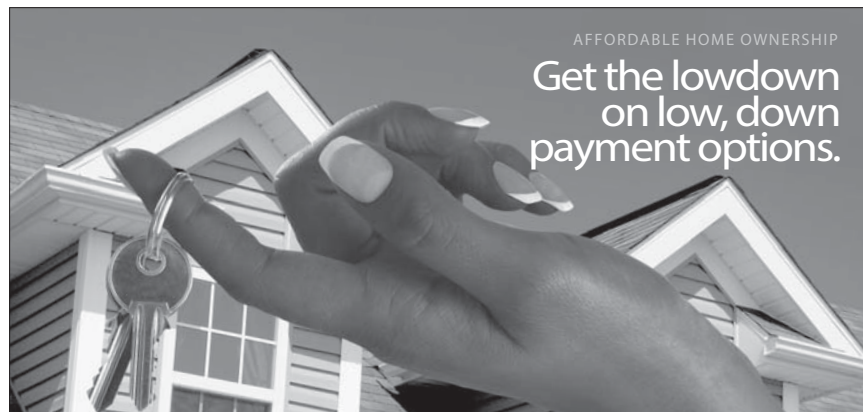
them believe that their natural beauty isn't acceptable and they must change something about themselves in order for others to believe they are worth educating and employing. Without a real conversation between the school and parents, it will be nearly impossible to see a change in the rules because in reality, it remains true, that people prefer ignorance over knowledge.

This school demonstrates that it is confident in what it believes instead of what its staff should know about us. Black hair and black skin is still being treated as an exception to the human race. Even former President Obama, who had lighter skin, shorter hair, was clean shaven and highly educated couldn't escape the preconceptions of white America even after being elected into office. Their fear is being translated into all of the hateful activities taking place from the White House down to the nationalist rallies and given this current climate, "black anything" will be considered an anomaly.

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In Memoriam

Shibbolethia

The name, as unique, remarkable and lovely as the lady herself, came from the Hebrew Biblical word "SHIBBOLETH" found in the Book of Judges 12:6.

Shibbolethia Bryant {Smith} Lewis was born on August 13, 1920, in Shelbyville, Kentucky, the month and year that women were granted the right to vote.

Her father, Wiley Walter Smith, was a circuit minister for the African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church, which required the family to move quite often when she was a young girl. Her mother, Lillian (Hoskins) Smith, was a homemaker who often worked as a domestic to help support her family. The family eventually settled in Hamilton, OH, where Shibbolethia (aka "Shibby") grew up with her sisters, Margaret and Mollie, and brothers, Emanuel and Paul. Several other children born to the family would die in their early childhoods.

She attended Phillips Chapel (now St. Phillips Temple C.M.E. Church) and the public schools in Hamilton, graduating from Hamilton High School in 1938.

Accepted to Wilberforce University and graduating in 1942, she became the first member of her family to attend college. She majored in home economics as academic options were limited for Black women.

Shibbolethia met her husband, James Clark Lewis, to a United Service Organizations (U.S.O.) event while she was in college. He was in the Army. After her husband was honorably discharged from the Army, the couple lived in Florida and Youngstown before settling in Toledo, OH. Mrs. Lewis held a civil service job in Rossford, OH, while her husband worked as a mail carrier, and later on as a cab driver. Four daughters were born of this union: Brenda, Anita, Cynthia, and Diana.

In the late 1950's, when the Civil Rights Movement opened doors of opportunity for African Americans, Mrs. Lewis returned to college to obtain teaching credentials, and started her professional teaching career with the Toledo Public Schools (TPS).

She earned her Master's degree in Education from the University of Toledo in 1962 while working and caring for her family.

A highly respected educator, she taught for many years at the former Roosevelt Elementary, then later at Gunckel and Jones Junior High School in Toledo. Mrs. Lewis is remembered to this day by many of her peers and students as a caring, creative, and skillful teacher.

Widowed in 1965, she became a single parent when her husband died from a heart attack at home. During this difficult time of her life, she had to assume new responsibilities that included learning how to drive for the first time.

A long-time member of the Phillips Temple C.M.E. Church in Toledo, OH, she served as Superintendent of Christian Education, conference delegate, missionary president, Sunday school teacher, and as chairperson for many programs, including Vacation Bible School.

A prolific writer, she wrote articles for The Christian Index (a C.M.E. Church publication), poems, and narrative speeches. She published a collection of intercessory prayers in 1998. She is known for her "ministry" of calling, writing, and sending cards to encourage and to keep in touch with family and friends.

Mrs. Lewis moved to Missouri City, TX, in August, 1997, to live with daughter, Cynthia, and son-in-law, Bernis Hickman, both formerly of Toledo. They welcomed her and served as loving and devoted caregivers for 20 years, providing her with a rich, full life.

