

Volume 49, No. 2

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

February 14, 2018

Class City Black Comix

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Dahlia Savwoir with Leon Author Jamar Nicholas - Courtesy Megan Davis

Torn Between Two Desires

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

Every intersection in the road of life is an opportunity to make a decision

- Duke Ellington



Grappling with the decision whether to go forward with the creation of the proposed regional Toledo Area Water Authority (TAWA) presents a quandary for Toledo City Councilman Tyrone Riley. The decision on moving a valuable long-term municipal asset from wholly-owned to a shared governance arrangement is expected to provide many benefits to, not only Toledo, but also eight other regional partners that would be a part of the new collaborative.

Yet Riley, although eagerly looking forward to the future, is not quite ready to let go of the past so easily. The councilman was willing to share his thoughts with me in a very frank discussion concerning his state of perplexity regarding proposed changes to governance of Toledo's water.

Perryman: Councilman, what is your take on the proposed TAWA agreement?

Riley: Basically, I'm in favor of regional water. However, I want to make sure that the interests of Toledo's taxpayers are protected. We don't want to just give this water away and not receive anything in return.

The whole purpose of regional water, from the way they're presenting it, seems just to equalize the rates between the suburbs and the city and everybody's saying okay. I'm saying in accomplishing that goal how do you get there and how is Toledo better off as a result?

Perryman: According to the Memorandum of Understanding, the City of Toledo will have two positions and Lucas County receives one on a seven-member board that takes five votes to approve major action?

Riley: I don't know if we can always look at that as 2+1, I think we can only look at it as 2. Right now, the city and county are on great terms, but that may not always be the case depending upon who's the mayor and who the commissioners are.

Perryman: The City of Waterville has already left the Toledo system for what they believe is a better long-term deal. Monroe County, Sylvania, Maumee, Perrysburg and Whitehouse are also said to be exploring other water supply options. Do you believe that these suburbs will not leave Toledo when their contracts expire in the next few years?

Riley: Well, I think you have to take them individually, and I'm not saying that they won't, but the thing is how are we benefitting as a result of the fact that the water our asset? What do the suburban communities bring to the table?

Perryman: Well, let me answer that with a question. How will Toledo account for the lost revenue if the suburbs leave and still be able to perform the required upgrades and maintenance to Collins Park? So, it appears that the suburbs do have some leverage as a collective party to our "asset" and if they leave, will take one of the legs from under the current arrangement?



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Riley: Okay. So it means that that's the only leverage they have. That's what they bring to the table.

Perryman: I'm saying how do we pay for \$500 million of mandated upgrades?

Riley: The water rates are going to go up.

Perryman: Plus, our bond rating is going to deteriorate and the interest rates on any bonds we attempt to sell may make that financing prohibitive or extremely expensive. That's the point. We own the water, but the suburbs also have alternatives.

Riley: Okay, and I'm in agreement with that.

Perryman: How do we do it? **Riley:** How? The taxpayers pay it.

Perryman: Man, our rates will go up so high...

Riley: You're not asking me about how much the rates will be, you're asking me how it will get financed, how it will get paid? So your next question is, if the taxpayers pay for it, then are the water rates are going to increase?

Perryman: They're going to increase tremendously, which leads me to the next question, what are we going to do to assist low-income residents in paying their water bills when their rates may increase to something like 300 percent. How do we assist the people who are not able to pay their bills so that we don't have another Detroit where everybody's getting their water cut off and people without water are living in unsanitary conditions?

Riley: The City of Detroit was desperate for money. They needed money in order to help them get out of bankruptcy. We're not in bankruptcy, so at this point in time Toledo is on very sound financial footing. Our ratings are pretty decent, so we're not in the same status as Detroit. I'm just saying that we need to make sure that we're getting what we're entitled to receive. I think we need to ask more questions before we just agree to it.

Why are we just agreeing to it? Right now, the suburbs are threatening

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Community Calendar

February 15

Black Panther Viewing Party at Rave Cinemas Levis Commons. At 5pm, come join in the fun with movie trivia and other games before viewing the Marvel film starring Chadwick Boseman, Angela Bassett and Lupita Nyongo. The viewing party is FREE. (Guests must purchase a movie ticket to participate!

February 25

Calvary MBC Pre=Pastor Celebration: 4 pm; Guests Bishop Tisdale and Friendship Baptist Congregation

February 20

Natural hair care for African American children workshop will be held at the Holland Branch Library from 6-8pm. This workshop is open to parents, foster/adoptive families and other guardians. Learn the fundamentals of natural haircare, the proper tools, and basic styles to care for your child and promote a healthy self image. Workshop is FREE, presented by The Kitchen Salon. Registration is available at ToledoLibrary.org

March 6

Scott High School Alumni Association Monthly Meeting: 6 pm; Conference room next to cafeteria entrance: ScottAlumni@gmail.com or dorisjj@yahoo.com or 419-351-1339

March 11, 18, 25

Calvary MBC Pastoral Anniversary Celebration: Pastor Floyd Smith Jr.; 4 pm; March 11 – guest Pastor Melvin Barnes and Greater Faith Fellowship Church; March 18; Pastor Roger Carson and Sothern MBC; March 25 – Pastor James Willis and St. Paul MBC

Bipartisan Redistricting Reform Clears Last Legislative Hurdle Before Voters Have Final Say in May

Following months of negotiation, the Ohio House last week passed Senate Joint Resolution 5, bipartisan legislation that puts a constitutional amendment before voters in May to restrict congressional gerrymandering in the state.

"After months of negotiation, thousands of Ohioans speaking out, and several false starts, we're closer to stopping congressional gerrymandering today than we have ever been before. Though imperfect, this latest plan represents one of the most fundamental tenets of our American democ-



Rep. Fred Strahorn

racy – compromise," said House Democratic **Leader Fred Strahorn** (**D-Dayton**). "We support this plan today, with the hope and expectation that it will help impart that same spirit and guiding principle of cooperation on Washington in the near future."

Democratic House expressed concerns over several parts of the proposed plan that they see as loopholes that, in extreme cases, could still allow partisan congressional district rigging. Ultimately, most Democrats still supported the final language in the resolution.

"By working together and making compromises, we are at a point today where Ohioans will have better representation, fairer districts and a stronger Democracy than before," said **state Rep. Jack Cera** (**D-Bellaire**), a member of the legislature's four-person congressional redistricting working group. "Voters deserve to feel like they're being heard and that their vote counts. This bipartisan compromise will begin to bridge that divide that has put Washington's political interests above the public's for too long."

If approved by voters in May, the reform plan will be the first time fairness criteria for congressional districts will be included in the state's constitution. Included among the plan's changes are the right for a citizen-led referendum on any map, the governor's authority to veto a map, requirements to limit community and county splits, and bipartisanship requirements for a 10-year map.

