



*Dr. Anthony Armstrong*

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*“Throughout the Midwest and especially northwest Ohio, we need to find ways to increase the access by minorities to medical care. We are doing this as a grass roots movement. We will reach people at schools, churches, supermarkets, wherever we can.”*

## This Strikes Us ...

*A Sojourner's Truth Editorial*

OK, good news first.

This week, April 15, marks the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jackie Robinson's major league debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers ... an indication of just how much progress this nation has made in its quest to come to terms with its long standing racial divisiveness.

It is impossible to overstate the impact of that debut. Not the impact the debut had on sports, but the impact on the national consciousness. Jackie Robinson's importance as an athlete really means nothing when compared to what his actions meant in the context of jump starting the drive to end legal segregation.

Robinson was not, after all, the first great black athlete of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, nor was he the first black celebrity. Jack Johnson, Paul Robeson, Joe Louis, Louis Armstrong, to name a few, were all significant figures on the landscape well before the unknown Jackie Robinson integrated professional team sports ... integrated the national pastime.

The importance of that particular move was twofold. First, Robinson became a part of a group that had been previously all white while other black celebrities were generally engaged in individual endeavors.

Second, in becoming part of that group, Robinson began to make black people visible ... visible as a critical component of American life. A couple of years later, the eminent Ralph Ellison would win a National Book Award for his novel *Invisible Man*, the story of an unnamed black man's search for identity and place and society. Ellison's description of the status of black people in general in the late 1940's, early 1950's, is exactly what Robinson's appearance, and those who followed closely behind in major league baseball, began to counter for African-Americans.

Within six years of Robinson's debut, the matter of *Brown vs. the Board of Education* would begin to start its path to the U.S. Supreme Court and, shortly thereafter, the civil rights movement would burst upon the landscape in full bloom. If major league baseball had not been integrated, perhaps the civil rights movement would not have succeeded in bringing about an end to legal segregation in such a relatively short time. In 1965, the Voting Rights Act—the significant legal bookend to the *Brown* decision—was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson.

We are not contending that Robinson's debut was sufficient, or even necessary, for the success of the civil rights movement. We do believe that his debut played an important part in erasing the concept that blacks would be, and should be, invisible members of society and thereby sped the process along.

Now for the bad news—a "sports" example of just how far we have to go.

Just last week, on the virtual eve of that 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Robinson's debut, radio host Don Imus, a nationally syndicated shock jock, and his crew held a discussion on the previous night's NCAA women's basketball final in which Rutgers University lost to the University of Tennessee.

Imus, for the uninitiated, is not merely a shock jock these days. He has a steady diet of national figures traipsing through his studio. In the last several months, for example, he has interviewed Senators Joe Lieberman (Ind.—Conn.) and John McCain (Rep.—Ariz.) and television news host Tim Russert.

Imus, as it happens, broadcasts from the same city in which Jackie Robinson made his debut, and 60 years after that debut, Imus called the Rutgers' team members "nappy-headed hos." He compared them to the "good looking" Tennessee team and for some reason recalled Spike Lee's *School Daze* film in relegating the Rutgers women to the "jigaboos" and the Tennessee team to the "wannabees."

Imus has a history of making such bigoted remarks. He has called award-winning journalist Gwen Ifill of PBS a "cleaning lady" and William Rhoden, a sports columnist with *The New York Times*, a "quota hire." Both are African-American in case you miss the point.

In researching Imus's remarks, *The Truth* pulled up photos of both women's teams. To be perfectly honest, there doesn't appear to be a discernible difference in the hues. Both teams are predominantly African-American. Tennessee has three white players, Rutgers two. That appears to be the only difference on the color spectrum. In fact, if you had the teams switch uniforms, the casual observer would be hard pressed to pick up on the fact that a switch had been made.

None of that really matters, however. Imus and his colleagues managed to see something there and took the opportunity, as he so often does from all indications, to denigrate African-Americans, all presumably for the sake of keeping ratings high by appealing to the very lowest of common denominators.

We don't know who listens to this guy, but whoever you are, you can certainly do a lot better.

## Special Notice

Re: Examinations for Journeyman Wireman

Applications for the Journeyman Inside Wireman test will be accepted April 16-20, 2007 at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 8, 807 Lime City Road, Rossford, Ohio between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The qualifications to be eligible for examination are:

1. Must be 18 years of age or over.
2. Must live in the jurisdiction of Local 8 for one year prior to application.
3. Must have proof of 4 years employment in the commercial/ industrial electrical construction industry.
4. Twenty dollars (\$20) must accompany application.

## Community Calendar

**April 9-13**

• Spring Break Mini Camp: For third through six graders; Art projects, cooking lessons, games; Crossroads Family Resource Center: 419-475-3258

**April 10-11**

• American Red Cross Babysitter's Training: Crossroads Family Resource Center; For youths aged 11 to 15; Knowledge, skills and confidence to care for infants and school-aged children; Noon to 3 pm each day: 419-475-3258

**April 14**

• Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir: "Yesterday;" Stranahan Theater: 7 pm: 419-241-7332 or 419-241-3330

• Scott High School Alumni Association: "Scholarship Reunion Dance;" Civic Center Promenade; 7 pm to midnight: 419-349-2125

• Church of the New Covenant: "Authors and Poets Spring Rally;" 10 am to 2 pm; Guest Illustrator Wil Clay; Results of essay contest announced: 419-536-3954

• Losalem Baptist Church Men's Monthly Prayer Breakfast: Speaker Pastor Charles Waters; 9 am

• Warren AME Church: Univ. of Pittsburgh Gospel Choir and Univ. of Dayton United Gospel Chorus concert; 5 pm: 419-531-6557

**April 15**

• Indiana Avenue MBC: 42<sup>nd</sup> Pastoral Appreciation for Rev. Dr. John Roberts and First Lady Bernice Roberts; Guests are Rev. Dr. John Heckard and the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church of Mansfield, OH

• "Flight 2101:" Thought provoking Christian drama; Presented by the Interdenominational Ministers Wives and Ministers Widows, Inc; Jerusalem Baptist; 6:30 pm; Free admission

**April 16**

• Nation of Islam: Showing a lecture by Min. Louis Farrakhan; 6:30 to 8:30 pm; Kent Branch Library: 419-242-2255

**April 17**

• "Poetry Live & Out Loud:" Toledo Main Library; Evening of poetry and spoken word; 7 to 8:30 pm; McMaster Center lobby: 419-259-5333

**April 17-19**

• Mt. Zion Baptist Church: Prayer Conference; "Takin' It by Force;" Featured speakers and instructors: 419-246-1850

**April 18**

• Free Community Fair: 4 to 7 pm; Crossroads Family Resource Center; Free health screenings, informational booths, cooking demonstrations; OSU extension, Presenters include - Pampered Chef, Move 2 Improve, Life Styles and American Red Cross: 419-475-3258

• Spirit of Faith Adoptions: Informational meeting for domestic and international adoptions; 3315 Centennial Rd. Ste A-2: 419-843-5355

**April 19**

• Fish Fry: Amazon Lodge Hall; 11 am to 5 pm: 419-531-7079

**April 20**

• STOMP UT: 2007 Step Show presented by National Pan-Hellenic Council; Stranahan Theater; 7p: 419-381-8851 ext 1

• 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Take Back the Night Celebration: Resource fair, community rally, women's march, survivor speak out and men's program, clothesline project, silent witness project; 6 pm; Bowsher HS: 419-530-6206

## The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American Owned and Operated Newspaper

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**Guest Editorial**

**King Kong And Nappy Headed Hos.....**

*By Lafe Tolliver*

There was an impressive announcement yesterday from the Yale University College of Biological Sciences and Forensic Medicine. They have released the details of a 25-year long study that involved over 15,000 white males that concluded without a doubt that white males have a propensity to engage in name calling and race baiting against black people more than any other ethnic group.

The exhaustive study funded by the McCardin-Henseer Foundation indicated that while even unprovoked, white males will concoct fantasies and glib stories that place black people in a scandalous or suspect light and oftentimes these lies and character attacks harm and place black people in dire jeopardy.

But an errant footnote caught my attention in this massive study that comprised about 2,300 pages and appendices. Buried on page

1071 was a footnote that indicated that our Mayor Carty Finkbeiner was a subject of this study when they learned that he called the ex fire chief Michael Bell... KING KONG.

Of course anyone with two brain cells bumping together understands the deep psychological fears that KING KONG brings out in white males. Pictures of big, black, burly hands petting soft white female flesh or giant knobby black hands taking away jobs from white

folks.

KING KONG is a fictitious ape. You call someone an ape to reduce them to a picture of a brutish animal so that you can control them and justify brutal treatment against them.

But, and here is the kicker... that same colossal study indicated that both Mayor Carty Finkbeiner and radio show talk host Don Imus... you know the one that called the Rutgers University ladies basketball team... "nappy headed hos" are related.

Yes, voice samples were taken from both Don Imus and Mayor Finkbeiner by a research assistant and after running a series of digital sampling using advanced Feinsor-Deen R75 scientific equipment, it showed without a doubt that Don Imus and Carty Finkbeiner possess the same proclivity to denigrate and disabuse black people.

