



*Dr. Debra Fulton*

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*“A lot of dental and medical issues correlate with socio-economic issues also. If an individual’s situation in terms of socio-economic issues is not great, neither will be their situation in terms of dental and medical health issues.”*

## This Strikes Us ...

### *A Sojourner's Truth Editorial*

If people in a particular community really want to eliminate crime, or at the very least minimize crime, in their neighborhoods, they have to make a commitment to cooperate with those law enforcement officials who are charged with bringing criminals to justice.

Residents of a community cannot minimize crime by ignoring it or by declining the opportunity to report behavior of known criminals.

Last week, a group of religious leaders organized a news conference (see page 4 of this issue) to announce a campaign to encourage folks to pray for non-violence. We applaud this effort but, frankly, it is not enough. Yes, we need to commit ourselves to being non-violent and we need to encourage others to be the same.

But we need to do more. We need to make sure that if such preventive measures fall short, then we are willing to come forward to report those who fail to heed the call for nonviolence.

For the African-American community, this presents something of a challenge. Our community has traditionally had an uneasy relationship with the law enforcement establishment for reasons both real and imagined.

And there is no question that the law enforcement establishment, as a whole, has been reluctant to work with the black community to ease the way to a more convivial relationship. Police departments were slow to integrate and are still seemingly reluctant to keep up with their numbers of minority officers or to see that minority officers receive the assignments and promotions that might improve those departments' image in the black community.

That being said, there is still no substitute for the cooperation of citizens in what is really a community task of law enforcement. Crimes have to be reported, criminals have to be identified by law-abiding citizens. Failure to do so leads to one result and one result only — increases in crime.

To make matters worse, there is a campaign afoot in urban areas of this country to stop snitching. This campaign puts law abiding citizens at great risk. It informs people that when you see a crime taking place, when you know that more crime will take place, when you can identify criminals and you fail to do so, you are providing some sort of service to the community. The theory behind the campaign is that the police are so eager to target black folks, and innocent black folks at that, there is no reason to make their jobs easier.

No campaign could be more detrimental for central city neighborhoods.

There is an age-old American tradition that decrees that those who are involved in crime should not sacrifice their colleagues in order to gain some advantage for themselves at trial or at sentencing. There are some valid reasons why such "snitching" poses problems in a system that purports to be fair and equitable. Bargains are inevitably struck that bring into question the veracity of someone who is trying to gain a sentencing advantage.

But the issue we are addressing here is that of the obligation of law-abiding citizens who are eager to see their children can walk down a city street without fear that predators may target them.

Toledo is not crime ridden by any means, at least not compared to our urban neighbors to the north and to the east. But a recent rash of murders has many Toledoans on edge. Employees and patrons of night-time establishments, for example, are especially wary. The streets of the city are not as vibrant at night as they once were.

We may well finish this year with fewer homicides than we had during the previous year, but the immediate news brings us no relief.

We need more police on patrol, to be sure. We need more minority police officers, as well. Minority members of the police department often are more capable of speaking to central city residents and eliciting information. And we need for those police officers who are on duty to undergo as much diversity training as they can get.

But we need to report crime and keep the police informed of unusual activity in our communities also. Regardless of the other obstacles to eliminating or decreasing crime, we need, as citizens, to speak out.

If you see an offense that needs to be reported, call the Crime Stoppers number — 419-255-1111.

## In Memoriam, Eugene Ellis "Boobie" McMillian



Born — September 28, 1971  
Home Going — October 2, 2006

Daddy, you are loved and will truly be missed and NEVER forgotten.

We will love you always,

T.J., Elijah, Dymond and lifelong friend, Sauna

## Community Calendar

### October 12

• Holt Lifeline Center Grand Opening: 2902 Elm Street; 3 to 6 pm; 419-729-3040

### October 13

• Harvest Auction & Bake Sale Luncheon: Women's Connection West; 11:30 am to 1 pm; Sylvania CC; Speaker Linda Harrah: 419-472-8749

### October 14

• African American Women Cancer Support Group: 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Cancer Awareness Workshop; 10 am to noon; Southern Missionary Baptist Church: 419-535-3126 or 419-242-3279

• Legends Luncheon: The African American Legacy Project; Genesis Dreamplex; Celebrating the history of northwest Ohio's African-American contributors: 419-243-8858

• Welcome Celebration at St. Paul AME Zion Church: For Pastor Cordell Jenkins; 6 pm; 419-243-1065

### October 15

• Center of Hope 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Day Celebration: Speaker Minister April Hearn of New Prospect Baptist; 11:30 am

### October 16-20

• Feel the Fire: New Prospect Baptist Church; 7 pm nightly

### October 17

• Free Breast Exams and Mammograms: St. Luke's Hospital; For uninsured and underinsured women: 419-893-5923

• Rehearsals for 100 Voice Women's Chorus: St Paul AME Zion art 7 pm: 419-241-7332

### October 20

• Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral: Appreciation banquet for Bishop Marjorie Holt: 419-514-4477

• Fish Fry: Amazon Lodge #4; 11 am to 5 pm; Deliveries available on orders of 3 or more: 419-531-7079

### October 20-22

• N-His Name Ministries: "Freedom in the Heart of Holiness" second annual conference; Open Arms Cathedral Temple: 419-290-8106

### October 21

• First Annual Shynerra Grant Memorial Cheerleading Competition: BGSU Perry Field House; Presented by Shay's for Life Foundation and the BGSU Women Center; 9 am

### October 22

• Annual Men's Day Celebration: Braden United Methodist Church; Guest Speaker Vince Davis; 10:30 am

### October 21

• UAW Local 12 Presents: Motown & Jazz Night Out; Fundraiser for UrbaneKnights; 7 pm to midnight; Live entertainment, food, champagne, cash bar: 419-461-2461 or 419-241-5852

### October 24

• Fourth Annual HBCU Tour Informational Meeting: Sanger Branch; 6 to 8 pm; Sponsored by Maumee Bay Club of NANBPWC: 419-478-7844 or 419-478-4268

• Rehearsals for 100 Voice Women's Chorus: St. Paul AME Zion: 7 pm: 419-241-7332

### October 25

• Observe Breast Cancer Awareness Month: "Learn How to Protect Your Breast Health;" 7 to 8:30 pm; St. Luke's: 419-893-5923

• Lucas County CASA( Court Appointed Special Advocates for abused children): Public Informational Meeting; Reynolds Corner Library; 5:30 to 6:30 pm: 419-213-6753

### October 27

• End Time Christian Fellowship: 2 Holiness Concert; 7 pm; Featuring Tiffanie Campbell & TCM and Louis Self II: 419-472-5993

### October 28

• St. Paul Missionary Baptist: Faith Friday Celebration; 11 am to 3 pm; Open and free to the public: 419-246-2886

## The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American  
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## My View

By Jack Ford  
The Truth's Political Columnist

As we approach October 15, it is natural that many of us recall the events of one year ago when we experienced a small riot near Wilson Park in north Toledo.

The riot occurred after a proposed march by the National Socialist movement came to the north Toledo neighborhood and the Toledo Police Department had to abruptly cancel the marchers' plan to walk in the neighborhood due to some recalcitrance by the National Socialists. But, by the time of the cancellation, the neighborhood dwellers and assorted onlookers had massed together and things had quickly escalated into a mini-riot.

A year later, I can reflect on that day's activities and see some patterns and raise a



Jack Ford

few remaining questions. The National Socialists had a constitutional right to march in Toledo. As repugnant as the ideology of that group may be for many Americans, the National Socialists have a guarantee afforded them by our Constitution, the supreme law of the land.

