

The Sojourner's Truth

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"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

March 31, 2021

The Fight to Save a Neighborhood



CSRN and South Toledo Business Owners Join Forces

In This Issue...

Perryman
Page 2

Evanston and Georgia
Page 5

Tolliver
Page 3

YWCA Milestones
Page 7



Celebrating Easter
Pages 8-9

Cover Story:
Fighting the Compost
Page 11

Book Review
Page 13

Classifieds
Page 15

Entrepreneurial
Webinar
Page 16

Vallie's Season

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

The Truth Contributor

There are years that ask questions and years that answer.

- Zora Neal Hurston



There is a resounding groundswell of support for Democrat Vallie Bowman-English to elevate from Clerk of the Toledo Municipal Court to the Lucas County Court of Common Pleas Juvenile Division.

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine will appoint a Republican to replace the retired Judge Connie Zimmelman in the next couple of months, but that person will have to run for the office in November 2022. Many in Toledo's African-American community want to ensure that Bowman-English becomes the Democratic Party nominee for Juvenile Court Judge in the 2022 election.

"She is a rock star and tailor-made for the position," a highly regarded legal mind proclaimed.

Indeed, after years of determined preparation and cultivation of a career that has garnered the respect of both peers and the community, the time is ripe for a well-deserved promotion.

A graduate of Ohio Northern University - Claude W. Pettit College of Law, Bowman-English has served as Clerk of Court for Toledo Municipal Court for 17 years after previously serving seven years in the Lucas County Prosecutors Office as an Assistant Prosecutor.

Toledo set a record number of homicides in 2020 and has experienced 15 homicides so far in 2021. Also, Black juveniles are arrested locally at three times the rate of Whites. As the mother of a young African-American son, Bowman-English can address decision-making biases and speak with authenticity to institutionalized racial disadvantage in the Lucas County juvenile justice system.

Further, while Black and Brown youth are overrepresented in the system, research also shows that they also experience disparities in accessing diversion programs.

Thanks to the American Recovery Act, more than \$400 million in federal aid is headed to Toledo among the City, Lucas County and Toledo Public Schools. The Lucas County Commissioners have pledged \$12 million for direct community aid; the mayor has allocated \$30 million for neighborhoods, parks and youth. The Toledo Public Schools are working to expand early childhood education and Early Head Start.

However, the critical feat is to bring these efforts together to work upstream - to invest in programs to reach youth before they get to juvenile court (prevention) and scale up diversion and deterrence programming that intervenes before children get arrested.

Vallie Bowman-English is the right person at the right time to make valid impact as Juvenile Court Judge. She will ensure that funding sustains the necessary programs to transform our community rather than to balance ad-

ministrative bureaucracy merely.

Finally, Vallie checks all of the boxes needed to win a political campaign. She has been Democratic Party Central Committee Chair for several years and thus, has the multi-racial support of:

The Democratic Party

The Legal Community (who finance judicial races)

The Local Political Intelligentsia

The Grass Roots Community (clergy, community activists, volunteers)



Toledo Clerk of Court Vallie Bowman-English

Traditional wisdom says, "Do the right thing at the right time for the right amount of time," and the yield of fruit will arrive in season.

And, as one enlightened public official divulged, "Vallie's golden! There is nothing standing in her way. We've been waiting years for her to express openly where she wants to go. All she has to do now is announce that she wants the position."

Expect the announcement to come very soon. For, this is Vallie's Season!

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

Lucas Metropolitan Housing to Extend Eviction Moratorium

On January 28, 2021, Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) extended its Eviction Moratorium through April 30, 2021. The factors that led to that extension continue to exist. For that reason, LMH President and Chief Executive Officer, Joaquin Cintron Vega, has authorized the continuation of the moratorium until Wednesday July 31, 2021.

LMH understands that housing insecurity was already at a crisis level nationally and locally before COVID-19. This determination is consistent with the strategy of Lucas Metropolitan Housing to extend the Eviction Moratorium at least one month beyond the CDC mandate. This allows LMH more time and flexibility to work with its residents to ensure that they remain in their homes. The agency has extended the moratorium several times already and will continue to do so as necessary into 2021.

The temporary moratorium on evictions for nonpayment of rent and fees and penalties related to nonpayment of rent, applies to all tenants, regardless if their employment was affected by COVID-19. LMH alerts its residents that any rent missed during the moratorium will accumulate and still be due when the eviction moratorium is lifted. For any unpaid rent during the moratorium, the family must repay LMH or sign a repayment agreement to pay any amount owed after the moratorium has ended. LMH is working with its residents to educate them about the process.

... continued on page 3

The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African American
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Community Calendar

April 2

Greater St. Mary's Baptist Church with Pastor Robert Lyons, Sr. will be holding a 7 Last Words of Jesus Christ Good Friday Service on Friday, April 2, 2021 at 6pm. We are located at 416 Belmont Avenue Toledo, OH 43604, contact us at (419) 244-2663.

Jim Crow Circles and Lands in Georgia

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

In my last column, I indicated that the ancient relic of voter suppression, a/k/a Jim Crow, was flying high and was seeking comfort, understanding and solace in a friendly clime.

Now, bird watchers on the ground have reported that Jim Crow has been sighted and a recent landing was confirmed in the statehouse of Georgia.

When Jim Crow landed, he strutted, like a preening drum major, into the chambers of the Georgia House and Senate and was greeted with thunderous applause. Reporters even saw a teary-eyed Governor Kemp, who ran and knelt at the feet of this raucous and bombastic bird.

In both chambers of the Georgia legislature, the cackling bird was greeted as a conquering hero. Both men and women swooned as ol' Jim Crow passed by them and said to the rapturous crowd of white Republicans, "Don't worry, I am here and everything will be alright!"

Jim Crow assessed the crowd and took his invited seat in the chair of the speaker of the House and then motioned for quiet with his two large wings still quietly moving up and down.

"This is an historic day for Georgia! Finally, I have found a place to call home again after so many, many of being banned by those pesky Northern carpetbaggers. When I found out that my ace flying buddy, Donald Trump,

got the boot here in Georgia, I was devastated beyond belief for I thought for sure that Georgia would always be my home with its long and proud history of suppressing the vote of colored people."

"I simply assumed that the good white people of this fair state would do the right and honorable thing and make sure that the Negro vote would be properly 'managed' but somehow, things got snick snarled and those people just would not be still."

"My allies, the White Citizens Council and the KKK and their buddies in the judicial system and law enforcement, simply fell down on the job; and now look what you got! A Jew and a Black being your United States Senators!

"Georgia how did you let this outrage happen?" "Don't you know what will happen if these hordes of nappy headed voters are allowed to vote? There goes your democracy and the next thing you will know is that you will have the March of the Butterscotch Babies taking over everything! Is this what you want?"