Here is what other House Democratic lawmakers are saying about today's vote on SJR 5:

"While SJR 5 is not a perfect piece of legislation, it is better than what we have now. I appreciate all the work that has been done by the committee legislators, the coalition advocates and I especially appreciate the work by those who have been out collecting signatures to ensure fairer districts," said state Rep. Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood). "Ultimately, redistricting reform is about taking back our democracy and ensuring that the people have the opportunity to elect representatives who reflect their constituency rather than politicians selecting their constituents."

"The passage of SJR 5 is a compromise that will give voters the opportunity to vote on how Ohio draws our congressional districts," said OLBC President and state **Rep. Stephanie Howse (D-Cleveland).** "The process outlined in the resolution is not perfect, but it

is a step forward to strengthening our democracy and drawing congressional districts that equitably represent Ohio.

"When we work together to achieve compromise, sometimes we end up with a solution that has flaws. Ohioans can trust that this solution was hard fought," said state **Rep. Tavia Galonski** (D-Akron).

"This is the start of a conversation regarding redistricting and developing a bi-partisan plan that involves fair representation of Ohio's voters," said state **Rep. Michael Ashford** (D-Tole-



Rep. Michael Ashford

do). "One serious issue is addressing the split of congressional districts and keeping districts fair and whole"

"In 2015, over 71% of Ohioans voted to change the redistricting process. While I am still concerned about the splitting of Ohio's largest population counties and the lack of provision to guarantee voting rights, SJR 5 is a marked improvement over Ohio's current method of drawing our congressional districts," said state **Rep. Kent Smith (D-Euclid).** "I voted for SJR 5 because it's an improvement, but I did not cosponsor this legislation because it could be better."

"This resolution speaks to the legislature's ability to come together and do what's right, even in this highly stratified political environment," said state **Rep. Glenn Holmes (D-Girard).** "I am confident that the deliberative process that gave us this compromise will result in better representation for all of Ohio's citizens."

"Today's actions are the result of an effort in compromise. Although nothing is perfect, I applaud the bipartisan effort the authors of this legislation intended to create a fair and solid framework to improve the structuring of congressional districts and form a better representation of Ohio's voting citizens," said state Rep. John Rogers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake). "It is my hope Senate Joint Resolution 5 will allow our congressional districts to be more representative, more responsive and certainly less dysfunctional. There is always room for improvement at the federal level, and is my hope that this legislation will enable Ohio's congressional delegation to improve their representation of our citizens and their interests."

Autumn Gingen Trunk Show



Pate: February 24, 2018

Cost: \$8

Time: 6pm

This year's debut of Autumn Gineen's collection will feature couture gowns for women of all sizes. As a bonus, the mini fashion show will be held in the beautiful Sojourner's Truth Art Gallery located on 1811 Adams St, Toledo OH @7:15 pm. Join us for an enriching evening of fine custom clothing & refreshments.

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Perryman...continued from page 2

to leave. Okay, if they leave then why aren't we trying to put together a package to say 'if you leave then this is our alternative – we're going to do this, this and that' as opposed to being afraid that they're going to leave? Why don't we prepare for in case they leave so that we're saying 'listen, this is our asset, this is my house, you're just renting? If you decide you want to move and buy your own house then that's what you do, but if you want to stay here this is what you have to pay. Now, it makes it easier for me if you stay and pay, but if you don't stay and pay I'm prepared to foot this bill.'

Perryman: Is Toledo prepared should they leave?

Riley: Yes, we would be. It's our house.

Perryman: What's the plan? What's the strategy?

Riley: That's what we need to come up with, I agree. We need to put our heads together and come up with an internal plan in case they leave

Perryman: And the next thing that's so important to me, we have talked about Detroit, but let's talk about Flint. Personally, I don't see anything more important than protecting the health of our citizens. We've got to replace these lead service lines to protect the health of Toledo residents. If we go it alone, how do we fund lead service line replacement? How do we perform the required upgrades so that we don't have the algae bloom problems? How do we help low income residents pay their water bills? Those three things are, to me, hanging over our heads and have me concerned. And that's not to mention that if an entity contributes nearly 50 percent of the revenue to the water system why shouldn't they have a voice in how the system is governed? Why shouldn't the suburbs have a voice in how the system is governed?

Riley: Well who's putting in 50 percent?

Perryman: According to the data that I've seen, the suburbs pay approximately 50 percent of the water revenues, collectively.

Riley: I'm not sure, and that's a question we've asked, what percentage of TAWA will Toledo's population represent?

Perryman: Shouldn't Toledo be able to look in their own records to determine the impact or distribution of the revenues that are coming in

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for this water?

Riley: Well listen, we've asked that question and I agree with you. We have asked that question and we're waiting on the response. They haven't supplied that information to us.

Perryman: Who are they?

Riley: Public utilities, the administration, Rothstein, no one. No one has provided that, even though we've asked for it.

Perryman: Wow.

Riley: And those are some of the questions that we need answers to and are important in terms of how we look at this. I'm in favor of regional water, it's just a matter of how do we get there? Some of the questions that you're asking, I'm saying why don't we have answers to these questions? Why do we have to go into this thing kind of like blindly and saying okay. And that's why I'm with you when you said listen, well what's the plan? Okay, shouldn't we already have that in place?

For instance, we don't even know the value of our asset. What's the value of the water treatment plant we have right now? Then, Number 2, what is TAWA offering us for it? If it's worth \$5 million, do you want me to just give it to you or what are you offering? Nobody's talking about that. All we're talking about is how strong their hand is. Well, I've got a pretty strong hand, too. If it's a negotiated type of situation, what are we bringing to the table to even make you want to partner with us?

Perryman: Well, it is a high stakes poker game, metaphorically speaking. But at the same time the relationship also fits well with a business analogy because it does speak to transactional dealings with the purpose of mutual benefit. The suburbs are our customers and therefore make an independent choice whether to buy from you or from somebody else. So we have to look at what the effect would be if our customers go someplace else and our revenues drop. Are we going to have to lay people off? Are we going to have to go into some long-term debt arrangement to make these mandatory capital improvements? Are there contingent legal liabilities where we could be sued for damages caused by these old lead pipe waterlines? Are we going to have another Flint crisis? So you have to look at all that while you're assessing your risks and preparing your financial forecast.

Riley: The other factor too is where do we fit in? We know what the suburbs look like and who they represent. How do we make TAWA represent us? How does our black community benefit from it? Right now, say for instance, we seem to have a decent share of minority representation of African Americans, male and female. But what's going to happen? Will TAWA lay them off? You lay them off and when I go inside this authority and they take me on tour and we start asking a question that we always ask when we see the workforce while traveling on the highway.

