

Volume 55, No. 2

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

March 20, 2019

Local AKA Chapters Celebrate Founders Day 2019



Morgannia Dawson, Local Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter President; Eva L. Evans, PhD, 24th AKA International President and Founders Day Speaker; Richelle Watkins, Founders Day Chairman

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Brainchild

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

The Truth Contributor

You can holler, protest, march, picket, demonstrate, but somebody must be able to sit in on the strategy conference and plot a course. — Whitney Young, Jr.



She is both fearless and fierce. She is also superbly confident as well as supremely confident. Theresa Gabriel arrived in Toledo from Harlan County, Kentucky in the early 1940s at age three. She inherited a bold sassiness from her mother, a former gang supervisor who ran a railroad crew during World War II. That sassiness, combined with an uncanny ability to create strategy, marshal resources and execute impactful plans from behind the scenes has enabled this Toledo legend to face both tragedy and opportunity and emerge as victor rather than victim.

Using a steady voice to bring people together, Gabriel has previously served as deputy director for the Lucas County Board of Elections; at large member of Toledo City Council; assistant chief of staff in the office of the Mayor, City of Toledo; director Toledo Department of Human Services; director Clerk of Courts for Toledo Municipal Court; director, City of Toledo Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry; commissioner of Toledo's Division of Streets, Bridges and Harbor and many other administrative positions for federal, state and local programs.

In honor of Women's History Month, I hung out with the iconic Theresa Gabriel for several hours discussing her history and the forces that shaped it. The following is part one of our chat.

Perryman: Please share with our readers about your early years in Toledo.

Gabriel: My uncle came to Toledo first. Mama sent money to him to help him buy a duplex in the 900 block of Pinewood. That was the first place we lived.

Perryman: Where did you go to school?

Gabriel: Roosevelt, which is now Martin Luther King, afterwards Robinson and then to Scott.

Perryman: Who were some of the people that had an influence on you coming up?

Gabriel: Growing up, it was people like Gladys Herron and Hazel Harding, who was married to Merriweather Harding who owned the M and L Bar on Dorr Street; Woodruff Adams, M.D. and Thelma Adams; and more than anyone else, though, more time was spent with J. Frank Troy.

I grew up in Phillips Temple C.M.E. Church, which was on the corner of Lawrence and Fernwood, so I'd just walk out the back door down the alley to the church, so I basically grew up there. I learned how to dance in Phillips Temple, I learned how to roller skate in Phillips Temple. Reverend Sells was the minister and he had seven or nine kids, so all of us in the 800 block and the 700 block, we congregated there because he allowed us to have the run of the

basement for kid games, whatever, so many of the neighborhood youth were taught there and Frank Troy would stay there with us.

Frank actually belonged to Third Baptist, but he was dating my Sunday School teacher LaGusta Douglas, one of the first African American women in the armed forces, who had served as a coordinator for activities in the mess halls and places where the soldiers congregated. LaGusta told Frank Troy that I loved politics and how smart I was. And so, he just took me under his wing.

Daisy LaRose Huff, who was the mother of Christian Temple Baptist's Pastor Charles E. Jones, who I grew up with and lived in the 1100 block of Fernwood, was also a mentor. Gladys Herron, Perry Burroughs and Mamie Williams all helped when I told them I wanted to become active in politics. George Davis Jr. also was a mentor, even though we were of different political parties and would fuss and cuss with each other a lot.

Perryman: What was it like for black people overall in Toledo during the mid to late 1940s?

Gabriel: The church was the mightiest thing in the city of Toledo and we all worked together.

Perryman: Can you please elaborate?



...continued on page 6

The Sojourner's Truth

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Community Calendar

March 24

Calvary MBC 30th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Floyd Smith, Jr: 4 pm;

Guests Pastor James Willis and St. Paul MBC

Jerusalem MBC 14th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Willie L. and First Lady

Monica J. Perryman: 4 pm; Guests Rev. Roger Carson and Southern MBC

March 30

Sylvania Franciscan Spring Art Festival: Celebrate Spring with beauty, imagination and joy; 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Fine Art & Crafts; Live Music; Good Food; Franciscan Center, 6832 Convent Blvd.

March 31

Calvary MBC 30th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Floyd Smith Jr: 4 pm; Guests Pastor Nathan Madison and Fourth Street Baptist Church of Lima, OH

April 5

Opioid Prevention and Resource Expo: Noon to 7 pm; UT Student Union Auditorium

April 6

Flanders Road Church Clothing Giveaway: 9 am to 1 pm; For men, women and children

April 26-27

Calvary Baptist Church Women's Ministry Spring Retreat: 419-531-9444

April 27

The Libbey High School Historical Marker Dedication: 11 am; The former Libbey High School campus.

Money Can Make a Way!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

There are interesting recent headlines about the rich and famous using their fat bank accounts to finance their kids into the "upper crust" schools of higher education...even if the kid says that they are not all that interested in higher learning!

It should come as no surprise that wealthy, fat cats who have the financial means to pull the strings to get their progeny into those fabled corridors of future power and perks, will do almost anything to insure that their Johnny or Suzy gets a cushy landing when they graduate from a four-year college.

The reports and the ensuing federal indictments give a stark picture of some conniving parents, even resorting to outright fraud and trickery to make sure that their "less than suitable" offspring can sneak in the side door to a college with a name that gives the graduate a leg up on the poor schmuck who graduates from a lesser-named college.

Of course, it seems a good bet that those who are privileged and pampered will pass on to their progeny that somehow they too should emulate their nefarious ways and trick the system to suit their peccadilloes.

The investigating lawyers from the Justice Department indicated that this academic scandal may be only the tip of the iceberg.

Believe it! Why? When money meets opportunity, money normally is the Mike Tyson of the encounter and thus when parents of fabulous means find that they can "buy a vowel" and get their kid or kids into prestigious schools without the accompanying, but needed, baggage of serious scholarship or study, they do it.

It somehow has come to mean in some rich circles in America that all is for sale including access to prestigious colleges and if you are rich, and or rich and famous, you may take it as a gratuitous perk of your status in life that such entitlements are yours for the taking...or paying in this case.