At this, the assembled crowd, yells in unison as one voice, "No, not now, not ever!"

Jim Crow, now looking more emboldened than ever, glances over the proposed voter suppression legislation that is up for a vote and nods his head in approval at its many provisions that will either slow down or stop the Negro from voting in large numbers.

Jim Crow, now having the enthralled audience in his grasp, goes on to say, "In the good ol' days, we knew how to take care of our coloreds and when they got out of their place, we knew what to do. This bill you are about to pass is a good start in that direction!

"I can tell you that I just flew in from Arizona, Mississippi, Alabama, Wisconsin and Arkansas and they are having the same problems with their black and brown people.

"Those states, and others, are looking to you Georgia to set the example and rein in these out-of-control, colored voters. Our sacred way of life is in dire jeopardy if we cannot control who votes.

"Once you let the masses into the voting booths, you lose! It is as simple as that. Why do you think we had to lynch so many black people back in the day?

The major reason is that they got uppity and wanted to act white and vote!

That's why!

"Unless you control the vote, you control nothing! Voting is power and if you give the Negro the vote, the next thing is that he wants to marry your daughter and live next door to you.

"You got to stop that madness by stopping the vote! Are you with me?"

At this point, the crowd turns delirious and drowns out the voices of the few protesting Black legislators who are present.

To the delight of the White audience, Jim Crow then produces a tape recording of Donald Trump saying, "To all of you good people in Georgia,

As you know the election was stolen from us and we need to fight to get it back.

This legislation is a way to fight back. So, do what my buddy Jim Crow tells you what to do so we can make sure in the next election, those people do not overrun us and enact their socialist agenda and allow hordes of Mexicans to travel by car caravans to your great state and bloat your governmental services.

Georgia for Georgians!"

At this exhortation, the crowd went delirious with some women fainting and many men openly crying tears of joy.

Jim Crow saw the reaction of the crowd, smiled and started for the door because, before the day was over, he was scheduled for flyover stops in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Ohio.

As he gave one last look back at the appreciative crowd before he took flight, Jim Crow wiped a tear from his eye and was wistful for the good ol' days when colored people knew their place and White folks knew how to handle them.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com

Lucas Metropolitan Housing... continued from page 2

LMH understands the critical importance of providing stable housing, now more than ever, and is committed to working with its residents to do everything it can to keep them in their homes. Providing safe and stable housing during the ongoing health emergency is paramount to LMH and the community. The agency has been closely monitoring the negative economic impact the pandemic is having on its residents, including their ability to pay rent, said Cintron Vega.

During the moratorium, LMH has also established a number of internal safeguards to ensure individuals and families remain housed. Lucas Metropolitan Housing has designed a program providing its families with education and information on available rental assistance. Furthermore, we are taking all the steps necessary to work on a case by-case basis with residents and we are connecting them to the available resources.

Lucas Metropolitan Housing is committed to continue serving our residents and communities with a sense of compassion one day at a time.

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EUGENE F. KRANZ

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AIRPORT

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Rep. Hicks-Hudson Calls GOP Veto Override Vote Dangerous for Ohioans

Says GOP action puts politics over people

Rep. Hicks-Hudson (D-Toledo) joined House Democrats last week to vote opposition to a motion to override the governor's veto of Senate Bill (SB) 22, controversial Republican legislation that would threaten the health and safety of Ohioans by curbing authority from the governor and health director during public health crises.

"As a lawyer and public official I take my oath of office seriously. I will vote for lawful bills that improve the lives of Ohioans. I will not vote for unconstitutional bills that harm my constituents" said Rep. Hicks-Hudson.

Democrats voted in unison against SB 22 earlier this month and sent the governor a letter urging his veto. A number of Democratic lawmakers issued statements Tuesday applauding the governor's veto.

Proponents of SB 22 made a number of false, inaccurate and misleading

claims about the virus and the state's response. Similarly, YouTube pulled down a recording of testimony from a Feb. 17 House committee hearing on House Bill (HB) 90, legislation that mirrors many of the same provisions of SB 22, for violating the site's terms of service for spreading COVID-19 misinformation.

Opponents of both SB 22 and HB 90 include top state public health officials, who said the effort to roll back health orders would slow the state's response to the coronavirus pandemic. Statehouse researchers also called into question the constitutionality of the effort to strip executive authority from the governor.



Rep. Paula Hicks-Hudson

Rep. Hicks-Hudson Says Transportation Budget Moves State in Right Direction

Dems fought to secure more than \$221M for public transit

Rep. Paula Hicks-Hudson (D-Toledo) issued a statement following the final passage of House Bill (HB) 74, the state's two-year transportation budget. Democrats fought against the governor's proposed cuts to public transit funding in the bill, securing more than \$221 million over the next two years, more than doubling the governor's proposed investment.

"I am especially pleased that this bill contained the amendment giving Toledo Area Transit Authority the ability to restructure its membership and funding mechanism," said Rep. Hicks-Hudson. "This amendment was two General Assemblies in the making, and it is a game changer for our region. I am pleased that all aspects of our community came together to help us advocate for our citizens."

Other key Democratic wins in the transportation budget include:

- * Ensuring fairness and transparency of taxpayer dollars by requiring more

highway construction and maintenance projects are subject to competitive bidding;

- * Removing the governor's proposed hikes in vehicle registration and other fees to save Ohioans money;

- * Securing funds for public transit vouchers for victims of domestic violence who need help getting to court, medical appointments and school.

The transportation budget now moves to the governor to be signed into law.

Ohio Legislature Passes Transportation Budget with TARTA Plan to Expand Membership and Improve Local Funding

Special to The Truth

Last week, the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA)

...continued on page 6

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A Tale of Two States ... In the Same Country ... If You Can Believe That!

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

One Small Step Forward in Illinois

The City Council of Evanston, Illinois, a city of about 75,000 residents, passed legislation last week that will start the process of reparations for those descendants of the victims of enslavement, the victims of the reign of Jim Crow and disenfranchisement in the post Reconstruction period as well as the victims of redlining legislation and policies starting in the 1930s.

The Evanston plan was devised by Alderman Robin Rue Simmons and her fellow council members. The legislation will direct funds from the revenues generated by the tax on legalized cannabis into assistance for home purchases, mortgages and home maintenance costs.

Initially an amount of \$400,000 has been earmarked for the program in which amounts of up to \$25,000 will be distributed to eligible individuals – part of eligibility requirements would be proving residency in Evanston for a specified length of time. Eventually the amount of funds that will go into the program is expected to exceed \$10 million.

