

The *Sojourner's* Truth

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"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

February 16, 2022

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



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Leadership, Love and Jubilation

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

The Truth Contributor

Character, as the personal dimension of leadership, refers to the narrative script that defines the individual – the stories that name the leader's experience and the 'inner experience' or core philosophies espoused by the leader.

- Walter Fluker



On February 16, 1972, a Wednesday, at approximately 5:00 in the afternoon, Charles E. Jones, approached his pastor Rev. L. H. Newsom of Calvary Baptist Church, to announce that he was called to preach the gospel. Newsom swiftly licensed him, and Jones subsequently preached his first sermon a few days later.

Later, in 1972, Jones met his wife, Margo. They were engaged and married that year on September 2. Meanwhile, that same year, Christian Temple Training Center, the antecedent of Christian Temple Baptist Church, was founded by Jones' mother, Daisy L. Huff, D.Min, heralded as the first female Baptist pastor in northwestern Ohio. Jones served as Huff's co-pastor until her death and was installed as pastor of Christian Temple in March 1994.

Conscious of the power of character and the effectiveness of leading by example, Pastor Charles and First Lady Margo Jones currently celebrate 50 years of marriage, ministry and community leadership. We recognize the couple's jubilee of leadership and love in honor of both Black History and Valentine's Day.

Perryman: Pastors across the country are leaving the vocation because of ministry and its stress-related issues. Please talk about your issues of stress associated with ministry.

Jones: It would be a fairytale for me to tell you I haven't had any issues. Problems arise in the average congregation as you mold and shape it, but it's more about how you handle them. We have a loving group that provides what we need. So, I don't have the stress that I hear some preachers have to go through.

Our church is small, but qualitatively we are strong.

Perryman: Who are your mentors?

Jones: My mother was my pastor until she passed. After that, I took Reverend John W. Williams at Eastern Star Baptist as my pastor and confidant. Dr. John E. Roberts was on my ordination and a big brother to me in many ways throughout my ministry. Reverend I. J. Johnson at St. Mark was another one. Those three encouraged and helped me through things when I needed help.

Perryman: How about you, Mrs. Jones?

First Lady: My mother-in-law, Pastor Huff, was my beginning. With her being at one time a pastor's wife, teacher, and then the pastor, I could go to her and talk. She groomed me into the way I am today because I had no one else to go to. After she passed away, Pastor Williams' wife, Wanda Williams, and I became excellent friends. Because she had been in the ministry with her husband for a long time, we could share many things one on one. When Mrs. Williams passed, there was no one else left that I had confidence in to talk to. I have a friend in Sister Sue Fletcher, but I don't really have anyone as far as anyone else. I talk to Pastor Jones and



First Lady Margo and Pastor Charles Jones

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"You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right."

Rosa Parks

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A Word From Our Sponsor ... the "N" Word

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

As many of you may know, I am the part owner of the public opinion survey company known as Gotham Metrics, LLC. We contract out with corporations and small businesses to obtain data that will enhance their business plan and attract favorable opinion to and about their websites.

Lately, due to the racist antics of the podcast darling of the right-wing media, Joe Rogan, we have been asked to ascertain public sentiment regarding public figures and celebrities using the "N" word as a letter or using the full spelling of the "N" word as a means by which certain companies or celebrities can increase their street cred.

As you may have heard, Joe Rogan (formerly the host of the TV program, The Fear Factor and a wrestling commentator) has been exposed in using both the "N" word and the full spelling of that word, many, many times on his podcast. Note: to date, 113 offensive Joe Rogan podcasts have been silently removed. Go figure.

Joe Rogan even embellished his racist tendencies when he said on a podcast that when he went to a Black neighborhood and saw the film, The Planet Of The Apes, he thought he was in Africa!

Yes, Joe Rogan found a match with apes and Black people in that film.

Of course, Joe Rogan did the expected song and dance of being contrite and sorry for using that foul epitaph so many, many times on his radio show and vowed to never to be so offensive again. Note: Big bucks were involved in the public relations of handing this time bomb since Joe has been offered a shocking \$100 million dollars to leave the Spotify platform and transfer his racial antics to the ring wing platform called Rumble.

Needless to state, Herr Trump, never a one to shy from "cultural wars" (especially when it takes a whack at people of color) told Joe to stop apologizing to the Lefties and the media because it made him look "weak."

For a variety of reasons, and all bad, the use of the "N" word and all of its demeaning derivatives, has been a staple in American history for hundreds

of years when it was first cast as a symbol of all that was evil, dirty, vile, retched and dehumanizing about people from the continent of Africa who came here and were portrayed as debased non-paid slaves.

What is a most grievous ongoing tragedy is that some Black Americans (sadly, the youth) thought it was cool and hip and 'with it', to take that cudgel and slam each other with it to the point that when there is some Black-on-Black crime, the "N" word is hurled as a weapon in the heated interchange of verbal fisticuffs between the combatants.

Now, there is no way, no matter how you try, to cleanse and detoxify that word or the letter that it stands for. Impossible as ice being hot to the touch. Impossible as holding one's breath for three hours. Impossible as sweet potato pie tasting like brussels sprouts.

Some things are beyond redemption and being cured of its poisonous history. The "N" word is one of them.

Below are some questions my opinion survey company placed before six hundred people to determine their attitudes about the "N" word.

Determine for yourself where we are in America with the continuing use or disuse of that word. Each participant was noted for their race, age and geographic location but those identifying markers were left off these questions.

QUESTION ONE: If your boyfriend/girlfriend called you, "My N****R", would you correct him or her regardless of whether it was said in a public or private space?

QUESTION TWO: You are in a crowded white grocery store and a Black person calls out to a Black friend, "Hey, my "N****R!", would you cringe or simply try to blend into the walls?



Lafe Tolliver

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Alzheimer's Association Forum to Address Health Disparities, Outline Path to Equity in the Black Community

Black History Month event brings together respected leaders to discuss strategies for engaging Black Americans in Alzheimer's and dementia care initiatives

In honor of Black History Month, the Alzheimer's Association along with African American strategic partners will host a virtual forum "Alzheimer's and Dementia Conversations: Listening to the Voices of the Black Community" on February 23, at 1 p.m. CT. Partners participating in the program include National Council of Negro Women, The National Caucus and Center on Black Aging, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Chi Eta Phi Sorority and the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The one-hour forum will feature robust dialogue on the historical and cultural perspectives facing Black Americans as it relates to Alzheimer's and dementia care and the path toward a more equitable future.

According to the Alzheimer's Association, older Black Americans are twice as likely to develop Alzheimer's disease than White Americans. Black Americans are less likely to receive a diagnosis. Further, when they are diagnosed, it is typically in the later stages of the disease, when their medical needs are greater.

"Ongoing conversations and discussions about health equity and health disparities allow diversity and inclusion to strengthen our innovative capacity," said Carl V. Hill, chief diversity, equity and inclusion officer, Alzheimer's Association. "When we actively seek diverse perspectives, we unleash the full potential of our society, and that's what we at the Alzheimer's Association hope to accomplish with programs like this one."

"Reducing health disparities and inequities in Alzheimer's and dementia means that we begin to view healthcare as a right, not a privilege," said Karyne Jones, president and CEO, National Caucus and Center on Black Aging. "When you have a healthy society, you have a productive society that thrives. Through these types of forums, we can work together to bridge the gaps that exist in this space."

At the Alzheimer's Association, diversity and inclusion are vital to our mission. The Association leads strategic initiatives to support diversity and a culture of inclusivity. These strategic initiatives also strengthen outreach to all

populations, providing communities with resources and support to address the Alzheimer's crisis. ~~By partnering with organizations locally and nationally to~~ advance diversity, equity and inclusion, the Association can broaden its reach

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QUESTION THREE: Do you think it is appropriate for youth to address each other with the

"N" word instead of their first name?

