



The Sojourner's Truth

Volume 34, No. 9

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

August 19, 2015

AA Male Wellness Walk



Alpha Brothers Prepare for Walk

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Doubly Bound

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

It's just me against the world, baby, me against the world. I got nothin' to lose - it's just me against the world.

- Tupac Shakur



It's getting hot in HERE! And the political heat that is being put on incumbent Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson has been intensified nearly 100 percent. It appears that former Mayor Michael Bell and current Councilwoman Sandy Spang have decided to join Sandra Drabik Collins, Opal Covey and Carty Finkbeiner, in the fray to snatch away her hopes to fill the remaining two years of the late Mayor Michael D. Collins' term.

What is behind Hicks-Hudson's more than fair share of opposition and competition in a city that has never elected a black female mayor in its history?

According to some, there have been a few leadership hiccups. She has rebuffed overtures from people with enormous political clout and ruffled feathers among the political establishment by providing access to neophytes who have been able to somewhat influence her campaign.

Others point to current fiscal problems they think may have provided openings to be exploited by mayoral hopefuls. "How do you get in a budget deficit position when your revenues are up and you're making more money than you were making before in the general funding, and your expenses are declining? You're not paying for the jail. You're not paying for pools. You're paying out less money while making more money and yet you're in a deficit. How does that happen and you go from a \$5 million surplus to a deficit? Political Payback?" a political power player ponders.

However, Hicks-Hudson seems to be both a hard-nosed administrator and effective campaigner. She is in high demand for personal appearances and omnipresent in the activities of City Hall, neighborhoods and community events. She has also developed "a sharp edginess" and has shown, in her toe-to-toe battle with Local 92 firefighters union leadership, that she can "scrap" with the best of those who attempt to knock the political chip off of her shoulder.

Speaking of deficits, another possible but overlooked reason for the abundance of competitors is Carty Finkbeiner's presence in the mayoral race.

Both loved and hated by members of the black community and others, Finkbeiner has been accused of having a history of inheriting surpluses but departing office leaving budget deficits as a parting gift for his successors. Mike Bell and Jack Ford, the City's previous African-American mayors and who both followed Carty, were challenged with cleaning up the messes he left behind. "The trouble with Carty," said a political operative, "is he will tell anyone anything they want to hear and they believe him, and then when he gets in [office] he does whatever he wants to do, and it works every time. Fool me once shame on you, fool me twice shame on me."

Yet, if truth be told, it is likely that the intersectionality of race and gender-based politics that lies at the center of both the heated campaign competition and the negative water cooler critiques of Hicks-Hudson's organizational or leadership performance.

The mayor, who suddenly found herself in the eye of an economic storm with the untimely death of predecessor Michael D. Collins, has forged ahead in solidifying the ProMedica move downtown, presenting a viable package to keep Jeep production and jobs at current levels and getting out front of the toxic water/algae bloom problem.

While research and history have shown that white voters are often willing to vote for minority candidates, research and reality indicate that when the candidate is both black and female that her political support is diminished among all groups except other black women, who overwhelmingly support her.

And, unless a black female candidate has amassed extensive political experience, she is likely to regularly face condescending attitudes by white males, white females and others. If she is not loud, uneducated, streetwise or fits other negative black female stereotypes, black women

... continued on page 4

Community Calendar

June 13-September 12

Evangelical Church of God: Free parenting classes and free anger management classes: 419-297-3530

August 17-22

United Ways Days of Caring: A community-wide effort showcasing volunteerism;

August 20

Chase STEM Academy - 9 am to 4 pm; August 20 - Robinson Elementary - 8 to 11 am; August 21 - Pickett Academy - 9 am to 4 pm

August 21-23

Church of the Living God Dedication: New location at 3220 Meadowbrook Ct; Friday at 7 pm guest Pastor Talmadge Thomas of City of Zion Mt. Zion; Saturday at 7 pm guest Pastor Eugene Harris of Rock of Praise; Sunday at 11 am guest Bishop Charles Townsend of Church of the Living God of Indianapolis: 419-726-4900

August 22

Books 4 Buddies Events: 11 am to 2 pm; Willys Park with Councilman Tyrone Riley - free books, food, fingerpainting; 3 to 6 pm; Smith Park at Dennis Hopson's basketball tourney

August 23

Calvary MBC Deacon/Deaconess Ministry 5th Celebration: 4 pm; Speaker Deacon Calvin Lewis of Union Grove Baptist along with various male choruses

August 28-30

City of Zion Mt Zion Church "Forgiving Forward:" Friday at 7 pm, Saturday at 9 am, Sunday at 10:30 am; Guest presenters Dr. Bruce and Toni Hebel: 419-246-1850 or cozmzionchurch.com

August 29

Mt. Nebo's Voice of Hope Outreach Ministry Book Bag Giveaway: Family Foods Parking Lot; 2-4 pm

September 4-6

Armory Church Latter Rain 2015: Guests - Prophet Brian Carn, Pastor Rodney Posey, Supt. Greg Jordan and Calvary COGIC: 419-537-9736

September 20

Calvary MBC Roses Flower Ministry 6th Anniversary Commemoration: 4 pm; Guest speaker Rev. Charles McBee of Family MBC; "Headed in the Right Direction"

The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African American
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Carla Yvette - Soulcial Scene Editor
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The Swami Says ...