On October 13th, 2007, she was able to attend and celebrate her 69th high school reunion in Hamilton with the class of 1938. She was 87 years old at the time.

In November of 2008, at the age of 88, she was so happy and proud to cast her vote for the first African American President of the United States, Barack Hussein Obama; who sent her a proclamation in August 2010 acknowledging her 90th birthday.

Despite many life challenges, she remained a woman of grace, strength, character and perseverance, with a twinkle in her eyes and heart full of love for God and her family.

Mrs. Lewis, 97, passed away at her home on Sunday, August 20, 2017 under the care of Compassus Hospice - Houston.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, James Clark Lewis; great-grandparents, Richard and Hannah (French) Morris; grandparents, Emanuel and Maggie (Morris) Hoskins; parents, Rev. Wiley W. and Lillian (Hoskins) Smith; her siblings: Mollie, Paul, and Emanuel Smith; and Margaret Smith - Doyle; one aunt, Pearlena (aka 'Vanilla') Hoskins; uncles, Pete (Rosa Lee), and James (Minnie) Hoskins; a beloved niece, Margaret Wood; nephews, David Smith, Emanuel Merritt, and Kevin Smith; great nephew, Donald Wood; and great grandson, Feniks James Hughes.

She is survived by daughters: Brenda L. Lewis, RN, MSN-Ed; Dr. Anita M. Lewis-Sewell, BA, MD; Dr. Cynthia J. Hickman, RN, MSN-Ed, PhD; and Diana L. Hughes B.S.Ed., M.Ed.; Son-in Law, Bernis Hickman, a retired U.S. Postal Service employee; grandchildren: Teresa (Zac) Hinton, Brenda (Donzell) Gulley-Moore, Bridgette Lynn Johnson-Ellis, Kerri K. King, Maria (Larry) Wilson, Michael (TerriLynn) Lemons, Ebrandia (Tyronne) Perry, James C. Hughes III, Jason T. Hamilton; nephews, Richard "Dick" (Jackie) Smith, Stanley Merritt, Timothy Fields, Henry Fields; special friend, Henry Farley, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and great grandchildren. She was greatly loved and will be greatly missed by us all.

A Memorial Service celebrating the life of Mrs. Shibbolethia B. Lewis will be held on Saturday, September 9, 2017, at 1 p.m. at the Warren African American Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church, 915 Collingwood Blvd. in Toledo, OH.

Funeral and burial will be in Missouri City on Saturday, September 16, 2017. Visitation and viewing are from 10 a.m. -11 a.m. at Willowridge Missionary Baptist Church, 2803 S. Main Street, Stafford, TX 77477. Home-going celebration will begin at 11 A.M with Dr. Clifton Montgomery, Jr., officiating.

The private interment service will be at Houston National Cemetery, 10410 Veterans Memorial Dr., in Houston, TX 77038.



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Cuz: The Life and Times of Michael A. by Danielle Allen

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

It was a youthful indiscretion.

A mistake made due to immaturity or naïveté. Something you did to look bigger, older, or bolder. You knew better but it shouldn't cost you everything, should it? As in the new book *Cuz* by Danielle Allen, it shouldn't cost you your life.

He was her baby cousin.

Although Danielle Allen was only eight years older than Michael, that's how she always thought of him. He was a megawatt-smiling, introspective child with an easy-going way, a beloved mischief-maker in a huge family. She remembers when he was born.

She remembers when he died. It began when he was 15.

Allen says that her sprawling family always watched out for one another but Michael's mother had been raising three kids alone and she ran into some trouble. She learned that her oldest son, Nicholas, was gang-banging when she spotted him on the street. She thought she'd saved Michael from all that but when he was just 14, he was arrested for attempted carjacking.

California's unique laws put him in juvenile hold, then in adult prison until he was 26 years old. While there, he fell in love with an imprisoned transgender woman. Allen noted the relationship, but she figured that the woman was out of the picture when Michael was released. Being the cousin with the proper resources, Allen began helping Michael put his life together: she paid for an apartment, enrolled him in college, helped him get a job

c. 2017
Liveright
\$24.95 / \$33.95 Canada
256 pages

but he couldn't yet handle any of those things.

He became depressed. He floundered. He moved in with Bree, the transgender woman. Later, Allen learned that Bree came from a world of violence that Michael couldn't properly deal with, and that was how he died.

So who did it? Allen says that she and Michael grew up with a Do-the-Crime-Do-the-Time attitude, but she only partially lays blame on Michael's choices. Outside forces, cultures of violence, and the system, she believes, were just as much at fault...

While *Cuz* is very good and a thought-provoker, it has its problems.