QUESTION FOUR: When you hear celebrities use the "N" word in a CD or on social media or in a song, do you recoil or simply write it off as they being... artistic?

QUESTION FIVE: If you were up for sentencing before a white judge whom you learned used the "N" word, would you feel comfortable with that person sentencing you?

QUESTION SIX: It is late, and you are driving alone, and you are stopped by a police car and the approaching officer yells, "Hands where I can see them 'N****R!'" What would you do?

QUESTION SEVEN: When a white person tells you that he or she uses that "N" word because Black people use it amongst themselves, what is your response?

QUESTION EIGHT: Have you quietly, to yourself, used the "N" word when you see observe

certain conduct of Black folks that you deem is despicable or simply foolish?

QUESTION NINE: If you are listening to music and the artist uses the "N" word, do you turn off the song or continue to listen to it?

QUESTION TEN: If some white friends tell you to, "Get over it" about you feeling squeamish about they using the "N" word in your presence, do you go along for the sake of friendship or do you find other friends?

Until Black people quit making lame excuses, artistic or otherwise, regarding their use of the "N" word, why would anything change with the dominant white society changing their attitude about using the word?

How many times have you heard that if you do not respect yourself, why would anyone else respect you? If you label yourself as unworthy, vile and a debased person (as what the "N" word says you are), should you expect better treatment from others than what you are affording yourself? So, the next time someone uses the "N" word, do not think it is cool, hip or that they are, 'with it.' They are not and you are not when you self-inflict another wound into your psyche without countermanding that word.

Deserve better...demand better and act better.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



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Gladys Herron: Toledo's 20th Century Harriet Tubman

By Dawn Scotland
The Truth Reporter

"[Gladys Herron] was a woman that I would put and value as a Harriet Tubman," reflected Theresa M. Gabriel.

Gabriel, longtime politician and activist, now in her eighties, first met Herron when she was eight years old at Phillips Temple Church through community leader J. Frank Troy. Herron was the owner and operator of the first black school of cosmetology in Toledo: Herron's School of Beauty, on Collingwood Ave, which she founded.

"She was an all-around woman, she was a very astute politician..." said Gabriel.

Herron was actively engaged in dozens of social and political organizations including becoming the president of the Ohio Association of Beauticians in 1955. Gabriel, now a lifelong Republican, reflected on her presence "She was very active in the Democratic Party...I doubt if there is any position that anybody could call out that she wasn't involved in."

Herron was married to Robert D. Herron, the second Black firefighter to be a captain in Toledo's Fire Department and resided on Stickney Ave. Ms. Herron was described as straightforward, stern and motherly.

While Herron had no biological children, her work fostered a community.

"Out of Mrs. Herron's school 20 independent salons came from that. That were birthed from her school," said Brenda L. Kynard-Holsey, DPC, CNHP, current president of Ohio Association of Beauticians, Inc. "Women went out to start their own businesses, [after] graduating from her beauty school."

"She was a trailblazer," said Edwin "Sky" Mabrey, owner of Genesis Hair Salon and longtime community activist. Mabrey came to know Herron while he was a young, up and coming beautician in the 1970s. "She was very motherly: she was hard to you when she had to be hard on you and try to guide you in the right direction." He reflected on Herron's impact to the succeeding generation of beauticians: "she just wanted to see us advance... socially as well as politically."

A wife, mentor, businesswoman, politician, activist and servant leader – Herron's strongest legacy was leading by example. Her impact stretched across gender and political affiliation inspiring generations under her.

"Just the fact that she went out on the limb to start a beauty school... [and what it] takes to become a chartered school (as far as licensing, setting up curriculum...) it was a process she had to learn and she went into because nobody was really teaching her so she had to feel her way through the whole process" said Mabrey.

"Phez (Cletis Townsley), myself, and Bill Moore... we actually purchased a school down on Madison Ave. and we named it after Gladys Herron. So she had a great impact on us. And we did that out of honor-

ing her for what she had gone through. She was like our Harriet Tubman in the beauty trade business." Black men continued Herron's School of Beauty for decades after it had closed.

Gabriel reflected on Herron's influence on her own life as a public servant. "The strong black women in the 60s [including Herron]... They were my seniors and my mentors, and see, I learned from all of them. And I mentored and taught [future generations]."

She mentored women across party lines. "People worked across party lines... it was a commitment to lifting each other up."

Later, when Troy had passed, Gabriel and Herron, along with others, founded the J. Frank Troy Center for seniors in his honor. Gladys Herron was the first director. Even in retirement Herron continued to serve. She was a lifelong member of Third Baptist Church serving in various roles and committees and left scholarships to the church through her estate. The J. Frank Troy senior center first started in Third Baptist's basement.

Herron's School of Beauty was located on Collingwood Ave and the businesses that lined the black neighborhood including the old Grenadier, the Collingwood Hotel and the service stations are all gone.

"Back then all of the minorities they worked with each other and helped each other... it isn't like it is today. Party lines didn't make a difference if it was for the betterment and the improvement of our fellow brother or sister," said Gabriel. She mentioned that Troy was a Republican and Herron a Democrat.

Mabrey, who has been the owner of Genesis Hair Salon on Hoag St. for the past 26 years shared his sentiments regarding the now condition of the community from what used to be "Toledo's Black Wall Street" as he called it. He provided his answer:

"The key to all of that is Unity...we have to create an environment that is conducive to unity. We have to stop that cycle of the crab in the barrel syndrome," stated Mabrey. "We as a people have to learn how to work together and do what's best for the benefit of the community as a whole."

Gladys Herron was born in 1924 in Jackson, Fl. She relocated to To-



Gladys Herron

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trust God that he can guide me.

Perryman: What lessons did you learn from either Mrs. Williams or Pastor Huff?

First Lady: From Pastor Huff, she was bold, believed in telling you the truth, and giving you what God gave her. She always would give you that foundation that you always want to acknowledge who God is in your life. Sister Wanda helped me know how to deal with people and other women, including the church's young women. That was a new experience for me.

Perryman: Specifically, what qualities or traits do you currently have that were influenced by Sister Williams?

First Lady: I try to be upfront and honest with people. I don't want to ever look down on anyone, whatever the situation or circumstances they may be going through. I don't look down on anybody, but I want to try to help in any way that I can. I know this is not an easy position to be in because people talk negatively about first ladies all the time. So, I feel like I am that example. I had two great examples before me, so I'm just trying to be the best example before God that I can.

Perryman: Pastor, what leadership traits did you acquire from your mentors?

Jones: My mother taught me how to be bold and honest in my dealings and live a life of integrity. When I started, I didn't realize all she had done for me until I began pastoring myself.

Pastor Williams taught me to exhibit kindness when dealing with people. I thought I was kind, but I was very blunt in the way I gave things out. Dr. Williams taught me how to be a little smoother in getting my point over. The same thing with Dr. Roberts. Pastor Roberts was a kind, compassionate person. I don't say I would want to be altogether like either of them, but the way they dealt with people was different from how I was doing it. They both taught me how to be better in my disposition. I.J. Johnson was just a friend that I'd known from when he came to Toledo, even before I started preaching. I served in his church for a while in the music department, so he was just a friend all the way down the line. I didn't get a lot of guidance from him, but he did give some help in certain areas.

Perryman: How do you get all the ministry-related requirements done and

give your own household the quality time it needs?

Jones: It's tedious, but we worked hard to steer our children in the right way.

Perryman: Church is home, and home is also church when you grow up with clergy parents. Mrs. Jones, will you comment on the rearing of the children? And they all turned out as exceptional adults, so what's the secret?