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

I have been extremely reluctant to give my considered political opinion about the mercuric rise of Donald Trump as a contender for the Republican nomination for the presidency of the U.S. of A.

It is to the point that I rarely venture out anymore due to the crush of people pleading with me to say something about what is happening in this crazy world of celebrity politics and the American voter.

I have changed my phone number several times due to hackers finding my new number and demanding that I give to an anxious, awaiting public my take on what is happening and why it is happening.

So, due to the public clamor for my valued opinion, I have put on my trusted Swami Turban and will now pronounce much wisdom to those who are wise or would be wise.

Donald Trump is the Frankenstein's monster of the now embarrassed Republican Party. He was created over the decades when the Republicans would issue the same frothy nonsense he is now embracing but they did not have the delivery system of a "Donald" personality to deliver it in ways that are palatable to the now ever greedy Republican voters.

Never mind that his utterances lack substance. Never pay heed that his statements are outrageous because Donald Trump, a canny carnival barker, has touched the "third rail" of American politics by being a populist candidate for a very jaded and angry electorate that have found a champion who will spit hellfire and brimstone at the objects of their fury: a do-nothing Congress and a perceived foreign policy that makes America look beggarly and cowardly.

Remember, this is a population that was fed a steady diet of manifest destiny and told that we are a light on a hill. Mix that with a heavy dosage of John Wayne bravado and the fact that cowboys always beat the Indians.

Americans have been fed a vitamin deficient porridge of, "We Are the World!" and "Mission Impossible!" as our God-given rights of a nation.

Victories in world wars, our astronauts walking on the moon and the exploits of Rambo! have been the template to our destiny to reign and rule and such a personality as Donald Trump shows up and Bam! All of that pent up frustration for the impacted middle class and a lack of vision by a do nothing Congress has exploded.

Of course it did not help that President Obama was wrongly scorned as not being, "One of us!" by people such as the right-wing media.

Donald Trump led the crusade to see his birth certificate.

The railing Tea Party of the right-wing faction of the Republican Party was always crowing that somehow diplomacy was high treason when it came to America being a part of the community of nations as opposed to being THE nation among the community.

The Donald tasted blood in the water with the discontent of the American voter to right the ship of state and to recover lost honor overseas and to stop the hemorrhage of jobs to China and Mexico and Pakistan (Note: these jobs were sent abroad by seemingly loyal American captains of industry who were not willing to invest in America...go figure!).

The Donald sniffed the aroma in the air that Americans were being gutted of their rights to a solid middle class lifestyle and they wanted a stop to the plundering of their wealth due to high college tuitions, a tax code that was friends only to the corporations and the wealthy; and a bleak retirement due to a fickle stock market that held their IRA and pension accounts.

The Donald brought to the table a personality that said "everything can be done and I am the person to do it!"

Details, you ask? The Donald would say: "Trust me, I can make it happen!"

These desperate voters seemingly are taking on trust the statements of The Donald and, to date, are not pressing for details of how his "platform" can be accomplished with a Congress that is populated by timid members who shirk at anything that is creative or different.

That is why The Donald is mildly threatening a third-party campaign if the powers that be in the Republican Party dump on his parade and march away from him as opposed to marching with him at the front of the parade.

Some would say that what The Donald is now saying has been said by Republicans, both in public and in private, and it is The Donald who says it with verve and without being beholden to fat cat special interests, hedge funds or powerful billionaires.

What is The Donald like? He is like the carnival barker at the state fair who will tell you to pay your money to see what is behind curtain A and will not give you any details other than, "Trust me, you are gonna like it!"

That is how desperate many voters are about getting back to a culture, a way of life, and a Donald Trump body politic that tells them that, "The Donald can fix it, just trust me and give me a chance!"

After all, they reason that it cannot be worse than what they have had since President George W. Bush invaded Iran and spent a trillion-plus bucks the country could not afford; nor the current president who relies on GQ magazine looks to take the place of substance.

The Donald? Home grown and Made in America! America, you reap what you sow.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at Tolliver@juno.com

Ohio Black Caucus President Reece on the Passing of Civil Rights Leader Julian Bond

"Today we loss another giant in the movement. Julian Bond was a former Georgia State Legislator and was a fighter for justice and voting rights as a leader in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and as the former Chairman of the NAACP. I was blessed to have shared the stage with him at the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington and to meet with him during the 2010 NAACP National Convention in my hometown of Cincinnati. Let us honor his legacy and commitment to civil rights by fighting for permanent solutions to protect our voting rights and by taking action on meaningful justice reforms."



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Toledo, Ohio Cares Banner

On Saturday, August 29, the Toledo Ohio Cares Banner will travel to Charleston, S.C. to be delivered by Bishop Marjorie Holt and delegation to the Mother Emanuel Church to pay homage to the Charleston 9 who lost their lives in the tragic church massacre.

This banner is estimated to have hundreds of signatures ranging from Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson, Maumee Mayor Richard Carr, city and county officials, clergymen, civic and business leaders, and citizens of the cities of Toledo, Maumee and surrounding areas.

The delegation will present the banner to the leadership of Mother Emanuel Church. Others interested in traveling to Charleston, S.C. or supporting those who will be going with contributions are urged to call 567.225.4902 for more information.



Perryman... continued from page 2

political candidates are also often publicly devalued in order to create the perception that she is not a credible candidate or "not equal" to others.