Simmons determined through her research that the racial wealth gap was the critical component of a lack of equity and inclusion, so she reached out to the National African-American Reparations Commission (NAARC) convener and Institute of the Black World 21st Century (IBW) President Ron Daniels to help the city develop the plan. The key to the plan – and therefore to narrow the wealth gap – was to assist Black families in their quest for homeownership.

The Federal Reserve's Survey of Consumer Finances put the net wealth of the average White family at \$171,000 in 2016 and \$17,150 for a Black family.

The Evanston City Council has not been met with overall approval in the Black community. A group called Evanston Rejects Racist Reparations (E3R) argues that the plan does not go nearly far enough since the funds appropriated will only be disbursed to a handful of the more than 12,000 African American Evanston residents.

One of the other key objections to the plan is tagging the payments to home ownership. Some opponents of the plan say that Black recipients should not be told how to spend their reparations payments.

Simmons disagrees with those assessments citing the time and effort that her groups has invested in identifying the past history of anti-Black housing practices in the city – a history that marked the path for reparations.

Still, Simmons and her allies acknowledge that much more should be and will be in the continuing reparations effort.

Perhaps what is more important than the small Evanston plan is what it might mean for the national reparations effort.

Nationally the reparations effort has been ongoing for decades in Congress – an effort first launched by Representatives Barbara Jordan of Texas and John Conyers of Michigan with HR 40 in 1989. Texas Rep. Sheila Jackson



Georgia State Rep. Park Cannon

Lee took up the fight introducing HR 40 in 1996 and in every congressional session since then. She is more optimistic these days since newly inaugurated President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris seem to be paying more attention to the issue of reparations.

The key, say national experts such as Ron Daniels who has consulted on HR 40 since the beginning, is not just to look at the institution of slavery and the government's renegeing on the promise of 40 acres and a mule, but also to consider the impact of Jim Crow and the wealth gap that was created over the years after slavery.

HR 40 now has 170 co-sponsors and



Evanston Alderman Robin Rue Simmons

... continued on page 6



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Ohio Legislature... continued from page 5

achieved a milestone in the agency's history by securing a state legislative fix to expand its membership and allow local voters to consider a more fair and sustainable funding structure.

With the passage of the state transportation budget by the Ohio House and Senate, TARTA's proposed legislative language will now be part of House Bill 74 that will go to Governor DeWine for his signature. The language provides TARTA with a two-year window to expand its membership with approval of a simple majority of its current local government members rather than the unanimous consent previously required under state law.

TARTA currently has seven members: Maumee, Ottawa Hills, Rossford, Sylvania, Sylvania Township, Toledo and Waterville. Seeking a state legislative solution was a collaborative effort between TARTA and the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce to meet the growing demand for more public transit service in Lucas County and to improve the competitive nature of the region for job attraction and retention.

If Lucas County becomes a member of TARTA, local voters could then

consider shifting local funding from a property-tax to a sales tax model. TARTA is the only transit authority in a major Ohio metro area that is not funded by a sales tax.

In 2020, Cincinnati area voters approved a .80 percent sales tax increase for public transit funding to replace an employment tax. 2-2-2

"This is yet another historic and defining moment for TARTA and our region," said TARTA Chief Executive Officer Kimberly Dunham. "For the first time ever, and with broad support of business and community leaders, we were able to change the statutory language so we can expand public transit to follow the growing opportunities in our region. This will also allow the democratic process to play out in our community and let the people decide if they wish to invest in public transit in Northwest Ohio."

According to TARTA Board President Kelsie Hoagland representing the City of Waterville, "We reached a major milestone for TARTA and our community. The inclusion of the TARTA language is no coincidence. It is the result of relentless effort and partnership from across the Toledo Region. This display of collaboration demonstrates the importance of what public transit means to our community."

Two States... continued from page 5

a Senate companion piece. However, what remains unsettled among proponents is what the price of centuries of oppression might be and how to make financial recompense for that oppression.

After a century of de jure and de facto discrimination and housing segregation, redlining, inability to access small business and housing loans, suppression of civil rights – well into the 1960s, and the subsequent inability to right the impact of those wrongs, reparations seems to making a bit of an impact on the American consciousness.

Two Giant Steps Backwards in Georgia

In Georgia last week, Governor Brian Kemp signed SB 202, the new vot-

ing law which is intended by the state's Republican elected officials to move the state back into the Jim Crow era by limiting the ability of voters of color to impact state elections.

SB 202 now makes it illegal, among other acts, to bring water or food to voters waiting in line to vote. As it happens, the longest lines generally occur in Fulton County which comprises much of Atlanta. And as it happens, Fulton County, with over a million Georgia residents is about 45 percent Black.

The bill also requires ID for absentee ballots, limits the placement of ballot drop boxes and creates a fraud hotline that will permit people to anonymously complain about perceived fraudulent behavior at the polls.

The most egregious provision of SB 202 removes authority and power from county boards of elections and from the Secretary of State's office and hands it to the Republicans in the state legislature who crafted the legislation.

Now those in the legislature will be the ones who make the final decisions on voter eligibility and disqualifying ballots. The legislature will now appoint members to the State Board of Elections which will have the power to replace members of county boards should they find county boards are performing poorly. This action limits the authority of Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger who frequently proclaimed that the former president's claims of fraud in the 2020 election were not true.

Georgia's SB 202 is a direct attempt at punishing Black voters in Fulton County say observers. "It's Jim Crow in a suit and tie," wrote Stacey Abrams, the now-famous voting rights advocate and candidate for governor in 2018. "Cutting off access, adding restrictions, encouraging more 'show me your papers' actions to challenge a citizen's right to vote [is] factually neutral and racially targeted."

While the legislature's power grab is clearly the most ominous part of the legislation, the aspect that will stick in the minds of most observers is the food and water provision.

Again, Fulton County has attracted the attention of Republican legislators who apparently want to leave no stone unturned in their zeal to make it difficult for voters in Georgia's most populous county – the county with the most Black residents – to vote. The Bipartisan Policy Center and MIT published a study after the 2018 midterm elections that found that Fulton County voters had the longest waits of any voters in any county in the country – waits that had already been set up by the state's decisions to limit the number of polling places in the county.

"It's an atrocity," President Joe Biden told reporters as he prepared to board Marine One en route to Joint base Andrews and then Delaware. "If you want any indication that it has nothing to do with fairness, nothing to do with decency, they passed a law saying you can't provide water to people standing in line while they're waiting to vote? You don't need anything else to know that this is nothing but punitive, designed to keep people from voting. You can't provide water for people about to vote? Give me a break."

