



Volume 47, No. 4 “And Ye Shall Know The Truth...” October 25, 2017

54th Annual Commandress Ball



Charlene Miller, Nikki Richardson, Scholarship recipient Walaa Kanan, Charlesena Smith

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Opinion * Perspective

An Unquenchable Curiosity

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

The Truth Contributor

Every new idea is an impossibility until it is born.

- Ron H. Brown



Like Leonardo Da Vinci, Toledo City Council's Sandy Spang is a person of "unquenchable curiosity." Also like the great figure from the Renaissance era, Spang possesses multiple core competencies and a wide variety of interests, experiences and accomplishments.

Seeking her second term in the November 7 election, the councilwoman discussed her legislative accomplishments and tireless quest for new ideas to facilitate what she believes will be Toledo's own political and economic rebirth.

Perryman: When most people think of Sandy Spang they think of a wholesome, straight-laced person, basically a very conservative personal image. What is it that most people don't know about you?

Spang: I think that the fact that in my youth I was looked at more of as an artistic person, an art major and everything that that implies, so I think that probably is the piece that maybe is not as well known. Because I focus so much on economic and business issues, people see me more as a businessperson, maybe less as an artistic person.

Perryman: Tell us about your early history.

Spang: I went to Bowsher High School and then I went to Bowling Green and I got a bachelor of fine art degree with an emphasis in metal, glass on metal specifically and I graduated Magna Cum Laude. And after that I began working for the Keidan's Jewelry chain. Remember them?

Perryman: Absolutely.

Spang: I worked for them for 11 years and I actually won a national award for jewelry appraisal and I became a gemologist through the Gemological Institute of America. And so at age 24 I became the diamond buyer for a nine-store chain. Eventually, they went out of business and then I worked for Jacobson's in their jewelry department, so all in all I spent 17 years in the jewelry business.

Perryman: I loved the Jacobson's store.

Spang: Well, it was a golden era and we had an amazing jewelry department. We had fashionable, beautiful things there. Well, after Jacobson's my husband and I grew our real estate business because we had our children and so I was in my 30s when the kids were born and so I wanted to spend as much time as possible with them. We would work on properties together, cleaning a lot of ovens and toilets. I taught for years and I did my art, but I did it more on the side. I taught in an after-school club for the Urban Impact for about five or six years and taught

art classes at the YMCA, mostly just for enjoyment and because the kids were involved in activities there.

So then we bought the property on Rugby, and I think you know a little bit about that story... that I invested because it was the recession and nobody else was going to develop that property and then I didn't want to be the only person to be investing there, so I got one of the city's last façade grants and doled it out up and down the street so that the entire strip would be revitalized, which I would like to see that happen in neighborhoods throughout the city.

Perryman: And, in addition to the art, real estate and your restaurant/coffee shop Plate 21, you were also a primary caregiver to your brother who was born with Down Syndrome until he recently died at age 62. How does the blending of these various experiences contribute to your work as a councilperson?

Spang: As a member of council we really have to be generalists. One day we're talking to the arts commission and the next day we're discussing stores and so my property management background helps me in some issues and my arts background helps me in others. I feel like I am that generalist that can converse on any topic.

Perryman: What do you do for fun? Any hobbies?

Spang: A few years ago, I actually got back to doing my glass on metal and it was a lifetime thrill for me. I was able to get a piece into the Toledo area artist show at the museum, which was something that when I was a working artist when I was younger and fresh out of college I wasn't able to achieve, so that was a thrilling experiencing for me. Right now, most of my time is devoted either to my business, which I find that's my happiest place to be is at Plate 21, meeting customers. I go in there sometimes and wash dishes and so I would say that I enjoy that a lot. I'm a great reader and I balance between reading, improving things about how cities run or future trends and then I also read fiction, so I'd say reading is important to me and I do try to exercise and I love to cook. So that's another unknown fact about me I guess is



Sandy Spang

... continued on page 13

The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African American
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Fletcher Word - Publisher and Editor

Becky McQueen - Business Manager

Tricia Hall - Reporter

Rev. D.L. Perryman - Columnist

Megan Davis - Columnist

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A Certified MBE

The Sojourner's Truth, 1811 Adams Street, Toledo, OH 43604
Phone 419-243-0007 * Fax 419-255-7700
thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com

Community Calendar

October 28

Triple Negative Breast Cancer Workshop: Kent Branch Library at 11:00. FREE and open to the public.

October 29

Calvary MBC 88th Church Anniversary: 4 pm; Guest speaker Brian Lamont Monford, Northwest Ohio Missionary Baptist Association Moderator
Indiana Avenue MBC Fall Harvest Festival Trunk o Treat: 4 to 6 pm;
Horseback riding, petting zoo, music, popcorn, cotton candy

November 7

Election Day

November 17

SeaGate Food Bank 20th Annual Stuff the Truck Event: At Walt Churchill's Makets in Maumee and Perrysburg; 6 am to 6 pm: 419-244-6996 or cheri@seagatefoodbank.org

Opinion * Perspective

Flagmania and now... Roy Moore?

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

There is a new craze sweeping the country and you better beware of it because it just might get you knocked in the head or cursed out if you don't do the right thing about the American flag.

As a result of a deviant and malevolent hijacking of Colin Kaepernick's first amendment rights to kneel as a protest against police brutality against people of color, President Trump has stoked the fires of racism by calling out the NFL ballers as, "SOB's!" if they kneel before or during the playing of the national anthem.

Trump has been repeatedly informed by those who know that the phenomenon of kneeling by sports figures is not about disrespecting the flag, the military or first responders or this country.

He simply refuses to accept anything contra to his alternate worldview of what he believes is right and fair; and also for the political purpose that his berating of the black athletes to his practically all-white base, plays malevolently well in the "red states."

It matters not an iota to him that symbols and signs of true disrespect of the flag are present virtually everywhere in America and especially so in the production of products that are used to sell everything from tractors to tissues.

Advertisers have sunk their nails into ads that show the American flag affixed to so many consumer products that one can take it for granted that such garish displays of crass consumerism is the supposed norm of the land.

Tsk...tsk...tsk...Not so!

Believe it or not, there is a voluntary flag etiquette that speaks to a standard of respect regarding the proper display and usage of the American flag; and from that standard of what should be accorded respect for the flag, either standing or saluting, it is a voluntary and non-punishable act.

Stage left and here enters Roy Moore, the Alabama Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by the current Attorney General, Jeff Sessions.

If you google Roy Moore's scarlet history you can safely gather that he is a person who seemingly was out to lunch during his formative educational years of grades one through high school.