That right is no less watered down for National Socialists than it would be for a veterans' group who might want to march in Toledo, for example. Or, put another way,

if Martin Luther King, Jr. or Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, Jr. had a right to march in Montgomery or in Birmingham in the 1960's, then the Nazis had a right to rally in Toledo in 2005. That is the promise of the First Amendment, as messy as that may seem. But nobody ever said that democracy would not be messy at times.

A year ago, we saw CNN and Good Morning America and the rest of the national media descend on Toledo seemingly hoping that the unrest would break out violently so that the story itself could escalate. Thankfully, it ended almost as soon as it began. Within three hours of the confrontation at Elm and Mulberry, the neighborhood had returned to calm. A day later, citizens could be seen cutting their grass a few blocks away from Wilson Park.

But the afternoon of the 15<sup>th</sup> of October was a tough day. I remember how one police officer came up to a group of us at the Wilson Park Annex (our command center) and predicted bloodshed even though children,



including toddlers, could be seen in the mob that had gathered at Elm and Mulberry.

It was clear that the police were on edge due to the cat and mouse games which the police and the crowd had been playing with each other that morning. There were gang members in colors with guns in their pants. Faces were covered and anger was mounting.

In the total context of the situation, I decided that a group of us - Fire Chief Mike Bell, Safety Director Joe Walter, Rev. Mansour Bey, Alan Bannister and myself - would walk into the crowd to allow them to vent some of their frustration and anger. And, vent they did.

I was called everything from an Uncle Tom to a variety of things inappropriate to print here. Threats were made but the press was there taking pictures and recording some of the jeers and taunts. One lady screamed at me and asked me how I, as a black man, could allow this group to come to Toledo. Another person suggested that we remove the police and allow the mob to get at the National Socialists although the Nazis had left the scene by that time.

One guy in a ski mask did whisper to me: "I ought to

cap you right now." He had a thin line mustache that I could see even with the ski mask on his face. I kept my eye on this fellow throughout the ordeal.

I think the venting served its purpose for two reasons. The crowd got a chance to give its opinions to the mayor and it allowed the police to regroup and bring in some reinforcements.

Once a fire started in Louis' Bar, it was time to disburse the crowd. The subsequent fingerprinting was a mixture of politics, anger and posturing. But if I was in the same position again, I would take the same action including upholding the National Socialists' First Amendment right to peacefully rally.

It was over in a few hours. There was no loss of life. There well could have been shots fired with the resultant loss of life. Chief Bell, Director Walter and Rev. Bey ac-

quitted themselves with great distinction. I still tell Alan Bannister - "you were just crazy," but I certainly appreciated his loyalty.

After a few days, The Blade editorialized that the National Socialists should not have been allowed to march in Toledo. For a paper that had just won a Pulitzer Prize for dogged reporting on "Tiger Force," I was taken aback by their evident retreat from the First Amendment. Remember, the National Socialists had not given us any reason to unduly restrict their march in Toledo.

I was also surprised that no press publication ever looked to see whether there was any link between the call for the march and the political campaign going on at the time. I do not believe in coincidences in politics but no one lifted the covers on this one.

There are many who feel there was indeed a link but it would not have affected the outcome of the 2005 mayoral race in any event. I had lost that race months before for a variety of reasons.

In looking at the community response to October 15, we see that not much has been done save for some modest funding by United Way for the Caldwell Center and some changes at the Zablocki Center. There remain vast depressed areas of north Toledo that are ripe for something untoward to happen.

If the National Socialist's march was just a flash point and not the cause, then further problems may emerge. Now is probably the time to do significant things in this neighborhood.

Contact Jack Ford @ [jack@thetruthtoledo.com](mailto:jack@thetruthtoledo.com)



## Volunteer to help an abused child.

Join us for an Informational Meeting  
Wednesday, October 25, 2006  
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Reynolds Corners Library, 4833 Dorr



Call 419-213-6753

## Area Ministers Say the Way to Nonviolence Is Through Prayer

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Approximately 30 Toledo-area ministers, agency heads and elected officials gathered last Wednesday to urge the community to pray for healing and to encourage residents to reach out to law enforcement officials in the wake of a rash of murders over the past several weeks that have stunned the city.

Rev. Cedric Brock, pastor of Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church and president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, led the news conference and announced that Toledo residents are being asked to pray at the hours of 9 a.m., noon and 6 p.m. "for healing for the crimes, the drugs and for the evil in our community."



Toledo City Councilwomen Wilma Brown (l) and Lourdes Santiago listen as Lamar Norwood of the Committee of the Whole speaks at last week's news conference on non-violence

Brock said that area churches will serve as "safe havens" for victims or those seeking to find a respite from crime.

"This is an important thing we are doing," said Brock. "We want the community to know that we do care; we are going beyond the walls to let the community know."

"We're here to give support to the community," said Rev. Theodis Horton, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church and president of the area Baptist conference. "I believe that if we pray - our men and women of God - God will heal our city."

The press conference was conducted at the corner of Nebraska and Division in

front of the police substation at that site. That substation is close to the Brand Whitlock Homes where Ericka Graham was killed in late September. Early last week, Eugene McMillian was found dead of gunshot wounds making him the 11th murder victim in the last three weeks.

Prayer was not the only solution that the group advocated during the gathering.

"We need people to call 419-255-1111 - Crime stoppers," said Toledo City Councilwoman Wilma Brown who serves as chairman of the public safety committee on council. "We need community participation."

Lamar Norwood of the Committee of the Whole and the Toledo Police Department's Detective Harold Mosley also urged the community to reach out to law enforcement officials in order to bring about the arrests of those responsible for such crimes.

"We are outraged by recent events," said Mosley.



Rev. Cedric Brock opens news conference

"We are appealing to African-Americans to identify criminals who have preyed on the African-American community. We need the cooperation of the African-American community to prosecute criminals."

"This is a test of the moral and spiritual fiber of the community," said Rev. Robert Culp, pastor of the first Church of God. "All of us, together, the government, the clergy, the community leaders, we really can make a difference."

WilliAnn Moore, president of the NAACP, and Bernard "Pete" Culp, chairman of the Committee of the Whole and

a member of the Toledo Plan Commission, both indicated that a broader strategy for dealing with such issues as crime was needed and in the works by their groups.

"We want to remove the conditions that foster hopelessness," said Pete Culp. "There is a plan being developed that we can all embrace."

In the meantime, Brock stressed the need for community prayer and asked for the special observance of those prayers at 9 a.m., noon and 6 p.m.

"If the community will do that, God will hear. It will work because I know my God is real," said Brock.

### Dear Editor,

I want to thank The Truth for the wonderful article on Donna James and the Polly Fox Academy. Unfortunately, in the caption under the picture you referenced The Links, Incorporated instead of the Links, Incorporated. However, on a positive note, within the body of the article we are referred to as the Links, Incorporated.

Thanks!

Pat Hogue

Ed. Note: We apologize to the Links and to Ray Davies for the mix-up.

### Dear Editor,

On behalf of Tommy Kaye, Keith Roberts and the entire staff at Ebony World Productions, I would like to thank you for featuring our business in your publication.

Knowing that The Sojourner's Truth spotlights locally-owned businesses and business professionals that are contributing to our community, we are extremely honored to be included as such. Our staff was appreciative to see you not only featuring the business but also including the pertinent and positive information of each staff member, further validating our credibility as a whole.

Please continue with your informative and valuable service of providing a strong voice for the people of Toledo.

Much Success to The Sojourner's Truth!

Thanks Again,

Montalena Allen  
Public Relations Representative

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## Legends LUNCHEON

The African American Legacy Project  
Presents 3rd Annual

Luncheon Hosted by the AALP  
1:00 p.m. Saturday, October 14, 2006  
Cameron Drommpley, 1429 S. Reynolds Rd.  
Historical Walk 11:45 a.m.