One Georgian has already started paying the price for the state's revival of the centuries-long Jim Crow tradition. State Rep. Park Cannon, a Black woman, knocked on the door where Kemp was signing the bill in her attempt to view the signing. For her troubles, she was arrested, handcuffed and placed in jail.

In that room, behind those locked doors, Kemp was signing the bill surrounded only by six white men, underneath a painting of a Georgia slave plantation.

The Truth

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Seven Local Women Honored During YWCA Milestones: A Tribute to Women Event

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The YWCA of Northwest Ohio presented the annual Milestones: A Tribute to Women event which publicly acknowledged local women during a Facebook live event on March 26. The 25th annual event was live streamed on the YWCA of Northwest Ohio Facebook page to hundreds of individuals. Diane Larson of 13abc news served as the event mistress of ceremonies.

The 2021 honorees were: Suzanne Rorick of Toledo Opera received the Arts award, Linda Mansour-Ismail, Esq received the Business award, Clara Petty of Monroe Street Neighborhood Center received the Education award, Judge Nicole Hayes Khoury received the Government award, Michele Knox, PhD received the Sciences award, Shantae Brownlee of the Land Bank received the Social Services award, and Susan Carter received Volunteerism award.

"I am very honored to receive this award. When I saw the list of women who have received this honor, I notice that I've worked with so many of them. I am honored to be a woman in a leadership position," said Rorick.

"I'm only on this Earth this one time and I wanted to make an impact. I work with disadvantaged women and this award means a lot because it acknowledges the grassroots and activist people and not those in positions," shared Mansour-Ismail.

"I was excited when I received the notification. I'm honored to be a recipient in the area that I work in. I would advise young women to never give up on their dreams or when it gets hard," explained Petty.

"I was surprised when I received the call. In 2007 I knew people personally with autism and wanted to use my musical talents. So, we raised money through fundraisers and formed a 501c3. We're lucky that we were able to host a week-long event last year before the shutdown, it's a fun loving and welcoming event in the community," shared Khoury.

"In my role I primarily treat children and families, but because I work with children I also work with their parents. I want to help them be the best parents who raise kids who are happy and healthy," said Knox.

"My entire professional career has been built by serving the community in some fashion. Every single job has a mission that aligns with who I am as a person. This is the community that I live in, raise my kids in and worship in as well," shared Brownlee.

"I learned from my mother that you're not here to take up space. If you have a problem or see someone in need, step in and fix it," explained Carter.

The Milestones Awards event was established in 1996 to recognize northwest Ohio women for outstanding accomplishments and contributions in the areas of: arts, business, education, government, sciences, social sciences and volunteerism. Potential nominees must live in northwest Ohio and demonstrate outstanding achievement or distinction in career, community work, outstanding leadership in their particular field, serve as



a role model for other women and living a life consistent with the YWCA mission.

Several times throughout the live stream, congratulatory messages were displayed from groups and individuals connected to the honorees, past honorees, and event sponsors.

"It's been my honor to receive the milestone award years ago. The women honored this year and the women honored in previous years are all strong groups of women from our area," said Chrys Peterson.

"Congrats to all the winners, you've done tremendous work in our community," said Rita Mansour of Mansour Wealth Management, event sponsor. Rita Mansour is a past Milestones honoree.

"It's a pleasure to recognize and support the YWCA today. The milestone celebration is each year. It's an honor to support these selected community leaders," said Billie Johnson, a previous Milestones honoree and the president/CEO of Area Office on Aging.

"I learned from my mother that you're not here to take up space. If you have a problem or see someone in need, step in and fix it," explained Carter.

The 2021 milestone sponsors: The Andersons, Area Office on Aging of Northwest Ohio, ACLU Ohio, Bugbee & Conkle, The Blade, 13 ABC news, Fifth Third Bank, First Energy, Grand Lubell Photography, Greater Toledo Community Foundation, Mansour Wealth Management, Palmer Energy Company, ProMedica, Toledo Opera, Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo School of the Arts, The Links Incorporated, Toledo, Legal Aid of Western Ohio and Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Lucas County Board of Commissioners, The University of Toledo Medical Center and University of Toledo, and Zonta Club of Toledo.

"Thank you for joining us today. These women are paving the way for future honorees," shared Amy Hoffman, event chair and board secretary.

...continued on page 13

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Celebrating Easter As We Have Down Through the Years

By Mary Louise

It's that special time of the year – “hippity, hippity, hop.” Time for the Easter bunny ...

As a child I remember my Grandma (Tudda) would fix me whatever I wanted for the Easter holiday treat. I would always choose a big chocolate cake ... yummy, yummy, yummy. And Grandma enjoyed baking cakes, cookies ... you name it.

Today I bake for my grandkids, Trey and Kendall.

I decorate my home and bake just like my grandma did for me. I do the exact same thing for my grandbabies as my Tudda did for me. I set the table for Easter and the family enjoys all the wonderful Easter treats.

My baby Kendall loves to eat her grandma May May's treats; Trey enjoys watching me decorate ... Remember this Easter holiday to make your family a part of all your bunny memories.

Cooking, singing, tasting the different treats, enjoying family time --- all of that is important during a holiday especially. And that's what my grandma Tudda instilled in us with memories that last through the years.



Grandma May May with Trey and Kendall





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Carla Hall Shares Fun and Tasty Carrot Recipes Perfect for Spring

To celebrate spring, Carla Hall, renowned chef, author, and television host, offers two delicious recipes that make carrots the star ingredient of the season.

"The thing I love most about the humble carrot is its versatility. It can be a snack, a salad, a dessert, a side dish or the basis for most soups and sauces," says Hall.

McCormick spices agrees, reporting that recipe searches for roasting carrots is trending over the past year in internet searches and on their website, making it the perfect choice for vibrant spring dishes.

With roasted veggies on people's minds, Hall created Roasted Carrots-in-a-Blanket – a fun, carrot-y spin on the traditional pigs-in-a-blanket. The roasted carrots, seasoned with paprika, ground mustard, and rosemary, are wrapped in a light and flaky pastry.

CARROTS-IN-A-BLANKET

- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- 2 tablespoons orange juice
- 2 teaspoons honey
- 1 teaspoon McCormick Gourmet Organic Ground Coriander
- 1 teaspoon McCormick Ground Mustard
- 1 teaspoon McCormick Paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon McCormick Rosemary Leaves, lightly crushed
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon McCormick Black Pepper Grinder
- 1 package (16 ounces) baby carrots
- 3 cans (8 ounces each) refrigerated crescent roll dough

CARROT MUSTARD SAUCE

- 2 1/2 cup French's Stone Ground Dijon Mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon McCormick Ground Cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon McCormick Black Pepper Grinder
- 1/4 teaspoon McCormick Pure Lemon Extract
- 1/4 cup water

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 375°F. Mix butter, orange juice, honey, spices, salt and

pepper in large bowl. Add carrots; toss to coat well. Arrange carrots in single layer on large parchment-lined sheet pan.