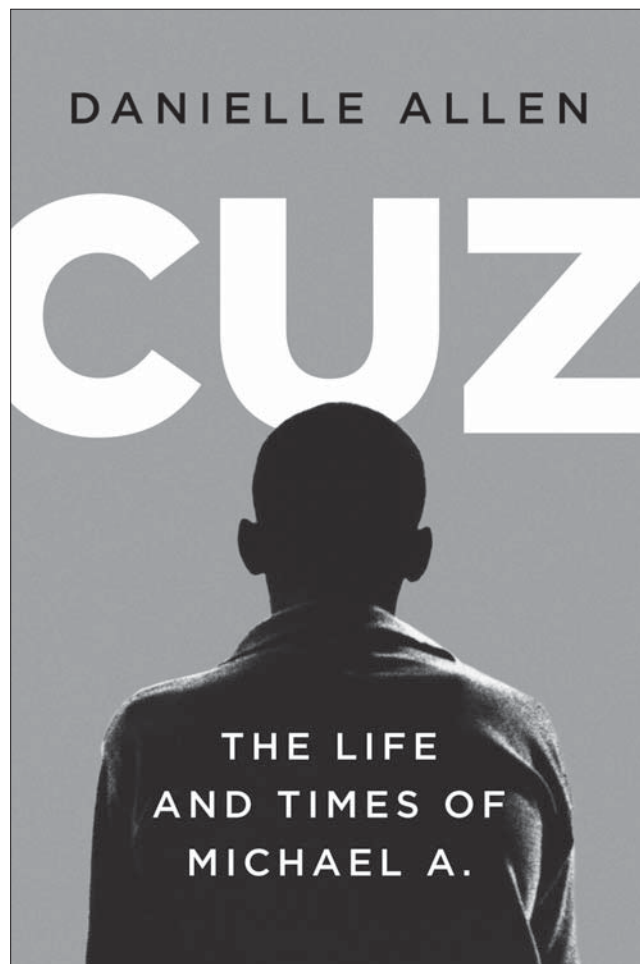
As a professor at Harvard University, author Danielle Allen cannot deny the effect of her job on her writing – which is something she admits. That lends an aura of authority to her story, but it can also feel lecture-like. Allen also includes Michael's writings within her book; some were lengthy and could have benefitted from editing.

And while there are a lot of grief-rav questions left hanging in-story, readers are also left with a sense of grace and compassion from *Cuz*. Allen never points fingers, but we're skillfully led to see what's what. She's rightfully angry at what happened to her cousin, but it doesn't hide her empathy for families who endure hardship to visit their imprisoned loved ones, and it doesn't lessen her humanity toward the people whose imprisonment doesn't make sense.

That, mixed with an aching, soaring joy are what you'll find in *Cuz*, and it's going to make you think - hard. Can you afford to miss that? No, make no mistake.



Cuz author courtesy Laura Rose



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CLASSIFIEDS

Page 14

September 6, 2017

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The chorus is beginning its **2017-2018 42nd Season**, which will be a great season with major concerts such as the Annual Community Christmas Program at Lourdes University and concert with Kathleen Battle and the Toledo Symphony.

The chorus specializes in performances of Negro spirituals and is dedicated to its preservation as well as the performance of musical styles including classical, jazz, and Broadway. Its membership is diverse and comes from all walks of life. The CSCC is unified by their mutual love of great music and bringing it to life by way of stirring performances.

For interviews and further information,
please call (419) 534-2299

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS A&E SERVICES / 504 ASSESSMENT SERVICES RFP#17-R018

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for **A&E Services including 504 Assessment Services / RFP#17-R018**, Received in accordance with law until **Sept 11, 2017 at 3:00 PM ET**. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Proposers are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract and any Sect 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



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Parker Hannifin, a Fortune 500 company, has an open position on 2nd shift for a Maintenance Technician at the Hydraulic & Fuel Filtration Division located in Metamora, Ohio. Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED with a minimum 1-3 years in an industrial environment performing basic electric and mechanical maintenance on equipment and the facility. U.S. citizenship is required.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) is preparing to submit its Annual Plan 2018, to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018. In addition, LMHA shall submit the Capital Fund 2018 5-year Action Plan and a significant amendment to the 2017 5-year Action Plan. These plans are available for review at LMHA's Website (www.lucasmha.org). LMHA invites you to submit comments during the next 45 days. Please submit comments to cmorgan@lucasmha.org.

You are invited to a public hearing on **Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at 4:00 p.m., McClinton Nunn Community Bldg., 425 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604**. Interested citizens will be provided pertinent information regarding strategic goals and program activities of the LMHA. Citizens are encouraged to attend this public hearing and provide additional comments on the Annual Plan 2018.