One thing good about this scandal is that other lesser financially-empowered white families will now see that there is status and then there is real status and that their upper crust white and richer cousins are out sunning by the country club pool while they are paying gym membership to a common YMCA pool.

You know...the pool with all of the "others" who can not afford ritzy memberships in country clubs and elite and swanky social clubs.

If this is just the tip of this admissions scandal, can you imagine if those in the know start giving up other knaves who did the same for their kids and that they have been defrauding the system for decades and decades!

And yet...these same malefactors will poo-poo affirmative action which is NOT based on deception or lies or payoffs but yet they are amenable to educational skullduggery if it benefits "their" kids.

I daresay that if the prosecutors push the envelope, they will find that this system of gaming the academic system is pervasive if not only in outright bribes but also in some alumni getting their "not too bright kids" into their alma mater for the sake of getting a degree from a highly-recognized college.

We all have heard the usual stories of fat cats paying eye dropping sums to their schools to name buildings or establish scholarships or to fund or endow certain academic chairs; and we know that such donors may have an expectation of some reciprocity for their generosity.

The named schools in this investigation were swift to identify the culprits and fire them so as to have some damage control and protect their images as institutions that are above reproach. That will help somewhat but what is always lurking around the corner is the rich parent who instinctively knows that her kids do not belong in an Ivy League School but rather at a state university or a two year college.

The only problem with that is if you are rich and famous and your kids are reaching colleges years, you have to start fending off questions of where they will enroll after high school.

There is the presumption that if you are rich and famous, it should be obvious that your kid got the best high school education money could buy but in the long run, it was determined that your kid was not "college material."

So, to avoid social stigma, you shell out thousands or even hundred of thousands of dollars to get your kid into a top-tier school and thus quiet the questions about where your kids is going to college.

When you factor in seemingly unlimited funding from rich and anxious parents wanting to place their kids in an impressive school, the value of that education is diminished since the recipient may not want to be the standard bearer of your educational crusade.

If the kids know about the charade that you are engaging them into, shame

on them because they are now under the stress of performing or failing their parents. If the kid did not know about the scam and he is later found out to be "that" kid who got in the side door, he is a pariah amongst his classmates.

It is now as if money for some is the new "affirmative action" but only for rich white folks where their money, coupled with their whiteness, is not a standout as if were a qualified black kid going to a prestigious school but yet some white class mates doubt his bona fides to be sitting alongside them in History 101.

Any college that enjoys a stellar reputation is going to review its admissions procedures to make sure that all of its applicants did not get the benefit of a money payoff scam that resulted in their admissions.

Yeah, the good ol' boy system and alumni watching out for each other will continue in spite of the best protective systems since wealth apparently believes that its presence should make inroads wherever or whenever it presents itself be it in Congress or at the doors of academia.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



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Two Lourdes Faculty Appointed to City of Toledo Human Relations Committee - Patrice McClellan and Shay Bankston

Lourdes University is proud to announce the appointment of two faculty members, Patrice McClellan, PhD, and Shay Bankston, to the newly created City of Toledo Human Relations Committee. Appointed by Toledo City Mayor, Wade Kapszukiewicz, in their current roles, McClellan and Bankston will work as colleagues to support a safe, energetic and livable city and support residents working to overcome prejudice and build mutual respect.

Shay Elletha Bankston

Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Premier Consulting, a company that provides behavioral health and community development services, Bankston has worked as an adjunct instructor for Lourdes and was recently appointed interim director of Social Work. She has been instrumental in organizing a Teen Summit 4.0 event at Lourdes featuring Lucas County Common Pleas Judge Stacy Cook as the keynote speaker. "Not In Our Town" focuses on youth taking a stand against gun violence and crime.



Shay Bankston

The licensed independent social worker has served the region and community in several capacities including Director of Family Services of Northwest Ohio, Habilitation Coordinator for the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities and as a Home/Office Based Clinical Therapist at Unison Behavioral Health Group. She earned a Bachelor of Social Work degree from The University of Toledo, a Master of Social Work from Eastern Michigan University and a Master of Arts in Organizational Management from Spring Ar-

bor University. She is currently in the dissertation completion phase of a Doctorate of Education in Educational Foundations and Leadership Policy at Bowling Green State University.

Patrice McClellan

Committed to serving the community, McClellan is a member of the Paramount Healthcare Board, chair of the United Way African American Leadership Council (AALC) Joint Council and, until 2018, served as co-chair of its Leadership Development Committee. Recently, McClellan was selected as a "20 under 45" individual to receive the 2019 Black Lives Matter Award by the Community Solidarity Response Network.



Patrice McClellan

The Lourdes associate professor of Business & Leadership previously prepared some of this region's brightest and most talented leaders as Director of the University's Master of Organizational Leadership program. A published author and respected leadership expert, she earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree at The University of Toledo and Master of Organizational Leadership and Doctor of Education in Educational Administration & Leadership Studies degrees from Bowling Green State University. McClellan has presented across the country on a variety of subjects including race and gender, leadership, social justice and superintendency. In 2011, J.A. Alston and McClellan co-authored Herstories: Leading with Lessons of the Lives of Black Women Activists.

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Will Lucas: Relishing and Thriving on the Spirit of Entrepreneurship

By Asia Nails

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Students' early experiences shape what they imagine to be possible. If imagination can create reality then seeing examples of whom you want to be makes a difference. The same can be said for entrepreneurs. If representation matters, then serial entrepreneur Will Lucas is representing Toledo very well!

He gives uncensored inspirational insights into navigating business, while suggesting ways to discover a bit about yourself along the way.

"We are building one of the most diverse and culturally relevant marketing agencies in this region. Our business has grown slowly but steadily for 12 years now," says Lucas. His business naturally evolved after a career in radio, which he credits teaching him many lessons on opportunity early on.

Lucas is the founder and CEO at Creadio, the parent brand to several of his tech and media-related businesses. A full-service marketing agency, Creadio, specializes in custom brand radio. "We think of it as an in-store radio station but custom built for companies like restaurants and retail environment," he says. "So during music breaks, you'll hear a DJ come on and provide content about that particular business' products, promotions and services. We have also ventured off into other spaces - full video production, website development, graphic design, communication strategy- the gamut."