Perryman: Where the black folks at?

Riley: Talk to me. Talk to me. How do we look out for minority employees? For instance, look how the refuse department was transformed by the privatization of the trash. We privatized that and as a result how do African Americans get a job in the city today? It's extremely difficult now.

Perryman: My primary concern has always workforce diversity and to make sure that it is satisfactorily addressed.

Riley: I definitely support TAWA. I just think that we need to make sure that we're ready for this. The question is Can you wrap your arms around it and say okay I support this and I know where we going? I just don't want to get where we're going and only then start asking questions.

Perryman: Thanks Councilman Riley.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdlperryman@centerof-hopebaptist.org



Who Loves Ya Baby...?

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

Quote: "May God write us down as asses if we ever again we are found putting trust in either the Republican or Democratic parties." W.E.DuBois

Are black voters in America viewed as a political liability or a political help to either of the two major political parties?

Liability in the sense that if either party identifies too closely with minority voters and their aspirations or policy concerns, that they risk the real chance of alienating their "base" of white voters.

Or, are minority voters a political help in the sense that minority voters have a tendency to vote (in today's political climate) in mass for the Democratic Party?

Without a doubt the demonizing of black and minority voters by President Trump guarantees a sure bet that in the upcoming mid terms and the presidential election to be held in 2020 that black voters and other minority bloc of voters will vote for the donkey and not the elephant.

President Trump has done everything possible to alienate and incur the wrath of black voters with his brainless denunciations of all things black including black men who play professional football.

Calling those grown men, "SOB's" and that they should lose their employment for protesting the senseless killing of black men by white police officers is the product of a racist and demented mindset in spite of eyebrow raising claims of his son that since his father met or meets with black rappers, he can not be a racist!

Black people have never been able to sit at the dinner table and eat at will for a long period of time before someone gets upset at their presence and their demands which initiates the process of converting black folks into special interest groups as opposed to full-fledged participants in this fragile experiment called democracy.

It was not too long ago, from 1867 to 1936, that the majority of blacks voted Republican but then came along the New Deal by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the tide quickly turned Democratic and still is to this current date.

However when that southern white president, Lyndon B. Johnson, signed the Voting Rights Act of 1965, he lamented that with such a significant civil rights bill, "We (meaning the Democratic Party) have just lost the South."

That statement was prophetic insofar as southern whites, in droves, dropped the Democrats like a hot sweet potato and pledged their allegiance to all things Republican.

President Reagan, President Nixon and the first Bush presidency took that shameful tack and continued the acerbic rhetoric against people of color and black people were suddenly the scourge of the earth; and were debased as being unwanted baggage and those presidents were able to win with their appeals to the white voter...aka: Reagan Democrats.

President Obama faced the venom of the GOP when its leadership openly stated that their goal was to make Obama a one-term president and they continuously blocked and countered his domestic agenda in order to fulfill their racist tinged commentary.

Enter President Trump and you have what many observers and political pundits have noted is a man who is politically illiterate, a man who shreds the safeguards of a democracy and has a "chip" on his shoulder when it comes to debasing women and clawing away at anything black or minority.

Trump pulls no punches when it comes to his scathing rebukes of minorities and his exoneration and uplifting of all things white, including lauding Neo Nazis as being "fine" people.

His recorded verbal nonsense and outrages about his opinion of people of color are both recorded and are replete with ugly gibberish about blacks and Mexicans but yet his core of white voters exult in those commentaries.

Instead of his commentary of "Make America Great Again", that slogan can be easily interchanged with, "Make America White Again."

Black voters, loyal to a fault, are led by a ring in their nose when it comes to making political choices that will benefit them and not caring about the political "fallout" if they come to the political dinner table of either party with a full appetite and with expectations of slacking that hunger.

But no. That is not to be. Both parties are nervous and jittery about the optics of caving in to "those" peoples demands for economic and political and social justice...even though it is the right thing to redress long held grievances from the very people that make the difference of winning and losing elections!

Even the Bible says: "Don't muzzle the ox while he is treading out the grain!" In other words, the work horse that brought you the ability to make bread from the grain should be allowed to eat the product of its brain and brawn.

Both political parties do a complicated dance with minority voters. They do not want to be seen as enjoying the dance for fear of not getting another dance partner and at the same time, they want to be engaged with that dance partner so that when the band strikes up another tune, they will still have a compliant dance partner!

That is the conundrum that faces the all too-loyal black voters. They also need to dance to their fiddler but you (the political party) pay for it as you have paid so many times for the white fiddler and his music. What is good for the goose is also good for the gander!

It is decision time. Does the black voter stay loyal to the marriage with either party or does the minority voter play the field, stay single and only wink and nod at the best suitor who has both a job, car and a house?

According to the quote that started off this commentary, black voters and other minority voters should consider forming a third political party and only give their blessings and goodies to those suitors who will take their concerns seriously and not view them as a temporary alliance out of which only they (white voters) maintain the top policy slots for

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This is the third in a series of profiles of people who inspire. The series is written by Toledo community members who are attending college through the University of Toledo's Teach Toledo program in order to earn their Bachelor of Education degrees and become licensed P-12 teachers.

A Voice to the Voiceless: My Mentor, Twila

By Victoria Sanders

Guest Column

There are many amazing women in my life. Some I have learned from, some I have aspired to become and some have been the true definition of friend. Twila Page has earned my respect in all three ways and has helped shape me into the woman I am and will soon become. Activist, woman, warrior and child care provider are words that I would use to describe Twila Page.

Twila Page came in my life when I was four years old. We met at the Shrine of the Black Madonna in Detroit, Michigan. My cousin, Diane Stubblefield, introduced my mother and me to Twila Page and on that day Twila and my mom became fast friends. Twila has been a constant positive force in my life for the last 20 years.

Twila Page was born in Canton, Ohio January 6, 1942 in the dead of winter and during a time when racism was a constant part of her everyday life. She grew up with three siblings who all became successful individuals. While one sibling took to football and became a public figure through the NFL, and

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(a cover sheet or information requested must accompany each essay and emailed submissions must be in PDF or Microsoft Word format)

another joined the military to serve his country, Twila decided to become a voice for her community.

Life experiences have led her into the activism she is doing today. While attending Catholic school in Canton, Ohio, Twila experienced a lot of racism. She and her sister were the only black children in the school. She said that back when she was attending school, the students or administrators would not talk to her. She said if she could get through that then, she could get through anything. Also the school counselors tried to stop her from attending college stating she was not fit for college, but her mother quickly fixed that when she told the counselor that Twila was more than capable of attending college.