First Lady: We were blessed enough to put them in a Christian school, tried to instill in them the principles of the Bible, and strove to be positive examples before them. We were hard on them when necessary, but we let them know through our discipline that we were doing it because we loved them and wanted them to come up in the right way. I can't say that it was totally easy, but in the same sense, it wasn't that hard because they weren't really bad children. Kids will be kids, but they knew that when we would tell them something, we meant what we said, didn't play with it, and it just went from there. We just put our foot down and let them know.

Perryman: You're coming up on fifty years of marriage. Are there specific self-care strategies you have to keep love and the relationship fresh?

Jones: We're almost inseparable sometimes, I'll say that, but we've done things together over the years and included the entire family. We take family vacations every year, and it's become quite expensive as the family has grown, but a certain unity has evolved from these things.

Perryman: If I might add, Mrs. Jones, my wife was talking to me before we even decided to do this interview, telling me how you used to do something with the family called greens Thursday. Please tell me about that.

First Lady: Well, she's got my secret. Everybody who knows the Jones family knows that Thursday is our day. Each week, almost every Thursday and Sunday, the children and the grandchildren are over here at the house.

We initiated that back when they were very young, because number one, Pastor Jones loves greens, and he loves chicken. This was when The Cosby Show and A Different World came on Thursdays, so we would gather around and watch TV and have our dinner. So, from that, it has graduated into a big thing now. Even if we're out of town and all of us are together, I still do greens and cornbread. It's a family standard, and we keep it going, but it keeps us together and provides unity.

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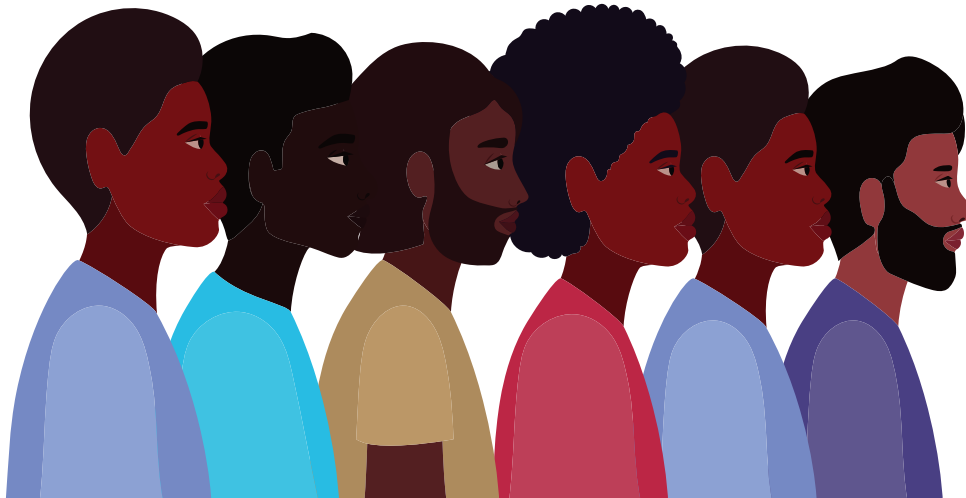
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Constance Baker Motley: A Lawyer for the Ages; But Before Her Time

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The GOP and the country at large has had no problems with the nigh all-white male history of domination on the highest court in the land. For white males, such a place of power and privilege is seen as their birth right due to white skin privileges, but to allow a Black woman to sit on the highest court in the land, well, that just sets them off with chattering a lot of gibberish.

The GOP continues to demean and diminish the Black woman as being intellectually inferior and is utterly incapable of telling the difference between a law book and a J. Crew catalog...such was the commentary from Louisiana senator, John Kennedy.

When it is time for the confirmation hearings by the Senate of the Black woman nominee, it will be telling to the watching public as to whether she receives the same cordial and laudatory treatment that was accorded Amy Coney Barrett, the most recent white Supreme Court pick.

White America has never embraced the Black woman as being an intellectual equal but their viewpoint of her has been soiled by concocted imagery of her being a welfare queen or a wanton sexpot or the Butterfly McQueen (*Gone With The Wind*) image of a loyal mammy.

Of course, those GOP haters would not debate a Black woman on such an issue and much less any of the proposed picks that Biden has in mind. Simply to say that any one of those possible contenders would run intellectual circles around their GOP detractors but since those intellectual bullies speak from the protected air of the congressional halls, they are not concerned with backing up their Neanderthal statements.

Why is it that none of those carping GOP haters ever questioned why the court has been packed with white males since its inception to current date and much less the lower federal district and appellate courts?

Did you ever see any of the GOP membership (or Democrats for that matter) champion the cause of a Black woman on the court? Of course not. Seeing a Black woman as a person and as a person of value who could hold their own on the court was never a consideration for white America. – Lafe Tolliver, February 9, 2002, *The Truth*

As our intrepid columnist pointed out last week, never in this nation's nearly two and a half centuries of existence has a Black woman been in consideration for a seat on the highest court in the land. Sen. Kennedy and those of his ilk would have the nation believe that such consideration should be unlikely because of the affinity of Black women for a J Crew catalog.

Yet, believe it or not, Senator, there have been, and are, some pretty outstanding Black female attorneys in this country's history – not the least of whom was Constance Baker Motley.

She was the first black woman to graduate from Columbia Law School (in 1946); first black woman (second woman) to work at the NAACP as a lawyer; first black woman to argue a case before the U.S. Supreme Court (in 1961 and from 1961 to 1963 she won nine of 10 cases there); first woman elected to the New York Senate in 1964; first woman elected Manhattan Borough president in 1965; first black woman appointed a federal judge, first woman to serve as chief judge of the Southern District of New York.

Constance Baker Motley, often overlooked, always underreported, was present for and responsible for so many critical events in the long-time Civil Rights struggle that consumed the African-American community during the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s.

As a young lawyer working for the NAACP, starting in 1946, she worked hand-in-hand with Thurgood Marshall, particularly on the landmark *Brown vs. Board of Education*. In fact, Motley wrote the first legal complaint in the



case and spent the rest of the 1950s working on case after case in federal courts attacking laws and practices that supported white supremacy.

In the 1960s that dedication paid off as she won case after case and as the Lyndon John presidency shepherded in law after law dismantling segregation.



Constance Baker Motley in 1962 with James Meredith and lawyer Jack Greenberg

Born in 1921, in New Haven, Connecticut, to parents who were immigrants from the Caribbean island of Nevis, Constance Baker was the ninth of 12 children. Her mother was a domestic servant and her father a chef, working for various Yale University student societies. Her mother, a community activist, founded the New Haven NAACP.

After high school, Motley started college at Fisk University but transferred to New York University after one year. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics in 1943. Motley received her Bachelor of Laws in 1946 from Columbia Law School. Thurgood Marshall hired her as a law clerk for the NAACP during her second year at Columbia. And she joined the NAACP full time after Columbia.

As a front-line lawyer for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund,

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Constance Baker Motley... continued from page 7

Motley personally led the litigation that integrated the Universities of Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi among others—overcoming Southern governors who literally barred the door to African American students. Her most famous case was serving as the attorney for James Meredith, the first black student admitted to the University of Mississippi.

By the time she left the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund in 1965, Motley had personally argued 10 Supreme Court cases (winning nine, including the Meredith case). The tenth decision, regarding jury composition, was later reversed in her favor. She also assisted in nearly 60 cases that reached the high court.

Along the way, she experienced numerous courtroom delays and indignities. Motley kept her cool, even when some judges turned their backs when she spoke.

She opened up schools and parks to African Americans, and successfully championed the rights of minorities to protest peacefully.

Given the time of her service for the benefit of so many Americans, working alongside the esteemed Thurgood Marshall, the first African American appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court and often serving as counsel for the now-celebrated Martin Luther King, Jr, her accomplishments are often overlooked and her legacy has receded with time.