Rather than beginning with an abstract "what the customer needs" and building outward, Lucas begins with a focus on the business owner. "Yes, your product/service must fit a customer's need, but your ideal business grows best from your own humanity: your strengths and interests - the things that make you, uniquely you, that big box stores cannot compete with."

"You are the cure," states Lucas, in a self-published LinkedIn article. Lucas is able to connect with clients and popular culture audiences alike including the personal journey of entrepreneurship, which is often overlooked in business writing.

Lucas thinks back to when he was growing up. "When I was developing, I always knew success was possible because I saw it on TV. I didn't realize it was possible for me, however, until I moved to Atlanta and I saw successful people who looked just like me."

Lucas believes it's important to see the world for oneself, especially through travel, as it helps to inspire and open our eyes without experiencing life through someone else's filter. "Get exposure to what is out in the world. When you see things for yourself you get a greater appreciation for opportunities and voids in the marketplace."

Lucas was named to the University of Toledo's Board of Trustees by Governor John Kasich in February 2016, the youngest member in the board's history. The governor also appointed him to the Ohio Casino Control Commission in 2013 - to which he was reappointed for a second four-year term in 2017, and he also serves as chairman to the Ohio Martin Luther King Jr. Commission, having been appointed in 2014.

"As I sit on the University of Toledo Board, there is only a 10 to 15-year age difference from myself and the students. What is important to me is to be



Will Lucas

relatable, so I still wear my retro Jordans in many environments. Something like sneakers can be significant because when the student sees board members that come from the same places they do, they can see themselves in the same trustee seat one day."

Will Lucas is the co-founder and CEO of Classana, a software which helps people share and discover educational resources for both personal and professional development. He also hosts the Of10 podcast highlighting prominent internet tech personalities and exposing some uber-successful black people in tech to his listeners.


In addition to his business ventures, Lucas is one of the few young African-American TEDx organizers in the U.S. TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, generally by way of short, powerful talks. Likewise, independently run TEDx events help share ideas in communities around the world. Lucas has been the curator for TEDxToledo since its inception in 2012.

When asked what he loves most about marketing, Lucas shares, "I believe that urban culture drives mainstream culture. So at Creadio, of course, we check all of the diversity boxes like age, race, and background, male and female - etc. What is most important to me is that we are the most culturally relevant agency in the region. Mostly I love heading a company that has the privilege of helping brands reach the audience that drives mainstream culture."

Concerning the challenges of growing a successful business, Lucas says, "What I think about in building a company headquartered in Toledo is pushing forward the local receptivity to the spirit of entrepreneurship in general."

Lucas credits his father and local mentors like Charlie Mack of WJUC 107.3 and Glenn Johnson, a former McDonald's franchisee who with gave

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Perryman... continued from page 2

Gabriel: Church membership was much greater than it is now. You had Calvary Baptist, Mt. Zion, Friendship; you had Warren A.M.E., Phillips Temple CME, Third Baptist Church, and also Indiana Avenue Baptist, which was being established during that time. And of course, you had True Vine Baptist, out Stickney. The churches in the city would be full.

Perryman: How did the religious community affect the lives of black people politically?

Gabriel: They had a united front. For instance, when Donna Owens was the mayor and the ministers decided to protest by coming downtown to take over council chambers during a council meeting, I was behind the scenes and when they began walking up, very few people know it, but I grabbed Pastor Roberts' coat and he said 'what's wrong?' And I said 'all of you can't go up there because one of you has to get the rest out of jail.' Everybody thought that when he didn't go up there that he was backing out, but he was the one that got the ministers out of jail.

Perryman: He often tells that story today.

Gabriel: It is the truth. Roberts is not a militant person, he's a behind the scenes activist. He's a navigator. Today, anything you say, almost before you get it out your mouth, they're putting it on Facebook and adding adjectives, verbs and pronouns that didn't even come out of your mouth. But Roberts is one who navigated the system from behind the scenes and made calls that no one ever knew about. And that's the difference.

Perryman: Who were some of the other notable leaders who influenced you, the black community and Toledo?

Gabriel: The person that influenced me the most was Hazel Harding.

Perryman: Many might not recognize the name. Please tell our readers about Ms. Harding's influence in your life.

Gabriel: I love history and politics. I'm a political strategist and Hazel Harding was a community activist who was a strategist. She served on the state level of the Republican Party. Hazel was also on the national level of the Republican Party and part of the national women, black women, that started the United Front, which was a Republican organization back in the 50's and 60's. There was actually a college, a university of training so that we, black folks, could be groomed and nurtured in the Party.

Perryman: A lot of people, including my wife, talk about how you, yourself, have been an impactful mentor to her and an entire generation of individuals. Jeffrey Johnson, the BET personality and former University of Toledo student government president recently spoke glowingly, also, of your work with him

and other young people. Others have talked about your selfless giving as they came up as juniors in the NAACP. Many people, however, did not know about your benevolence and mentorship.

Gabriel: My husband and I were both working so I could afford to help young people when their parents didn't give them money, and I have always been a big fundraiser. I could get vehicles to raffle off to raise money, to take 35, 45 young people out of town and I would be death on them to use the right fork and dress properly and don't bring any NAACP babies back. Everything that Hazel Harding had driven into me I drove into them. Does it make sense now? Hazel taught me how to...she forced me to type, I had to take business and these are things, my mother was never exposed to that so...and Wayman Palmer, city and county administrator, was another one, he was one of my mentors.

Perryman: What has been your greatest accomplishment? What would you like to leave as your legacy?

Gabriel: I had a daughter and a son, even though my daughter passed away, that's what I take to be my greatest accomplishment.

Perryman: So, what's next for Theresa Gabriel?

Gabriel: I don't know what I'm going to do next. I really don't. But my grandson has decided to run for City Council, so I plan to help him but I'm not going to be out front, it will be behind the scenes. While everyone else is going to look at it like, 'oh, there she goes again,' but I'm looking at it differently. White folks have generations to follow them so why can't a black person have that? That's the way I look at it.

Perryman: That's Robert Gabriel III? And, for representation of District 1?

