

The *Sojourner's* Truth

Volume 57, No. 8

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

September 18, 2019

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church Women's Day!



Total Praise

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Second Wind

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, PhD

The Truth Contributor

The only way for a fighter to get back in shape is to fight his way back.

— Sugar Ray Leonard



One of the more intriguing council races will be in District 4 between Yvonne Harper, the incumbent, and challenger June Boyd, who returns again to campaign for elected office.

While Harper garnered over 71 percent of the primary vote, expect to see fireworks on the campaign trail as there is no love lost between the two passionate politicians.

Whether the underdog Boyd, a tireless local party regular for more than a half century, can outpace the energetic Harper remains to be seen.

I was able to track Boyd down to discuss her campaign and past experiences in Toledo.

Perryman: Tell me a little bit about June Boyd. You have been around in the community for as long as I can remember and you don't yet seem out of breath. Were you born in Toledo?

Boyd: I was not. My mother brought me here from Georgia at the age of two and our first residence was in the good old Brand Whitlock Homes. In 1943 when I was eight years old, we moved to City Park Avenue, directly across from what is now Savage Park, and we were one of the first black families in Lenk's Hill or German Village as it was then called, other than Dr. Edward Hart, who lived next door. We also lived right across the street from what is now Dale Funeral Home.

Perryman: Where did you go to school?

Boyd: My first four years before I converted to Catholicism was public schools, Washington and Roosevelt and I still have a lot of good friends from there, but by the fourth grade I had converted to Catholicism and I went downtown to St. Francis De Sales because the old St. Patrick's would not take black children back then. I went on to high school at St. Ursula Academy. In fact, I'm the first African American to graduate from there in 1953.

Perryman: You've also had some firsts with your work history, haven't you?

Boyd: I have had a lot of firsts and its fun being a pioneer, but the advantage is that when you're paving the way for someone you want to make sure you have a good path for them to follow. Frances Belcher and her husband Dick, who owned the black newspaper The Bronze Raven, were involved in local politics and they kind of got me started. I was volunteering for many of the candidates and I think my first exposure with the Democratic Party was in 1958 helping candidates, and by 1959 they got me a job in the Board of County Commissioners, also a first. And it was a great experience because I was then working for Ned Skeldon, who was the President of the Board of Commissioners and that's probably where I learned so much about county government. And it was also a period in Toledo where there were very few

black women even working in downtown Toledo, but gradually in the later 50's they started coming in like one woman at a time.

I stayed there about six years and then left to go to the Board of Elections and I worked there for eight years. During this time Ned Skeldon, being probably one of the more powerful men in the city, I was able to get a lot of jobs for people in our community that weren't previously accessible, like positions in the Lucas County welfare department because all those were under the umbrella of the County Commissioners. Carol Rice became one of the first black



June Boyd Photo

supervisors on the voting machines at the Board of Elections and Janice Collins was the driver's examiner. So, I feel when you have these opportunities and that kind of power, that we should be utilizing it. I don't see that happening much today, though.

Perryman: Many people know that you and Edna Brown were the first two African-American women to be elected to serve on Toledo City Council and served together from 1993-1997, but what other experiences have you had?

Boyd: I passed the real estate exam in 1966, was quite successful and I always worked that as a second job. I worked at the Affirmative Action with Perlean Griffin and also Board of Community Relations first with Burt Silverman. I was the associate director there and did a lot in human relations and anti-discrimination work.

Perryman: Let's talk about your campaign. I think you told me before you were 80 years old, is that right?

Boyd: No, I'm 84 and proud of it. My doctor says I look 64 and health wise I did get a physical because I would not have even attempted to be-

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The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African American
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Community Calendar

September 21

Macedonia Baptist Church Big Hat Luncheon: 11 to 2 pm; Fun and spirit filled fellowship – free to the public: 419-242-8700 or 419-490-6851

September 22

Warren AME Annual Unity Day Celebration: 10:30 am; "Unity – From Generation to Generation;" Guest speaker Rev. Walter Randolph of Greater Peaceful Zion Church of Phenix, VA

October 10

Toledoans United for Social Action Core Team Meeting: 6 to 7:30 pm; Parkwood Seven Day Adventist Church; Discussion on Tenant Blacklisting; Community members are invited to share their stories

October 23

UT's "Tricks Treats & Dunks:" 6 to 8 pm; Savage Arena; Trick or treat for kids from 6 to 7 pm; Costume contest at 7; Rockets players at various games

A Garden of Eden Redux?

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

First, a little history lesson that will set the prelude to the following opinion piece.

Let's go back, way back to the Garden of Eden, you know, the place God set up for his first creations, Adam and Eve, to tend to the Garden and to have fellowship with God.

Things were going good for Adam and his wife, Eve. Adam named all the created animals at that time. He and wife were doing supper with meals provided in the Garden. Great weather. No mosquitoes to worry about while walking around in the buff.

No cell phones dying on you. No worry about overdue rents or catching a cold or having medical coverage. To say the least, it was the good life!

Matter of fact, it was so good that God said, "Listen you two, anything you want in this Garden you can have or sample, but...leave that Tree of The Knowledge of Good and Evil alone!" "Are we clear on that," said God.

"Oh yes", said Adam and Eve, "we got the picture and will stay away from it!"

So, God leaves for a moment but said that

... continued on page 4



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Tolliver... continued from page 3

animals talk. Remember the talking donkey rebuking the prophet Balaam when he, without mercy, beat his poor riding donkey for not following his directions.

The donkey saw an angel blocking his path and the donkey had enough sense to stop moving forward. He knew something was up, but the prophet was clueless until the donkey spoke and gave some wisdom as to what was happening in the spiritual realm.

But I digress. Back to the Garden story.

When Satan, appearing as a serpent, told Eve that God was selfish and stingy and he did not want them to be like him and knowing the difference between good and evil, Eve got tripped up and started listening to another other than God.

