



The Candidates

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“My presence on the court would give the majority justices a different perspective to consider. I would try to convince them to at least consider my viewpoint. And I think the court would be better for this.” – Ben Espy, candidate for the Ohio Supreme Court

Vote For Ted Strickland for Governor

Let's pretend for an instant that we don't know anything about the two candidates for governor except for their... party affiliation.

For the last 16 years, the Republican Party has had control of the governor's office and the General Assembly. Ohio is a mess.

To form a perfect syllogism, we might now say that Ohio is a mess because the Republicans have been in control. Or, maybe it's just a coincidence. But, let's face it. Who amongst us believes in such coincidences?

Well, Republican Secretary of State Ken Blackwell for one.

According to Blackwell, who has been a part of the Republican administration since 1994, first as treasurer and now as secretary of state, "Ohio is 50th in new business startup and 47th in terms of job creation." Those figures, says Blackwell in his stump speech, mean that it's time for a change. We could not agree more.

What we feel is needed,



Ken Blackwell

however, is a real change, not just a new Republican face. Ohio needs a complete makeover and the place to start, if only because it's the easiest place to start, is at the top.

Ohio is a mess.

The Buckeye State has received an "F" from the National Center for Public Policy

and Higher Education for its failure to make progress over the past decade in getting more high school graduates into college and making higher education affordable.

Forbes Magazine ranked Ohio 34th in its recent annual rankings of the Best States for Business.

The United Health Foundation ranks Ohio 26th in its state health rankings due to, among other reasons, a lack of spending in the public health arena.

And, of course, there is Blackwell's own indictment of the performance of his own party—47th in job creation and 50th in new business start up.

Blackwell's failure to make any sort of connection between the Republican administration's performance and the crippling results of that performance is evidenced in his criticism of Strickland's inability, says Blackwell, to improve the economic well-being of his impoverished congressional district. Blackwell wants the voters of Ohio to somehow think that a member of the minority party of the federal legislative branch has the economic clout to work miracles in an area that the state executive branch has, either through policy or incompetence, ignored.

This campaign, as with all campaigns these days, has been marked by charges and counter charges of lack of specifics in proposals. In fact, both candidates have laid out the specifics of their proposals in great detail.

With Blackwell, however, we get the same focus on Republican ideals that the present governor has proposed during his campaigns and state of the state addresses: tax reform, limiting state spending, tort reform and reducing regulatory con-



Ted Strickland

straints. Nothing the current administration has done—and Blackwell is part of that administration, he needs to be reminded from time to time—has been effective in alleviating Ohio's woes and the state's plummeting status as a desirable place in which to live, to conduct business or to obtain an affordable higher education.

So we urge a vote for Ted Strickland. But we urge that vote not just because continued Republican control is unacceptable but also because Strickland himself is a well-qualified candidate for the governor's seat. A minister and a psychologist who has served in Congress for 12 years, Strickland has made a commitment to control the runaway costs of higher education, to revamp the funding formula for public education that the Ohio Supreme Court has declared unconstitutional—a ruling all but ignored by the Republican administration, to maintain the principles of affirmative action and to work with the state's cities to forge an urban strategy (rehabilitation and redevelopment, transportation, keeping state facilities in the inner city, etc.).

As for jobs, Strickland has voted against NAFTA, CAFTA, most favored nation status for China and all of the other programs that he perceives have helped to export jobs out of this state and out

(Continued on Page 5)

Community Calendar

October 30-November 1

• St. Paul Missionary Baptist "Fall Revival." Every night the revival begins at 7 pm; Guest Evangelist Rev. Timothy Brinkley of Mt. Hermon: 419-246-2886

November 2

• Fifth Annual Women's Conference: City of Toledo's Office of Affirmative Action/Contract Compliance
 • Black Women's Democratic Caucus: Presents "American Blackout," Award-winning film on problems of 2002, 2002 and 2004 national elections; 6 to 9 pm; Bethlehem Baptist: 419-381-2721

November 3

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

November 4-5

• Prescription Card Enrollment: Warren AME; Save 15 to 50 percent on prescription medications; Nov. 4 – 10 am to 3 pm; Nov. 5 – 1:30 to 3 pm

November 5

• Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir: "Women in Red;" 6 pm; Greater St. Mary's Baptist Church (Rehearsals every Tuesday in October at 7 pm at St. Paul AME): 419-241-7332

November 7

Please Vote!!

November 10

• ASSETS Toledo Spend the Evening Dancing Fundraiser: Civic Center Promenade; Dancing Under the Stars; Prizes in the categories of jazz, swing, ballroom and Latin dancing; 6 pm to 10 pm: 419-381-2721

November 10-12

• Women's Ministry of Phillips Temple CME: Third Annual Family Conference; Praise and worship service Friday at 7; Worship services and workshops at 9 am and 7 pm on Saturday; 11 am worship service on Sunday – guest speaker Minister Barbara Mayes of Texas: 419-243-7906

November 11

• Fall Music Festival: Featuring the UT Restoration Choir and the BGSU Gospel Choir; Third Baptist Church; 5 pm; Free of charge

November 12

• Ebenezer MBC: Musical department presents "We Exalt Your Prase;" 4 pm; Lo Salem Mass Choir: 419-242-2581

November 16

• League of Women Voters Public Town Hall: "Now that they're elected, can we keep them accountable?" Reception at 6 pm; discussion at 6 pm; Wyndham Hotel: 419-215-9367

November 18

• All That Jazz: Toledo Chapter of The Links, Inc. presents 17th Biennial Emerald Ball; The Hilton Hotel; 8 pm to 1 am; Attire – Formal
 • Calvary Baptist Church Women's Ministry: Cancer Awareness program; 11 am; Speaker Ruby Franklin
 • "Poetry and Partying:" Presented by Alternative Directions Counseling & Wellness Center; MarSyl's Restaurant; 8 pm to midnight; Featuring some of the hottest spoken-word artists of NYC: 419-490-5122 or 419-471-0094
 • Church of the Living God: Thanksgiving dinner; 11 am to 2 pm: 419-242-3839 or 419-242-9475

November 19

• Collingwood Arts Center Jazz Concert Series: Gene Parker and Nate Gurley; Show at 6 pm; Pre-show reception at 5 pm: 419-244-2787
 • 49th Annual Ebony Fashion Fair: "Stylishly Hot;" Hosted by AKA Sorority, Inc; Benefit for scholarship and community service; 5 pm; Stranahan Theatre: 419-385-8376

The Sojourner's Truth

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My View

By Jack Ford
The Truth's Political Columnist

If the perfect candidate for the Ohio State School Board was ordered up from central casting in Hollywood, I suggest that he would look like John R. Bender of Elyria, OH.

In fact, John Bender is just such a candidate and would be a terrific choice to be placed on the state school seat. I served with Bender while we were both in the Ohio General Assembly in the late 1990's.

Bender is a graduate of Penn State University where he earned a doctorate degree in education. He has extensive training and outplacement employment experience with employees in transition. Bender is a life member of the Elyria NAACP. In the Ohio House of Representatives, he served as the ranking Democrat from 1993

to 2000. Please remember John R. Bender on November 7 for the Ohio School Board.

We have talked previously about voters and the pitfalls they face in judicial voting. Remember, vote for judges first. I say that because one out of three voters forget to vote for any judges at all. We have some great candidates in the distinguished Charles Doneghy at the local level and veteran lawyer Ben Espy for the Ohio Supreme Court.

Remember again that there is a significant drop-off in voting in the African-American community in off-presidential years like this one. So, remind your friends to vote this year. They are registered to vote but just neglect to turn out in non-presidential years. Please call them up and remind them of just how important this particular election is, not only for what happens in the here and now but also for what will happen in the next presidential cycle in 2008. This year is where the groundwork for 2008 will be laid.

I predict that The Truth and The Blade endorsements

of Anita Lopez will help her slip past Larry Kaczala and become the highest-ranked Latina holding county office in the State of Ohio. If Lopez wins, she really is in the big time as auditor of a major county in a major state.

The same holds for Barbara Sykes but obviously on a larger playing field. Sykes would become one of only about a dozen black females holding a statewide office in America.

Remember to vote for Bob Vasquez for City Council and Ben Konop for county commissioner.

Finally, look for the City of Toledo to announce a deficit (a big one) as we approach the November 15 deadline for the annual budget submission. In last year's election for mayor, some promises were made regarding hiring. After the election, the city leaders decided to not only hire 17 new forestry workers but also pick up the pension costs for police and fire. Neither of these costs were included in the proposed budget for 2005. Where will the money come from to pay the freight?

Furthermore, the city had been paying automatic overtime for forestry work via a side agreement secretly negotiated by the union and the city team. This was on top of a sizeable amount of contracted out work supposedly to "catch up" on overdue trimming. My guesstimate of the out of whack budget? Pretty big!

City income projected for 2006 is down somewhat although the stock market boomlet will increase the investment portfolio in the short run. Long term, I do not see income matching outgo.

When you go to the polls next Tuesday, remember to



Jack Ford

take your photo identification with you!

Contact Jack Ford at jack@thetruthtoledo.com

**Tuesday,
November
7th Is
Election
Day!!**

For information on your polling location call the Lucas County Board of Elections at 419-213-4001 or on the Internet go to www.sos.state.oh.us



John R. Bender



Friends,

Election Day is Tuesday, November 7th. I urge you to exercise your right to vote in this critical election. You have the power to help shape Ohio's future.

I ask that you support me and my Democratic colleagues so that we can continue to fight for affordable health care, lower prescription drug costs, a strong economy, secured veterans benefits and lower heating and fuel costs through investment in clean, renewable energy.

Supporting Democrats on November 7th sends a signal that this election is about OUR fight to maintain the middle class – and it is not one we can take for granted.

Onward,

Marcy Kaptur

Paid for by Kaptur for Congress

Dear Editor,

Ohio law protects your right to vote. Because of changes to state law, on November 7, when you and other Ohioans vote, you will be asked something new: to show identification. Since this is an important change in Ohio law, we ask you to consider helping educate others.

The **When You Vote, Take I.D.** voter education initiative will inform Ohioans what to expect on Election Day. We kindly encourage you to work with us to spread this important message. Please help us educate your friends, family and co-workers about the new identification requirements.

Acceptable forms of identification include a state-issued photo identification card or Ohio driver's license (even if it shows a previous address), copy of a utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or any government document showing the voter's name and current address.

Visit our Web site dedicated to this initiative, www.TakeIDOhio.org. The site offers resources and information on voting requirements and rights.

Also available are other materials, including Web buttons, signs, payroll stuffer and a sample article. We invite you to use these resources, in the manner best able to communicate with your friends, family and co-workers. Remind your fellow Ohioans of an important step in exercising their right to vote: **When You Vote, Take I.D.**

Additionally, our Web site contains information on the various types of election equipment in use in Ohio. For many voters, this election will be the first time they will use new voting equipment. If you or others want to learn about voting equipment used in your county, simply use the interactive map accessible from the Voting Machine Information link.

The right to vote gives us all the opportunity to change our world. Because knowing what to expect at the polling place is an important part of exercising that right, join us in reminding Ohioans: **When You Vote, Take I.D.**

Sincerely,
Staff of the Office of the Ohio Secretary of State

Dear Editor,

The University of Toledo is working hard for diversity, not only because its student body, faculty and staff need to reflect the faces of the metropolitan community, but because diversity is a prerequisite for academic excellence and for responsible citizenship in our multicultural democracy. We recently celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month and unveiled a commissioned portrait of Toledo Congressman James Ashley, who introduced the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution (abolishing slavery), and we are implementing an ambitious plan to assess and enhance the diversity of the University.

We wish, therefore, to make clear that the University deplores recent vandalism of posters and announcements about diversity events, including posters celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. We were heartened by the response of President Lloyd Jacobs, who offered personally to help hang new posters. We also wish to assure all members of our diverse metropolitan community that University policy prohibits the defacing or destruction of such posters. Finally, as chairs of the President's Commission on Diversity, we assert the University's firm commitment to providing programming, education, employment, and a safe and welcoming environment to all.

Sincerely yours,
Samuel Hancock, Ed. D., Assistant to the President for Institutional Diversity,
The University of Toledo
Johnnie Early, Ph.D., Dean, College of Pharmacy, The University of Toledo
Co-chairs, University of Toledo President's Commission on Diversity
October 23, 2006
Cc: Tobin Klinger, Marketing and Communications
Contact: Dr. Carol Bresnahan, Commission Convenor
carol.bresnahan@utoledo.edu or 419.530.5416

Vote For Sherrod Brown

Not only is Ohio a mess, the nation is a mess.

We have an unpopular war, a jobless economic recovery, an immigration policy that... no, no, that's right, we have no immigration policy. We have record debt and deficits, a foreign policy nightmare in every corner of the world and a culture of Republican corruption - Noe, Abramoff, Ney, DeLay, etc - that reflects the hubris that will envelop any political party that has been left in power for too long.

Power corrupts, as Lord Acton the British historian once observed, "and absolute power corrupts absolutely." You don't believe Lord Acton? Ask Tom DeLay what absolute power did to him.

The problem with Ohio's senior senator, Republican Mike DeWine, is not that he has any taint of scandal whatsoever. The problem with Mike DeWine is that he is, and always has been, a cheerleader - a lackey, frankly - for a Republican administration that is stumbling to the finish line on tired legs while sucking for air.

