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Historical Campaign for African-American Woman

Runs for post in electrical workers union

"Good News!" is the motto of Donna Hammond, the first African-American woman to run for Business Manager of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union Local 48.

Nationally, African-Americans are underrepresented in union leadership positions, and Hammond's campaign, if she is successful, will represent the first time an African-American woman has held a top position in a building trades union.

A Portland native, Hammond was the youngest of five children born into a working class family. Her parents and grandmother migrated to Oregon in the 1940's from Arkan-



Donna Hammond

sas to take advantage of the wartime employment in this region. Both her parents were union members, and Donna learned first hand

how union jobs could support strong families and communities.

Hammond followed in the footsteps of her maternal grandmother who was a welder's helper in the Portland and Vancouver Shipyards during World War II, when she became an electrical apprentice in January 1979 - the second African-American woman to enter the IBEW electrical apprenticeship in Oregon. She completed her apprenticeship program in 1982.

Hammond's vision for Local 48 includes focusing resources on organizing the unorganized, creating "a culture of organizing that is unprecedented in the history of the Local."

She also believes her unique leadership style, as a proactive, consensus builder, will provide strength to the Local by increasing democracy and member participa-

tion, and expanding the visibility of organized labor in the region.

"Someone once said, 'There are two things we must give our children. One is roots and the other is wings.' I raised my son to believe that faith, family, friends, education and community are our roots and the union provides our wings for a better life. That's the way it was for me and my son, and I want to ensure it will be that way or even better for his children and generations of kids to come. These are the values that I will bring as leader of the IBEW Local 48," Hammond said.

Ballots for the business manager position have been mailed out to over 4,000 members. They are due to be counted on Monday, June 25. Find out more about Hammond and her historic campaign at her website, vote4Donna.com.

Dear Deanna!

My relationship feels dead. In the beginning things were exciting but now everything is boring. I'm not motivated to do my hair anymore, I don't feel like dressing up and sex is the last thing on my mind. Now that I look my worse, my boyfriend has become active, he goes out all the time and has really come out of his shell. He doesn't pay me any attention and when he does, he seems to be somewhere else. Are these signs that we need to end this relationship? --Hurting and Confused; Benton Harbor, MI

Dear Hurting:

You're living the classic case that involves women let themselves go and then lose their man. You need to wake up and realize you look a mess and your boyfriend has chosen to keep living. He hasn't changed other than the fact he may have another woman because he's almost sick of you. If you want this relationship get your act together fast because he's on his way out. The clock is ticking but you can turn things



Real People, Real Advice

An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality based subjects!

around with effort, and positive thinking.

Dear Deanna!

My son is dating a woman my age. The problem is the fact he's a senior in high school and she is divorced with two small children. I understand my son is at the age where he may be experimenting sexually but he's a baby compared to her and I don't like it. I'm cordial to his girlfriend but I'm at my wits end. She is starting to brain-

wash him and I hit the roof when I heard she is bragging on his anatomy. What can I do without doing something that will land me in jail? --Tammy; Dallas, TX

Dear Tammy:

Your son has fallen victim to a played out garden tool that doesn't have many options left. You could kick her door off the hinges, drag your son out and give her a beat down. But since you have to be civil, you can stop this by pressing charges and filing a restraining order to keep her from your son. In the meanwhile, focus on your son and help him understand what's going on. You also need to buckle down and help him clearly see his future that includes college and a career and not this woman with her built in baggage.

Dear Deanna!

For the first time in my life, I am happy with a man I feel is my soul mate. He is everything I imagined and I can even live with his flaws and shortcomings. I love him dearly but he is

overly critical and is very hard on me. When I make mistakes he treats me like a child. He talks about my hair, my makeup and the way I eat. He is a great guy and I know he means well. How do I let him know how this makes me feel without jeopardizing the relationship? --Maria; Charleston, SC

Dear Maria:

You're a star struck groupie in this relationship. As soon as he gets tired, he'll drop you like a hot coal and move on to another woman. If he sincerely cared there wouldn't be any feelings of disrespect, ridicule or one-sided criticism. You need to take the risk and tell him how you feel and that you won't tolerate his treatment. If he's willing to heed your advice that's a good thing. If he turns out to be a pig then realize he doesn't give a damn and keep it moving.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

Cereal Box Chef Honored

The man widely believed to be the model for the Cream of Wheat man, a smiling white-hatted chef whose face has greeted breakfasting Americans for more than a century, finally has a grave marker bearing his name and image.

When Frank L. White died in 1938 he was an American icon because of his advertising image. But his grave in Leslie, Mich., bore only a tiny concrete marker with no name. That ended June 13 when a rose granite stone and etching of what is believed to be his likeness were placed at his burial site.

Jesse Lasorda, a family researcher from Lansing, Mich., started the campaign to put the marker and etching on White's grave.

He discovered that White was born about 1867 in Barbados, came



A box of Cream of Wheat. (AP photo)

to the U.S. in 1875 and became a citizen in 1890.

The chef was photographed about 1900 while working in a Chicago restaurant.



Justin and Breeanna, ages 4 and 3.

Yearning for a Family

Justin and Breeanna are an adorable sibling pair who are simply yearning for an adoptive family to bring them home.

Despite having experienced a great deal of loss and change, this brother and sister are very attached to one another, and seem to attach readily and easily to the adults that come into their lives.

Having suffered early neglect, both Justin and Breeanna have some cognitive and developmental delays that are currently being addressed through early intervention and Head Start.

Justin and Breeanna need a very enriching environment where they can catch up on the love, guidance and nurturing which

they have missed out on. Despite their delays, both children are curious about the world and eager to explore. An adoptive family will enjoy the rewards and challenges of sharing in the growth, loving and learning of these sweet siblings.

These children are among the approximately 300 Oregon children available for adoption through the state, generally because of abuse and neglect. For more information on how to become a foster or adoptive parent, contact the Special Needs Adoption Coalition at 503-542-2392 or the Department of Human Services at 1-800-331-0503.

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