It is not a stretch to go from calling someone KING KONG to calling innocent

black women nappy headed hos (note: hos means whores).

Of course, both offenders waited a couple of days and then issued the standard and obligatory mea culpas (apologies) and told black folks to get a life and get over it.

For Don Imus, it is OK to go on national radio and call black women whores with nappy heads (as if there is someone wrong with having

*Continued on page 9*

**The Mayor's Strategy to Divide African-Americans**

*Guest Editorial*

Recent events which revealed Carty Finkbeiner's disregard for the African-American community have prompted him to embark on some damage control initiatives.

These events include the revelation that Finkbeiner, who professes to embrace diversity in his administration, has woefully failed this community by not including a minority in his cabinet. Currently, the mayor's cabinet is made up of an all-exclusive white male membership: Robert Reinbolt, chief of staff; Dave Moebius, assistant chief of staff/safety director; Tom Kroma, assistant to the assistant chief of staff; and Brian Schwartz, public relations/assistant to the mayor.

What our community needs to understand is that Finkbeiner and this cabinet are the only ones who decide how millions of dollars are appropriated to the different segments of the entire community of Toledo. This is worrisome, especially when one considers the fact that the minority voice is shut out from having

its input heard and considered in those two-hour daily exclusive strategy meetings that the mayor has with his cabinet.

Also revealed were his intentions to dismantle the Office of Affirmative Action/Contract Compliance. Even though the mayor later reversed his actions of shoving the Office into problem-infested HR department, the Office of AA/CC remains fractured and oversight in our city government remains absent in every sense of the word.

As we now know, the firing of the AA/CC director has backfired for the mayor. Currently, there are state and federal complaints which would have been averted if only the mayor listened and was less vindictive in his actions against those who disagree with him.

The name calling of a prominent African-American as King Kong, the characterization of an African-American employee as being lazy, and another one as lacking a college degree, even though Finkbeiner has many employ-

ees in key positions without college degrees was also unacceptable to many in the community.

These weak spots in the mayor's actions have caused even his onetime supporters, black and white alike, to question his leadership style. So, the mayor now realizes he has made several missteps and that his style of leadership is now closely scrutinized. As a result, Finkbeiner has decided to do things that he feels would appease the community. However, our hope is that Finkbeiner does not attempt to use preachers, people like Larry Whatley, Bill Harris and other prominent African-Americans in his media campaign in the place of true, genuine and visible efforts of reconciliation. That would be a travesty and would infuriate many in Toledo even more.

The question is, would such an action further divide various segments of our community? We think so. We hope that African-Americans will not use their good names to help the mayor

hide his bad deeds. The mayor needs to make substantive moves toward reconciliation and uniting our community.

Another question which no one has ever asked is, has the mayor also asked the Board of Community Relations to assess the gravity of the events of the past five weeks and to report its findings to the mayor and city council for resolution? Thus far our community has heard nothing. The BCR is charged with the responsibility of easing racial tensions and bringing various groups together. The concerns that many of us have are that instead of the mayor using the BCR to carry a distorted agenda, that board can best be utilized by bringing various groups to the table for constructive dialogue. The mayor has done none of this.

What the mayor needs to acknowledge is that the issues impacting the minority community are percolating. If these festering issues are ignored, the outcome will be a less cohesive community and a fur-

ther weakening of an already fragile economy. We all want a community where people coexist with dignity and respect, with opportunities given to everyone without regard to irrelevant considerations such as race, color, disability or national origin. However, with the mayor's style of leadership, we're heading down a path that is counter productive to everything that this mayor says he stands for. The real issue is what ever happen to Toledo Pride, the feeling that we can all get along with mutual acceptance, respect, and sharing of the economic

wealth. Let's remind the mayor that a city divided is not a city that will prosper.

I, along with many others in the community would like to urge African-Americans to refrain from engaging in activities promoted by the mayor to undermine our efforts to reveal the truth that will cause him to correct the injustices that currently exist in his administration.

Francis I. Dumbuya, Ph.D.  
President and CEO  
Personal Achievement and Professional Development Institute

**An Open Letter to the Community**

I'm sure that by now most of you have made up your mind as to where you stand regarding the mayor's attempts to roll back the clock on our civil and human rights.

The time for fine speeches and debate has passed. It is now time for action.

An alliance of grass roots community organizations has called a press conference for Friday April 13, 2007 at 4 p.m. at One Government Center. We intend to form a human chain surrounding that building. We will circle the building seven times just as Joshua did. Our voices will be our trumpets. Our goal is to crumble the wall of stubbornness and mean spiritedness surrounding the mayor's heart. We will peacefully assemble, march and disassemble.

If you are fed up with the mayor's tactics and his constant abuse of others, then now is the time for you to act. Action speaks louder than words. Friday is your chance to let the mayor know just how you feel. We need your unity and support. Everyone has a part to play and must play their part. There are many of you who will not be working Friday. Students from the high schools and universities, retirees, educators on spring break, Clergy, and families. We need all of you. We estimate it will take at least 250 people to achieve our goal. It would be a blessing to see more than that.

Faith without deeds is like words without action. They are both meaningless. If you agree with the sentiments expressed by Perlean Griffin and others then you owe it to yourself and to future generations to be there on Friday. Do something for yourself!

Take the bus or carpool or do whatever you have to do, just be there and be early.

Sincerely,  
Rahwae Shuman  
President, The Toledo Alliance of Black School Educators

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## Anthony J. Armstrong M.D.: President of Toledo Lucas County Academy of Medicine Is Advocate for Public Health Issues

By Alan Abrams  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Ever since Dr. Anthony J. Armstrong was a toddler, he knew that someday he was going to be a physician – and more definitively an obstetrician and gynecologist.

Why an OB/Gyn? “That was all I knew growing up,” recalls Armstrong, whose father, Dr. Carl L. Armstrong, was a practicing obstetrician and gynecologist in Toledo for 43 years.

“I used to go on rounds with him to Toledo hospitals like the old Maumee Valley Hospital, Toledo and St. Vincent Hospital,” says the younger Dr. Armstrong about his father. “I remember him going on house calls which he and most other physicians used to make in that era. All I knew was medicine. And all I knew about medicine aside from my personal contacts with doctors was OB.

“If I hurt my eye, I saw an eye doctor, or when I was constantly breaking or tearing something – then it was orthopedic. However once I did my OB rotation in medical school, I became convinced OB/Gyn was right for me,” says Armstrong, who this year is serving as the 150<sup>th</sup> President of the Toledo Lucas County Academy of Medicine.

He says he was never tempted to follow in his mother's footsteps and seek a career in law. His mother is Vernellis K. Armstrong, the Toledo-based federal magistrate judge.

Anthony Armstrong earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Cincinnati in 1980 and graduated from medical school at Wright State University in 1985. He completed his resi-

deny in Obstetrics and Gynecology in Atlanta at Georgia Baptist Medical Center in 1989.

“I returned to Toledo primarily to be in private practice with my father, which I did for 13 years. My first opportunity in medical education was running the outpatient OB/Gyn clinic at Toledo Hospital in 1989. After two years, I was offered the position as director of Medical Education at St. Vincent Hospital, which I still hold. I also serve as chairman of the department at St. Vincent and will be the next chief of staff,” says Armstrong, whose private practice is at Westfield OB/Gyn on Monroe Street.

“But I always wanted to be an actor. My first love was acting. I still do acting I guess, mainly in public speaking,” he says with a chuckle.

“I have done commercials, notably WTOL-TV's “Ask the Doctor” series during 2000-2001, and several PSA's.

“We are underrepresented in terms of minority professionals in the health care delivery system. The last PSA we did was in April 2006 as part of a WGTE/PBS series on getting students motivated towards the healthcare field. I try to encourage kids to recognize that there is a long range of professions within health care, you don't just have to be a doctor or a nurse. There are job opportunities in technology, as emergency medical technicians, and in radiology. It runs the gamut,” explains Armstrong.

He believes there would be increased minority representation in the healthcare field if some of the obstacles could be removed. “A lot of

the problems that minorities face with making the decision to go into medical school are financial-based. We need to find creative ways for defraying some of the costs,” Armstrong says.

Armstrong earned his master's degree in public health with a concentration upon health management and policy from the University of Michigan in 1997. He is active in many public health issues, and served as the primary investigator for the Hope for Families project in 2005-2006.

He is also working with the Ohio State Medical Association on another issue of importance to the minority population – expanding healthcare to cover more pregnant moms and children.

“Throughout the Midwest and especially north-west Ohio, we need to find ways to increase the access by minorities to medical care. We are doing this as a grass roots movement. We will reach people at schools, churches, supermarkets, wherever we can.

“One of the issues we need to have our legislators in the federal government define is what constitutes basic health care. There are many preventive things that typically members of the minority population do not get, such as mammograms, especially at a time when health care becomes costly.