As stated by highly esteemed author/activist bell hooks (1984) "White women and black men have it both ways. They can act as oppressor or be oppressed. Black men may be victimized by racism, but sexism allows them to act as exploiters and oppressors of women. White women may be victimized by sexism, but racism enables them to act as exploiters and oppressors of black people."

But, black women leaders, doubly bound by race and gender, are in a no-win situation, causing them to receive more than their fair share of competition and opposition.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org

African Art Has Arrived!!

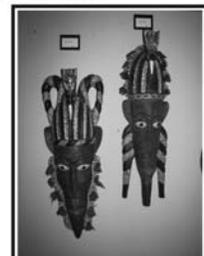
Hundreds of wood carvings from Ghana have recently arrived at The Truth Gallery – masks, statues, village scenes! All at unbelievably low prices!



The Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM



See more art online at www.thetruthtoledo.com



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“Save Our Cities:” The National Urban League 2015 Annual Convention

By Paul Hubbard, Former National Urban League Board Member

Special to The Truth

The National Urban League held its 2015 National Convention this summer in Fort Lauderdale at the Florida Convention Center. Mark Morial, the national president, said about 4,000 people registered and over 200 media people attended. This year's theme was “Save Our Cities.”

There was a whole day dedicated to the importance of developing minority business. Al Sharpton's keynote address focused on “Black Lives Matter” and the need for police training, better screening and the use of cameras.

Former Detroit Robin Barclay, now an executive with Trusted Health Care in Washington DC, spoke on women's health care including prevention, alternative medical techniques, Obamacare, and community health programs.

There was also a lot of youth and young adult participation at this year's convention. Education, jobs and justice were also major topics of discussion.

The highlight of the convention was the presidential candidates forum. There are 484 candidates running for President with 21 to 24 front runners. The top 21 were invited to the forum and five accepted the invitation. Donald Trump did not respond and Ohio Governor John Kasich declined. Here are the talking points of the five candidates.

Dr. Ben Carson, Republican, retired neurosurgeon and former Detroit who was raised in poverty in Boston, says he is not opposed to the safety nets like welfare for people who really need them for a limited time in life. He wants to create jobs using import and export tax money. He would prefer to call racist white people ignorant rather than racist. He feels he is misunderstood about his views and beliefs.

Hillary Clinton, Democrat and former U.S. Secretary of State, spoke on the erosion of voting rights, unequal educational opportunities, the need to increase minority-owned businesses and the lack of police justice. She talked about the fact that white Americans need to do more personal introspection about their views on race. She used a lot of statistics to discuss the national gaps between whites and blacks.

Martin O'Malley, Democrat, is a former Baltimore mayor. He spent most of his time discussing the need for prison reform, alternatives to jail for small-time drug offenders, voting rights for felons, too many routine traffic stops and the need to grow for minority-owned businesses. He also would change the sentencing guidelines for minor drug offenses.

Bernie Sanders, Democrat and Vermont U.S. Senator, spoke on the statistics of the few wealthy people in this country and how they influence most political decisions. He also talked about police injustice and the need for prison reform. He wants greater employment opportunities made available for ex-offenders. He also wants college tuition to be free. He feels educators should have higher salaries to attract better people into the field. He was very outspoken about the power structure of this country. He wants an increase in mental health services.

Jab Bush, Republican and former governor of Florida, supports charter

schools and schools of choice. He wants to increase community colleges as well as early childhood education. He wants to establish faith-based prisons as he did in Florida. He wants stronger child support laws. He supports the concept of minor drug offenders going into treatment instead of prison. He wants an increase in minority-owned businesses but he does not see a need for the certification process of minority-owned businesses.

The National Urban League will be sending a questionnaire on urban issues to all of the candidates and the answers will be published.



Paul Hubbard and Robin Barclay

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Dr. John W. Williams, Pastor

Black Lives Matter Protest

The Toledo Black Lives Matter movement held a march and protest rally on August 8 at the site of Toledo's newest park – UpTown Green.

Several dozen participants attended the event as they chanted and listened to several speeches by the organizers.



Photos courtesy Virgilio Baker

R.E.S.T.O.R.E., Inc. Hosting 6th Annual Dads and Kids Kampout!

Special to *The Truth*

R.E.S.T.O.R.E., Inc. is in the midst of preparations for its **Sixth Annual Dads and Kids Kamp Out on Friday, August 28 @ 5 p.m. thru Sunday, August 30 @ 11:00 am.** The event will be held at Camp Miakonda Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania, OH. Children attending the Kamp Out will be roughing it with dad under the stars, pure quality time, good old fashion fun, food, games, contest, and giveaways. A \$50.00 registration fee per is family required. * Limited number of scholarships are available.

“This is a community event, we are still in need of sponsors to support our scholarship fund for dads who cannot afford the registration fee of \$50, and volunteers to make this a very memorable event for the Dads and their children.” said Mark Robinson, founder and CEO of R.E.S.T.O.R.E., Inc.

R.E.S.T.O.R.E., Inc. is a faith-based, not-for profit 501(c) (3). Its mission is to restore fathers to the head of the family through and reverse the trend of fatherlessness in the greater Toledo area. R.E.S.T.O.R.E. Inc. provides a variety of practical services, such as, fatherhood education, service coordination, and spiritual support; and it uses biblical principles that are applicable and effective regardless of one's belief system. This non-profit's aim is to help men get the support, education and services they need to be the best fathers they can be.

