



Volume 32, No. 8 *"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."* April 8, 2015

Coming Soon: Nexus!

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LISC's Hugh Grefe, NHA's Doni Miller, Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson

Taking It To The Streets

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

I have the people behind me, and the people are my strength.

- Huey Newton



The City Council race for District 4 is heating up as evidenced by the abundance of signs sprouting up. Some signs for District 4 candidates are even appearing in District 1 and other neighborhoods whose residents are not eligible to vote in May 5th special election. I caught up with endorsed Democratic Party candidate Yvonne Harper for an assessment of the race and her campaign for the District 4 seat.

Perryman: Your campaign has indicated that you got a late start getting your signs out.

Harper: I said that some people get panicky because they see signs out. I've been working on my campaign and concentrating, getting things together, organizing for a while. We've been meeting. I started meeting one week after I stepped away from the council appointment at the time because I didn't have that sixth vote. It just wasn't there, and I was not going to stand there and let them haggle and just say mean things about me. I just was not going to let that happen anymore. So, like I said then, I would instead take it to the voters and let them make the decision.

Perryman: So you decided to let "the people" make the decision rather than have your fate in the hands of 11 council members?

Harper: Yes.

Perryman: Do you think that strategy will provide a better outcome?

Harper: I think so. Remarkably, people have said that they were proud of me when I said that 'I will do it the old-fashioned way.' I had prayed and thought about it. And I just couldn't see that other vote needed to give me a majority. And I wasn't going to harp on it because it just was not going to be there. So why not take it to the voters, for the people, by the people? And I made my decision and stuck to it.

And I'm out there with the people. I've been walking getting signatures. I've been going door-to-door. I've been going into areas that I know people. Some I don't know. It's been very well received because I want to be the voice for the people. I've been out there and they're telling me what they want. It's not a whole lot. They just want to be recognized. And what I mean by recognized, they want their streets maintained, the garbage picked up, they want houses torn down. And I want to be the voice for the people because what I want to do is be the go-between with the city and the county.

I need to be the person that knows where to go and how to respond to these people. This is what [Mayor] Paula Hicks-Hudson did. She responded to people. You can't do it all at one time, but you can do it. I'm retired. I have the time. And it's not going to be just a job for me. I have insurance. I have money coming in, my retirement. So I want to do this. I've been a people person. I was out in the streets for the voters' rights bill just last year. I walked door-to-door getting signatures, turning them

in. I've been out there for Obama door-to-door. I'm familiar with the people.

Perryman: By the time the election is held, the budget is expected to be complete. So do you think the real needs of the people of your district will be represented in a budget in which you will not have any input?

Harper: Well, let me just say this. At this point, our (District 4) hands and lives are in the fate of our current councilperson. And I recently heard him say at the Junction Avenue block watch meeting that although he's only been in the seat a short time, he hears the pleas of the people and is aware of the problems that they've had. So I've got to believe what he said.

Perryman: Well, speaking of your competition. Are you aware of the others besides Scott Ramsey who are running, such as Ruth Ashford and Alfonso Narvaez?

Harper: There is competition out there, and we're all capable of representing District 4. But what I will say is this. Knowledge counts. I'm the one that's coming in there with knowledge. I'm the one that's born and raised in District 4. I'm the one that went to the high school and grade school there in District 4. I was there when we were talking about saving Wilson Park. I was there from the beginning to the end. I was there when they said it couldn't be done. I was right there with Paula, now current Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson. I was there when we were working with the

... continued on page 5

Community Calendar

April 11

Center for Higher Education and Skills Movie Night: 6-9 pm; 3325 Elm St; "The Chip; The New World Orders Form Controlling Humanity; Free to the public

April 15-19

Beulah Baptist Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor Perry Harris III; 15th through the 17th - 7 pm services with guests 1) Rev. Clark and United Vision, 2) Bishop Holt and Bethesda Christian Center, 3) Rev. Reed and Shiloh; 19th - 10:45 am and 4 pm services - guests Rev. Floyd Smith, Jr and Calvary Baptist: 419-944-5262

April 17

Indiana Ave MBC 50th Pastoral Anniversary Banquet: For Rev. John E Roberts and First Lady Mother Bernice Roberts; Ramada Inn Secor; 6 pm

April 17-19

Calvary MBC Women's Ministry 18th Spring Retreat: 419-531-9443

April 18

"Saving Our Girls: Women (All Ages) Only Meeting; 9 am - doors open; 10 am - webcast with Min Louis Farrakhan; 1698 Nebraska: 419-255-3234

Black Lives Matter Day: 1 to 6 pm; 1001 Indiana Avenue; Food, singers, rap, games, speakers: 419-266-6840 or 419-973-0248

The Junction Community's Earth Day: 8 am to 1 pm; Frederick Douglass Community Center; Tire collection, neighborhood cleanup, community outreach; "Inviting all hands on deck"

21st Annual Take Back the Night: UAW Local 12 Union Hall; 6 pm; Featuring the Clothesline Project, the Bandanna Project, the Silent Witness Project: 419-322-5205 or 419-464-8058

April 19

Indiana Ave MBC 50th Pastoral Anniversary Morning Service: For Rev. John Roberts and First Lady Bernice Roberts; 11 am; Closing Appreciation with Rev. John Williams and Eastern Star MBC - 3:30 pm
NANBPWC - Toledo and Maumee Bay Clubs' Vocal Arts Competition for Emerging Artists: 4 pm; St. Paul MBC

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Jesus And Religious Freedom?

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

By now, you may have heard the national angst about what is happening in the State of Indiana, aka: Hoosier Land.

It appears, for now, that the Republican state legislators have passed a bill that allows people to use their religious beliefs in order to deny services to the LGBTQ community aka: people whose sexual orientation identifies them as Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer.

Now that such a bill has been made public (changes to be made?), there is an uproar from both those who live in Indiana and from the national media that the bill taints the State of Indiana as a bunch of Neanderthal bigots.

The supporters of the Indiana legislation state that the bill's purpose is to guarantee that those who hold certain religious beliefs are not forced to compromise them in order to serve the LGBTQ community.

In other words, if you have religious beliefs that inform you that you do not and cannot support or serve such people, then you should not be forced to capitulate and provide them with goods and services such as wedding halls, wedding cakes, massages and hotel rooms. Or anything that a heterosexual person or a heterosexual couple would seek out, consume or enjoy.

Part of the opposition to this request comes from certain segments of the religious right and the Tea Party adherents.

It is their belief that same sex marriages are an abomination and a sin according to the Word of God.

On that point, I agree, since marriage was first instituted by God and He explicitly stated that it was for a man and a woman and not for same gender persons.

God has the copyright, patent and trademark on the word marriage and any violation of that word and the institution of marriage is not a marriage but a civil "union."

However, when you begin to examine the word, 'religious freedom' and its relationship with the LGBTQ community; and you do so according to the articles of the Christian faith as exemplified by Jesus the Christ; you must re-think your thinking and understand that via the lens of the Word of God, religious freedom dictates civility and equal treatment to the LGBTQ community.

On what basis you ask? On the basis of love and forgiveness. Anyone who professes to be a hearer and doer of the Word of God cannot and does not have the luxury or freedom to trash gay people as being disposable people unworthy of being seen in their humanity.