Roy Moore, if elected, would be a senator who would have a platform every day to gush forth his abysmal ignorance on all things American. Talk about giving Alabamans a severe case of political heartburn, Roy Moore would leave no doubt that his antics and gibberish would make the president seem like a polished and poised savant!

Roy Moore recently said that if you do kneel while the national anthem is being played, you are violating the law and are subject to criminal penalties.

Now remember, this is the former but disgraced chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court but yet he engages in such reckless commentary that you must pause to realize that this political Neanderthal will be in a position to make decisions that could affect the quality of your life.

Be sure about this. Roy Moore had no legal basis to utter that foolishness and when challenged to support the legal legs for such an statement, he was only able to "garble cabbage leaves."

For those who want something definitive on the subject of mandatory versus permissive standing, kneeling or even rolling on the ground during the playing of the national anthem, there is the 1943 case law of West Va. Bd of Ed. v. Barnett, which clearly indicated that there are no requirements for anyone, under penalty of law, to stand, salute, recite, sing or not to kneel.

This recent tempest in a teapot about the flag is a political distraction by Trump and company to keep you engaged in silly cultural wars while Rome is burning! Any and all distractions will cause less questions and less focus on what Trump and company are doing to damage healthcare, the environment, safety regulations, civil rights and educational reform.

As for the so called flag patriots who are quick to blather over what they



Lafe Tolliver

Toledo City Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson Moves Toledo Forward

Toledo see gains in employment, infrastructure and public safety

By Michael Ashford, State Representative

When Governor John Kasich took office in 2011, he initiated a \$50 billion biennial budget, which for the past six years has included deep cuts to local government funds at the city, county and municipal government levels in Ohio. This was the first time in close to 80 years where taxpayers have not seen their tax dollars put to community improvements in infrastructure, street re-pavings, economic development and increases in the hiring of our first responders. Despite the city losing more than \$15 million a year, Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson has remained committed to fighting for Toledo and is considered a top-class mayor. Mayor Hicks-Hudson is truly one of the top mayors in Ohio and has moved the City of Toledo in the right direction toward stronger economic growth and into a healthier financial state.

Most mayors of major cities and suburbs are facing extreme financial crises which in turn has led to little or no money to allocate to hire police, sheriff and firefighters and for any economic development. There are 36 cities and municipalities in the state that have filed for bankruptcy because of the loss of local government funding. Since her inauguration as mayor, Paula Hicks-Hudson has remained committed to resurfacing

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Ashford announces over \$1 million in state funds for Northwest Ohio projects

Funds to support infrastructure improvement

State Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) last week announced the release of over \$1 million in state funds for projects at the University of Toledo, the Northwest Ohio Developmental Center, the Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital and the Toledo Correction Institution (TOCI).

The University of Toledo will receive nearly \$465,000 in state funds for projects to improve energy efficiency and replace outdated chilling equipment in Presidents Hall and the Field House on the university's main campus.

"These facility upgrades are the next step in UT's vision to provide a better learning and working environment for students, faculty and staff on campus," said Rep. Ashford. "The University of Toledo continues to lead the way in Northeast Ohio by investing in its students and remaining committed to improving energy efficiency on campus."

Other Northwest Ohio projects funded include:

- \$324,000 to the Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD), including \$166,000 in state funds for renovations to six bathrooms at the Northwest Ohio Development Center. The remaining funds will be used to support adult habilitation for residents at the Northwest Ohio Development Center.
- \$98,500 for building renovations, including upgrades to the HVAC system, at the Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital.
- \$116,500 for the Secure Recreation and Shower Enclosure Project at TOCI.

Last week's announced funding was approved by the state Controlling Board, a panel tasked with oversight of state spending.

Ashford Hosts Fundraiser at Downtown Restaurant

On October 4, State Rep. Michael Ashford hosted his quarterly fundraiser at Table 44 in downtown Toledo and several dozen friends, supporters and elected officials joined the representative and his wife Ruth Ashford.



State Rep Michael Ashford, Shantae Brownlee, Ruth Ashford



Gary Johnson and Ashford



Tracy Hopkins and Kelly Westmoreland



Elgin Rogers and Sylvester Gould

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Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson: Ready and Prepared for the Next Four Years

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

After a review of her career path, one might conclude that all has gone as Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson planned many years ago. Law practice; legislative director for Toledo City Council; chief counsel in the State of Ohio Office of Budget and Management; appointed to City Council; elected to City Council, elected president of City Council; assumed mayoralty upon the death of then-Mayor D. Michael Collins; elected to that office one year later. All perfectly planned and flawlessly executed, one might well conclude.

On second thought ... not exactly as planned.

Campaigning for elected office, for example, had never been part of the Hicks-Hudson plan. Back in 2010, after former Gov. Ted Strickland had been defeated in his bid for re-election, Hicks-Hudson's job as chief counsel for the Office of Budget and Management was at an end. Her plan at that time was to return home to Toledo and open up a law practice – just the sort of “behind the scenes” position she felt was her destiny since she was never prone to “seeking the spotlight or glory,” she says.

However, on the same day of Strickland's defeat, then-Toledo District 4 Councilman Michael Ashford won his campaign for state representative leaving open his council seat. Hicks-Hudson began fielding telephone calls from Toledoans urging the long-time Old West End resident to seek appointment to the vacated seat.

As she pondered that opportunity, Hicks-Hudson recalls that “I saw a need for someone who could be a strong advocate – I couldn't believe what had happened to Toledo and especially District 4.” Even though she had not previously entertained the notion of seeking such an office, she knew she was both ready and prepared given her lengthy service in government behind the scenes. Seven years later – councilwoman, president of council and, now, mayor – Hicks-Hudson is running again for

the city's chief executive position with what she feels is a well-established record of accomplishments.

Others feel the same way.

“We think about leadership and the way the city works, the progress the city has made and you have to think very positively about [Paula Hicks-Hudson's] leadership,” said Randy Oostra, CEO of ProMedica during a fundraiser in August that he organized for the mayor. “We have been really pleased with the great things going on in the city, thanks to [the mayor].”

“Since her inauguration as mayor, Paula Hicks-Hudson has remained committed to resurfacing major and residential roadways,” writes State Rep. Ashford of her accomplishments. “From 2015 to 2017, there have been 62 firefighters and 70 new police officers hired with 40 cadets going through the police academy and will be sworn in February 2018. The last two city budgets have seen record high net-gains and [she] has created or retained 9,500 good paying jobs.”

At the top of the mayor's list of her accomplishments are three other items.

First, and without hesitation, she speaks of the condition of the city's water. “We have safe drinking water each and every day,” she states.