Page attended Kent State University where she chose to study sociology, but stopped after a semester. She wasn't focused in school and did not find it a positive experience. Instead, she applied for a position at AT&T as a telephone operator. Initially, the company told her she didn't get it because she didn't pass the test; however, she knew she had passed the test. Page partnered with the Urban League, where she was volunteering doing secretarial work, and they helped her fight the case—and won. Page then worked for AT&T for three years but quit because of discrimination she faced.

Page moved to Toledo from Canton in 1964, and started working for her cousin, Clayton Umbles, a pharmacy owner. She worked at the pharmacy for three years, and then started working for UPS. Here she imagined she would share a family-like atmosphere with her boss, coworkers and the customers. However, after 13 years of hard work and dedication, she found herself met again with racial and gender discrimination that led to her to quit the company. She soon after sued UPS and won. Although she had experienced a major injustice, she let the experience fuel her ambition to become a spokesperson for all who fell victim to racial injustices.

Who better to start with than the youth? In the late '80s Page had started styling black girls' hair in the community. It was during this time she would

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Twila Page

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A Voice to the Voiceless... continued from page 6

hear horrific testimony about their lives and the constant mistreatment these individuals would have to endure simply because of the color of their skin. It was during this time that Page developed the idea that would change many lives, for the better.

Page started her journey by opening her Toledo home as a daycare provider. She would become the neighborhood savior to the single mothers who worked full time and couldn't afford a "4-star" babysitting service. But her services met and exceeded these. She reorganized her home to benefit the children's learning skills, motor function and social engagement. This was the start of "The Pure and Heart Village." The Pure and Heart Village gave a voice to young children who did not have a voice and a place to call home.

Twila explained her development as follows: "Because I know what an education looks like and having my own struggles in the academic environment, it is easy for me to advocate for children facing an adversarial environment and to help families navigate the various systems seeking relief. I found my voice when one of my children had duct tape put on his mouth by his first grade teacher. I didn't have a voice when I was in the 7th grade and was called the N-word everyday by my classmates. I didn't have a voice when I went to a Catholic high school (Canton Central Catholic) for my last two years of high school and no one talked to me the entire two years. I was invisible. I didn't have a voice when I went to college, Kent State University, after being told that I was not college material, only to find out that my housing was in the basement of a building along with the other black girls on campus. We were housed in the basement along with the boiler which heated the building and the pipes and the cobwebs. I didn't have a voice until my child went to school. That is when I found my voice."

Advocating for children has led Page into educational environments, juvenile justice hearings, school board room meetings, community and police meetings, and child protective services staff meetings. All of these experiences have taught her when to push and when to pull back, always in the best

interests of the child. What keeps Page active in her community is realizing that the problems she faced in the late 1950s are still affecting her people today. One of Page's favorite lines to use is, "If you ain't ever been a black woman, you don't know what it's like." At 75 years, Twila Page continues to fight, protest, and educate any and everyone who is in need.

Page's extraordinary life journey has inspired me also to become a voice. Dealing with being overweight, I have had to learn how to navigate through life's cruel hurdles since I was very young. And I am so thankful that I had an amazingly inspirational and courageous individual such as Twila Page to show me how. She has taught me and still continues to teach me the ways of being a voice for the young individuals who are constantly overlooked and unheard so that I can be one of the many people to take the baton and pass it to the next generation after me. For that I will always be grateful and will forever be a part of Twila Page's "The Pure and Heart Village."

Ed. Note: Victoria Sanders is a graduate of Toledo Public Schools and is currently in her first year as a University of Toledo student, pursuing a Bachelor of Education degree in Special Education through the Teach Toledo program. The profile "A Voice to the Voiceless" was originally written for her ENG1110 Composition I course.







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The Glass City Black Comix Fest Takes **Creative Arts To A New Level**

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The promise of snow, rain and ice was no match for nearly 200 superheroes of all ages who attended the Glass City Black Comix Fest this past Saturday.

The Wintergarden's rafters at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Main Branch echoed with excitement from people who were engaged throughout the festival. Jennifer Day, library staff member, who partnered with GCBC founder Imani Lateef, saw this event as an opportunity to introduce the community to the wealth of resources the library has to offer.

She and Lateef collaborated to connect Lateef's, vision which is to provide a tangible platform and resource for artists of color, with the library's mission to engage all communities, inspire lifelong learning and provide universal access to a broad range of information, ideas, and entertain-

A lifelong of learning speaks to Lateef's passion for black comics. He, like many black comic creators and fans, grew up reading and watching comic book characters defeat insurmountable foes, but not connecting their victories with something personally attainable because they didn't look like him. The lack of representation has long been an issue that creators, film producers and mainstream media have made attempts to address until about five years ago, when the demand shifted.

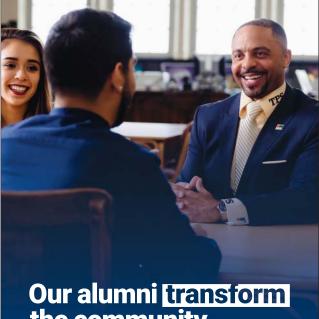
In 2014, Lateef opened an online bookstore, Peep Game Comix. At that time, there were few websites that sold black comic books and even fewer

where you could get the books instantly. Researching the market and consulting with other industry members, he started the website with just a few titles. Today, he has nearly 300 independent books available. The relationships he has built with authors, illustrators and publishers around the world, was the inspiration that lead to the vision of hosting a comic book festival. Since the demand for representation is at an all time high, he could use his platform to be a bridge in the gap of the mainstream industry, independent comics and the African-American community.

The community is why GCBC exists today. Saturday's event was the second year people of color could engage in multi-sensory activities that connected them with real, live heroes. Hosted by local radio personality and educator Martini Rox, the festival of arts was filled with activities and forums covering a wide range of topics. Among special guests, Toledo native Tereece Clarke led a workshop titled "Discovering Black Comic Books and Graphic Novels" for young readers. What made GCBC even more special for her, was seeing her newly published book, Olivia's Potty Adventures, in hard cover for the first time. She traveled from Columbus with her family to share her book and experience its debut with Toledoans, signing copies and sharing photos with guests.

GCBC began with a panel discussion on "Creating Characters of Color" featuring Jamar Nicholas of New York, author of Leon: Protector of the Playground and Micheline Hess of Philadelphia, and author of Malice in Ovenland. Together, the pair answered audience questions, giving a realistic view of indie comics today, what inspired them to publish and what motivates them to keep creating. Guests were able to purchase autographed copies of their books, but the greater value was being able to learn from people of color who are successful in, not just the comic world, but also

... continued on page 9



the community.

"My time at UT was transformative. The leadership perspective and experience I gained from my coaches and guidance counselors had a massive impact in steering my path."