Bingo! That was the opening Satan needed to issue those now famous words: "Did God really say that if you eat of that tree you would surely die?"

Matter of fact, Satan plied his lie and said that if Eve and Adam were in fact to eat the delicious fruit of that grand tree, they would be like gods and would live forever!

So, Eve, beguiled by the serpent did eat of the fruit and later Adam with her encouragement also ate of the forbidden fruit.

What happened here in the Garden that is now being multiplied around the world and especially in the US of A.

Simple: a concerted campaign of misinformation, alternate facts, internet bots, fake news, trolls, false videos, engineered stories that parade as solid news and thousand of lies that are gushing from the White House.

Satan was able to have Adam and Eve question their primary truth source and he was able to convince them with appeals to their vanity and ego that God was not to be trusted about his warning of not eating from that particular tree.

No, Eve or Adam did not have a cell phone to watch CNN or MS-NBC or Fox News. They had a relationship with God but allowed someone else with a different agenda to corrupt their thinking and to jettison what they knew was truthful.

If you examine current events, it appears that people are vesting less and less truth in previously solid institutions that they relied upon for accuracy and truthfulness.

Now, for many, truth is a scrambled salad full of sandy grit and questionable lumps of fact or half-truths.

Governmental agencies are being challenged for their veracity (remember Trump using his Sharpie to re-do the Hurricane Dorian map?) and venerated organizations like the FBI and the CIA and the military are under severe strain of credulity because Trump is playing the role of Satan in order to undermine pillars of truth if it serves his purposes of becoming When God found out what Satan did to Adam and Eve, Satan, as the serpent, was punished and had to now crawl on his belly (whereas before he walked upright) and eat the dust of the earth.

As for Adam and Eve, their innocence was lost, and they were banished from the Garden for their rejection of the truth of God in exchange for a lie.

Moral of the story: There is nothing new under the sun and what we are now knew as truth is being denigrated and dismissed. This assault on truth has a long history and we are now seeing personalities that are mimicking the same art of Satan's distortion of truth. This assault is being given a 2.0 upgrade via the explosive use of the Internet, cell phones and social media to reach the masses.

Apples, anyone?

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com

Representative Hicks-Hudson Responds to State Report Card System

Articulates Belief in Toledo City School and Concerns with System

Representative Hicks-Hudson (D-Toledo) last week commented on how the Ohio Department of Education does not reflect the work put in by Toledo city schools.

"The grading system from the Ohio Department of Education in no way shows the work, commitment, and determination of our local school district and the challenges it faces to provide quality education" said Representative Hicks-Hudson. "Ohio Department of Education's arbitrary letter grade system of ranking our schools takes away from the actual learning and achievements in Toledo public schools."

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Rhonda Foster To Be Honored as a UT Outstanding Alumna

Sojourner's Truth Staff

On October 4, Rhonda Foster, EdD, MHP, MS, RN, NEA-BC, will be returning to her native Toledo from her current Los Angeles setting to receive an Outstanding Alumna Award from the University of Toledo College of Nursing for her accomplishments as a health care professional.

During her senior year at Central High School, Foster got "got the bug" as she recalls, for the health care profession, specifically for nursing. "I liked science, physiology and the body ... nursing gave me options."

As the child of a single working mother, her college choices were limited. The way out was first to earn an associates degree without incurring a lot of expense, then a bachelor's degree in nursing from UT.

Foster became a registered nurse but eventually discovered that the satisfaction of caring for patients did not satisfy her curiosity about how decisions were made at the highest levels about how that care reached the patients.

"I've always been very inquisitive," she says. "I would ask 'what made them do that?'" She made the decision to attain head nursing status so that she could be a part of that decision-making process only to discover that head nurses "weren't involved in decisions."

She had to set her sights higher.

Now, some years later after earning a master of science in nursing administration from Georgetown University, a master of public health from Bowling Green State University and a doctor of education from BGSU and then becoming an administrative fellow at the Humility Mary Health System in Youngstown; the director of Women's Services at Sparrow Health System in Lansing; the VP of Patient Care Services/Chief Nursing Officer at Childrens Hospital of Lansing; the CNO at St. Joseph Health in Sonoma County, CA; the CNO at City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, CA, Foster became the VP for Patient Care and CNO at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles this summer.

In her current CNO position, Foster oversees 4,000 employees and a budget of almost \$400 million in a hospital that is ranked number five in US News and World Reports for its comprehensive inpatient and outpatient services, its research and medical staff as well as its designation as a magnet hospital.

Foster's reach, however, extends far beyond the boundaries of Los Angeles County. She is a widely published and highly-sought-after hospital

consultant, mentor and leader with a goal of advocating for change, quality and organizational improvement.

As a consultant, her practice has led her to provide services to hospitals in the United States and in various places of the world. She has been a presenter at numerous national and international conferences around the globe addressing issues related to health care delivery, hospital administration and leadership.

Foster's ability to put theory into practice and build relationships has earned her widespread praise within her field. Understanding the benefits of technological advances in health care administration, Foster led the implementation of an electronic medical record system that provided computerized physician order entry and ease in nursing documentation and medication administration at the Detroit Medical Center and City of Hope National Medical Center.

In addition, prior to it becoming a widely accepted practice, she implemented a nurse residency program for new graduate nurses that resulted in a 40 percent reduction in turnover.

Foster's work can be found in the Journal of Nursing Management, Nursing Management, Oncology Nursing Society publications, and other reputable print and online resources.

On Friday, October 4, UT will recognize 15 outstanding graduates, Foster among them, at the Homecoming Gala in the Lancelot Thompson Student Union. The university's 12 degree-awarding colleges will toast the achievements of their graduates, along with the recipients of the Gold T, Blue T and Edward H. Schmidt Outstanding Young Alum Awards.