DeWine is an ardent supporter of the Bush tax

policies that have made no sense for six years. When Bush came into office, the concept behind the tax cuts was to give back to taxpayers the windfall the Clinton administration had amassed. As the projected windfall evaporated, the Bush folks did nothing to change their tax policy decisions. And as the Iraq War began, the administration decided that it could pursue two diametrically opposed policies simultaneously - it could increase spending and it could decrease revenues.

DeWine championed the administrations ill-fated proposal to privatize Social Security, a proposal that would have prompted borrowing on a huge scale to implement the hair-brained scheme.

And now, of course, we get to Iraq. The first thing we want to point out is that Sherrod Brown introduced House Resolution 24 in 2003, prior to the invasion of Iraq, that would have, had it passed, required Bush to answer a range of questions about the war: costs, short and long-term effects on soldiers and the military, a plan for economic and social stability in Iraq, how to ensure troop safety and a timetable and a plan for withdrawal.

We don't have to remind anyone that the administration had absolutely no plan whatsoever for anything that might have happened if the invasion was successful other than planting a banner on a ship to read "Mission Accomplished."

And once again, as on virtually every issue, DeWine served as a rubber stamp for the administration.

Brown is a seven-term member of the House who previously served as Ohio secretary of state for eight years and, before that, in the Ohio General Assembly for eight years. He has a wealth of political experience on many levels and is more than ready for the U.S. Senate.

Brown and DeWine are also on opposite ends of the spectrum on a host of social issues: abortion - Brown is pro-choice, DeWine, pro-life; gay marriage - DeWine co-sponsored Senate amendment; Brown has opposed a ban on same sex marriage; stem-cell research - Brown supports, DeWine opposes.

Again, as with Strickland



and Blackwell, we encourage a vote for the Democrat based strictly on the candidates' individual merits but, once again, there is a big picture. The big picture is the fact that this race may well determine whether the Democrats can take control of the Senate and join with a Democratically-controlled House to force some sort of accountability upon the president. The accountability that was forced upon Clinton by the Republican revolution of 1994 may well have been one of the best things that happened during his presidency. It's not too late to achieve the same sort of balance.

Vote for Sherrod Brown.

Vote For Ben Konop For Lucas County Board of Commissioners

Democrat Ben Konop, an attorney and visiting law professor at The University of Toledo, is making his second run for elective office. In 2004 Konop challenged Republican incumbent Mike Oxley of Findlay for a seat in the House of Representatives and captured the highest percentage in that race of any challenger against an incumbent congressman in Ohio.



Konop is now running against Republican City Councilman George Sarantou for the Lucas County Commissioner seat currently held by Republican Maggie Thurber.

If we had to cast a vote in this race solely on the matter of which candidate was more committed to minority rights, we would be stumped. Both candidates are, and have been, fully committed to ensuring that minorities are not left out in the cold.

Both candidates are also cognizant of the fact that job creation is job one for members of the Board of Commissioners. And both are aware of the fact that the traditional north-west Ohio manufacturing job base will not be easily restored,

that the county has to attract more businesses in the high-tech segment of the economy.

That being said, we urge a vote for Konop on November 7.

We admire the energy Konop has shown in bringing proposals not only to increase the number of high-tech opportunities in the area - such as the high-tech incubator, but also to address the quality of life issues that would re-make Toledo as the sort of place that would be more attractive and would entice young people to stay here.

Konop's commitment to restoring the downtown area is also admirable. In fact, Konop himself lives in the downtown area and has provided more than just lip-service to this commitment.

(Continued on Page 14)

Vote YES for Ohio's Kids.

College Tuition for Every Ohio Child.

Issue 3 will create a fund to provide college tuition for all Ohio school children. Through a constitutional amendment, every student who completes the core Ohio curriculum requirements will be eligible for in-state college tuition grants and scholarships, starting with the class of 2009.

No new individual taxes.

One hundred percent of tuition dollars will be paid by revenue from regulated slot machines, limited to seven existing Ohio racetracks and two future downtown Cleveland locations.

Students earn as they learn.

Learn & Earn Issue 3 scholarships are non-competitive. Students earn tuition simply by meeting the core curriculum requirements established by the Ohio Board of Regents. Parents will receive an annual report of their child's progress.

Funds can be used at any Ohio public or private, non-profit college or university.

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

These funds are dedicated by law to college tuition grants and scholarships.

Unlike the lottery, politicians cannot use the funds for any other purpose.

New jobs, too!

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

• Election Issue • Election Issue • Election Issue • Election Issue • Election Issue • Election Issue • Election Issue •

Vote For Bob Vasquez For Toledo City Council

In an election cycle that offers a number of quality, and qualified, candidates for all sorts of political offices on the local scene, the race for the Toledo City Council at-large seat is no exception. The victor in this contest will complete the four-year term of former Councilman Bob McCloskey, who began his at-large term at the beginning of this year and resigned shortly thereafter.

The four major candidates are appointed incumbent and endorsed Democrat Lourdes Santiago, Democrat Joe McNamara, endorsed Republican Dave Schulz and Democrat Bob Vasquez.

We endorsed Bob Vasquez for the position last year when he finished just out of the running – seventh in a 12-person field in which the top six captured city council seats – and we see no reason not to renew our endorsement in the current race.

McNamara, an attorney and a graduate of the University of Michigan and the New York University School of Law, has advocated – to point out a few of the positions he has taken – joint economic development zones with Toledo and

other communities, increasing housing options for Toledo residents and prospective residents, tax breaks for teachers and the hiring of a full-time economic development director by the city.

Schulz, as is Vasquez, is also making his second run for council. He finished 10th in the 12-person field last year. A graduate of The University of Toledo, Schulz has worked in the purchasing field for the past 13 years and has called for improvements in government/business relations, specifically asking for a reduction in the corporate city income tax from the current 2.25 percent to 1.75 percent. He has been active as a watchdog over government affairs recently calling into question the decisions made by McCloskey and Betty Shultz to skirt the spirit of term limit ordinances by moving from district seats to at-large berths.

Santiago, an attorney, has worked for the City of Toledo for the past 23 years primarily in the Law Department. Santiago has called for a “Green Toledo” initiative – an embrace of technology which preserves nonrenewable resources for future generations

and she has been a strong voice for more police and other safety matters.

Vasquez, a licensed social worker who is director of The Twelve, Inc., earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from UT. Vasquez has focused his vision on improving neighborhood redevelopment, support for public education, utilizing local universities to help solve the city's problems and government ethics. He particularly stresses the need to funnel resources into neighborhoods with alliances between the city and groups such as the community development corporations.

McNamara is a very intriguing candidate and in a race against less formidable foes, he might well be our choice. Similarly, we think that Schulz possesses a strong and admirable commitment to diversity, ethics and job creation through private and public sector cooperation.

Santiago obviously is adept at the workings of city government having served in the law department, and as an administrator with the departments of Development and Neighborhoods.

Our decision to endorse

Bob Vasquez is based partly upon his thoughts about neighborhood development, his years of experience in working behind the scenes on a variety of public service activities and his knowledge of the community development block grant process.

But aside from the issues, we are also impressed with Vasquez's spirit of independence coupled with his stated desire to work cooperatively with others for the betterment of the citizens of Toledo. As we look at the relationship between the city's executive and legislative branches and the inner workings of city council itself, we see Vasquez as the best fit with his social work background and neighborhood focus.

The two top candidates for the job have to be Santiago and Vasquez but we are still

skeptical about Santiago's ability to be independent in light of the manner in which she was appointed.

After McCloskey resigned, Vasquez was the choice of the Hispanic Democratic Caucus and was the name the caucus was prepared to submit to the Democratic Party for their endorsement for the seat. As an “A” teamer and ally of former Mayor Jack Ford, Vasquez was deemed unacceptable by Mayor Carty Finkbeiner to fill the slot.

So Finkbeiner called together the Latino members of the caucus who worked for the city and twisted his employees' arms to compel them to find an alternative. Santiago's name was put forth, Vasquez's support was withdrawn by Latinos in the face of the Carty onslaught, the Democratic Party recommend



Santiago and, of course, she won the vote of City Council as Republicans joined with Carty Democrats to push her over the top. There have been a lot of unholy alliances behind this coup de council.

Vasquez is qualified, untainted, a man who has served this community well. He is a man whose time came a while ago but, fortunately, we have yet another chance to grant him the opportunity to serve in a different way.

Vote for Bob Vasquez for Toledo City Council.

Vote For Ted Strickland

(Continued from Page 2)

On the candidates' own merits we would urge a vote for the Democrat in this race. However, there is an additional, larger issue we have to consider in this race and that is its strategic importance to the national race for president in 2008.

For the past two elections, Ohio has cast the deciding vote in the Electoral College. And Ohio has gone Republican both times giving the presidency to George Bush – even though on one occasion he did not even win the national popular vote.

A lot of African-Americans these days are questioning the blind devotion of the community to the Democrats. The Democrats, they say, take the black community for granted. That may be so.

And then if one glances at the core values of American conservatism – limited government, individual re-

sponsibility – embodied by the Republican Party, at least during modern times, one would have to admit that in theory, these principles make great sense.

In practice, however, Republicans care little about conservatism's core values and more about maintaining power at any cost. Bush, for example, never meta spending bill he didn't like. He's had a Republican-controlled Congress during his entire six years in office and the government has squandered the balanced budget it inherited from the Democrats and has overseen a ballooning debt.

Faced with possible defeat, the Republicans have reverted to their baser instincts over the past few weeks. Here in Ohio, of course, Blackwell has taken to gay bashing. First he and his staff plant the innuendo, then he uses it to reinforce the family values image he so carefully cultivates.

But you ain't seen nothing yet. In Tennessee, where golden boy (African-American golden boy) Harold Fox, a Democratic U.S. representative, is threatening to capture a seat in the Senate, the national Republican Party – not the state party, not the local party – has begun running commercials featuring a blond white woman who implies that she has had, and would like to have more, sexual liaisons with the black legislator from Memphis. Shades of George Wallace in 1970 Alabama with this one.

Maybe the Democratic Party does take black folks for granted, it certainly cannot be argued that that happens here in Lucas County, but obviously the Republicans are not yet ready for prime time in the central city.

It's time for a change in Ohio, and the nation. We strongly urge a vote for Democrat Ted Strickland.



Look at where our children have to compete.

Issue 11 is for COSI—the hands-on science museum that brings 300,000 children and adults to downtown Toledo each year.

For less than 2¢ per day, you can help COSI make a difference for our young people, and our region. Passing Issue 11 is a small investment with a big return.

- Maintains a major recreation and educational resource
- Funds a new program to improve science and math scores for area students
- Assures a bright future for our children and the community



But, if we DON'T pass Issue 11, the COSI we have come to know and love will no longer exist.



“Please keep COSI going! It's less than 2¢ a day.”

Vote FOR Issue 11

Small Investment. Big Return.

*\$5.11 per year on a \$100,000 home. Paid for by The Committee for Science for Kids, Daniel L. Frick, Treasurer, 405 Madison Ave., Suite 1550, Toledo, Ohio 43604.

KEEP JUDGE JENNINGS ON COMMON PLEAS COURT



JUDGE LINDA JENNINGS

Fair • Independent • Effective



THE EXPERIENCE • THE INTEGRITY

Paid for by Judge Jennings Committee, Dee Talmage & Rob Ludeman, co-Chairman, 43 S. Huron St., Toledo, Ohio 43604

“As a Judge, I share your concerns about crime.”

• Election Issue • Election Issue • Election Issue • Election Issue • Election Issue • Election Issue • Election Issue •

The Truth's Endorsement of Ballot Issues

Issue #2 – Raising the Minimum Wage from \$5.15 to \$6.85

Vote Yes on Issue #2

Issue 2 imposes raises in the minimum wage from the current level to \$6.85 but it would not impact small businesses – under \$250,000 in annual revenues.

Issue #3 – “Learn and Earn” Amendment

Vote No on Issue #3

This amendment allows seven race tracks and two non-track sites in downtown Cleveland to bring in 3,500 slot machines per site – total 31,500. After four years, voters in Cuyahoga County will be able to vote on adding more gambling – such as casinos.

Fifty four percent of the revenues go to the operators – tax free. Thirty percent will go to scholarships for high school students in the top five percent of their classes.

Here's what's wrong with this amendment. First, this is

a windfall for a few special business interests. Second, we are really skeptical of the monies actually getting to students. The fact is, that the top five percent of graduating students usually are pretty well set as far as scholarships – if they need them. Funds are really more necessary for those much farther back in the pack. We have a feeling that the state will offer the scholarships and then withdraw them when they see that the kids on that top level are already maxed out with scholarship offers. Then the money will be diverted to ... a general fund perhaps.

What's just slightly amusing about the amendment is that it proposes to increase gambling addiction and then offers to spend one percent of the funds on gambling addiction services. Probably not enough, we would guess. Vote NO on this silly issue.

Issue #4 – Smoke Less Ohio

Vote No on Issue #4

Issue 4 – a constitutional amendment – is an abomination and an affront to the intelligence of every Ohioan. This issue would prohibit smoking everywhere indoors ... except for most indoor areas. There isn't a place of business anywhere that wouldn't be allowed an exception to this smoking “ban.”

This so-called smokeless initiative is disastrous on two fronts. First, it would trump local ordinances. No city or town would be permitted to pass anything that would be more stringent than the provisions in this monstrosity. Second, it would trump Issue # 5 – a truly restrictive ordinance – even if both pass because number 4 is a constitutional amendment and number 5 is a statute.

