Admirers Celebrate Author John Scott’s Work

Adrienne Green, Deborah Barnett, Laneta Goings, John Scott, Rhonda Sewell, Neema Bell, Kaye Patten
A Divided Nation

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

Make new friends but keep the old; one is silver, the other gold.

- Anonymous

We resemble a nation torn asunder rather than a collection of “united” states if the results from the 2018 midterms provide meaningful insight.

Let’s face it. While polychromatic states like Arizona or Georgia shimmered toward a purple hue, the blue states became even bluer and the red states more red and Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin returned again to their pre-Trump luster.

Behind it all?

More than likely, the phenomenon can be attributed to what 45 has called a “war-like posture.” It is the pugnacious political divide that separates the urban and the rural. It is the philosophy of old white men versus the rest of the world; the worldview of the educated pitted against the uneducated; the difference in perspective between whites and nonwhites and the privileged male power class desperately trying to hang on by any means necessary as they slowly watch their grip on society erode.

Here Comes the Cavalry

Yet, according to the Pew Research Center, the midterms suggested that younger voters are supporting the Democrat over the Republican Party candidate in much greater numbers 67 percent (under age 29) and 58 percent (30 to 44 years of age) compared to voters ages 45 and over (50 percent Republican, 49 percent Democrat). In addition, 62 percent of first time midterm voters supported the Democratic candidate.

And that’s just voting preferences.

The 2018 midterms also elected and sent a record number of Millennials and Gen Xers to the U.S. House of Representatives. At least “20 of the 91 freshmen congresspersons scheduled to be seated in January will be Millennials and 14 of those 20 are Democrats – including Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, at age 29 the youngest woman ever elected,” Pew reports.

Everything is Not Rosy

Yet, the infusion of these vigorous fresh new winds of congressional change has the potential to scatter seeds of discord and pollute the Democratic Party itself. The retaking of majority control in the U.S. House of Representatives by the Democrats has stoked internecine conflict initiated by those attempting to block U.S. Representative Nancy Pelosi from transitioning to leader of the House Majority caucus from her former role as Minority leader.

Nancy’s Sin?

Pelosi’s critics point solely to her age and poor poll numbers without evaluating her effectiveness, including her unmatched fundraising ability and skillful leadership in getting the Affordable Care Act, then on life support, signed into law.

The truth is, a single named opponent against Pelosi has yet to surface. Perhaps her critics are using behind the scenes chatter to jockey for prime committee assignments for themselves or the new diverse young political arrivals.

The lesson we should learn?

It is always an enormous struggle to attract and retain new people to our cause or enterprise. Therefore let us remain sober in our enthusiasm for this soon to be seated group of young, diverse Democrats.

For, according to author Tiffani Bova, “We are often trapped by the man- date to expand our base with new people, with little concern for the potential imbalance of focus that brings for those we already have.”

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at drdperryman@centerofhope-baptist.org

Job Growth Continues,
More Needed to Rebuild Ohio’s Middle Class

 Courtesy Policy Matters Ohio

Seasonally adjusted data released today by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services show Ohio’s job growth picked up slightly in... continued on page 3
“NO MORE” - “DOMESTIC VIOLENCE On Lockdown”

A panel discussion to bring awareness to the Toledo community on the issue of domestic violence was held on Thursday, October 11 at the YWCA in downtown Toledo. A number of local organizations came together to spread the message in a conversation titled “NO MORE” - “Domestic Violence On Lockdown.” Panel participants emphasized that domestic violence is an epidemic affecting individuals regardless of age, race, or nationality and it plagues every community.

The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Club Inc., -both Toledo Club and Maumee Bay Adult and Youth Clubs; YWCA of NW Ohio; YMCA; Top Ladies of Distinction; Toledo Public Schools; The National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa Beta Gamma Chapter; ABC Healthtech; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; Book & Baddies; Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority and the Monroe Neighborhood Center collaborated to bring awareness to the fact that there are resources that can help save lives and assist individuals who need help with treatment, shelter and counseling. Many times individuals hide the fact that they are being abused.

Job Growth... continued from page 2

October, with the addition of 10,000 jobs, over a weak September. The state’s unemployment rate, which is generated from a separate survey, held steady at 4.6 percent. October’s increase in jobs was enough to push the state’s 12-month job growth rate to 2.1 percent, slightly above the national average of 1.7 percent. If this trend continues through the end of the year and survives the annual revision of job figures set for early 2019, this year will be the first since 2010 that Ohio outperforms the nation. It will also mark 2018 as the first year since 1997 that state job growth rate hits at least 2 percent. Ohio has added 115,400 jobs in the last 12 months.

“Ohio has experienced real improvement in terms of job growth,” said Hannah Halbert, project director with Policy Matters Ohio. “But other data suggests that it’s not enough to bring Ohioans back into the labor market in large numbers, or eliminate disparities between white and black workers. These gaps point to areas ripe for policy intervention.”

Data from a separate survey of households paint a different picture. Ohio’s unemployment rate remains stable at 4.6 percent, nearly a full percentage point higher than the nation’s 3.7 percent. This survey showed that fewer Ohioans were working or actively seeking work in October (-4,000), despite the more positive jobs outlook. The share of Ohioans in the labor force remains below prerecession levels. As of October, 62.5 percent of the working-age population was working or looking for work compared to 68 percent in 2007. There were 146,000 fewer people in the labor force last month than when the 2007 recession ended.

“Nationally, people are returning to the labor force, but in Ohio, the share of people working or looking for work continues to fall, despite more robust job growth and a growing working-age population,” Halbert said.