For more information or tickets contact 419-243-8893  
Tickets are free and are available at The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union

### Legend Honorees

**Virgil W. Colbert**  
Virgil W. Colbert is considered the pioneer for the White Housing Campaign in 1949. He was named a national Housing Pioneer of the 20th Century. He is a member of the National Urban League, the NAACP, and the Urban League of America. He is also a member of the Urban League of America, the Urban League of America, and the Urban League of America.

**Dr. Helen Cooks**  
Dr. Helen Cooks is a member of the Urban League of America. She is also a member of the Urban League of America, the Urban League of America, and the Urban League of America.

**Dr. Samantha Adams**  
Dr. Samantha Adams is a member of the Urban League of America. She is also a member of the Urban League of America, the Urban League of America, and the Urban League of America.

**Percy Rankins**  
Percy Rankins is a member of the Urban League of America. He is also a member of the Urban League of America, the Urban League of America, and the Urban League of America.

**Aaron S. Bivins**  
Aaron S. Bivins is a member of the Urban League of America. He is also a member of the Urban League of America, the Urban League of America, and the Urban League of America.

Background: Rev. Bishop  
Rev. Bishop is a member of the Urban League of America. He is also a member of the Urban League of America, the Urban League of America, and the Urban League of America.



# Sherrod Brown Visits Central City with Political Campaign Supporters

By Fletcher Word

Sojourner's Truth Editor

U.S. Congressman Sherrod Brown, Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate seat currently held by Republican opponent Mike DeWine, touched down in Toledo's central city on Sunday to bring his audiences a message of how he intends to deliver services to the working-class members of the Ohio electorate.

Brown's Sunday schedule started with an early-morning breakfast at the home of Toledo City Councilman Michael Ashford and his wife Ruth. Joining Brown and his hosts for breakfast were elected officials State Representative Peter Ujvagi, State Senator Teresa Fedor, Toledo Board of Education

member Steve Steel, Ph.D and Lucas County Commissioners, President Tina Skeldon Wozniak and Pete Gerken, and his wife Polly.

During the breakfast, a wide-ranging policy discussion centered on issues such as education, health care costs and state and federal budget cuts to social service programs.

Education dominated the morning conversation as the breakfast crowd debated the impact of the Bush Administration's No Child Left Behind Act and the state of education in Toledo and Ohio in general.

Fedor, a former teacher, noted that the state's Republican leadership has

erred by failing to trust educational professionals. "Republican politicians think they know more ... they don't," said Fedor. "One size fits all" is the Republican solution," she added in explaining what she perceives to be a reluctance on the current state leadership's part to identify problem education areas and tailor programs to meet those particular needs.

The topic of education led the officials into a conversation about those obstacles that arise for citizens who fail to attain a sufficient education, such as health care.

"I was walking a picket line recently with a foundry worker who is making \$14 an hour after 25 years in the same place," said Brown, "and he has a medical plan with a deductible of \$2,000."

That revelation prompted a chorus of responses about the inequities fostered by Republican budget cuts. "Whatever happened to the notion of equity in American?" asked Ujvagi as he described budget cuts by the state and federal government that force local governments

to pick up the tabs in order to maintain services.

And on the local level, Ashford praised the efforts of Gerken and Skeldon Wozniak in improving the record of Lucas County officials in putting to use the funds that do still flow from the state and federal governments.

"Support programs are just as important as the bricks and mortar," said Ashford noting that in the past, funds granted the county were frequently being returned to Columbus or Washington because of a failure to disperse the monies in a timely manner.

"They're so nervous about us that they're sending in auditors to ask 'why are you spending all your money,'" said Skeldon Wozniak of the reaction on the state level to Lucas County's new-found efficiency.

After breakfast, the group headed to church. In fact, the group visited three central city churches - Warren AME, Jerusalem Baptist and Indiana Avenue Baptist - where candidate Brown was introduced to



Seated (l. to r.): Sherrod Brown, Ruth and Michael Ashford  
Standing: Peter Ujvagi, Tina Skeldon Wozniak, Steve Steel, Teresa Fedor, Polly and Pete Gerken

the congregations.

"Let's get excited by the things we can change," said Ashford in his introduction of Brown at Warren AME. "In the State of Ohio, we've been hurt the most," he added, asking the congregants if they were tired of war, if they knew others who needed jobs, if they found prescription drugs beyond their means.

"The minimum wage hasn't been raised in 10 years," said Brown launching into his stump speech.

"The government makes decisions and the government sets priorities," he said. "We spend two billion dollars a week on the War in Iraq, the Senate passed a tax

cut for the richest one percent - they voted for 800 families in Ohio. That's why we need a very different direction. After November 7, my commitment is to turn the direction of our country around and for you to have a U.S. Senator that doesn't always side with the big oil companies and the wealthiest families but will work with working class and middle class families."

Recent polls show that the two candidates - Brown and DeWine - are virtually tied in the race for a seat that may determine which party wins control of the U.S. Senate in the upcoming general election.



Sherrod Brown with Toledo City Councilman Michael Ashford

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Students can attend the in-state institution of their choice.

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In addition, local economic development funding derived from slot machine revenues will be released annually to every county to build business and create jobs in Ohio.



# Vote YES ISSUE 3

## Debra Fulton DDS: Prevention Is Her First Weapon for Better Dental Health

By Alan Abrams  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Things haven't really changed much since Dr. Debra Fulton graduated from dental school in 1987. "There were three African-Americans in my graduating class. I was the only female," she recalls.

Almost 20 years later, Dr. Fulton is still one of only two black female dentists in Toledo.

Why aren't more African-Americans, particularly women, following careers in dentistry? The petite and soft-spoken Dr. Fulton is an optimist. "It is changing some," she says. "When I go into a high school or to high school career development day, I ask the students what they want to do. I don't hear dentistry a lot," she adds.

Fulton acknowledges that's because many young people are not aware of all the options in dentistry in addition to general practice. "There are opportunities in military dentistry, in teaching and research, oral surgery, periodontology (gums), orthodontics (straightening teeth), pediatric dentistry, and hospital dentistry, although the latter often requires a general practice residency," explains Dr. Fulton.

She also participates in various health fairs in the community and advocates preventive healthcare and health education. "I am interested in all aspects of health care," says Dr. Fulton.

We've all heard the adage about real estate in which "location, location, location" is heralded as the main factor in buying or selling.

Dr. Fulton has her own similar mantra for dental care. "Prevention, prevention, prevention," she says with a smile.

"It is important to have

regular dentist appointments. Do not wait until it is too late and you are suffering in pain from a toothache. Just as you would go to your doctor for a yearly checkup, you need to go to your dentist twice-a-year," advises Dr. Fulton.

She shares her West Laskey Road dental offices with Dr. Randall Boggs, who is white, and Dr. Samantha Kin, a recent dental school graduate. Dr. Fulton moved there in April from the Monroe Street office she had occupied since 1999.

Dr. Fulton says 80 percent of her patients are African-American. She recognizes that a "lot of dental and medical issues correlate with socio-economic issues also. If an individual's situation in terms of socio-economic issues is not great, neither will be their situation in terms of dental and medical health issues."

She points to recently published studies on the link between oral hygiene and systematic disease and heart disease and gum disease. "Many medical problems are related to poor dental health such as cardiovascular diseases and even low birth weight," says Dr. Fulton.

That's why she feels her message of prevention is especially important for African-Americans, many of whom she acknowledges also lack dental insurance.