In Simple Justice, which had long been considered the definitive history of the Brown case, the author Richard Kluger mentions Motley on only four of 778 pages calling her “pleasant, taciturn Connie Motley.”

And while her legal accomplishments, as advocate and as judge, would have made her supremely qualified for consideration to the highest bench in the land, any such consideration of Black women for such a position during her time was a nonstarter. In fact, any such consideration for women in general until the early 1980s was not a possibility. That is, until Ronald Reagan declared during his campaign that he would place a woman on the Supreme Court.

Imagine a president declaring that he would correct a longtime slight to a specific group!

Nevertheless, she has been honored by those who have taken the time and effort to study those accomplishments.

In 1993, Motley was inducted in the National Women’s Hall of Fame and in 2001, President Bill Clinton presented her with the Presidential Citizens Medal. The NAACP awarded her with the organization’s highest honor, the Spingarn Medal, in 2003.

Motley remained chief justice of the Southern District Court of New York until her death in 2005.

... And There Have Been Many Others, Including ...

Charlotte E. Ray (1850-1911)

Charlotte E. Ray was born in New York City on January 13, 1850. After graduating from college in 1869, Ray became a teacher at Howard University, where she would later register in the Law Department. In fear that she would not be admitted due to her gender, Ray registered as C.E. Ray.

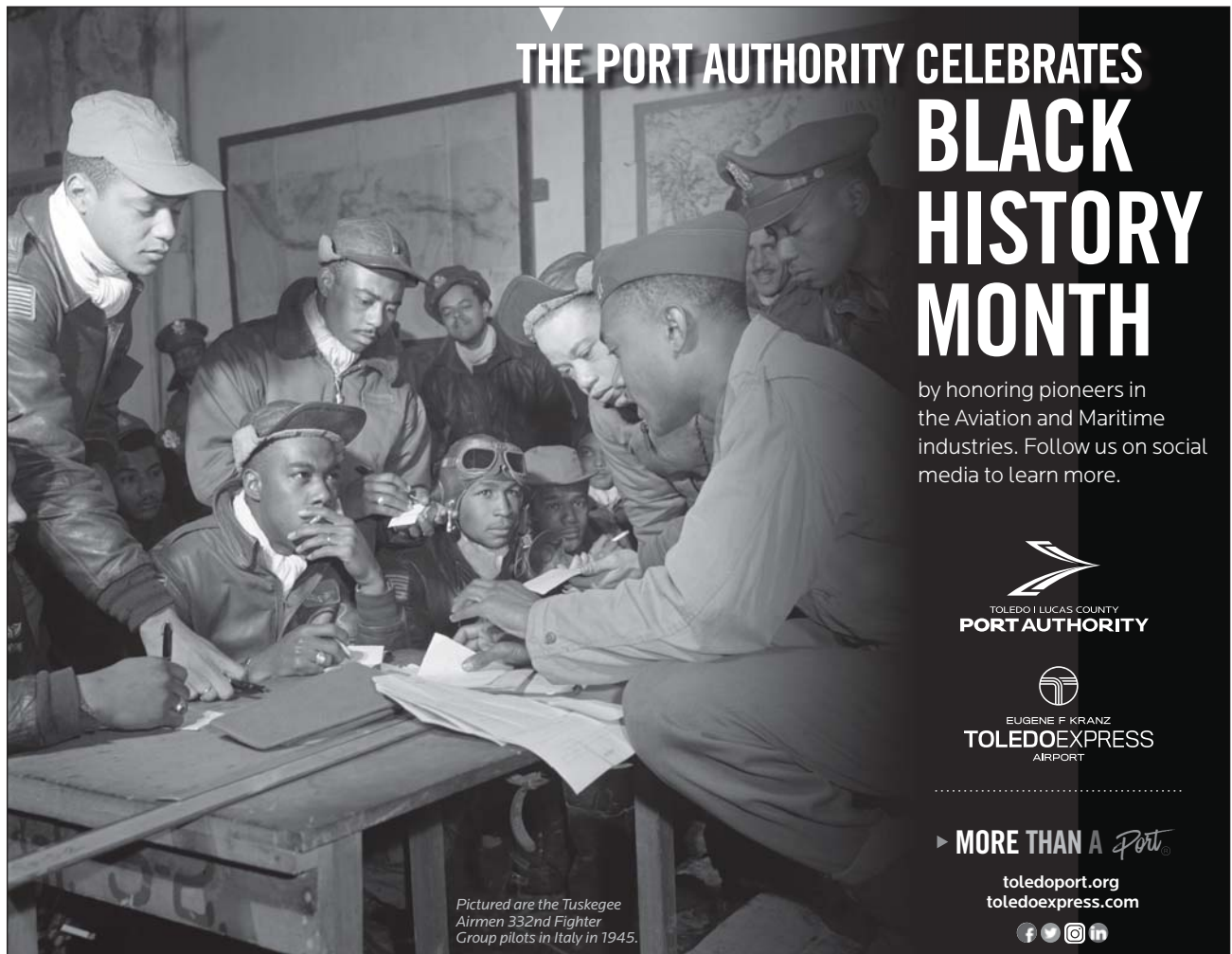
Charlotte Ray graduated from the Howard University School of Law on February 27, 1872, and was admitted to the District of Columbia Bar on March 2, 1872, making her the first black female attorney in the United States. She was also admitted as the first black female to practice in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia on April 23, 1872.

Ray eventually stopped practicing because she was unable to maintain a steady client flow due to racial and sexist prejudice. She later moved back to New York and became a teacher in Brooklyn. It is also believed that she was active in the women’s suffrage movement and joined the National Association...



Charlotte E. Ray

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Pictured are the Tuskegee Army aviators, 332nd Central Postal Directory, Group pilots in Italy in 1945.

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Kinship and That Peculiar Institution

By Albert Earl

Guest Column

I remember watching the movie *Glory* on several occasions and jokingly saying every time that Private Trip had to be some kin to me. His combative spirit and his undeniable courage to speak his truth, The Truth to power, is what I admired most.

If you are not familiar, Private Trip is the character played by Denzel Washington, for which he received an Oscar as Best Supporting Actor in this film. To be honest with you I think deep down in my spirit I wanted that kinship. Partly because he reminded me of myself in a lot of ways and it gave me a proud, yet fleeting, feeling to believe I was somehow connected to a man of such honor. A man who had the courage to fight and help defeat the evil – that represented that Peculiar Institution of Human Trafficking.

So, imagine my thoughts, 158 years after the Civil War ended, when me and my cousin Augusta, received a call from our cousin Chaka, telling us she had the military records of our great, great Uncle Alfred Robinson who served in the 3rd United States Colored Cavalry Regiment which was the 1st Mississippi Calvary Regiment of African Descent?

This Regiment is most noted for its raids in the Yahoo City Expedition and the Battle of Egypt Station, forming in 1863 until soldiers were mustered out in 1866.

My uncle Alfred is the older brother of my great, great grandfather Joseph Robinson. Alfred was born in 1843 in Wilkinson County Mississippi to my paternal great great great grandparents, James and Mary Robinson, who were both born in Virginia.

James was born in 1816 and Mary in 1818 and, according to family oral history, they were of the Melungeon People who were mixed heritage of Native American, Africans and Europeans. Although Papa Joseph was said

to be a free man it is believed that his parents were sold as slaves from Virginia to a plantation in Mississippi.

History tells us that in order to relocate slaves to the Mississippi Delta during that time you either had to travel by ship, sailing the Atlantic down through the Gulf of Florida which could be expensive and treacherous. Or travel by boat from the Ohio River to the Mississippi River which was also expensive and treacherous because of rapid currents and changing water levels.