Should attendees require auxiliary aids due to a disability, please contact LMHA at 419-259-9457 or TRS 711, at least one week prior to hearing date.



Hugh W. Grefe, Chairman
Demetria M. Simpson, President & Chief Executive Officer

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HOSPICE OF NORTHWEST OHIO HOLDING HIRING OPEN HOUSE FOR NIGHT SHIFT POSITIONS SEPTEMBER 7

Nurses and STNAs are invited to a career fair at Hospice of Northwest Ohio on **Thursday, September 7 from 4-8:00 p.m.** Licensed RNs and LPNs and certified STNAs who are interested in working nights should bring a resume and list of references to the Perrysburg Hospice Center, 30000 East River Road, where immediate interviews will be conducted. Qualified candidates will receive job offers within 24 hours!

Applicants must be available to work at both the Toledo and Perrysburg Hospice Centers from 7:00 p.m. – 7:30 a.m. Full-time, part-time and contingent positions available. Position's offer competitive wages and benefits.

We encourage those who have a passion for caring for patients near the end of life to attend the open house. Current employees and hiring managers will be onsite to discuss the openings. Light refreshments will be provided.

To learn more about a career at Hospice of Northwest Ohio, visit our website at www.hospicenwo.org or call 419-661-4001.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS AT THE TOLEDO ZOO

It may be back to school time, but it is also back to the Zoo time! Sept. 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 23, 29 Overnights and Snooze at the Zoo Spending the night at the Zoo is a wildly good time for families, groups and schools. During the overnight adventure, guests make enrichment for our animals, tour the Zoo, meet animals up close and enjoy delicious meals. Each Snooze lasts from 6:30 p.m. - 10 a.m. the next day. Separate fee. Pre-registration required. For more information, including pricing and available dates, visit toledozoo.org/zoo-snooze.

Saturdays, Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30 Namaste for Nature Help support the Zoo's native prairie and horticultural programs while getting your Zen on at yoga at the Toledo Zoo. Classes will be held from 9-10 a.m. on four consecutive Saturdays in September and led by certified yoga instructors from Toledo-area studios. Participants are asked to wear comfortable clothing and bring their own yoga mat and bottle of water. Advanced registration is required and is limited to 90 participants per session. Participants must be at least 16 years of age. For more information or to register, please visit toledozoo.org/yoga.

Zimbabwean Sculptures... continued from page 16

exhibit at the Toledo Botanical Garden now through the end of October.

The Toledo exhibition, following on the heels of a Dallas visit, brings to town artists Aron Kapembaza and Passmore Mupindiko, who will be not only meeting and greeting visitors but will also be creating more pieces during the upcoming weeks.

The exhibit features more than 100 stone sculptures from Zimbabwean artists and all of the pieces are for sale. "Priced to sell," said Croisette.

In fact, the sale of the pieces finances the tour and provides work and income for the more than 300 artists that Croisette and Zimsulpt work with and promote. "It's trade not aid," said Croisette of the way Zimsulpt works. "It's not a charity, it's a business."

Typically, the Zimsulpt exhibition is on the road seven months of the year featuring the stone sculptures of five generations of Zimbabweans, said Croisette, the most famous of whom is Dominic Henhura. Several of Henhura's pieces are on display at the Toledo Botanical Garden.

Most of the stones used in Zimbabwean sculpture belong to the Serpentine geological family – a very hard stone – and most of the pieces used are mined by hand.

This culture of stone sculpture is not one that has been ingrained in Zimbabwe artistic life for centuries. The trend is rather recent, in fact, dating back to the 1950s when Frank McEwen, a Scotsman and museum administrator, moved to Zimbabwe – then called Rhodesia – to assume control of the fledgling Rhodes National Gallery, which would be, in keeping of the apartheid laws of the time, strictly limited to the work of white artists, preferably the old masters.

McEwen, seeking to engage black Africans in artistic endeavors eventually set up an unofficial workshop for the black staff of the Gallery. The workshop eventually included a number of prominent artists who worked primarily in stone and began a tradition of sculpting excellence that has continued once the nation of Zimbabwe emerged in the late 1970s.

The Toledo Botanical Garden is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and until 9:00 p.m. on Thursdays and Saturdays. There is no admission fee.



Zimbabwean Sculptures at Toledo Botanical Garden

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Vivienne Croisette, a British-born promoter of national and international artists, fell in love with the work of Zimbabwe sculptors 17 years ago and, despite the very troubling times that nation was experiencing, relocated to the southern African country to focus her attention on promoting those artists.

The result was Zimsulpt, an international dealer in Zimbabwean sculpture which exhibits all over the world in a variety of settings. Fortunately for Toledo-area residents, Zimsulpt and its visiting artists will be featured in an

...continued on page 15



Mupindiko and his Guinea Fowl



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