R.E.S.T.O.R.E., Inc. was founded in 2006 by Responsible Fatherhood Advocate Robinson, a recipient of the 2013 Fatherhood Heroes Award, through President Obama's National Fatherhood Initiative Campaign. He knows first-hand about the lack of support provided to men with children having been a single parent for six years. Robinson recalls, “It was extremely difficult to get any type of support from the social service networks in my community, they were not designed with me in mind”.

Robinson is a social worker by profession and at the present time holds a position as executive director of Toledo Area Ministries. He has an extensive background in the field of Social Work and has served on numerous committees here in Ohio and in New York. He is currently serving on the Ohio Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families (OPNFF) Board, which is a statewide collaboration that seeks to advance a fatherhood and family agenda at the state and local level.

According to Robinson the 2010 Census is a clear indicator that we as a community must be proactive in our support of men in their role as fathers and husbands. “Dads are vitally important in the lives of their children and must be supported as they assume non-traditional and somewhat unfamiliar role as primary caregiver”, said Robinson.

For more information about R.E.S.T.O.R.E. and/or “The Dads and Kids Kamp Out” please contact: 419-377-1488 or restorefathers@aol.com or www.restorefathers.org

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Entrepreneurship – Who Should You Partner with or Hire? - Part IV

Karl A. Parker, P.E., MBA, Board Chairman, Parker Family of Businesses

The Truth Contributor

A number of my family, friends and former and business associates over the years have expressed an interest in being their own bosses by owning and running their businesses!

Entrepreneurship or starting your own business requires courage, commitment, creativity, very hard work, an understanding of business fundamentals, access to some type of capital and more importantly, good people!!!

Hiring the right people, at the right time, and deploying them in the right functions, at the right place, are vital for any business organization to succeed. Additionally, selecting what person and/or organization to partner with is critical as well.

In the previous articles, Part I, II & III, I discussed how my father, Edward Parker Sr., operated in the informal underground economy with the many businesses that he owned and operated, and how my oldest brother, Edward Parker, Jr., launched businesses with a similar human capital strategy that was centered on hiring and partnering with family and friends.

In Part III, I discussed how Consolidated Electrical Contractors and Engineers (CECE) was a business that was initially comprised of family members as partners and employees. I also discussed how that successful business model led to unprecedented growth that required the CECE leadership team to move to hire employees outside of the safety net of family and friends and eventually become signatory to the local electrical union.

The strategic move proved to be a poison pill.

CECE was unable to survive the chaos that was caused from receiving a plethora of poor employees from the local electrical union, on two sizeable projects. Specifically, it is a shame that the foreman, a non-family member on a project, missed key electrical installations that required coordination with other trades because he was SLEEPING on the job!! This compelled other CECE personnel to leave other projects to come correct these mistakes by chopping up concrete floors and block walls!

That decision to become signatory not only created a chasm amongst the leadership team, but it also accelerated the demise of CECE and resulted in a Chapter 11 filing, reorganization of the business and split up of the leadership team.

CECE had to turn over control of several of the projects they had won to the respective owners, which of course resulted in a huge financial hit. However, they were able to continue to work on and complete a wastewater treatment plant in Cridersville, Ohio for Kirk Brothers, a general contracting business based in Alvada, Ohio.

That project served as the incubator and training ground for two key members of a future business started by Edward M. Parker Jr., called Parker Construction.

Soon after the Cridersville project was completed in late 1982, Ed Jr. left CECE. My sister Sandra and her husband, Louis Bibbs, remained with the old CECE now reorganized and called simply Consolidated.

Ed Jr. retreated to searching for other business ventures. However, he did re-wire homes now and then with his baby brother and some of his friends. Then in the winter of 1983 he was asked

... continued on page 9

Job and Internship Fair set for October

Employers seeking entry level talent are encouraged to register and participate in the **Job and Internship Fair** offered on Friday, October 9. The fair will run from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Franciscan Center of Lourdes University, 6832 Convent Blvd. in Sylvania. The event is open to Davis College and Lourdes University students and alumni. In addition, community members with a focus on finding professional employment are welcome to attend as well.

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Economy Section • Economy Section

Credit Union Building Nearing Completion at a Faster Than Anticipated Rate

Sojourner's Truth Staff

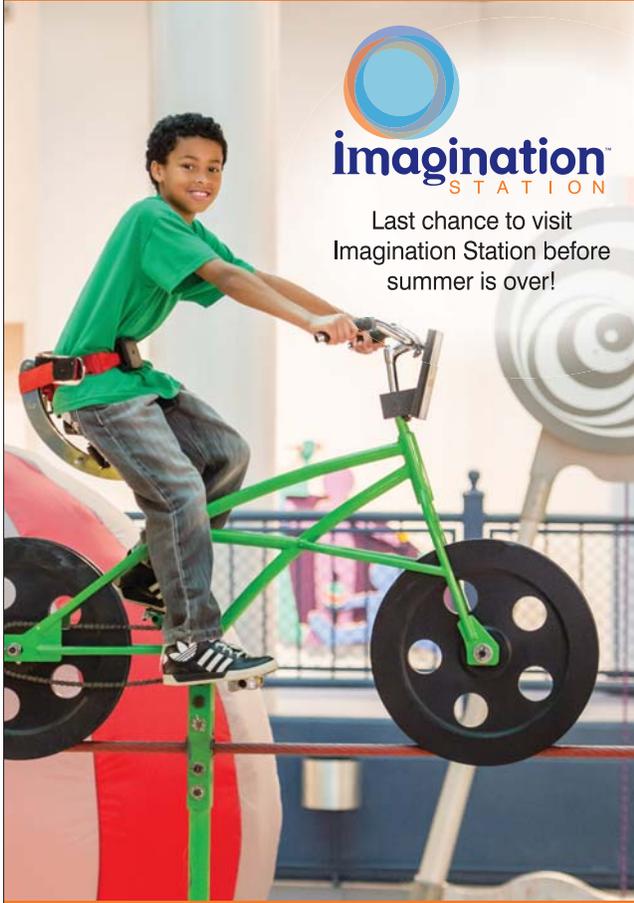
The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union, which will soon be celebrating its 20th year of service to the area's inner city residents, will soon be moving into its newly-constructed facility at the corner of Dorr Street and Detroit Avenue.