Second, she mentions “Engage Toledo.” As far back as during her days as legislative counsel, Hicks-Hudson had been disturbed by the inability of citizens to get answers to their issues and complaints. The lack of a system of coordinated responses brought about Engage Toledo in which citizens' questions and complaints can be assigned numbers, can be tracked and can be answered in a timely fashion. She calls it “breaking down the silos.”

As for her third major accomplishment, Hicks-Hudson points to the lead ordinance. “I pushed that starting when I was on City Council,” she recalls. “It's actually groundbreaking and an op-

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In the Matter of Kapszukiewicz Supporters' Tax Delinquency

In a review of Wade Kapszukiewicz's donors from the Pre-Primary financial report, we have found that Mr. Kapszukiewicz's donors have a last-year delinquency of at least \$113,229.91 in taxes, with \$28,789.62 still currently owed. These folks, while unable to pay their tax obligations, were able to contribute \$13,400 to Wade's campaign.

Delinquent taxes hurt our community; they mean that budgets aren't met, schools don't get the resources they need to serve our kids, potholes go unfilled, and government struggles to provide essential services to constituents. This is alarming when Mr. Kapszukiewicz's campaign for mayor promises to increase educational opportunity and take on the “distress” he claims to see everywhere.

Mr. Kapszukiewicz, the man whose job it is to collect taxes and be the “guardian of taxpayer dollars” holds himself out as a detail-oriented elected official who “signs a daily report accounting for the tax money that passes through his office.” Apparently he is willing to overlook the detail of his donors' delinquencies, and miss the detail that he has, since May, been running his campaign out of office space valued at \$2,000 a month for free from a developer with whom he has arranged land deals.

Mr. Kapszukiewicz is willing to call these donors for his own political gain, but won't call them to fulfill the duties he was elected, and sworn in just over a month ago, to perform. Lucas County deserves better, and the City of Toledo deserves a Mayor that puts Toledo and its citizens first, not a career politician like Wade, asleep on the job and dreaming of his next political office.

Maintain the momentum, keep Toledo working, and re-elect Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson.

Chairman Joshua Hughes
Lucas County Democratic Party

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Dr. John W. Williams, Pastor

Fros, Fashions & Finds

By Megan Davis

Soulcial Scene Contributor

When women are diagnosed with breast cancer, many thoughts come across their minds.

"Will I beat this?" "Will I lose my breasts?" Or "What will my family do when I am gone?"

Cancer, for most people, is a terminal illness, but there are also women who give cancer the boot and go on to live fulfilling lives. Still, the uncertainty that accompanies the journey from discovery, to diagnosis, to recovery is unpredictable.

Chris Tia-Donaldson, CEO of Thank God It's Natural (TGIN) products, said that the stigma that comes with breast cancer is that it will "compromise my femininity, my sexuality, my physicality, and that I would have 'chemo brain.' I felt like I was losing who I was." Donaldson, who has recently triumphed over cancer, is using her experience to inspire others living with breast cancer.

There are many stories about women who overcome the cancer demon with a fight in them that they may have never known they had. We hear and read about the struggles of making decisions for treatment as well as the constant fatigue, aching and sickness women feel while undergoing the treatments. But we rarely hear about the struggle to find beauty in the midst of the beast that tries to devour the mind, body and spirit.



Chris Tia Donaldson



Donaldson



Robin Roberts



Robin Roberts

The idea of being and feeling beautiful during the stages of cancer treatments don't often hit a woman until she sees notable changes in her appearance. Depending on the stage of cancer, her breasts may shrink or be severely bruised; she may have scars from surgery; her eyes may be sunken due to fatigue and her hair may be falling out. Experiencing hair loss seems to be one of those times where the idea of feeling beautiful slaps you right in the face. There are women who try to hold onto their hair, and those who

are in shock, seeing clumps of hair just fall right off their scalp; and there are those who say, "I am not my hair" as in the India.Arie song, and they shave it all off. No matter the reaction to losing their hair, it can happen and the frustration with trying to remain feminine and pretty can be an uphill battle while already in the fight.

Robin Roberts, an ABC Good Morning America anchor, was victorious over breast cancer. She wore wigs on camera after having lost her hair. But at a charity fashion show one evening, she decided to ditch her wig and walk the runway bald and bold! Everyone remarked at how amazing she looked. That bold move gave her the courage to be proud of who she was, no matter what illness may have attacked her body. Roberts stated that "Being optimistic is like a muscle. It grows stronger with use. I have always been optimistic." With that statement, one can conclude that being free from cancer means being free in her mind first. As many grab a hold of their faith during the battle, a proverb comes to mind: "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."

As many women as we have seen in the public eye, who have fought the good fight and won, there are many who are living their everyday lives, still trying to find the ray of light, the silver lining and the beauty amidst the ashes. These everyday women don't have makeup artists at their disposal or money to buy human hair wigs; many of the women who have breast cancer are in the low-income class or have very few resources to pay for treatments, not to mention the lack of paid time off. So finding ways to be beautiful on a budget can be depressing.

There are some things that women who are on their journey with cancer can do that can help boost confidence. Below is a list of supports to help women rediscover their inner beauty, so that it can manifest itself on the outward in time.

What's in the bottle? Be mindful of not only what you eat, but what you put on your hair/scalp. The skin of a person undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments is delicate and

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The Soulcial Scene

Fros, Fashions & Finds... continued from page 6

can be dry. Try to avoid harsh cleansers like detergents (sodium lauryl sulfate) and alcohol which may strip the skin of its natural oils. You may also wish to avoid artificial fragrances or perfumes, this may cause skin and scalp irritation.

Using essential oils. Use caution when applying essential oils. Due to their being in their natural form, they are concentrated and can burn the skin or scalp if applied alone. To apply essential oils to the body or scalp for re-growth treatments, use a carrier oil such as almond oil or grape seed oil to blend with the essential oil. This reduces the risk of skin damage.

Petroleum jelly and mineral oil. This is an old, tried and true remedy for dry skin from the good old days. But today, the use of products containing petroleum jelly and mineral oil are harmful for the skin. The thick texture of Vaseline may clog pores and prevent the skin from truly being moisturized from the inside out. It blocks moisture as a matter of fact. Mineral oil is found in many hair care products that cannot penetrate the scalp and assist with moisturizing the scalp or hair. It will sit on the scalp like a film instead.

Formaldehyde. This ingredient is found in many hair products, including Brazilian blowouts and some hair smoothing treatments. Avoid things like this which may also read as Sodium Hydroxymethylglycinate, DMDM hydantoin, and Diazolidinyl Urea.

Dos and Don'ts

Do still cleanse your scalp gently with something that is fragrance and color free such as Dr. Bronner's castille soap for babies.

Do massage your scalp. It's not only soothing, but it does stimulate blood flow so that hair can grow.