Gabriel: Yes. In District 1, another generation of Gabriels is going forth. He is a recent graduate from the University of Toledo College of Law who has also been focusing on marketing local businesses. In addition to the law degree he also has a master's degree in criminal justice and has been developing restaurants and the entertainment scene.

Perryman: Wow!

(To be continued)

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at drdldperryman@enterofhopebaptist.org

Will Lucas... continued from page 5

him opportunities to develop both as man and an entrepreneur in this landscape. "I am an advocate on getting more people to champion both success and failure alike. Failure is the only way to find success. Being willing to fail and accepting failure are two different things. Be willing to fail but be relentless about trying again using what you have learned through the previous failure," he adds.

"We should all have people that can pour back into us and the areas of our lives that are meaningful to us. Sometimes big names aren't as relevant as the categories of people in your life that impact personal growth," says Lucas. Those categories, he says, would include mentors of all types – spiritual, financial, professional. "Get somebody you can talk to who can share what they have learned."

Widely recognized as a leading technology entrepreneur, Business Insider listed Lucas on The 25 Most Influential African-Americans in Tech (2013), and The 46 Most Important African-Americans in Technology (2014). NBC News' 'The Griot' named Lucas to the Top 10 Blacks in tech to look out for in 2013. In 2015, TechCrunch listed Lucas on 40 Diverse People in Tech Who Made Big Moves in 2015.

With such accolades it comes as no surprise that Lucas focuses on always leaving value to future moguls. He ends our chat with the ethics of entrepreneurship, connecting the nuts and bolts from earlier with a coherent philosophy and worldview.

"We have to give more grace in failure. When you learned something through failure it should be championed. If you are not failing you are not trying. We really have to get comfortable with trying - and trying publicly. Cities like Toledo that flourished in the industrial age can often be risk-averse. We don't live in that world anymore so we must adapt. If we want our businesses to succeed we have to give people more opportunities to try – especially when it does not result in success. That is how we learn. Try. Young and old, try. You get one shot at this thing called life. This is not practice. This is 'Go for it!'"



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The Mother of the Movement (M.O.M.S.) Celebrated

Fifty years ago, Barbara Ann Teer founded the National Black Theatre (NBT). NBT, New York City's oldest continually run black theater, is celebrating its golden anniversary with "NBT Beyond Walls," with activities across the city, country and world.

On Saturday, March 16, in honor of Women's History Month, National Black Theatre partnered with the Weeksville Heritage Center to present "The Mothers of The Movement [M.O.M.S.]: The Black Woman — She Does Exist," part of the Onstage @ Weeksville theater series. Directed by NBT Artistic Director Jonathan McCrory, the event revisited the foremothers who organized, marched, recruited, campaigned, made meals, coordinated direct action efforts and laid the groundwork for the Civil Rights and the Black Arts movements. Black women artists revisited several seminal texts from the Civil Rights and Black Arts Movements.

Readings included:

"The Black Woman: She Does Exist" by Dr. Barbara Ann Teer, performed by Lizan Mitchell. The piece was reimagined by Chisa Hutchinson, whose "Gaze This" was performed by Victoria Wallace.

"Address at the Hattiesburg Freedom Day Rally" by Ella Baker, performed by Marjorie Johnson. The piece was reimagined by Mfoniso Udofia, whose "Birthday Homily" was performed by ChelseaDee Harrison.

"The SNCC Position Paper" by the Women of SNCC, performed by Patricia Johnson. The piece was reimagined by Staceyann Chinn, whose "Me Too, Too" was performed by Brittany Bellizeare.

In further celebration of a Brooklyn-based mother of the movement, an article written by Dr. Joan Maynard, artist, preservationist, and first executive director of The Weeksville Society, "I'm A Preservationist," by Maynard, National Trust for Historic Preservation, was featured, performed by Elizabeth Van Dyke.



Mothers of the Movement Celebrated

Statement from Iris E. Harvey, President and CEO of Planned Parenthood

A divided federal appeals court upheld an Ohio law on March 12 that strips Planned Parenthood of government funding for a wide variety of health services for women solely because it also provides access to abortion.

Among those services that will no longer have funding are cervical and breast cancer screening, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS treatment and education of teens on how to avoid pregnancy.

Overturning two lower court decisions, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the

... continued on page 13

The next stop for NBT is the Schomburg Center in Harlem on Tuesday, April 16 for "In Perpetual Flight: The Migration of the Black Body." For up-to-date information about NBT's 50th anniversary, visit www.national-blacktheatre.org or follow NBT on Facebook (@NationalBlackTheatre) and Twitter/Instagram (@NatBlackTheatre).



Barbara Ann Teer

ABOUT NATIONAL BLACK THEATRE:

Founded by visionary Barbara Ann Teer in 1968, National Black

Theatre (NBT) is a nationally recognized cultural and educational institution. Teer pioneered "the healing art of Black theater as an instrument for wholeness in urban communities where entrepreneurial artists of African descent live and work." In 1983, Teer expanded the vision of NBT by purchasing a 64,000-square-foot building on 125th Street and Fifth Avenue (renamed "National Black Theatre Way" by local law in 1994). This was the first revenue-generating Black arts complex in the country, an innovative arrangement through which for-profit businesses who shared NBT's spiritual and aesthetic values rented retail space to subsidize the arts. Out of her vision, NBT houses the largest collection of Nigerian New Sacred Art in the Western hemisphere and is considered the authentic representation of a model whose time has come. NBT is supported by grants from the Ford Foundation, New York Community Trust, Time Warner Corporation, Howard Gilman Foundation, Jerome Foundation, Andrew Mellon Foundation, City Council of New York, City of New York Department of Cultural Affairs, Columbia Service Society and private donations. Visit www.nationalblacktheatre.org or follow NBT on Facebook (@NationalBlackTheatre) and Twitter/Instagram (@NatBlackTheatre).

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Scott Alumni Association Holds Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Sojourner's Truth Staff

On March 16, 2019, the Jesup W. Scott High School Alumni Association welcomed nine graduates into its Hall of Fame with a luncheon and induction ceremony at The Pinnacle. The ceremony also included the presentation of the 2019 Scholarship Recipients – 10 Scott students bound for college.