2. Roast 20 to 25 minutes or just until tender. Allow to cool slightly.

3. For the Carrot Mustard Sauce, transfer 1/2 cup of the roasted carrots to blender container or food processor. Add mustard, spices, extract and water. Cover. Purée until completely smooth. Set aside.

4. Unroll crescent dough onto clean surface (do not separate triangles). Brush about 2 tablespoons of the Carrot Mustard Sauce evenly over each sheet of crescent dough. Reserve remaining sauce for serving. Use a pizza cutter to cut along perforations, then cut each triangle lengthwise into three separate triangles. Place one cooled carrot on the wide side of each dough triangle, then roll towards pointy ends to wrap carrots in dough. Place wrapped carrots tail-end down about 1 inch apart on parchment-lined sheet pan.

5. Bake 12 to 15 minutes until dough is golden brown, rotating pan halfway through cooking. Serve warm with remaining sauce for dipping.

Makes 32 servings.

Hall also came up with a Warm Carrot Salad with Creamy Lemon Dressing.

Layers of roasted carrots are lightly spiced with cayenne and black pepper to complement naturally sweet Granny Smith apples, golden raisins, and pineapple. A simple, creamy lemon dressing drizzled on top adds a slightly tangy pop to finish this bright and colorful dish.

Here, Hall shares some clever tips for creating carrot-inspired meals:

- To make the most of your time in the kitchen, peel your carrots using up and down strokes to make sure there are no wasted movements, and you get

... continued on page 10



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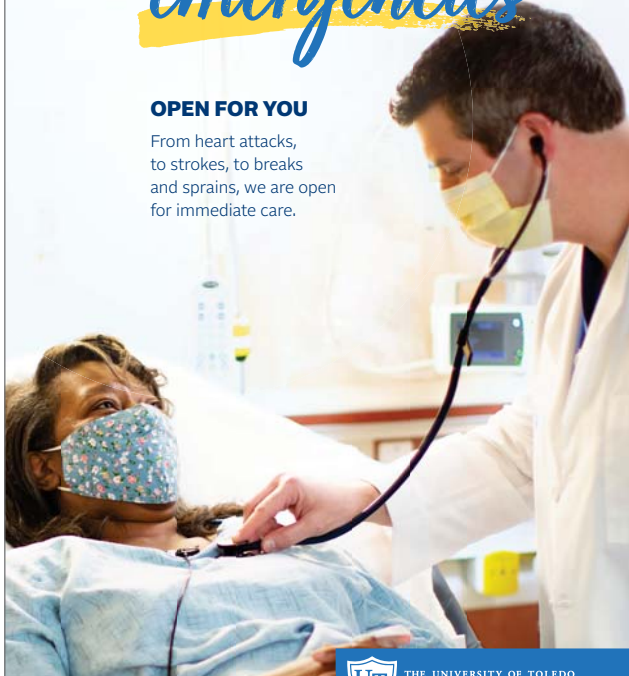
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Black College Football Hall of Fame Classic Returns to Pro Football Hall of Fame Campus

Special to The Truth

Tickets now available for Labor Day weekend events

The Black College Football Hall of Fame (BCFHOF) Classic returns to the Pro Football Hall of Fame's campus over Labor Day weekend (Sept. 3-5, 2021). The Grambling State University Tigers from the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) will take on the Tennessee State University Tigers of the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) on Sunday, Sept. 5 in Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium, adjacent to the Hall of Fame Museum. The schools' renowned marching bands will perform at halftime of the game. The "Battle of the Tigers," which caps a week-end of events, will be televised nationally on NFL Network.

Tickets are now on sale for the game. Reserved seating is available from \$29 to \$69. Also available are Club seats (\$150), which include upscale food and beverage with the ticket price. Prices for tickets will increase July 31. Group rates are available, please visit www.profootballhof.com/BCFHOFClassic21/ or <http://www.profootballhof.com/BCFHOFClassic21/> for more information.

Other exciting festivities planned over the course of the Classic week-end include a Golf Outing at the historic Clearview Golf Club the morning of Sept. 4 featuring legends from the Black College Football Hall of Fame, dignitaries and celebrities.

There are also several new events planned.

On Sept. 3, students and their families can attend the Classic College Fair, giving them an opportunity to learn about and apply to colleges and universities, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

The College Fair is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. inside the Nash Family Event & Conference Center at the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

A Step Show – in collaboration with the Stark and Summit County's chapters of The Divine Nine, historically Black Greek fraternities and sororities – will take place on the evening of Sept. 3 at the McKinley High School, Timken Campus. Tickets will be available at a later date.

On Sept. 4, the BCFHOF Classic Funfest will be a fun-filled day at Centennial Plaza for families in downtown Canton that includes entertainment and food trucks, including the drumlines from Grambling and Tennessee State. Capping the evening at the Plaza will be the Faith, Family & Football Gospel Concert, featuring 11-time Grammy nominated artist Marvin Sapp. This event is free and open to the public.

On game day, a pregame Hall of Fame Tailgate Party will take place on the Hall's campus, featuring live entertainment for the entire family. There will be food vendors, a beer garden and interactive sponsor booths.

The BCFHOF has a permanent home at the Pro Football Hall of Fame to tell the story of Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs) for future generations. Proceeds from the BCFHOF Classic go toward the creation and operation of an enhanced BCFHOF. Currently, there is a gallery within the Pro Football Hall of Fame showcasing the members of the BCFHOF.

Carla Hall... continued from page 10

the job done faster.

- Or buy carrot sticks or baby carrots to reduce prep and peeling time. You can quickly dice them at home for soups and stews.

- Carrots are beautiful and can be the star of your dish. Adding multi-hued carrots will make simple dishes appear fancy.

- You can use spices, herbs, and other ingredients as supporting cast members to add great flavor and make your dish taste even more amazing.

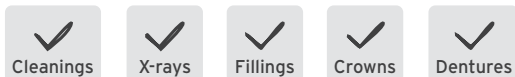
For Hall's exclusive carrot recipes along with additional springtime dishes, visit www.mccormick.com.

This spring enjoy delicious foods with people you love. By utilizing the versatile carrot, you can put fun and tasty twists on classic recipes that will make any occasion special.

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Residents and Business Owners in South Toledo Neighborhood Object to Arrival of Huge Compost Pile

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

The Community Response Solidarity Network (CSRN) and South Toledo business owners have joined forces in an attempt to stop Kott Enterprises' Clean Wood Recycling from turning a 50-acre lot bordered by Byrne Road, Marine Drive, Airport Highway, Angola Road and Anton Street into a huge compost pile.