Nothing explains the problem with Issue 4 better than the fact that RJ Reynolds has supported this amendment purportedly to

the tune of \$40 million. Now, when was the last time that Big Tobacco did anything against its own interest? Please vote NO on Issue 4

Issue #5 – Smoke Free Ohio

Vote Yes on Issue #5

Supported by the American Cancer Society, Issue 5 would ban smoking in virtually all public places, only private clubs, tobacco stores, certain areas in nursing homes and hotels would be exempt.

Critics say the government should not interfere with an individual's personal behavior. Listen, folks, we crossed that bridge a long time ago – seat belts, speeding laws, underage drinking laws, government meat inspections, war on drugs ... you name it.

Critics say that businesses will suffer if smoking bans are enforced. We believe that the main reason for such losses, as Toledo discovered, is the fact that neighboring locales allow

smoking. Obviously a statewide ban takes care of that problem for most areas. And when you look at the bigger picture, smoking bans are coming to a state, a province, a nation near you ... it's only a matter of time. What Ohio enacts will be copied in due course by Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and so forth.

Critics also say that the tax on cigarettes brings in about \$600 to Ohio's coffers annually, an amount that will have to be replaced.

Nonsense.

The loss will be more than offset by the savings in health care, particularly among the under and uninsured. The savings in lost employee days and production will benefit businesses of all types.

But be careful here, even if you oppose the stringent smoking ban, don't vote for Issue #4 under any circumstances. At least allow local jurisdictions to have some control and ability to impose their own bans.

Issue #10
Lucas County Children Services Board for Renewal

Issue #11
Lucas County COSI Maintenance and Operation Tax

Issue #12
Emergency Operating System Improvement Tax

Issue #13
Lucas County Toledo Zoo Capital Improvements Tax

Vote Yes on the above issues

The total cost per year to help the children, keep COSI, improve the 9-1-1 operating system and update the facilities of the Toledo Zoo would be about \$95 on the house with a property value of \$100,000. Only about \$35 of this would be in additional taxes, the rest would be renewals and replacements. All of these valuable services for a mere \$95 per year. That's a bargain, folks! Vote Yes for Issues 10, 11, 12, 13.

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-Tony Brown

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A Message from Michael Ashford
Toledo City Councilman and Toledo Zoo Board Member

On November 7th, I hope you will join me in voting FOR Issue 13 for The Toledo Zoo.

Michael Ashford and Dr. Anne Baker, new executive director of The Toledo Zoo

Since joining the Zoo's Board of Directors earlier this year, I've been impressed with the Zoo's renewed commitment to diversity and addressing the needs of our community. The Zoo plays an important part in the lives of our children and families.

- ✓ Last year, more than 36,000 of our local school children experienced the Zoo through its FREE education programs.
- ✓ An additional 50,000 local residents visited the Zoo at no cost. Lucas County residents benefit from FREE admissions each Monday when they arrive between 10 a.m. and noon.

While your ballot will say that Issue 13 is an additional tax, please remember it takes the place of a levy that expired in 2005.

Funds from Issue 13 will also be used to:

- ✓ Preserve the Aquarium and other historic buildings
- ✓ Complete major repairs and maintenance
- ✓ Implement ways to save energy and reduce utility costs
- ✓ Reinvent the Children's Zoo so that kids and school groups can use it year-round, rain or shine

This levy is about helping take care of the Zoo we have now – not making the Zoo bigger.

Please, Vote FOR Issue 13.

Sincerely,
Michael D. Ashford
Michael Ashford

PRESERVE Your ZOO FOR ISSUE 13

Filed by: Steve Condit for The Zoo, The Aquarium, Boat Enclosures, Michael F. Hill, The Toledo Zoo, Anne Baker - Children, 3720 Broadway, Toledo, Ohio 43605

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Vote For Anita Lopez for Lucas County Auditor

Republican Larry Kaczala is vying for his fourth terms Lucas County Auditor and is facing a formidable foe in Democrat Anita Lopez, currently serving the public as Lucas County Recorder.

We strongly endorse Lopez in this race.

Anita Lopez, an attorney, was first elected to office in 2001 to a seat on the Toledo Board of Education. She won her recorder's post two years ago and has taken a lot of flak because of her frequent runs for office. However, despite his 12 years on the job, Kaczala has been every bit as ambitious to move on to other assignments. He has run for Congress and has said he would run for judge.

Lopez, as political columnist Jack Ford wrote last week, will serve as an effective watchdog in a position that needs someone as active. As recorder, she has



daily interaction with the auditor's office and has a thorough understanding of what it will take to make much needed improvements in that office's operations.

And as she has effectively pointed out during this campaign, there is quite a lot to clean up – there have too many mistakes and far too little emphasis placed on turning the auditor's office into a diverse workplace that reflects the population of Lucas County.

We urge you to vote for Anita Lopez.

Vote For Marcy Kaptur for U.S. Congress

Marcy Kaptur was first elected to Congress in 1982 and has been a strong, solid, independent voice for northwest Ohio ever since. She is the very model of a federal elected representative – smart, knowledgeable about her area and the national issues, brings home the bacon.

We don't agree with every stance Kaptur takes on the issues. But she is such a sincere, thoughtful advocate for what she believes, one can never doubt her commitment.

Maybe the most important aspect of a Kaptur victory this year is that if the Democrats take over the House, she will be in an much better position to do even more for her district.



Kaptur's opponent is ... heck, we don't even know if who her opponent is or if she even has one. Just kidding on that one. She is facing a punching bag by the name of Bradley Leavitt. Not that it matters. Bradley is just the latest bit of Republican fodder for the Kaptur machine.

Vote For Marcy Kaptur.

Vote For Judge Charles Doneghy for Lucas County Court of Common Pleas

Judge Charles Doneghy has served on the bench since the late 1970's, first in Municipal Court and currently on the Lucas County Court of Common Pleas.

The man is an iconic figure for virtually all of Toledo's black politicians and elected officials. In addition, his approval ratings from the attorneys in the Toledo Bar Association are outstanding as well. Doneghy received a total of 378 votes in the highly recommended and recommended categories compared to 52 not recommended votes from Toledo's lawyers. His opponent, Mark Davis, earned only 68 favorable votes.

Vote For James Nusbaum for Lucas County Court of Common Pleas

James Nusbaum is competing for a seat against Linda Jennings. Nusbaum is an attorney in private practice,



Judge Charles Doneghy

Jennings was appointed to a municipal Court position and is now hoping to make the move to Common Pleas. The Toledo Bar Association gives the nod to Nusbaum. So do we.

Vote For Thomas J. Osowik for Ohio District 6 Court of Appeals

Judge Thomas Osowik has handled recent high-profile cases such as the Father Robinson and the Tom Noe trials admirably. His ratings with the Toledo Bar Association are outstanding – only 27 lawyers did not recommend. He deserves an opportunity to move to the higher court.

JAMES B. NUSBAUM FOR JUDGE ENDORSED DEMOCRAT

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- ✓ AFSCME Ohio Council 8
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- ✓ Asbestos Workers Local 45
- ✓ Toledo Federation of Teachers
- ✓ USW Local 912
- ✓ Teamsters Local 20
- ✓ Ironworkers Local 55
- ✓ IBEW Local Union No. 8
- ✓ Northwest Ohio Regional Carpenters Office
- ✓ Northwest Ohio Building and Construction Trades Council



Law Enforcement/Safety Endorsements:

- ✓ Toledo Police Command Officers Association
- ✓ Toledo Firefighters Local 92
- ✓ James Telb, Lucas County Sheriff
- ✓ Lucas County Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #162
- ✓ Julia Bates, Lucas County Prosecutor

Paid for by The Committee To Elect James B. Nusbaum, Mathew Kripke, Treasurer, 7025 Cinnamon Teal Ct., Toledo, Ohio 43617

Vote For Democrats Edna Brown, Peter Ujvagi and Teresa Fedor

Edna Brown is running for re-election for the Ohio House of Representatives for the 48th District. She was appointed to that seat in 2002 and won election in her own merit in 2002 and 2004. Prior to that, Brown served the central-city District 4 on Toledo City Council. Brown knows the Toledo central city, and its residents, needs as well as any politician out there.

She's running against an unknown, but let's not take any chances, people.

Vote For Edna Brown for House District 48

Peter Ujvagi is a rock. He too has served his East Toledo neighborhood on City Council before moving on to the General Assembly and, again, no one knows his neighborhood better. He represents District 47.

Vote For Peter Ujvagi for re-election

Teresa Fedor is a former teacher who was elected to the Ohio House in 1999 and the Senate – District 11 – in

2002. She is presently the minority whip.

Fedor's expertise, not unexpectedly, is education and she is a top-notch advocate for the educational well-being of Ohio's student. She has no opposition. We like her chances.

Vote For Teresa Fedor

In other local contests, The Truth endorses Democrat Matt Szollosi for Ohio House District 49 and Democrat Mark Dansack for District 46.

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Vote For Barbara Sykes for Ohio State Auditor

Democrat Barbara Sykes is serving her third term as a state representative from the Akron area. She was a member of the Akron City Council for six years and spent 12 years as the deputy auditor for Summit County. From either the standpoint of political or administrative experience, she is the only logical choice for Ohio State Auditor.



As the deputy auditor in Summit County, Sykes helped to clean up corruption, a notable bit of experience that can only be of assistance during her term of office as state auditor in monitoring and cleaning up the mess that Republicans have left as a result of the Tom Noe debacle.

Her opponent, Republican Mary Taylor, is also a state representative from the Akron area, but does not have the administrative ex-

perience that Sykes possesses.

Sykes has promised to open up records that current auditor, Betty Montgomery, has kept hidden. Particularly Montgomery, whose office has spent \$779,000 on audits of fellow Republican Noe's shenanigans, has declined to release those documents to the public.

This is an easy pick – vote for Barbara Sykes on November 7.

Vote For Ben Espy for Ohio Supreme Court Justice

The current make-up of the Ohio Supreme Court is one Democrat to six Republicans. Justice Alice Robie Resnick, the lone Democrat is retiring and Democrat Ben Espy is vying to take her spot and maintain the presence of at least one Democrat on the panel.

Needless to say, we think it is vitally important that Ohioans vote for Ben Espy for the Ohio Supreme Court.

Espy, a Sandusky native, has vast political experience. He served 10 years on the Columbus City Council and for another 10 years in the Ohio Senate, and was minority leader of that body. A graduate of The Ohio State University who earned a law degree from Howard University, Espy is now an attorney in private practice in Columbus.

He is committed to pre-



senting his colleagues on the court a perspective that they would not otherwise hear without the presence of a member of the minority party, or a member of the minority part of the population, for that matter.

Espy is running against Robert Cupp and both men have received the Ohio State Bar Association's highest ranking. It's time to make history in Ohio. An Espy win would make him the first African-American to win a contest for the Ohio Supreme Court.

Vote For Ben Espy.

Vote For the Democratic Ticket in Other Statewide Races

In other statewide races, Democrat Marc Dann is facing Republican Betty Montgomery for Ohio Attorney General. Montgomery has served as the attorney general previously – before she was term limited out of office in 2002. She then ran for and won the job of state auditor and has run up a \$779,000 tab on outside audits trying to figure out what happened with her Republican buddy Tom Noe. She may now know, but the citizens don't, she decided to keep the results of the audits a secret.

Dann., a Youngstown-area Ohio senator with a law degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Law, has the background, experience and training to make an exemplary attorney general. Montgomery's involvement in the Noe mess as state auditor and her refusal to reveal what she

knows to the public about that situation should exclude her from holding any statewide office again.

Vote for Marc Dann for Ohio Attorney General.

Vote for Jennifer Brunner for Ohio Secretary of State

If you have been paying attention to what has happened in the past half-dozen years in Ohio with voting machines, Diebold and investments that office-holders have had with that company, overtly partisan decisions on election issues, we really don't have to remind you that it's time for a change of party in this important cabinet office.

Vote for Richard Cordray for Ohio Treasurer

Vote for William O'Neill for Ohio Supreme Court Justice

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Black, Christian and Republican Like Me: Local Man Airs Frustration Over Non-Support of Blackwell

By Tamir A. Shaw
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Although statistics show that the African-American community generally votes for Democratic candidates, Toledoan Jan Scotland says that it is incorrect to assume that most blacks also identify with the values of that party, and further explains that the adherence to such staunch voting traditions has caused the group to be left behind in many areas.

"Most blacks identify more with the stated principles of the Republican Party, which is a deep belief in family, a deep belief in church, a deep belief in be-



Ken Blackwell

ing self-sufficient," said Scotland, a Republican and co-chairman of the Ken Blackwell Campaign in Lucas County.

According to Scotland, who has been a member of the Republican Party since the early 1980's, most African-Americans generally fall on the side of the Republicans when it comes to issues such as abortion, gay rights and gun laws.

"What has been at issue is affirmative action. What has been at issue is the welfare type of issue, but the rhetoric has gotten so bad that I don't think that we as minorities even at look at what the parties stand for anymore," he said.

Scotland says that Democrats have been traditionally regarded as friends of the black community, but historically there is really not much evidence in support of that fact.

"If you look at a Democratically-controlled Congress for 30 years before the

Republicans took over, what really did we benefit from financially and everything else?" he asked.