A cursory reading of the Word of God would starkly indicate that Jesus was not a man who ran from controversy nor did he use any political cover or religious hubris to issue many of his stinging rebukes about human conduct and the woeful consequences of engaging in sin.

Jesus mixed with crowds of people who were called sinners even to the point that onlookers were aghast at his behavior including talking with a woman who had five husbands and forgiving a woman caught in the very act of adultery. (Note: it was a setup to test Jesus and how he would react).

Jesus was not a milquetoast prophet and the

Son of God who recoiled at sinners or their sins but, to the contrary, he came to seek and save those which were lost in their sins.

Therefore, for those who following the teachings of Jesus the Christ, there is no allowance or liberty for those who are "religious" to fret and howl and wring one's hands about providing goods and services to the gay crowd.

Making a wedding cake for a gay couple is not your personal endorsement of their lifestyle. Renting a wedding hall to a queer couple does not mean that you tacitly accept their lifestyle.

Jesus did not upfront disqualify anyone He encountered on the basis of his or her lifestyle, choices of profession or the virulent antagonism to who He was...remember Saul who became Paul? He was a murderer of Christians and was a zealot of his "religious" beliefs but later changed his ways due to the grace of God.

People who go apoplectic at the mere thought of offering goods and services to the LGBTQ community on the basis of their religious beliefs are in error since they do not know the scriptures.

One's religious freedom does not require you to condone or affirm what you do not believe about the LGBTQ community or their morals not being in synch with your religious values.

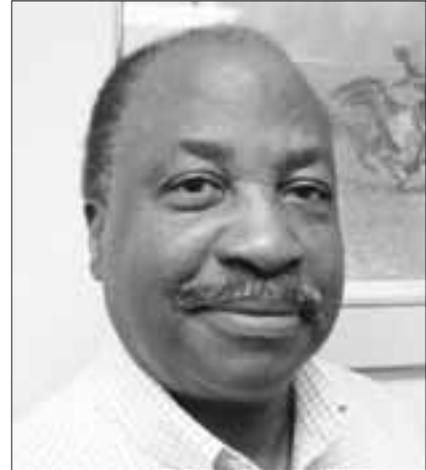
But rather, if you take what is being asked by the LGBTQ community regarding the goods and services that are being offered in the public square, those are the same goods and services (to be added with a copious dosage of civility I might add) that they wish to partake of without having the door slammed in their faces.

For those who profess a religious adherence to the Word of God, one's faith without works is considered dead and yet your faith, with works, should show that your belief system is not so fragile that if a transgender person was to ask you for a cup of water, that you would not shudder and grimace if your hand was to brush up against their hand.

If Jesus was walking on the Earth today, He would not approve of nor condone same sex marriages but He call it what it is, two same sex sinners sinning together but wanting to call it a marriage.

Could you imagine Jesus not touching the un-touchable lepers or not engaging in life changing conversations with the prostitutes and gluttons and thieves of His day due to their lifestyles and how they looked or acted?

But yet, and tragically so, too many people



who profess Christ will get severe mental and emotional cramps if they had to serve bi-sexuals or gay persons in their personal space or via their business services.

(Note: ask if the offended business owners inquire of a heterosexual couple if they are married before they offer them certain services or would they knowingly serve gluttons an unlimited buffet?).

This ought not to be. If memory serves me correctly, for those who profess Christ as Savior and Lord, your lifestyle before your conversion was one of wickedness, perversion, shameful sins of fornication, adultery, lying, thieving, lust, murdering, gossiping, hating, greed, discord and being dope heads and happy drunkards.

But. You were converted and now are part of the Body of Christ. Someone told you about the grace of God while you were deep in your sins. Someone whom did not retch at the fact that they had to engage you in a conversation about your former lifestyle being apart from the grace of God.

So too, allow the same liberty for the LGBTQ community from which some of you were previously members of. Do not allow the shrill sound of your religious liberty to drown out the memory of whom you once were but are now a new creation in Christ.

Do not use religious freedom as a hypocritical cloak to do or speak evil.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at Tolliver@Juno.com

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NHA Breaks Ground for Central City Health Clinic

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Neighborhood Health Association announced the groundbreaking of its new \$11 million health clinic – Nexus Health Care – last week at the Toledo Club as the agency's board members, staff, advisors and elected officials gathered to celebrate the construction of a facility that will be built at Jefferson and 14th Streets in the UpTown area of Toledo.

"We are here today because we have someone like [CEO] Doni Miller and her staff," said long-time board member Harry Brown Sr.

Praising the clinic's name "Nexus," Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson told the audience that the city "is connecting the ability of our residents to get health and financial help."

The construction of the new clinic comes about as a collaboration between a number of government and non-government agencies. The Lucas County Land Bank, administered by the Lucas County Treasurer's Office, acquired the land and spent the necessary funds - \$45,000 – to clean up the site.

The federal government provided a grant of \$5 million through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for construction costs and the Local Initiatives Support Corp (LISC) financed the balance of \$6 million through tax credits.

The 43,000-square-foot clinic will provide adult medical care, a women's health care clinic, pediatrics, dental services, a pharmacy, a urgent care center (named for Harry Brown, Sr) and a branch of the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union along with meeting space. Several current NHA clinic locations will be consolidated into this site.

NHA is a non-profit agency that was founded in 1969 to provide medical care and educational and support services to members of the community. The agency operates 11 sites, a pharmacy, two dental clinics and two senior centers.



Lucas County Board of Commissioners Carol Contrada, Tina Skeldon Wozniak, Pete Gerken



LC Commissioners Contrada and Wozniak, LISC's Hugh Grefe, NHA CE Doni Miller, Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson, Harry Brown, LC Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz

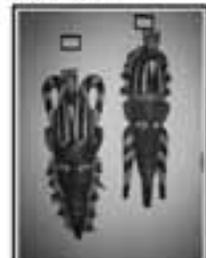
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The Truth Gallery
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Perryman... continued from page 2

unions. I was there. I didn't see any of the other candidates.

And then that was the community out there working on saving Wilson Park and its pool. And my point, I think that that work put Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson on the map. We came to her. We talked to her about it, and she took it and ran with it and put us in front of people. So I say to the other candidates that are running right now, 'Where were you when we were trying to get Wilson Park in there? When we were talking about the pool, where were you?' All of a sudden I see people now, and they're interested. I'm a precinct person. I've been on the ballot. I've been side by side with the people working to make this district better.

Perryman: Please tell me where you stand now given the experience that you went through which led you to withdraw your name from consideration from the appointment by city council? Where are you from a morale standpoint and an energy standpoint? That had to be very discouraging.

Harper: It was discouraging, but you know what? You lift your head up, and you have heartfelt problems, and life isn't promised to you. I just kept on moving. All that did was make me stronger. This is not the first time I've been hit hard by something.

Perryman: Has your attitude toward the Lucas County Democratic Party changed?

Harper: Absolutely not. I'm part of the organization and we're a party that is divided, but we come together. And I'm working and staying steadfast. I want to win this election. I've got the support of the Democratic Party. I'm the endorsed candidate, and I will remain the endorsed candidate.