Dr. Fulton is a strong believer in giving back to the community. Once a month since May, she has been volunteering her dental services at the Mildred Bayer Clinic for the Homeless. She also provides dental care for the patients of Northcoast Behavioral Health Center (formerly the Northwest Psychiatric Center/Toledo Mental

Health Clinic).

Dr. Fulton has also been active in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter. A member since 1995, she was AKA's health committee chairman from 2002 to 2005.

She was born in Youngstown to Mattie and Frank Fulton and has three siblings. Sandra Fulton Britt lives in Youngstown as do her parents. Another sister, Rosemary Fulton, lives in Washington, DC, and a brother, Frederick Jackson, lives in Columbus.

An outstanding student, Dr. Fulton was awarded a four-year renewable college scholarship during her senior year in high school. One of the reasons she chose the prestigious Carnegie Mellon University was because Pittsburgh was only an hour-and-a-half away from Youngstown.

"I majored in chemistry, but I always wanted to go to dental school. They did not have a pre-medical dental program at Carnegie Mellon, but I majored in one of the sciences which was almost the same program," recalls Dr. Fulton.

What motivated Dr. Fulton to choose dentistry as a profession? "I guess I wanted to be a dentist from childhood," remembers Fulton. "I never had the fear of dentists that many other children had. My dentist was Dr. James Corbett in Youngstown. I was always interested in what he was doing. And my parents were always very supportive."

Dr. Fulton earned her B.A. in chemistry at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. But she didn't follow her dream of going on to dental school for several years. "My daughter Marlonda

was born in between, so I took a job as a development chemist for General Tire and Rubber Company in Akron. I worked there for four years before enrolling in dental school," says Dr. Fulton.

She worked on formulas for the inner ply of tires in General's Passenger Tire Division. "The only problem was that General was not manufacturing passenger tires in Akron, only truck tires, although Akron is considered the Rubber Capital of America. So I was sent to Charlotte, NC to study the process for about a year," says Dr. Fulton.

After Dr. Fulton graduated from the Case Western Reserve School of Dentistry in Cleveland in 1987, she worked as a dentist in Cleveland for a year before moving to Toledo.

Why did she choose Toledo? "I was looking for another practice opportunity," recalls Dr. Fulton. "One of my professors knew Dr. Franklyn Duffy's daughter Rosemary would be going



Dr. Debra Fulton

into public health dentistry, and he said I should come in and work with him in his practice before he retired." Rosemary Duffy was almost certainly one of the first female African-American dentists in Toledo.

Dr. Fulton came to Toledo in 1988. She worked with

both Dr. Duffy and his daughter, and continued to work with the senior Duffy until he retired.

Dr. Fulton is an active member of Cornerstone Church where she is involved in the church's intercessory prayer and hospital visitation ministries.

### Captain D's Seafood Restaurant

2060 W. Laskey Toledo, OH 43613  
419.473.0227 fax: 419.292.0227

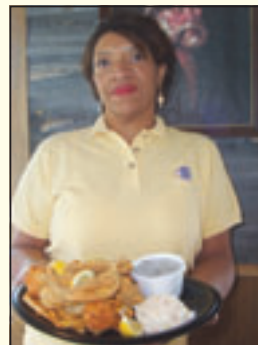
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# The Sojourner's Truth Education

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## Owens Community College Hosts Care Fair for Health 2006

Area residents and high school students were invited to learn about ways to make their lives more enjoyable through healthy living as Owens Community College hosted Care Fair for Health 2006 on Wednesday, Oct. 11.

The care fair was sponsored by the Owens School of Health Sciences' faculty and students and occurred from 9 a.m. \* 1 p.m. in the College's Student Health and Activities Center on the Toledo-area Campus. Owens is located on Oregon Road, four miles from downtown Toledo.

"Owens Community College is excited to once again host an event dedicated to educating area residents and students about our nation's growing health concerns," said Jennifer Irelan, Owens Assistant Director of Enrollment Services and Care Fair for Health Committee Co-chair.

"Throughout the day, individuals can take advantage

of the health services and advice being offered by Northwest Ohio's premiere health care community."

Attendees had the opportunity to gain practical health information from more than 60 displays outlining a diverse array of topics, including CPR, cancer information and care, diabetes care, fire safety, nutrition and culinary arts, sleeping disorders, sports care and stress management. Individuals were also able to test their personal health through free screenings and tests, including blood pressure and blood sugar screenings.

In addition, early flu shots and pneumonia shots were available at a minimal cost of \$28 and \$43, respectively. Receipts were distributed for use as documentation for insurance reimbursement.

Organizations on hand from the health care community included the ProMedica Health System Total Rehab,

Mobile Meals of Toledo, COMPASS, Life Connection of Ohio, St. Vincent Mercy Burn Care Center, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, University Medical Center and the Northwest Ohio Regional Genetics Center, among others. Attendees were able to also view a medical helicopter air unit and ambulance in the Student Health and Activities Center parking lot during the event.

Additionally, students in Owens' Massage Therapy program and the Student Nurses Association provided free massages and held a bake sale, respectively. The College's nursing students offered information on the Heimlich maneuver and CPR through a "Choking Charlie" demonstration.

In addition, Owens had information available for those individuals interested in pursuing a college education. Owens offers a wide variety of academic programs

through the College's School of Health Sciences, and past graduates from these academic program have gone on to become dental hygienists, dietetic technicians, chefs, hotel and restaurant managers, occupational therapy assistants, health information technicians, radiographers and ultrasound technologists throughout Northwest Ohio.

Local high schools attending the event included Bettsville High School, Bowsher High School, Clay High School, Clyde Alternative Learning Center, Defiance High School, Four County Career Center, Libbey High School, Lima Senior High School, McComb High School, Northwood High School, Penta Career Center, Rossford High School, Sentinel Career Center, Tiffin Columbian High School, Vanguard Career Center, Whitmer High School and Woodward High School.



Darlasha Hudspeth and Makonnen Rice

## Local Students Travel to Egypt as Part of Exchange Program

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Two Woodward High School students traveled to Egypt this summer as part of the AYUSA International exchange program. Senior Makonnen Rice and junior Darlasha Hudspeth spent most of July with 16 other young students from around the nation studying the pyramids and building their leadership skills.

In AYUSA, student participants, ages 15 through 18, learn a new culture by living with a volunteer host family and immersing themselves in new experiences.

"I had wanted to study abroad and wanted to go to Africa," explains Rice as he describes his motivation for signing up for the Egyptian tour. By a stroke of good luck, the AYUSA representatives visited Woodward during the last school year and Rice's dreams arrived a bit earlier

than he could have anticipated.

Rice, who plays football (running back) and runs track at Woodward hopes to attend the College of Holy Cross next year in Massachusetts and also plans on returning to Egypt during his college years.

Hudspeth was eager to visit Egypt in order to gain "new experiences and learn about a new culture." The students still talk to Egyptian youngsters that they met during their travels.

It doesn't take much urging to elicit from Rice and Hudspeth what impressed them most about Egypt – the pyramids. Much larger than the students had anticipated, the pyramids dwarfed other ancient sites such as the sphinx, says Rice. The U.S. students spent most of their time in Cairo and Alexandria.

(See Photos on Page 9)



Gwen Banks and students getting ready to roll in Spring 2006

## Fourth Annual HBCU Tour

The fourth annual Historical Black College & University Tour informational meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 24th at the Sanger Branch Library, 3030 W. Central Ave. (near Secor Rd.) The meeting will be from 6 - 8 p.m. The tour is sponsored by The Maumee Bay Club, National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women's Club Inc. and is available to any high school student who might be interested in attending or researching information on HBCU's.

For more information call Trevor Black @ 419/478-7844 or Gwendolyn Banks @ 419/478-4268.