"You look at the City of Toledo. Lucas County has been Democratically-controlled for ages and many people think that we are behind other areas of the country as far as what we have, and what kind of status we have in this city and its been controlled by Democrats forever.

"And when you ask people why do you support the Democrats, the answer normally is, well why should I support the Republicans? They don't have any answer why the Democrats are good, they only have this idea that the Republicans are just so terrible," Scotland said.

Scotland believes that these types of perceptions are preventing some African-Americans from supporting Secretary of State Ken Blackwell in his campaign for governor and he wants to see that change.

"The first time that I heard him speak was at Owens Corning Fiberglass,

I was impressed because one of the key points of his presentation was diversity in the Republican Party," Scotland began.

"He said that the Republican Party must become more diverse if it hoped to continue to sustain wins around the country and things of that nature and he was hopeful that his candidacy would help with that.

"That's something that a lot of people don't say when you're in a room filled with rich, mostly Caucasian men. But he had the guts to say it then and every time I've heard him speak he has made similar comments. He's a man that says what he believes in and in office he has done exactly what he said and I think that that's why he should have the support of all Toledoans," Scotland said.

A member of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Scotland views Blackwell as being the candidate that the black community has been in search of for ages.

"Ken has been an Ohio resident for much of his life. He grew up in the Cincinnati area and was one of the youngest mayors of the city of Cincinnati," Scotland detailed.

"In every office that he has been in, he has organized those offices and made them much better and I don't think that there is anybody on either side that could claim that he hasn't been an asset in any area that he has been involved in," Scotland said.

In addition to accomplishing his own goals, Scotland said that Blackwell has gone to bat for other minorities to ensure that they also receive a fair shake.

"He's been a proponent of equal rights and a proponent of making sure that quality people get hired for positions no matter what their race. He has diversified staff, he has hired blacks, women and other minorities in every position that he has been in," Scotland continued.

A Blackwell supporter for more than 12 years, Scotland further explained that the candidate is not the typical black candidate that people are used to seeing and often view negatively.

"He is not that type of person, he relates very well. His wife is also down to earth. He understands what it takes to move forward," he said.

Scotland, who is a gradu-

ate of Hampton University, is very active in the political scene and was himself appointed to a Toledo City Council seat serving a one-year term.

"I am a Republican because I think I identify more with the things that the Republican Party stands for," Scotland said. "Do I think that Republicans are open all the time to minorities, no. But from what I've seen on the other side I don't think there much worse from that standpoint," he said.

"I became a Republican because when I came to Toledo I was a member of a group of young black professionals and we held meetings with various political candidates almost like a PAC, and we were talking about the Republican Party and the Democratic Party. I was always adamant that the Democratic Party gets our vote all the time and gives us nothing, the Republican Party's policies are actually more in line with what we believe in and if we don't have somebody on both sides were going to get nothing," Scotland recalled.

Scotland went on to say that although the Democratic Party may receive 95 percent of the African-American vote in some elections, the Party's elected officials often believe that there is no further accountability or expectations after they are in office.

"Then you come to the Republican side where its 15, five, or 10 percent. From a strategic standpoint, it makes more sense for Republicans to find a different strategy to win," he said.

Scotland believes that the Democrats are using rhetoric instead of the facts in the campaign against Blackwell because not only is he bringing a challenge to the Democratic stronghold on the black vote, but because the facts are in support of the candidate.

"The Democrats think that we are their people and it doesn't matter what they do, we're still their people and we're going to vote for them no matter what, and since we're in their pocket they concentrate on other groups.

"Other groups vote their interests and get a lot more attention from the Democratic Party than the black community that supports them almost religiously and that's a shame. It's a crime," Scotland continued.

"We're a major voting block, but were worthless



Jan Scotland

because we're one-sided and we have become basically one of the weakest voting blocks in the country and we don't understand that," he emphasized.

"Its not like that there aren't any good Republicans because there are and this is the thing about Ken that is so discouraging because finally here for the first time that I see, we have a black man who has done all the things that we say we want to see a black Republican or a black person do. He done all those things, he is successful in business, he's a Christian, he's a family man, he hasn't forgotten where he comes from. All those things, and we are letting the Democratic Party tell us that he does a whole lot of stuff, with no basis and we are actually hating this guy because of it and that is just amazing to me. So what hope do we have as a voting community if we cannot recognize the facts?" Scotland asked.

Scotland believes that the Democratic Party is using these tactics against Blackwell because it recognizes that he is a formidable and capable opponent.

"He is not the type of black Republican that they can write off as all kinds of things. You can't stick a label on him that says he's an Uncle Tom, so they have to deal with the facts and the facts about him are tough to deal with because he has been very effective, he's a family person, he has not lied, he's done what he's supposed to do," Scotland charged.

"There's no scandal surrounding him, so they don't talk about the facts, so instead they say well he helped Bush win election, but the facts of that are only effective if no one takes a look at the details and the details are that he assigns the amount of voting booths that go out and the local board of elections decides where those voting booths go," Scotland refuted.

"Where they had the biggest issue as far as the Bush numbers was in Cuyahoga (Continued on Page 14)

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Ohio Supreme Court Candidate Ben Espy Has Toledo, Northwest Ohio Links

By Alan Abrams
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The mainstream media hasn't made much of it, but if Democrat Ben Espy is elected to the Ohio Supreme Court seat being vacated by the retiring Judge Alice Robie Resnick of Ottawa Hills, he will be continuing a Toledo tradition on the high court

Why? That's because Espy has a solid Toledo family connection. His wife Kathlyne is the daughter of pioneer Toledo dentist and civic leader Dr. Franklyn Duffy.

Dr. Duffy was the first African-American to serve as president of the Toledo Board of Health. Years earlier, he was the first African-American to integrate the dorms at Michigan State University in East Lansing. Readers of *The Sojourner's Truth* will already know that it was Dr. Duffy's dental practice that was eventually taken over by Dr. Debra Fulton, whom we profiled on the cover of our Oct. 11 issue.

But Espy's northwest Ohio links go even deeper. Although he was born in Nashville, Tennessee, Espy was raised in Sandusky. "My father came up north to Sandusky looking for work during World War Two, and worked in a steel mill. I graduated from Sandusky High School. In fact, I met my wife when my Sandusky High football team played Toledo's Scott High School

where she was a student," recalls Espy.

Espy believes he may be a distant cousin of former US Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy, the first African-American to serve in that cabinet post. Acknowledging that Espy is an uncommon surname, he says that "Mike Espy is from Yazoo City in Mississippi, which is near Tennessee, so it is quite possible we are related."

Mike Espy's son, also named Mike Espy, tried out for the Washington Redskins in 2006. Although he didn't make the team, he is a member of the Redskins practice squad.

In addition to enabling Ben Espy to meet his wife, football has also played an important role in Espy's political career. He played football for The Ohio State University where he earned his bachelor's degree. But he earned more than just a degree there — he earned the respect, admiration and even the political support of OSU's legendary football coach, Woody Hayes.

Espy played football for Hayes, but the bond they forged continued long after Espy was a Buckeye. Espy holds the unique distinction of being the only Democratic candidate ever endorsed by Hayes, who is remembered as an ardent Republican and a friend and political supporter of Presi-

dent Richard Nixon.

Hayes not only enthusiastically endorsed Espy in his successful 1982 campaign for election to the Columbus City Council, but the two men became and remained close personal friends. That's not just campaign rhetoric. Check it out for yourself. You can view the Hayes endorsement in its entirety at Espy's campaign Web site, www.espyforjustice.com.

Espy served on the Columbus City Council from 1982 to 1992, and in Ohio's senate from 1992 to 2002

If elected to the Ohio Supreme Court, Espy will become only the third African-American justice to serve on that bench. Two justices (Robert M. Duncan, 1969-1971 and Lloyd Brown, 1971-1973) each served two year terms for a

total of four years. But as Espy points out, "Since Ohio's statehood in 1803, which is a 203-year period, there have been 199 years without an African-American presence on the court. There has not been an African-American justice on the high court bench since 1973.

"My election would more clearly reflect the diversity of the state. And if I am elected on Nov. 7, I would be the first African-American to win a contested race for a seat on the Ohio Supreme Court," says Espy.

Espy's election would present him with two options. If he takes the seat vacated by Resnick, the sole Democrat on the court, then he will become the lone Democrat on the bench. If he is elected with William O'Neill, the other Democrat seeking election to the court



Mayor Carty Finkbeiner and Ben Espy

next week, he will still be a member of the minority party. So how would Espy handle being in either position?

Espy is no stranger to that political equation. "I served in the minority in the state senate for 10 years and was also the minority leader of the senate. I look upon it as being a member of the opposition party.

"My presence on the court would give the majority justices a different perspective to consider. I would try to convince them to at least consider my viewpoint. And I think the court would be better for this. But I have no illusions of making a massive change in their thinking. And I am sure there will be some times that I will agree with the majority. I would just like to bring a different perspective to the deliberations, and at least let the other justices hear and consider it," explains Espy.

But Espy would also introduce some other changes. "There is both a need and a responsibility to let people

fully understand the nature of court proceedings. I would encourage young people in high school and in government classes to come to the Ohio Supreme Court and observe what happens there. I think this is important because far too often, the only opportunity our young people have to see the courts is as juveniles when they are thrust into the judicial system," he says.

"I believe that as a Supreme Court Justice, I would be a good role model and a mentor," adds Espy.

Following his graduation from The Ohio State University, Espy earned his law degree at Howard University School of Law. He served as a captain in the US Air Force, and has been Chief of the State of Ohio Attorney General's Criminal Activities Division and Department Chief of its Civil Rights Division.

Espy has been an attorney for 38 years and has practiced before the Ohio Supreme Court. His Columbus-based law firm is Ben Espy LLC.



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RJ Reynolds Grandson Brings Campaign Against Issue 4 to Toledo

By Nadean Hamilton
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

"It is an outrageous campaign, and I think my grandfather is spinning in his grave," said Patrick Reynolds, grandson of RJ Reynolds Tobacco Company founder Richard Joshua Reynolds. Patrick Reynold, who cut his ties with the company in 1979, brought his campaign to defeat Issue 4 to Toledo on Friday, Oct. 27.

"[Issue 4] claims separate smoking sections will protect you from second-hand smoke, [but] as long as you have people going in and out of smoking sections, smoke is too," Reynolds told a crowd of about 50 at The Toledo Lucas-County Health Department.

Issue 4 is a constitutional amendment backed

by RJ Reynolds Tobacco Company, the Ohio Restaurant Association and Bowling Centers Association of Ohio that, if passed, would make smoking in most public facilities including restaurants, bars and bowling alleys legal.

Instead, Reynolds says he supports Issue 5, a state initiative backed by the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, and the American Lung Association that would ban virtually all smoking in public facilities. Both issues will appear on the November ballot, with Issue 4 appearing as Smoke Less Ohio, and Issue 5, as Smoke Free Ohio. If both issues pass, Issue 4, the RJ Reynolds initiative, will trump Issue 5, and overturn 21 more stringent

smoke-free laws in various cities throughout the State of Ohio, including Toledo's.

"I am shocked by the new low RJ Reynolds has hit," Reynolds said. "Secondhand smoke kills 50,000 Americans a year, that's why I cut off ties with the company."

Reynolds says the death of his father and oldest brother from emphysema is what led him to quit smoking and eventually found the Foundation for a Smokefree America, a non-profit organization dedicated to prevent youths from smoking tobacco.

"RJ Reynolds has crossed over to the dark side. [Issue 4] would make it unconstitutional to protect the rights of workers

and customers," said Reynolds. "It would take another constitutional amendment to undo [Issue 4]," Reynolds continued.

According to American Cancer Society statistics, African-Americans have the highest mortality rate of any racial and ethnic group for all cancers combined. In 2005 alone, an estimated 63,110 African-Americans were expected to die from cancer. Of this number, 15,500 of those deaths were expected to occur from lung cancer.

"Nationally, African-Americans have a 30 percent higher incidence rate [of cancer]," said Wendy Simpkins, American Cancer Society Senior director of corporate communications and SmokeFreeOhio director of public relations. Lung can-



Patrick Reynolds with Dr. Donna Woodson

cer is the number one cause of cancer deaths among African-American men and women, and according to Simpkins, "tobacco is the number one cause."

Tobacco is believed to be the most preventable cause of premature death in the United States, and in addition to lung cancer, cigarette smoking is associated with cancers of the lip, mouth and pharynx, larynx, esophagus, stomach, colon, rectum, pancreas, cervix, bladder, liver and kidney. "I ask the voters, do you trust a company who's profiting off the deaths of 420,000 Americans every year? Or do you trust the American Cancer Society which backs Issue 5 and first proved the link between smoking and lung cancer?" asked Patrick Reynolds.



Dear Friends,

Ben Konop has the energy and the ideas to be a great commissioner. He will complement Pete Gerken and Tina Skeldon Wozniak as the third commissioner. He has a legal background which is presently missing on the Board of County Commissioners. Ben will be a watchdog on the county services delivery. Vote Ben Konop for Lucas County Commissioner on Nov. 7th.

-Jack Ford

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Vote for Ben Konop

Democrat for Lucas County Commissioner

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UrbaneKnights Fundraiser Draws Hundreds to UAW Hall

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The UAW's Kenny Smith hosted a Motown and Jazz Night Out fundraiser for the ex-offenders' program, UrbaneKnights, Inc., on Saturday, October 21 at the Local 12 location on Ashland Avenue.