The Hall of Fame program began in 1981 in an effort to honor Scott alumni who had achieved notable success in a range of areas – business, the arts, the professions, government and community service. After 1987, the inductions ended and the Alumni Association became inactive. The Association was re-organized in 2006 and the Hall of Fame induction ceremony began again in 2016.

This fourth induction ceremony in the revived series featured a welcome by hosts Tara Ali, class of 1977 and the Membership Committee Chairman, and Richard Eppstein, class of 1965 and the vice president of the Alumni Association who also presented a brief history of the school.

This year's inductees were C. Brown; Darlene Sweeney-Newbern; Willie Oliver; Reva Rice; Michael Rosenberg; James W. Scheib; Dr. Stanford Taylor Shulman, MD; Dr. Gerald Stark, MD; Dr. Azure L. Utley, DDS.

C. Brown, a longtime funeral home owner and director, has been a long-time supporter of Scott High School – six of his siblings attended – having worked with the athletic teams and the Scott High School Alumni Association since its revival.

Darlene Sweeney-Newbern joined the Ohio Civil Rights Commission in 1990 as an investigator and has since risen through the ranks to COO-Director of Regional Operations for the agency having handled notable cases along the way and drawing the attention of national media as well.

Willie Oliver was a history teacher at Scott High School from September 1966 to July 2004, also be-

... continued on page 12



2019 Alumni Scholarship Recipients



Richard Eppstein and Theresa Gabriel



Carnel Smith and Councilwoman Yvonne Harper; Celeste Smith (seated)



Zahra April and Helen Cooks, PhD



Seated: Doris Stark wife of inductee Dr. Gerald Stark, Michael Rosenberg, Darlene Sweeney-Newbern
Standing: Dr. Stanford Shulman, Lisa Halsey sister of inductee Dr. Azure Utley, C. Brown, James Scheib, Reva Rice, Tanyika Oliver-Williams daughter of inductee Willie Oliver



Zahra April and Helen Cooks, PhD



Jerusalem Baptist First Lady Monica Colbert-Perryman and Rev. Willie Perryman



Reva Rice and Anita Madison



WilliAnn Moore



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The Sojourner's Truth Economy and Financial Health

Social Security- Questions and Answers

By Erin Thompson, Public Affairs Specialist in Toledo, OH

Guest Column

Question:

How can I get a copy of my Social Security Statement?

Answer:

You can get your personal *Social Security Statement* online by using your personal *my Social Security* account. If you don't yet have an account, you can easily create one. Your online *Statement* gives you secure and convenient access to your earnings records. It also shows estimates for retirement, disability, and survivors benefits you and your family may be eligible for.

To set up or use your account to get your online Social Security Statement, go to www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

We also mail *Statements* to workers age 60 and over who aren't receiving Social Security benefits and do not yet have a *my Social Security account*. We mail the *Statements* three months prior to your birthday.

Question:

I'm trying to figure out how much I need to save for my retirement. Does the government offer any help with financial education?

Answer:

Yes. For starters, you may want to find out what you can expect from Social Security with a visit to Social Security's Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator. The Financial Literacy and Education Commission has a website that can help you with the basics of financial education: www.mymoney.gov. Finally, you'll want to check out the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, which offers educational information on a number of financial matters, including mortgages, credit cards, retirement, and other big decisions. Visit the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau at www.consumerfinance.gov.

Question:

How do I change my citizenship status on Social Security's records?

Answer:

To change your citizenship status shown in Social Security records:

- Complete an application for a Social Security card (Form SS-5), which you can find online at www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ss-5.html; and
- Provide documents proving your:
 - New or revised citizenship status (We can only accept certain documents as proof of citizenship. These include your U.S. passport, a Certificate of Naturalization, or a Certificate of Citizenship. If you are not a U.S. citizen, Social Security will ask to see your current immigration documents);
 - Age; and
 - Identity.
- Next, take (or mail) your completed application and documents to your local Social Security office.

All documents must be either originals or copies certified by the issuing agency. We cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies of documents. For more information, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber.

Question:

I heard there is a Social Security video available in American Sign Language (ASL). Where can I find it?

Answer:

Yes, it's true. The video is called "Social Security, SSI and Medicare: What You Need to Know About These Vital Programs." The video is available in ASL and it presents important information about our programs. You can watch the video now at www.socialsecurity.gov/multimedia/video/asl. The video is a part of our larger collection of on-demand videos and webinars available at www.socialsecurity.gov/webinars and at www.YouTube.com.

Question:

I worked for the last 10 years and I now have my 40 credits. Does this mean that I get the maximum Social Security retirement benefit?

Answer:

Probably not. The 40 credits are the minimum number you need to qualify for retirement benefits. However, we do not base your benefit amount on those credits; it's based on your earnings over a lifetime of work. To learn more about how you earn Social Security credits and how they work, read or listen to our publication *How You Earn Credits*, available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs.



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Waters Supports Bipartisan Bill to Increase Housing Opportunities for Low-Income Families

Special to The Truth

Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-CA), chairwoman of the House Financial Services Committee, gave the following floor statement on H.R. 1122, the Housing Choice Voucher Mobility Demonstration Act, bipartisan legislation to help improve services and flexibility for Americans who are receiving housing assistance.

As Prepared for Delivery

Mr. Speaker, rigorous studies have demonstrated that giving a low-income family the opportunity to move to a lower poverty neighborhood can have a profound impact, particularly for young children.

For example, one study found that young boys and girls in families that used a voucher to move to lower poverty neighborhoods were 32 percent more likely to attend college and earned 31 percent more (or nearly \$3,500 a year) compared to their counterparts in families that did not receive a voucher.

Unfortunately, families with Housing Choice Vouchers that want to move to a better neighborhood can face significant challenges, particularly if it involves moving from one public housing agency jurisdiction to another. In fact,



data shows that only one in eight families with children with a Housing Choice Voucher use their vouchers to live in low-poverty areas.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1122 would help reduce barriers to mobility by establishing a demonstration program that would enable and incentivize public housing agencies to come together to come up with a regional plan to increase mobility across their jurisdictions.