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Perryman... continued from page 2

come a candidate without getting a physical. She says I have a heart of a 50-year-old.

Perryman: Why, at this point in life when you're 84, have had a long career and could sit back and enjoy your children, grandkids, great grandkids, why get into this now?

Boyd: Probably, if I had not had to raise my great grandson, I would not, but I'm running for him and all of these other children who need better leadership because no one's really paying attention to their needs. If I were to be elected, I would not run for a second term. I would be grooming another young person to succeed me. But you've got to pave the way for them because evidently, no one's doing that right now and someone's got to do it.

Perryman: What is your campaign's platform?

Boyd: Basically, this whole campaign is about leadership and integrity and it means that you need the kind of leader that can recognize the problems in the community, a lack of economic development and we must stress working with the schools, both parochial and public, on quality education, and creating jobs. There are many adults around here who graduated from school and they're illiterate and then you wonder why they can't get any jobs, and not to mention the drug problem, the homelessness, the abandonment and the fact that people have gotten so beat down until they don't have any encouragement to do anything else.

Perryman: So, what do you bring that no one else brings to the table?

Boyd: Right now, a vision. A vision of what is not being done in our community and I think if you look around you can see it. Now, District 4 is the most unique out of all the six districts. We've got our world-famous art museum on Monroe Street. If you continue down Monroe, you come to ProMedica, the Mudhens Stadium, the Walleye, you've got a lot of economic development, lofts, new apartments surrounding Uptown Toledo. But the heart of the central city sits right in there and no one's doing anything about it.

Perryman: What are your strengths as a candidate?

Boyd: Leadership and integrity with a no-nonsense approach. And, you know, I don't have to bully anybody to get anything done, I can do it just by negotiating and bringing people together. I just left George Mance Commons this afternoon and those people are so glad for you to just come over and talk to them. Some need a sense of direction and then there are others that just want to follow and say well okay, let's get it done.

Perryman: Can you provide our readers with specifics of your agenda for the community?

Boyd: Well, it's a whole package. The first thing, I have a question, what has happened to all of the CDC's, the Community Development Corporations? They're all gone. And you never hear of community development block grant funding and that's the reason we don't have anything going on in the central city. What happened to it? And that's going to be one of my first questions and first projects.

You see all these homes that they built and the people were supposed to live in them 15 years and own them? There's a lot of controversy. Some of them say that now they're running into difficulty, but half of them are boarded up, so what's going to happen to those homes? Those are things that we need to investigate and find out because they could possibly be made into quality homes, but they could also be stripped by the drug addicts. I don't know for sure, but there's probably not a neighborhood in the heart of the central city that doesn't have several of those homes just boarded up and abandoned. Why?

Perryman: Do you have a vision to replace the CDC's or for economic development in the central city?

Boyd: Yes, and the city should take some responsibility in doing that. I'm familiar with the Department of Neighborhoods somewhat, but I don't know what their mission is right now today, but I know what it should be. And of course, the bottom line is to get into those agencies, work with them and find out well let's get moving and get these neighborhoods cleaned up. They've torn down a lot of the homes, but for the ones that are left at least try to preserve them and make some decent housing for some people. Even if the city had to take them over, at least it'd be a tax base if they could sell them.

Perryman: What is it about June Boyd and your campaign that you hope will resonate among voters?

Boyd: The one thing that I want you to remember is this campaign is totally about leadership and integrity and that's what the community needs, that's what our children need because they deserve better than what they're getting.

And, that I'm a proud mother of two children, a grandmother to four. I have six great-grandchildren and I'm a fighter and I'm looking to provide a better future not only for my family, but for all of these little children that I spend time with.

Perryman: Thank you.

Boyd: Thank you and you have a blessed day.

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

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AW19-1034



Taxpayer Advocacy Panel

Want to Improve the IRS? SPEAK UP

By Andrea Price, Taxpayer Advocacy Panel Member Representing Ohio

The Truth Contributor

TAP's mission is to listen to taxpayers, identify taxpayers' issues and make suggestions for improving the IRS service and customer satisfaction. We not only listen to taxpayers; we try to do something about it. The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP) is supported by and aligned with the IRS but is not part of the IRS and are not employees of the IRS. TAP is comprised of civic-minded citizen volunteers from all walks of life representing each state, D.C., Puerto Rico and an international member (citizens living, working or doing business abroad).

TAP has six committees working on suggestions submitted by taxpayers. This month I would like to focus on the Taxpayer Assistance Center (TAC) Improvements Committee. TAC is your local IRS office. In Toledo, the office is located at the Four Seagate Building. If you need to visit your local IRS office, you are required to make an appointment by calling 845-545-5640 from 7 a.m. - 7a .m.

The TAC committee is currently working with the IRS to be more customer focused by posting customer friendly signs on the doors of the office and to promote online services. Currently it reads: Appointments Required at IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers. To make an appointment, call us at 844-545-5640. Taxpayers do not need an appointment to make a limited payment, pick up tax forms, or drop off a current year tax return. The TAC committee is working with the IRS and a proposed draft is: Appointments Required. Services are provided by appointment and no appointment is needed to submit non-cash payments or a current year tax return. Taxpayers without an appointment will be seen if we have availability. For more information on IRS services, how to make an appointment, view online tools to make payments, check on the status of a refund and more, see our website at www.irs.gov.

Another taxpayer's suggestion, we are working with the IRS to improve, is to add a map link on the IRS website to the local IRS office with parking information.

Planning to travel outside of the U.S. this year? Don't risk a passport revocation - arrange to settle large IRS debts now

TAX NEWS from Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS)

The Internal Revenue Service is urging taxpayers to resolve their significant tax debts, \$50,000 or more, to avoid putting their passports in jeopardy. If you owe \$50,000 or more and haven't made payment arrangements, please contact the IRS now to avoid travel delays later.