Don't neglect your scalp. While it may not have any hair on it, it still needs TLC under wigs and head wraps.

Accessorize it!

There are many ways to highlight your beauty without having hair. Try some of the following ideas to adorn your crown as you go through the process of restoring your health.

Hats, hats and more hats! With winter on its way, knitted hats of all sizes

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It Was a Frightful Night; Terrifying Actually!

It didn't start out that way. Saturday evening, October 21, started off as a delightful, warmer than usual, quiet afternoon in the UpTown area along Adams Street. Quiet and peaceful. Sure there were rumors that ugly, frightful creatures might try to invade the peace and quiet. Enough rumors in fact that the street was barricaded, cordoned off, to prevent an invasion of such unwanted dead, the almost dead and the undead.

But as the night approached, it became clear that the barricades were insufficient for their purpose; the frightful beings started to emerge, to breach the protective walls. They entered at the checkpoints – six of them – by frightening the guards and bribing them with as little as \$5 bills and

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COUNCILMAN LARRY SYKES

★★★★ A RECORD OF ★★★★★

LEADERSHIP, TRANSPARENCY, INTEGRITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



LEADERSHIP

- Current Member of City Council
- Chair, City Council Finance Committee
- Secured additional \$300K funding in the State Budget for removal of Lead Based Paint
- Secured 50% of ProMedica Downtown Construction Project to local businesses
- Help expand the scope and influence of the Ohio Minority Development Council
- Worked to change the Civil Service Rules to expand the qualifying age for recruitment of safety forces

TRANSPARENCY

- Cut wasteful spending of tax payer dollars
- Improve City Services without raising taxes
- Publish city expenditure and income reports

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Supported the redevelopment of the new Renaissance Hotel, now a 4-star Marriott Property in downtown Toledo
- Supported the sale and redevelopment of the former Erie Street Market adding to the city's tax revenue and saving an annual \$300K in city expenses
- Supported the Hensville Project which completed \$21M in public/private partnerships to renovate several downtown Toledo properties
- Supported the establishment of Middlegrounds Metro Park, a new 28 acre metropark in downtown Toledo
- Supported FIAT Chrysler resulting in \$700M to the Toledo North Assembly Plant and the creation of 700 new jobs
- Supported Mercy Health Care Plan of \$1B investment in current facilities which will maintain employment of 2700 Toledoans with an annual average salary of \$64.7K

INTEGRITY

- Improving Neighborhood Safety & Stability
- Expanding Safety Forces
- Sponsored the Ordinance passed by City Council for Responsible Banking Practices holding banks accountable to tax payers regarding loans and payday lending
- Proposed the TARTA supported sales tax that reduces the amount of property taxes paid by Toledo homeowners while increasing funding for TARTA to continue providing services to Toledoans and TPS students
- Worked with single mothers facing eviction from unfair housing companies to implement new policies to help them keep and buy their homes
- As Chair of City Council Finance Committee, helped to oversee back-to-back certification and award for outstanding budgetary management



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The Soulcial Scene

Frightful Night... continued from page 7

stormed the business places. They came by the thousands and little could be done to scare them off. Many places tried playing loud music hoping that might frighten them off, but it had the opposite effect. The monsters actually liked the strange sounds and began to jump up and down to it; on this night, music did not have charms to soothe the savage breasts.

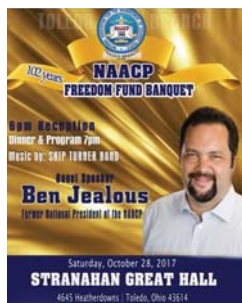
Some establishments tried serving the beasts beverages in hopes that such fluids might calm them, perhaps even render them placid and manageable. Again, no luck. They guzzled the beer and the cocktails and were energized by the alcoholic potions, demanding even more.

There was nothing to be done but to wait them out. Finally as midnight came and passed, as 1 a.m. came and passed, and finally, the 2 a.m. hour, they slinked off, back into the shadows whence they came. Threats of a return were heard though; many growled that the same time next year would mark their re-appearance. The area will be better prepared though, that's for sure. Stronger barricades; louder, more frightening music ... whatever it takes.



NAACP Toledo Branch to Host 102nd Freedom Fund Banquet

Toledo Branch NAACP is celebrating 102 years in existence and will host its Annual Freedom Fund Banquet to be held Saturday, October 28 at 7:00 p.m. (6pm Reception) in the Stranahan Great Hall. 13 ABC Anchor Kristian Brown is the Mistress of Ceremonies.



This year's speaker is Mr. Ben Jealous, the former president of the National NAACP. The NAACP Toledo Branch remains steadfast in their commitment to ensure the educational, political, social, and economic equality of rights for all people and the elimination of racial hatred and discrimination! "We invite the community to join us for our celebration of 102 years of service to the cause of Human and Civil rights in our great community"! Also, three individuals will be honored who have made a significant impact on various segments of the community. The evening will be a great night of good food by "We Be Ribs" Catering, great entertainment with music by the Skip Turner Band.

Please join us for this great evening!!
For more information, please call our Branch office at 419-214-1551 or email Micheal Alexander Sr. - Freedom Fund Chairman at info@naacptoledo.org

Photography by Ambershaun Byrd ByrdsEye Photo Production



First Church of God Holds Centennial Celebration

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The Toledo community welcomed the congregation of First Church of God in 1917 when three women organized meetings and Bible study classes in the city. One hundred years later, the congregation has reached several milestones and celebrated with a banquet on Saturday, October 14th and church service the following morning.

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BACK Pastor Miki Merritt, Rev. Clifton McDowell Sr, Rev. Kerwin Manning. FRONT Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson, Rev. Robert Culp, and First Lady Culp



County Auditor Anita Lopez, Danielle Bates of Phil Copeland's office, Helen Cooks, and Senator Edna Brown



Councilwoman Yvonne Harper, Councilman Larry Sykes, and Councilwoman Cecelia Adams



Joe Malefant, Sister Virginia Welsh



Carlos Roberts of Key Bank, Al Bannister, Twine Chapman, and Tyrone Riley of Toledo City council



Toledo NAACP president Ray Woods of Toledo NAACP, TPS School board Holly Taylor-Gerkins of TPS Board, County commissioner Pete Gerkin, and TPS School board Chris Varwing



Banquet ushers Raymond Sanders, Jalen Riley, and Christian Joseph



Sister Joselyn Weeman, and Sister Lynda Synder



Elder Florie Huntley, Bishop Daniel Thomas, Pastor Miki Merritt



Bill Jennings, and Judge Linda Jennings

The Soulcial Scene

Mecca Court #73 54th Annual Commandress Ball on October 14 Honored Dt. Lynn E. Townsend, Illustrious Commandress

Under the leadership of Dt. Lynn E. Townsend, Illustrious Commandress, the daughters of Mecca Court #73, Toledo, OH are proudly serving in their 91st year. The Court honored Townsend, on Saturday, October 14 at the All Occasions Banquet Hall and commemorated the many years of the organization's existence, charity and benevolence.