The proposal before Toledo City Council to re-zone the area is meeting strong objections from a number of concerned Toledoans and many of them gathered on Monday, March 29 in the adjoining Conrad's Soft Cloth Car Wash to hold a press conference and display their chagrin at what might be coming to the neighborhood.

"This is going to be a mess – this doesn't belong here," said Charlene Conrad, owner of the car wash. "I hope we can make a difference. If it comes, I will be the first to leave." Conrad's had been in operation at the 3540 Airport Highway location since 1968 when it was opened by Charlene Conrad's father-in-law.

Charlene Conrad has collected in excess of 1,300 signatures from residents and business owners in the community objecting to the rezoning plan.

"This is industrial – not light industrial," said Washington Muhammad of CSRN as he opened the press conference on Monday morning. "City Council is pushing this through and our whole community is at risk. Property values are going to plummet. Schools and students near here are going to be in jeopardy."

Muhammad's warnings were echoed by a number of speakers to follow. Bill Hoag, an organizer of the opposition along with CSRN, is a Springfield Township resident who spoke of his personal difficulties over the years with Kott Enterprises and how his property value has been impacted. He also opened the discussion about health issues that will be compounded by the giant compost.

"City Council members have ignored health concerns and how this will impact low-income housing around here. Property values will start going down and business owners will start moving out," said Hoag.

Hoag presented a list of two dozen companies that are located within 500 feet of the proposed compost property who are asking City Council to consider their vote carefully. Several of the business owners spoke.

The bioaerosol, sulphur compounds and ammonia emissions from such a compost, according to Hoag, cause adverse health problems such as contagious diseases, acute toxic effects, allergies, cancer, late term births, dermatitis and respiratory problems.

According to a report by ResearchGate, the environmental impact of large-scale composting practices include the release of various gases such as NH₃, CH₄ and N₂O which can negatively impact air quality.

"My tenants want to move," said Michael Schrickel, owner of Chop Shop Machines. "The smell will travel up to three miles. It's not a good thing for this area and everyone will suffer. It's not a good idea."

Along with Hoag and the CSRN, former Mayor Carty Finkbeiner also has taken on the fight to stop the compost.

"This is disrespect and it's been going on for too long," said Finkbeiner as he recalled the annexing of the old Adams Township by the City of Toledo a number of years ago, to the detriment of the residents of the township. "This is an insensitivity to men and women of color that would not be acceptable in a White neighborhood."

As for the Kott brothers, Finkbeiner had no kind words to say about their way of operating. "I dealt with them as a mayor – it was a constant struggle – they were always wanting to do what was inappropriate."

According to its website, Clean Wood Recycling is a mulch, compost and top-soil producing facility, with three locations throughout the Toledo area.

The company accepts wood and tree waste from landscaping companies, city waste departments and residents in the community, that is then recycled into mulch products.

Toledo City Council's Zoning and Planning Committee considered an application from Michael Kott, president of Clean Wood Recycling, Inc., two weeks ago to rezone about 50 acres to limited industrial so the business can



Bill Hoag speaks as Washington Muhammad - left - and Jodie Summers of the CSRN look on



Former Mayor Carty Finkbeiner address audience

be relocated from its location on Bancroft Street. Kott told the Committee that the Bancroft location is now valuable for commercial development.

Council is scheduled to hold a vote on the issue on Tuesday, March 30.



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Statement by President Biden on the Attack on the Right to Vote in Georgia

More Americans voted in the 2020 elections than any election in our nation's history. In Georgia we saw this most historic demonstration of the power of the vote twice – in November and then again in the runoff election for the U.S. Senate seats in January. Recount after recount and court case after court case upheld the integrity and outcome of a clearly free, fair, and secure democratic process.

Yet instead of celebrating the rights of all Georgians to vote or winning campaigns on the merits of their ideas, Republicans in the state instead rushed through an un-American law to deny people the right to vote. This law, like so many others being pursued by Republicans in statehouses across the country is a blatant attack on the Constitution and good conscience. Among the outrageous parts of this new state law, it ends voting hours early so working people can't cast their vote after their shift is over. It adds rigid restrictions on casting absentee ballots that will effectively

deny the right to vote to countless voters. And it makes it a crime to provide water to voters while they wait in line – lines Republican officials themselves have created by reducing the number of polling sites across the state, disproportionately in Black neighborhoods.

This is Jim Crow in the 21st Century. It must end. We have a moral and Constitutional obligation to act. I once again urge Congress to pass the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to make it easier for all eligible Americans access the ballot box and prevent attacks on the sacred right to vote.

And I will take my case to the American people – including Republicans who joined the broadest coalition of voters ever in this past election to put country before party.

If you have the best ideas, you have nothing to hide. Let the people vote.

Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in America's Classrooms

Special to The Truth

While the rollout of the vaccine has been a relief for the nation's teachers, many of whom have been working in-person on and off since the start of the pandemic, the reality is that not everyone will get the vaccine. What's more, being in the school building all day with children who are not yet approved for immunization leaves many educators and school staff vulnerable to COVID-19, no matter how many precautions they take while off the clock.

But there's good news: new scientific breakthroughs are helping make schools safer by protecting surfaces for far longer than routine cleaning, which does so only momentarily.

tic, glass, fibers and metals for up to nine days, according to the National Institutes of Health. While routine cleaning and disinfection help, they leave surfaces immediately vulnerable to recontamination, particularly in highly trafficked areas like break rooms, desks, lockers, and especially school and classroom entrances. Traditional disinfectants alone can't guarantee full coverage, protect for long periods, or even prevent recontamination. On top of that, the burden of constantly reapplying momentary disinfectants throughout the day has largely fallen on teachers, many of whom are paying for cleaning supplies out of their own paychecks.

A New Solution

In keeping America's teachers safe, standard cleaning methods alone can only do so much. A new EPA-approved product, however, when used as directed, offers continuous protection from COVID-19 with a single application, making school safety more reliable and efficient. The product, SurfaceWise2, was developed by biotechnology company Allied BioScience, which has a mission of reducing the footprint of global infection caused by the transmission of microorganisms encountered in daily life.

"The pandemic has put more responsibilities on schools than ever before, and our teachers are stretched thin," says Jess Hilton, chief marketing officer, Allied BioScience. "Providing additional safety measures for this sometimes overlooked frontline worker group is critical."

As leading infectious disease expert Dr. Charles P. Gerba explains, schools have always been a major germ transfer zone, and the pandemic has only elevated this health and safety risk.

"The average child touches their face about 40 to 50 times per hour," says Dr. Gerba. "Having a reliable way to protect surfaces for long periods of time is essential."