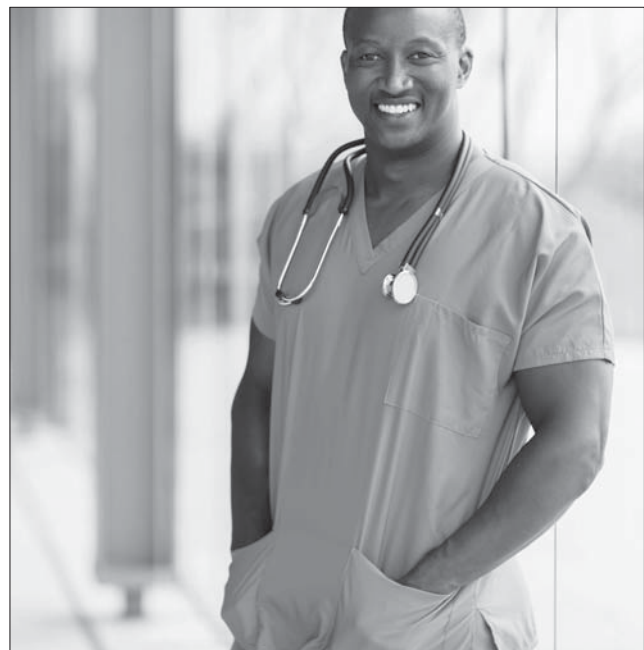
Why is the State Department allowed to limit or revoke my passport due to unpaid taxes?

In December 2015, Congress passed the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. That act authorized the IRS to certify to the State Department taxpayers who owe a seriously delinquent tax debt. A seriously delinquent tax debt is an unpaid, legally enforceable federal tax debt totaling more than \$50,000 (Please note that this amount is adjusted annually for inflation.) for which a notice of federal tax lien has been filed and all administrative remedies under IRC § 6320 have lapsed or been exhausted, or a levy has been issued. The IRS began certifying these debts to the State Department in 2018. Under the law, the State Department must deny your passport application and may revoke or limit your passport if the IRS has certified you as having a seriously delinquent tax debt. A seriously delinquent tax debt does not include non-tax debts collected by the IRS, such as the *FBAR penalty and child support.

When will my seriously delinquent tax debt be certified to the State Department?

The IRS already began certifying certain taxpayers in phases and will con-

... continued on page 10



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Nikki D. Headlines Momentum Festival on Saturday Night

Nikki D. and The Sisters of Thunder are set to take the stage at this year's Momentum Festival. This family-based gospel band has been in the music industry spanning over 10 years, using rock-style music to captivate their audiences and leave them hungry for more. The local band has performed all over the states sharing their ministry. In their own words, "The Gospel is our way of life!"

Their performance will take place on Saturday 21 from 8:30-9:30 p.m. in Promenade Park.

The Momentum Festival, presented by The Arts Commission and ProMedica, takes place September 19-21. The festival aims to promote art and creativity in the Downtown Toledo area. Momentum supports local artists and creatives all while making the arts accessible to local residents and tourists visiting the area. The three-day festival includes interactive art stations, makerspaces, and music. For more information, you can visit the website.



Nikki D and the Sisters of Thunder



Dear Mayor

Dear Mayor,

As you know, another video has surfaced documenting an interaction with Toledo Police and members of this community. The content of this video is particularly disturbing because of the behavior of the officers involved.

As I understand, the officers were responding to a weapons call in the area. However, once again, arrests were made unrelated to the original call and investigation. It is especially disturbing to me that the officer in the car engages in inappropriate language with a citizen by stating that everyone knows she's crazy as f*** and that she is a criminal with pending charges. It appears that this is the same officer who was involved in the incident a week prior at Lagrange and Manhattan. What is more appalling is that after the confrontation, an officer goes to the back of the SUV and offers a soccer ball to a youth. The mother objects and said they want nothing from the officer. The officer refused to listen, saying they want to "give back" to the kid. He throws the ball to the child and states he's surprised the child could kick it with his bad leg.

Based on what I have seen, these officers show a total disrespect for citizens of this city. Their behavior is inconsistent with how officers should behave when we want to improve relationships between our law enforcement and the community. I am concerned that this behavior could easily create a real and serious civil disturbance.

Out of this concern, I am asking for action. The officers should be suspended, an investigation conducted, and sensitivity training offered. Additionally, all charges against those arrested need to be dropped.

Sincerely,

Larry J. Sykes
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How to Prep Financially When Changing Jobs

Special to The Truth

The average American will hold 11.7 jobs between the ages of 18 and 48, according to The Bureau of Labor Statistics. If a job change is on your horizon, remember that a new salary and benefits package bring new financial considerations.

"Changing jobs brings with it a myriad of financial decisions. Take time to assess your financial situation and make any necessary adjustments so you can start the new job focused and ready," says Valerie Radford, a vice president of Strategic Initiatives at Prudential Financial.

As you're making the switch, Radford says there are a few things to keep in mind:

- **Don't Leave Money on the Table:** Keep track of your 401(k) if you had one at your previous job. You can simplify your financial picture by bringing together any orphan plans you've left in the investing universe. Also, make sure to take advantage of your new employer's 401(k) match feature, if offered, and continue momentum by increasing your contribution, if possible.
- **Don't Go It Alone:** Consider using a third-party platform to manage finances and benefits in one place that's designed to rebalance your goals as circumstances change. For example, when you set up an account with LINK by Prudential, you'll be prompted to answer questions about what financial goals are important to you and, in turn, will be offered personalized solutions to help you reach them. LINK combines the convenience of a digital experience with the knowledge of a professional advisor who can walk you through this important transition by phone, video or in-person. To learn more, visit prudential.com/link

- **Consider Your Bonus:** If you're receiving a sign-on bonus or have an old bonus saved, determine whether this money belongs in a short-term, no-risk account or whether a longer-term approach with exposure to financial markets makes sense.