“The system can't afford it. The federal government pays about 45 percent of medical costs and taxpayers pay nearly 50 percent. This is at a time when the private population is finding it difficult to pay for their own selves. We need to do some-

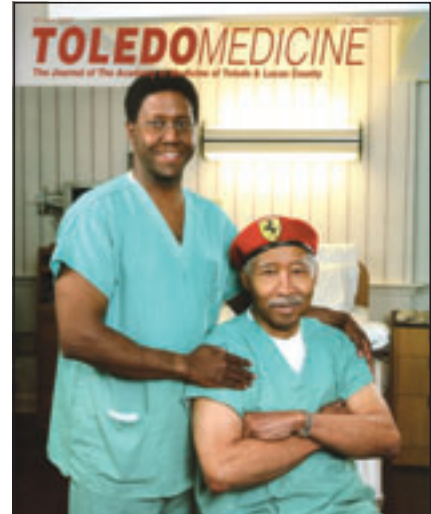
thing to offset the uninsured or underinsured.

“But the picture is not all dismal. We have come far on the issue of teenage pregnancies, with their number now lower in Lucas County,” says Armstrong, a former longtime executive board member of Planned Parenthood of Northwest Ohio.

Armstrong was born in Kansas City, Missouri. His family moved to Toledo when he was about two years old. Armstrong attended kindergarten and first grade in a small Catholic school named St. Angela Hall and then transferred to the Catholic military school “Hall of the Divine Child” in Michigan. He returned to Toledo to finish junior high and high school at Maumee Valley Country Day School.

He has three brothers; Karl and Gregory live in Toledo, and Christian lives in Los Angeles.

Dr. Armstrong's wife



Myung, who is a registered nurse, also has an interesting backstory. Her father, who came from a well-to-do family in North Korea, fled that nation's dictatorship and went to South Korea, where he essentially had to start over again with nothing. He went to medical school and met his wife, an operasinger. The family moved to Kampala in Uganda where Myung's father opened an ear-nose-

throat practice. At one point, he operated upon the brother of Uganda's dictator Idi Amin. Cognizant of that nation's reign of terror, the family immigrated to the United States. However, the US does not recognize foreign-educated medical practitioners, and her father once again had to start over. This time, he chose psychiatry as his specialty, and now works as a psychiatrist for the State of Michigan.

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## Twelfth Annual YWCA Milestones Awards Honorees Include District 4 Representative Edna Brown

By Geneva J. Chapman, Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The YWCA has a proud history of empowering women. Part of that history is the Milestones Awards given each year to six deserving women in our community.

This year, a stellar group of women were honored at a gala luncheon held Thursday, March 29, 2007, at the Sea Gate Convention Center. Walking into the vast hall, guests felt as if they'd come to Mount Olympus as they gazed at the larger-than-life portraits of the six honorees against lavishly draped cloth and an expanse of elegantly set tables, signifying the numerous supporters of this event.

By noon, when the event started, most of the tables were filled with guests dining on light gourmet fare presented exquisitely, yet casually, as if each had ordered an expensive cold lunch at a five-star New York restaurant during a leisurely jaunt around town on an early

spring afternoon.

Lunch included sumptuous desserts: a choice of sinfully chocolate cake or luscious three-layered strawberry cake served on a strawberry sauce reduction, artfully glazed on dessert plates with a thinly sliced strawberry resting on a small dollop of whipped cream.

The program started promptly at noon and a few minutes later, several hundred forks simultaneously paused briefly for a blessing given by Sr. Ann Francis Klimkowski, following a welcome from the YWCA's CEO and introduction of the mistress of ceremonies.

"I know you will be inspired by these six women," said YWCA CEO Lisa McDuffie, as she greeted the hundreds of guests who attended the YWCA's 2007 Milestones: A Tribute to Women Awards Luncheon. "The YWCA is pleased to present the largest event honoring women in northwest



Rep. Edna Brown

Ohio. In the past 12 years, we have honored more than 70 women."

Past recipients of the Milestones Awards have included Ardenia Jones Terry, Ph.D., Barbie Harrison, Doni Miller, Billie Johnson and Joan Coleman (Social Sciences); Edna Robertson and Helen Cooks, Ph.D. (Education); Wilma Brown, Linnie Willis, Marcy Kaptur, Linda Furney and Sandy Isenberg (Government); Elizabeth Pierson and

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## African-American Women Artists at NANBPWC, Inc. Women's History Program

By Geneva J. Chapman, Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Festive yellow and red floral centerpieces brightly decorated tables draped with red or yellow cloths in a sunny and cheery display, as if in defiance of the gloomy sky clearly seen through the floor to ceiling windows of the Crosby Convention Center at the Toledo Botanical Gardens, Saturday, March 31, 2007.

"Honoring Women in the Field of Art - Providing Cultural Enrichment Through Creativity," presented by the Toledo Club of The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (NANBPWC, Inc.), paid tribute to five local women artists: Nicole Kendall-Bishop, Alice Grace, Holly Matthews, Brenda Price and Yolanda Woodberry.

The artists' work displayed on one wall, showed a range of style and technique, as well as the consummate skill and expertise of these talented women. Smooth jazz greeted club members and their guests as they entered - club members dressed beautifully and elegantly in red or yellow.

The inimitable Charles McDaniel provided the musical background as 50 or so women gathered to celebrate Women's History Month at the Toledo Club's annual tribute. An award-winning account of last year's Women's History Month Program honoring women in the field of medicine was passed around proudly by Toledo Club member and member of this year's Women's History Committee, Donnetta Carter.

The thick scrap book full of pictures and other memorabilia



Members of the Toledo Chapter NANBPWC, Inc.



Yolanda Woodberry, Brenda Price, Alice Grace, Holly Matthews and Nicole Kendall-Bishop (l. to r.)

was covered with three-dimensional medical symbols, including a doctor's coat, complete with caduceus, and a nurse's uniform and hat. A miniature stethoscope was taped to the inside cover with tiny Band-Aids, which were also used to tape photos to pages throughout.

Toledo Club member and chairman of this year's Women's History Committee, Delores Bates' vision and artistry created a beautiful memento that will be treasured for years to come, as well as one of only two winners of the Perry Rhodes Award.

"If you win three WOW Awards, you win the Perry Rhodes Award," explained North Central District (NCD) Governor Barbara Tucker. "We won two WOWs while I was president of the Toledo Club,

so I was pushing last year, telling them, 'We have to win another one!'"

Serving as mistress of ceremonies, Bates opened the program with a heart-felt tribute to the artists being honored. "God has so richly blessed you with a unique gift that only He can give," she said. "With a stroke of a pen, ink or brush, He let you express the beauty of the world for others to see."

Following an invocation by Toledo Club Chaplain Carrie Jackson, President Clara Brank welcomed guests and honorees. "This will be a highlight of the accomplishments made in the field of art," she said. "We are a service organization. It is a pleasure to present to you our talented young ladies in the field of art."

Brank also thanked guests for their support of the Toledo Club. "The purpose of the Women's History program is to honor women who are trailblazers and the shoulders we stand on."

Tucker also gave greetings from the North Central District. "I commend you, Toledo Club, for carrying out one of the programs of the NANBPWC, Inc.," she said, pointing out that women's history is one of the themes of the organization. "The Toledo Club is recognized at the district and national level."

Tucker joined Bates and Brank in paying tribute to the honorees. "They have created objects that are like the sun, bringing joy and warmth to all who see them." Councilwoman and Toledo Club member Wilma Brown brought greetings from Toledo City Council. "I told them we had to get the budget done because I had something to do on Saturday!"

(Continued on Page 11)



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"Mother and Child" by Yolanda Woodberry

## 2007 Black Family Conference Report

By James E. Carlisle, Esq.  
Special to The Truth

I would like to take this opportunity to share with your readers a delightful and enriching experience that I had at the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference on the Black Family in America from March 8 through March 11, 2007 in Louisville, Kentucky. The theme of this year's conference was: "The Plight of Black Men in the African Diaspora."

The Black Family Conference is sponsored by the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Louisville. It is coordinated by Joseph McMillan, Ph.D., professor emeritus at the university. McMillan is supported by a staff of 22 people, who put the conference together. It is held annually at one of the downtown hotels. Once the theme is selected, a call for papers and workshop presentations go out to prospective presenters.

This was the fourth time I have attended the conference and it was unique for several reasons. First, my wife Debbie attended with me. Second, I had the pleasure of presenting one of the workshops.

The three-day conference consisted of 14 such workshops, on opening-session speaker, a community-session speaker, a luncheon speaker, a banquet speaker and a youth rally session and speaker.

I presented the first workshop which was titled: "Black Men and the Prison Industrial Complex." My two-hour presentation traced the history behind the development of the modern-day prison industrial complex. During the first hour of my lecture, I explained the historical significance of the federal, state and local laws that incriminated free and enslaved blacks during the pre and post-Civil War eras. These laws aided the planter class in maximizing profits through a system of slavery and *de facto* slavery by providing free and cheap labor.

In the second part of my presentation, I examined the current linkage between crime, punishment, prison construction and profits as they relate to the progression of the modern day prison industrial complex.

One of the major topics dealt with the negative impact that large-scale incarceration of black males and females is having on the black family, especially children. These children suffer economically, socially and psychologically as unwitting victims of the prison system. They are without fathers.

They are without mothers. They lack choices. They have feelings of abandonment and mistrust. They are often impacted with feelings of shame, guilt and anger.

Many children in these situations are moved from one caregiver to another. Some grandparents are often overburdened and exhausted with their efforts to care for their parentless grandchildren. Many children become victims of the foster care system.