Independent lab studies conducted by Dr. Gerba found SurfaceWise2 to be effective against Human Coronavirus 229E, the EPA-approved surrogate, demonstrating the ability to successfully protect against COVID-19. Coated surfaces were found to reduce the concentration of these viruses by greater than 99.9% within two hours of contact.

SurfaceWise2 has undergone rigorous reviews and extensive safety testing, carrying the lowest possible EPA toxicity rating making it safe to use in enclosed spaces, which is critical as teachers must work inside the classroom. The coating is non-toxic, non-irritating, and contains no chemicals that produce harmful vapors or gases. To learn more, visit www.surfacewise.com.

The Problem

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Comeback Season: My Unlikely Story of Friendship with the Greatest Living Negro League Baseball Players by Cam Perron with Nick Chiles, foreword by Hank Aaron

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

Your teeth got a good workout.

Yep, as a kid, you wanted those certain hard-to-find, favorite-player baseball cards but you didn't want to be wasteful. Because you'd do anything to get the cards, you spent your change, hoped you'd be lucky, and you chewed a lot of gum. In the new book *Comeback Season* by Cam Perron (with Nick Chiles), though, the best things don't come in a pack.

It all started with coins.

When Cam Perron was a little boy, his grandfather introduced him to coin collecting by taking young Perron to a local Massachusetts flea market, where the boy learned that collectible things had stories behind them. That got him fired up about antiques, comic books, baseball cards, and music memorabilia. Other kids his age might've thought his hobbies were odd but Perron didn't care; since toddlerhood, he was always more interested in what adults had to say than what his peers thought.

Perron had a variety of interests throughout childhood. He loved playing hockey and dabbled in Little League but he says that adults ruined his fun in the games. At about the time he entered middle school, Red Sox fever hit his hometown just outside Boston and he talked his mom

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into indulging his love of Red Sox memorabilia. One day, the collector in Perron took notice of baseball cards for Negro League players, and his curiosity led him to research the stories behind the League; individual players caught his fancy and, with the eagerness of the 12-year-old he was, the white boy from Boston picked up the phone and called to talk with Black players that were many decades years older than he. Astoundingly, Perron became friends with those men, and he began making a name for himself among Negro League players for finding information they thought was lost forever – information that brought recognition, reconnection and, for some of baseball's most talented, financial refuge.

Comeback Season is a good book that speaks to the heart of every former little boy with a fist full of baseball cards and an eye on a good deal. Hobbyists will completely understand what author Cam Perron says about the "hunt" and why it's almost the best part of collecting, and his tales of accumulation will thrill anyone who's relished the nail-biting anticipation of finding *that one thing* in a surprise place.

The big appeal of this book, though, starts when Perron quiets himself and lets Negro Leaguers talk. Readers who come to this book to learn about Black baseball players in the Jim Crow era are treated to remembrances from these men, in their own words, and their stories and their heartfelt appreciation just can't be missed. Perron includes a brief-but-helpful history of Negro League ball early-on but really, look for the players' personal tales.

This book reads faster than a one-two-three inning and, aside from a couple of very minor profanities, it's safe for a teen baseball fan. So find *Comeback Season*, play ball, and you'll show a lot of teeth.



COMEBACK SEASON

My Unlikely Story of Friendship with the
GREATEST LIVING NEGRO
LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYERS

CAM PERRON with Nick Chiles

FOREWORD BY HANK AARON

YWCA... continued from page 7

"Thank you for joining us for this amazing celebration of women and see you next year," said Lisa McDuffie, president and CEO of YWCA of Northwest Ohio.

YWCA Board of Directors: Diane Friedman, chair; Karyn McConnell, vice chair; Jerilyn Main, treasurer; Amy Hoffman, secretary and Milestone chair; and members Jacalyn Brown, Angie Gerdeman, Debra Gregory, Ireathe Hollie, Leah Maguire, Stacey Mallett, Barb Oostra, Melody Pillar, Meghan Anderson Routh, Reem Subei, Valerie Thompson, Lisa Washington and Amy Wilt.

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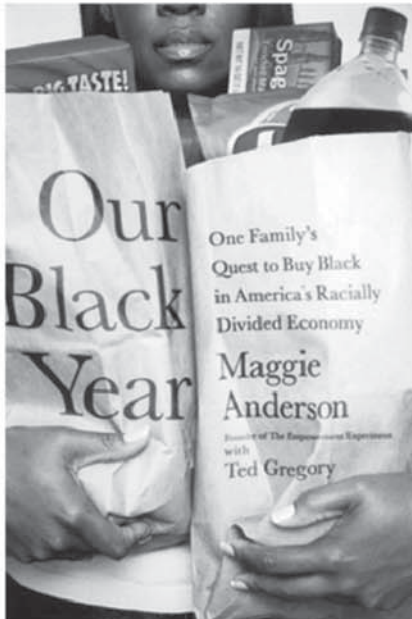
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CLASSIFIEDS

March 31, 2021

Page 15

INVITATION TO BID

Pathway, Inc. is accepting proposals for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 Calendar Year audit of the Agency. Requirements and specifications can be Obtained by contact Mr. Robert Jordan, at (419) 259-1192.

Sealed proposals will be received until 3:00 p.m., April 16, 2021, and opened thereafter. Include six (6) copies of the proposals addressed to Robert N. Jordan, Chief Financial Officer, 505 Hamilton St., Toledo, OH 43604.

We are an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer
The right is reserved to reject any and all proposals.

MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER/ PRODUCTION MANAGER

WGTE Public Media seeks a full-time, Multimedia Producer/Production Manager to manage video production services, develop and edit short and long-form videos and produce live studio and field productions.

Previous experience with directing and video switching along with videography and digital editing required. Candidate must have strong writing skills and be able to handle multiple, time-sensitive projects.

Supervisory experience and experience with Adobe Premiere, After Effects, and Final Cut Pro, preferred. Candidate must be willing to work a flexible work schedule, including occasional evenings and weekends. Bachelor's degree from a four-year college or university in a field such as liberal arts, radio & television broadcasting or journalism preferred; or a minimum of an Associate's degree in liberal arts, radio & television broadcasting or journalism, with two years related experience and/or training required. A valid driver's license is required. Send your cover letter and résumé to: Human Resources, P.O. Box 30, Toledo, OH 43614, or employment@wgte.org. EOE/ADA



THE TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS HIRING!