The 3,200 square feet building, which will offer members more on-site services – such as drive up windows – will be open for business near the end of the year.

In the meantime, decorative bricks are still available for purchase for as little as \$50 to support the neighborhood financial institution. Call 419-255-8876 for more information on credit union membership, the new building opening or purchasing bricks.



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Economy Section • Economy Section

Karl Parker... continued from page 7

by one of the owners of Kirk Brothers to provide an electrical estimate to construct a small wastewater treatment plant in Hebron, Ohio.

Well wouldn't you know, Kirk Brothers won the contract and offered Ed Jr. the opportunity to sign on as the electrical subcontractor for the project. Ed was thrilled! However, there was one small problem. He no longer had an official company, tools or employees!!

So what did he do?

He went to a true and tried method and called on family and friends to join him to create a company to help build this wastewater treatment plant! He then recruited one of his good friends from the neighborhood that he played cards with - Willie Kight.

He also recruited my younger sister, Edone, who typed over 85 words per minute, but knew nothing about construction. He asked me if I knew anyone and I suggested my best friend at that time, Carl Booker Jr., who was washing cars and towing trucks.

He needed one more person who had tight electrical wiring and controls skills to join and round out the team. Oh, he also needed access to some cash to purchase tools and equipment for the company.

Banks would not touch him so he had to go with hat in hand to speak with Ed Sr. Ed Sr. agreed to provide him the seed money and Ed Jr. launched Parker Construction in January of 1984 with friends and family ... again.

Oh, by the way, that last person who joined the team with 'tight' electrical wiring and controls skills, learned at Macomber Vocational Technical High School, is yours truly, aka KP Live back then!!

This was the first of 14 wastewater treatment plants that Parker Construction wired in the 1980s using the family and friends human capital strategy. Again, there was an evil presence lurking in the background that would eventually change the success trajectory of Parker Constructions in the early 1990s.

To be continued in Part V - Entrepreneurship - Who should you partner with or hire?



Karl Parker



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 All high school students report - Wednesday, August 26th

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Economy Section • Economy Section

Happy 80th Anniversary, Social Security!

Celebrating the Past and Building the Future

Last Week, the Social Security Administration celebrated its 80th anniversary. On August 14, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act, landmark legislation that continues to provide hope and protection to some of the most vulnerable members of society. Acting Commissioner Carolyn W. Colvin marked Social Security's historic birthday by reaffirming the agency's commitment to the public.

"As Social Security celebrates its 80th anniversary, we remain the underpinning of economic security of this country, and will continue to be a strong foundation for the next 80 years and beyond," Acting Commissioner Colvin said. "Social Security is the most successful domestic program in America's history. Providing outstanding customer service to the public has been a cornerstone of our agency's mission since the beginning and will continue into the future."

Earlier this year, Social Security launched a commemorative 80th anniversary website where people can learn more about the agency's legacy and the importance of the Social Security program. The pub-

lic has used the website, www.socialsecurity.gov/80thanniversary, to submit stories that show how Social Security has benefited them or their families. Social Security employees around the country have also expressed their enthusiasm and support through the agency's "Why I Serve" campaign, which highlights employees telling their own stories illustrating why they enjoy giving back through public service.

Social Security will host a ceremony at the agency's headquarters in Baltimore to commemorate the occasion. U.S. Congressman Elijah E. Cummings (D-MD) will join Acting Commissioner Colvin and Social Security employees at the event. "I am deeply honored to have long-time friend and staunch Social Security supporter Elijah Cummings join us in celebrating our 80th birthday," Acting Commissioner Colvin said.

The agency is celebrating "America's Favorites: Baseball, Hot Dogs, Apple Pie & SSA" Night at Major and Minor League baseball games across the country.

How to Lower Your Mortgage Payments

Special to The Truth

Are you a homeowner who is current on your mortgage and looking to lower your interest rate? Alternatively, would you like to shorten your mortgage term and build equity faster?

You may be able to take advantage of a long standing federal program to save hundreds of dollars on your mortgage payment every month or shorten your mortgage term and save money in the long run.

The Home Affordable Refinance Program (HARP) is a unique program that helps certain homeowners refinance their mortgage to a more affordable monthly payment and at better terms. With HARP now extended through December 2016, homeowners across the country have more time

to take advantage of this program to save money every month.