The slaveholders also transported their slaves by choosing to walk them, which could take up to seven weeks. Most slave holders chose walking because it was least expensive, however it was still a treacherous journey through mountains and other rough terrain.

After hearing and seeing his service documents, I instantly thought about what his personal journey was like after leaving the plantation to go up north to Philadelphia where he enlisted?

What did it mean to him to become one of the 186,000 African Americans to fight in the Civil War in which one-third would lose their lives? Did he have feelings of fear of retaliation toward his family who remained in Mississippi and where he would return after the war.

Like Private Trip in the film, I laughed to myself and said "Tare It Up" when I viewed a document of his military pay - a payment of \$13.45 for the months of November and December in 1864. I couldn't help but wonder what his reaction was which had to be difficult, especially being that



Albert Earl

...continued on page 16



THE YWCA OF NORTHWEST OHIO CELEBRATES BLACK HERSTORY MONTH

The YWCA of Northwest Ohio is committed to our mission of Eliminating Racism and Empowering Women. That's why this year during Black History Month we are proud to highlight the work of powerful Black women feminists whose work paved the way for the next generation of activists and changemakers.

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Many Others... continued from page 8

tion of Colored Woman.

Historic Firsts:

- First African-American female lawyer in the United States
- First female admitted to the District of Columbia Bar
- First female admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia

Jane Bolin (1908-2007)

"I wasn't concerned about first, second or last. My work was my primary concern" — Jane Bolin

Jane Bolin was born in Poughkeepsie, New York on April 11, 1908. She was the daughter of Gaius C. Bolin, a lawyer and the first black person to graduate from Williams College. At 16, she enrolled at Wellesley College where she was one of only two black freshmen. Bolin graduated in the top 20 of her class in 1928.

Although Bolin was strongly discouraged from applying to Yale Law School due to her race, she was admitted and graduated in 1931 as the first black woman to receive a law degree from Yale. She then went on to become

the first black woman to join the New York City Bar Association in 1932.

On July 22, 1939, Mayor of New York City, Fiorello La Guardia, appointed Bolin as a judge of the Domestic Relations Court, making Bolin the first black woman to serve as a judge in the United States. Bolin proceeded to be the only black female judge in the country for twenty years.

Bolin remained a judge of the court for 40 years until her retirement at age 70. She worked to encourage racially integrated child services, ensuring that probation officers were assigned without regard to race or religion, and publicly funded childcare agencies accepted children without regard to ethnic background.

Historic Firsts:

- First African-American woman to graduate from Yale Law School
- First African-American woman to join the New York City Bar Association
- First African-American woman to join the New York City Law Department



Jane Bolin

- First African-American woman to serve as a judge in the United States

Barbara

Jordan (1939-1996)

"What the people want is very simple — they want an America as good as its promise." — Barbara Jordan

Barbara Jordan was born in Houston, Texas on February 21, 1936. Due to segregation, Jordan could not attend The University of Texas at Austin, and instead chose Texas Southern University, a historically-black institution. After majoring in political science, Jordan attended Boston University School of law in 1956 and graduated in 1959.

After two unsuccessful campaigns for the Texas House of Representatives in 1962 and 1964, she won a seat in the Texas Senate in 1966. The victory made her the first African American state senator since Reconstruction in 1883, and the first woman to ever serve in that body.

In 1972, Jordan was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives as the first woman elected to represent Texas in the House. While serving in the House, she was a member of the House Judiciary Committee and

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Many Others... continued from page 9

where she later delivered an influential televised speech supporting the impeachment of President Richard Nixon.

In 1976, Jordan became the first black woman to deliver a keynote address at the Democratic National Convention.

Jordan was later awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Bill Clinton in 1994.

Historic Firsts:

- First African-American woman elected to the Texas Senate
- First Southern African-American woman elected to the United States House of Representatives
- First African-American woman to deliver a keynote address at a Democratic National Convention

Loretta Lynch (1959-Present)

"The power to arrest — to deprive a citizen of liberty — must be used fairly, responsibly, and without bias." — Loretta Lynch

Loretta Lynch was born on May 21, 1959, in Greensboro, North Carolina. In 1981, Lynch earned a Bachelor of Arts in English and American literature from Harvard College and a J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1984.

Lynch began her legal career as a litigation associate in New York City, and eventually became a drug and violent-crime prosecutor in the U.S. attorney's office in 1990.

From 1994 to 1999 Lynch made her way from chief of the Long Island Attorney's Office to chief assistant U.S Attorney in the Eastern District. In 1999, Lynch was nominated by President Bill Clinton to serve as the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York. In 2001, Lynch left the U.S. Attorney's Office to become a partner at Hogan & Hartson (later Hogan Lovells) until 2010.



Barbara Jordan



Loretta Lynch

In 2010, President Barack Obama nominated Lynch to again serve as the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York.

In 2014, President Barack Obama nominated Lynch for the position of U.S. Attorney General, succeeding Eric Holder, making her the first African-American woman and second African-American (after Holder) to hold this office.

Her tenure ended on January 20, 2017, when Donald Trump was sworn in as President of the United States.

Historic Firsts:

- First African-American woman to serve as United States Attorney General

Kamala Harris (1964 – Present)

"My mother had a saying: 'Kamala, you may be the first to do many things, but make sure you're not the last.'" — Kamala Harris

Kamala Harris was born in Oakland, CA on October 20, 1964. By the time she attended kindergarten, Harris was being bused to school as part of a desegregation program. Throughout her childhood, children in her neighborhood were permitted from playing with her and her sister because they were Black.

After high school, Harris attended Howard University and eventually received her law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of Law. After graduation, she worked as a deputy district attorney in California and later as an assistant district attorney in San Francisco. In 2004, she became the first person of color elected as the District Attorney of San Francisco.

In 2011, Harris would become the first African American and first South Asian American Attorney General of California. She was re-elected in 2014. Harris would later be elected as a United States Senator in 2017.

In 2020, Joe Biden and Kamala Harris successfully won their election as President and Vice President of the United States, making Harris the first woman, first African American, and first South Asian American Vice President in U.S. history.

Historic Firsts:

- First person of color elected as the district attorney of San Francisco
- First African American, and the first South Asian American to hold the office of Attorney General in California
- First woman, first African American, and first South Asian American Vice President of the United States.



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IMAGE: Richard Dial (American, born 1955), *The Comfort of the First Born*, 1988. Mixed media (welded steel, plastic tubing, paint), 69 1/2 x 46 x 39 in. Toledo Museum of Art, 2020.30. © Richard Dial / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York. Image: Ron Lee/The Silver Factory.

Local Black History Moments • Local Black History Moments • Local Black History Moments • Local Black History Moments

The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union: A Local Black History Success Story

By Linda Nelson and Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporters

The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union, located at 1441 Dorr Street, offers all of the typical services that many banking institutions do, including checking and savings accounts, loans, CDs and a Visa credit card.

It also offers services that you won't get at your local bank such as bill payments and credit counseling. But what really distinguishes TUFUCU from the rest, is the sheer determination of the people behind it to offer a better financial life to the community they serve even if the methods are unconventional and it involves going the extra mile..

Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union became the first, and remains the only, community development credit union in the city of Toledo, since opening its doors in July 1996. Local community leaders who founded the credit union include: Ken Alderson, Suzette Cowell (the first and only CEO the credit union has known) Rev. Robert Culp, Roosevelt Gant, Minister Rick Hunter, Alto King Jr., Edwin Mabrey and Bishop Duane Tisdale.

"We begin with prayer," says TUFUCU CEO Suzette Cowell. Cowell is quick to point out that in actuality the credit union is the result of many prayers, much hard work and the strong desire of city leaders and business owners to see residents of the community treated with fairness.