This is a bipartisan proposal that was included in HUD budget requests under the Obama Administration. Further, \$25 million in funding for this demonstration was included in FY 2019 funding bill for HUD programs, and a version of this bill passed the House last Congress 368 to 19. This demonstration will not only provide thousands of families with opportunities to move to better neighborhoods, but it will also lay the foundation for how successful outcomes can be replicated at a larger scale across the country.

I want to congratulate the gentleman from Missouri, Mr. Cleaver and the gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. Duffy, for introducing this initiative.

I urge all Members to vote "Yes" on H.R. 1122.

H.R. 1122 was introduced by Congressman Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO) and Congressman Sean Duffy (R-WI), Members of the House Financial Services Committee. The bill passed by a vote of 387-22.

Boy Scouts Organize Food Drive to Benefit Local Food Pantries

In the spirit of the Boy Scouts of America promise, "to do a good turn daily" and "to help other people at all times," the Erie Shores Council of the Boy Scouts of America will organize their annual "Scouting for Food" non-perishable item food drive in Lucas County (Ohio) during the week of March 30-April 6, 2019.

Scouting for Food is the Boy Scouts of America's longest running nationwide service project to help stop hunger. It began as one Scout's service project in St. Louis, MO in 1985 and was nationally adopted in 1988.

Over 150 units comprised of Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, Exploring Posts, and Venture Crews located in Lucas County will distribute informational tags by March 30th. The tags will include the local unit serving your area and a list of acceptable donation items. Lucas County residents are asked to leave their donation on their front porch by 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 6, 2019. The items will be picked up and delivered to food pantries and shelters located in Lucas County.

Scouting for Food is supported by Frisch's® Big Boy® Restaurants of NW Ohio and also Keystone Press.

The week of March 30-April 6, 2019 non-perishable food items can be dropped off at the Lucas County locations of Frisch's® Big Boy® Restaurants including: W Alexis Road, Secor Road, and South Reynolds Road.

About the Erie Shores Council of the Boy Scouts of America:

Under the leadership of approximately 2,500 adult volunteers, the Erie Shores Council provides a values-based, character education program for youth in our community, including Cub Scouts (K-5th grades), Boy Scouts (6th-12 grades). In addition, Erie Shores Council offers Exploring and Venturing which are co-ed programs for youth 14-20 yrs. old who seek opportunities to "explore" fields of career interest or wish to participate in high "adventure" activities.

Erie Shores Council owns two camps, Camp Miakonda in Sylvania, OH and Pioneer Scout Reservation near Pioneer, OH, which provide outdoor education and camping experiences for Scouts and non-Scouts alike.

To learn more, call 419.241.7293, or go to www.erieshorescouncil.org.

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Scott Alumni... continued from page 8

coming a guidance counselor, boys cross country and track team coach, girls cross country and track team coach and a member of the Booster organization. After his retirement, he continued to work with Toledo Public Schools until 2015.

Reva Rice has had a long, successful career as an entertainer – music, dance and theater. A Broadway veteran, Rice has also appeared in a host of musicals around the world such as Chicago; Smokey Joe's Café; Sign, Sealed, Delivered; Ain't Misbehavin', among others. She has starred alongside stars such as Chaka Khan, John O'Hurley and Patrick Swayze and has been a NAACP Theater Award nominee and a Helen Hayes Award nominee.

Michael Rosenberg is a chartered life underwriter and a chartered financial consultant, who joined Savage & Associates in 1964 at the age of 20, eventually becoming executive vice president and managing director of the Securities Division. He has been a member of the Million Dollar Round Table each year since 1970.

James W. Scheib has been a partner in the independent insurance and financial service firm of Scheib Snow and Company LLC for 43 years. He has been a Life and Qualifying member of the Million Dollar Round Table for more than 50 years.

Dr. Stanford T. Shulman, MD, earned his medical degree from the University of Chicago in 1967 and served on the faculty of the University of Florida from 1972 to 79; became the chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Children's Memorial in Chicago from 1979 to 2015. He was also professor of Pediatrics at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine.

Dr. Gerald Stark, MD, earned his MD from St. Louis University School of Medicine and was in private practice as a general surgeon from 1954 until 1999. When private practice ended he returned to St. Vincent Hospital a Chief of Surgery and also as Director of the Surgery Residents Program.

Dr. Azure Utley, DDS, earned her dental degree from the University of Detroit-Mercy School of Dentistry. A lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army, Dr. Utley is dean of Clinical Instruction, Department of Orthodontics at the University of Maryland. She is adjunct clinical professor of Prosthodontics at the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry.

This year's scholarship recipients were: Jeremiah Savion Belcher, Trinity Bester, Zanaye' Keshann Chandler, Sheronda Galloway, D'Asia Gover, Yai'Zierra Jelks, Jasiah Monae' Nelums and Destiny Osaretin Oshodin.

Avie Dixon, Scott Class of 1964 and a long-time teacher at her alma mater, is president of the Alumni Association. The Hall of Fame Committee consists of: Zahra Collins, chairwoman; Doris Jones, co-chairwoman; Tara Ali; Vernice Blanchard; Donald Steve Cole; Richard Eppstein; Theresa M. Gabriel; Susan Hirsch, Johnny Hutton; Stan Odesky; Patricia Squire and Tyra Smith.

AKA... continued from page 16

obstacles during her lifetime. She was born as Isabella Baumfree after her father's owner and changed her name to Sojourner Truth believing this to be the instruction of the Holy Spirit. She also became a traveling preacher (the meaning of her new name).

For Founders Day, the Toledo Adult and Youth Clubs of NANBPWC, Inc. honored an African-American business owner and paid tribute to the seven national founders who were business owners, managers, college graduates and professionally- licensed individuals who displayed great leadership in the community. The Youth Club members held a candle lighting service to honor the national founders.

June Boyd, who is a charter member of the Toledo Adult Club, attended the program and received recognition as a charter member.

This year the Club selected Fletcher Word, publisher and owner of the Sojourner's Truth Newspaper as the Founders' Day Honoree. He is dedicated to reporting the news while supporting the Toledo community programs and events, health and educational issues, employment, bringing political awareness and other news worthy issues. The Sojourner's Truth is a weekly paper that serves the northwest Ohio community and has a readership of over 70,000.