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## Lincoln Academy for Boys Holds First 2006-07 All-Pro Dads' Breakfast

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Lincoln Academy for Boys All-Pro Dads' breakfast brought out about 70 students and their fathers, or father figures, on Thursday, September 28 for the first such event of the 2006-07 academic year.

Lincoln welcomes a new principal this year. Oatis Amick, Toledo native and graduate of Alcorn A & M, took over the reins of the academy in September. And Amick is not the only new arrival at the all-boys elemen-

tary public school. Enrollment is up from last year's 156 to 200. At least part of that increase can be attributed to Lincoln's success on the Ohio achievement tests last year in which the school posted a dramatic increase in test scores and moved from academic emergency into the continuous improvement category.

The first All-Pro Dads' Breakfast of the year was Amick's first opportunity to address his students' parents

in such a gathering and as the speaker he took full advantage by encouraging effort from the students and participation from the parents.

The All-Pro Dads break-

fasts are held once a month at Lincoln. For more information about either the breakfasts or enrollment at the academy, call 419-244-5823.



Principal Oatis Amick



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## Local Students Travel to Egypt as Part of Exchange Program

(Continued from Page 7)



*Hudspeth with Egyptian youngsters*



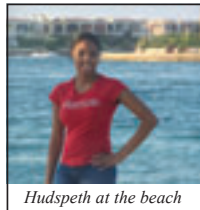
*Rice at the ancient Alexandria library*



*The Sphinx*



*Rice at the beach*



*Hudspeth at the beach*



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# Vasquez Receives Toledo Police Patrolmen's Endorsement

By Sojourner's Truth Staff

Bob Vasquez, candidate for a Toledo City Council at-large seat, received the endorsement of the Toledo Police Patrolmen's Association (TPPA) last week.

"He realizes that this is not a field of dreams – you cannot build something and hope they will come," said Officer Dan Wagner, president of the TPPA. "When people start to feel safe [they will come]. Bob has taken steps to ensure increased police presence in neighborhoods."

"I am the only candidate that has consistently made the safety of the citizens of Toledo my number one priority," said Vasquez in acknowledging the endorsement. "I believe that a safe city is the foundation on which economic vitality is based."

At Vasquez's side for the announcement were Toledo City Councilmen Michael Ashford and Mike Craig.

Vasquez, a Democrat, is competing for the at-large post vacated by the resignation of former Councilman Bob McCloskey. Other ma-

ior candidates for the vacancy are appointed incumbent Democrat Lourdes Santiago, Democrat Joe McNamara and Republican Dave Schulz.

"I support [Vasquez] because he's an independent thinker," said Ashford. "We need people to feel safe, we need more job creation. He brings an overall understanding that we're here to serve the public."

"When I am elected to City Council, I will be relentless in my support for our police department," said Vasquez in his prepared statement. "Our safety forces must be a priority during the budget process. I am committed to more than minimum manpower standards. We need to raise the manpower levels to those that allow for us to continue the implementation of community policing."

"One reason I'm supporting Vasquez is because his opponent [City Councilwoman Lourdes Santiago] voted against affirmative action," said Ashford after the press conference in reference to Santiago's vote to change the name of the City of



Dan Wagner, Councilman Michael Ashford, Bob Vasquez, Councilman Mike Craig

Toledo's Office of Affirmative Action/Contract Compliance. Mayor Carty Finkbeiner had asked City Council in June to change the name of the office to that of Office of Workplace Equity in an attempt, said members of the administration, to alter the public perception that the office served only the interests of African-Americans.

The vote was six to four in favor of the change, not enough to constitute the seven-vote majority (when all council members are present) necessary. Santiago voted in favor of the change.

In addition to Santiago, the endorsed Democratic candidate for the at-large council seat, other major candidates include Democrat Joe McNamara and Republican Dave Schulz. Santiago has managed to garner multiple endorsements from a variety of traditional Democratic-leaning organizations. The patrolmen's approval was one that Vasquez, as had most candidates, had coveted.

"Most candidates regard our endorsement as one of the most sought-after in the city," said Wagner of the TPPA nod of approval.

# Grit, Hard Work, Determination; A Sense of Self, A Sense of Community, A Sense of the World

Five community icons will share the dais on Saturday, October 14, 2006 at The African American Legacy Project of Northwest Ohio acknowledges their contributions during the organization's Second Annual Legend's Luncheon hosted at the Genesis Dreamplex 2429 S. Reynolds Road. The start time is at 1:00 p.m.

This year's honorees have truly accomplished much. The group will recognize how individual members of this group have taken opportunities, no matter how great or small, to help hundreds – or perhaps, thousands – pursue or realize their dreams. Factually, in many cases, these people have truly forced the breath of life into seemingly impractical circumstances. While their achievements will be honored, the luncheon guests will also honor their passion and their gift of service to this community and the community-

at-large. The 2006 honorees are:

- **Virgils Colbert**, international vice president and member of the board of directors, Miller Brewing Company
  - **Helen Cooks, Ph.D.**, executive director (ret.), Toledo EXCEL, University of Toledo
  - **Weldon Douthitt**, minority contractor & community activist
  - **Dr. Samantha P. Adams**, chiropractor and community leader (ret) and former president of the Toledo branch of the NAACP.
  - **Percy Rankins**, vice president banking (ret), the first African American in banking in the Toledo area.
- A Historical Walk will precede the luncheon. The Historical Walk begins at 11:45 a.m. and is free and open to the public.
- Learn more about The African American Legacy Project, visit the web site at: [africanamericanlegacy.org](http://africanamericanlegacy.org)

## THE COMMUNITY CLUB

### Who Are We?

The Community Club is a non-profit faith-based organization comprised of a diverse group of men from our community who recognize the unlimited potential and benefit to the community as an organized entity. The Club is led by President and Owner Clifton Beasley and Vice President Andreas Wilson. Other core members include Curtis McDuffey, a Mid-City coach for several years, Eric Hill and Dwayne Payton of Blue Collar Bonding and long-time community residents Kevin Stewart and Rick Shores.



Front Row: Curtis McDuffey, Dwayne Payton, and Kevin Stewart  
Second Row: President & Owner Clifton Beasley, Vice President Andreas Wilson, and Eric Hill

### What Are We Currently Doing?

We are excited about the services we offer to parents and students of our community. For example, club members and other community volunteers meet on Monday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m. at the clubhouse to provide students with homework assistance. We are structuring a program under No Child Left Behind and hope to be included in the TPS list of area providers by next fall.

We offer space to community organizations for group meetings and celebrations. Our clubhouse has meeting rooms that accommodate from 2 to 75 people depending on your occasion.

### How Can Others Join the Action?

Our membership drive is underway. Interest forms are available for individual or group memberships. The fee is only \$25 for an individual membership. Residents and organizations are invited to stop by any Sunday during football season as we gather with family and friends to enjoy good food and wholesome conversations.

On Saturdays we host a John Madden Tournament from noon to 9 pm and on Sundays, an NFL Ticket Time from noon to 9 pm. Monday Night Madness starts at 8 pm.

You may also send your request for an interest form by email to [communityclub@bes.net](mailto:communityclub@bes.net).

Our club house community calendar of events includes an open house on Halloween night. We want to be a safe haven and rest stop for area children on that evening and will have law enforcement officers available to check candy.



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# Falling Through History: Autumnal Reflections From the Underground Railroad

By Geneva J. Chapman,  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Dusk crept through the dense forest foliage like a stealthy panther as sunlight faded in the early twilight. Water lapped against rocks and hearty roots while a duck floated silently along the stream like a boat adrift. Birds chirped and insects rustled in damp grass, just watered by rainfall that briefly and intensely fell mere hours earlier.