Ohio’s sluggish recovery has been hardest on working people of color. Pathetic discrimination in hiring as well as structural barriers to work like lack of transportation or affordable child care, put Ohio’s black workers at a disadvantage. Despite strong relative gains throughout the year, black worker unemployment in Ohio was 1.7 times that of white workers in the third quarter of 2018 (6.9 percent for African-American, compared to 4.6 percent for white workers). As white workers reach full employment, the labor market starts to boost black workers, who are often hit harder and experience a slower recovery after economic downturns.

“Wage growth, poverty, and the employment gap between white and black workers are challenges that persist despite job growth,” Halbert said. “People are not being drawn back into an economy that offers little in terms of stability or future prosperity. Policies that make post-secondary education and job training more affordable, improve access to affordable child care and transportation, and support transitions out of addiction and incarceration are needed to help more Ohioans secure good jobs. Job growth is not sufficient to address deep inequalities and rebuild the Ohio middle class.”

Lisa McDuffie, president/CEO of the YWCA, mentioned a program that states “Together we can end domestic violence & sexual assault” titles “NO MORE” which encourages everyone to play a very important part in stopping this problem before it results in physical harm, psychological trauma or even death.

These organizations encourage you to know the signs of an abuser and how someone who is too controlling may be someone you should watch out for. If you see domestic violence that is out of hand, call 911.
Fifth Third Foundation Announces 2018
Strengthening Our Communities Fund Awards

Six Northwest Ohio nonprofits receive total of $200,000

The Fifth Third Foundation last week announced its 2018 Strengthening Our Communities Fund grants for Northwest Ohio. Awards from the fund, now in its second year, benefit designated programs that support affordable housing, small business development and financial stability for individuals and families.

The Strengthening Our Communities Fund is part of Fifth Third Bank’s Community Commitment, which will invest $32 billion in mortgage lending, small business lending, community development lending and philanthropy by 2020. Since its inception $5.5 million has been invested through the Strengthening Our Communities Fund.

“The Strengthening Our Community grants are impactful. Regardless of the neighborhood where one lives or works, every community is an ever-evolving, all-encompassing entity, created and established by the people who call those neighborhoods home,” said Heidi Jark, managing director, Fifth Third Foundation. “We are intentional about building communities because we know that, as their members become empowered, their entire surroundings will flourish.”

“We are committed to making community investments that improve lives, strengthen families and build strong communities in Toledo,” said Bob LaClair, regional president of Fifth Third Bank Northwest Ohio. “We believe these grants provide meaningful support to the efforts of these organizations to build and maintain strong, vibrant communities that provide pathways to opportunity in our community.”

Fifth Third invited nonprofit organizations across its regions to apply for the funding. Grant awards begin at $25,000 and are for a one-year period. The maximum grants depend on the program and demonstrated need. Fifth Third awarded $3 million in SOC grants across its footprint in 2018.

The Northwest Ohio recipients of Strengthening Our Communities Fund grants are:

Adelante, Inc.: $23,000 will be used for their workplace development initiative.

Being selected to receive this award means that we can now provide an avenue for low to moderate income families to be able to achieve success in the workforce, hence impacting their long-term financial stability. The training center is made possible only through this award at this point. To date, we have graduated 4 Pharm Tech trainees and have welcomed over 15 new participants into the newly formed ESL classes—now being offered every Wednesday. We are excited to be of service to our community in this capacity,” said Sabina Serratos, Adelante, Inc. executive director.

Cherry Street Mission Ministries: $50,000 for Cherry Street’s Life Revitalization Network.

Goodwill Industries of Northwest Ohio: $50,000 to support the Goodwill Job Connection Center.

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC): $28,750 for the First Steps to Homeownership Program.

“Through the partnership with Fifth Third Bank, the LISC Toledo office will be able to continue to increase credit building opportunities for low and moderate income families by expanding the LISC Twin Account program. The LISC Twin Account program is offered through the Toledo Financial Opportunity Centers, which provide financial coaching to build and repair credit. Increasing the financial capacity of families in Toledo is critical to building assets, through homeownership or entrepreneurship, and key to building strong neighborhoods,” said Kimberly Cutch, LISC Toledo executive director.

Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity: $28,750 for the home repair program.

Economic Community Development Institute (ECDI): The Toledo SOC fund participated in supporting $125,000 for the statewide Ohio Core City Neighborhoods Initiative.
Local Organizations Give on Thanksgiving

Safety Forces Team to Deliver Holiday Baskets

Toledo fire fighters revved up their fire engines; Toledo police men and women gunned their cruisers and, on Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving, members from both departments engaged in a friendly contest to see who could deliver the most holiday baskets to area residents.

Lisa Canales, founder and president of ANCELS, organized the competition and Fire Chief Brian Byrd and Police Chief George Kral assembled members of their forces at the Truth Art Gallery in UpTown Toledo to start the delivery process at high noon.

The unofficial results for the race showed that the winners were … the community.

Mt. Nebo Baptist Church Holds Turkey Giveaway

Mt Nebo Baptist Church held its annual turkey giveaway on Tuesday, November 20 and a number of congregants and neighborhood residents were able to enjoy a hearty Thanksgiving dinner thanks to the church’s generosity.
Fros, Fashions & Finds
The REAL Black Friday Expo and Bus Tour
By Megan Davis
The Truth Contributor

For decades, the day after Thanksgiving has always been a day where stores drastically slash their prices for the best deals of the year. Black Friday is as much a national holiday as Thanksgiving and Christmas. Opening before dawn, many stores have extreme deals on electronics, especially televisions, computers, games and toys. Black Friday is the official jumpoff for the Christmas Shopping Season.