Current openings:

Supervisor of Clinical & Outreach Services
The Toledo-Lucas County Health Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The Department operates in accordance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

For job descriptions and information on how to apply, please visit our website:

<https://www.lucascountyhealth.com/about/career-opportunities/>

TOLEDO LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Case Manager, Assistant Public Defender, and TLAS Fellowship Program positions in Lucas County, Ohio. Case Managers with the Opportunity Project will identify client needs and provide a meaningful connections to behavioral health and other services. LCDC II, LSW, LISW, LPCC, preferred but not required. Assistant Public Defender and TLAS Fellowship candidates must be licensed with the Ohio Supreme Court. Graduates from an accredited college of law that are awaiting Ohio bar results; have a UBE score that transfers to Ohio; or are eligible for Practice Pending Admission will be considered. Please see <http://www.nlada.org/node/38161> for more detailed descriptions. Email cover letter and resume by April 23, 2021 to: ToledoLegalAidSociety@yahoo.com

COUNCIL MEMBER - COUNCIL DISTRICT 6

Toledo City Council has a vacancy for the Council District 6 seat. Members of Council shall have the qualifications of an elector of the City and shall have resided in Council District 6 continuously for one (1) year immediately prior to taking the oath of office. Persons interested in the appointment or nomination thereto should send a letter of interest with a resume attached to Gerald E. Dendinger, Clerk of Council, One Government Center Suite 2140, Toledo Ohio 43604 or email to gerald.dendinger@toledo.oh.gov or fax to (419) 245-1610 to be received by Wednesday April 7, 2021. Please note that all correspondence received will be public record and subject to disclosure.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Village of Ottawa Hills is accepting applications for the full-time position of Administrative Assistant for the Police Department.

Required Qualifications and Experience: Minimum high school diploma or equivalent: three years of experience of administrative support and/or customer service experience. Must be able to type at least 40 words per minute with corrections and proficient with spreadsheet, presentation, and data base software. Must be able to obtain and maintain clearance to access secure databases. For more detailed information please visit: www.ottawahills.org/employment or email police@ottawahills.org.

Pay Range: \$48,960-\$59,660

ARTIST SERVICES MANAGER

THE ARTS COMMISSION IS NOW HIRING for a part-time Artist Services Manager. Deadline to apply is March 29, 2021. The Arts Commission is committed to diversity and inclusion in the selection process and is an equal opportunity employer. For position details and how to apply, please visit TheArtsCommission.org/Employment.



JOB POSTING

Rudolph Libbe Inc. (RLI) offers a complete range of project contract delivery methods including general contracting, design/build and construction management. Based in Toledo, Ohio for more than 60 years, RLI is part of the Rudolph Libbe Group of companies with offices in Cleveland, Columbus and Lima, Ohio, Ithaca, New York and Plymouth, Michigan. For additional information, visit RLGBuilds.com.

Rudolph Libbe Inc is in search of a Project Manager. The Project Manager will effectively manage safety, cost, material, schedule, subcontractors, changes and quality on assigned projects. Responsibilities include building and strengthening relationships with new and existing customers, managing multiple construction projects to deliver results, and identifying new opportunities to provide value added services for clients as well.

A bachelor's degree in Engineering or Construction Management. Three (3) or more years' experience working in the construction industry. History of managing multiple projects and customers simultaneously.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY, PLEASE VISIT WWW.RLGBUILDS.COM/CAREERS.

Rudolph Libbe Inc is an EEO employer.

POLICE OFFICER

The Village of Ottawa Hills is accepting applications for the position of full-time Police Officer.

Required Training and Experience:

Minimum two year college degree or equivalent, from an accredited college. Must be a commissioned Peace Officer according to the rules of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council at time of appointment.

Testing must be conducted through the National Testing Network (www.nationaltestingnetwork.com). Lateral entry applicants may bypass testing and complete an employment application for consideration. For more information, please visit www.ottawahills.org/employment or email police@ottawahills.org.

Pay Range: \$61,580-\$73,200

The Village of Ottawa Hills is an equal opportunity employer.

Call to place your ad:

419-243-0007

www.TheTruthToledo.com

Marketing and Branding Webinar for Entrepreneurs

By Tricia Hall

Sojourner's Truth Reporter

International branding and marketing expert, Andrea Smith, facilitated a virtual interactive webinar on Monday, March 22 at 6:00 p.m. The webinar was presented by The Toledo African American Chamber of Commerce (TAACC) and Assets Toledo and focused on social media benefits for busy entrepreneurs.

"I want to thank everyone for joining this webinar today, presented by The Toledo African American Chamber of Commerce and Assets Toledo," said Roy Hodge, TAACC president, during opening remarks.

Smith earned a masters degree in business, has lived and worked in the United Kingdom, worked in the area of marketing and branding for 15 years and has spent over four years as an entrepreneur and CEO of The ADS Agency. Smith also shared her significant number of social media followers on Facebook, TikTok, YouTube, Twitter and Instagram.

"It's a pleasure to be here today, and to connect with you today," said Smith immediately following the introduction.

The webinar focused on five key social media points: meaningful audience growth takes time so adjust your expectations; consistency is important but not at the price of quality engagement; say "yes" to vanity metrics because it all comes down to your target; you have to stand out and this means taking a moment to do your competitive research and also the game is not sales but relationships.

"Social media isn't always mission first, but we want to perform well and service our clients with excellence. People need to see us and know it's your business. We are the face of our company and customers should know who you are and what you offer," explained Smith.

According to the presenter Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, LinkedIn, TikTok and Twitter have the largest number of users and entrepreneurs should develop a plan to utilize each social media platform. Facebook has 2.8 bil-

lion users, 2.3 billion YouTube users, 1 billion Instagram users, 740 million LinkedIn users, 689 million TikTok users, and 353 million Twitter users.

"You really have to pay money to play on Facebook and Instagram, even \$50 per month towards advertisements will make a difference. You have to share your story and share about your business. You don't need to have expensive equipment, you just need your phone, a \$15 tripod and a simple microphone. Instagram is a must for entrepreneurs because Instagram is a visual space while Twitter is where connections happen. Also create a business profile on LinkedIn that you can connect to your personal page," said Smith.

The presenter discussed types of content to post on social media and data that entrepreneurs can receive from social media platforms.

"It's not just about posting, it's about quality engagement. Take time, at least 30 minutes on Instagram to research likes and comments from your target audience. View hashtags and who is your competition. Also check your status or data on each social media platform and Google, you can gather information on key metrics and track that data over time. This includes leads, views and followers," concluded Smith.

For additional information about The ADS Agency visit www.theadsagency.com, for additional information about TAACC visit www.toledoaacc.org and for additional information about ASSETS Toledo visit www.assetstoledo.com.



Andrea Smith



Open through Aug. 29, 2021

The Art of Conservation

The conservators at the Toledo Museum of Art cordially invite you to view the fascinating work they do to preserve artworks for future generations to enjoy.