Suddenly, lanterns appeared in the distance and seemed to move in a disembodied march across the ravine, like ghosts from the past, haunting history that begged to be relived, retold and remembered.

But these were not ghostly apparitions. They were real lanterns in the corporeal hands of guides leading a lantern tour of the Underground Railroad through Harroun MetroPark in Sylvania, Saturday, September 23, 2006, which coincidentally was my birthday.

Waiting for the lanterns to draw closer, I briefly rehearsed the first few lines of a script I'd rewritten for dramatic effect, then stood up as the lanterns

got close enough for those carrying them and those walking by their light to hear me. "Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus," I sang into the night, my voice wafting through the trees, carrying its message of urgency.

As a group of people approached, I yelled, "Who go there? You be frien' or you be foe? If you foe an' you come here to collec' that \$40,000.00 those slaveholders got on my head, I shoot you dead! I got a gun in here!" The last was said as I grabbed a satchel worn around my neck.

"We're friends!" exclaimed a startled Sue McHugh, president of The Friends of the Lathrop House. "If you friends on yo' way to freedom," I continued, then sang a few bars of a song I learned while a member of SPECTRUM, a women's music group. "Come on up, um-um-um, I got a lifeline. Come on up to this train of mine. Come on up, um-um-um, I got a lifeline. Come on up to this train of mine. My name is Harriet Tubman and

you're on The Underground Railroad."

I know. Most people celebrate their birthday by going out to dinner with friends and/or family, having a party, buying themselves something special or even going on a trip. I've done all of those things numerous times in the past, so this year when K. LaVerne Redden asked me to fill in for her on the tour because she had to go out of town, I said "yes," only because she asked and she is, after all, one of my favorite people.

The more I thought about it, the more excited I got. I've been doing portrayals of Sojourner Truth for years and even wrote a monologue that imagines her feelings on the eve of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation that was featured in a festival of "10-Minute Plays" at the Chicago Dramatist Workshop. But I never really became interested in writing about, let alone portraying, Harriet Tubman until a co-worker gave me some infor-

mation he found online about her leading a raid during the Civil War.

I developed a whole new respect for this woman who was once called "the Moses of her people." Then I got the script for the lantern tour, which though written in first person, was more narrative than monologue.

There was no discovery, few dynamics and very little drama. It was well written, but not really stage worthy and having been an actress for over 30 years, I wanted to flex those acting muscles I'd developed. Tubman as a theatrical character provided so much dramatic potential.

So, I re-wrote the script, including all of the pertinent information and adding a few more interesting bits of information, such as a story about Tubman being directed by God to walk through an ice-cold stream while leading a group of men who wouldn't set foot in the water until she was safe on the other side, then finding shelter with some impoverished African-Americans who gave them a place to sleep and dried their clothes for them.

I also got in a reference to the raid on the June 2, 1863, raid on the Combahee River, which has nothing to do with the Underground Railroad, but it is my favorite Tubman story.

Well, it occurred to me that perhaps my three-page monologue was a little long (the original script was three-quarters of a page and I didn't finish my rewrite until Thursday, September 21, and I still had to memorize it); so I called Sue McHugh, who was out of town at the time, to find out how long I'd have to give my little spiel during the tour. Just what I was afraid of: five minutes.

So, I cut the monologue in half, leaving out a lot of music I wanted to do and the whole Combahee River raid, since it had nothing to do with the Underground Railroad, anyway. It was a lot easier to memorize one and a half pages than three, especially since I retreated to a hotel room Friday night and didn't come out until 5:00 Saturday afternoon when I left to go to Harroun Park.

I knew that Claudia Cooper, an artist and educator, long-time acquaintance and founding member of SPECTRUM, was playing one of the other characters. However, I had no idea who the other participants were or how many other people were participating.

I was pleasantly surprised to see a variety of people dressed in period costumes assembled at the park's shelter house eating sandwich wraps, goldfish crackers and apples when I ar-

rived a little late, my neighbor who picked me up having gotten lost in Sylvania.

People from the MetroParks were on hand to provide assistance and led us through the ravine to our posts about forty-five minutes before 'showtime.' It was not quite sunset when we walked down several steep hills and around winding paths through the beautiful terrain of the park.

As we passed the Lathrop House, I was awestruck. Knowing about the Lathrop House really does not prepare you for seeing it. Knowing the house's history and importance in African-American history, the history of northwest Ohio, the state of Ohio and the nation before ever seeing it made the three-dimensional reality of a place where people who might have been related to me were given shelter and protection from the institution of slavery as they made the journey toward freedom more real than any single bit of history I've ever learned (except, perhaps, seeing the Lorraine Hotel where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was shot and killed on a visit to Memphis, Tennessee).

That first breathtaking glimpse lifted me from the present and immediately transported me back in time. I was a little light-headed imagining the overwhelming relief of fugitive slaves seeing the beacon of light that is the Lathrop House for the first time, knowing that they would find food, shelter and safety there.

My feet were heavy as I walked on ground their feet must have touched as they escaped bondage through the cold, damp northwest Ohio swampland on their way to Canada. Then my feet started hurting in the tall shoes I wore because, otherwise, my long skirt would have dragged the ground. The path was rocky and I could feel every rock through the thin soles of my shoes.

I was the fourth stop out of six and there was a rather long distance between each stop on the tour. Finally, we got to my stop, which was right in front of a creek. The sound of the gurgling water excited me because it was the perfect natural sound effect for my story about Tubman going through the cold stream. Then I realized I'd have to project to be heard over the water. Not a problem for a trained and experienced actress like me! Right. We had been



Harriet Tubman

informed that six groups had reservations, several of them groups of youth from the YMCA. There had been more reservations earlier, but some people cancelled when it started raining while the rest decided to risk it and go ahead and come.

The first group stopped dead in their tracks when I challenged them. They seemed relieved when I started singing again and actually had relaxed by the time I ended my brief presentation by bidding them to watch 'the signposts in the sky' and sang a chorus of "Follow the Drinking Gourd," telling them to "go on now!"

The largest group, which had about 30 teenagers in it, was abuzz with chatter and most of them missed my initial challenge. The chatter continued at a more subdued level during my monologue (hey, they had to look cool, didn't they?) so I didn't do the owl 'who' or the duck 'quack' that I did for the other groups with small children when I talked about night sounds being used as signals. I needn't have bothered. When I mentioned owls and ducks, the teens hooted and quacked for me.

Then when I started singing "Follow the Drinking Gourd," they started singing with me, having learned it earlier! It was a serendipitous moment for this former teacher: those way too-cool teens learned something in spite of their nonchalance.

The last stop was at the bottom of a hill on which set the Lathrop House. 'Lucian Lathrop' explained why he broke the law and harbored fugitive slaves when he moved to Sylvania and built the beautiful Victorian home for his family.

Earlier stops on the tour featured 'Edward Howard' who settled in area where Grand Rapids stands now and set up an Indian trading post; 'Mrs. John Parker' (played by Cooper), the wife of John Parker, the first African-American to get a patent and a conductor on

(Continued on Page 14)

## This Holiday Season Be A Friend To Kids



Friends of Lucas County Children Services  
Holiday Gift Program

This holiday season, we invite you to sponsor some of the more than 2,000 abused and neglected children being served by Lucas County Children Services. For most of these children, the gifts donated by members of the community - like you - may be the only presents they receive.

Many of these children live in a home teetering on the brink of crisis. Even more cannot live safely at home and are in the care of relatives or foster parents. Many of these kids will not be able to spend the holiday season with their parents, sisters, or brothers.