DR. ROMULES DURANT '98

Superintendent of Toledo Public Schools



utoledo.edu/alumni



Books4Buddies Ambassador reading to youngsters - Courtery Mimi Lyle



Author Jamar Nicholas -Courtesy Megan Davis



GCBC Host Martini Rox of The Juice and Toledo Clerk of Court Vallie Bowman-English - Courtesy Martini Rox



Darryl E. McCullough and Imani Lateet

Education Section • Education Section

Black Comix Fest... continued from page 8

the literary industry as a whole. Nicholas also conducted a workshop in the library's state-of-the art Creative Lab with young aspiring artists.

The library's McMaster Theatre streamed the film White Scripts, Black Supermen throughout the day, and a panel including Lateef and Darryl McCullough, writer, film producer and podcaster, was an energetic dialogue between the creatives and a diverse audience whose questions came quickly. McCullough's wit and candor made for lots of laughs and insightful comments.

"There were so many opportunities to engage the guests, that the time passed quickly," said Lateef, recounting his experience. He spoke about the young guests, who were inspired and motivated to create compelling stories while encouraging reading in a fun way, that he, along with the other creators, could have easily extended the duration of the event.

For creators and artists of all kinds, as long as there is time, creativity has an opportunity. The Glass City Black Comix Fest was a place of opportunities; at times, a family reunion and other times a sounding board for people who had ideas that needed developing or directing. The library was the perfect venue for such an event because of the many ways people could be engaged.

Additional creative spaces were the large white board display where seasoned and aspiring artists could leave their mark; a station to make your own comic strip, and several books were given away to guests. Books 4 Buddies, an organization started by a local youth, Touré McCord II, promoting literacy for boys also participated in the event. Each guest received a GCBC canvas tote bag to commemorate their experience and to hold the free books that were given away.

Lateef looks forward to the next GCBC festival of the arts in 2019, continuing his desire to build up the African-American community through comics. To learn more, visit www.peepgamecomix.com where comics and graphic novels available for download with some titles available in print.









Kathleen Battle Underground Railroad -

A Spiritual Journey

MARCH 16 at 7:30 PM
TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART PERISTYLE

Sara Jobin, conductor

Performed only in cities along the Underground Railroad, Metropolitan Opera star and Ohio native Kathleen Battle, joined by the Clarence Smith Community Chorus and The Voices at BGSU, presents a program of stories and

spirituals inspired by the extraordinary journey to freedom during times of slavery. Don't miss one of the world's greatest voices in this special, once-ina-lifetime presentation that celebrates Toledo's part in freedom.

Tickets are \$49-89.

Classical Ellington

APRIL 20 & 21 AT 8 PM
TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART PERISTYLE

Sara Jobin, conductor Natasha Paremski, piano Lauraine Carpenter, trumpet

Jazz takes center stage! Explore the orchestral world of Duke Ellington in his version of *The Nutcracker* and his own tone poem, *Harlem*. The TSO's Lauraine

Carpenter performs the world premiere of Alice Gomez's Latin Jazz Suite. Pianist Natasha Paremski joins the TSO for Paul Schoenfield's magnificent Four Parables, a work the TSO premiered 35 years ago.

Tickets are \$25-55.



Education Section • Education Section

New North Star Festival Celebrates Local History and Musical Contribution of Black Americans

Toledo, Ohio has a rich history as a safe haven along the Underground Railroad, a 19th century network that helped many slaves escape to freedom. Toledo Symphony's new North Star Festival highlights this local connection and celebrates the musical contribution of Black Americans throughout his-

The Toledo Symphony Orchestra will present this North Star Festival from February-April 2018 in a series of concerts and collaborations, presenting music by black American composers and about black American historyfrom songs brought over to America during times of slavery to more contemporary music that pays tribute to the brave men and women of the Civil Rights Movement.

Lift Ev'ry Voice: The Musical Legacy of the Underground Railroad will take place February 15, for two performances at 9:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. at the Toledo Museum of Art Peristyle Theater. The Toledo Symphony Orchestra along with additional community organizations will come together to explore Toledo's Underground Railroad history through music. Special friends from the Lathrop House will be on hand to narrate and make history come to life. This program features a screening of the word-less storybook Unspoken by Henry Cole and a sing-along of Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing. This event is sold out.

A Preschool Storytime will take place February 22, at 10:30 a.m. at the Sanger branch of the Toledo Lucas County Public Library. This Preschool Storytime will feature musical guest, members of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. Free and open to the public. Registration required.

Reaching for Our Stars will take place February 25, at 5:00 p.m. at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church. The Toledo Symphony Orchestra will perform a neighborhood concert in celebration of Black History Month. Tickets at St. Martin de Porres, 419-241-4544.

An Instrument Petting Zoo will take place February 27, at 4:30 p.m. at the Kent branch of the Toledo Lucas County Public Library. Children will see, hear, and play a variety of orchestral instruments. Members of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra and the Toledo Symphony Youth Quartet will present

HISTORY MONTH

CELEBRATING THE

Lathrop

music inspired by spirituals from the 1850s to present day. Free and open to the public. A Conversation on Romance and Spirituals will take place March 1, at 6:30

p.m. at the West Toledo branch of the Toledo Lucas County Public Library. Merwin Siu, Toledo Symphony Artistic Administrator and Principal Second Violinist, will provide insights behind the programming of Romance and Spirituals, the Blade Chamber Series performance on March 11. Free and open to the public.

Romance and Spirituals Open Rehearsal will take place March 11, at 1:15 p.m. at the Main Library of the Toledo Lucas County Public Library. Audience members will hear music inspired by the Underground Railroad and experience a behind-the-scenes look at rehearsal as finishing touches are added to the program. Free and open to the public.

Romance and Spirituals will take place March 11, at 7:00 p.m. at the Main Library of the Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Small groups of musicians will perform in a genre-defying, music without words program, including a piece by Haitian-American composer Daniel Bernard Roumain inspired by the story of Rosa Parks. Tickets at toledosymphony.com.

Kathleen Battle, Underground Railroad-A Spiritual Journey will take place March 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the Toledo Museum of Art Peristyle Theater. Performed only in cities along the Underground Railroad, Metropolitan Opera star and Ohio native Kathleen Battle, joined by the Clarence Smith Community Chorus and the Voices at BGSU, presents a program of stories and spirituals inspired by the extraordinary journey to freedom during times of slavery. Tickets at toledosymphony.com.