"I worked at a bank both as a teller and in the compliance department," Cowell says. "When loan applications came in they would first look at the zip codes and then they would turn down the application. I prayed that there would be a financial institution that would consider a person by credit worthiness."

That opportunity came at a meeting that stemmed from a 1992 shooting incident. During that meeting an eight-point community development plan was



Suzette Cowell and Dick LaValley



TUFUCU's Carla Ford and Frances Smith



Edwin Mabry and Suzette Cowell



TUFUCU staff - Angela Cattledge, Brandi Allen, Ashlyn Mabrey

discussed. The credit union was on that list.

According to Cowell, they canvassed the community to test the climate and the possible receptivity for a credit union, and what they learned was that many people did not have any relationship with a financial institution, didn't trust banks and many kept their money at home.

After, Cowell forged a partnership with Bishop Duane C. Tisdale, and TUFUCU was launched at the nurses' station of Friendship Baptist Church.

"We were set up at the nurses' station in Friendship," says Cowell. "We would open accounts during service." But soon the membership began to grow and so did the need for a larger space.

Cowell says that in 1996, former Toledo Mayor Carty Finkbeiner came to the credit union's charter signing, saw how large the crowds were and offered the current Dorr Street location.

...continued on page 13

BLACK TO NATURE

This month – Black History Month – we celebrate people of color and the contributions they have made to our environment and the enjoyment of the outdoors.

Stay connected with Metroparks to learn about the benefits of nature, the ways in which our agency contributes to conservation, and how to participate.

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NeighborWorks Toledo Region is rooted in Dorothy May Richardson's vision, and we work daily to carry out the mission of developing strong communities, one neighbor at a time.

www.nwtoledo.org

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Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union... continued from page 12

And in July 1996 TUFUCU opened Ohio's first community credit union in eight years.

The move proved to be a mixed blessing because, although the credit union had room to grow and accept more members, that growth placed a strain on credit union staff.

"We grew too fast," says Cowell. "We went from about 700 members in 1996 to 2100 members that same year." Cowell remembers how overwhelmed they were with transactions and the sheer volume of memberships. "We had people beating on the doors wanting to start accounts. We had two staff members and we couldn't take lunch breaks or return phone calls," she says. "There was one man who came and just stood outside of the door because he was afraid to come in." That man is now a member of the credit union and his story is only one of many during those early years.

The rapid growth, Cowell says, also contributed to the difficulty she and her staff had in obtaining a charter from the National Credit Union Administration. Getting licensing from NCUA was crucial because it would provide financial security to credit union members.

"Those who held the charter were reluctant," she says. "We had a meeting with regulation representatives, and 32 pastors in Bishop Tisdale's office, and those representatives gave us a one-hour talk on the cons about the survival of a credit union in this community." Cowell says that the regulation committee initially believed that the credit union was too aggressive with lending practices and was taking too much of a risk.

Eventually the credit union did get the charter and Cowell says that she has no regrets. "Our members are some of the most loyal I've seen," she says. "A few years ago during the big financial crisis 99 percent of members who filed bankruptcy have come back to pay us."

Cowell says that today TUFUCU quadrupled its assets and much of that has gone back into the community, mainly through non-predatory lending. Cowell also gives much credit to TUFUCU employees, its board of directors, community leaders, pastors and the financial institutions, including Huntington Bank and Fifth Third Bank, who have supported the agency from the beginning. "These people have not only been there from the start, but they believe in this community," she says.

TUFUCU made another move in 2016 and took another leap forward as the plans gelled for a new building on the southwest corner of Dorr and Detroit. For the past six years the credit union has been in its own freestanding 3,200 square foot building which greatly expanded convenience of service for TUFUCU members. The financial assistance of Richard LaValley, Jr., Toledo Urban Foundation board president, was pivotal making that dream a reality.

However, what was good for TUFUCU and its members six years ago is now not quite enough and Cowell and her staff and board are busy looking at plans for an expansion within the next few years.

Frances Smith has believed in what TUFUCU is doing for the community since the beginning. Smith, former board president for many years, including during those first years, also owns her own Toledo-based company, Smith Travel and Tours.

"I started assisting Suzette when she was gathering signatures at Friendship, and became her secretary," Smith says. "What really impressed me, and how I got sold into the credit union was seeing how people were being helped. There was a young man who had been turned down for an auto loan consistently. He could not get credit. Suzette looked at his credit report and saw that the reason

he was being denied was that his mother had done what many mothers in that situation do. She put her utilities in his name. Suzette worked with this young man, contacting the credit bureaus and explaining that he could not have had utilities in his name as a minor. They were finally able to get this young man's credit straightened out and he was able to get a car loan."

Edwin Mabrey, another long-time board member puts it this way "The credit union is the hub of what is happening in this city. It is also a hub for financial growth, community involvement and the development of black businesses," he says. "We are the only community developmental credit union in Ohio, but we are not your typical credit union. We deal with individuals who are having difficulty paying back loans. We sit with them and work out their options. And when someone dies, it's the family who comes to us for help to bury that person whether they are members of the credit union or not."

Mabrey has been a part of TUFUCU since 1996, and started his own salon, Genesis, that same year. He became involved because he was concerned with the decline of black business development in Toledo.

Smith and Mabrey say that their duties as board members include: deciding what direction the credit union is going, setting interest rates, overseeing memberships and insuring that NCUA policies are followed.

But their mission is clear "Our mission is to turn people around so they can become credit worthy, and to teach people about their credit," says Smith.

Alzheimer's Association... continued from page 4

in all communities.

"Alzheimer's and Dementia Conversations: Listening to the Voices of the Black Community" program is free to attend. To register, visit https://alz-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Fhlh6y_cRfCmzdSRMzTvOA or call the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at (800) 272-3900.

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Black History Moments • Black History Moments • Black History Moments • Black History Moments • Black History Moments • Black History Moments

She Raised Her Voice! 50 Black Women Who Sang Their Way into Music History by Jordannah Elizabeth, illustrated by Briana Dengoue

Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

Tap, tap, tap, tap.

That's often the start of some good music. The sound of sticks hitting cymbals. The pat of a hand on a stomach or thigh, just keeping the beat. It's what your toes do when you're about to break out into a dance because the tunes are just so good.

Tap, clap, tap, and read *She Raised Her Voice!* by Jordannah Elizabeth, illustrated by Briana Dengoue.

When she was just a little girl, Jordannah Elizabeth loved listening closely to music and she paid attention to how it made her feel. Hearing Nina Simone, for instance, changed her life and sent her searching for other Black female singers and their works. There were many of them, and each inspired her to reach for her dreams.

Take R&B singer Anita Baker. Her father was absent from the moment she was born and her mother died with Baker was just two years old. She grew up in foster care until she was twelve, and then she was raised by her foster sister.

Singer Natalie Cole's father was wildly famous but she wanted her own career. Sadly, though, after two successful albums, Natalie "began to do drugs that made her quite sick." She had to work very hard to get her career back on track.

The Pointer Sisters were only allowed to listen to Christian music when they were small. When singer Mahalia Jackson was "a wealthy international star," she experienced racism; singing, she figured, soothed the souls of those who were likewise going through the same thing. Libba Cotton was a left-handed guitar player, "making her stand out." Billie Holiday had the ability to improvise with both tune and lyrics. Bob Dylan was said to have fallen in love with Mavis Staples.

And if you think you're way too young to start finding your dream, get this: Tracy Chapman started writing her own songs at age eight. Ja-

c.2021
Running Press Kids
\$17.99
158 pages



Bessie Smith



Billie Holiday



Mavis Staples



Nina Simone



Mahalia Jackson

net Jackson performed with her brothers at age ten. Chaka Khan had her own band at age eleven. Gladys Knight won a TV-show contest at age eight. Bessie Smith started performing at age ten.