Many business offices, churches, schools and other civic organizations find the LCCS Holiday Gift Program the perfect way to give back to the community for the many blessings they enjoy. We invite you to do the same.

Whether you are able to sponsor 1 child or 100, you can make a difference. Your gift will bring a smile to the face of a child who right now has little to be happy about this holiday season.

Contact: Sherry Dunn,  
Friends of Lucas County Children Services,  
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## Alpha Towers Honors 90-Year-Old Residents

*Special to The Truth*

Residents of Alpha Towers Apartments, located at 525 E. Woodruff Ave, honored its 90-plus year old residents during a celebration on August 8, 2006.

The Towers have five ladies who are over 90 years old: Ann Willis, Annabelle Hall, Kathleen Watkins, Mildred Campbell and Zadie Campbell.

Certificates from the Ohio Department of Aging and signed by Governor Robert Taft were presented by Joseph Dennis of ABC Health Care Service as the guests of honor received gifts and roses.

Kathleen Watkins, who is currently in the nursing home, was surprised to receive her gifts when Maxine Casey, property manager of Alpha Towers, along with Dennis, came to visit her with the gifts.

There was also fun, food and laughter. Casey noted that it was an honor and a blessing to reach the age of 90.

Many more Happy Birthdays were wished for the five nonagenarians.



*Anabelle Hall*



*Mildred Campbell and Joe Dennis*



*Kathleen Watkins*



## Warren AME Hosts Author

Author Michele Bowen (Center) brought her latest book, **Church Folk**, to Warren AME Church on Saturday September 30. Over 100 women attended the reading of her latest book which is a humorous novel that flies back and forth between pulpits, bedrooms and "juke joints," and tells the story of regular church-going folks and a pastor with a woman problem in the 60's.

The senior-dominated crowd at the church gave full attention to the au-

thor, by showing their approval or disapproval with laughter or outbursts of "oh my goodness" as she read sections from her new book. Bowen started writing as a child when her busy mother told her to write her stories down and she would read them later.

With roots in Bowling Green and as the classmate of several well-known Toledo women, Bowen was right at home. She encouraged Toledo writers to keep after their craft and never give up on their aspirations to be writers. Bowen was the



*Michele Bowen*

house guest of James (Snick) Gibson and Doris Gibson (second from the left).

*Photos by Yolanda Woodberry*

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# Behind the Scenes of: "Exposing Truth Ministries"

By Monique Ward  
Special to The Truth

As I sit comfortably sipping a ginger tea at my favorite health food, juice bar, and cafe in Brooklyn New York, I'm wondering what I'm going to write about my latest client ETM Productions. For those of you out there that don't know what those three letters stand for, please don't hesitate to check out the title of this article.

That's right, "Exposing Truth Ministries". Pretty bold name for a production company, wouldn't you say? Well that's because their accomplishments are anything short of shy. Founded by dynamic duo Bonita & James Adams (a couple whom I am proud to announce have been married for 25 years) ETM Productions has given Toledo more than a little to talk about. You don't just have to take my word for it either.

I'm going to take everyone straight to the source and call the first lady of ETM herself, Bonita Adams, for an exclusive East Coast to Midwest over-the-phone interview. Ms. Adams is a wife, mother, writer and producer who has written several gospel plays including "Exposed" which is scheduled to premiere at the Maumee

Indoor Theatre October 14, 2006 at 7p.m. As the phone rings, I'm thinking about what question to ask first.

**Bonita Adams:** Hello?  
**Monique Ward:** Hey Bonita, it's Monique. Do you think you have time for an interview?

**BA:** Well, I'm on my way to our "Teen Night" right now but I got some time before it gets too busy.

**MW:** All right, well I'll try to make it quick. Why the name "Exposing Truth Ministries"?

**BA:** I chose the name "Exposing Truth Ministries" because a lot of the avenues of expression that we use tend to enlighten and reveal truth in daily life situations.

**MW:** What do you mean by "enlighten and reveal truth"?

**BA:** A lot of our ministry consists of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ through performing arts but not limited to that.

**MW:** So how far does your ministry extend?

**BA:** We try to promote things that convey a positive message and helps to encourage people by providing for individuals to showcase their talents.



Bonita Adams



James Adams

**MW:** What about your husband? How has he assisted you as a business partner?

**BA:** What can I say? He is my right-hand man, handling all the business aspects of ETM As executive producer. Not only that but he has performed in all of my plays in roles ranging from news reporter to the despised role of Satan.

**MW:** What part does your family play in ETM as a whole?

**BA:** My oldest daughter LaTosha has acted in my plays and has been our costume designer while my youngest daughter Tamika also acted and served as casting director. My father Ronald Sparks has done his share of acting as well but mostly creates the props and backdrops for each play. My mother Reverend Shirley Sparks is our counselor and spiritual advisor usually taking on the role of a minister in many of our productions. My sister-in-law, who's more like my sister, Dr Karen Adams-Ferguson has partnered with us and has provided a lot of financial and emotional support. Her entire family has been greatly involved in all of ETM's productions. Thanks a lot for all your help Nate, Joseph, Danny, and CeCe.

**MW:** That's really beautiful to see families stick together like that. Can you give us an example of some of the things ETM has done?

**BA:** We've helped produce local playwrights such as JaJuan Turner who re-

cently premiered his play "The Game of Life" at the Ohio Theatre to rave reviews and a near sold-out audience. We also produced a Hair, Talent, & Fashion Show this past August called "Shades of Autumn" to showcase local beauticians, fashion designers, singers, poets, musicians, etc. As a result of this many individuals that have been in our productions have had many other opportunities open up to them.

**MW:** What would you say ETM is doing for the city of Toledo as a whole?

**BA:** As of right now we're sponsoring a Teen Night at our headquarters located at 3535 Hill Ave on Fridays and Saturdays from 7pm to 11pm. In doing this we feel that we are giving the young people (ages 13 to 18 years) something to do other than hanging out on the street. That's where I am now so please excuse the music in the background. It was just getting started when you first called.

**MW:** I know all about the ETM Teen Night and it's HOT!!! I went last Saturday to be the resident photographer for the night and it was packed. Glass City legend D.J. Lyte-N-Rod was spinning and since I've been in the T.O.L. I don't think I've ever seen teens slide across the dance floor that fast! So if you're a young person age 13 to 18 I encourage you to check it out (of course, if you're under 18 you should ask your parents first). So other than that, does ETM have any other upcoming

events?  
**BA:** Well we have some things in the works.

**MW:** Don't be so shy Bonita, inquiring minds want to know. Things like what?

**BA:** We're working on creating a special night for all artists that would like to participate in an open-mic experience not limited to just poets or singers but one that will feature musicians, comedians, and actors also.

**MW:** When would you start something like that?

**BA:** We're hoping to start it within the next month or so depending on the response we get from the community.

**MW:** Let's get it started then. Poets, singers, actors, comedians please call ETM so we can get the ball rolling as soon as possible. Other than that, is there anything else you would like to let everyone know?

**BA:** There are thoughts of starting a summer program that would consist of performing arts sessions that would nurture creativity in our young people. Also our facility is available for rental for parties, plays, or any other special event you may have. I also want to extend a warm expression of gratitude to my home church Walls Memorial Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, as well as St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church, Amazing Grace A.M.E. Zion Church for all your continuous support. To our individual sponsors we thank you as well.

**MW:** Well Bonita it was great speaking with you. Thanks for sharing all of that

positive information about your company with us. I'm sure that we all can expect more exciting things to come from Exposing Truth Ministries.

**BA:** Thanks Monique, I appreciate everything but I have to talk to you tomorrow because I got to get back to this "Teen Night" my husband is calling me.