Perryman: Now, some have said that you were endorsed by the party for only the council appointment and not for the election.

Harper: No. No, no, no, no. I'm the endorsed candidate for both the appointment and for the election of May 5. I don't know who's putting that out there, but that's what I'm endorsed for. And no one's taken that away from me.

Perryman: Tell me this, what do you say, Yvonne, to those people who turned out en masse to support you for your appointment and who have been discouraged by your decision to withdraw? And can you or how will you regain the momentum that was lost after you withdrew?

Harper: I don't think I've lost any momentum. In fact, I've had people say to me, 'it's better that you get out there and work and let people know who you are because your work speaks for itself.' I have since, gotten so much support, it's crazy. I have had people tell me, 'you did the right thing. Let the people vote.' There are still people out there that believe in the power of voting. Other than you just mentioning it, no one has come to me and said that they were discouraged.

Perryman: What support do you have?

Harper: I've talked to Labor. I've talked to the Democratic Party. I've talked to the chair and Steve Steel, the past chair is working with me.

Perryman: How are they supporting you? Is that with tangible support or just rah - rah, go get 'em cheerleader type support?

Harper: No, no, no. Letters of support have been sent out in support of me. And I've been working with the ward and precinct chairs. In spite of what everybody says, it means something to be endorsed. Everybody wants that but I earned it. I went through the screening. I went through

the proper channels and followed the protocol.

Perryman: Who's providing you with financial backing?

Harper: I'll let you know when it all comes in. I've sent letters out. I've been getting money from different people but I promise to let you know very soon.

Perryman: Let's talk about this. In the last mayoral election, the late Michael Collins was an underdog and basically got in as Anita Lopez and Joe McNamara bumped heads and knocked themselves out. Is there a chance of that happening in District 4 where you and Ruth Ashford could conceivably neutralize each other allowing a path to the seat for someone else?

What I'm getting at, is that this is a special election. The District 4 election on May 5 is the only one being held citywide. So for a special election you're going to get very few people there, and as we know in a low turnout election, anything can happen, anything.

Harper: And that's why I'm out there all the time checking because when Paula ran, there were three individuals running. Three.

Perryman: But I don't think they were three that had the name recognition that you and Ruth - -

Harper: I have the name recognition on my own.

Perryman: But both of you have name recognition.

Harper: I have name recognition because I've been out there in the community.

Perryman: The name Ashford has name recognition in District 4 as well. So what I'm saying, if you guys - -

Harper: But that is Mike Ashford.

Perryman: Ashford, that's what they're going to see when they look - - "Ashford" is going to be in big letters.

Harper: But that will be okay.

Perryman: And "Ruth" in little tiny letters. And so Ashford is a name that is very, very familiar to the voters. So what if you guys knock each other out? Will you be cannibalizing the - -

Harper: It's my job to make people aware of Harper, H-a-r-p-e-r, in big letters.

Perryman: Is there a possibility that such two strong candidates could knock each other out, and somebody goes slipping in, somebody that may not be as desirable for that seat as we've seen in the past? Did we learn anything from the past? What did we learn from the Lopez/McNamara debacle?

Harper: Let me just say this. I'm the endorsed candidate. When it was Joe McNamara and Anita Lopez, we had not endorsed anybody. That's the difference. I think that we all have to get out there, and we have to see. I'm saying to you, it's the people that now have the choice.

Perryman: So, in conclusion, what is the tag line for Yvonne Harper in your "candidacy reset" for election to the District 4 city council seat?

Harper: I am still here, bigger, better than ever. And we're taking it to the streets! Because it's the voters who, ultimately, have the opportunity to pick who they want.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdperryman@centerof-hopebaptist.org



Yvonne Harper

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Seeing Cultural Competency in Its Many Forms

By Willie McKether and Lynne Hamer

The Truth Contributors

One of many important lessons we've learned from our community conversations is that cultural competency comes in many forms and is not new. Rather, engaging in conversations has helped to flesh out what cultural competency means and has positioned us to add to the national discussion about the topic. This was demonstrated in our last article where we highlighted retired teacher Mattie McAlister's "brand" of cultural competency in her classrooms.

This week, we are pleased to highlight the excellent work of two currently employed teachers who exhibit their own brand of cultural competency in their daily work. We consider theirs to be cultural competency for democratic culture. Continuance of our democratic society requires not only that citizens vote, it requires that we live together in ways that follow and foster democratic ideals.

Democratic culture requires that all individuals' voices and contributions be valued, and recognizes that democracy cannot survive and thrive without this. Learning democratic culture and learning to be citizens in a democracy only happens if it is taught intentionally, purposefully, and consistently. This is exactly what our featured teachers do.

Willamarie Scott and Patricia O'Connor teach a combined fourth and fifth grade class. They call it "The Classroom for the Gifted and Talented" – with the slogan, "Where being gifted and talented is not a prerequisite! Come as you are!!!"

Willamarie Scott is a native of Buffalo, New York and earned her BA in Psychology and Masters in Education from The University of Toledo. She has been teaching grades four through eight for 18 years. Currently she is completing her Ph.D. in Gifted and Talented Education at the University of Toledo.

Patricia O'Connor grew up in Toledo and Mansfield and earned her BA in Education from the University of Toledo and masters of Education from Heidelberg. She has been teaching grades one through eight for 14 years. Scott and O'Connor started co-teach-



Lynne Hamer

ing three years ago and have never looked back.

"We continue it because it works! We see tremendous growth, both socially and academically, in our students throughout the year, and we receive great encouragement and support from parents," said O'Connor.

O'Connor and Scott's classroom is fully inclusive, meaning students with disabilities who in other situations might be isolated in separate special education classrooms are included as full and valued participants in the regular classroom. The teachers are fiercely insistent on this point and create a classroom environment where all students learn that appreciation of themselves and others is required. That is, all their students experience and thus learn democratic culture.

Scott and O'Connor have attended nearly all of our Monday night community conversations and consistently provide insights from the real world of teaching, although never claiming to represent the voice of all teachers. They have also brought along many parents who have also become consistent participants in the conversations. The Monday night group has been intrigued by O'Connor and Scott's descriptions of what they do and their vision for public, democratic education.

Where all students are gifted and talented....

In a recent presentation on their "Classroom for the Gifted and Talented," O'Connor and Scott described the "Trailblazers," which is the name their 2014-15 class chose for itself. They also created a class motto: "Making good choices and lighting the way."

The class year began with a week of team-building activities, during which students learned key concepts and terminology for the creation of their class culture. The students worked together to hammer out a "Class Compact" which has hung prominently on their wall all year. This document proclaims their classroom to be a "learning community where all will experience tolerance, respect, and empathy."

The Compact lays out expectations of what students will do—and what teachers will do. For example, students will "be respectful, listen when others are talking, listen to the teacher, work hard for privileges, and never put another student down."

Teachers will "be prepared, let the students earn privileges, have high expectations, communicate with parents, be flexible, and be nice."

The Trailblazers accomplish much of their work as group work, essential for learning to work together for both individual and social good. Again, students collaborated with teachers to create group work guidelines: The first two, "be respectful" and "communicate quietly," would be found in most group's guidelines. The remaining four, however, communicate beyond logistics to ethics: "Don't let your group down," "Everyone tries," "Stay with your group," "Help each other out."