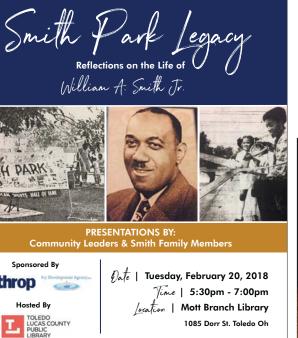
I Dream, presented by the Toledo Opera, will take place April 6 & 7 at 7:30 p.m. and April 8, at 2:00 p.m. at the Valentine Theatre. I Dream is a modern, rhythm & blues opera recounting the final 36 hours in the remarkable life of American icon Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tickets at toledoopera.org

Classical Ellington concludes the North Star Festival on April 20 & 21 at 8:00 p.m. at the Toledo Museum of Art Peristyle Theater. These performances will explore the orchestral world of Duke Ellington in his version of The Nutcracker and his own tone poem, Harlem. The program will also include the world premiere of Latin Jazz Suite by Alice Gomez, featuring TSO Principal Trumpet Lauraine Carpenter, and Four Parables by Toledo composer Paul Schoenfield, featuring pianist Natasha Paremski. Tickets at toledosymphony.com.

"I'm very proud of the programming the Toledo Symphony has assembled for this new North Star Festival. It's a honor to highlight our local heritage and showcase more diverse music. I hope everyone will join us in one way or another to celebrate with music," said Felecia Kanney, Director of Marketing for the Toledo Symphony.

Tickets to the North Star Festival performances are available at toledosymphony.com or by calling the Toledo Symphony Box Office at 419-246-

For more information, please contact Felecia Kanney, Director of Marketing for the Toledo Symphony at fkanney@toledosymphony.com.



Questions contact Sandria Brown at sandy@ivinstitute.org or 419.787.3717



Kathleen Battle

Education Section • Education Section

NSCC Names Dr. Michael Thomson As Seventh President in College's History

By Patrice Powers-Barker, OSU Extension, Lucas County

The Truth Contributor

ARCHBOLD, OHIO - On February 2, the Northwest State Community College Board of Trustees named Dr. Michael Thomson as their next president, succeeding the successful tenure of President Thomas Stuckey. Dr. Thomson, a first generation college student, is a passionate leader dedicated to the community college movement who believes strongly that every student can succeed. Thomson also believes that community colleges are the primary instrument for economic mobility by providing educational opportunities meeting students where they are and resulting in family sustaining wages.

Dr. Thomson stated that "it is an honor and privilege to become the leader of a great institution like Northwest State, and to build upon the excellent achievements of President Thomas Stuckey." In addition, Thomson thanked his many mentors including President Alex Johnson, President Emeritus Jerry-Sue Thornton and President Kenneth Ender. Thomson said that "these great presidents invested in me and helped me become the leader that I am today. I will pay forward that investment to the team at Northwest State Community College to be the best leaders

Dr. Thomson most recently served as the presi-

dent of Cuyahoga Community College's (Tri-C) Eastern Campus, leading 550 full and part time team members who serve more than 275,000 citizens and 6,000 students annually. His team's signature accomplishment, the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Humanities Center, provides high-performing students a civically-engaged leadership experience. Additionally, Dr. Thomson assisted faculty in creating learning communities that redesign the teaching experience, and leading the Hospitality Management Center in completing their strategic plan, most notably the food and music festival Cleveland Eats

Dr. Thomson began his Tri-C career in 2005 as dean of academic affairs at Tri-C's Western Campus, where his team increased enrollments in the county's western suburbs. In 2009, Thomson was selected for the prestigious American Council on Education (ACE) fellowship. During his fellowship, Dr. Thomson worked at the Ohio Board of Regents and William Rainey Harper College in Chicago. After returning to Tri-C, Dr. Thomson led multiple teams of faculty, staff, students and community members to plan, build and accredit Tri-C's Westshore Campus, where he served as inaugural campus president from 2011 to 2013. During his 13 year tenure at Tri-C, Dr. Thom-

son was honored with three Tri-C President's Awards, Cleveland YMCA's Triangle Award, and the national Phi Theta Kappa's Shirley B. Gordon Award.

Prior to arriving at Tri-C, Dr. Thomson served Northern Kentucky University (NKU) as a tenured associate professor teaching political science classes, and serving the University and community. His peers elected him to serve as the faculty senate president, and then the faculty's regent serving on the NKU Board. His administrative positions at NKU included department chair and director of academic technology services. His signature accomplishments included co-leading the University's first capital campaign, successfully raising over \$1 million amongst faculty and staff. He also created and directed the University's Master of Public Administration (MPA) program, the only accredited MPA program serving government and not-for-profit entities in the greater Cincinnati area.

Dr. Thomson holds master and doctoral degrees in political science from the University of Kentucky, as well as a bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University. The son of a brewer and a bookkeeper, Dr. Thomson has one child and four grandchildren.

Learn More about Lourdes University during Spring Visit Days

In 2018, prospective students and their families can discover more about Lourdes University during Spring Visit Days. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., each fun-filled visit day provides individuals with a tour of the beautiful campus and amazing apartmentstyle campus housing, informational sessions and a delicious meal in the full-service dining hall.

Check-in begins at 10:30 a.m. each day in the Franciscan Center, 6832 Convent Blvd., in Sylvania, Ohio. RSVP at www.lourdes.edu/visit.

For additional information, please call 419-885-5291 or email luadmits@lourdes.edu.

- President's Day: Monday, February 19
- Saturday, March 17
- Saturday, April 21

Those traveling to Sylvania, Ohio from outside



the region are encouraged to make their trek an overnight or weekend vacation.

Known as the "City of Trees," Sylvania is located just minutes from Toledo and the Michigan border. A charming suburban area, Sylvania offers boutique shops and one-of-a-kind restaurants in the historic downtown area as well as parks, an arboretum and nature preserve. Our neighbor - Toledo - offers an array of activities from the cultural arts, shopping, sporting events, a zoo, Lake Erie and more.

Individuals and families can also choose to set up a Personalized Visit Day. Tours are offered at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. daily.

Midwest Dental & Dental Definition 3 Locations to serve you

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Fedor, Steinem Issue Statements on Politically Forced Closure of Toledo Women's Health Provider

State Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) and Toledo native and feminist icon Gloria Steinem this week issued the following statements on the politically motivated closure of Toledo's Capitol Care Network, a healthcare facility that provides abortion care:

"I was born and grew up mostly in Toledo. Later, when I needed an abortion -- as has one in three American women at some time in our lives -- I was in London, where it was safe and legal. This taught me why medical procedures should not be decided by politicians.

"We must not allow a political regulatory scheme to close Toledo's remaining abortion clinic. Its absence would not diminish the number of abortions but would increase the injury and death of women in my home city and state. Democracy begins with each person's control of his or her own body. Without reproductive freedom, there is no democracy for America women.