In 2008, the newspaper opened the Truth Gallery in its offices in the downtown area. The 2,000 square foot gallery features the works of local and African artists.

Word is a native of New York and was reared in the Washington D.C. area. He attended Harvard College, graduating with a degree in government. The father of two currently serves on boards of the Toledo Federal Credit Union and the Center of Hope Family Services.

In addition to the Sojourner's Truth, Word is a frequent contributor on local television shows as a political analyst.

Word is an unsung hero in the world of journalism. His passion to report information correctly and factually is one of the reasons the newspaper became "The Truth" reflecting a time in history when Sojourner Truth was an abolitionist who spoke on many rights. Her poem, "Ain't I a Woman" talks about not just being a woman, but black women and their right to vote. His vision started 18 years ago.

Many groups and organizations from the community came together to honor Word. He was presented with plaques from the Toledo Club of the NANBPWC; a proclamation from Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz (by Marquita Scott Chong); resolutions from Toledo City Council via Councilmen Larry Sykes and Tyrone Riley; NANBPWC North Central District Governor LaTaunya V. Conley, PhD; Rhonda Sewell on behalf of the Toledo Public Library and the Black Media Association; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, and Suzette Cowell from the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union.

Program participants were Chrystal Harris Darnell - mistress of ceremony; Frances Collins, PhD, Toledo Club president; La Taunya V. Conley, PhD, North Central District governor; Denise Black-Poon 1st vice president, program chairman and NCD Protocol chairman; Jada Collins - Youth Club vice president; Clara Brank, Fundraiser co-chairman; Wanda Terrell Galloway- Leadership; Alexii Collins- 2nd vice president, NCD Youth Leader, and Technology chairman.

Inez James, president of the Lorain Club, was a featured guest artist who did a wonderful portrayal of Sojourner Truth that captured the audience's attention. She talked about the times when Sojourner Truth gave one of the most famous abolitionist and women's rights speeches in American History, "Ain't I a Woman?"

Denise and Larry Cardwell catered and served dinner to the special guest in attendance.

Other club members in attendance were Donna Todd, Mary Dawson, DeLores Bates, Deborah Carlisle, Beverly Tucker Barbara Tucker, BJ Tucker,



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Inventing Victoria by Tonya Bolden

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

You can be anything you want to be!

That's what you were told, growing up: you could do anything, try everything, and be anybody you wanted to be, if you tried. Set your sights on something, and it was yours – so in the new novel *Inventing Victoria* by Tonya Bolden, a young girl wants a better life.

Five-year-old Essie was embarrassed half to death.

High in her attic room, she could still hear the noises of the "uncles" that her Mamma was entertaining but the "uncles" were all white men, which made no sense and Essie hated it. It should've come as no surprise to anybody that she wanted to go live at Ma Clara's house, where she never had to worry about food or "uncles."

At 13, Essie had enough.

Ma Clara had helped nourish her mind and her soul, and Essie knew the time was right for her to leave Mamma by taking a job at Abby Bowfield's boardinghouse. There, she made her first friend and she dared to dream of a happy future – as if, for a girl whose Mamma escaped from slavery, that wasn't impossible.

And then the impossible happened.

Miss Dorcas Vashon, who had Room 4 at Miss Abby's on permanent hold, took a liking to Essie and made her an offer she couldn't refuse: She'd take Essie away from Savannah and make her into a lady, teach her, form her, correct her speech and fix her slouch. In exchange, Essie would have to give up everything she'd ever known.

And so, a girl named Essie stepped away from Miss Abby's boardinghouse one day, and became Victoria.

At 18, Victoria tried not to look back at her life. Doing so was "excessively ill-bred" but she couldn't help it. With the guidance of Dorcas Vashon, she'd reinvented herself, but there were so many things she didn't know: how, for example, could a new lady keep an old woman in her heart?

c.2019
Bloomsbury
\$17.99 / \$23.99 Canada
264 pages

How can a lady remember where she came from, without ruining where she was going?

How could Victoria keep living the lie she'd been given?

Absolutely, *Inventing Victoria* is a familiar story with a different twist: more than a century ago, it was a play. Half that, it was a movie. Now, this Pygmalion-like tale is set in the years after the Civil War, and your teen is going to love it.

Not only is it a great story, author Tonya Bolden also creates settings that invite historical figures to pass through her characters' lives. Frederick Douglass is here. James Wormley is mentioned, as is O.S.B. Wall and John Mercer Langston, and Elizabeth Keckley makes dresses for Victoria. These people flow through the tale like it's an everyday thing to 19th-century folks but for modern readers, Bolden makes their presence feel like visits from royalty.

Relevant, timely, and quietly informative, for a 12-to-17-year-old who enjoys gentle adventure plus romance wrapped in a fairy tale, this book is perfect. For her, *Inventing Victoria* is a book she'll want to be near.

Planned Parenthood... continued from page 7

6th Circuit, by a vote of 11 to 6, rejected arguments that the 2016 Ohio law imposed unconstitutional conditions on the state's distribution of federal funds.

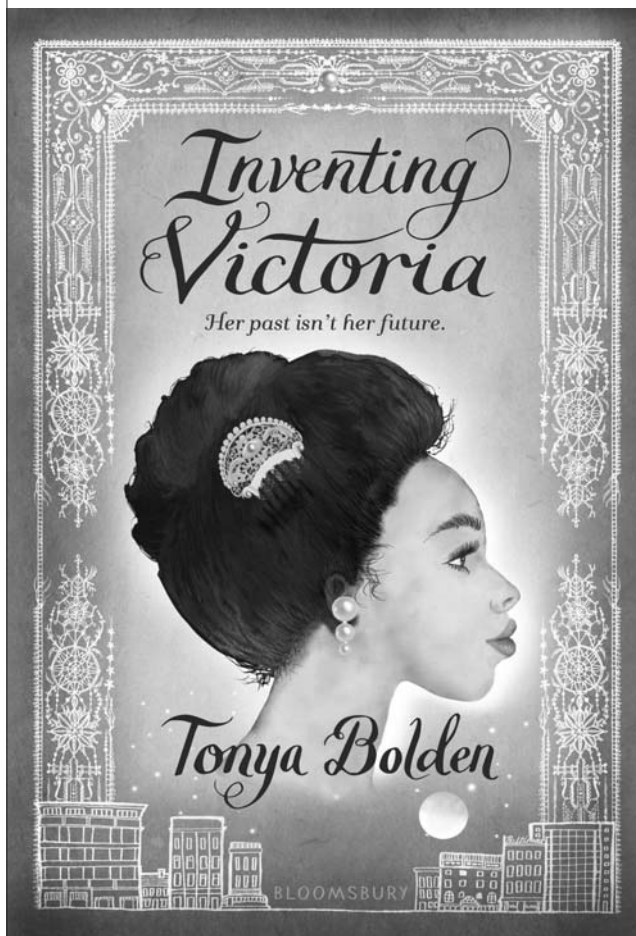
"Today's ruling is a direct attack on health care access for Ohio's most at-risk communities. It's shameful that politicians like Mike DeWine and John Kasich insist on blocking people from accessing essential reproductive health care and education in our state.