If you purchased a home before June 2009, have little or no equity in your home but are current on your mortgage payment (meaning no 30-day-plus late payments in the last six months and no more than one in the past 12 months), and the loan is owned by Freddie Mac or Fannie Mae, you may be eligible to refinance your mortgage through HARP.

More than 3.3 million Americans have taken advantage of HARP since 2009, saving them \$200 on average per month. Here's how you can take advantage of this program:

- Gather your basic financial information before you contact your mortgage company. You'll need: Your latest mortgage statements, including information on a second mortgage (if applicable); and your current income details (paystub or income tax return).
- Find out if Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac owns your loan. In order to qualify for HARP, your loan must be owned by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. Contact your mortgage company or visit www.knowyouroptions.com.

... continued on page 11



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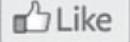
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An Important Victory for Ohio's Waterways

Weekly Column from U.S. Senator Rob Portman

Freshwater reserves that provide drinking water to millions of people in Ohio are under threat from toxins carried by the spread of algal blooms creating a serious public health concern. Unfortunately, a lot of Ohioans are already familiar with the health risks these toxins present.

This month is the one year anniversary of the Toledo water crisis when up to 500,000 people were without access to clean drinking water after a harmful algal bloom entered the area's water treatment plant. I met with many of those who were personally affected after I filled my pickup with bottled water and helped pass out bottles to families who couldn't use their tap water. It was a dire situation that lasted for three long days.

Just last month, experts predicted that this summer Lake Erie is on track to experience one of the most severe toxic algal bloom outbreaks in recent years. Eleven million people rely on Lake Erie for their drinking supplies, including three million in Ohio. Just last week, massive algal blooms were detected in the Western Lake Erie Basin, only a few miles from the city of Toledo's water supply intake valve. Because of this, Toledo city officials have changed the city's water quality status from "clear" to "watch," as small amounts of toxins drifted closer to the intake valve.

And although protecting human health has to be our primary concern, there is an economic impact, as well. Many communities rely on our waterways as critical economic pillars. Lake Erie brought in \$1.8 billion in economic activity and \$226.3 million in taxes for 2013 alone. Tourism around the lake supports one 1 out of every 4 private sector jobs. I visited Lake Erie last month and hosted a town-hall meeting with local, state, and federal experts to discuss the threats to Lake Erie such as harmful algal blooms and invasive species. I spoke with small business owners, fishing boat captains, and residents and they were concerned about the future of the lake. Fighting harmful algal blooms is necessary to maintaining a healthy environment as well as a strong economy.

Toledo is not the only city in our state dealing with this issue. According to the Ohio EPA, 42 water systems in Ohio are susceptible to harmful algal blooms. The city of Celina spends \$450,000 annually to combat algae in Grand Lakes St. Marys, and Columbus was forced to spend \$723,000 to mitigate an algae outbreak at Hoover Reservoir in 2013. In fact, all states are at risk, as the frequency and distribution of harmful algal blooms have increased significantly in recent years. Local officials are working hard to solve this problem, and yet newly published images from a NASA satellite detect thick algal blooms across the middle of Lake Erie's Western Basin.

Fortunately, last week, the Senate passed the Drinking Water Protection Act, a bill I introduced with Senator Sherrod Brown that will help protect Lake Erie and other fresh bodies of water.

This important legislation directs the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop and report to Congress a strategic Algal Toxin Risk Assessment and Management Plan within 90 days. This plan is required to evaluate and identify the risk to human health from drinking water contaminated with algal toxins and recommend feasible treatment options, including procedures on how to prevent algal toxins from reaching local water supplies and mitigate any adverse public health effects of algal toxins.

I am very pleased that my legislation, which previously passed by the House of Representatives with the leadership of Congressman Bob Latta, is now on its way to the President's desk. It is one step towards stopping these toxic algal blooms and the health dangers they represent. I will continue to fight to ensure that all levels of government are committed to fighting this threat.

Mortgage Payments... continued from page 10

com/loanlookup or <https://ww3.freddiemac.com/loanlookup/>.

If your loan is owned by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, ask your lender if it is an approved HARP lender. Be prepared to provide the information necessary to verify your current source of income. If your lender is not an approved HARP lender, find out who is near you on the Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac websites.

• Go through the application, approval and closing process. If your lender determines you qualify for HARP, they will guide you through the process.

HARP has no appraisal requirements or loan-to-value limits, so you can apply regardless of how far your home may have fallen in value. Without this program, qualifying for refinancing can be virtually impossible for homeowners who are underwater.

Remember, the opportunity to get a HARP refinance expires December 31, 2016 and there is still time to take advantage of low mortgage rates.

Make 2015 the year you take the step to save money on your home loan. Call your lender to apply now and begin to save. For more information, visit www.HARP.gov.

Courtesy StatePoint




Sign up now for our next training classes:

- One week, 8/17 - 22, 9 am - 4 pm
- Tu/Th evenings, 9/8 - 10/15, 6-9 pm
- Saturdays, 10/17 - 11/21, 9 am - 4 pm

Classes are held at the LCCS training center, 705 Adams St., in downtown Toledo.



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Healthy Men... continued from page 16

The overall health and wellness of the community is dependent on the health of our men. African American males are dying from preventable diseases at nearly 10 times the rate of other men, and it is this fact that drives the mission of the AAMWW. It is our responsibility to raise awareness, educate, and guide our men to avenues of better health. **HEALTHY MEN MAKE HEALTHY FAMILIES!!!**

Improving the health of any community requires dedication, commitment and great effort. In order to be successful, we must work cooperatively with healthcare providers, community health organizations, businesses, governmental agencies, and dedicated individuals across our nation. Together we WILL improve the health of our men and our families.