Saxophonist Katrina Barnhill and the local singing group KGB entertained the crowd of almost 300 supporters and contributors of the program founded several years ago by Bernard Williams.

Also in attendance were numerous elected officials and candidates for political office, such as: Toledo City Councilmen Michael



Kenny Smith and Bernard Harris

Ashford, Lourdes Santiago and Mark Sobczak, State Senator Teresa Fedor, State Representative Edna Brown, County Recorder Anita Lopez, County Clerk of Courts Bernie Quilter, Judge Charles Doneghy and judicial candidates Gary and Stacy Cook.



Ruth and Michael Ashford



Karen Harris and KGB

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The Andersons' 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration



Everett and Delores Anderson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 14, 2006. A surprise celebration including family and friends was held at Barbretta's Event Center.

Daughter Robin Burwell Jenkins of Austin, TX; son Everett Anderson, Jr. of Lancaster CA and granddaughter Suneetha Burwell of Austin, TX and family and friends helped to plan the memorable event.

The couple was married on October 8, 1956

The Rollins' 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Robert Lawrence and Shirley Jean Rollins celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday October 21 at the Sullivan Center on the campus of Gesu Church along with over 200 friends and family members.

The event was organized by the couple's four children: Jeffrey and James Rollins, Shelvia Hunter and Muriel Farrow. Hunter, a caterer, provided the food for the event - roast beef, chicken, potatoes, green beans, rice and salad.

The City of Toledo presented the couple with a proclamation in honor of their 50 years of marriage.



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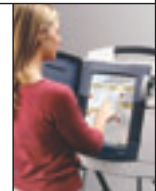
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Additional instruction on how to use the AccuVote voting equipment on Election Day is available online, including a short "how-to" video at YourVoteCountsOhio.org.



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Peacock Café's Grand Opening

Sojourner's Truth Staff

It's official! The Peacock Café, owned for years by Theresa M. Gabriel, is now in the very capable hands of son Bobby Gabriel. To commemorate the transfer and the re-opening of the establishment, the new owner invited entertainers Isis, Too

Deep in Harmony and hundreds of guests to join in a celebration on Saturday, October 21. The Peacock, at 2007 Monroe Street, had been closed for approximately two years for renovations and the construction of an outside patio and deck. The café

started operations again this past spring on a part-time basis before opening full-time shortly thereafter. The Peacock Café is open nightly from 4 p.m. For more information about the Peacock and its entertainment schedule call 419-241-8004



The Peacock's staff (l. to r.): Shaunte Wallace, Karen Harris, Barb Baker, Rhonda Goings, Jessica Armstrong



Theresa Gabriel and City Councilmen Mark Sobczak and Lourdes Santiago



Too Deep in Harmony



Theresa Gabriel



Eric Brazier and Isis



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Black, Christian and Republican Like Me: Local Man Airs Frustration Over Non-Support of Blackwell

(Continued from Page 9)

County and the guy who heads up that Board of Elections is the chairman of the Democratic Party. They blew it. They didn't put enough machines where they were supposed to be and they turn around and try to stick that on him, now to the extent that the media never points that out and they don't, then it sounds like a good point. But the fact of the matter is, it had nothing to do with him so they sent their lawyers in right after the election ready to fight they found out what the facts were and it all disappeared," he said.

It is very disappointing to Scotland that some people believe information without checking into the facts themselves.

"These are educated people, we're talking about lawyers, we're talking about very educated people who don't have any idea how this whole thing works or at least are taking the Democratic line and running with it and it's unfortunate," he said.

Sizing up Blackwell's opponent, Scotland said that individuals must look at a person's past because it may be a significant predictor of what they are capable of doing in the future.

"If you look at Strickland, Strickland has no particular background whatsoever and he's a politician," Scotland said.

"He's never run anything in his life. He has been a very insignificant member of the Congress from the standpoint of anything that he has ever done."

One of Scotland's greater concerns is the past actions of Blackwell's opponent and the impact that

it could have in the future. "I remember watching a tape when I was younger, I think it was called 'What You Are is What You Were When ...', and it basically said that people don't change.

"Whatever they've done in the past, they're going to do in the future and only a significant experience, some kind of earth shattering experience, changes them," Scotland said.

"So you can look at what a person has done and have an idea of where there's going to be."

"Blackwell's background says a lot about where he's come from, and what he's done, so you don't have to search all over the place to find out what he's about. With Strickland it's the same thing, they talk about his hiring practices for blacks, and he's been in office how many years and never had a black person on his staff until this year when people called him about it. He claims that it's because 'I only have two percent blacks in my district' and they say well 'you're in Washington DC most of the time it's 90 percent black out there,'" quipped Scotland.

For those who fear that Blackwell is on a mission to merge the church views and state policies, Scotland says that it's just not so.

"He presents himself as a Christian; he acts out his life as a Christian and that is really what he is. And that's good from the standpoint of me as a person who's looking to try to trust someone in office. I don't trust all Republicans, but I do trust him because I want to believe that what a person says he's going to do actually try to do," Scotland said.

"Abortion isn't a local issue. Gay marriages, I think that came to a vote state to state and this state already

voted against it. He was very much a part of pushing that, that is a legitimate issue and it should be legitimate to all of us, all of us who are Christians," said Scotland.

"What is this big scare about the religious right? What is it that the religious right is going to do to impact us in a way that we don't already believe?" asked Scotland.

When asked how Blackwell intends to promote job growth and improve the economy Scotland explained that Blackwell has a three-year plan of getting the house in order as far as the State of Ohio goes.

"Even during that first three years he's going to look to find ways of reducing taxes that are a barrier to businesses starting in Ohio.

"The thing that people don't understand is, yes it's nice to have unions, it's nice to have these right-to-work laws and all that other good stuff. But businesses run like heck away from that and Ohio is a great example of how you have all these rules in place, but you don't have any jobs so no one can take advantage of them," Scotland explained.

"People have to understand the relationship, I think we're ranked third as far as taxation and every state around us has taken the approach of going in the other direction and they are taking our businesses. Somebody needs to be in this area, Michigan, Indiana all of them are benefiting from what we've done, so his plan is to reduce those taxes and to make Ohio a competitive state as far as business is concerned."

Annual Red, White and Blue Dance



Perry Burroughs Democratic Women's Club (club members shown above) hosted its annual Red, White and Blue Dance (formerly Ball) on Saturday, October 21, 2006 at the Erie Street Market's Civic Center Promenade.

In attendance were club members, their families and friends, along with local and state elected officials and candidates for elective office.

Disk jockey Darris (DJ Whatmynameis) Mosley provided the music. The Perry Burroughs Club has been operating since 1942.

Vote For Ben Konop For Lucas County Board of Commissioners

(Continued from Page 4)

Looking at the dynamics of the personalities on the board of commissioners, we believe that Konop will be a better fit as an addition to the Tina Skeldon Wozniak/Pete Gerken team. We believe the fit is better not necessarily because Konop is a Democrat, as are Wozniak and Gerken. In fact, Sarantou would not have the sort of problems working with the two Democratic commissioners that Republican Thurber has had.

We see Konop as possessing the more independent spirit

of the two candidates and he brings a youthful viewpoint that will complement the already highly effective team of Wozniak/Gerken.

We see a great value in Sarantou's financial experience and acumen. We think that in a couple of years, Sarantou should be the pick of the Republicans as a candidate for mayor of Toledo. But we do not see that he brings as much added value to the board, at this moment, as does Konop.

Lastly, we feel that someone with Konop's talents, in-

telligence and vision belongs in elected office here in north-west Ohio. We believe that he deserves our endorsement based on the merits but we also think there is a practical aspect to voting for him for commissioner. Sarantou, an outstanding elected official, is already in office and, since he is still at the beginning of his term, will be for a while. We need to have Konop in office as well.

Vote for Ben Konop on November 7 for the Lucas County Board of Commissioners.

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YWCA's First Celebrity Wait Night

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Toledo YWCA hosted its first annual Celebrity Wait Night on Monday October 23 at the Brandywine Country Club as nearly 200 invited guests joined a dozen and a half celebrity waitresses – most of whom were drawn from the ranks of the organization's Milestones Award winners – to raise money for a host of causes.

The YW H.O.P.E. (Rape Crisis) Center, YW Battered Women's Shelter and YW Child Care Connections are a few of the programs the proceeds from the Celebrity Wait Night will benefit. Those programs, along with others supported by the YWCA, respond to the needs and concerns of thousands of women and their

families in the Lucas County area.

Celebrity wait staff included: Ardenia Jones Terry, Debby Peters, Denise Soto, Karen Fraker, Dee Talmadge, Kleia Luckner, Sara Jane DeHoff, Kathy Carroll, Sally DePerro, Jan Knape, Sharon Erel, Verne Armstrong, Lillian Walsh, Linnie Willis, Edna Robertson, Mary Martin and Lisa McDuffie executive director of the YWCA.

The guests dined on choices of champagne chicken and red pepper salmon, prime rib or a vegetarian plate and were entertained by the Hot Breakfast Jazz Band, a group of St. John's Jesuit students who volunteered their time for the occasion.



Celebrity Wait Night table captains



Kathy Carroll and Lisa McDuffie



Linnie Willis, Lisa McDuffie, Vern Armstrong, Edna Robertson, Ardenia Jones Terry

His Excellency, Professor Gordon Shirley, Jamaica Ambassador To The United States To Visit Toledo

Special to The Truth

On Saturday, November 4, 2006, His Excellency, Ambassador Professor Gordon Shirley will be the keynote speaker at the Jamaican Social Club of Toledo, Inc. 30th Anniversary Dinner Dance & Awards Presentation in Toledo.

The event will be held at the Knights of Columbus Banquet Hall, 4256 Secor Road, Toledo, Ohio from 8:00PM-2:00AM. Live entertainment by the Ark Reggae Band from Columbus, Ohio.

The ambassador is scheduled to present his Keynote address at 11:00PM.

During his visit he will meet with city officials, congressional representatives, business and community leaders.

The general public is invited to attend the Dinner Dance & Awards Presentation at the Knights of Columbus Banquet Hall, 4256 Secor Road, Toledo on Saturday, November 4, 2006 from 8:00PM – 2:00AM.

Advanced tickets for the Dinner Dance is \$30.00 per person, including free set-ups and free gifts bags courtesy of Air Jamaica.

Guests attending the Dinner Dance will have a chance to win two round-trip airline tickets to Jamaica.

For further information, contact:

Earl Mitchell, president, JSC: Office:(419) 531-8171 or Cell: (419) 351-6391.

2006 United Way Campaign Surpasses 50 Percent of \$14 Million Goal

Special to The Truth

With more than five weeks left in the campaign, United Way of Greater Toledo has surpassed the halfway point toward its \$14 million goal. As of today, reported pledges and donations amount to \$7,024,212.

According to 2006 United Way Campaign Chair Chuck Weickert, division manager at UPS, "This year's numbers have been promising. However, the second half is always harder than the first half. We need to continue the momentum in order to reach our goal of a five percent increase over last year's success."

United Way President and CEO Bill Kitson reminds the community, "The real story of this campaign's success is not told in dollar figures alone, but in the lives changed."

Funds raised will be in-

vested in programs that get young children off to a great start, create strong foundations for our children and teens, empower vulnerable families and adults to thrive, and mobilize resources.

It is not too late to make a difference. Donations to this year's campaign can be made securely online at www.unitedwaytoledo.org, by calling 419-248-2424 or by pledging at your workplace.

To announce and celebrate the success of the 2006 United Way Campaign, a Victory Celebration will be held on Thursday, December 7, 2006, from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at The Blarney, downtown Toledo's new pub. Secure your reservation by calling 419-254-4619.

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IHEW, Local 8	NW Ohio Carpenters
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Lisa McDuffie and Sara Jane DeHoff

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Dan Johnson Says Northwest Ohio Science and Technology Corridor Ready to Move Forward

By Nadean Hamilton
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

"Our region is in desperate need of getting a real boost in the economy, our regional economy is suffering like all manufacturing cities are, and we're struggling with keeping good jobs here and one of the role that universities can play, that The University of Toledo just hasn't played historically, is to leverage its research for commercialization [and] job creation, said Dan Johnson former president of UT whose portfolio now contains the title of Distinguished University Professor Public Policy and Economic Development.

"So to give you an example, UT has invested through its external funding millions of dollars in solar cell research but to take that research that is going on to create a product that can be commercialized and put on the market, and create a company that will actually do that, so you take the research that's going on in the laboratory and through a process that they call the technology transfer, a lot of stuff goes on in there in terms of the intellectual property, the patents, licensing, and things of that nature, but take that research and apply it toward the development of a product that can be manufactured or sold thus creating companies and creating jobs that are really more scientifically [and] technologically based types of businesses then you would have the scientifically manufacturing kinds of jobs," Johnson added.

The concept for the Science and Technology Corridor was initially presented by Johnson in late 2002, and has pretty much remained in the discussion phase since that time. Recently, however, UT has sought to address what Johnson says is a failure of colleges and universities in advance their research and economic development missions.

"So, one of the glaring omissions, here in Toledo, was the failure on the part of our institutions, all of our higher education institutions, to leverage this research so that on our campuses we can use its potential for enhancing the economy of our region. So that was one [question that we sought to answer] how do we leverage this research to a higher level of economic impact?"