The organization stresses and focuses on the development of powerful leaders; encourages health awareness and career planning among youth and adults; provides services to help disabled and senior citizens; provides for effective networking among its members and other organizations; recognizes and celebrates the historic and current achievement of African-American women; exerts positive influence and utilizes role modeling for youth, teenage mothers, high school and college students.

The organization of 12 Courts in its inception has grown to over 200 Courts

located in the United States, Canada, the Bahamas, Germany, Italy and Japan.

Mecca Court #73, with a present membership of 83, has been involved in

... continued on page 11



Charlene Miller; LaVera Scott, chairman; Vivian Carroll



Jacqueline Harris-Jackson and Wanda Terrell-Galloway



Charlene Miller, Nikki Richardson, Scholarship recipient Walaa Kanan, Charlesena Smith



Lena Davis and Debbie Dean-Mitchell

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Jim ANDERSON

FOR JUDGE

TOLEDO ENVIRONMENTAL & HOUSING COURT

For a Cleaner, Safer Toledo!

The Soulcial Scene

Perry Burroughs... continued from page 16

of not being able to meet elsewhere because of their color", said Prescilla Hutchens, banquet chairman.

The club members would later move from Burroughs' home to hosting meetings in each other's homes.

The purpose of the club is to study and understand the Democratic candidates of Lucas County. They also strive to enhance an understanding of government through educating citizens on the importance of voting and promoting relationships between Democrats and various non-profit community groups.

At the banquet the club members celebrated not only 75 years of service but also members who have dedicated many years to the club. Among those were Rose Keetion; Grace Edwards, Burroughs' daughter; and Preston Waddell, all of whom have over 40 years of active participation in the organization.

During a speech at the banquet Toledo City Councilwoman and Club President Yvonne Harper addressed the 2015 victory of Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson. Hicks-Hudson, a member of the Perry Burroughs Democratic Women's Club, is Toledo's first African-American woman mayor.

"We've got the first and no one can take that from us", said Harper.



Judge Ian English and Muni Clerk of Court Vallie Bowman English



Perry Burroughs members



Prescilla Hutchens, Diana Haynes-Whitehead, Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson, Councilwoman Yvonne Harper



Wilma Brown and Councilman Larry Sykes

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Twenty-two years ago, a life was saved, promises were made and an agency was founded. Twenty-two years later, thousands of families have found a bit of comfort during the holiday seasons as a result of those events and the A.N.G.E.L.S. Outreach Program, which provides such comfort, continues its mission of helping neighbors every Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

On September 28, 2017 the A.N.G.E.L.S. Outreach held its annual fundraiser at Caper's Pizza Bar in order to bring even more holiday joy to its Toledo-area neighbors.



Executive Director Lisa Canales and Toledo City Councilman Larry Sykes



Angel Mia Flores, DJ Hugh Ross, Lisa Canales

The Soulcial Scene

Mecca Court... continued from page 9

numerous community projects over the past 91 years, having been in the news, in the newspapers and in television, promoting charity and benevolence within the community and state and annually at the host convention.

This year, under the leadership of Townsend, Mecca Court has been instrumental and very actively involved within the community which has included donations of school supplies and book bags to students, donations to the homeless and nursing homes, presentation of items to the Ronald McDonald House, a donation to the American Heart Association at the luncheon in May, in addition to numerous fundraising activities, with additional presentations and holiday donations to be made in the coming months.

At their Commandress Ball on Saturday, October 14, the members awarded a scholarship to Walaa Kanan from the "Charlesena Harrison Smith Scholarship Foundation." Kanan, a graduate of Toledo Early College High School, is in her first year at the University of Toledo in the Social Work program and is minoring in disability studies. She has sophomore standing because of college credits she earned at TECHS. In high school she participated in many student organizations such as community wellness, Young Women for Change and Youth to Youth. She is currently past of a number of organizations on campus.

The Court expressed their pride in having Past Imperial Commandress, Dt. Charlesena H. Smith, who served as the 42nd Imperial Commandress of the Imperial Court, 2009-2011, and in having four appointed Imperial Officers

presently serving on the Imperial Court.

Guests traveled from Cleveland, Elyria, Youngstown, Akron, Columbus, Cincinnati, Springfield and Dayton as well as from Kentucky, Michigan, Illinois and Indiana to attend the gala event.



Pamela Hopkins, Debbie Dean Mitchell, Charlesena Smith



Tammy Willoughby and Theresa Coleman

First Church... continued from page 8

Saturday's banquet included tributes from Rev. Cedric Brock, pastor of Mt. Nebo and leader of Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance; Ray Woods of Toledo NAACP; and Elder Florie Huntley, the church's oldest member. Proclamations were presented by Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson, Toledo Public Schools and the Lucas County Commissioners.

"I am reminded that we Christians are charged to go in the highways and byways and uplift those who are down. Let us never forget that mission. First Church of God has done that for 100 years," shared Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson.

"I'm honored to be here. First Church of God has and continues to work in the community. I've known Bishop Culp as a leader who speaks his mind. I admire him, as a past president of Toledo NAACP, but also as a community leader, mentor and friend," explained Ray Woods.

Sunday's service was held at the historic structure located at the corner of Collingwood and Central in Toledo and opened with a homecoming mass choir, comprised of church members. The service continued with selections, praise dancing and a guest speaker.

"Thank you everyone for your love and support," said Bishop Robert Culp, pastor of First Church of God.

The church's history began in 1917 when three sisters Sallie Foster, A.V. Burns, and Janis Barber began preaching, conducting meetings, and organizing Bible study classes in Toledo. By 1929 the church became the first "colored" congregation of The Church of God in Toledo, Sunday school classes and the choir were organized, the church relocated to Collingwood and Avondale then Erie and Tecumseh, built a structure on Vance street, and received their first woman pastor, Sister Lucinda Vines. In 1932 the deacon board and mission society was organized.

The church continued to move to different locations between 1936-1979, but welcomed current pastor, Rev. Robert Culp, who preached his first sermon as pastor on May 21, 1961. In the past 10 years the church dedicated their nursery ministry, and celebrated the consecration of Rev. Robert Culp to the office of Bishop in 2014.