"I strongly urge ProMedica and St. Luke's Hospital to safeguard women's health by signing the transfer agreement needed to keep safe, legal abortion services available in Greater Toledo. Ohio hospitals must not allow themselves to be used by politicians to hurt women's health."

-Gloria Steinem

"The Ohio Supreme Court ruled against the reproductive rights and health of Ohio women by upholding a regulatory scheme designed to close Toledo's only remaining abortion clinic. I know that if this clinic closes, women in northwest Ohio will suffer. I urge ProMedica and St. Luke's Hospital to safeguard women's health by signing the transfer agreement needed to keep abortion services safe and legal in the Toledo area. We can't let politicians use Ohio hospitals to eliminate a safe, constitutional medical procedure." -Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo)

Portman Opposes White House FY 19 Budget Request Cut to Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

U.S. Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) issued the following statement on the release of the White House budget proposal for FY 2019 that would cut funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) from \$300 million to \$30 million in the upcoming year:

"I've successfully helped lead the effort to restore full funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative after both Republican and Democratic administrations have proposed cuts to the program, and I will do so again this

year. The Great Lakes are an invaluable resource to Ohio, and this initiative has been a successful public-private partnership that helps protect both our environment and our economy. As the world's largest freshwater body, the Great Lakes provide drinking water for 40 million people, contribute \$10 billion in tourism each year, and support hundreds of thousands of jobs across the region. I have long championed this program, and I will continue to do everything I can to protect and preserve Lake Erie and all the Great Lakes, including preserving this critical program and its funding."

Rose Mary Gallaway... continued from page 16

Elections Deputy Director Theresa M. Gabriel.

Galloway has given a present to each resident in her care during the Christmas season during her 50 plus years of service. When not at work, she enjoys bingo and going to the local casino.





Tolliver... continued from page 5

their (white voters) interests and benefits.

If black voters want to continue to grin and dance for either of the dominant political parties in the remote hopes that they will be treated as full participants, that will be a long, cold wait.

But, if the minority voters and a bloc of independent voters were to convene their own convention and issue policy statements that are needed to move this country forward, political parity could finally be a dream come true; and such a political movement could the power shaker and breaker that will have both dominant parties come calling, hat in hand and with a wallet packed with cash...not coins.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir by Patrisse Khan-Cullors & asha bandele, with a foreword by Angela Davis

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

You can't look any longer.

Whatever it is, it's just too painful, too scary, so you hide your eyes and pretend that nothing's happening. You can't look any longer, so you don't... but after awhile, you notice it again. That's when you realize that you saw all along. That's when, as in the new book When

c. 2018 St. Martin's Press \$24.99 / \$32.50 Canada 257 pages

They Call You a Terrorist by Patrisse Khan-Cullors & asha bandele, you realize that you never really could look away.

Growing up as the third child in a family of four, Patrisse Khan-Cullors lived with her mother and siblings in a "multiracial" neighborhood near Sherman Oaks, California. The two places - her neighborhood and Sherman Oaks - were "less than a mile" apart but, due to social, financial, and racial divides, they were separated by oceans, in Khan-Cullors' mind.

Despite that her mother worked all day and into the night, Khan-Cullors was reared in a loving atmosphere. The man who raised her wasn't always around, but she adored him; after she learned, at age 12, that he wasn't her biological father, her birth-father and his family became present on a regular basis. Absent an adult, Khan-Cullors' eldest brother acted as "man" of the house. This all complicated her young life, but she enjoyed this expanded, supportive family.

Khan-Cullors says that she was 12 years old, the first time she was arrested. By then, she'd witnessed her brothers being questioned by police for just hanging out with friends. She started truly noticing her surroundings.

Not long afterward, her father was imprisoned on drug charges, and she lost touch with much of his family. Then her older brother was imprisoned for attempted burglary and was diagnosed with a mental health disorder, and Khan-Cullors came to understand that she was Queer. She began to earnestly question things in her life.

At 16, she became an "organizer' and an activist. She doubled down on it after her brother was arrested and called a "terrorist" for yelling at a woman. She was driven to act when, following the death of Trayvon Martin and the acquittal of George Zimmerman, she sent out a message to her

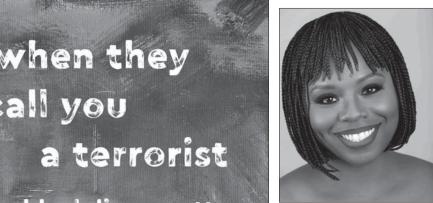
#BlackLivesMatter.

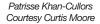
"I write," she says, "I hope it impacts more than we can ever imagine."

And, of course, it did, and it will. Once you're finished with When They Call You a Terrorist, you'll want to stand up, too.

You'll want to stand, even though author Patrisse Khan-Cullors (with asha bandele) doesn't tell stories here that haven't already been told before. Indeed, many authors have shared similar tales of poverty, affluent white friends, outrage, prison, and sadness. The shelves are full of such books - but this one is different because Khan-Cullors gives her story an urgent hear-me-now outrage. That "done playing" feeling is what readers may come away with - a feeling that underscores Khan-Cullors' activism.

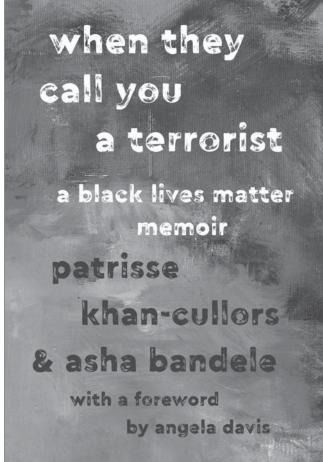
And that's what this book is about: it's a rallying cry wrapped in a memoir tied in a call to legal action of whatever sort. And so, if you're ready, When They Call You a Terrorist is worth a longer look.







asha bandele Courtesy Michael Hnatov Photography





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February 14, 2018

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS SOUGHT

English, Math, Science & Foreign Language, June 11 – July 19, 2018; afternoons approximately 16 hours per week, \$25/hr for UT Upward Bound Math Science Program. Email (.pdf) letter of interest, resume, certification & THREE REFERENCES to progers@utoledo.edu. Place UBMS Teacher Application in email subject line.

AUDITIONS

Do you want to shine?

Seeking actors/actresses for upcoming Stage Play, 21 and up. Also in need of 1 teenage female age 13-17. If interested, please call/text 4199757849.

SPECIAL EVENT ASSISTANT

Metroparks of the Toledo Area has an opening for a Special Events Assistant at Wildwood Preserve Metropark. Must be 18 or older with HS diploma or equivalent and valid driver's license. \$8.51/hr. Some experience in customer service, special events, or maintenance preferred. Go to www. metroparkstoledo.com for complete job requirements and descriptions; must submit online application by February 13th. EOE.