The main breadwinner is absent from the family. Basic needs of food, shelter, clothing and adequate health care go unmet. Many of these children are forced to live in neighborhoods that are plagued by drug addiction, violence, poverty and inferior schools.

One of the most negative impacts of incarceration on the black family is the rise in HIV/AIDS. Eighty-two percent of new cases affect black women. Much of the current rise in the AIDS epidemic in the black community is the result of ex-inmates returning to the community and infecting their female partners. Prisons are a festering ground for AIDS.

Incarceration of a parent fragments the family making it dysfunctional. The children are robbed of the valuable resources that go with having both parents in the household, resource that give health and strength to the family.

A mother is robbed of a mate. Abandoned children are open to negative choices and options. Incarceration places an unreasonable burden on the extended family. Many child victims have behavior problems in school where academic performance is affected by the child's tendency to anger and suppressed feelings.

There were several other workshops that



James E. Carlisle, Esq.

piqued my interest:

- Workshop 2: The intersection of HIV/AIDS and the Incarceration of Both Black Men and Women and Its Impact on the Stability and Survival of Black Families;
- Workshop 3: Influencing Change by Raising the Low Aim Amongst Black Males;
- Workshop 6: The Crucial Dilemma of Black Men and Fatherhood and the Negative Effects on Sons;
- Workshop 8: Black Fatherhood: Are They Missing a Link in the Education of School-Age Children;
- Workshop 9: Awakening the Natural Genius in Black Male Children;
- Workshop 16: Black Men: The Lost or Left Generation

Having highlighted a few of the workshops, suffice it to say that all of the workshops were educational and enlightening. The conference this year centered on the many challenges that face black males of all age groups.

The black male is in crisis today. All one has to do is visit the holding cells in the jails of any major city in Ohio and see the high percentage of black males.

The Black Family Conference enables many of us to network, share knowledge and resources and propose solutions to the burgeoning crisis in America. While the black family is not a monolith, from the perspective of the diaspora, it is a ship sailing on troubled waters. It is America's family seeking safe harbor from the swelling storms that are confronting it.

For information on next year's conference call 502.852-6656 or 502.245-2272.

## Community gathering raises awareness of violence against women

On Friday, April 20, 2007, hundreds of people will gather at Bowsher High School for the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Take Back the Night to end violence against women. The program begins at 6 pm with a Resource Fair, followed by a Community Rally, a Women's March, a Women's Survivor SpeakOut, and a Men's Program. The Clothesline Project, more than 200 shirts created by local survivors of violence against women, will be displayed at the event beginning at 3 pm along with the Silent Witness Project, a group of silhouettes honoring Northwest Ohio women who have been murdered by their partners or former partners.

Take Back the Night events are held in communities around the world. In Toledo, Take Back the

Night takes place in a different neighborhood each year, demonstrating that violence against women happens everywhere. The goals of TBTN are to raise awareness about violence against women (including sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment, and child sexual abuse), to support survivors of violence against women, and to emphasize that everyone has a role in creating a community free of violence. By walking in the streets together to take back the night, women are also symbolically taking back their homes and lives from violence and fear.

The hour-long community rally includes remarks from community organizers and survivors, music, and drumming. The rally is followed by a 1.1-mile Women's March through neighborhood streets. The Women's

March returns to Bowsher High School for a women's Survivor SpeakOut in which survivors of violence against women share their stories. During the Women's March and SpeakOut, men are invited to attend a Men's Program for an interactive session about how they can work to end violence.

The event is sponsored by more than a dozen community groups, social service agencies, and university departments including Bethany House, People Called Women, UT College of Law Domestic Violence Clinic, UT Sexual Assault Education & Prevention Program, University Counseling Center, UT Women's & Gender Studies Dept., Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women, National Organization for Women-Toledo Chapter, Cocoon Shelter, VITAL Program, and more.

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# The Sojourner's Truth Education

Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section

## University of Toledo Director Shows Value of Education, Inspires Future African-American Students

By Stacy Moeller  
Special to The Truth

Raised to appreciate the value of education, William Pierce is someone who has defied the statistics regarding African-American males and collegiate success.

He graduated from The University of Toledo with a B.S. in administrative services in 1999 and first began working as an intermittent call-in entering application data into the system before steadily moving up to his current position, director of freshman admission.

Pierce hopes students pursuing higher education will look at him as an example of success.

"I want my life, up to this point, to be an example to students that you can be successful," said Pierce. "You can earn a college degree; you can overcome obstacles; you can realize your dreams."

According to Pierce, both of his parents and much of his extended family had degrees, which led to an expectation that college would be his next step after high school.

"My parents would always tell me and my brothers that education was something that can never be taken away from you and obtaining a college degree could open many doors of opportunity," said Pierce.

Although Pierce did re-

ceive his college degree, he admits that there were a few struggles on the way, one being when his parents discovered he had not been performing well over a few semesters.

"They were pretty disappointed and it was from that day I decided never to let them down like that again," Pierce said. "I realized that I was headed down the wrong path and would never achieve my goals. I had to make a choice either to be discouraged by the situation or use it as a learning experience."

Pierce learned a great deal from his experience and advises young students in college struggling to find the right path, to never give up.

"The collegiate road will become rough at times, but it is always important to set goals, both short-term and long-term, and remain focused on those goals, and to hold yourself accountable," said Pierce. "Challenges will come and go and there's a choice that must be made; you can either allow those challenges to prohibit you from achieving or you can view each challenge as a learning experience."

As a current role model, Pierce himself was also inspired by many others,



William Pierce

though he claims his biggest role models were his parents.

"It is my father's work ethic that I carry with me today," said Pierce. "It is my mother's humbleness and kind spirit that nurtured us and taught us how to take care of ourselves and how to put family first."

Striving to be a role model for UT students is something Pierce continually puts first at every opportunity. Be it a college fair or visiting with a family in his office, he wants to share his story about how his degree helped him get to the point in his career he is at today.

"I want to be a role model for all students, particularly African-American students, that you can do whatever you set your mind to," said Pierce. "The only limits are the limits that you place on yourself."

## More About Roots: Learning the Truth About Our Ancestry

By Ashlee Austin  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Do you really know the truth about your ancestors? Many of us believe that our ancestors were of African or Native American decent, right? Well, what if a man who knows absolutely nothing about you or your ancestors told you differently?

BGSU's Multicultural Career Center Institute (MCI) held its 15th year celebration on Saturday, March 24. The theme of the MCI celebration was "Sharing the Legacy," and they invited a very special guest to join in the celebration. Mark Shriver, Ph.D., a biological anthropologist at Penn State University, is the brilliant mind behind an admixture ancestry test. The test allows you trace your ancestry with a simple swab sample from the inside of both of your cheeks and a waiting period of four to six weeks for lab testing.

"Last year, I watched the powerful 'African-American Lives' program that was shown on PBS in February 2006 and watched in amazement the tremendous resources available to African-Americans interested in tracing their ancestry, including the Admixture Test pioneered by Dr. Shriver," said Celeste Robertson, coordinator of the Multicultural Career Center.

Shriver conducted the ancestry test on some of the students and faculty in the MCI program and revealed the results during the celebration. Most of the tested individuals who believed that their roots lie only in African

and Native American ancestry were surprised to discover that they actually had little or no Native American background at all. Instead, their ancestors were of European or Asian decent.

"I expected that he would open a lot of folks' eyes about true ancestral origins and prove that indeed 'looks are deceiving' and he definitely fulfilled my expectations ... and then some!" said Robertson.

Robertson was one among the lucky individuals who were tested and left in shock after hearing their results. "Well, I was excited and shocked. I always knew about the West African and European components but was shocked to learn that I had East Asian as well and not the Native American that I had been led to believe was part of my makeup," she said.

Shriver certainly brought life to the "Sharing the Legacy" theme of the celebration. "In honor of MCI's 15th year celebration, I thought his visit would be appropriate to the purpose and mission of the Institute: to foster a more open and sensitive environment when discussing race and to underscore that it is an artificial barrier that we human beings have constructed to separate and divide us," said Robertson.

According to the printed sources, the Multicultural Career Institute has been a phenomenal success. Originally conducted as a two-day career conference designed to bring together BGSU students, alumni and other professionals to share information about the world of work and career development, the program consisted of workshops that addressed a broad range of



Mark Shriver

career preparation topics. Beginning in academic year 2003-2004, the Institute was expanded to a full semester in order to capitalize on the Institute's exceptional achievement and to help BGSU students prepare to tackle today's tough job market.

The program also gives students the opportunity to meet and network with representatives from a wide variety of career fields, receive tips and advice on how to adjust successfully to internships and co-ops and even acquire and practice professional etiquette skills.

The Multicultural Career Institute is open to BGSU sophomores of all majors races, nationalities, ethnic origins, religions and sexual orientation in good academic standing with the university. About 20 students are selected each semester to participate in the institution. Interested BGSU students can apply for the program online.

This semester's students were given a special treat with the ancestry testing as they continue the legacy of MCI.

If you are interested in learning the truth about your ancestors through Dr. Shriver's 'ancestry by DNA' testing, you can contact the testing lab at: DNA Print Genomics Inc, 1621 West University Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34243-2732, Telephone: 941-366-3400.