Pastor Banks and David Banks

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Kent Branch Library Reaches 100 Year Milestone

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Toledo Lucas County Public Library board members and staff were joined by local elected officials on Thursday, October 19, to celebrate the Kent Branch centennial. Kent Branch Library opened December 11, 1917 and was the result of a collaboration between the Toledo Public Library, the City of Toledo, and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. The branch was named in honor of Eliza M. Kent, the first manager of the Children's Department at Main Library.

Thursday's celebration featured musical entertainment by Old West End Academy third graders, a welcome by Branch Manager Jessica Luce, an address by Clyde Scoles, director of the Toledo Lucas County Public Library and the presentation of commemorative proclamations by local, state and federal

elected officials.

The event, said Scoles, was a "celebration of the values of freedom and equality." Noting the generosity of Andrew Carnegie, who funded a number of libraries around the country during that period, Scoles said the philanthropist "stressed the importance of hard work and self-motivation" and that "his gift is a ladder to self-improvement." U.S. Congresswoman; State Representative Michael Ashford; Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson and Toledo City Councilman Larry Sykes presented the proclamations from their respective colleagues.



Kent Branch Manager Jessica Luce and Toledo Lucas County Public Library Director Clyde Scoles



Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur gives Congressional proclamation to Library Representatives



Old West End Third Graders

Tolliver... continued from page 3

see as outrages against America by which people do not show respect to the American flag,

I ask you, examine the below list and ask yourself do they offend standards of respect for the flag?

- (1) using the flag as a cap or hat or bandana.
- (2) placing the flag on advertisements for the selling of cars, boats and products made in America.
- (3) using the flag stylized to be worn as a T-shirt, pants, cuff links, Speedos, thongs, doormats, Halloween costumes and tennis shoes, among a host of other flag bearing products.
- (4) flying the flag at night.
- (5) flying a dirty or tattered flag.
- (6) using the flag in any advertisement that sells beer, cigarettes, wine or even lawn mowers.
- (7) used on bumper stickers to promote your favorite politico.
- (8) used as background images on bank checks.
- (9) cut up or photographed for use in mixed media formats including artwork and posters and banners.

According to the standards of what is respectful of the flag, the above categories are in violation of those recommendations but yet where are the Roy Moores and the Donald Trumps issuing scalding denunciations of those manufacturers and consumers who engage in such flag desecration on a daily basis?

They are not called, "SOB's!" They are not told that unless they cease and desist from their crass profiteering of the American flag, they will face his dire wrath!

So, when a Roy Moore wants to transporthis woeful ignorance from Alabama to the nation's capitol, be forewarned that the cultural wars will only get more intense as Moore and company and Trump and company form an unholy alliance and really show out for their dysfunctional base of supporters who engage in the above flag violations.

Remember, pledges to songs and flags do not a country make and if your identity is tied up with a song or a flag and someone "disses" you about it and you respond with fists and curses and calls of, "SOB's!" you are a person most to be pitied.

Contact Lafe Tolliver, attorney, at tolliver@juno.com

Paula Hicks... continued from page 3

major and residential roadways. From 2015 to 2017 there have been 62 firefighters and 70 new police officers hired with 40 cadets going through the police academy and will be sworn in February 2018. The last two city budgets have seen record-high net-gains and have created or retained 9,500 good paying jobs.

This year's unbalanced budget is stealing money from our local communities to pay for Columbus' bills, it is extremely fiscally irresponsible and will only lead to increases in local taxes. The unbalanced budget (House Bill 49) cripples the most vulnerable citizens of Ohio--pray for Ohio.

Ohio's 2017 biennium \$65.6 billion budget has deep cuts to veterans, seniors and the working class. Major cuts that were made were to the:

- Department of Veteran Services: \$16,911,528
- Department of Aging: \$905,458
- Ohio Environmental Protection Agency: \$9,862,881
- Department of Health: \$3,072,529

I strongly believe that Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson, for the past two years, has proven that she is the mayor that Toledo needs to continue to move the city forward. It cannot be done in two years, but rather a full four year term.



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Perryman... continued from page 2

that I've been a vegetarian since 1978, so who knew that?

Perryman: You're also an avid Detroit Tiger baseball fan. Right?

Spang: Oh my goodness, thank you. I love to listen to baseball. We had a summer cottage and we had a little rowboat, The Lily-pad, and my dad and I would sit on that boat and fish for bluegills and perch, sunfish and listen to Ernie Harwell on the radio and I still enjoy baseball on the radio so much. Of course I love to go to games and so listening to baseball games, of course this has been a tough season, but you know I was born a Tiger and I will die a Tiger and I will not jump ship and I'm an optimist so I believe that in our lifetime we will get there.

Perryman: Okay, let's shift into politics. Can you describe your political philosophy?

Spang: Well, obviously you know I don't have a party affiliation and I have felt that independence was really what Toledo politics needed. I am entirely focused on our local issues and I think that being able to just be that voice for the right decision without political encumbrance has been right for me.

Perryman: Can you break that down for me?

Spang: Well, I can talk about what I've been able to accomplish in the first term and I think that people might have thought it would be difficult to actually accomplish things, but of course, the item that I am most proud of is the priority-based budgeting. I just felt that Toledo didn't look outside of itself enough for things for best practices that could work and you know we dropped our membership from the National League of Cities nearly 20 years ago. I think that that was a mistake because I think they are the premier education and advocacy organization for cities.

Perryman: Why is priority-based budgeting important to you?

Spang: I thought this is what Toledo needs because I felt when I was elected that I would dig deep into the budget, but the budget that was presented to me was just a line-item budget with no narrative, it gave me no idea of what we were doing or why we were doing it. Priority-based budgeting, on the other hand, has identified 733 programs that the city performs, what they cost, how many employees, what the supply costs are, and so that level of information I think is going to be incredibly valuable for the 2018 budget conversation. My hope is that we can liberate resources from programs of the past and apply them to the priorities of our citizens. We hear about what matters to them, but I don't think we're aligning our resources with those concerns.

So bringing back these ideas and best practices to Toledo is important to me and I'm proud that we were able to get the priority based budgeting done. I've been able to accomplish things that I think sort of transcends politics as usual and it's just about doing the right thing.

Perryman: Any disappointments or negative experiences?

Spang: You know what? I came to it late in life, but I love the work. I love connecting people. You and I've had meetings where we just start constantly trying to think of connections and ways that we can bring people who are doing things within the community together so that each brings something that they can

contribute to an issue. I think that's been really important. Disappointments...I would say probably the lack of conversation among councilmembers. I thought there would be far more policy conversations and so if I had a hope for the next council it would be just that we really engage more amongst ourselves in policy conversation.

Perryman: The topic of CDBG funding is something you seem to have very strong opinions about. Please talk a little more about it.