These guidelines emphasize that individuals' contributions are vital for group success, and that conversely, group support is essential for individual success.



Willie McKether

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The deadline to apply is Friday, May 29, 2015 for the 2015-2016 school year.

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Education Section • Education Section

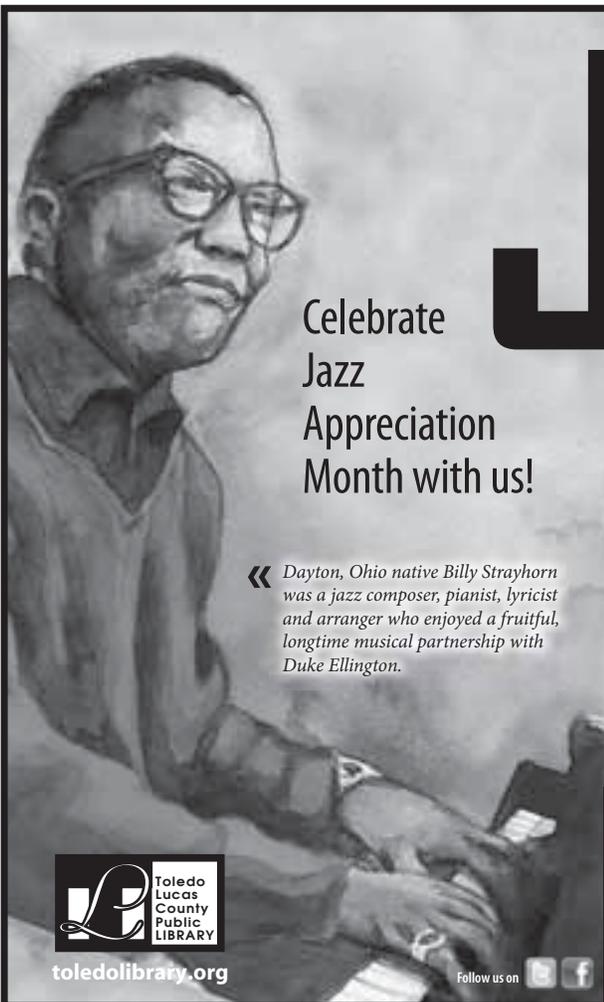
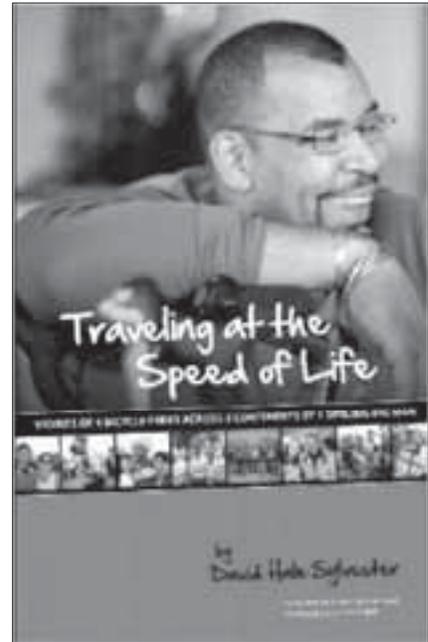
The Library Legacy Foundation Presents three OPEN BOOK series authors this month ...

The Library Legacy Foundation presents *OPEN BOOK: Where authors tell their story* for the month of April featuring three dynamic authors. This **FREE** series includes a book discussion, Q&A session, and book signing. Mark your calendar and attend this amazing series outlined below:

- Thursday, **April 9 @ 6:30 p.m.** (McMaster Center, **Main Library**, 325 Michigan St.) – **David Hale Sylvester** – After his friend died in the World Trade Center on 9/11, Sylvester adopted a mission to enhance the world one interaction at a time. To that end, Sylvester bicycled, volunteered, hugged and high 5'd his way across Africa, Asia, Australia and North America. His book, *Traveling at the Speed of Life*, has now been read all over the planet and added to the curricula at seven universities, including Yale. Info: 419.259.5218419.259.5218.

- Friday, **April 10 @ 1 p.m.** (**Maumee Branch Library**, 501 River Rd.) – William Heath – Heath is Professor Emeritus of English at Mount Saint Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Heath has published numerous essays and poems and is the author of the novels *The Children Bob Moses Led*, *Devil Dancer*, and *Blacksnake's Path: The True Adventures of William Wells*. The William Heath Award in creative writing is given annually to an undergraduate in his honor. Info: 419.259.5360419.259.5360.

- Wednesday, **April 29 @ 6:30 p.m.** (**Sanger Branch Library**, 3030 W. Central Ave.) – **Ryan Ireland** – Ireland was born and raised in Ohio and currently lives in the village of Alpha with his wife and three children. Despite his love for travel, he has stayed close to home. His favorite places to visit are in the West and he has enjoyed revisiting these places in his adulthood. Much of his novel *Beyond the Horizon*, published recently, comes from these adventures. Info: 419.259.5370419.259.5370.



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« Dayton, Ohio native Billy Strayhorn was a jazz composer, pianist, lyricist and arranger who enjoyed a fruitful, longtime musical partnership with Duke Ellington.



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For information call 419.259.5340

Education Section • Education Section

Diyepriye Ngo Will Attend the Prestigious Harvard Secondary School Program

Special to The Truth

Notre Dame Academy (NDA) sophomore Diyepriye Ngo (Maumee) will attend the prestigious Harvard Secondary School Program this summer from June 20 – August 28. The program allows some of the best students from around the world the opportunity to experience Harvard University and take college courses that interest the participants. Students will earn college credit for the Harvard courses. In addition, participants will take part in college-prep workshops, visit area Ivy League schools, and attend a college fair.

Ngo is consistently on the Honor Roll and is on track to participate in the International Baccalaureate Diploma World School Program next fall in Biology, Math, Chinese, and English. A gifted debater and member of the Speech Team, this year Ms. Ngo was a state finalist in the Lincoln Douglas Debate. She also has participated in Congress Debate. She is a member of the Spirituality component of the Pastoral Core Team. She serves in Student Government as a Student Council Homeroom Rep. She is vice president of the Asian Club. She ran track for the Eagles her freshman year and will play lacrosse this spring as she says “to try something new.”

An active volunteer at Westgate Chapel, she has participated in their summer outreach program and watches children during worship services. She is also active at her elementary school St. Joan of Arc where she has volunteered for vacation bible school and helps wherever there is a need.

Ngo's goal is to be a plastic surgeon and she plans to major in pre-med and business.



Diyepriye Ngo

Claire's Day and Read for Literacy Announce Formal Merger

Special to The Truth

After working in partnership, Read for Literacy and Claire's Day, Inc. formally entered into a merged and strategic alliance on March 23, 2015 at 6:00 PM at the Maumee Branch Library. This marks a new beginning for two stellar organizations.

Read for Literacy was founded in 1985 and has served as a lead advocate in literacy programming for adults, children and families since its inception. Claire's Day was founded in 2001 in memory

... continued on page 13

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Authors! Authors! Everywhere!