Alpha men prepare to walk



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Shots on the Bridge by Ronnie Greene

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

"Trust me."

Two words that make you want to do the opposite, causing you to question everything that's said. "Trust me" makes you squirm. "Trust me" makes you itch, even though there are times when there's no other choice. And in the new book *Shots on the Bridge* by Ronnie Greene, you'll read about assumed trust that was broken in a most devastating way.

c. 2015
Beacon Press
\$24.95 / \$29.99 Canada
256 pages

On the morning of August 29, 2005, almost an hour after Hurricane Katrina hit land, a levee broke and water poured into New Orleans. Many people, heeding their mayor's pleas, fled the city before Katrina arrived but an estimated 100,000 didn't – including police, who became "prisoners of the hurricane's wake."

Also stranded: one-time NFL player Lance Madison and his mentally disabled brother, Ronald; and 17-year-old JJ Brissette, his friend Jose Holmes Jr., Jose's aunt Susan Bartholomew, her family, and extended family.

Six days post-hurricane, after waiting for rescue that never came, enduring the heat, the stench and a lack of food, the families, on opposite sides of the Danziger Bridge and unbeknownst to each other, set out to find help on their own.

The trouble, at its very core, began with shots fired on the Danziger Bridge by unknown miscreants who fled quickly. In later months, Detective Jennifer Dupree would avow that she never said "Officer down" when she reported those shots. Yes, she'd radioed for help, but not with those words. Still, at their makeshift headquarters, officers readying for duty heard Dupree's call for assistance. Eleven of them, both black and white, jumped in a truck and raced to the bridge.

It was, as Greene says, "chaos."

Arriving at the bridge, police began shooting before they even understood who they were shooting at. Whether or not they knew that the African-American civilians they shot were unarmed is still debated but when the gunfire stopped, two people were dead and many injured in what Greene says "was about the worst abuse of police power... ever seen."

I struggled for a long time over what to say about this book. For sure, you'll spend a lot of time picking your jaw up off the floor while you're reading *Shots on the Bridge*. But on the other hand, there's a lot to follow, and that makes it a bit hard to read.

I can't use the verb "enjoy" here, either, because what's to enjoy about what happened? You may appreciate the courtroom drama, or the investigative techniques it took to see how the cover-up evolved, but that seems secondary to what author Ronnie Greene reports – even though it comprises most of the book. And yet – to get there, you have to read that astounding first half.

Some of the outcome you'll see will satisfy you, but I'm guessing you likely won't be happy at the end of this squirmy book. Still, I believe that *Shots on the Bridge* is overall worth a try on this 10th anniversary of the event – if nothing but because you can trust that it'll make you think.

SHOTS ON THE BRIDGE

POLICE VIOLENCE AND COVER-UP IN THE WAKE OF KATRINA

"For those who believe that police shootings of unarmed citizens began in Ferguson, Missouri, this book will be eye-opening. Greene offers a fine dissection of a tragic injustice." —SCOTT TUROW

Ronnie Greene

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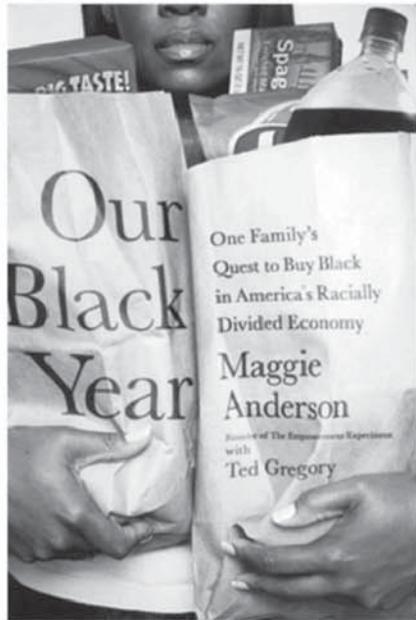
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One Family's Quest to Buy Black in America's Racially Divided Economy

Maggie Anderson
Author of *The Empowerment Experiences* with Ted Gregory



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Youth & Young Adult 4th Sunday

When: Every 4th Sunday
Time: 11:00 am
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 Pastor Joseph Marshall Jr., Pastor Evangelist Calvert Marshall, First Lady

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CLASSIFIEDS

August 19, 2015

Page 15

PSYCHOLOGIST

Full-time opening (would consider part-time) for an experienced Psychologist to provide psychological testing and evaluation of children and adults with mental illness and adjustment difficulties. Position will supervise graduate students and selected candidate must be able to include them as a supervisee on their license through the Ohio Board of Psychology.

Qualified candidates must have a doctoral degree and current Ohio licensure as a Psychologist. Must be proficient in the use of an electronic health record.

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Website: unisonbhg.org
Fax: 419-936-7574

EOE

LEGAL NOTICE

Proposals will be received by Lucas County Department Job & Family Services (LCDJFS) until **4:00 p.m., August 31, 2015** for the selection of Provider(s) to provide Fatherhood Services for eligible participants. Submitted proposals must be completed according to the specifications and provisions outlined in the Request for Proposals (RFP). The contract period will be from approximately **October 1, 2015** through **September 30, 2016**.