The purpose of the corridor will be to focus institutional research in several key areas: alternative energy, bioengineering, biotechnology, clinical drug trials, medicinal chemistry and phar-

macology, just to name a few.

Johnson, who is a demographer, and specializes in urban planning, urban policy and urban sociology hopes that the corridor becomes a drawing card for companies that are attracted to the research that is being conducted at UT.

"The second thing ... every place we've gone, I've spent the first few weeks trying to get oriented to the demography of the population of the city. So I just pulled up some maps of the city and looked at where UT is located ... and [I] just looked at some of the other major enterprises that are sort of in the mid-city section the [Toledo] Zoo, the new facilities at WGTE, Dana [Corporation] campus, The ProMedica [Health System] campus, the Toledo Technology Academy, all of these things are concentrated in the mid-city of Toledo and, by chance, there is an abandoned CSX railroad that cuts right through the middle of this area and it just dawned on me that there is real potential for strong partnerships that maybe could be enhanced if we were able to acquire this largely abandoned railroad. There is a small piece used periodically, and so out of that concentration it just seemed to me that we had the potential through partnerships, particularly in research, to develop an initiative for the City of Toledo and northwest Ohio that captured the potential benefit of the research going on here for economic development," said Johnson.

"And by the way, we might be able to link these campuses up so that they are more effectively integrated because of the potential for creating a transit system that would link [the main campus and the Health Science Campus, formerly MCO, and then MUO] and or the main campus and the Scott Park campus... If you were to walk this distance [from main campus to the Scott Park campus]... you could actually walk this distance. Interestingly, as you walk through there, you see a lot of open space, old abandoned buildings, some parking lots and a few businesses, so we got to thinking, how can we connect these campuses in a way that would give us greater integration of our programs, shared facilities, shared staff, letting people get back and forth without all of the problems of parking?"

"And so part two of this is the potential for connecting these campuses in a way to

give greater integration, and we just simply drew a line around us [UT] this is an arbitrary line saying what we ought to do here [to] create an entity that we call the Science and Technology Corridor and begin working toward connecting these sites, achieving greater integration, stronger partnerships to leverage the scientific and health research that is going on for the full economic potential that these entities could bring.

"So, we started talking about this, this was just a discussion that I had actually put together to share with some friends, I actually got Frank Samuels, who is the governor's [of Ohio] advisor on science and technology, to come to one of our meetings and this was probably two and a half, three years ago now, and when he saw it, he said this has all the earmarks of being a very exciting project, in fact, he said the ideas is one of the most exciting in the State of Ohio.

"He arranged for me to have 45 minutes with Governor Taft, to give him a briefing on this [initiative], [during which] the governor encouraged us. We made a presentation to City Council, to Regional Growth Partnership of Northwest Ohio, [and to the] Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce; all of these entities endorsed the concept. So after a couple of years of just discussing the idea is this something that Toledo is ready for? Is this something that we can really do? The board of trustees here [UT], and even some of the board of trustees at MUO, both of these entities endorsed this as, and these are my words, 'as being sort of the center-piece of UT's economic development mission, that this would be what [both campuses] could do together.'

"Well, subsequent to that, UT and MUO merged into a single university this past summer, [and] now this has become even more critical. And what we want to do here is to not only try to capture the potential economic benefit of the research that is going on in our laboratories, pharmacy, engineering, and basic sciences, that research that has the potential of crating companies, and products that could be manufactured and sold here [in Toledo]."

According to its mission, the corridor will use current research and development assets through federal, state and local governments, and other underutilized assets to develop a scientific "neighborhood" of institutions work-



Dan Johnson

ing together on an ad hoc basis.

"We also want to attract businesses to Toledo that would have a relationship to the research that is going on in the laboratories," continued Johnson. "So if there is a company for example that is working in a certain product and they are producing advanced materials, they would benefit from a close association with the research going on in the college of engineering in advance materials. So they could have access to the expertise of graduate, and undergraduate, students who are working in these areas. Also to have internships in these companies would be good for the company, for UT and for the students and that would be good for the community because [we would be] able to attract talent here, and resources to support this kind of initiative."

When asked if attracting companies to Toledo and northwest Ohio was the most important aspect of the initiative from an economic development standpoint, Johnson conceded that while the initiative has "a lot of potential" to attract companies to the

area, UT is also extremely interested in the patent possibilities created by on-going research. "There could be a product that comes out of our laboratory that could be the new intel, and so you never know what's going to come out of these laboratories," he said.

"Maybe nine out of 10 of them don't go anywhere, but once in a while a product will hit the market that revolutionizes that market-place, it might be something in pharmaceuticals, it could be a drug for diabetes, or Alzheimer's, or something like that, [which] could produce millions and millions of dollars in revenue, and jobs for people... so it's really both."

"We're losing companies. You know when I was growing-up in Springfield, Ohio, my dad had a coal company there and I remember when the people used to have coal brought to their houses, they don't do that anymore to heat their homes with. I was only seven or eight-years old, but he had a great big scale in the office where they trucks pulled in and it said Toledo Scales on it, I'll always remember that. Toledo Scales

used to be here, now it's in Columbus, Ohio. We've lost a lot of companies here over the years, so what we are trying to do is to capture the potential of research that goes on at UT, BGSU, and even Owens Community College, and the training that they do there," said Johnson.

"There is some [research] going on at Lourdes, although that's not their mission, there are a few faculty members [who conduct research] there. There is research going on at Promedica, and other health institutions. We bring into Toledo and Northwest Ohio, including BGSU, \$100 million dollars [per] year in external funding for research in all of these institutions. UT alone [brings in] over \$60 million now with the combined campuses. But you add it all together, and that's \$100 million dollars a year over a five-year period, that's half a billion dollars that our institutions are bringing to this region for science and technology, and some of that can be transferred into the market-place for commercial incentives," Johnson added.

"So when we got to the

(Continued on Page 17)

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Dan Johnson Says Northwest Ohio Science and Technology Corridor Ready to Move Forward

(Continued from Page 16)

point when there was an agreement that we're going to go ahead and develop the Science and Technology Corridor, we put together a blue-ribbon committee of leaders in Toledo, and the university to formed a search committee, and we [conducted] a national search and we were successful in recruiting Peter Kay [to UT, who joined the staff as executive director of S&TC]."

Kay, who is originally from New York State, was recruited from Erie, Pennsylvania, where he was president and CEO of a group of economic development corporations. He has over 30 years of economic development experience, including building a technology park in partnership with Penn State University.

"Phase one was about 65 acres...and the land was actually owned by the university, [and it was] undeveloped, [so] our agency was the sole designated developer for that. We were building high-end, class A research facilities, and all that kind of stuff," Kay said of his Penn State

experience.

According to Johnson, the project will take quite some time to be implemented on the scale on which UT and its partners envision.

"This is not a one-year, two-year, or three-year project; this is a decade, two decade, three decade initiative like the research triangle park in North Carolina where they started in the 1960s. And we know about Silicon Valley in Palo Alto, California, and we know what's going on in Boston, and all over the country, and Toledo needs to be in that competitive arena and this is one way in helping to elevate the visibility of the research here, but more importantly to try to do everything we can with that research to capture its economic potential," said Johnson.

S&TC which will form its own 501(c)(3) organization so that UT can work in conjunction with other organizations was scheduled to hold its first board meeting on Tuesday, October 31.

Included on the board of directors list are some pretty impressive names, including:

Dave Huey of Block Communications, Tom Brady of Plastic Technologies, Jeanne Hylant of the Hylant Group, and Bill Fall of The William Fall Group.

Johnson says "in addition to the board of directors, which is the main governance body...we're putting together a council of community advisors."

"These are the people who are engaged in strategic businesses or professions who can give us good advice on our own efforts and policies. And that group will have on it, when it's formed, 20-30 people," Johnson added.

"There will also be council of deans from UT and, I hope, BGSU and other places that will meet with us periodically to keep the colleges informed on what's going on, and we can help the colleges, and the colleges can help us because we both have similar interests in the area of advancing research, [and] also leveraging that research that's going on in the colleges," Johnson continued.

According to Kay, a lot of what the corridor does is de-

veloped to help with that physical development of the area, but another major part is to make the connection between the global and regional economy.

"There have always been sponsored research projects going on with UT and other universities throughout the country but, without many exceptions, most universities could do a better job of fitting their abilities with the needs of businesses that are driven largely by the global economy," said Kay.

"Not that anyone was ignoring it; it's just that the economy has changed...[and] for the good of the country, as well as the region, we have to maximize that interface," he added.

The S&TC is also looking to revitalize some of the deteriorating and empty buildings, of which some are brownfields that surround main campus, Kay added.

"Actually one of the meetings that we have on the calendar right now is a small group of people with expertise on real estate and land [development], [so they will] give us advice on how we can maybe take what is a negative situation, and make it into a positive [one]," said Johnson.

Kay says the group has several companies interested in maintaining a presence here in northwest Ohio.

"We're working with a few companies that are very much interested in that research relationship on an ongoing basis and therefore, [are] interested if not moving their whole operation somewhere close, [then] at least an office [to have some] type of presence here."

One point of concern for those involved with the initiative is whether it will be supported by the largely black community that lives on the south side of main campus, many of whom live in constant fear of being forced out by the university in order to redevelop the land. While admitting that the relationship between the UT and this community has always been tense, Johnson is optimistic about obtaining its support.

"While we haven't written this down as a principle yet, which I hope we will do when we have our board meeting and start developing principles, [is] that whatever we do, it will be done in partnership with community neighborhood leaders so that anything that impacts neighborhoods would be positive, and I believe it will be," said Johnson.

"Peter [Kay] and I have

talked a lot about the importance of that, so that these are always win-win types of initiatives," Johnson added.

Johnson says S&TC has not primarily looked at redeveloping residential areas, but are more interested in building on the land that UT currently owns.

"There are well over 100 acres or more that we can develop right here [Health Science campus] for the bio-technology site. Dr. [Lloyd] Jacobs really has committed strongly to using the property that we have already here, as well as trying to acquire properties that would be attractive for business start-up. We have a lot of land on the Scott Park campus, the whole area right along the eastern side of the campus is virtually undeveloped, and there is a lot of potential for development there."

Johnson says he has reached out to city and county leaders to get their take on the initiative.

"Dr. Jacobs and I made presentations to City Council in late spring. The economic development committee of City Council actually hosted us and it was a very positive response. In fact, they adopted a resolution in support of the corridor," said Johnson.

"I met with Jack Ford when he served as mayor, and he was enthusiastic, and encouraged us to move ahead, and we followed up with Carty [Finkbeiner] when he became mayor, and actually made a proposal that the city become an active partner with us in this," Johnson added.

Furthermore, Johnson says that he "met on an individual basis with some of the [Lucas County] commissioners, but has not made a formal presentation to the county, [but] believes that they will be very supportive based on informal feed-back."

When asked if there will be a positive attempt to involve minority contractors in its projects, Johnson responded, "absolutely."

"One of the leaders here for the whole area is Councilwoman Wilma Brown, and I have a very open and good relationship with her, and [I] keep her informed, and she will call me once in a while is she has a question about something, and so we work to keep the lines of communication open."

When contacted by telephone Brown said that she has been working with UT for a number of years and would like to see dry cleaners, drug stores and other professional businesses in the district.

Brown, who has focused

her City Council activities on the re-establishment of the Dorr Street corridor as a viable business district in the inner city community, also said she was assured that no student housing would be built. She, along with others, have formed a coalition called United Neighborhood Residential Association, to hold UT at its word.

According to Johnson, "other community members who will have a special interest in this [initiative] hopefully are going to be reflected on the board here."

"I'm meeting with the [Toledo] Plan Commission to make sure that they are informed about what we would like to accomplish, and we will be seeking their active assistance."

When contacted later, Bernard "Pete" Culp, who sits on the City Plan Commission, and is a member of, and spoke in regards to, The Committee of the Whole, said he would like for The Committee of the Whole to be allowed to submit a list of names that S&TC board of directors should choose to work on the corridor because it directly impacts the African-American community.

Other areas of concern for Culp was whether black entrepreneurs would be given the chance to own any of the properties developed by S&TC, whether the initiative would allow residential development, would UT's expansion move beyond the abandoned railroad tracks on Westwood, and how the initiative will affect African-American students and the kind of skills they will have to have in order to compete.

Culp suggested several names of community and business people who should be involved in the progression of the corridor initiative, including Doni Miller, who he says "could deal with the financing of the Port Authority."

Other names suggested by Culp were Vince Davis, Jerry Jones and Jay Black, all of whom are professional business men.

"What we don't want is for them to impact our neighborhoods, and then have all Eurocentric opportunities," said Culp.

When asked what he envisions for the year 2020 should this initiative prove successful, Johnson said, "we would have these campuses connected with a very contemporary transit system, because transportation is so important to the northwest Ohio area."

Contact Nadean Hamilton at nadean@thetruthtoledo.com

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African-American Legacy Project Honors Local Legends At Annual Luncheon

By Geneva J. Chapman,
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

"The symbol on the Kente stole – the ram – truly represents this year's honorees," said Bill Harris, co-host of The African American Legacy Project's Legends Luncheon, Saturday, October 14, 2006. "The ram stands for humility, strength, wisdom and learning."

Harris referred to the symbol of respect, a Kente cloth stole, that was presented to each honoree as a young version of each of those being honored read his/her history. Former Toledo Mayor Jack Ford upbraided friend, Weldon Douthitt, for not telling his old friend that he was receiving an award.