The Truth Gallery Presents a Book Signing for the Ages

Alvetta: John Moore's Tribute to His Life's Partner

John Moore is a man of no mean accomplishments.

John has had a successful career as a banker and as a university administrator. He has served on numerous boards and has been a member of a number of professional organizations. He has had a personal life that was also a resounding success – particularly his marriage.

John wed his wife, Alvetta, when he was 19. She was 16.

Not many gave the young couple a chance. He had not yet entered college; she had not finished high school; she was pregnant – not a recipe for success at any time, even in the mid 1950's.

The marriage was not always sunshine and flower but it definitely endured – for more than 50 years. Alvetta, however, was diagnosed with brain cancer during their 51st year of marriage and survived for only 14 months.

In *Alvetta*, John Moore chronicles his wife's last year of life and the weight of the loss of his partner.

The book was quite a departure for the author who had penned an earlier work entitled *A Positive Attitude Is a Muscle: A Managed Stress Survivor's Manual*. It's the basis for his many workshops and seminars.



Saturday, April 18, 3 to 5 pm

Ophelia J. Thompson The Poet LaFe ~ Ophelia Thompson

Dance instructor, author, artist, poet, musician, vocalist, motivational speaker and storyteller. She earned her undergraduate degree in Music Education from Albany State University; her master's degree in Educational Administration, Guidance Counselor Education from The University of Toledo.



The Poet LaFe retired after 30 years in the field of public education as a teacher, counselor and administrator. Toledo Public and Toledo Christian Schools, Toledo, OH. Published two books of poetry through grant, Arts Commission of Greater Toledo, OH. She performs her poetry and music in the greater Toledo area, throughout north-west Ohio and metropolitan Detroit, Michigan.

RAG DOLL DANCING

Dancing, prancing, life enhancing intimate moves can be romancing; smooth execution, floating along precise motions some weak some strong.

When the male partner knows how to lead, rather than his ego to ravenously feed; when he considers the feminine side, and gently allows her to float and glide.

Dancing can be a beautiful thing, prancing that allows the heart to sing; it can also be an ugly fight, if a man usurps with all his might.

It is sad if the man doesn't have a clue that eloquent dancing requires two; and the woman has a gentle part in the equation, when he jerks and pulls with hard persuasion.

BUT
When the two are as smooth as oriental silk, gliding and flowing like chocolate milk; fancy prancing, heavenly romancing the music is perfect while the couple is dancing.

Excerpt from Poem #1916 by Ophelia J. Thompson, Poet LaFe
Copyright ©2009 written 2-19-09

Sir Haunz & Gertrude's Great Escape: Joyce Lewis Realizes Dreams with Publication of First Book

Sir Haunz & Gertrude's Great Escape: Joyce Lewis Realizes Dreams with Publication of First Book



As a child, Joyce Lewis hated to read and could not understand how a book such as *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss could help her realize her dreams, she explains all these years later. How ironic it is that Lewis, who hated to read so much as a child, achieved one huge dream several years ago when her first book was released by Zoe Life Publishing of Canton, MI.

And how appropriate it is that her first book is a child's book and a tale of youngsters learning to make their own dreams come true.

Lewis's book, *Sir Haunz & Gertrude's Great Escape*, is a story of two children whose father has lost his job due to the downsizing of his automotive plant. Their parents make a difficult decision to send their children to live with relatives while they try to get back on their feet.

Tragedy strikes and the children are left homeless in Chicago and have to learn to fend for themselves. Haunz discovers that he has a gift and he uses it to overcome obstacles as the children finally escape hopelessness and poverty.

Joyce, a gifted playwright as well, has been in performance over the last year with her play – *I Am Black and Beautiful*

Violet Renee: Author's Romance Novel Features Lots of Love, Laughter and Lies

Ronnie Blackmon is all man with no apologies. His profitable investment firm in the magnificent Sears Tower* make the wealthy want a man with his investment prowess on their team. He sincerely loves his beautiful wife Tia and would never replace her. But he went out on his creep and forgot to wrap it up resulting in the birth of sweet little Nina. He just can't seem to resist the lovely feminine flavors that are always in his face wanting a taste of his sexy bad boy persona. His bases are loaded with a wife, mistress and baby mama and he juggles them like a pro believing he is entitled to whatever he wants whenever he wants it.



Tia Blackmon is living the good life in Chicago with a stunningly handsome, successful young husband, three adorable children and a profitable career in commercial real estate. That is until her husband dropped kicks her with his confession of having fathered a baby girl with a clerk. And if that wasn't bad enough, he passes the baby girl off as his brother's secret love child sending Tia's temper into overload. Murder may be the case they give her as she confronts her wayward husband and mayhem ensues.

Question is, will Ronnie be able to maintain the love hold he has on his wife or will she escape the pain and humiliation of his philandering with the handsome, wealthy blonde beach boy in Miami? *Love, Laughter and Lies* is a humorous tale of love and relationships with hip hop flavor and old school drama that will keep you reading until the jaw dropping end.

John Scott: Playwright's Gotta Write

"As someone who has produced and directed John Scott's work, I consider him to be one of the best contemporary playwrights," wrote Douglas Turner Ward, co-founder of the legendary Negro Ensemble Company.



A Scott High School graduate who earned a bachelor's degree at South Carolina State College, Scott began writing early in life. By the time he returned to the area to earn a master's and doctorate from Bowling Green State University, he had already penned a number of plays, plays which would gain considerable interest from New York.

Ride a Black Horse and The Good Ship Credit were produced Off-Broadway. Pieces of a Man, Currents: From the Rivers of Our Fathers and Hats, Handkerchiefs and Fans were produced on public television.

Theatre luminaries such as Morgan Freeman, Mary Alice, Howard Rollins, Roger Robinson, Barbara Montgomery, J.A. Preston, Loretta Devine, Ester Rolle and Bill Cobbs have performed on Scott's plays. And his plays have been produced in regional and university theatres from Florida to California.

His retirement from BGSU, where he founded the ethnic studies department, 15 years ago hasn't slowed him down a bit. Recently John released a little black book entitled *My Little Black Book*. It's a memoir and a close look into his experiences in love, libations and famous people encountered over the years.

Join us for a book signing of outlandish proportions - renowned local authors available to sign and talk about their works - Playwright John Scott, Novelist Violet Renee, Memoirist John Moore, Children's Book Author Joyce Lewis, Poet LaFe
The Truth Art Gallery, 1811 Adams Street 419-243-0007 or thetruthtoledo.com

Cultural Competency.. continued from page 6

Thus, the lessons of living in society are largely learned through everyday activity. However, O'Connor and Scott also choose curricula that provide the knowledge and tools necessary for full participation in democratic society. In their presentation, we saw their students "preparing to present findings from non-fiction reading on voting rights." Significantly, students learned presentation skills necessary for participation, while they learned—and taught—the history of why participation matters.

Respect, Tolerance, Empathy

On a recent visit to their classroom, it was obvious from the beginning that what they had described during

their presentation at our Community Conversation was reflected in their daily practices. Accompanying the "Class Compact" and "Motto" documents the room was filled with posters and signs that reflected themes of Respect, Tolerance and Empathy.