NORTHWEST STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS RECRUITING STUDENTS

Verna Chears is the outreach specialist for the Custom Training Solutions division of Northwest State Community College. One of Chears' tasks is to reach out to community institutions, such as churches, to bring the word of the opportunities offered at the campus. For more information on the programs, schedules, financial aid offered by the Custom Training Solutions Division of Northwest State Community College, call Verna Chears at 419-377-3404 or contact via email at vchears@northweststate.edu.

INTAKE/INCOME SUPPORT SERVICE SPECIALIST

Provide one-on-one income support coaching services to participants including Ohio Benefits Bank Counseling, tax preparation and resource referral. High School Diploma/ GED. Undergraduate degree in political science social services or related field of study preferred. Minimum 2-yrs experience in consumer or field serving low income populations. Strong communication, written, and electronic skills. Excellent social/interpersonal, writing and reporting skills required. Proficient in Microsoft Suite. Team player. Must be bondable, valid driver license, reliable transportation and insurable. Full time Benefits. \$28k - \$30k yearly. Resumes by email to receptionist@ nwtoledo.org. Deadline 2/9/18.

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OPERA CAROLINA



AUDITION NOTICE



By Douglas Tappin

Saturday – February 10, 2018 – 12 pm to 4pm Toledo Opera Offices 425 Jefferson Avenue – Suite 601 – Toledo Obio

Auditions are heard by the composer, Kevin Bylsma, Head of Music Preparation, and James Norman, Director of Operations and Production

11 FEATURED ENSEMBLE ROLES & 13 MEMBER CHORUS

All voice categories

Some of the Featured Ensemble Roles Available for Casting:

Gala Trio/Lounge Singers – 3 African-American - sopranos and mezzos
Claudette Colvin – African-American - mezzo/
low soprano
Rosa Parks – African-American - mezzo/low
soprano

Landlord – Caucasian – baritone Bus Driver – Caucasian – tenor Bus Rider – African-American - tenor

What to Prepare – 2 numbers – Classical or Musical Theater Pianist is provided

To request an audition time, contact James Norman: jnorman@toledoopera.org

Call to place your ad 419-243-0007

www.TheTruthToledo.com

SEASONAL MAINTENANCE

Metroparks of the Toledo Area has openings for seasonal maintenance staff. Must be 18 or older with HS equivalent and drivers license. \$9.00/hr. Duties include cleaning and facility and grounds maintenance. Must enjoy working outdoors and be able to learn to use power tools and equipment. Go to www.metroparkstoledo.com for complete job requirements and descriptions; must submit online application. EOE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION ASSISTANT

Metroparks of the Toledo Area has openings for seasonal Natural Resources Conservation Assistants. Must be 18 or older with high school diploma or equivalent and valid driver's license. \$9.75/hr. Some training or coursework in environmental sciences or natural resources management preferred. Some outdoor work experience with natural systems, forestry or horticulture preferred. Go to www. MetroparksToledo.com to view detailed position description and job requirements. Must apply online. EOE

ANNOUNCEMENT

Interested in a career as a lawyer? If so, you are invited to the FREE conference and workshops for all junior high and senior high school students to be held on February 17 starting at 8:30 AM and finishing at 2:30 PM.

The event will take place at the University of Toledo College of Law. A free lunch will be provided

To register, email Atty Lafe Tolliver at: tolliver@juno.com and state your name, age and name of school ... or leave a voicemail at 419-249-2703

Parents are also invited and encouraged to attend!

FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC), a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.

ASSISTANT MAINTENANCE SERVICEMAN DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, OAK HARBOR, OH

FENOC is accepting applications to fill positions of Assistant Maintenance Serviceman through 02/07/18. Additional information regarding the duties and qualifications is available on the FirstEnergy web site (www.firstenergycorp.com). Click on Careers, then Search Jobs, then enter Oak Harbor in the Search by Location field. Requisition ID# 9643.

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NANBPWC Members Go Red for February

Each year on the first Friday in February, the women of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club Inc. Toledo Club kick off "GO RED" Heart campaign in support of a healthy heart by wearing RED throughout the month of February.

The Toledo Club of NANBPWC Inc. wants to bring awareness to the community about heart disease and stroke.

The women would like to encourage everyone to:

- *Get checkups for blood pressure and cholesterol.
- * Don't smoke
- * Eat right, watch your weight and exercise
- * Know the risk factors and signs of a heart attack
- * Teach your family and love ones about why it's so important to stay active
- * Developed a heart health plan

This disease claims millions of American women each year and also affects more men as well.

Sarah Burkes, Toledo Club health chairman, and the members thank the com-



NANBPWC's Go Red for February

munity for their support of the health programs and the help given by spreading the word on how important it is to take charge of our health. Frances C. Collins, PhD, Toledo Club president, says that it is important to know your numbers: blood pressure, blood sugar, BMI (body mass index), and cholesterol.

Net Neutrality Take Center Stage in Lucas County

Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken and several other speakers voiced their support on Thursday, February 8, for maintaining net neutrality – the principle that internet service providers should enable access to all content and applications regardless of the source and without favoring or blocking particular products or websites.

During a press conference organized by local network engineer Sean Nestor and Move to Amend Toledo activist Doug Jambard-Sweet at The Truth Art Gallery at 1811 Adams Street, Gerken said the internet should not be subjected to unfair pricing constraints.

The Federal Communications Commission voted in December to repeal net neutrality which will enable broadband providers to block websites and charge for services. Ohio Attorney General Mike Dewine supports that decision.

There is a lawsuit pending against the FCC to repeal the vote and 22 states attorneys general have joined the suit so far.

The speakers at Thursday's press conference expressed the hope that voters will realize what is happening and stand up to protect a free and open internet.







Rose Mary Galloway's 50-plus Years of Service Celebrated by Co-Workers, Residents and the **City of Toledo**

Rose Mary Galloway joined the staff of Concord Care Center of Toledo more than 50 years ago and during her tenure has achieved an almost perfect attendance record. Her outstanding work ethic and her generous nature prompted the staff of Concord to celebrate her many years of service on February 8, 2017. The City of Toledo chipped in through the office of Councilwoman Yvonne Harper and added a resolution commemorating her accomplishments. The resolution was delivered by Lucas County Board of

... continued on page 12







Heidi Whitehouse, Administrator and Rose Mary Galloway

Tuesday, February 27 ANDWednesday, February 28 2 p.m.-7 p.m.

TARPS Facility ADJACENT TO THE AMTRAK/GREYHOUND STATION—ACCESSIBLE Toledo VIA TARTA ROUTE 28



100% wheelchair-accessible and bicycle rack-equipped.



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