The latest music is ap-

...continued on page 15



Libba Cotton

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She Raised Her Voice!... continued from page 14

pealing, you have to admit that, but you also want to introduce your child to the old tunes. *She Raised Her Voice!* is a good way to begin.

By stepping back and forth through a century or so of song, and with a willingness to tell the unvarnished truth, author Jordannah Elizabeth weaves a wide range of biographies of Black female performers into a sort of literary old-school mix-tape. Elizabeth then extends your child's musical instruction by challenging young readers to sample the work of the singers in her book, and to pay attention to how it makes them feel.

Adults may be surprised at who's not inside this book – no Josephine Baker, no Mary Wells, no Miriam Makeba, no Donna Summer – but these omissions leave room to continue the lessons for your eight-to-14-year-old by yourself. But first, start here: *She Raised Her Voice!* is a book to tap into.



Natalie Cole



Anita Baker



Tracy Chapman



Gladys Knight



Chaka Khan




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Toledo's Delta Chapter Celebrates A Golden Anniversary

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

The Toledo Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated celebrated 50 years of serving the local community. The celebration was held on Saturday, February 12, 2022 at the Glass Pavilion.

The occasion began with a president's welcome, a spirit-filled invocation delivered by the sorority's Midwest Regional Chaplain, a catered lunch, the featured speaker, along with special presentations and closing comments.

"I appreciate the many charter sorors and chapter sorors who sacrificed so much over the years. I appreciate the light that these sorors have shown in the Toledo community," said Evangelist Jacquelin Robbins Jackson, regional chaplain.

Shavon Arline-Bradley, co-chairwoman of National Social Action Com-

... continued on page 18



Darlene Harris, Linnie Willis and Ardenia Jones Terry

Kinship... continued from page 9

white soldiers received \$13.00 a month with no clothing fees while Black Soldiers received \$10 a month with \$3 clothing fees.

Most of all, I wondered what inspired Uncle Alfred to join the Union Army. Was it because of all the dehumanizing things he may have seen and watched his parents experience? Or maybe it was to help assure that his little brothers Solomon and Joseph would never remember life as enslaved children like he and their sister Catherine experienced.

Maybe he just wanted some get back or maybe he thought about the future generations of Robinsons. The future of those who would come after him, that would search and find him, 158 years later. Choosing to Fight for their Freedom as well, long before they were born.

Frederick Douglass said, "Once let the black man get upon his person the brass letters U.S., let him get an eagle on his button, and a musket on his shoulder and bullets in his pockets, and there is no power on earth which can deny that he has earned the right of citizenship in the United States." Up from Slavery they would come. Making sacrifices sealed with promises that tomorrow would be a much better day than yesterday.

Thank You, Uncle Alfred! I salute you and all the men and women who stood bravely and fought for the right to live free and to have Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness in a country that you learn to love but did not love you back.

I guess deep down it was the spirit of my Uncle Alfred that was speaking to me all along. Kinship to a man of such honor, who had the courage to fight and help defeat the evil, that represented that Peculiar Institution of Human Trafficking.

Perryman... continued from page 6

Perryman: Are there any other relationship secrets?

First Lady: Also, I found out over the years that if you both are arguing and fussing at each other, you can't really settle anything. So, I concluded that I would just say nothing, and eventually, he would stop talking. And, once that happened, we could sit down and talk it over. We would always end up laughing about it because it was probably something stupid or silly.

Perryman: Insightful!

First Lady: I'd just be quiet for a little while, and then we would get it together. I can truthfully say that for these almost 50 years, we've never gone to bed angry and have settled our disagreements before we went into God's house. So, if you're calling names and fussing, that's not going to get you anywhere. Also, we wanted to be a good example as the kids were growing up, so that's how we began raising a family.

Perryman: Finally, let's talk about some lessons for this new generation. What can other preachers learn from Reverend and Mrs. Jones? What would you recommend? And I want to hear from each of you.

Jones: I recommend that the preacher or pastor truly love his wife and show her the proper respect. That's one of the main things, and then love the family as he loves the church and as Christ loved the church. There are some things I do for her, like going out to dinner. I don't always love to go out to dinner, but she loves it, so I'll do that for her. I want to do that to make her feel good. If you treat your wife right, it's going to come around and make a better marriage all the way around.

Perryman: Mrs. Jones, what do you say?

First Lady: People are always watching, and as I've stated before, we are examples. Pastor is an example as the pastor, as a father, and as a friend. So, if he's living a crazy life and doing stuff that's displeasing to God, then what is that saying to the congregation? So, being in the position I'm in, I realize women are watching me, so how do I act in the church? Do I get excited, do I hold grudges? How am I as a mother? How am I as a grandparent?

Jones: It's been a good ride!

First Lady: These 50 years have been a beautiful ride, and if I had it to do all over again, I wouldn't have any problem. I try to please him like when we make the Thursday dinner. I know my family likes certain things, so I try to please them. So basically, it's just trying to be the right example as a mother, so they can look to me and say, you did okay, mom, and I appreciate you. I love my family and my husband. So, I'm available to do anything that I can do in this ministry with him to help him out.

Perryman: Wonderfully stated. Thank you.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org



Pastor Charles and First Lady Margo Jones

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CLASSIFIEDS

February 16, 2022

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**PUBLIC NOTICE
PROGRAM OF PROJECTS
TOLEDO AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (TARTA)
5307 FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2021**

Total Funds Available for 2021 Capital Projects, Section 5307:
\$6,020,347 after split
(does not include the allocations of Sections 5339)

Activity	Fed Share	Total Price
Preventive Maintenance	\$2,177,431	\$2,721,789
Vehicle Replacement	\$1,942,712	\$2,428,390
Farebox	\$1,360,000	\$1,700,000
Communications System	\$480,000	\$600,000
Signage	\$60,204	\$75,255
Total Section 5307 funded items	\$6,020,347	\$7,525,434

Written public comment on the proposed Program of Projects will be accepted by the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority until the close of business on March 18, 2022. All comments shall be addressed to:

Laura Koprowski, CEO
Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority
P.O. Box 792
Toledo, Ohio 43697-0792

Comments received by the closing date will be considered in preparing and carrying out the program. An opportunity for a public hearing will be afforded if requested in the comments.

This program will become final and will be submitted to the Federal Transit Administration on completion of the public participation process unless amended by the action of the Board of Trustees of the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority.

Laura Koprowski, CEO
TARTA

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR CHILD CARE RESOURCE
& REFERRAL**

Full-time position for an Assistant Director in the childcare resource and referral department located in Toledo OH. This position will assist the director with managing daily operations, grant deliverables, and administrative functions of the department. This position requires coordinating and implementing special projects including marketing, consumer education and training, preparing special reports and managing assigned grant projects.

Qualified candidates must have a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, Human Services or related field and at least two years supervisory experience, preferably in a licensed childcare program. **Strong grant and report writing skills required.** Excellent written and verbal communication, knowledge of childcare providers, ability to supervise staff and manage multi-complex projects is also required. Must meet Ohio Dept. of Job and Family Services trainer requirements. Must be willing to travel. Salary: \$56,160, full benefits available.

Submit resume to admin@ywcanwo.org

RFQ ADVERTISEMENT INQUIRY #FY22-33

HEALTH SCIENCE CAMPUS CLINICAL SPACE STUDY

The University of Toledo intends to retain professional services for the Health Science Campus Clinical Space Study. Please mail your response to The University of Toledo, ATTN: Lise' Konecny, RFQ FY22-33, MS 216, 2801 W. Bancroft St., Toledo, OH 43606. DATE: Monday, February 28, 2022, TIME: 2:00 p.m. All questions and inquiries can be emailed directly to Robert.waddle@utoledo.edu. For a copy of the RFQ visit our Construction Website: <http://www.utoledo.edu/facilities/> or email lise.konecny@utoledo.edu. Please reference Inquiry #FY22-33 on the outside of envelope and include three (3) hard copies and one (1) electronic copy of the SF330 Form with your response.