Spang: Well, I think that in Toledo it's been a combination of some of the CDC failures of the past as well as the budgetary crisis created by the recession. Between those two, I think we've really lost touch with the true mission of CDBG dollars. These are dollars that are not certain in the future and they have diminished over the years for us, but they are some of the only dollars that have the potential to be truly creative and funded to our city. And I've sat with the CDBG folks at conferences in Washington and I've heard them say these are not dollars for personnel, these are not dollars for programs. And yet, those are two ways we're spending most of the money instead of on bricks and mortar projects.

Starting in 2013, we started using CDBG dollars for rent on Government Center and we've spent \$950,000 on rent in the last five years. We are also paying for the equivalent of 58 full-time employees with CDBG dollars. I want to get that money out of Government Center and into the neighborhoods that it was intended for, for those public projects. It's really how to help spur private investments in neighborhoods as well.

If you want to get the salt piles off of the Vistula waterfront and create a waterfront park area along there, that's a CDBG project and so that's my goal, to bring that money out of government center and into neighborhoods.

Perryman: We have seen tremendous investment poured into downtown and the University of Toledo, but little or nothing in between. What kind of plans do you have, let's say, for the central city or Dorr Street?

Spang: For me, it's definitely about bringing retail, goods and services, back to neighborhoods. So my focus for neighborhoods is really

on bringing commerce back to every neighborhood. Putting traffic within the neighborhood makes it safer and builds a greater sense of community. When you see your neighbors shopping together at small local businesses and it provides neighborhood jobs. Very often, a little restaurant in the neighborhood, a little retail space provides those entry-level jobs and really empowers entrepreneurs to open their dream businesses within their own neighborhood. It's really my passion and additionally, the bringing of access to food back to neighborhoods is another piece.

Perryman: You have made a tremendous effort to search for best practices and exciting things happening around the country and then bringing possibilities back to Toledo. If one is able to come back with great ideas, though, we both know that a great idea alone does not ensure success. That Toledo is, more than anything else, a very political town. So, given that, how do you get over the hurdle of politics in order to get great ideas implemented?

Spang: Well, you know, so much of what we want to do to innovate requires money and so thus you can see how one idea leads me to another. Desire to have the code upgrade grant led me to a closer examination of our CDBG funds and to a closer examination of our budgeting process and so I'll use the example of how I was able to get part of this budgeting program through. I talked about it consistently. I presented it to the Chamber of Commerce. I talked to community members about it. I worked to build a general consensus that it was the right thing to do. I appreciate the administration being willing to...it was a heavy lift. They had to go department by department, a lot of work. So sometimes it's just about being a consistent voice, calling for something, being willing to do the work of sharing with people, educating people. So I have no expectations that simply because I think something's a good idea that it's going to be adopted and I know that I have to do the work of building a consensus and I'm willing to do that work. I've demonstrated that I'm willing to work with anyone, I'm willing to work and build consensus for a good idea.

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



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Paula Hicks.. continued from page 5

portunity for education and social growth.” However, now that the legislation has been passed and has begun to take effect, the mayor is not content that enough has been done to eliminate the threat of lead poisoning to the youth in this community. “Let’s get rid of the lead pipes,” she says. “I would like to help homeowners swap them out.”

Additionally, she would also like to pursue an education program for parents so that local residents could be thoroughly “aware of the hazards of lead.”

Of course, she is enormously proud of downtown development and the “whole different vibe in the city,” about the potential for growth in investment and jobs. To continue the progress downtown, and near downtown, Hicks-Hudson believes it’s critical that the City of Toledo continue to foster partnerships. The city, or the public sector, must seek partners, she says, from within the private sector, non-profit agencies and labor organizations. For the mayor, successful, sustainable development must be achieved with all four segments of the population moving forward together.

The good things happening downtown now must be expanded, as soon as possible, to East Toledo, she says, noting that long-time developer Frank Kass has again become interested in the Marina District “because of who is the mayor.” Kass had tried working with city leadership years ago on the Marina District but became disillusioned and decided not to pursue the matter further.

The mayor’s chief concern, however, will be to spread the same growth and development that is happening downtown into the city’s neighborhoods. “We want to create strong neighborhood organizations that have the clout to deal with City Hall, that can form partnerships with the City,” she says noting that the aforementioned partnerships of public, private, non-profit and labor will be able to work to bring change and growth to, first, the ring of areas around downtown, such as East Toledo, Vistula and the former ONYX area. Not that neighborhood development can be accomplished in a cookie-cutter scheme, she says. Each neighborhood has different strengths and attractions that can and should be highlighted.

Hicks-Hudson also plans, during her next four years, to focus her attention on the related matters of educational attainment and job readiness, working in partnership with the University of Toledo and, possibly, with Bowling Green State University, developing “internships, externships and jobs; we will provide opportunities.” A partnership with Owens Community College

has already produced an emergency services technology program collaboration.

Of course, the mayor is now also busy working on getting re-elected. She won, by a substantial margin in 2015 in a crowded field that included past mayors, Carty Finkbeiner and Mike Bell. Now, in this general election, she faces only one challenger and she has become increasingly upset in recent weeks over what she sees as a sea change in the culture of political conversation that has been adopted by her opponent. For example, she and her administration, she says, have been falsely accused of improprieties when it comes to handling the City’s money. “When you just out and out tell lies, we’re living in times when civility and integrity is kind of upside down,” she says.

Leading the City of Toledo into a new era of prosperity; cleaning and developing neighborhoods; ensuring that citizens are safe – from crime and from environmental poisons; pulling together coalitions to bring about effective changes and, yes, even dealing with the seamy side of politics – these are not the kinds of challenges Hicks-Hudson envisioned seven years ago when she contemplated a quiet life in the shadows of One Government Center practicing law behind the scenes.

Nevertheless, in spite of her initial misgivings about taking on such a role in the public sector, she realized she was both ready and prepared.

Fros, Fashion and Finds... continued from page 7

and colors are available now in local stores. Beanies, berets, skull caps, and every fuzzy ball caps are available for reasonable prices. There are also great fedoras, newsboys and crocheted Tams that can be worn with or without wigs.

Head wraps also come in a variety of fabrics, textures and lengths. You can even take an old pair of leggings and repurpose them as a head tie. Stores such as Joann’s and Walmart carry fabric ranging from \$1 to \$15 per yard. The possibilities are endless. You may also find lightweight scarves that are often used as clothing accessories, to be perfect to accessorize your head.

Tips for maintaining a bald head.