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## Children Tell The Story Lucas County Children Services Holds Ninth Annual Child Memorial

*Special to The Truth*

The winner of the 2007 Lucas County Children Services essay contest will read the winning essay at the agency's Ninth Annual Child Memorial, Friday, April 20, 2007 at 11:30 a.m. The event will last approximately 30 minutes and begin at One Government Center, then proceed to the offices of Lucas County Children Services (LCCS), 705 Adams Street in downtown Toledo.

"The purpose of this event is to mourn for these children and their families," said Dean Sparks, executive director of Lucas County Children Services. "But it is also an opportunity to rededicate ourselves, as a community, to do what we can to protect children."

Sparks will also continue the tradition of reading the names of children who lost their lives because of maltreatment since the last memorial service.

The program will include the raising of the agency's Children's Memorial Flag. The event is held in conjunction with Child Abuse Prevention Month, which is recognized each April. The public is encouraged to attend.

For the essay contest, children in grades seven and eight across Lucas County were invited to submit essays up to 500 words on the topic of "Every Child Has A Right To Be Safe."

"Children are amazingly perceptive. The poems and essays we received as part of the contest reflect true compassion for the children who suffer maltreatment and a desire to make their lives better," Sparks said. "It is an honor to have them speak on behalf of other children whose voices have been silenced," Sparks added.

Of note...

- In 2006, LCCS conducted nearly 5,000 investigations and confirmed that nearly 3,000 Lucas County Children were victims of abuse or neglect. (1)

- In the United States, an estimated 1,490 children died from abuse or neglect in 2004. This translates to approximately two in every 100,000 children in America. (2)

- Nationwide, children younger than age 4 accounted for 81 percent of child abuse-related fatalities in 2004. (3)

- Neglect alone accounts for more than one-third of all child fatalities. (4) In Lucas County, neglect accounts for 40 percent of all investigations. (5) (To make a report in Lucas County, call 419-213-CARE.)

**About Child Abuse Prevention Month**

April was first declared Child Abuse Prevention Month by President

Ronald Reagan in 1983. The White House has issued

a similar proclamation each year since.

**When the Memorial Flag Is Flown**

LCCS raises the Children's Memorial Flag during the annual Child Memorial and remains raised during the rest of the month of April. It is also raised for a period of one week whenever a child in our community is killed due to violence or neglect.

**About the Memorial Flag**

The Children's Memorial Flag is raised in remembrance of children killed by violent means. The flag features a row of blue paper doll figures broken by the center figure, which is a simple white outline.

According to the flag's creator, Patty Steele, the figures on the flag represent the children of the world, and the broken chain evokes the tragedy of childhood death by violence. The concept was originally conceived and implemented in Alameda County, Calif.

NOTE: Dean Sparks, Executive Director of Lucas County Children Services, is available to discuss the subject of child abuse on your news and talk shows. Please contact Julie Malkin at 419-213-3254 to schedule.

## Juried Student Art Exhibition Showcased At Owens' Walter E. Terhune Art Gallery, April 13 – May 2

Owens Community College students will have the unique opportunity to showcase their artistic talents as the Center for Fine and Performing Arts hosts the annual Juried Student Art Exhibition, April 13 – May 2.

In addition, the College will host an opening reception for the exhibit on Friday, April 13, from 6-8 p.m. in the Walter E. Terhune Art Gallery.

The free reception, which the public is encouraged to attend, will be held in conjunction with the opening performance of the student theatrical production, "Earl the Vampire". In addition, the Owens Jazz Express student group will perform in the Center for Fine and Performing Arts Rotunda to celebrate the opening of both events.

"Owens' Center for Fine and Performing Arts is proud to feature the finest works of art produced by our students," said Wynn Perry, Owens Part-time Manager of the Walter E. Terhune Art Gallery. "This exhibit is a great venue for Owens students to display their accomplished artistic pieces, enabling them to showcase the knowledge obtained within the classroom into a real world setting."

Perry added, "The artistic expressions are extremely individualized and reflect the unique creative ability of each student artist."

Owens' Juried Student Art Exhibition features over 100 pieces of artwork in the categories of fine art, which includes sculpture, ceram-

ics, painting and drawing, photography and commercial art. More than 60 students enrolled within Fine and Performing Arts courses at Owens have had artwork accepted for the show. Students presenting art for the Juried Student Art Exhibition are allowed to enter a total of four pieces in each of the three categories.

Area artists and professionals will serve as the jury for the exhibit.

Admission to the Walter E. Terhune Art Gallery is free and open to the public, Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. For additional information, contact the Center for Fine and Performing Arts at (567) 661-2721 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 2721.

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*Symphonic Poem: The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson* is organized by the Columbus Museum of Art and Arts Midwest in partnership with the Ohio Arts Council.

## My Journey Through KENYA: *Its People, Culture and Beauty*

Join **Dorcel Dowdell**, Main Library Manager, for an exciting pictorial presentation titled, *KENYA: Its People, Culture and Beauty*, scheduled from 7-8:30 p.m. on Monday, April 16 at the Mott Branch Library, 1085 Dorr Street.

Ms. Dowdell recently spent two weeks in Kenya, where she visited the capital city of Nairobi and went on a three-day safari through Amboseli and Lake Nakuru National Parks.

She also visited a beach resort in Mombasa, a city lying on the Indian Ocean, and visited an orphanage for children whose parents have died from complications due to AIDS.

Ms. Dowdell will offer attendees a geography lesson to learn about Kenyan culture and people. This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, please contact 419.259.5230.



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## Not Supposed to Be There

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

The University of Toledo's College of Medicine Chapter of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) held its last dinner of the academic year on Friday March 30 in the Mulford Garden Caf  of the UT Health Science Campus.

The quarterly dinners are held to enhance the collaborative and supportive networks for underrepresented minority students (African-American, Native American and Hispanic) on the Health Science campus. Last month's event, however, was a bit of a special occasion. The SNMA honored various students, faculty and community members for their contributions in helping to bridge the health disparities

gap through increasing diversity on campus and creating a culturally sensitive environment.

The keynote speaker for the evening was Brenda McGadney-Douglas, MSW, Ph.D., an associate professor in UT's Department of Social Work. The topic of her address was "I wasn't supposed to be here: black, female and competent in the academy."

The SNMA is the nation's oldest and largest organization representing the needs and concerns of underrepresented minority students. The SNMA has over 160 chapters nationwide and a membership which includes over 5,000 medical students, pre-medi-

cal students, physicians and allied health professions students.

SNMA also has a strong community service and mentoring initiative by providing health care education, science awareness and academic enrichment activities to students at the elementary, junior high, high school and college level.

The group was founded in 1964 by students at Howard University and Meharry College of Medicine. The UT was revitalized under the guidance of chapter president, Bernice Rumala, in 2005. Rumala, a native New Yorker, is a second year medical student.

Thanks to the efforts of Rumala and the SNMA, the



Student, staff, and supporters at SMNA banquet

recruitment of such minorities has increased at UT College of Medicine.

In addition to McGadney-Douglas, other guests included Dr. Silas Norman, dean of diversity at the University of Michigan Medical School, Mark Chastang, vice president and executive director of UT Hospitals, Samuel Hancock, Ed.D., assistant to the president for diversity, and WilliAnn Moore, president of the Toledo Chapter of NAACP.



Bernice Rumala, Dr. Silas Norman, M.D., Shanda Gore

## King Kong...

*Continued from page 3*

ing nappy hair). It's fun. It's hip. It's cool. It makes it look as if Don Imus knows how to control black folks because if you can define a person, you can control that person.

For Mayor C. Finkbeiner, it is OK to call a grown black man... KING KONG because if you can define him (without protest from the person), you can control the person.

Carty and Don are joined at the mouth and at the hip. Each takes delight in being outrageously stupid and appallingly insensitive regarding people of color; and of course each issues con-

trite (?) apologies at the correct time. It is like a ballet: You insult and do the damage and then you apologize.

What is mindful to note in this landmark study is that you need not do anything to incur the ire or wrath of these white males. Simply being encased in black skin was found to be enough of an aggressive indicator that would trigger this negative response.

What was equally alarming was that side by side pictures of Don Imus and Carty Finkbeiner revealed a similarity in features that could not be dismissed as being a coincidence.

As a proactive measure, I have repeatedly warned the coach of the UT ladies basketball team to make sure that the minority players now straighten their hair; and I have e-mailed Michael Bell to make sure that he does not show himself to Don Imus.

When last contacted, both Don Imus and Carty Finkbeiner have refused repeated tests for DNA samples to either confirm or deny their common lineage.

*Lafe Tolliver, Atty  
Tolliver©2206 all rights reserved*

## Toledo-Based Hip-hop Music Video Show Debuts on Colours TV In April

Reel Time Multimedia announced that "The Flipside" Mix Video Show will start airing nationally on Colours TV in April. Colours TV, America's number one multicultural network, is a channel based around lifestyles and cultures of minorities around the United States. It is primarily viewed on Dish Network Channel 9407 as well as seen on other cable op-

erators around the nation. "The Flipside" Mix Video Show is a show devoted to premiering new hip-hop music videos as well as interviewing local and national artists. One thing that distinguishes "The Flipside" from other music video shows is the element of mixing the songs to make for a "club-like" environment on your television. The host, DJ Reese, a Toledo native,

blends, remixes and syncs music videos together for a unique viewing and listening experience. "The Flipside" first debuted on WT05, Toledo's CW from November-January 2007 with great reviews. The second season will premiere in April 2007 on Colours TV. For additional information on "The Flipside," please visit <http://www.myspace.com/theflipideshow>.