"It's no coincidence that this ruling came down on the same day the House heard testimony for a bill that would use taxpayer dollars to implement a costly, anti-abortion mis-education campaign in schools and the likely Senate committee vote for the dangerous six-week abortion ban – a bill that Governor DeWine has promised to sign. It's clear that this is a concerted effort to block Ohioans from accessing to the full range of reproductive health care, including safe and legal abortion."

"Planned Parenthood will thoughtfully evaluate the impact of this ruling and will explore all of the options, including continuing litigation."



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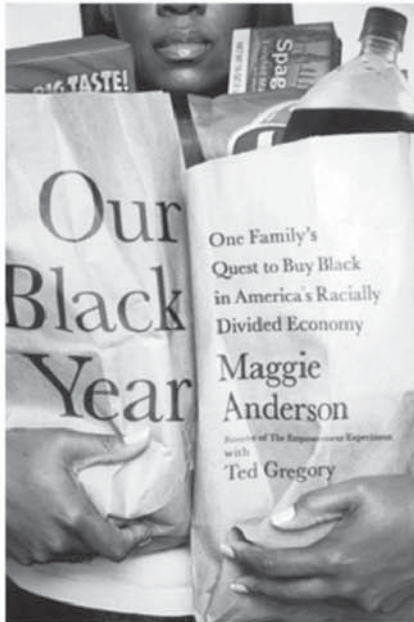
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Youth & Young Adult 4th Sunday

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

Where: Crusaders for Christ Church
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CLASSIFIEDS

March 20, 2019

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CLIENT SERVICES SPECIALIST LUCAS COUNTY

Lucas County Planning & Development Agency is accepting applications to fill the position of Client Services Specialist until filled. Additional information regarding the duties is available on the Lucas County web site (www.co.lucas.oh.us). Click on "Apply for a Job" and then select "Client Services Specialist" from the list to read more or apply.

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Lucas County Engineer, Road Maintenance department, is accepting applications to fill the Summer Seasonal Laborer I position. Application deadline is March 19, 2019 at 4:30 pm. Additional information regarding the duties is available on the Lucas County web site (www.co.lucas.oh.us). Click on "Apply for a Job" and then select "Lucas County Engineer - Summer Seasonal Laborer I" from the list to read more or apply.

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INVITATION FOR BIDS CONCRETE REPLACEMENT SERVICES, AUTHORITY-WIDE IFB19-B002

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive sealed bids for **Concrete Replacement Services**. Received in accordance with law until **March 26, 2019, 3:00 PM ET**. See documents: www.lucasmha.org; 201 Belmont Ave., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711). Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements (Executive Order #11246). This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY19-56, (Project # 0089-19-213) for Center for Administrative Support Renovations for the University of Toledo. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 2, 2019. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Rd., Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$60.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Tadd Stacy of Architecture by Design at 419-824-3311. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 15%. Project Estimate: \$737,202.00; Breakdown: General: \$370,650.00; Plumbing: \$38,772.00; Fire Protection: \$10,020.00; HVAC: \$72,000.00; Electrical: \$245,760.00.

Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY19-57, (Project # 5003-19-1860) for HEB College of Medicine Lab Renovations for the University of Toledo Health Science Campus. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Main Campus, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 2, 2019. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 3:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Rd., Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$125.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Alejandro J. Medina of BHPD Architecture at 513-271-1634. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. in the Health Education Building, Room 227, at the University of Toledo, Health Science Campus, 3000 Arlington Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43614. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 15%. Project Estimate: \$805,250.00; Breakdown: General: \$608,750.00; Plumbing: \$28,000.00; Fire Protection: \$11,000.00; HVAC: \$115,000.00; Electrical: \$42,500.00.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Lucas Housing Services Corporation (LHSC), located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for the following position(s): **Community Development Program Manager**. For complete details, visit www.lucasmha.org/Careers. Deadline: 03/19/19. This is a Section 3 covered position(s). HUD recipients are encouraged to apply and are to indicate on the application if you are a LMHA Public Housing client or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. **NO PHONE CALLS**. Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, religious creed, gender, military status, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin.

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Call to place your ad

419-243-0007

www.TheTruthToledo.com

NANBPWC Annual Women's History and Founders Day Program

By Denise Black-Poon, NANBPWC Program Chairman

Special to The Truth

The members of the Toledo Adult and Youth Clubs of The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, Incorporated celebrated their annual Women's History/Founders Day Program on Sunday March 10, 2019 at the Truth Gallery, 1811 Adams Street.

The Women's History theme was "Visionary Women: Champions of Peace and Non Violence." The women's history event focused on the many contributions made by African American women who have been instrumental in advancing education, business, professionals, technology, family and community. The NANBPWC, Inc. national icon is Sojourner Truth who has been honored for her contributions, struggles and sacrifices during her life journey. Sojourner Truth was born into slavery and overcame many

... continued on page 12



Fletcher Word, Suzette Cowell, Denise and Larry Cardwell



AKA Presentation



LaTaunya L. Corney, Jada Collins, Denise Black-Poon



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Councilmen Tyrone Riley and Larry Sykes with NANBPWC President Frances Collins, PhD



Crystal Harris-Darnell



Inez James as Sojourner Truth