On the day of our visit, students were assigned to work in groups on a science project that focused on motion, force and friction. The children were excited about the science project. In their small groups, the students were responsible for collaborating on a project that resulted in a poster which required a presentation and explanation. Even though we could not stay for the entire day and see the end result, the teamwork and shared leadership was simply amazing. As we silently went from table to table, we could hear creativity, serious negotiations, disagreements and resolution.

The Ultimate Compliment...

"It's like they've established a community within the school" (Parent).

Most of us in the educational field are driven not only by a desire to teach, but to know that we're making a difference. While we see it in the classroom when we see that "light bulb" go off, we too infrequently hear a thank you from the customer. In this case, parents.

In a follow up conversation with a parent who has a son in Scott and O'Connor's class, we got an earful from a very satisfied parent/customer. She told us that before enrolling in the class, her son was not motivated about school. Now, she said, school is the cornerstone of his life.

"My son used to cry at the very thought of going to school. Now, he cries if he has to miss. One day he got sick at school and we had to make him come home. He thinks he will miss something if he's away from school."

As social scientists, we largely think about and see the world through the lens of culture, or as we've said before, a way of life that ultimately produces a way of seeing the world. "Culture" is by ancient definition a fertile, nurturing phenomenon: Sharing its root with "agriculture," one of its most basic meanings is "culti-

vation," leading to "growth."

The approaches O'Connor and Scott take in their classroom seem to work according to the teachers, but perhaps more importantly, according to the parents and to the kids in the classroom. One male student with an aspiration of someday playing professional football told us, "Our teachers give us challenging problems to work on, and are always ready to help. They won't let us give up."

Another randomly selected student from the class room, with aspirations of someday owning her own beauty salon, said, "They're the best teachers I've ever had. They are always

willing to help, and the pace is nice." That is, Scott and O'Connor provide challenge, help, and opportunity to keep working until the job is complete.

These teachers have created in their classroom a culture based on relationships and on individual and group responsibility, where everyone is expected to strive for excellence. And what comes out of this culture is a worldview held by students that they must do their very best in all they do, and that they will contribute to the good of society by doing so.

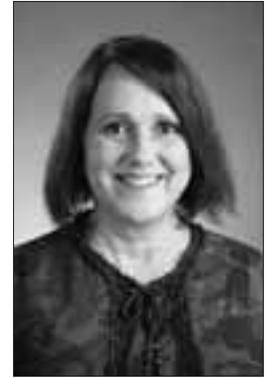
It is vitally important to note that, though Scott and O'Connor are outstanding human beings, what they accomplish is a result of their pedagogy and methods, not simply because they are who they are. That is to say, all teaching professionals, no matter what their heritage or personal gifts, can and must learn to use methods that are effective for all students and that prepare citizens for our democratic society.

We gladly highlight the good work of these two very fine public schoolteachers, and we know there are equally inspired and culturally competent teachers scattered throughout the area's districts. Please consider this our invitation to come to the Monday evening community conversations and share what you are doing.

The authors of this column are on the faculty at the University of Toledo and facilitate the group "Community Conversations for School Success." Willie McKether is associate dean in the College of Language, Literature and Social Science and Associate Professor of Sociology/Anthropology, and Lynne Hamer is professor of Educational Foundations and Leadership and directs UT@TPS. Everyone is welcome to join in the Community Conversations, which take place the first and third Mondays of every month, 6:30-8:00 pm, at the Kent Branch of the public library. Our next conversation is April 20 and will feature speakers from the Lucas County Juvenile Court on innovative work in Toledo toward stemming the school-to-prison pipeline. For more information or to get on our email list, please contact Lynne Hamer, 419-283-8288, lynne.hamer@utoledo.edu, or Willie McKether, 419-309-4931, willie.mckether@utoledo.edu.



Willamarie Scott



Patricia O'Connor

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April Is Jazz Month

April is Jazz Month, and the Smithsonian National Museum of History creates an annual poster featuring a great jazz artist. This year's honoree is legendary composer, pianist and Dayton, Ohio native **Billy Strayhorn**. Learn more about Strayhorn by visiting www.billystrayhorn.com or visit your neighborhood library for books, music and other items on past and present jazz musicians.

Library Honors Billy Strayhorn During Jazz Jam

By Rhonda B. Sewell, Governmental Affairs and Media Strategist
 Celebrate JAZZ JAM 2015 @ Kent Branch Library @ ccess Center
 The Truth Contributor

Jazz, a type of expressive music created by African-Americans, is honored annually by the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library with an exciting day-long **FREE** event titled **JAZZ JAM**. This event is in honor of national Jazz Appreciation Month (JAM).

Come celebrate **Jazz Appreciation Month** (April 2015) with us from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, **April 18** for a series of **FREE** performances and more at the Kent Branch Library @ ccess Center, 3101 Collingwood Blvd.

This exciting day of jazz will feature performers, courtesy of Professional Musicians of Northwest Ohio, Local 15-286; a snack bar, children's activities and more! Bring the entire family!

This program was sponsored by the Art Tatum African American Resource Center, Kent Branch Library @ ccess Center, with generous support from The Library Legacy Foundation.

Jazz Appreciation Month was created at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in 2002 to herald and celebrate the extraordinary heritage and history of jazz. Through local and national jazz fans everywhere, JAM is intended to stimulate the current jazz scene and encourage people of all ages to participate in jazz - to study the music, attend concerts, listen to jazz on radio and recordings, read books about jazz, and support institutional jazz programs.



Billy Strayhorn

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Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition Receives Daytime Emmy Nomination

Special to The Truth

Connection III Entertainment Corp. is celebrating its nationally-syndicated TV series *Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition*, which just received a 2015 Daytime Emmy Award nomination for Outstanding Children's Series, as it heads into the 2015/2016 television season with renewals from major broadcast station groups.

Both its signature series franchise *Made In Hollywood* and the E/I (Educational/Informational) series *Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition* have been renewed with total U.S. Household clearances currently over 90 percent for both series. *Made In Hollywood* will enter its 11th broadcast season, while *Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition* will begin its 10th season this fall.

Connection III's Founder, President and CEO Cleveland O'Neal III created *Made In Hollywood* and *Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition* and is executive producer of both series.

For 2015/16, the CBS Television Stations renewed *Made In Hollywood* in New York (WCBS/WLNY), Philadelphia (KYW/WPSG), San Francisco (KPIX/KBCW) and Pittsburgh (KDKA/WPCW) and renewed both *MADE IN HOLLYWOOD* and *Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition* in Los Angeles (KCBS/KCAL), Dallas (KTVT/KTXA), and Sacramento (KQVR/KMAX). The CBS Television Stations also renewed *Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition* in Boston (WSBK), Miami (WBFS) and New York (WLNy).

The FOX Television Stations, Inc. renewed the 11th season of *Made In Hollywood* in Chicago (WFLD/WPWR) and renewed the 10th season of *Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition* in Chicago WFLD/WPWR (FOX/MNT), Washington, DC (WTTG/WDCa), and Phoenix (KSAZ/KUTP), picking up the E/I series in San Francisco (KTVU/KICU), Houston (KRIV/KTXH), Minneapolis (KMSP/WFTC), Orlando (WOFL/WRBW) and Charlotte (WJZY/WMYT).