This year, the Ivy Entrepreneur Institute held The Real Black Friday Expo and Bus Tour, featuring 46 Black-owned businesses. Thirty seven local businesses such as computer support, natural skincare, a seamstress, jewelry designers, clothes, comics and lemonade loaded into the New Life Center, located at 1430 W. Bancroft Street as vendors to welcome shoppers throughout the day.

“The overall goal, when we set out with this event, was to create more awareness about African American owned businesses as well as infuse cash into these businesses,” said Erik Johnson, founder of this event.

Free to the public, the expo was open from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., with a bus tour chartered by Childers, to nine local businesses. This gave black Toledeans the opportunity to learn about and support businesses they otherwise may not have known about. Sponsored by The Ivy Entrepreneur Institute, the Black Friday Expo and Bus Tour was also held to give business owners a connection to one another and to an organization that can assist business owners at any stage of their businesses.

Johnson said, “Our whole focus is helping underrepresented individuals start, sustain and grow their businesses and we do that by way of the validation of ideas, the development of business plans and disseminating information as well as hosting educational seminars and events that provide access to knowledge.”

Amber S. Hawkins, owner of Your Computer Needs LLC commented, “Thank you all so much for having the event. I must say hats off to you all. I’ve vended a good number of events, but I’ll admit this one far exceeded my expectations! If I wasn’t vending, I definitely would have gone on the bus trip. Thank you all for giving us the opportunity.”

Black expos are more common in larger urban areas such as Chicago, Cleveland and Indianapolis where the Indiana Black Expo is held annually in the Summer. Indiana’s Black Expo was founded in 1970 and just completed its 48th year and now welcomes over 200,000 attendees from around the U.S. In Toledo, the establishment of an event like this is right on time as more locals are increasingly conscious of whom they support and where their dollars go.

The Ivy Entrepreneur Institute was founded in 2016 and is located at 420 Madison Ave. Suite 510. To learn more about how to get started on a new business or to gain support and information for an existing business, contact EII at 419-989-6771 or visit www.ivisstitute.org.
A Holiday Book Gift Guide – Part 1

By Megan Davis
The Truth Contributor

The mistletoe is hung, and so are the garlands, the ornaments, window decorations, and lights. You’d be ready for the holidays, too, if you weren’t hung up on a gift for that certain person.

Now what? Now head to the bookstore with this column in-hand, and look for one of these great books. . .

FICTION

If your gift is a lover of memoirs, Woman at 1,000 Degrees by Hallgrímarur Helgason is a novel she may like, too. It’s told in the voice of 80-year-old Herrea Björnsdóttir, who is at the end of her life and she’s in the mood to share. . . Wrap it up with The Clockmaker’s Daughter by Kate Morton, a novel of an architect, a very old man, and a bit of a mystery that transcends time.

Your cat lovers will take to Talk to the Paw by Melinda Metz like catnip. It’s a little bit romance, a little bit angst, a thief, and a purrfect ending.

If it’s not too timely to be a good gift, look for Only Child by Rhianon Navin. It’s a book about a school shooting and a mother’s actions when her son is injured in that way, and if that bandaged.

The short story fan will be glad to unwrap Sweet & Low by Nick White. This book is full of Southern fiction, characters you forget are not real, and situations that make a good read great. For true short story fans, pair it with Everyday People: The Color of Life – A Short Story Anthology edited by Jennifer Baker.

For the gift of someone who loves a little romcom, The Dinner List by Rebecca Serle could be a good choice to give. It’s a story about one eating, one meal, a lot of loved ones (past and present) and a chance to make things right. Pair it up with The Dream Daughter by Dylan Chamberlain, a book about a mother’s first choices.

If you give The Witch Elm by Tana French to your suspense-novel lover, be prepared to be ignored for the rest of the day. Not on purpose, but because this is a story of an injured man, a decades-old mystery, and plenty of spine-tingles.

For the historical fiction fan, look for A Well-Behaved Woman by Therese Anne Fowler. It’s a multi-generational tale of wealth and high-society (and the Vanderbilts), set in the years following the Civil War, and one woman’s desire—need—to make it to the top of New York’s social scene.

GENRE A1: NON-FICTION

For the person who can’t get enough of John, Paul, George, or Ringo, Visualizing the Beatles by John Pring and Rob Thomas is something they’ll want to hold in their hands. It’s a graphic history of the Fab Four, so lots of pictures, easy to browse, fun to have. Pair it with The Cutting Edge by Leslie Cavendish, who was the woman who cut and styled the Beatles’ hair.

For the armchair detective or CSI fan, The Handy Forensic Science Answer Book by Patricia Barnes-Svarney and Thomas E. Svarney will be a welcome gift this year. In a Q&A format, this book teaches and answers the kinds of questions any detective-show fan can come up with. It may also chill you. . . Wrap it up with any good murder mystery, of course! Or better yet, wrap it up with Murder, Lies, and Cover-Ups by David Gardner, a book about conspiacies and the whodunit deaths of celebrities your gift-giver will surely remember.

Yes, Earth is a pretty good place to live. Oxygen, water, trees . . . but what is our presence doing to the planet? Darwin Comes to Town by Menno Schilthuizen is one of those books that’ll answer your gift-giver’s questions while it also invites him to think. How is our world thriving and surviving? Pair it up with The Simple Solution by John Bunzl and Nick Duffell, a book about fixing the global problems we face today and our children could face tomorrow. Consider more with the Disaster Survival Guide by Marie D. Jones, a book that’s a good primer for coming out the other side of nature’s worst and mankind’s unthinkable.