- **Budgets are Fundamental:** If you're making more money, calculate if additional funds can be put into savings. This is a great place to use a tool like LINK that allows you to see all your money in one place, and can help you determine where to direct extra funds. If you're making less money, you might need to see where to make cuts.

- **Review Your Insurance:** Take a breath before moving forward with health coverage decisions. If you're married, evaluate both partner's plans, not only for the more affordable option, but also for each plan's restrictions. For instance, if one plan allows you to see doctors without referrals while the other doesn't, you'll have to decide whether that's worth the extra cost. Finally, take a look at the amount your new employer is offering for life insurance. It's often not enough. Consulting a financial advisor can help you determine how much additional insurance to take out.

Don't let your financial goals get lost in the shuffle of a job transition. A few strategies and tools can keep you on track.

LINK by Prudential is an umbrella marketing name for Prudential Customer Solutions LLC, an SEC-registered investment adviser, Prudential Annuities Distributors, Inc. and various subsidiaries of The Prudential Insurance Company of America.

Courtesy StatePoint

IRS... continued from page 7

continue certifying all seriously delinquent individual taxpayer accounts. The IRS will send a Notice CP 508C to your last known address at the time it certifies your seriously delinquent tax debt to the State Department.

There are some exceptions from passport certification; see more on denying, revoking passports because of tax debt for a list of those special circumstances. For taxpayers serving in a combat zone and who have a seriously delinquent tax debt, the IRS will postpone certifying their tax debt to the State Department while they remain performing such service. In addition, taxpayers who have open cases with the Taxpayer Advocate Service will now temporarily be excluded thanks to TAS's past advocacy efforts.

Everyone has something to say about taxes and the IRS. Please take a moment to give us your suggestions for TAP to consider by contacting one of the following:

TAP Ohio member: tapohioandreaprice@gmail.com

Toll-free at: 1-888-912-1227

Website: www.improveirs.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheTaxpayerAdvocacyPanel>

*FBAR refers to Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts, that must be filed with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), which is a bureau of the Treasury Department. ... The FBAR filing requirement is not part of filing a tax return. The FBAR Form 114 is filed separately and directly with FinCEN.

Toledo Library Helps Families with the Third Grade Reading Guarantee

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library is presenting a new six-week program at Mott Branch is designed to help parents, caregivers and children alike in preparation for the Third Grade Reading Guarantee testing, a requirement for advancing to the next grade.

Creating a Village provides artistic and enrichment activities for children while the adults build a foundation for helping children succeed with the test. During the six-week program topics include dealing with disobedience, parent/teacher relationships, fighting and aggression and more.

"We need to be a support system for

parents, caregivers and children. Before the test, everyone needs to be in the right frame of mind, body and spirit," Mott Branch Manager Kim Penn said.

The idea started when Penn and a local school administrator discussed how best to prepare students for the exam. Penn brought the challenge back to her team as librarians are experienced in accessing resources and connecting the community, she said, and Creating a Village was born.

Each session begins with a family meal. Then children's activities emphasize art enrichment, such as fine art, music, dance and theater to foster

... continued on page 11

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Ohio Budget Expands Need-based Aid, but Underfunds Higher Ed Overall

Special to The Truth

The 2020-2021 state budget passed in July takes steps to expand college access for low-income students, but it falls short of what's needed to meet Ohio's college attainment goal, according to new analysis from Policy Matters Ohio.

Ohio's Department of Higher Education set the goal that by 2025, 65 percent of Ohioans between 25 and 64 should have a degree, certificate, or other postsecondary credential of value. Only 44.1 percent of Ohioans hit the mark in 2016. Policy Matters Researcher Piet van Lier said lack of state support for higher education is a big reason why.

"Getting postsecondary education or training helps people develop the skills to meet today's challenges, follow their dreams and contribute to their communities," he said. "It makes sense that Ohio wants more people to continue their education. What doesn't make sense is our lawmakers' unwillingness to properly fund higher education."

State Share of Instruction (SSI) is Ohio's main source of funding for Ohio's 14 public universities, 24 branch campuses and 23 community colleges. Policymakers set aside \$1.91 billion for SSI in the 2020-2021 budget, less than the \$1.94 billion they allocated in 2006 and far below the peak of \$2.13 billion in 2009.

The state has some of the most expensive public colleges in the nation, ranking 45th worst for college affordability. Sixty-four percent of Ohio's class of 2016 with bachelor's degrees had student debt, with an average of \$30,351 each. In 2019, Ohio students paid an average tuition of \$9,801 at main campuses, \$5,951 at branch campuses and \$4,497 at community colleges, all above the national average. On average, families earning \$30,000 or less would need to spend 81 percent of their income for one year of the net price of a public

university (tuition, fees, room and board minus financial aid) and 38 percent for community college, according to the Institute for Research on Higher Education).

Lawmakers increased funding for the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG), the state's need-based-aid program, by \$73 million over the last budget, up 31 percent when inflation is taken into account. In 2010, lawmakers set a goal of investing \$250 million a year in need-based aid, but the closest Ohio came was in 2008-2009. Even with this budget's increase, OCOG funding will go up to only \$148 million in 2021.

Lawmakers have also baked into OCOG structural problems that exclude many lower-income students. For example, students are only eligible if tuition and general fees exceed resources available from their families and the federal Pell Grant, and OCOG doesn't pay for cost-of-living and other related expenses. This structure excludes more than 110,000 students attending Ohio community colleges and regional campuses, and severely limits grants for students at Ohio's only public historically black university, Central State. At the same time, legislators allow OCOG to pay for private, for-profit institutions, which often leave students with more debt and don't improve their career prospects.

"Increasing funding for need-based aid is a welcome victory for the Ohio students who struggle to afford college, but we need lawmakers to address the structural issues with the program and increase support for higher education overall," van Lier said. "Ohio has the resources. Our lawmakers just choose to spend them on the wealthy and special interests in the form of tax breaks and tax cuts. Instead, they can choose to clean up our tax code and use the revenue to make sure all Ohioans who want to attend college can afford it."