- You can still use conditioner with the shampoo. It softens the scalp and allows the hair to grow back in healthy.
- Protect your scalp from the sun and wind. Use head coverings such as hats and head wraps to protect your hair.
- The best time to shave it is right after a shower, when the hair is softened.
- Use aloe vera gel instead of shaving cream. It has no chemicals or preservatives and is gentle on the scalp.
- Shave *in* the direction of growth! Going against the grain may cause ingrown hairs.

Wigs and Weaves. Many women will wear wigs while going through cancer treatments. They give an immediate boost of confidence and makes pretty happen quickly. While it may feel good to just slap on old “Carol” or whatever name you may give your wigs, take care as to not do anything that can scar the scalp. Also:

- Find a wig that is close to your hair color, so it looks natural, unless you are into bold and colorful.
- Choose a wig that feels natural to the touch.
- Be mindful if it can be styled with heat. There are many non-human hair wigs that can be heat styled these days.
- Try a human hair wig if you have the budget for it. It can be treated like your own hair.
- Ask a stylist to customize a wig for you. It may be costly, but it will fit your own head and be cut and styled to suit you.
- If you are low on money, try organizations like Transform My Beauty to see if they offer free wigs for women undergoing cancer treatments. The owner of Transform My Beauty is a Toledo, Ohio native and cancer survivor who creates custom wigs as well as donates them to women with cancer. To learn more, visit transformmybeauty.com and click on the “Free Wigs” link.

Finally, feeling beautiful while fighting such an ugly disease is possible. Sometimes just putting on a little lip gloss and a pair of earrings can change a woman’s mood, any woman, who isn’t feeling at her best. No matter the changes the body faces during illness, many have learned to accept the things they cannot change, and take things one day and one step at a time. For Robin Roberts and Chris Tia-Donaldson, they have also learned to take life’s lemons and make lemonade as they remain at the top of their game as public personalities.

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CLASSIFIEDS

October 25, 2017

Page 15

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Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY18-16, (Project # 1020-17-964) for Campus Infrastructure Improvements - Phase 3 for the University of Toledo. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 7, 2017. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$85.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from David Desjardins of JDRM Engineering at 419-824-2400. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, October 31, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 15%. Project Estimate: \$2,000,000.00; Breakdown: Exterior Mechanical Utility Upgrades: \$2,000,000.00.



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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 First Class Maintenance Machinist positions. Starting pay is \$37.93 per hour. After completion of a six month probationary period, the rate of pay is \$40.29 per hour.

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First Class Machinists will complete assignments relative to the inspection, repair, installation and maintenance of machinery/equipment within the refinery. Work will be performed in the shop as well as in all weather conditions. Our Company is committed to a foundation of safe and environmentally compliant operations so First Class Machinists must follow all procedures and safe work practices. First Class Machinists will be scheduled to work five, eight hour shifts in a regular work week; however, mandatory overtime including weekends, holidays and shift work is required as needed.

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.

For consideration, candidates must have completed a state approved Machinist apprenticeship program with no less than four years work experience OR have equivalent work experience of no less than eight years as a Machinist. Successful candidates must possess First Class Machinist work experience and First Class Machinist skills. Other requirements include: the ability to demonstrate First Class performance; proficiency to read blueprints as it pertains to machining; ability to work from written and verbal directions to perform assigned tasks; experience in coordinating work; function as a team member; perform tasks in any craft as incidental work; and participate in training programs to maintain and/or upgrade skills. Candidates must have knowledge of equipment and tools required to expedite the efficient installation and repair of refinery equipment.

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; and be eligible to qualify or hold a Transportation Workers Identification Credential (TWIC card).

In order to be considered for this position, **applicants must submit their resume in Microsoft Word or .pdf format** per the following process. All interested candidates may apply by going to www.pbenergy.com/careers and select "First Class Maintenance Machinist" (Oregon, OH). **All applicants must provide a valid e-mail address where they can be contacted regarding updates on the recruiting process.** Should an applicant be selected for testing, contact will be made via email. All contact information must be accurate and up to date. Relocation is not available for this position. **Phone calls will not be accepted.**

EOE/M/F/D/V



Toledo Refining Company LLC is currently hiring First Class Maintenance Pipefitters.

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 First Class Maintenance Pipefitter positions. Starting pay is \$37.93 per hour. After completion of a six month probationary period, the rate of pay is \$40.29 per hour.

Description

First Class Pipefitters will complete assignments relative to the inspection, repair, installation and maintenance of piping within the refinery. Work will be performed in the shop as well as in all weather conditions. Our Company is committed to a foundation of safe and environmentally compliant operations so First Class Pipefitters must follow all procedures and safe work practices. First Class Pipefitters will be scheduled to work five, eight hour shifts in a regular work week; however, mandatory overtime including weekends, holidays and shift work is required as needed.

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.

For consideration, candidates must have completed a state approved Pipefitter apprenticeship program with no less than four years work experience OR have equivalent work experience of no less than eight years as a Pipefitter. Successful candidates must possess First Class Pipefitter work experience and First Class Pipefitter skills. Other requirements include: the ability to demonstrate First Class performance; proficiency to read blueprints as it pertains to pipe fabrication and installation; ability to work from written and verbal directions to perform assigned tasks; experience in coordinating work; function as a team member; perform tasks in any craft as incidental work; and participate in training programs to maintain and/or upgrade skills. Candidates must have knowledge of equipment and tools required to expedite the efficient installation and repair of refinery equipment.

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; and be eligible to qualify or hold a Transportation Workers Identification Credential (TWIC card).

In order to be considered for this position, **applicants must submit their resume in Microsoft Word or .pdf format** per the following process. All interested candidates may apply by going to www.pbenergy.com/careers and select "First Class Maintenance Pipefitter" (Oregon, OH). **All applicants must provide a valid e-mail address where they can be contacted regarding updates on the recruiting process.** Should an applicant be selected for testing, contact will be made via email. All contact information must be accurate and up to date. Relocation is not available for this position. **Phone calls will not be accepted.**

EOE/M/F/D/V



Perry Burroughs Democratic Women's Club Celebrates 75th Anniversary

By India J. Duke

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

On Saturday, October 7, the Perry Burroughs Democratic Women's Club held a banquet at Aria Banquet Hall in celebration of their 75th year of active political engagement.

The club began in 1942 in the home of Perry Burroughs. Seven women gathered in Burroughs' home and held somewhat secretive meetings. During this time, blacks were faced with racism and segregation and were not allowed to be in certain places. "They had to meet in their homes because

...continued on page 10



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Banquet Co-Chairman Janice Fryar and Chairman Prescilla Hutchens



Carnel and Celeste Smith



Cheryl Tyler Folsom, Cerssandra McPherson, Diana Haynes-Whitehead



Helen Cooks, PhD, and Johnny Hutton