**MW:** No problem, you have a good night.

Be sure to check out ETM's hit gospel play "Exposed" this Saturday at the Maumee Indoor Theatre at 7pm. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. They're selling fast so don't delay!!! Call Bonita or James Adams at (419) 215-1464 or (419) 290-5711.

*About the author: Monique Ward is a freelance journalist, promoter, and aspiring Holistic Health Counselor from Brooklyn, New York. She has been a resident of Toledo for the last 2 and 1/2 years has hosted & promoted many events in the Glass City including but not limited to, "Take Over Toledo Talent/Fashion Show" at the Seagate Centre, The 1st Ladies Spectacular Spa Day, New Life Productions' "The Game of Life" and ETM's Shades of Autumn Hair, Talent, & Fashion Show. If you are interested in marketing or promotional consultation for your next event you can reach her at (419) 471-0094 or email mw16akamo@hotmail.com for more details.*



Jerrica Whitlock, student at Toledo School of Performing Arts, and James Adams

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## Falling Through History: Underground Railroad

(Continued from Page 11)

the Underground Railroad and 'Aunt Laura Haviland, a Quaker who lived in Adrian, Michigan and operated a route between Sylvania and Adrian as a conductor on the Underground Railroad.

Walking up the steep hill, I realized how strong Tubman and the rest of those who made this journey had to be to survive it. Luckily, the gentleman who portrayed Lucian Lathrop, John Smith gave me his arm to make the last two

steps in my ascent up the steep embankment, much like the original Lucian Lathrop giving aid to those in need.

Once I caught my breath, I walked over to the shelter and a little girl about seven or eight with some African-American ancestry looked up at me shyly and said, "You made me feel like I was back in history." I smiled, nearly forgetting my aching feet, complete and total exhaustion and that hill I'd just climbed.

"That was the whole idea," I told her.

I started toward Cooper's car with my chair because she was giving me a ride back to the hotel when Lathrop House board member, Keith Mitchell (my copyright lawyer whenever I get that offer to have one of my plays produced on Broadway!), grabbed it and took it to the car for me. As I walked past her, Sue McHugh yelled, "We'll be calling you!" I wanted to say, "Thank-


you for this great honor and for making my 55th birthday the best birthday of my life!" but I was too tired to walk, much less talk. I am so grateful to have been a part of the lantern tour of the Underground Railroad, grateful to the Metro Parks staff, grateful to the Lathrop House board, but mostly I'm grateful to my friend and role model, K. LaVerne, for giving me this opportunity to make history come alive. I may have temporarily taken her place, but I could never replace her.

Whereas, I, the actress playing a role, may be able to bring the character of Harriet Tubman to life, K. LaVerne possesses the true spirit of Tubman. Seeing her power-walking on my way to work in the mornings, I know I could never fill her shoes because those shoes, which contain feet smaller and older than mine, probably walk up the steep hills of Harroun Park as easily

as they saunter down the paved sidewalks of Detroit Avenue.

No dusty old book with yellow pages can bring history alive. History must be heard and seen, smelled and felt, and even tasted in the crisp pungent air of dusk falling amid the sound of water rippling in streams and birds chirping in the night. That is the experience of the lantern tour of the Underground Railroad and the legacy of the Lathrop House.

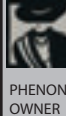
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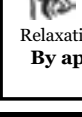
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Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until **1:00 p.m. on October 26th, 2006**, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers' Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor material and supervision necessary for the Sherman Elementary School Bid, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by Munger Munger + Associates Architects Inc., and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

Bid Documents for the project may be examined at the F.W. Dodge plan rooms in Maumee and Columbus, Builders Exchange in Toledo, University of Toledo – Capacity Building, E.O.P.A. – Hamilton Building, Northwest Ohio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, The Plan Room in Ann Arbor, Construction Association of Michigan, and Ohio Construction News.

Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting **October 5th, 2006 which can be purchased from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Rd., Toledo Ohio 43615 Phone: 419-385-5303. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.**

A PREBID CONFERENCE is scheduled for **October 17th, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.** at Toledo Public Schools' Board Room, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608

If you have any questions, or if you need additional information, please direct all questions in writing to LeShay C. Hadley, LGB-LLC fax (877) 281-0784 or by phone at (419) 776-5600.

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<b>Total Estimate:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,740,001.</b>



## The Late Flute Rice Honored by Toledo City Council

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Machen Street, which runs alongside Scott High School, will have a new name shortly as Toledo City Council voted last week to designate the street "Flute Rice Way" in honor of the late educator who was principal of the high school in the 1960's and 1970's.

"He was absolutely

outstanding," said Councilman Michael Ashford. "We are here to honor him and make sure that people know what he stood for."

"He was dedicated, strong-willed and moved forward," said Councilwoman Wilma Brown. "I'm really proud that I knew him."

Receiving the plaque commemorating council's recog-

nitition were Jamesetta Mickens, Rice's long-time companion, and Sandra Meeks of Scott High School.

Mickens thanked Ashford for his part in making the recognition a reality.

"Mr. Rice was the epitome of what an educator should be," said Meeks.



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## Happy Birthday

Baby, you left us so quickly, didn't really get to say good-bye  
When I hear a car start, it's not you.

I hear a door close, it's not you.  
The phone rings, you don't answer.  
I sit in the pew, you're not in the pulpit.

However, you're still with me, I see your picture every morning and that starts my good day as I pray.

We all love you and miss you.

Your wife Barb, children and grandchildren, mother, sisters, all the family and church family and friends.

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-Tony Brown

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## CYD Sponsors 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Rosalyn D. Williams Kaleidoscope Gala

*By Nadean Hamilton  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter*

On Saturday, Sept. 30, hundreds gathered at Calvary Bible Chapel to celebrate the various programs offered through the Covenant Youth Development, and to recognize its 2006 graduating class.

Although the organization usually holds separate fundraisers, this year they decided to combine all of their efforts into one event.

The gala included a dinner and silent auction, several festival booths, a gospel concert, and several selections performed by Wisdom Soul, a musical group out of Los Angeles, California.



*Jay Black,  
master of ceremonies*

Several public officials came out to support the event including Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, who served as the event's honorary chairperson. Kaptur wished the organization continued success, and told the audience that she expects to see them at "the 20th and 30th annual gala."

CYD is a non-profit program funded by The Lucas County Juvenile Court since 1997, and the CYD Village Partnership, which includes donations from area corporations, businesses, churches and individuals.

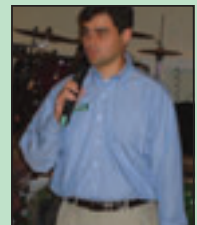
The program began in 1996, and its mission of the program is to provide a holistic range of services to the youth and families referred by the Juvenile Court, with the goal of ending their involvement in the Juvenile Justice System.

The program targets African-American males 9 to 14, who are willing to work hard to change their lives for the better. Several young men graduated from the program this year.



*Rosalyn D. Williams,  
chairman*

CYD is staffed by licensed psychologists and social workers, certified teachers, student interns, and community volunteers; and offers educational, recreational, mental, and residential and substance abuse services.



*Joe McNamara*



*Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur*



*Commissioner Pete Gerken*

## LIBERTY NURSING CENTER

Wants You to Join Them for Their  
Community Fall Festival and Rummage Sale



When: Saturday, October 21st  
Time: 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Where: 2005 Ashland Avenue  
Toledo, Ohio 43620  
Phone: 419.255.3040

**SEE YOU THERE!**

**BINGO UNDER THE TENT!**

hot dogs clowns  
snow cones moon walk  
cotton candy games/prizes  
popcorn bake sale  
raffles music