Toledo Library... continued from page 10

creativity. Participants will also receive a one-hour course on nutrition each week. For parents, discussion topics include a mock reading test, healthy bedtime practices and responding to disobedience.

Creating a Village helps establish routines for families and confidence for young students. Building from the premise that test taking is a learned skill, the program aims to improve area test rates. About 12 percent of Toledo Public Schools' students subjected to the Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion threshold did not meet the criteria, according to Ohio Department of Education statistics for the 2017-18 school year.

In the spirit of community building, Toledo Public Schools, Ohio State University Extension, Unison Health, Elev8ted Productions and VCG all worked with the Library to develop and support the program. Also joining is motivational speaker Terry Crosby, a 1975 DeVilbiss High School graduate who excelled at basketball and football, who will discuss successful life and learning strategies.

Creating a Village takes place 5 - 7:30 p.m. on Mondays from Sept. 16 through Oct. 21.

Registration is now open. Those interested can do so online (<http://www.toledolibrary.org/search/programs?q=creating+a+village>) or by calling Mott Branch at 419-259-5230.



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Women's Day... continued from page 16

Day Choir provided selections. "We all have gifts. God said to let your light shine. Today is Women's Day, so women of St. Paul let your light shine. We are blessed to have our guests here with us today. We welcome you in the name of Jesus Christ," said Vonner.

The service continued with a scripture reading by Barbara Ifeduba, altar call conducted by Rev. Marcia Dinkins, praise dance by Total Praise of St. Paul, memorial service led by Mary Liggins, solo by Erika Warner Ragland of Perfecting Church Toledo, official introduction of the speaker by First Lady Linnie Willis and featured speaker Elder Teresa McBee of Family Baptist Church.

McBee is the co-pastor and associate minister of Family Baptist Church in Toledo. She was baptized at Calvary Baptist Church, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Paralegal Studies from University of Toledo and master's degree in organizational leadership from Lourdes University. She married her husband, Charles, in 1980 and is the mother of two children.

"A woman of faith must have faith to deal with situations today. A woman of faith must see what is beyond this moment in time and what is occurring in the present moment. Faith allows me to see that God loves me and that I must hold on," explained Elder McBee.

Pastor James Willis closed out the service by delivering words of gratitude. "I am happy. If you are a pastor and have people who are capable of leading, trust them. Elder McBee touched my soul, we appreciated the word that was delivered this morning. There is so much that happens in this World, so we appreciate the word that was delivered this morning."

The Women's Day booklet patrons include: Jan Scotland of State Farm, The C. Brown Funeral Home, Inc. & Preneed Center, City of Toledo Councilman Gary Johnson, State Representative Paula Hicks-Hudson, A Rainbow's Treasurer Children & Preschool, Hairstylist Misha Swilling, Moore's Trucking, Lincoln Cleaners, ABC Health Care Inc., St. Paul Senior Citizens Project, John McKissick Housing Complex, Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, Mount Ararat Baptist Church, Mt. Nebo Baptist Church, Cass Road Baptist Church, Christian Board of Education, American Baptist Women, American Baptist Men, Toledo chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc, C. Winfield Accounting & Tax Services; St. Paul MBC ministries: Deacons, Choir, Deaconess, and Trustees; and over a dozen individual patrons.

"Peaces" of Art



The Padua Center

1416 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43607

More information on the web: www.paduacenter.org
thepaduacenter@gmail.com

During the last couple of years the Padua Center has been undergoing a lot of changes. Some of these changes were long in coming and some caught us by surprise. When the bricks fell from St. Anthony Church we did not anticipate that in the next two years we would be a separate non-profit corporation owning land and buildings. We have completely separated from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Toledo and are now an independent organization, yet continuing as a ministry of St. Martin de Porres.

Thanks to the support of the Padua Center Board and you, our steady supporters, we have emerged from this challenging time with a revised Mission Statement, focus and core values. We are designing programs, renewing programs and all the while listening to the needs of the community. Some of our programs have been eliminated because of a loss of funding. Other programs have been renewed and re-invigorated.

Thanks to a donor, our Emerging Young Ladies met a number of times in the Spring and, we were able to run a second program during the summer. Pictured here is Mirrah Johnson-Bell who, under the guidance of Agneta Sealy, made a pillow case.



Join us for a banquet, a silent, and live auction celebrating the work of The Padua Center.



Help support our programs designed to empower youth and enhance the neighborhood.

Sunday, October 13, 2019 5:00—8:00 p.m.
Sullivan Center, Gesu Parish
2049 Parkside Blvd, Toledo, OH

A Death in Harlem by Karla FC Holloway

By Dr. Anita Lewis- Sewell, MD

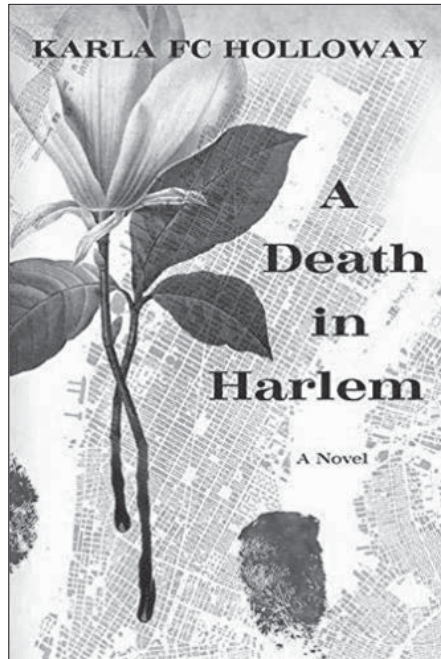
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It was a rare day when Officer Weldon Thomas didn't have reading material with him.

c.2019
Northwestern University Press
\$18.95 / higher in Canada
248 pages



Even on assignment as Harlem's first and only "colored" policeman, he carried a book because his assignments were light and he never knew when there'd be time to read. And that's exactly what he was doing on that midwinter night in 1927 when guests at the Ninth Annual Opportunity Awards Banquet, an event he was policing, came screaming down the stairs of the Hotel Theresa.