No bids will be accepted after **4:00 p.m., August 31, 2015**; bids that are submitted via any method other than that described in the RFP will not be accepted.

The Request for Proposals will be available on **August 19, 2015**. It will be available for potential bidders to download by going to the site: <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

An Electronic Question & Answer (Q&A) process will be from August 19, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. to August 19, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. **PARTICIPATION IS OPTIONAL, BUT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.** Questions for the Q&A must be submitted in writing and received via email at LUCAS_CONTRACTS@jfs.ohio.gov by August 19, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.; the posting of the Q&A will be on August 21, 2015. If any changes are made to the RFP as a result of the Q&A, an addendum to the RFP will be posted on the website address (noted above).

This notice is posted as of **August 19, 2015** at <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Tina Skeldon Wozniak - President
Pete Gerken - Commissioner
Carol Contrada - Commissioner

Bid: 48-16-RFP-01

LEGAL NOTICE INVITATION FOR BID

Sealed bids will be received by the Fallen Timbers Field Office of Toledo Area Metroparks, 6101 Fallen Timbers Ln., Maumee, Ohio 43537, no later than 3:00p.m. local time, on **Wednesday, August 19, 2015**, and thereafter will be publicly opened, read, and recorded for **Furnishing and Delivery of Aggregate Material for Metroparks of the Toledo Area.**

Scope of Work: includes furnishing and delivering bulk aggregate material to Metroparks throughout Lucas County.

All bidding documents may be obtained by bidders at **Toledo Area Metroparks, Park Services Department**, 6101 Fallen Timbers Ln., Maumee, Ohio 43537 free of charge or by emailing jim.cassidy@metroparkstoledo.com. If you have any problems accessing the information, please contact the Park Services Department at 419-460-1289 or by e-mail.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) is preparing to submit its Annual Plan 2016 to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2016. The Annual Plan 2016 is available for review at LMHA's Website (www.lucasmha.org). LMHA invites you to submit comments during the next 45 days. Please submit comments to rlake@lucasmha.org.

You are invited to a public hearing on Wednesday, October 7, 2014 at 4:00 p.m., McClinton Nunn Community Bldg., 425 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604. Interested citizens will be provided pertinent information regarding strategic goals and program activities of the LMHA. Citizens are encouraged to attend this public hearing and provide additional comments on the Annual Plan 2016.

Should attendees require auxiliary aids due to a disability, please contact LMHA at 419-259-9457 or TRS 711, at least one week prior to hearing date.



William J. Brennan, Chairman
Linnie B. Willis, Executive Director

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PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF TOLEDO DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT FOR 40TH PROGRAM YEAR – JULY 1, 2014 TO JUNE 30, 2015

The City of Toledo (COT) is directed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to notify the general public of the undertakings, activities, and accomplishments completed in and at the close of each Program Year through a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The CAPER provides an assessment of the federally funded programs monitored by the COT's Department of Neighborhoods; i.e., Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME).

The Draft CAPER will be available for public review as of September 2, 2015 at the locations listed below:

- 1) Department of Neighborhoods
One Government Center, 18th Floor
Downtown Toledo, Jackson & Erie Streets
- 2) Office of the Mayor
One Government Center, 22nd Floor
Downtown Toledo, Jackson & Erie Streets
- 3) Clerk of Council
Library
One Government Center, 21st Floor
Downtown Toledo, Jackson & Erie Streets
- 4) The Fair Housing Center
432 N. Superior Street
Toledo, Ohio
- 5) Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority
435 Nebraska Avenue
Toledo, Ohio
- 6) Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board
1946 N. 13th Street, Suite 437
Toledo, Ohio
- 7) All Toledo branches of the Toledo-Lucas County Public
Library (Refer to local telephone directory or toledolibrary.org for locations)
- 8) Dept. of Neighborhoods website:
<http://toledo.oh.gov/neighborhoods>

A public meeting to present the CAPER is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2015, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the main Toledo-Lucas County Public Library (McMaster Family Center) located at 325 Michigan St., Toledo, OH 43604.

Written comments are welcomed through September 17, 2015 by submittal to:

Consolidated Annual Reports
c/o Tom Kroma, Director
Department of Neighborhoods
One Government Center, Suite 1800
Toledo, Ohio 43604
or by email at: milva.wagner@toledo.oh.gov

For more information, please call 419-245-1400. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request by contacting the Department of Neighborhoods 72 hrs. in advance at 419-245-1400, or Milva Wagner at milva.wagner@toledo.oh.gov.

Healthy Men Make Healthy Families

By Brian Byrd, Deputy Chief, Toledo Fire & Rescue Department

This year, 2015, marks the 11th year for the African American Male Wellness Walk (AAM-WW). Founded by John Gregory of the National Center for Urban Solutions, this effort to bring awareness to health disparities affecting African American men in Ohio has now become a **NATIONAL INITIATIVE**.

The AAMWW has provided thousands of free health screenings across the state of Ohio, resulting in recognition from President Barack Obama, and August being declared as 'African American Male Wellness Month' by Governor John Kasich of Ohio. This momentum has spread to the Washington D.C. area, Detroit, Atlanta, Niagara Falls (NY), and other areas of the country.

... continued on page 12



Kistler Ford Team



Erica White (with mic) leads group exercise

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