*For more information contact:  
Maurice A. Wormely  
419.318.4471  
m.wormely@reeltime-multimedia.com*

Sean Ireton  
419.733.4153  
sean.ireton@reeltime-multimedia.com

## Bridgett Williams: Student Ambassador, Athlete, Pageant Participant

*Special to The Truth*

Bridgett C. Williams, a 14-year-old at Byrnedale Junior High School, participated in the Nationals' 2006 Miss Junior Teen Toledo Pageant and although she didn't win, she "had a great time, met great new people and the overall experience was great," said the young student.

Bridgett runs cross country, plays basketball and runs track. She is an amateur photographer and a public speaker and also participates in the MADD Poets Society Youth Literacy



Arts Program. Her hobbies include reading, having fun and learning new things. Bridgett is preparing for an overseas learning expedition in July 2007 when she will be traveling to France, Italy and Malta as a Student Ambassador with People to People.

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## Robinson Student Honored for His Decision Making

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Dominique Buford, an eighth grader at Robinson Middle School, was recently named Robinson's Student of the Month by the staff and faculty. That honor gratified not only Dominique but also those in the Tools for Success program who have worked with the young man over the course of this academic year.

This is the third year for Tools for Success, a mentoring program directed

by TPS Ombudsman Rev. Cedric Brock. Dominique's mentor is Keith Jordan.

"Keith has been coming here since September," said Brock recently. "He holds weekly sessions and has been trying to bring out the best in the kids. He is the role model that minorities don't see all the time."

The purpose of the Tools for Success program, as Brock explained is to instill respect, responsibility, loyalty, a sense

of community, among other qualities in the mentees – youngsters in the TPS system.

"Robinson is a success story due to the challenges we have had in the past," said Brock.

"We chose Dominique for overall student of the month because he has demonstrated great restraint and has not gotten caught up in disciplinary problems," said Arlene Hodges-Coles, Dominique's cluster leader at Robinson. "All of the cluster leaders agreed wholeheartedly with that choice of Dominique who has quickly become a model for the rest of the students to follow."

John Krajewski, dean of students at the school, echoed Hodges-Coles sentiments. "If we take him from last year to this April, it is like two different people – academically and socially," said Krajewski. "We have not seen Dominique in the office for months. He doesn't



Rev. Cedric Brock, Dominique Buford, Keith Jordan

get caught up in drama." Krajewski praised everything about the way that Dominique has carried himself, has interacted with staff, faculty and students and the way he has complied with the dress code.

Dominique – student, basketball player and aspiring rapper – elicited the same type of remarks from

the school's principal, Deborah Rivers. "He's made a conscious effort to make positive choices," said Rivers.

It's on to Scott High School next year for Dominique where he will study everything – he has no favorites – and play basketball as he prepares himself for a college education.



John Krajewski, Dominique Buford, Deborah Rivers

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- Adelante, Inc at 520 Broadway Avenue
- Margaret L. Hunt Senior Center at 2121 Garden Lake Parkway
- Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union at 1339 Dorr Street
- Onyx Incorporated at 525 Hamilton Street
- Job and Family Services at 3210 Monroe Street

To set up an appointment or for more information, please call United Way at 2-1-1. Again, to set up an appointment or for more information regarding free volunteer income tax assistance this year, please call United Way at 2-1-1.

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Telephone 419-245-1565 FAX: 419-245-1471  
www.ci.toledo.oh.us

One Government Center, Suite 2190 Toledo, Ohio 43604 USA  
Telephone 419-245-1001 Fax 419-245-1370  
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## "EVERYTHING I CAN DREAM, I CAN ACHIEVE" 2007 LOCK-IN FOR BOYS 12-16



This boys only lock-in is designed to communicate to the young male population the necessity and responsibility of becoming progressive, dependable, and disciplined young men. It is our effort to show them by action and speech, the men in their community that care about their future and are here to lead them in the right direction.

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This is an absolutely cost free lock-in for the kids to participate and will boast a full night of recreational activities, speakers, and informal talk-groups.

Fathers are encouraged to attend.

South YMCA  
April 13-14 7pm - 1am  
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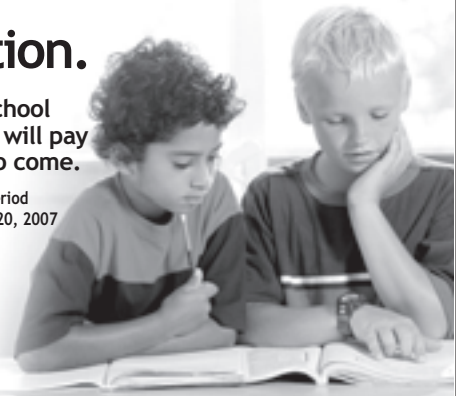


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Or visit [www.EdChoice.Ohio.gov](http://www.EdChoice.Ohio.gov)

## Twelfth Annual YWCA Milestones Awards

(Continued from Page 5)

Yolanda Jackson (Volunteerism) and Ramona Collins (Arts). "When it comes to honoring women and free lunch with chocolate cake, I'm there!" said Mistress of Ceremony Diane Larson, 13-ABC Action News. "These women we are honoring will be sharing their exceptional stories. You will be proud of them and I hope you will share their exceptional stories with your families."

Established in 1996, the Milestones Awards recognize women from northwest Ohio for outstanding accomplishments and contributions in the following six areas: Arts and Sciences, Business, Education, Government, Social Services and Volunteerism. Nominees must live or work in northwest Ohio, demonstrate outstanding achievement or distinction in career and community work and exhibit leadership qualities.

The 2007 Milestones Honorees are – Arts & Sciences: Peggy Grant, art director 20 North Gallery; Business, Mary J. Martin, CEO/Optivue; Education, Cynthia X. Beekley, Ph.D., superintendent, Springfield Local Schools; Government, Edna Brown, state representative 48<sup>th</sup> District, Ohio House of Representatives; Social Services, Jane Moore, CEO/United Way of Greater Toledo and Volunteerism, Sally DePerro, past board president, YWCA of Greater Toledo.

"I don't want to retire – I don't ever want to retire," said Peggy Grant during a brief videography. "As long as God gives me strength, I'll keep moving." Accepting her award, Grant was humbled and

circumspect, reflecting on her long career in the arts in partnership with her artist husband, Adam, a Nazi concentration camp survivor.

Grant took some of her now deceased husband's work back to his native Poland in the spring of 2006. "This was the dream of a lifetime," she said. "I don't want Adam's legacy to die, because he has wonderful art and a touching story that I want to share, especially with young people."

Mary Martin choked up while thanking her associates at OptiVue, her husband, Bill and their five children. "I particularly want to thank my business partner, Connie Richards," she said. "Connie, you should probably stand up so I can embarrass you in front of a large group of women." Richards obliged with a smile and both were applauded.

"I love my job," confessed Beekley, accepting her award. "Education and teaching is the most important job in the world." She proudly credited her family with providing her their wholehearted support. "This man I've been married to 45 years is a real feminist. He might not like that title but he deserves it."

She also gave credit to her two sons and to one special woman in her family. "I was blessed with a strong mother who set extremely high expectations for me," she said. Finally, thanking her co-workers, the educator explained how her relationship with them enriches her life. "This brings me a sense of community and makes my life enjoyable."

Brown shared some of her secrets of success in her videography. "I took advan-

tage of every opportunity that came my way and that instilled this work ethic that I have," she said. "Don't be afraid to dream. Follow your dreams and take advantage of every opportunity that comes your way."

Speaking to the over 800 people assembled in the convention center, she expressed her gratitude. "I am thrilled to accept this award and join the list of outstanding women who've received this award," she said. Brown thanked her friends, family, pastor and church family who have supported her over the years and who attended the luncheon. "I especially want to thank my friends. They were my co-workers in AFSCME Local 7."

It was this group that encouraged Brown to run for city council. Later, she took over as State Representative, replacing Jack Ford when he became Mayor of Toledo.

"When you grow up on a wheat farm in Kansas, you learn a lot of life's lessons," said Jane Moore. "You also learn lots of practical lessons, like how to hypnotize a chicken." Moore's infectious humor spread through the large audience as waves of laughter swept over the convention center.

"My United Way family is very special to me," Moore said seriously. "It is the place that soil is prepared, that roots are nurtured and that people are allowed to grow and thrive." Lastly, Moore thanked her proud and devoted family, clearly moved by their support and the honor of receiving the prestigious award.

"I'm last – imagine how

that feels after watching these accomplished women," said Sally DePerro. "And now I have a chance to tell you about the YWCA and there are hundreds of people here, so I'm not going to pass that up!"

DePerro made a joke, saying that at one point she came to believe that the 'W' in YWCA stood for 'water,' not for 'women'; because of leaky pipes and damage from the water used to extinguish a devastating fire in 2005.