If your gift-giver would love something out-of-wondrously, try Sister of Darkness: The Chronicles of a Modern Exorcist by R. H. Stavis with Sarah Duran. Yes, this book is for real. Yes, it could scare the Dickens out of someone.

For the fashionista, you can’t go wrong when you give Fierce: The History of Leopard Print by Jo Weldon. Yes, that’s what this book is about—the evolution of a wild fad that shows no signs of slowing down.


The writer reader on your gift list will truly enjoy The Handy Literature Answer Book by Daniel S. Burt, PhD, and Deborah G. Felder. It’s a book about books, authors, reading, and more books. Pair it up with 1,010 Books to Read Before You Die by James Mustich, which is a giant tome filled with suggestions that will keep your gift-giver busy for a lot of Christmas to come. Might also want to think about Atticus Finch: The Biography by Joseph Crespino, a biography of Harper Lee and the first man in her life.

New homeowners and those who are still looking may like a Place Called Home by Kim R. Manturuk, Mark R. Lindblad, and Roberto G. Quecita. This is a rather scholarly look at what we own homes, who owns them, and the financial issues that surround owning your own home versus renting. Filled with data and stats, this book is also great for your favorite Realtor. Pair it up with the historic The Finest Build—continued on page 11

AFFORDABLE HOME OWNERSHIP?

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Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union Hosts Annual Appreciation Banquet

Another year, another festive occasion to mark the success of the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union. This year at The Pinnacle, the TUFCU staff and members celebrated with a tribute to those who have contributed to the credit union’s success and music by recording artist Keith Washington.

Foundation Board President Richard LaValley spoke of what’s to come, CEO Suzette Cowell caught the audience up on what has happened in the past and soloist Darius Coleman brought his outstanding artistry to the occasion.

Darius Coleman

Dick LaValley

Keith Washington

Toledo Urban Honorees

Photos by Albert Earl
Playwright John Scott’s Works Inducted into the Library’s Toledoanonna Collection

Sojourner’s Truth Staff

Family, friends, former classmates, library officials, elected officials — admirers all — crowded into the large meeting room at Kent Branch Library on Monday, November 19 to pay homage to a local legend and to witness the induction of his books into the Library’s Toledoanonna Collection.

John Scott, Ph.D., playwright and scholar, was honored in a ceremony organized and hosted by the Library’s Rhonda Sewell, manager of External and Governmental Affairs, and Laneta Gwings, of Books4Buddies, in a ceremony titled LEGACY. Scott, who spent much of his academic career as dean of the Bowling Green State University’s Department of Ethnic Studies and later held appointments at a number of historically black colleges and universities as a visiting professor, will have 12 of his books and plays included in the Toledoanonna Collection, which features works by prominent Toledo and northwest Ohio authors.

“John Scott’s voice is unique. It is stimulating and individualistic as is his perception of America’s social problems.”

— The late Lloyd Richards, director/dean of the Yale University School of Drama.

A prolific playwright, poet, fiction writer and director, Scott is well known for writings including off Broadway plays such as “Ride a Black Horse” and “The Good Ship Credit,” and PBS productions of “Currents From the Rivers of Our Fathers” and “Pieces of Man.”

Last week’s ceremony began with a welcome from Clyde Scoles, director of the Toledo Lucas County Public Library, and a resolution from Toledo

...continued on page 11

CARE that embraces all of you.

Shred for a Toy

Donate a new, unwrapped toy...

Shred up to five bags of documents or clothing to:

December 8, 1-3 p.m.

Burger King, 4870 Mann
(across from)

Forest 101.5 The River’s Rick Woodell!!

Benefits the Lucas County Children’s Services: HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE

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The Ellington Nutcracker

The Ellington Nutcracker is a holiday jazz classic. The creativity of Duke Ellington’s and Billy Strahorn’s arrangements highlight the individual talents of the musicians to make these stand out from other holiday music. From the big exciting brass to the muted brass, the saxophones to the prominent clarinet, this music is signature Ellington.

The music from the original was rewritten and expanded to create the “Harlem Nutcracker” a few years back by Ellington historian David Berger. The Toledo Jazz Orchestra is proud to present to you the original arrangements from Duke Ellington’s classic 1960 recording “The Nutcracker Suite,” featuring dancers from the Toledo School for the Arts.

In addition to the Nutcracker, the band will be performing a number of great holiday big band arrangements from the bands of Gordon Goodwin, Rob McConnell, Tom Kubis and others. Also featured will be arrangements written or the United States Air Force Airmen of Note and the United States Army Jazz Ambassadors. The concert will conclude with some classic Glenn Miller and a special closing number.

Thelma Adkins... continued from page 16

her with flowers as she sat in front of the congregation. After church, the festivities continued when her grandchildren took her out to eat at Georgio’s Cafe International, continuing her celebration late into the evening hours.

Sunday morning, her daughter Floella Wormely prepared a big breakfast for her as she continued to enjoy fellowship with family and friends.

Thelma has lived a wonderful life, she married Douglas Adkins Sr. on September 18, 1951 and was married 47 years before he transitioned September 25, 1998. Thelma Adkins, mother of six children, oldest Paul Adkins, Romelle Williams-Blair (absent, recovering from hospital), Douglas Adkins Jr. (transitioned December 16, 1992), Floella Wormely, Tara Adkins-Brown, Penny Adkins and special son LeSean Shaw.