FIELD TECHNICIAN

The Lucas County Land Bank is looking for a hard-working and capable Field Technician to join our team! The Field Technician provides inspection, estimating, construction, and property maintenance support for properties (including abandoned buildings and vacant lots) that the Land Bank is inspecting, acquiring, owning, developing, or selling.

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The Lucas County Land Bank is a non-profit organization working to build and strengthen our community's neighborhoods. Since our founding 11 years ago, the Land Bank and its energetic staff have renovated 800 properties, demolished thousands of blighted buildings, and increased the value of tens of thousands of properties in our community.

To learn more and to apply, visit lucascountylandbank.org/about/jobs

The Lucas County Land Bank is an equal opportunity employer.

POSITION AVAILABLE: LIBRARIAN

Toledo Lucas County Public Library (TLCPL), a public library that inspires lifelong learning and provides universal access to a broad range of information, ideas, and entertainment, seeks a positive applicant with a curious mind to provide library services and programming for children of all ages. Please visit Employment Opportunities | Toledo Lucas County Public Library (toledolibrary.org)<<https://www.toledolibrary.org/jobs>> to review full details and to apply.

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library is an Equal Opportunity Employer and places a high value on diversity in its workplace including race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, protected Veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

**PUBLIC BID ADVERTISEMENT (ELECTRONIC BIDDING)
STATE OF OHIO STANDARD FORMS AND DOCUMENTS**

Project #1130-21-242
Accessibility/ADA Improvements
The University of Toledo
Lucas County

Bids Due: 2:00pm, March 8, 2022; through the State's electronic bidding system at: <https://bidexpress.com>

Combination of EDGE Participation and Supplier Diversity Goal: 15.0% of contract
Domestic steel use is required per ORC 153.011.

Contract **Estimated Cost**
General Contract \$260,000.00

Pre-bid Meeting: February 22, 2022, 10:00am, Plant Operations Building - Room 1000, The University of Toledo, 2925 East Rocket Drive, Toledo OH 43606

Walk-through: A walk-through of the project sites is scheduled for February 22, 2022 immediately following Pre-bid meeting.
Walk-through Location: Plant Operations Building

Bid Documents: Available electronically at: <https://bidexpress.com>

More Info: Project contact: Tony Malik, Architecture by Design; Phone: 419-824-3311; E-mail: tmalik@architecturebydesign.net

Delta Chapter... continued from page 16

mittee of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was the featured speaker. Bradley is the founding principal of R.E.A.C.H. Beyond Solutions LLC, a public health, policy, faith and executive leadership firm. Bradley is also co-founder of health equity collaboration, former director from the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General and executive vice president with NAACP. She earned a bachelors and masters from Tulane University in New Orleans. Bradley is a member of Links and Jack & Jill of America, published author, mother and wife.

The program publicly read received proclamations from Toledo's Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur's offices, which congratulated the sorority on their historic accomplishment and expressed gratitude for their community impact. The celebration acknowledged the

... continued on page 19



Bessie Mack and Yolanda Jackson



Alexis Means, Paula Hicks Hudson, Rochelle Hall Rollins and Shavon Arline Bradley



Delta Sigma Theta members



Holly Jackson, Jonie Jackson and Brittany Jones, PhD



BLACK HISTORY MONTH
FEBRUARY 1 - MARCH 1



KATTIE BOND
Senior Vice President of Operations and Community Development



JENNIFER TODD-WARFIELD
Vice President of Asset Management



SHIMEAKO COLE
Chief Financial Officer



CHERYL PHILLIPS
Vice President of Human Resources

LUCAS METROPOLITAN HOUSING
CELEBRATING
BLACK
WOMEN
OF
EXCELLENCE



REGINA MOSLEY
Executive Assistant and Board Liaison



MARTICE BISHOP
Associate Vice President of Resident Services



Delta Chapter... continued from page 18

chapter's charter members, and also sorority members who have reached 25 and 50 years of membership. Members collected black-authored children books which will be delivered to Ella P. Stewart Academy for Girls.

"Thanks to all sorors, friends, family, special guests, dignitaries and community leaders who took the time out of their busy schedules to celebrate Toledo Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated 50th anniversary. We are especially proud and grateful to the charter members of this alumnae chapter," shared Rochelle Hall-Rollins, PhD, local chapter president.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. was founded on January 13, 1913 at Howard University, locally the Alumnae Chapter was chartered on February 12, 1972.

... continued on page 20



Jenine Hall, Sonya Swain Perdue, Crystal Jones



JoAnn Smith and Pamela Snell



Linda Mosely, Jeniene Hall, Immediate Past President Angela Siner and Charter Member Joyce Henderson



Joyce Lewis Johnston, Jan Johnston and Jennifer Lewery



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Delta Chapter... continued from page 19

Local chapter officers are: Rochelle Hall-Rollins, PhD, president; Meiuttenun Brown, 1st vice president; Ambershaun Byrd, 2nd vice president; Regina Vincent-Williams, recording secretary; Tene Jackson, financial secretary; Aleshia Furr, assistant financial secretary; Chantell Cargile, treasurer; Roxanne Quinn, assistant treasurer; and Kaylene Miller, IT Tech Chair.

The anniversary committee members: Meiuttenun Brown, PhD, Joyce Henderson, Jacqueline Hudson and Phyllis Wadley as Quad Chairs; and Trevor Black, Jeannette Bradley, Ambershaun Byrd, Cynthia Dye, Tene Jackson, Andrea Jones, Bessie Mack, Joanne Menefee, Crystal Monford and Erica Parish as committee members.



Tene Jackson and Cynthia Dye

Gladys Herron... continued from page 5

ledo where she graduated from Libbey High School and attended the University of Toledo. She also took classes at Fisk University and the University of Nashville.

Herron died in 2001.

Part of her congressional record [written by Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur] reads:

"Continuing in community activism, Mrs. Herron was involved in more than a dozen organizations including 1970s-era social programs CETA, SASI, EOPA and PIC, Toledo Affirmative Action, the Urban League, NAACP, the Head Start Policy Council, the Cordelia Martin Health Center Board, the Lucas County Welfare Advisory Board (which she chaired for fifteen years), the Concerned Women for Better Government (of which she was a charter member), the Perry Burroughs Democratic Club and the Lucas County Democratic Party. A religious woman, Mrs. Herron also served her church, Third Baptist Church, singing in the Sanctuary Choir and serving as a member of the Board of Trustees, the Advisory Council, and the 20th Century Literary Club.

"Not content to rest on the laurels of her earlier years or settle down into retirement, Gladys in her later years was a founding leader in the senior citizen movement, involved in both the AARP and the Area Office on Aging of Northwest Ohio. It was Mrs. Herron's tireless effort and expert leadership which led to the establishment of the J. Frank Troy Senior Center. She was the center's first director, and together with two other Toledo women who established centers in other parts of the city, made up the core of senior rights in our region. I appointed her as our district's delegate to the decennial White House Conference on Aging held in 1995, where she represented her fellow seniors most ably and admirably."

And like Harriet Tubman, Herron's life work of unity, leadership and activism can serve to guide our community into a new exodus.



Michelle Blue, Constance Kelly and Chanda Kelly



CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH and the Leaders of Tomorrow

A collage of photos showing students in various activities, including playing instruments, working on projects, and sitting at desks. Below the collage is the TPS PROUD TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS logo and social media information for TPS.org, Facebook.com/TPSProud, and Twitter.com/TPSProud.