Listing their many contributions, DePerro thanked her family for assisting her in her volunteerism; and she thanked the staff of the organization to which she has given so much of her time and energy. "Their strength and perseverance make it possible to change women's lives," she said.

Larson, continuing DePerro's praise of the YWCA's dedicated staff and programs that empower women, invited guests to make a donation in honor of one of the honorees using envelopes available at each table.

"I am delighted to announce the launch of an exciting venture," shared McDuffie. The YWCA is starting a new program that will help support women seeking career advancement. McDuffie gave some statistics that showed the need for this kind of concerted effort: Caucasian women earn 77 cents for every dollar earned by men; African-American women earn 66 cents for every dollar earned by men and Hispanic women earn 55 cents for every dollar earned by men.

"A corporate ladder can be climbed in high heels. Stay tuned for more information."

## African-American Women Artists at NANBPWC, Inc. Women's History Program

(Continued from Page 5)

Brown joked before addressing her to the bevy of tributes given the five outstanding women.

"We need things that we can look at that will inspire us," she said, complimenting the five artists on their body of exceptional work. Brown presented each honoree with a champagne glass bearing the seal of the City of Toledo, befitting the status of the honor bestowed on them by the Toledo Club and with their individual achievements as artists. Entertainment was provided by Toledo Club members Dorothy Gray and Rose Bonhart Ellis (member, Women's History Committee), each singing a solo; and by members of the Toledo Youth Club, Karah Haynes (President and charter member) and Isis Darks (First Vice President), reading poetry and playing violin, respectively.

Each honoree was then presented by the Toledo Club member who nominated her and given a framed certificate. Rose Bonhart Ellis presented Nicole Kendall-Bishop. "She is known in the Dayton art community for her strong, vibrant use of color, incorporating a myriad of textures she has found within the universe," read Ellis. "Even though Dayton has her, her roots are here in Toledo at Libbey High School. I'd like to present to you my childhood elementary school friend, Nicole."

Kendall-Bishop flew in from North Carolina to accept her award. "I'm tending to my grandchildren while my daughter serves in Iraq," said the retired Air Force Reservist who served during Desert Storm and also served 35 years in the Defense Logistics Agency. "I do love Toledo and I do love the Toledo Museum of Art where my roots started."

Frances Collins, Ph.D., presented Alice Grace. "I nominated Mrs. Alice Grace to be honored today," said Collins, who first met Grace at an event sponsored by the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Grace showed a piece of art depicting an three-dimensional figure at the AKA event that Collins displayed, eliciting 'oohs' and 'aahs' from the appreciative, cultured audience. "It inspired me so much that I purchased it."

Thanking Collins for nominating her, Grace talked about her current projects. "On the sixth of April, my gallery will be open at the Collingwood Arts Center," she said. "I have a one-woman show in May."

Later, Grace's seven-year-old grandson took a bow when it was announced that he sold his first piece of art at the age of six.

Angeline Murray presented Holly Matthews. "Holly's mother and I have been friends since 1958," said Murray. "My other child, Holly." Fortunately for her, Matthews' artistic talents are incorporated into most of her work and activities, including developing therapeutic arts for adults and seniors at SunBridge Care and Rehabilitation for West Toledo where she is employed in the activities department; participating in the Ministry of Design Committee and doing art activities in Vacation Bible School at Braden United Methodist Church where she is a member and as a member of the Toledo Artists' Club. Her medium is black and white pen/ink drawings that are abstract with stylized forms, bearing a spiritual quality.

Donnetta Carter presented Brenda Price. "It's always been in Brenda's heart to design and organize, having a good eye for color coordination," read Carter. "For nearly 30 years, she gave up this special talent that God blessed her with and

(Continued on Page 14)

**Hospice helped our family reach a final goal.**

**Having my dad at graduation made my wish come true, too.**

"My husband, Willie, found out nothing more could be done for his cancer. He still had one last goal: to see our daughter, Joya, graduate from nursing school – which was nearly a year away.

"Hospice of Northwest Ohio provided care for Willie, right in our home. I believe their expertise helped him live to see the graduation, and made a lot more good days possible for him along the way."

**Laura, Willie's Wife**

"Whenever we had questions, Hospice explained every answer. They knew what to provide even before we knew what to ask for. And the staff connected on a personal level, too. My dad's nurse was like part of our family.

"Hospice made all the arrangements to get dad to my graduation, including the wheelchair and portable oxygen. Having dad see me cross that stage meant the world to me. Now that I'm an RN, I know great care when I see it. My dad had the best."

**Joya, Willie's Daughter**

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OF NORTHWEST OHIO

## Lima Student Recognized For Saving Family An Estimated \$5,700 On Energy Bills

Special to The Truth

Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher last week praised the efforts of a Lima sixth-grader who advocated energy-saving techniques in her home, which reduced her family's household energy spending by \$5,700.

Sandra Walton was officially recognized on March 29 by the Ohio Department of Development's Office of Energy Efficiency (OEE) and the Alliance to Save Energy (ASE), a non-profit coalition of business, government, environmental and consumer leaders that teach children the benefits of energy efficiency through its "Energy Hog" campaign.

"Sandra's story is an encouraging sign that Ohio's youth recognize the benefits of exploring energy-saving techniques to not only benefit our environment, but to keep money in the pockets of Ohio families," said Lt. Governor Fisher, who also serves as Director of the Ohio Department of Development. "It is exciting to see our children teaching their parents and others how to advance their thinking and make positive changes in their homes and communities."



Sandra Walton

Over the course of several months, Sandra petitioned her family to change 85 incandescent light bulbs to ENERGY STAR compact fluorescent (CFLs) bulbs. The CFLs provide bright, warm light and use at least two-thirds less energy than standard light bulbs, generate 70 percent less heat and last up to 10 times longer. Based on the Walton family's data and today's energy prices, ASE estimates that the family will save about \$5,700 in energy costs over the life of the new CFLs.

To congratulate Sandra on her accomplishment, OEE presented her with a plaque during a ceremony at Shawnee Middle School and brought ASE's "Energy Hog" to meet Sandra and her classmates. The students

taught the "Energy Hog" energy-saving techniques.

"Sandra has set an example that everyone should follow starting today," said ASE President Kateri Callahan. "If every home in America switched just one incandescent bulb to a CFL, we would save enough energy to light seven million homes and reduce greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to taking one million cars off the road for a year."

The Ohio Department of Development's Office of Energy Efficiency works with individuals, communities, non-profit organizations, businesses large and small, industry and other government agencies to achieve a robust economy supported by multiple energy sources, energy efficiency and advanced technology with added value for the quality of life for all Ohioans.

The Alliance to Save Energy is a Washington, D.C. based coalition of prominent business, government, environmental and consumer leaders who promote the efficient and clean use of energy worldwide to benefit consumers, the environment, economy and national security.



## Lima NAACP: Reorganizing for the Future

By Vickie Shurelds  
Special to the Truth

The Lima Chapter of the NAACP is beginning a phase of renewal. The revitalization has spurred by a renewed commitment of its members to getting the organization back on its feet and on the way to once again leading Allen County toward a more inclusive future.

Starting all over again is going to be more than difficult. It will undoubtedly be an uphill battle fought with painstaking effort from everyone involved. The re-building will take place from the ground up since there is little left of the former organization. The Lima NAACP has plans to build a solid organization based deeply on the initial beliefs and standards of the original entity.

Founded in 1909 by a group of multi-racial forward thinking individuals, first and foremost, the NAACP is a civil rights organization. It is more than a muscle-laden overseer of justice.

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination.

### Vision Statement

The vision of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights and there is no racial hatred or racial discrimination.

### The Objectives

- To ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of all citizens
- To achieve equality of rights and eliminate race prejudice among the citizens of the United States
- To remove all barriers of racial discrimination through democratic processes
- To seek enactment and enforcement of federal, state, and local laws securing civil rights

• To inform the public of the adverse effects of racial discrimination and to seek its elimination

• To educate persons as to their constitutional rights and to take all lawful action to secure the exercise thereof and to take any other lawful action in furtherance of these objectives, consistent with the NAACP's Articles of Incorporation and this Constitution.

In many localities there is a sense that the civil rights movement is losing ground and that

minorities are moving backwards as majority employers, laws and leaders begin to "flip the script" tossing out derogatory statements about "playing the race card" when there is a question of equality.

"We are putting the organization back together with the help of the Ohio NAACP that is lead by President Sybil Edwards-McNabb, Secretary Annie Womack also District I Coordinator WilliAnn Moore of Toledo; they will offer guidance and expedite getting us back up and running full steam and in good standing," says Alberta Shurelds, interim secretary for the Lima Branch.

President Helen Roberts is asking all Life members, current and former members and youth to join them at the next restructuring meeting on April 21. The structure of the organization requires a certain number of members before the Charter can be renewed. "We meet on the third Saturday of the month at Bradfield Community Center at Noon - don't Meet me There - Beat me There!"

Phone calls, letters and requests for help have not stopped coming in even though the Lima branch has been virtual.

(Continued on Page 15)

Vickie Shurelds

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# Album Review

## 8 Ball & M.J.G. *Ridin High*

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture

Okay, everybody wants to know if they can do it again.