"I'll take care of him later," said Ford, then turned his attention to the organization presenting his long-time friend with the prestigious honor.

"I stand as one who remains committed to this project as long as I can do anything," Ford also received an award for his work for AALP.

"Recently the African American Legacy Project began an oral history project with the purpose of documenting the history of our America," said WNWO-Channel 24's Shenikwa Stratford, co-host for the luncheon. She asked volunteers who give oral interviews to raise their hands and encouraged those attending the luncheon to contact the volunteers if they knew of someone who could give an oral history.

"Thank those in our country who want to tell the whole story certain of African-Americans," said Representative Marcy Kaptur. "We know the history of Ohio has been far from perfect and the present situation in Ohio is far from perfect; but we are making progress and starting to tell the whole story."

Kaptur talked about efforts to tell more about the history of the Underground Railroad in Ohio. "All across our region, the story must be told. First, we have to know our own story."

The keynote speaker for the luncheon was Toledo native Reverend A.L. Owens, who took time to acknowledge his northwest Ohio roots, as well as his friendship with AALP's founder.

"Let me take a moment to thank my friend of many years, Mr. Robert Smith," said Owens. "I want you to join me one more time in giving these honorees another rousing round of applause."

Owens' speech focused on two words: history and legacy. "We often talk in terms of history, our history, to build big-

ger and stronger communities," he said, dispelling a common misconception about the role of history in our society.

"There was a time when there was no written communication. The only way that what we call history was recalled was by sitting around the campfire and telling 'his' story. History is the recording and remembering of event in the past. Legacy is who and what is left behind and remembered."

While the elegant ballroom at the Genesis Dreamplex bore no resemblance to the 'campfires' where history was recalled in ancient times, Owens recalled historic moments he witnessed in Toledo. "I remember WKLR, the sound of soul in Toledo," he said, receiving a smattering of applause. "There is history in all of our lives. We are making history here today."

Going even farther back into the ancestral history of African-Americans, Owens quoted an African proverb. "Until the lions have their own historians, tales of the hunt will always be told by the hunter," he said. "The people that cross our path that influence our thoughts and our actions should never be forgotten."

Owens urged those attending the luncheon to support AALP's efforts to preserve African-American history in this region. "If we don't know our past and the people in our past, we will never know our future," he said. "This project needs first and foremost your prayers. And then it needs your financial support. If we would just support each other – that 90 percent of the problem."

Following the keynote address, each of the honorees was presented with a one-of-a-kind plaque. "I certainly want to thank you for this recognition," exclaimed an ecstatic Dr. Samantha Adams, Toledo's only African-American female chiropractor and the first one in the State of Ohio. "And I certainly want to thank you for doing it while I'm yet alive." Dr. Adams introduced members of her family who attended the luncheon in her honor.

"It is an honor to be here today," said Percy Rankin. "I hope that my being the first black teller and the first black vice-president in Toledo in some way will help others in the future." Rankin acknowledged his and his wife's family attending the luncheon in his honor; then he acknowledged his deceased wife.

"She was a guiding force behind this because I spent a lot of time away from home,"

he said. "I would just like to give her credit for that, because without her, I wouldn't be here today."

Rankins advised young people in attendance to study and work hard and put God first. He was about to take his seat, but Smith insisted on him telling a story about a bank robbery. A bank where Rankins worked was robbed "September 12, 1968, at 1:20 pm." Rankins not only remembered the exact date and time of the robbery, but every detail of the event, including: the license plate of the robbers' getaway car and the exact amount of money stolen. "Those men were caught within nine minutes," he said, finishing an oral history that had everyone in the audience laughing.

"I really would like to sit down," said Weldon Douthitt, but Douthitt didn't sit down when it was his time to be honored. "I don't want to talk about my life. I prefer to talk about many of you sitting in the audience." Naming a number of people in the audience, as well as some not present, Douthitt was the soul of humility as he honored those who have supported him over the years.

As he concluded his acceptance speech, Douthitt asked three young, African-American brick layers to stand. "I challenge the three of you to do something," he said. "To begin to build the pipeline for people who look like you." The humble man who nearly broke down in tears when he accepted his award passed his legacy on to the next generation. "We have 75 tapes from our students who interviewed elders," said former UT professor Helen Cook, Ph.D. "We did a 10-year study." Cook announced that the tapes are being donated to AALP. While acknowledging her own family, she had the parents of students who've been in the EXCEL program stand also.

"I would not be where I am today if it were not for students and parents of EXCEL," said, Cook who recently retired after 31 years as an educator. "We need the best of mind in education," she continued, interrupted as Smith presented her with a birthday cake to celebrate her birthday, which was October 13.

Cook's successor at EXCEL is David Young. Borrowing the singing voice of Young's wife Brenda, Cook expressed her deepest gratitude to AALP.

Brenda Young brought the house down with an capella rendition of Andre Crouch's contemporary classic "My Tribute," her melodious voice

soaring throughout the Dreamplex like the voice of an angel heralding God's praises. A standing ovation followed the spectacular performance.

Vince Davis, representing the Omega Psi Phi fraternity, presented retired businessman Virgis W. Colbert with a piece of Waterford Crystal in honor of his selection as a 'legend' by AALP.

"The AALP does very important work as we have seen here today," said Colbert. "When I think of staying power, two people come to mind."

Colbert talked about a young African-American man who dropped out of school in his small town to help his family make ends meet, as well as a young African-American girl who attends George Washington University in D.C. and is beginning an internship in the office of a U.S. Senator after overcoming a devastating illness.

"The two people come from very different circumstances," he said. "The young man lived in the South in 1907



Robert Smith

and the second, the young lady, lives now." The two people from divergent backgrounds that he talked about were his father and his daughter.

"I think their lives are about staying power," he said. "Real progress occurs when each generation takes what was given by the previous generation and builds on it."

This year's recipient of the Trailblazer Award was Charles Welch "Charlie Chuck" from The Juice. Welch could not be present and his daughter, Rosalind Welch, accepted his award.

AALP Executive Director Robert Smith said The Boys

& Girls Club youth are studying the lives of this year's honorees. "Each honoree will have a picture placed in The Boys & Girls Club," he said.

At the end of the event, attended by over 200 people, co-hosts Harris and Stratford passed on the torch to next year's co-hosts, Kristian Brown, from ABC-13 and Larry Whatley, from CBS-11.

Music for the luncheon was provided by J.C. and Company, featuring Isis Ardrey. Reverend Kevin Bedford, pastor of Third Baptist Church, gave the invocation and benediction.

(See Photos on Page 24)



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Tribute Given For Bethesda Christian Cathedral Pastor Bishop Marjorie Holt

By Geneva J. Chapman,
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Few places in Northwest Ohio have the ambience and elegance of Central Park West. Perhaps that's why one of the area's most sophisticated locales was chosen as the site for a tribute to a very special woman of God. "A Night With The Bishop," a tribute to Bishop Marjorie Holt, took place Friday, October 20, 2006, at the west Toledo location. The formal affair began with a social hour that allowed family, friends and congregants to fellowship in the lavish ballroom where soft lighting and muted colors offered a tasteful and classy background for chatter, candid photos and complimentary appraisals of the beautifully attired guests.

As they preened and paraded for each other in their fur, feathers, jewels, sequins and beads layered over chiffon, taffeta, silk, satin and velvet, everyone looked as

good as the setting itself.

Beautifully coiffed heads turned to see church members enter the hall, dressed in their finest evening wear and stilettos and Stacey Adams, walk proudly through the pillar flanked door, like lord and ladies, dukes and duchesses, kings and queens being presented at court. Only this court was not for man-made aristocracies built on serfdom, slavery and corruption. Royalty here were attendants in the highest court of all: God's Kingdom.

His royal subjects had gathered to pay tribute to a member of His royal family, a Pretty Holy Daughter of God or P.H.D., Bishop Marjorie Holt.

"We come tonight on this auspicious occasion to honor one who deserves so much more," said Mistress of Ceremony, Elise D'Arcy Weathers-Cadmus. "We're

all dressed up and all pretty – but this is the day the Lord has made!"

Following a brief, but spirited moment of praise, Pastor Christina Miles from Washington, D.C., gave the invocation and dinner was served. Stuffed chicken breast with white wine sauce, chef-carved beef bordelaise, red skin potatoes, green beans with red and yellow peppers . . . the menu could have been served at a dinner for any head of state.

Fellowship and frolic continued over the delicious meal and peals of laughter were often heard over animate, friendly discussions. Friends and strangers conversed in jovial good spirits, under the unction of the Holy Spirit for what was truly a 'happy hour' of feasting and fellowship.

During dessert, red vel-

vet and chocolate cake, the diners got an extra sweet treat when the guest of honor circulated around the room, greeting and thanking those who attended her tribute, stopping frequently to pose with various members of her congregation, as well as friends, for photographs and giving each and every person who attended an affectionate hug and warm, appreciative smile.

The 'roast' segment of the gala evening began like all church services, with singing. After a couple of choruses of "Our God Is An Awesome God," Pastor Ronald Miles from Washington, D.C., began the roast, offering tribute to his long-time friend and associate. "There a few people that you meet that you can truly say are friend," he said. "Dr. Holt has shown herself over the years to be friendly."

Miles recalled the scripture in Ruth that describes such friendship. "That's how I feel about Dr. Holt. Her people will be my people and my people will be her people."

Doris Greer, another long-time friend of the bishop, started her tribute with humor. "Someone said to me a moment ago, 'Are you Marjorie's sister?' I'm not her blood sister – I think, but I'm her sister." Ever loquacious, Greer entertained the audience with stories about her 'sister.' "She's not just a dreamer," said Greer. "If you just dream, things may not happen. She's a visionary. She's a visionary that takes action."

Greer also recalled many of Bishop Holt's accomplishments over the years, including the Gospel Festival, which she organized.

A former employee from Connecting Point, Laritha Ethridge recalled the bishop's professional career. "My memories of Dr. Holt are of being her employee," she said. "She did not have Monday morning meeting. And she was always looking for a reason for us to eat together, fellowshiping together and praying together at work."

Ethridge recited from memory part of a poem she wrote about a queen. "A queen



Bishop Marjorie Holt

is sitting before us," she said. "She takes you with her spirit, her love." Choking up as she recalled Bishop Holt's assistance when she was going through a difficult pregnancy, Ethridge ended her tribute.

Bishop Gregory Foster told a short story as his tribute in which the angels discussed who God would send to help the world, naming all of the great prophets. "Jesus said there she stands over there," said Foster. "The angels said, 'We knew it had to be her – everybody knows Marjorie Holt.'"

Evangelist Joyce Edwards represented her Detroit congregation and shared that Bishop Holt has a standing engagement every year to preach her pastor's anniversary service. "And she just wrecks the house," said Edwards. She read a brief poem, titled "The Pastor."

Bishop Lanette Davis said, "I always refer to her as a classy woman, a classy woman of God." She said every time someone mentions a conference, she tells them, "You oughta get Bishop Holt!"

Family members, Herbert Phillips, Bishop Holt's brother and Deacon Phillip Johnson her brother-in-law, represented the family. "They look up to their sister with great respect," said Johnson. "You are that woman I'd go to battle with. You have been appointed by God. To understand what it is to be a soldier, you have to understand what it is to be a leader."

Continuing tearfully, Johnson compared Holt to great women like

Condoleeza Rice and Rosa Parks.

Bishop Andre Woods gave the final 'roast'. "To our honoree tonight, it is certainly good that we are gathered here while she can see us," he said. "If it was a funeral tonight, they'd be wrapped around the walls trying to get a glimpse of a woman in a box."

Bishop Woods talked about Holt's years of service and her humility. "All I've ever seen Bishop Holt to is serve," he said. "Bishop Holt in my estimation has been a model servant. I thank God that we're honoring a real shepherd tonight."

This writer gave a tribute to Bishop Holt that receive a standing ovation. A bouquet of red roses from the Royal Court Youth at Bethesda was presented to Bishop Holt.

Holt acknowledged her guests, friends and family. "This is such an awesome thing for me," she said. "I've gotten a lot better at receiving." Exhibiting her characteristic humility, Bishop Holt gave tribute to those who would pay tribute to her. "The Bethesda family is God could have placed me in," she said, "next to my natural family."

She then rejoiced at seeing everyone looking so wonderful. "We just need to have an all-saints ball!" she said. "The world does it! Just look at the person sitting next to you. Don't they look good?"

After acknowledging her family, she issued a challenge. "I challenge you to not let this be an end; let this be a new beginning."

Pastor Ronald Miles gave the benediction.

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Album Review

Diddy *Press Play* (parental advisory)

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Prince is one of the biggest musical influences to many people (including U.G.E. fam).

We all know the hits, the crazy outfits and the awesome talent.

But something else that Prince did back in his day served as the blueprint for people like Sean Combs.

Before I was even old enough to walk to school by myself, Prince had sold millions of albums and become a force in the industry. And his power lent itself to various projects that would ultimately result in a short but sweet dynasty. That Minneapolis sound became a staple in the early-mid 1980's and soon Prince's influence was all over radio and the charts.

You had Morris Day and The Time. You had Vanity. You had Appollonia 6. You had Sheila E.

And even lesser known acts like Jesse Johnson.

All of these acts were under Prince's purple reign during that decade.