In addition, the CW PLUS renewed *Made In Hollywood's* 11th season. Connection III also sold the franchise to other U.S. broadcast station groups including Sinclair, LIN, Hearst, Gannett & Scripps.

"We are ecstatic that the Academy has nominated *Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition* for a Daytime Emmy Award as Outstanding Children's Series, validated by our across-the-board renewals from our broadcast station group partners for the *Made In Hollywood* franchise," said O'Neal. "We are very appreciative and thankful for the continuous support from our station partners going into *Made In Hollywood's* 11th season and the milestone 10th season of *Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition* and delighted to continue our on-going relationships," said Bill Trotter, Connection III's Head of Domestic Distribution.

Made In Hollywood is an inventive behind-the-scenes entertainment news magazine series showcasing "how" and "why" movies are "made in Hollywood," featuring exclusive celebrity interviews and star profiles, on-set coverage with directors, writers and producers and previews of upcoming motion picture and DVD releases. *Made In Hollywood* gives the viewer a look at how special effects and tech wizards pull off the complex magic needed to bring many of the year's biggest blockbusters to life. Featuring interviews with Hollywood's premier talent, including Hugh Jackman, Reese Witherspoon, Neil Patrick Harris, Shailene Woodley, Jennifer Garner, Michael Keaton, Matthew McConaughey, Eddie Redmayne, Julianne Moore, Angelina Jolie, Denzel Washington, Helen Mirren, Robert Downey Jr., Steve Carell, Anne Hathaway and Ben Affleck – the series appeals to the large cross-section of viewers increasingly interested in the morphing of reality programming with more traditional news/magazine programs.

The E/I (Educational/Informational) sister series, *Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition* is a 42nd Annual Daytime Emmy Award nominee for Outstanding Children's Series and was a **Cynopsis Kids !magination 2012 Award Finalist** and a 2011 Parents' Choice Approved Award Winner. *Made In Hollywood: Teen Edition* segments range from coverage of the Walt Disney Animation Studios, Sony Imageworks and Dreamworks Animation teams, LucasArts, producer Lauren Schuler Donner, actors Miley Cyrus, Shia LaBeouf, Zac Efron, Raven-Symone and Dakota Fanning, casting directors Jane Jenkins and Janet Hirschenson, Academy Award winning composer Hans Zimmer and Grammy-winning songwriter Diane Warren. This weekend series introduces the younger demographic to behind-the-scenes filmmaking, special effects techniques and career opportunities focusing on the creative, technical and artistic skills of the motion picture industries.

For more information on the franchise, please visit www.connection3.com.

Connection III Entertainment Corp. (www.connection3.com) is the award-winning, Emmy-nominated producer/distributor of family friendly, multicultural media content whose global reach has expanded annually for the past 15 years. The multi-faceted media company has gained acclaim for the development production and distribution of its original motion picture & television programming distributed across multiple platforms, with licensees and sponsors including broadcast & cable networks (*HBO, Lifetime, CBS, Starz, ABC Family*), major studios (*Lionsgate, MCA/Universal*), local U.S. broadcast affiliates (*ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, CW*), and national advertisers. Its nationally syndicated weekly series franchise *Made In Hollywood* is available in 107 million homes with a gross average audience of 2.2 million viewers in the U.S., as well as in major territories worldwide, including India's Zee Network and Fox International Channels in Turkey, Greece & Cyprus.



MADE IN HOLLYWOOD Segment Reporters (L-R) Kylie Erica Mar, Julie Harkness, Daniela Ganoza, Rahsan-Rahsan Lindsay



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Ruth Ashford: Bringing Service Information to District 4 Residents

Sojourner's Truth Staff

At a neighborhood meeting last month, Ruth Ashford, candidate for the District 4 Toledo City Council seat, spoke with residents about the services offered by their city government. The session was offered not only to explain what government does for its citizens, said Ashford, but also so that voters could "understand what changes they would like."

Ashford went through the various city departments, and associated companies or agencies, and provided contact information and a brief run-down of how to access the appropriate service. She addressed public services, parks and forestry, public utilities, solid waste, crime stopper information and Toledo Edison.

The neighborhood meeting, held at Kent Branch Library, is an example, said Ashford, of the types of ways in which she intends to communicate with district residents when she is in office.

"You want someone who is honest, trustworthy and with the patience to listen," said one of Ashford's campaign volunteers when she addressed the attendees.

Ashford, who worked for the State of Michigan for years as an account examiner, departmental analyst and senior auditor before her retirement in 2013, is making her first bid for elected office. She has stated that her focus is on four primary issues – safety, education, economic development and expanding opportunities for youth.

Ashford's opponents include Democrat Yvonne Harper and independent Scott Ramsay, who was appointed to fill the seat vacated by current Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson.

The special election for the District 4 seat will be held on May 5.



Claire's Day... continued from page 8

of Claire Lynsey Rubini who passed away from a heart condition at age 10. Dedicated to inspiring children and families to be lifelong readers, the programs and services embrace her favorite activities, including telling stories, dancing and most of all, reading.

Going forward all programs and services of the merged organizations will remain intact. Read for Literacy will serve as the parent organization and Claire's Day will become a signature line of service affording leadership stability and the promise of new chapter in our shared story! We are especially grateful to the Toledo Community Foundation for gifting a grant that allowed the organizations to identify the strategies that led to this merger agreement.

Founders of Claire's Day and Claire's parents, Brad and Julie Rubini will continue to be engaged in the organization where they will serve on a newly formed, Emeritus Board.

"It is not an ending, but a beautiful new beginning," said Julie Rubini. "We are entrusting Claire's Day to an organization with a strong Board of Trustees and are truly honored by the commitment of staff, volunteers, and the community to continue to support the united organization. I can honestly see Claire, smiling from ear to ear, pumping her fist in the air and saying, "YES!""

For more information about the merger or the programs of the organization please contact Jeanette Hrovatich, executive director at 419-242-7323 ext. 11 or visit our websites at www.readforliteracy.org and www.claresday.org

St. Paul MBC's 98th Anniversary Celebration

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate 98 years of service May 9, and 10, 2015 at the Radisson UTMC Hotel, 3100 Glendale. On May 9 we will host a banquet with live entertainment and food. The ticket donation is \$50.00 per person and \$400.00 for a table. Tickets may be purchased by calling Deacon David Taylor at 419-243-1954.

On May 10 we will have a glorious time in worship and invite you to come and fellowship with us at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, 1502 North Detroit Avenue, Toledo Ohio where the Rev. James H. Willis, Sr. is Pastor. Interested, but cannot make it? We invite you to purchase a congratulatory ad in our St. Paul Family Reunion Souvenir Booklet. For further information or to purchase an ad, please contact Sister Barbara Tucker at 419-244-7062

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CLASSIFIEDS

April 8, 2015

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Clarence Smith Community Chorus Spring Concert

39th annual spring concert for the Clarence Smith Community chorus at Christ Presbyterian Church; 6 p.m. Donations - \$10 adults; \$8 for children and seniors. For more information call 419-535-0933 or 419-243-1958

Silver Sneakers Fitness Classes

Studio Fitness offers Silver Sneakers Chair Zumba, Strength & Balance & Dancercise fitness classes at **NO Cost** to seniors 65 and older.