Her grandchildren are Catrina Wormely and Erin Adkins, Daryll Blair Jr., Joseph Blair and Charles Blair, Jerome (Romey) Cheeves, Spring Wilson and Shalena Adkins, Derek (Jae) Johnson and Ericka Johnson, Courtney Brown and Faith Brown, LaTrece Rowlett, LaTonya Robbins, Rushia Robbins and Jamirah Shabaa, Special Grandchildren Alicia Aiden, Aliyah and Avery Shaw. She has 23 great grandchildren and seven great great grandchildren. The family is expecting a new addition soon to the great grands from her granddaughter Courtney Brown. She also has a host of nieces, and nephews.

Thelma has worked many years with children as a day care provider, nurse’s assistant and retired from Lucas County Children Services as an in home monitor for uniting the children back into the home with the parent(s). After retirement she worked in the Head Start “Grandparent Program” and with Ms. Sarah’s Pitter Patter Child Care as a “Grandparent” until she was 88 years old. The family would like to thank everyone for coming out to celebrate such an awesome prayer warrior on her 90th birthday.
John Scott... continued from page 9

City Council presented by Councilwoman Yvonne Harper along with her colleagues Councilmen Tyrone Riley and Larry Sykes.

Christopher Smith, Lead MENtor of Books4Buddies offered the concept of the evening’s event and Ronald Jackson spoke of his reflections on his long association and friendship with Scott.

After a video interview presentation featuring Kristian Brown of 13abc TV and Scott, Jill Clever, Library manager of the Local History and Genealogy Department, led the induction of Scott’s works into the Toledoana Collection.

Scott, a graduate of Scott High School, earned his undergraduate degree from South Carolina State College and his master’s and doctorate degrees from BGSU. He is a recipient of the Ohio Governor’s Award for the Arts, an AUDELCO (Audience Development Committee, Inc) Award nominee for Best Musical (“Karma”) and was an invited writer for the Eugene O’Neill National Playwrights Conference.

“It doesn’t matter how you start,” said Scott of his humble beginnings in Toledo. “What matters is the journey you take and how you finish.”

Toledo Library Director Clyde Scoles, John Scott, Jill Clever

John Scott and Family

Scott and former classmate Stan Odesky

― Douglas Turner Ward, founder and artistic director, the Negro Ensemble Company, New York.

“I consider John Scott one of the best contemporary writers and playwrights.”

Book Gift Guide... continued from page 7


So your giftee likes to have something to take while waiting for his or her part in the community theatre? Shakespeare’s Ear by Tim Rayborn couldn’t be a better book, then. It’s filled with interesting tales and little-known secrets from the world of theatre. For your favorite actor, it is to be. Also look for Messiah: The Composition and Afterlife of Handel’s Masterpiece by Jonathan Keates.

Where would you favorite pal be without you – or vice versa? In Text Me When You Get Home by Kayleen Schaeffer, your giftee will see how female friendships are forged, nourished, and kept strong and what happens when they don’t. Will you-know-who share this book with you? Wrap it up with Girl Talk by Jacquiline Mroz, a book about female friendships from a scientific perspective, and she might.

For the giftee who needs a specific understanding boost (and be careful when you give it!), look for It Takes One to Tango by Winifred M. Reilly, MA, MFT, a book about fixing a marriage. If it feels right, pair it with Infidelity: Why Men and Women Cheat by Kenneth Paul Rosenberg, MD, but be cautious!

The person who loves to explore will love reading Walking the Americas by Levison Wood. He’s a British explorer who walked 1,800 miles through eight countries and this is the story of the people he met, the things he saw, and his thoughts on it all. Pair it up with Tip of the Iceberg by Mark Adams, a story of a long journey across the wilds of Alaska.

If there’s someone on your list who wonders what the future holds, wrap up The Next American City by Mick Cornett, a book about small cities and what the future holds for them and their citizens. Pair it with Without a Net, edited by Michelle Tea, an anthology about just getting by.

So you say your giftee has been following politics closely. He read “Hillbilly Elegy.” So now give What You are Getting Wrong about Appalachia by Elizabeth Catte. This book nicely balances fact from fiction, and it’ll give your giftee more prospective. It could even be a mind-changer. Pair it with something your political watcher will like: Type R by Ama Marston and Stephanie Marston, a book about resilience and how to get more of it in today’s world.

For the person who’s facing That Certain Age in the New Year, wrap up The Happiness Curve by Jonathan Rauch. It’s a book about the wonderfulness of turning 50 and how life is so much sweeter. Pair it with The End of Old Age by Marc E. Agronin, M.D., which is about making the latter half of your life the best part.

...continued on page 12
How to Create a Holiday Atmosphere at Home

Creating festive cheer at home for the holidays is easy and fun. Here are some great ways to transform your space into a winter wonderland.

- Get cozy: During the chilly holiday season, decorate with comfort in mind. Light the fireplace. Add throw pillows to sofas. Turn off overhead lamps and use soft lighting instead. Consider how texture and warmth can contribute to your holiday decorating scheme.

- Screen festive flicks: From “It’s a Wonderful Life to “Home Alone,” keep your favorite holiday films playing all the time to create a festive holiday atmosphere, or host a special movie night and select a few classics. With the right projector, you can turn any room of the house into a home theater experience. Select a portable projector for the holiday season that will sense ambient light in the room and automatically adjust the projection accordingly, so you won’t need to blow out candles or unplug holiday lights. Those from Casio’s SL-M Series are lightweight and portable, combining a laser and LED light source to create a high-brightness mercury-free projector that uses half the amount of power per unit than its traditional lamp-based counterparts.