It didn't take long for him to understand the problem. He saw for himself, right outside the hotel's door: beautiful storyteller

Olivia Frelon lay on her back on the sidewalk, her red gown spilling around her as red blood spilled from her head. She was obviously dead, but what happened to make her fall from one of the hotel's windows?

In the days following that night, everyone talked and most of them talked about Vera Scott. She and Olivia had been best friends; they did everything together and were like two halves of a whole although Olivia, with her light skin, could pass for a white woman. Was Vera jealous of that, or was the rumor true that Vera's husband was sleeping with Vera's best friend?

Was that why everybody thought Vera pushed Olivia out the window?

New York's finest wanted to get to the bottom of what looked like a crime, and since Officer Weldon Thomas expected his department's overwhelmingly white officers to need him on this case, he was determined to help. He'd spent his whole life reading detective books from the Harlem Library.

If Sherlock Holmes could solve crimes, Weldon could, too...

Consisting of a basically wonderful little mystery and some delightfully sly winks at fans who love the genre, *A Death in Harlem* can present a bit of a struggle.

It begins on the story's first page, with language that's often more fit for academia but that's mixed with Jazz-Age slang, stereotypical inner-city patter, and today's modern terms, sometimes all in the same scene. If that doesn't raise one eyebrow for you, this will: it seems as though half of Harlem 1927 is in this story, a populousness that feels particularly excessive when characters are referred to inconsistently. Author Karla FC Holloway tells a truly great story, but it's told in a way that may make you scratch your head sometimes.

The best thing to do here, perhaps, then, is to give yourself time with this book; it would be a shame to miss the twisty-fun of *A Death in Harlem*. If you can lend it some patience, get it in your hands.



Karla FC Holloway

The Northwest Ohio Silent Witness Project

Bethany House presents the annual Unveiling Ceremony for the Northwest Ohio Silent Witness Project on October 1, 2019 at 7:00 pm at Parkway Place, 2500 Parkway Plaza in Maumee. The Silent Witness Project is a national initiative, founded in 1990 in Minnesota, in response to an epidemic of domestic violence homicides. There are local Silent Witness Project chapters in all 50 states.

The 2019 Silent Witness Project collection contains 55 free-standing, life-sized wooden silhouettes, each one bearing the name and story of a girl or woman whose life ended violently at the hands of a husband, boyfriend, dating partner or stalker. All Silent Witnesses in the collection were from northwest Ohio and all were murdered within the past decade.

During the unveiling, the silhouettes will be revealed one by one in a solemn ceremony. Each Silent Witness will be represented by an individual reader, who will recount the story of the girl or woman represented by that figure.

This event is free and open to the public; however, due to the intense nature of the program, organizers ask that those in attendance do not bring young children.

For more information about this event, please visit BethanyHouseToledo.org/events, contact Project Coordinator Mary Krueger at SilentWitnessProject@BethanyHousetoledo.org, or call 419-727-4948.

Bethany House is sponsored by the Sylvania Franciscans, a member of Sylvania Franciscan Ministries and Northwest Ohio Community Shares.

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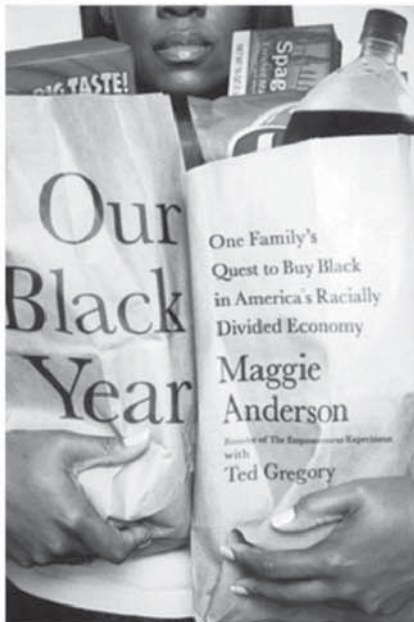
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CLASSIFIEDS

September 18, 2019

Page 15

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The Padua Center is seeking a Director of Special Programs (Emerging Young Ladies and Padua Potters Garden Club) and co-leader of the After School tutoring program. The successful candidate will be skilled at designing programs and engaging young women and men in active involvement. A degree in education or social work is required. The position will be hourly, some Saturdays, with benefits. Please submit your resume to thepaduacenter@gmail.com by September 20. Job description is available upon request.

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WGTE Public Media seeks a full-time, Producer to coordinate, acquire, and edit short and long form videos as well as live studio and field productions. Previous experience in videography and digital editing required. Experience with Adobe Premiere, After Effects, Final Cut Pro, and directing/technical directing strongly preferred. Candidate must be willing to work a flexible work schedule, including evenings and weekends. Bachelor's degree in a field such as liberal arts, radio & television broadcasting or journalism preferred; or a minimum of an Associate's degree in a related field, or two years related experience and/or training required. A valid driver's license is required. Send your cover letter and resume to: Human Resources, P.O. Box 30, Toledo, OH 43614, or employment@wgte.org. EOE/ADA

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If interested, please send resume and cover letter by September 25, 2019 to: jspangler@bbbsnwo.org



The Village of Ottawa Hills (pop: 4,500 in northwest Ohio) is seeking an experienced law enforcement professional to serve as Deputy Chief of Police. Under the general guidance of the Chief of Police, the Deputy Chief is responsible for day-to-day management of all Police Department operations.