Chair Zumba Classes: Monday, Tuesdays, & Thursdays at 9:00am.

Strength & Balance Classes: Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays at 11am.

Dancercise Classes: Wednesdays & Fridays at 1:00p.

Studio Fitness is located at 1413 Bernath Pkwy off Airport Hwy across from TGI Fridays. Parking is available. For more information contact Karen at 419-870-2318419-870-2318.

PROGRAM MANAGER, ADULT PARTIAL HOSPITALIZATION PROGRAM

Unison Behavioral Health Group is seeking a Program Manager to manage the Adult Partial Hospitalization Program and CPST/Health Home/CET Group Services. Selected individual will participate as a member of the management team and is responsible for daily program operations, clinical supervision of staff, program development, evaluation and growth and management of program financial goals. Position will serve as liaison to external partners and assist in marketing services provided.

Qualified candidates must have strong assessment skills, leadership ability, creative problem solving and marketing skills. Prior supervisory/management experience preferred. LISW or LPCC required, supervisory designation preferred.

Send resume or apply to:

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
Human Resources - PMAHP
2310 Jefferson Ave
Toledo, OH 43604
Fax: 419-936-7574
website: unisonbhg.org

EOE

BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST/DRIVER

Part-time

This is a part-time (20 hr/wk) position that provides transportation services and assistance in engaging client population when they are receiving services. Position is Monday – Thursday and works afternoon/early evening during the school year and days over the summer.

Candidates must have a two or four year degree in psychology, social work, education or related field. Previous experience working with individuals with mental illnesses and driving large passenger vans is preferred. The individual must be at least 25 years of age, have a current Ohio Driver's License (CDL preferred) and have a driving record that would enable them to be insured under the agency policy.

Send resume or apply to:

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
Human Resources - BS/D
2310 Jefferson Ave.
Toledo, OH 43604
Fax: 419-936-7574
website: unisonbhg.org

EOE

CARE MANAGER

Full-time

Accountable for overall care management and care coordination of the consumer's care plan, including physical health, behavioral health and social service needs and goals. May provide health home services as needed.

Must be licensed in Ohio as an LISW, LSW, PCC, PC or RN. Prior experience as a care manager preferred.

Send resume or apply to:

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
Human Resources - CM
2310 Jefferson Ave
Toledo, OH 43604
Fax: 419-936-7574
website: unisonbhg.org

EOE

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Full-time opportunity available for experienced Medical Assistant to perform duties such as scheduling appointments, triaging phone calls, greeting clients and escorting to exam rooms, stocking exam rooms and maintaining medical supplies, receiving lab tests and forwarding for review and scheduling exams/testing with other providers as instructed. Work schedule for this position varies, may include evening hours and will require travel to various sites.

Qualified candidates must possess certification as a Medical Assistant. At least one year experience in a medical office required. Prior experience in a behavioral health setting preferred.

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
Human Resources -MA
2310 Jefferson Ave.
Toledo, OH 43604
Fax: 419-936-7574
Website: Unisonbhg.org

EOE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on **Middle-grounds Metropark Bid Package No. 01 Improvements, 111 Ottawa Street, City of Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio** will be received; opened; and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537 **Friday, April 24, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.** local time.

A Pre-Bid Meeting will be held **April 15, 2015, at 10:00 a.m.** local time at 305 Morris St., Toledo, OH 43604 – All bidders are encouraged to attend the Pre-Bid Meeting.

THE SCOPE OF WORK consists of new park construction and includes site removals, erosion control measures, mass excavation and earth moving, concrete / aggregate pavement & walk installation, park pavilion, site lighting, landscape plantings, irrigation, site utilities, bank stabilization, at-grade boardwalks, boardwalk overlooks and bridges. Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents and plan-holder's list through Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, Ohio 43604 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Tuesday (check made payable to Newfax Corporation) or via the Newfax Digital Plan Room at www.newfaxcorp.com. Newfax can be contacted at 419-241-5157 or 800-877-5157. A non-refundable fee of \$40 is required for each set of documents obtained. For additional information, please contact Jon Zvanovec @ 419-360-9184, jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com.

EACH BIDDER MUST FURNISH either (1) a bond for the full amount of the bid or (2) a certified check, cashier's check or irrevocable letter of credit in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid with its bid. The successful bidder must furnish a 100 percent (100%) Performance Bond and a 100 percent (100%) Labor and Materials Bond.

No bidder may withdraw its bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in bidding.

By order of the Board of Park Commissioners METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA

Stephen W. Madewell, Director

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on construction of a **Visitor Center at Fallen Timbers** will be received, opened, and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537, **Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 3:00 PM local time.**

THE SCOPE OF work consists of renovation of an existing residential structure into a commercial visitor center located at the Fallen Timbers Battlefield park area in Maumee Ohio. General Construction includes, but is not limited to, demolition, asphalt roofing, replacement of trusses, drywall, fireproofing, mechanical and electrical up grades, flooring, windows, doors, aluminum gutters & downspouts, concrete sidewalk and approach, excavation, stone parking area and landscaping.

Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents and plan-holder's lists through Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, OH 43604 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (check made payable to Newfax Corporation) or via Newfax Digital Plan Room at www.newfaxcorp.com. Newfax can be contacted at (419) 241-5157 or (800) 877-5157. A non-refundable fee of \$15 is required for each set of documents obtained. For additional information, please contact Pete Boss, at (419) 304-5368 or Pete.Boss@metroparkstoledo.com and Jon Zvanovec, at (419) 407-9732 and at Jon.Zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com.

EACH BIDDER MUST FURNISH either (1) a bond for the full amount of the bid or (2) a certified check, cashier's check or irrevocable letter of credit in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid with its bid. The successful bidder must furnish a 100 percent (100%) Performance Bond and a 100 percent (100%) Labor and Materials Bond.

No bidder may withdraw its bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in bidding.

By order of the Board of Park Commissioners METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA

Stephen W. Madewell, Director

Calvin's Easter Wonderland

Special to The Truth

Well, Toledo, Calvin Cottontail has done it again! Calvin and the crew just hopped over to the Tremainsville Hall and gave out over 150 baskets and toys to the kids. The Rabbiters of Toledo put on a dance show. Erika (Bugs Bunny) Jones and Rheleya (Baby Bunny) Buttons Oliver just hopped and hopped to the music.

It was Easter Sunday and hundreds gathered at the Tremainsville Hall to be entertained, to receive gifts and to dine on an endless array of food.

There was also an Easter duet joined by Dino I'm Purple. Quackie the Duck, Zettie and Shanice Jones did Bruno Mars "Don't Believe Just Watch" dance video, then the Easter magician performed live tricks for the guests. They loved seeing the smiles on the kids' faces – what joy!

It feels good to give back and it makes one feel like that, son, said Calvin and the Rabbiters – "Cause I'm Happy!"

Carol and Chris Johnson (Carol the coordinator and the Oliver girls) put this together every year and Calvin Cottontail has been doing this for 20 years and will continue for years to come.

"I just like to put smiles on the faces of the kids," said Calvin Cottontail



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