- Fire up the oven: There’s no better time of year to roll up your sleeves and knead out some dough. One of the best ways to create a holiday atmosphere is with scent, and the aroma of baking cookies, cakes and other holiday desserts will do the trick. If you’re worried about having all those extra sweet treats around the house just before kicking off your New Year’s resolutions, consider volunteering to bring dessert to potluck and parties you attend this season or donating the product of your labors to a holiday bake sale raising money for a charitable cause.

- Make music: Get the holiday cheer going in your home by making music. Now you can get the sound of a 9-foot concert grand piano with the Privia PX-100, a portable digital piano, making it easy to gather round for a sing-a-long of your favorite seasonal tunes in any room of the house. Its 88-key Tri-Sensor Scaled Hammer Action keyboard simulates ebony and ivory-textured keys and its speaker system opens to the front but is also ported to the back, to deliver a big projected sound to all your holiday celebrants.

- Add some flora: Holly, poinsettias, mistletoe -- decking the halls with traditional holiday plants adds color and vitality to side tables, mantels, dining areas and staircases and more. Those with pets and small children should take note, certain plant species are toxic -- so avoid these plants or be sure they are displayed well out of reach of curious children and animals.

Preparing your home for the holiday season takes a little thought and energy, but the end result is a cheerful and warm atmosphere to make memories while spending time with loved ones.

Book Gift Guide... continued from page 11

For a reader who craves hard, true facts, A Book of Book Lists by Alex Johnson might be just the thing. It’s, well, the title is self-explanatory but it also contains a harder look at the classics, literature, and authors’ perspectives on both. Just be aware that it’s very British. Your Weather Detective by Peter Wohlleben, making these books a perfect duo for your fact-hungry giftee.

Everybody with a job will love reading Danger, Man Working by Michael Perry. It’s a series of essays on having a job. Also fishing, freelancing, living on a farm, veterans, and other things that’ll make you laugh and / or know you’re reading the words of a kindred spirit. A good book to add to the package before you wrap it A Little Tea Book by Sebastian Beckwith with Caroline Paul, illustrations by Wendy MacNaughton. A good book, a cuppa tea, and a good book about tea will all make an excellent gift.

For the political animal in your family, Hugs from Obama, edited by M. Sweeney might be just the right gift. It’s filled with pictures and quotations from the Obama years in the White House, including the end. Pair it up with The Watergate: Inside America’s Most Infamous Address by Joseph Rodota, for a scandalous look back in history. More books for the current events fan: Chosen Country: A Rebellion in the West by James Pogue is a peek at the militia movement in America; And My Brother Moochie by Issac J. Bailey is a book on poverty and racism.

The giftee who loves to laugh will love having Laughing Totaoly Is The Best Medicine by the Reader’s Digest folks. Filled with jokes, cartoons, and other funnies, it might also make a great stocking-stuffer. And if your giftee loves to laugh, take a look at The Incomplete Book of Running by Peter Sagal, for a fast chuckle.

And for the cook on your list, Buttermilk Graffiti by Edward Lee would make a great gift. It’s part history, part memoir, part foodie paradise with recipes and it’s yummy. Pair it with a brand-new cookbook for a tasty 2019, or wrap up Moonshine: A Celebration of America’s Original Rebel Spirit by John Schlimm with it. See what your giftee can cook up now.

PARENTING

Parents and parents-to-be may get a kick out of Aching Baby by Sara Zaske. It’s about Zaske’s time spent living in Berlin, Germany, and what she noticed about the way the Germans parent their children. If that person on your list tried being a Tiger Mom, give this book a whirl and see if self-sufficient, is right for her kids.

Pair it with The Power of Presence by Joy Thomas Moore, a book about being a lingering positive influence for your children.

For the new dad, Rap Dad by Juan Vidal might make a great First Christmas gift. It’s an examination of what makes a Dad in America today, how stereotypes come into play in being a Dad, and how Vidal learned to father. Pair it up with Beyond Birds & Bees by Bonnie J. Rough. It’s a book about teaching children about love and equality between the sexes. MEMORI / BIOGRAPHY

What does it take to be a man? Can a boy learn it from his father? In Air Traffic by Gregory Pardlo, the author looks at the legacy his father left him, and how it made him the man he is today. And if your giftee loves to read about legacies left, wrap up Jackie, Janet & Lee by J. Randy Taraborrelli, a book about the former first lady, her mother, and her sisters.

For the teacher who’s most important in your child’s life, look for Once A Professor: A Memoir of Teaching in Turbulent Times by Jerry Apps. It’s a book about education – both of students in the 1960s, and the teacher who watched them protest.

If the first thing your giftee turns to each morning is a weather forecast, he’ll love The Man Who Caught the Storm by Brantley Hargrove. It’s the story of Tim Samaras, who was a legend in storm chasing, until his death by... Uh, nope, read the book.

For the giftee who’s considering adopting, Someone Has Led This Child to Believe by Regina Louise could change the path. It’s the story of Louise’s life in and out of the United States foster care system and what happened to her after she “aged out.” Wrap it in tissues. Seriously. And for more current-events mem-oirs, look for A Dream Called Home by Reyna Grande, a story by a woman who immigrated to Mexico by herself at age nine, to find her parents who came here before her.

Here’s to the hobbyist: the car lover on your...continued on page 13
Here I am!