His sound, his influence, his direction... a lot of legendary music was created during his time on top. Growing up around musicians, my dad and his friends always talked about how Prince changed the game. But when I was old enough to study it myself, I came across Herby "Luv Bug" Azor. He took it one step further by popping up in all of his artist's videos and on their tracks. He produced the music, he handled the business, he made things run smoothly... so why not? Remember "Push It" by Salt N Pepa?

The guy that says "this dance ain't for everybody, only the sexy people... dance I said!"

That's Herby. You had Salt N Pepa. You had Kid N Play. You had Sweet Tee. You had Kwame. You had Dana Dane. All of those acts were under Herby's reign during the golden era of hip-hop.

But even with all that influence both of those men had in launching several acts, they still could never say that they had all of it under one record label.

When Puffy was at Uptown in the early 90's, it was one of the first times since Motown that an urban music dynasty was taking place with all the artists, all the producers and all the talent under the same roof. Puffy saw Guy blow up. Puffy saw Heavy D blow up.

Puffy had a hand in Jodeci blowing up. And he's mainly responsible for Mary J. blowing up.

But even with Uptown it was still kind of off balance... way more R&B hits than rap hits and virtually zero street cred even though Andre Harrell had white collar cred.

Bad Boy Entertainment's reign over the 90's was a culmination of how Prince, Herby and even Andre spent their heydays. Whether you love or hate Sean "Puffy" Combs and the music he's brought to the world, in a lot of ways you have to respect what he achieved.

Bad Boy Records has a catalog that has sold well over 75 million records worldwide.

But even more important than that, in the early years Bad Boy had artists people truly loved.

112 was like the second coming of Boyz II Men, they were actually Bad Boy's most consistent selling act with three albums all reaching double platinum domestically.

Faith, yo - I still listen to Faith's first album. I can't even imagine high school without that CD.

Biggie... greatest rapper of all time, I don't even need to elaborate.

A lot of crews have had their time on top. Roc A Fella, Ruff Ryders, Cash Money etc.

But Bad Boy had R&B and hip-hop on lock at the same time and it lasted much longer than anyone expected. This was a movement and it spread across dance floors, radio stations, TV screens the world over. The Hitmen changed how producers construct song arrangements the same way that Mase changed the way people look at playing supporting roles. Bad Boy has experienced numerous re-births with people like Shyne, Carl Thomas, Black Rob and even lately Cassie and Young Joc getting hits at a time when the label needed them most. But even with all this greatness... Bad Boy's legacy remains in constant jeopardy.

Mostly because of the way people view the man who authored the legacy.

Puffy's ego, shameless self-promotion and ambiguous talent make him great at what he does but at the same time it makes people hate him for how he does it.

There have been many



times that a Puffy song (not just a Bad Boy song, but a Puff song) will come on and you can literally see the nasty taste it leaves in people's mouths as they frown up with every wack rhyme he spits.

Especially hard-core rap fans and backpacker hip-hop heads.

Yes, he sampled a lot (but not nearly as much as ya boy Kanye) and I defend him on that one.

But his rhyming skills... yo, nobody could defend him when it came to that.

Sometimes he sounded cool if he were alongside Loon or Mase... that whole Harlem vibe.

But three straight verses of Puffy rhyming is usually hard to digest.

And what makes it even more of a stretch is how he seems to be oblivious of the fact that for every one person who remains a loyal fan, there might be three people who refuse to check for him at all. Maybe he knows and doesn't care.

When I looked around earlier this year and saw that The Biggie Duets went platinum, Young Joc had a top five hit, Cheri Dennis had a top 20 hit, Cassie had a top five hit and Danity Kane was about to have a number one album... I said to myself "please don't let Puffy mess this up."

And about a week later, I started hearing about *Press Play*.

And then as Making The Band 3 was concluding, the whole campaign started to unfold.

I will never agree with that type of behavior from a CEO.

If Darron Scott or Aye Dee are blowing up, you can trust that The Undergodz will politely wait our turn and not potentially cut the legs from under a good set up just to join the party.

As Puffy's album is hitting the shelves, all three of Bad Boy's debut albums have dropped to lower positions on the charts. The promotional push he's using for his own project could possibly further the careers of the artists who are responsibly for this resurgence.

Business-wise, I think it's a little irresponsible and I'd just straight up dog the whole idea of dude coming back out with album right now if it weren't for one thing...

PRESS PLAY IS A HOT ASS ALBUM.

I kid you not. Everybody has seen how Lil Wayne's rhyming skills have grown over the past couple of years, right? Well Diddy might get runner up for "Most Improved" rapper (not lyricist, rapper).

This could be someone's first album because the hunger is there.

I don't know whose writing these rhymes (Aasim is that you?) but they don't sound that bad.

I mean yo, New York is insistent on coming back and this album has that vibe all on it.

Check ya boy Diddy on "The Future" and tell me if you don't think that's some true hip-hop ish from the man people used to blame for making "...that plastic sounding s**t".

Dude talking about being on the grind "like he needs new brake pads" - LOL. What?!!

...assemble my own team to say f**k Fema in case there's another Katrina"... and so on.

I think it would be hard for someone to front on this.

I can't really get with what's on the radio.

Jadakiss, Busta, and other NY heavyweights stay in the ride when I roll...not D4L or some mess. *Press Play* is

East Coast but it's still a party album.

"Come To Me" is slick and you already know how ill that hook is. Would've been nice if he used any of the talented bad girls in his stable, but hey - Nicole from P.C.D. sounds good.

Speaking of how he treats his bad girls, why would he take Danity Kane's song and make it his own? But then when you hear "Tell Me" with Christina Aguilera you kind of forget that it could be any other way.

"Just Blaze" is the beast of all beasts and Diddy reads a beat that maybe half of the rappers out right now would have trouble with. "Wanna Move" takes it down South with Big Boi, Scar, Ciara and Diddy. Not one of my favorites but still, Diddy's flow is impressive. Timbaland, Twista, Shawna collab with Diddy on "Diddy Rock" and it's so new school it's old school, like a futuristic throw back to Afrika Bambaata.

When you hear a live jazz ensemble on an interlude one minute and then Nas on a rough, grimy track the next minute, it becomes obvious that Diddy might be trying to be all thing to all people. Which hardly ever works. However, I challenge

anyone to get this album and say it's wack.

He just hasn't left as much room for criticism as he did in the past.

Press Play is a concentrated effort at making great hip-hop music from the point of view of a mogul from Harlem, NY.

And when you wonder why he didn't collaborate with more people in the Bad Boy camp it almost seems like he's trying to capitalize off the fan bases of the artists/producers he's invited to take part in this project. But that theory goes out the window the deeper you go in to the album.

Wait til you hear the Will.I.Am produced "Special Feeling" and "Last Night" w/ Keisha Cole and think about who I started off this article talking about.

Ya boy Diddy, ya'll, what more can I say?

Took him 10 years, but when it comes to spittin' written rhymes and orchestrating an album worth of various musical tints... he's actually become an artist.

Press Play is more than hot...it's great music from an unexpected source, kinda long...but still enjoyable.

The true grade for *Press Play* by Diddy is B+.

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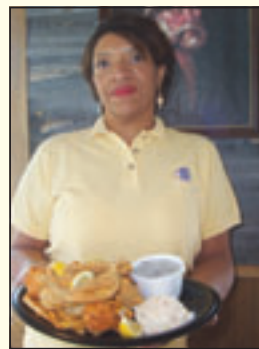
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Album Review Justin Timberlake *FutureSex/LoveSounds*

(parental advisory)

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Around the time of the recent Hairballers show, I remember we were debating whether or not Justin Timberlake's "Sexyback" was really going over well with black/urban folks. At the actual Hairballers event the answer was spelled out loud and clear. People love this friggin' song!

And if you happen to be at the right club (think bigger than the 419) and this song comes on you will see folks of every color absolutely lose their minds!

This past week, Ludacris actually ended the "Sexyback" seven-week run atop the Hot 100.

It's just one of those songs that's bigger than just a first single to a highly anticipated album. It's become a widely-used phrase. Now *everybody* claims to be bringing it back - LOL. My favorite part to quote is Timbaland's crazy voiced "take em to the choooruus"... sounding like a crotchety old witch or something.

Speaking of Timbaland, how ill is it for him to hit number one with "Promiscuous" and then "Sexy Back" this year? Another major factor in Timbaland's most recent takeover (Lil Jon, you've had it long enough - now lets give it back to it's rightful owners) is the fact that he produced 90 percent of both Nelly Furtado's and J.T.'s albums.

And Justin Timberlake isn't even on Timbo's label.

I was a big fan of Justin Timberlake's first album. It was more soulful than most albums that came out that year. The chemistry between the Neptunes and Pharrell was crazy ill and you'd think it would be a hard act to follow, but leave it to Mr. Mosley to hit it out the park. Outside of music and all, I was kinda upset with how Justin handled the whole Janet Jackson thing so I really wasn't checkin' for dude for a minute. But if "Sexyback" won't win a person over, "My Love" surely will.

That song is nothing short of amazing in terms of production, arrangement and even lyrics. I love the fact this album didn't have a huge amount of hype around it.

But it's a perfect sophomore album. The black and white theme of the videos is carried out in the album art through simplistic photos that look more like a GQ spread than glamour shots for some big time singer.

For anyone that would name an album *FutureSex/LoveSounds* you'd think that this person would have some deep metaphor waiting to leap at you the moment you press play. But the only thing you find on here is absolutely remarkable music. It's like intelligent pop that has a root in true artistry.

Yeah, he was the front man for 'N Sync but he's also a multi-instrumentalist with a piercing falsetto and old school R&B sensibili-



ties. Don't let the whole color thing get you all bothered because J.T. takes more chances with his music than the average pretend thug R&B cats that dance across R&B everyday.

Can't front on "Entourage" by Omarion though. If pop radio accepted "Sexyback," by rights they should've jumped all over that joint too. Will.I.Am gets one joint on here called "Damn Girl" and that boy is a beast in the making when it comes to production. Let me just say that there is not one single wack song on this album. Every single one of the 12 tracks on *FutureSex/LoveSounds* is a nothing less than excellent... this whole damn album is hot as hell!

From front to back, all the way through.

Go and buy this joint, I guarantee you'll be playing it for years to come.

And it really says a lot about the genius that went into making it... the writing, the production that spans decades and styles while creating a completely new sound and just how each song melts into the next.

This is a flawless album.

The true grade for FutureSex/LoveSounds is A.

The Adams Family Brings "Exposed" to the Maumee Indoor Theatre



Angels glorifying God



Angel kicking Lucifer out of heaven

"Exposed," written and directed by Bonita Adams and starring James Adams made its debut on Saturday October 14 at the Maumee Indoor Theatre.

The gospel play is the latest in a series of such ventures produced by the Exposing Truth Ministries (TEM) Productions.



Satan with a prisoner in hell

The Fifth Annual Stubblefield Collard Green Festival

Special to The Truth

In September Glenn and Joyce Stubblefield held their fifth annual Collard Green Festival. In spite of the rain, approximately 150 guests attended that Saturday evening. The festival is held at a small

park that the couple created by purchasing property across the street from their Belmont Avenue home. The park is called Belmont Enterprise (named after a popular recreation center for teenagers during the

1950's and early 1960's).

The Stubblefields chose to sponsor this festival as a tribute to their ancestors. "Greens have always been a part of African-American culture,"

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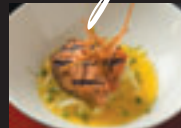
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The Fifth Annual Stubblefield Collard Green Festival

(Continued from Page 21)

said Glenn. "They have played an important part in the nutritional development of our people, thus helping us to grow into the giant quiet force that we are in this nation." Joyce's mother Mary had a special love for collards and inspired Joyce to hold this festival.

Various dishes are created using collard greens, such as collard green casseroles, egg rolls, collard leaf rolls, collard tamales, collard pizza, salads and many more. Back this year by popular demand was col-

lard green ice cream created by Glenn. The Stubblefield's also serve fresh-fried fish. Glenn acquired a love for fishing from his dad Paul. Also on the menu was homemade wine. Joyce's father Dennis was a wine-maker and Joyce and Glenn have continued this tradition.

Several new events and items were added this year. Among the new activities was the Collard Green recipe contest. There were five entries. Lana Thrash took the trophy

with her collard green dip.

Among the highlights of this year's event: Glenn slow roasted a side of beef that was a tremendous hit and members of the Grove Control band entertained guests. Many guests took to the mic to karaoke.

This year, Glenn created a memorial board. The board paid tribute to the family's departed ancestors. Each year festival guests have held a libation ceremony in honor of our ancestors (an old African

tradition) The memorial board was a special attraction and bought tears to many. Guests were encouraged to place the names of their ancestors on the weeping willow tree, planted in the memory of Mama Theresa, Glenn's mom.

In addition to the memorial board, there were several other boards to view that pay tribute to entertainment of the 50's. This is a special treat, since the event is geared to persons in the 50-and-older age group.



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(Continued from Page 18)



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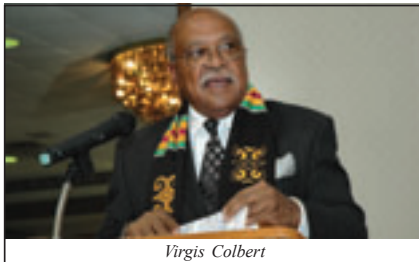
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