The Police Department is a 24-hour operation with 13 full-time employees. Together, they are dedicated to fair and consistent law enforcement and preserving peace and quality of life. The Department prides itself on providing a strong sense of security to residents.

To ensure Village residents continue to receive this level of service, the successful candidate will continuously review department operations to plan for future improvements; review and adopt progressive law enforcement strategies; ensure department members continue to receive superior training; and further strengthen already strong relationships with residents and the village school system.

Due to the Village's size (about 2 square miles), the Police Department is very visible in the community. Our officers know the names of most residents, and their children. Our size enables us to offer a high level of service beyond basic law enforcement, such as resident house checks and bicycle registrations. Our officers also are active in the buildings of the Ottawa Hills Local Schools (1,000 students), consistently one of the top ranked schools in Ohio.

The Village and the Police Department are comprised of diverse populations. The successful candidate needs to have experience working with diverse populations and being a positive force in building inclusive communities.

The position's budgeted pay range is \$86,460 - \$101,900, depending on qualifications. The Village is able to offer the successful candidate benefits that include health care, paid holiday time, sick leave accrual, sick leave bonus, and vacation accrual.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.
- Minimum of 10 years of law enforcement experience with at least five years of command or management-level experience.
- OPOTA certification.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Previous experience at the rank of police lieutenant, captain, deputy chief or chief.
- A master's degree or completion of advanced management training such as the Police Executive Leadership College (PELC), the Certified Law Enforcement Executive program (CLEE), the FBI National Academy, or Northwest School of Police Staff and Command.

The selected candidate will be subject to a comprehensive background investigation, psychological evaluation, and pre-employment medical testing. The first review of resumes begins October 18, 2019. The Deputy Chief of Police position will remain open until filled. The Deputy Chief of Police job description is available at www.ottawahills.org/deputy-chief

Candidates must submit a resume and cover letter to:

Chief John Wenzlick
Ottawa Hills Police Department
2125 Richards Road
Ottawa Hills, Ohio 43606

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LEGAL NOTICE

Proposals will be received by Lucas County Department of Job & Family Services (LCDJFS) until 4:00 p.m., September 18, 2019 for the selection of Provider(s) to implement a wide variety of innovative programs serving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) eligible individuals residing in Lucas County. Submitted proposals must be completed according to the specifications and provisions outlined in the Request for Proposals (RFP). The contract period will be from approximately January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020.

No proposals will be accepted after 4:00 p.m., September 18, 2019; proposals that are submitted via any method other than that described in the RFP will not be accepted.

The Request for Proposals will be available on August 14, 2019. It will be available for potential bidders to download by going to the site: <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

A Q&A Bidders Conference providing bidders the opportunity to ask clarifying questions regarding the RFP will be held on August 29, 2019 10:00 A.M., Lucas County Department of Job & Family Services, 3210 Monroe St. Toledo, OH 43606. (PARTICIPATION IS OPTIONAL, BUT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED). If any changes are made to the RFP as a result of the Q&A Bidders Conference, an addendum to the RFP will be posted on the website address (noted above).

This notice is posted as of August 14, 2019 at <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

The right is reserved to reject any and all proposals. By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Tina Skeldon Wozniak - President
Pete Gerken - Commissioner
Gary L. Byers - Commissioner
Bid: 48-20-RFP-01

St. Paul's Annual Women's Day Celebration

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

"We are Women of Faith, Value and Vision" was the theme for this year's St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church's Women's Day, which, as usual, was commemorated over an entire weekend – starting with the Women's Day Luncheon on Saturday, September 14. The theme was inspired from Biblical scripture I Corinthians 15:10.

This year's luncheon speaker was Sister El'Freda Agboka, who came down from the Detroit area to deliver her message of faith, value and vision.

Saturday's program opened with Opal Allen's worship leader and a scripture reading by Dorothy McDougal. Soloist Dorothy Gray of Search-Lite Community Church offered The Lord's Prayer and Dawn Scotland offered words of welcome, followed by soloist Deborah Gardner's song of Praise.

Agboka, a native of Starkville, Mississippi and graduate of Louisiana State University, is a motivational speaker who was a longtime employee of General Motors specializing in communications. She currently works with several non-profit organizations one of which focuses on touching, encouraging and assisting



Minister Barbie Harrison; Yvonne Gayle; Daisy Fisher; Elder Teresa McBee; First Lady Linnie Willis; Pastor James Willis, Sr.



Devotional Service



St. Paul Women's Day Choir



Guest Speaker Elder Teresa McBee



Total Praise



(L. to R.): Aufweidersehen Winfield, Katie Davis, Loretta Quinn, Yvonne Gayle, El'Freda Agboka, First Lady Linnie Willis, Barbara Ifeduba, Beverly Beasley

women in all phases of their lives and another that reaches out to assist victims of human trafficking.

Agboka, in delivering the message of faith, value and vision, spoke of the need to put God's will into action. "It's one thing to be 'hearers' of God's will," she said. "We have to be 'doers' of God's will. Once you believe that then you understand your value."

Agboka encouraged the congregation to "have vision from what God says – not just anyone's vision but God's vision – then the impossible can take place."

The following day, Sunday, the St. Paul MBC sanctuary was filled in celebration of the annual Women's Day service.

"I want to thank my pastor and of course the women of St. Paul. We are who we are by the grace of God. Our luncheon yesterday was fabulous, and we have so many talented women at this church. To God be the glory," explained Daisy Fisher, Women's Day chairperson.

Sunday's celebration began with a joint Sunday school led by Rev. Marcia Dinkins, and then morning service led by Minister Barbie Harrison of Third Baptist Church. "I know we'll have a good time today. The theme today is truly a message," shared Minister Harrison.

The women's day Sunday service opened with a devotional service, then Deborah Gardner led the Lord's Prayer, and Pamela Clark led the Women's Day litany. Elaine Vonner officially welcomed the service guests before the Women's

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