You raise your hand higher so you don’t go unnoticed. You speak up, so you aren’t overlooked. It’s a natural human need: pay attention, here I am, look this way, see me. For some, it’s easy to get recognition; for others – as in the new book Invisible by Stephen L. Carter – years later, it still doesn’t arrive.

Eunice Hunton was eight years old when she told a little playmate that she wanted to be a lawyer someday. That wasn’t too far-fetched – both her parents were successful, educated activists for “the darker nation” – but it was unlikely, since just a handful of “Negroes” were lawyers in 1907, and even fewer were women.

Her mother believed that raising a family was a woman’s highest achievement but, as an adult, Eunice would have none of that. She did her duty, marrying a Harlem dentist and bearing a son, but when faced with the possibility of a lifetime as a socialite, she couldn’t bear the thought. Mindful of her childhood dream, she enrolled at Fordham Law School in the fall of 1927.

"...Eunice," says Carter, “found the law fascinating.”

From tailor-made suits to lawsuits was an amazing “reinvention,” but not one without sacrifice, including an eventual estrangement with her son and a strained marriage. Still, for her, the hardship must’ve been worth it, especially when, soon after graduation from law school and becoming politically active, she was asked to be one of 20 lawyers (and the only woman) appointed to work with attorney Thomas Dewey to end the hold that the Mob had on New York City.

For quite some time, New Yorkers had been complaining about prostitution in their neighborhoods, and as the only woman on-staff, it fell to Eunice to deal with those everyday citizens. Says Carter, the menial job was probably meant to discourage her but instead, she “mined the stacks of citizen’s complaints… and she found gold” in the form of a crooked line of corruption, pay-offs, and a Mobster who quietly controlled it all. In the end, Eunice “knew she had the makings of a case. The question was whether anyone would believe her.”

That, of course, is not the end of this story; Eunice Hunton Carter was a relatively young woman when she helped take down mobster Lucky Luciano and she later went on to enjoy brief fame for what amounted to a second career in politics. Here, though, author Stephen L. Carter – who was Eunice’s grandson – also recounts heartaches she endured, her frustrations as an ambitious black woman in Jim Crow America, and personal stories that show what made Eunice who she was. What she accomplished was astounding, but it’s that latter that makes this book lively and touchable, as though we’ve been invited to sit at someone’s grand family table.

History is filled with legions of people who affected lives but never got properly lauded for it. For one woman, Invisible changes that and more, and if you’re looking for a sink-your-teeth-in book, here it is.


**By Terri Schlichenmeyer**

**The Truth Contributor**

**Book Gift Guide... continued from page 12**

Gift list will love to have Driven by Melissa Stephenson. It’s a memoir about loss, bittersweet memories and keeping them alive, all written with vehicles as backdrop. For the nostalgia lover (and Hollywood fan), My Days: Happy and Otherwise by Marion Ross (with David Laurell) will be a delight to unwrap. It’s all about “Mrs. C” and the woman behind her, and it’ll leave someone rocking and rolling all week long.

Another highly-anticipated (and much-desired) gift to look for is In Pieces by Sally Field, a book by the girl America has grown up with. It’s filled with behind-the-story stories and celeb names you’ll also recognize. Wrap it up with a The Flying Nun DVD or two, or a copy of Smokey and the Bandit.

If you’ve got someone on your gift list who’s a Kennedy Watcher, they’ll love reading Eunice: The Kennedy Who Changed the World by Eileen McNamara. It’s, of course, about Eunice Kennedy Shriver, her life, and her times. Another celeb biography to try is Marilyn Monroe: The Private Life of a Public Icon by CharlesCasillo. It’s for the giftee who only thinks she knows everything about MM that there is to know.

And for the Vietnam veteran on your list, look for Striking Eight Bells: A Vietnam Memoir by George Trowbridge. It’s a memoir set in the waning days of the war and what it was like before, during, and after being a soldier in the Navy then.

Happy reading!

**Invisible author courtesy Elena Siebert**
PROJECT COORDINATOR, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE GRANT ON VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Lourdes University seeks a Project Coordinator for Dept. of Justice Grant on Violence Prevention to implement comprehensive violence prevention programs. Bachelor’s degree in counseling, social work, etc., training/presentation experience, and ability to work some evenings/weekends required. 1-3 years victim services experience helpful. Submit cover letter, resume/CV, 3 professional references (MS Word or pdf only) to resume@lourdes.edu. See www.lourdes.edu/jobs for details. EOE

CHOIR DIRECTOR/PIANIST

St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church is seeking to hire a choir director/pianist for Sunday worship. Must have gospel-style, read music, be able to direct a choir, understand and implement Catholic liturgical worship guidelines or be willing to learn Catholic worship. Submit resume on line to smartindependorstolo@gmail.com or mail to 1119 West Bancroft St., Toledo, Ohio 43606.

MEDICAID WAIVER CASE AIDE

Provides data entry and monitoring of Medicaid eligibility through the MITS and Ohio Benefits (OB) computer systems. Facilitates program enrollment for PASSPORT and other waivers.

Requires excellent interpersonal skills and computer/data entry skills. Associates Degree in Human Services or 2 year degree with at least 1 year of experience in human services also required. Experience with Medicaid in the State of Ohio preferred. Reliable transportation, insurance, and valid driver’s license and successfully passing criminal background check and drug/alcohol screening required.

EOC/APP, Bilingual and minority applicants encouraged to apply.

Deadline for Application: Until Filled

Submit resumes to: Samuel H. Hancock Ed.D.
Human Resources Officer
Area Office on Aging of NW Ohio, Inc.
2152 Arlington Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43609

Or jobs@areaofficeonaging.com

This description is intended to indicate the kind of tasks and level of work difficulty required of the position. The title of this job shall not be construed as declaring the specific duties and responsibilities of the position. This position description and/or job vacancy notice is not intended to limit or in any way modify the rights of any supervisor to assign, direct, and control the work of employees under supervision. The use of this particular expression or illustration describing duties shall not be held to exclude other duties not mentioned.

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“Now Accepting Applications for 1 and 2 Bedroom Apartment Homes”

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Lucas County Commissioners Seek Applicants for Vacancies on Toledo Lucas County Commission on Disabilities

The Board of Lucas County Commissioners is seeking applicants for current vacancies that exist on the Toledo Lucas County Commission on Disabilities (TLCDD). This Commission is made up of 21 individuals that are appointed by either Lucas County (10) or by the City of Toledo (11). Emphasis for appointments to this Commission shall be on appointing individuals with disabilities, immediate family members of individuals with disabilities, or those who have demonstrated a commitment to people living with disabilities. Currently the TLCDD has three (3) open Lucas County positions, one (1) from northwest Lucas County (includes the Villages of Berkey, Ottawa Hills; Richfield, Sylvania, Spencer and Harding Townships; and the City of Sylvania) and two (2) from southwest Lucas County (includes the Villages of Swanton, Holland and Whitehouse, Waterville, Monclova, Providence and Springfield Townships; and the City of Maumee). The primary purpose of the TLCDD is to serve in an advisory capacity to the Lucas County Commissioners, the City of Toledo mayor, and to the Toledo City Council directly on issues relating to the needs, problems, and other concerns of people with disabilities. Appointed commission members must be available to meet on the second Thursday of every other month at 4:30 p.m. Every Commission member is also appointed to serve on one of three standing committees that meet on the off months at a convenient time for all of the respective committee members. The Board of Lucas County Commissioners actively seeks to appoint volunteer boards and commissions that reflect the diversity of our community. Any person interested in being considered for a board vacancy must fill out the “Application for a Public Volunteer” form. A detailed resume must be enclosed with the completed application form. Applications are available from the Board of Lucas County Commissioners office at One Government Center, Suite 800, Toledo, Ohio, 43604, or by calling (419) 213-4500. A printable version of the application also is available on the Lucas County Commissioners’ website at http://job.lucascounty.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/631. Applications for the above-listed board vacancies will be accepted through the end of the business day at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, November 26, 2018. The completed applications and resumes must be forwarded to the attention of Lucas County Deputy Clerk Steven Spiteri at spiteri@co.lucas.oh.us or the address listed above.

COMPROLLER

Metroparks Toledo has an opening for a Comptroller to administer Metroparks accounting and finance functions. Full time with benefits. Located at Wildwood Preserve. The qualified candidate must have three years experience in accounting, Finance or Treasury. Governmental professional accounting and treasury management experience preferred. Position requires a Bachelor’s degree in Accounting or Finance or equivalent combination of education and work experience. CPA or CMA preferred. Go to www. metroparksToledo.com to view the job description, position requirements and apply online by November 28th. EOE

LEGAL NOTICE

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR AVIATION CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

The Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority (TLCPA) is seeking a qualified aviation consulting and engineering firm to provide professional planning, environmental, architectural, administration and engineering services for the Toledo Express Airport and Toledo Executive Airport. These services are to be provided in connection with the capital improvement plan (CIP) for both airports. This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will result in a multi-year agreement with a consultant for a period of five (5) years. The selected consultant will then negotiate and enter into sub-agreements for services, based on the scope of work, with the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority on a project assignment basis during the term of the five (5) year period.

The required format for the proposal to be submitted to the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority is described in detail in the full copy of the Request for Qualifications, and is available by either (1) emailing Tina Perkins at TPerkins@Toledoport.org or (2) visiting the Port Authority’s website at http://www.toledoport.org/connect/public-notices/. Proposals are due no later than 1:00 p.m. (local time), Friday, December 21, 2018.

AWESOME PANAMA TRIP

Springtime in beautiful Panama! Panama City, Panama – NOT FLORIDA!!

The most cosmopolitan capital in Central America

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May 2-7, 2019
Included: Tours, Breakfast and more,
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The Sojourner’s Truth

Thelma Adkins 90th Birthday Celebration

Special to The Truth

On Friday, November 16, 2018 the children of Thelma Adkins affectionately known as Big Mama, Nanna, Moo Moo, Granny, and Gram Gram, invited friends and family to celebrated her 90th surprise birthday party held at Lakewood’s Senior Apartment Community Room.

The weekend celebration started off Friday with a surprise birthday party dinner, where a large number of family friends came out to celebrate this event. Thelma has touched the lives of many and it showed in the outpouring of love and fellowship displayed throughout the evening.

At 90 years of age she truly enjoyed a full birthday weekend. On Sabbath, as usual she attended church services at Parkwood Seventh-Day Adventist Church as she has since she was three years old when her mother Katherine Williams raised her to “Remember the Sabbath Day to Keep it Holy”. To her surprise, she was honored by the church and given a gift of a personal name plaque for a church pew.

Under the leadership of Pastor Valles, he and First Elder Kim Castaneda, Elder George Cross, Elder Rudolph Hanniford and Elder Sampson Inyamma of the church laid hands and prayed thanking God for her prayers as a church prayer warrior and for her 90 years life and asking God to bless her with many more.

The family also honored her by flooding... continued on page 10