Bad Boy Records might've just got lucky with *Living Legends*, can Diddy really allow some Southern kings to bring heat that their fans expect?

One thing I can say is this one long-ass album. Nearly one hour and 20 minutes long with 19 songs. It's hard to keep an album consistently hot for that long.

Crews around Toledo need to learn that too. For every song you add to your project, that's another gamble that it might jeopardize whatever momentum you've built up with your hottest material. On this joint, some of it is Hit and some of it is Miss.

Fat Boy and Pimp Tight have a hot one with that first single.

I'm lovin' that "Relax and Take Notes." Verses are hot, music is hot, got the B.I.G. sample for the chorus. But Project Pat just comes and ruins it at the end.

It's so crazy, the South is running the game right now but the industry is so unstable now that even having a hot album isn't a guarantee that people from the hottest region will certainly sell.

The 106 & Park crowd will tell you that Lil Wayne is among the best rappers walking the earth, Atlanta is home to the top selling rappers and singers right now and all the airplay all day long is full of Young Jeezy, Rich Boy or somebody else from down bottom. The South is running their stuff so tight right now

that the only way a New York artist can even make a dent is by debuting with a track that mimics crunk.

But with hip-hop's average listener getting younger and younger by the minute, how can the legacies remain intact? Yeah, everyone gives the architects all the credit when the building is finished but once people start moving in and out no one even remembers who built it.

8 Ball and M.J.G. probably don't have the same fan base as Young Dro or Rick Ross even though they paved the way for them.

Besides that to consider, there's also the pressure after you come back from a well-received album. You may not wanna be too formulaic but then again you don't wanna alienate your core audience.

Well, one listen to *Ridin High* and it's clear that 8 Ball and M.J.G. aren't even trying to step outside the box too much.

However, the title track does reach a little bit.

Reminds me of some Outkast or something.

Sort of a hyper/upbeat throwback to the Space Age Pimpin sound, *Ridin High* has club potential but the rhymes are just basic for the most part.

"Turn Up The Bump" is Diddy giving Timbo's right hand man Danja a chance to shine on his own and it's easily one of the best produced songs on the album and it inspires Ball & G. to bring their A-game on the lyrics.



This summer just remember to bump this one fa sho!

But as only the fourth track on the CD, it's so early that your ears will start hopin' for the rest of the album to be just as rough.

But, such is not the case. Maaan, for real tho - "Turn Up The Bump" is official.

So ill that it's a hard act to follow, so what follows it? "Cruzin" with 112's Slim is pretty damn hot too!

And it's a relief, because the other collaborations between these two groups kinda left a bad taste in my mouth.

This one is much more suited to both of their sounds.

One thing I love about this album is a funny interlude. I mean a funny AS HELL interlude.

Peeps probably forgot that in the 90's it was uncommon to release an album without any interludes ... that was important back then and I like that they still take it seriously.

8 Ball and M.J.G. are Down South royalty, but there's a couple songs on here that just don't sound like the throne is sewed up.

Up until the 13<sup>th</sup> track, things are tight but after that it feels like they were running out of steam. Oh yeah, and Bangladesh (the man responsible for the HOTTEST tracks on *Living Legends*) is back, but only for one song.

I don't see *Ridin High* as classic material, but if you can make it past the un-necessary joints like "Pimpin Don't Fail Me Now" and "Worldwide" then you'll have some room to enjoy two Down South kings.

The true grade for 8 Ball and M.J.G.'s *Ridin High* is B-.

# Reel Review

## The Astronaut Farmer

Billy Bob Thornton

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture

I know what you're thinking, "what in the hell is he reviewing this for?"

No doubt. Anyone who knows me knows I usually don't go near anything with any kind of farmer in it, and I've stayed pretty far from Billy Bob Thornton ever since he and Halle Berry ruined a perfectly good fantasy for damn near every black man in this country.

So I can understand why some might be surprised because I'm somewhat shocked myself with this one. But honestly, there is much rhyme to my reason.

You've got Will Ferrell with yet another number one comedy hit in *Blades of Glory*, which means that movie will be out for at least another three months.

Ice Cube is about to become the most successful sequel maker Hip-Hop Hollywood has ever seen with his third film to produce a sequel. The family-friendly *Are We There Yet* finds its second installment in this past weekend's *Are We Done Yet*.

Tyler Perry, Eddie Murphy and Chris Rock all had hit movies that were entertaining as hell. Yet, they are all gone. So trying to see a good black film is a lot harder than it was a month ago. So I had to just sit back and look at what I mood I was in.

Easter weekend had me nostalgic and all, thinking about when I was younger.

And a trip to the movies back in the day used to mean that you were about to leave reality for a minute. Movies used to really take you somewhere, they used to involve fantasy and make-believe or at the very least a simple desire to dream for more.

All the comedies that are out now are great for making

someone laugh, but they don't exactly take you somewhere new ... and that's what all art is supposed to do is take you somewhere you've never been before.

*The Astronaut Farmer* was appealing to me because of the imagination it brings back to cinema. But it's ill too because it's still very real-world oriented.

No one owns the sky and you'd think a grown man who owns acres and acres of land would have the freedom to do as he pleases on his land as long as he's not harming anyone. But the presence of the ruthless U.S. government makes its way into this film and it actually made it seem more life like.

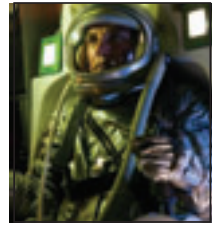
You should already know the premise from a few months ago when previews were still airing, but basically it goes like this: A former Air Force pilot was a just a hair short from completing NASA's astronaut training program when a family tragedy got the best of him and he was asked to leave.

Now, married to the love of his life with a beautiful family, he has become the most popular dreamer in his small town. Furthermore, it's no secret that the barn on his farm houses an actual space rocket that he is perpetually preparing for lift off. As he gets closer and closer to his recently scheduled launch date, the Feds clamp down and he's left with an un-enviable dilemma: risk his life, his family's well being and disobey the government by going into space on his own terms or kill the dream he's lived to fulfill for so many years.

Charlie Farmer (Billy Bob Thornton) is married to Audrey (Virginia Madsen) and they have three children; 15-year-old Shephard and two young daughters Stanley and Sunshine (real life sisters and daughters of the director - Logan and Jasper Polish).

The family/home life of Charlie Farmer is enough to warm anyone's heart.

This entire household



shares the father's dream of going to space.

It's not kooky, or crazy to them in the least.

In fact, Shepherd is something like his dad's right hand man in all of this.

And this is part of why this movie had such appeal to me because it seems like so much of entertainment today is geared to those of us who are single and no family to consider but most of us grew up loving family films such as this.

And when keeping that in mind, it feels good to see a great family onscreen.

It means just as much when it's time for Farmer to really buckle down and "bet the farm" on this little dream of his.

And I mean literally bet the farm.

All of his 350 something acres are just a few weeks away from bank foreclosure because the mortgage has been drawn on 20 times. Getting a rocket off the ground takes some loot, even if you do build it yourself.

Everything comes to a head just as Farmer realizes the fuel he'll need will cost \$50,000 and the guy wants it all in cash.

This sets off a few issues.

Story, Texas is a tiny town and everyone knows everyone so when the bank loan officer refuses to give him more money for his latest expense, Farmer goes to extremes that you and I could never get away with. Imagine being turned down for a loan and then get a letter from the bank saying the bank is taking your house in 30 days. Now imagine wrapping that letter around a brick and tossing it through a bank window where it lands precisely on the desk in front of the person who turned your request down.

That would be amazing, huh?

(Continued on Page 15)

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## African-American Women Artists at NANBPWC, Inc. Women's History Program

(Continued from Page 11)

devoted her energies to being a loving wife and mother, taking care of her family's need and forgetting about herself. She had to regain focus and get back to her God-given talent. Brenda enjoys landscaping and designing. Her once one-acre backyard was later an inspiration for an oil painting entitled "The Backyard."

Leola Haynes presented Yolanda Woodberry. "It is a privilege and a pleasure for me to present Yolanda Woodberry," said Haynes. Born in New York to parents of Antigua and Barbadian descent, Woodberry has de-

signed and painted four commemorative stamps that were issued by the governments of Antigua and Barbados in 1995.

One of her most moving works, an oil painting titled "Mother and Child," was featured in the "Red Cross and Red Crescent" magazine, issued in 175 countries and published in French and Spanish.

After living in Antigua for nearly 20 years, Yolanda and her husband, Warren, an artist and writer, moved back to his native Toledo. Yolanda's work has been exhibited in numerous venues and she has been featured in several local

publications.

"It really is an honor to be here ladies," said Woodberry, accepting her award. "It is women like you that keep us motivated to paint." She talked about continuing the creative legacy by passing on her self-taught skills to youth. "We really need to push creativity in our schools," she said. "We need to push art and music in our school system so our children can express their creativity and maybe that will decrease some of the violence."

Following the presentation of the honorees, Carter gave a brief history of Edmonia Lewis, the first African-American female sculptor and each artist explained the inspiration and medium used in the pieces on display after lunch was served.

Chef Lee Catering provided a down-home meal of baked chicken, roast beef, greens, macaroni and cheese, fried corn, baked cubed potatoes, green salad and sweet potato pie. The food was so delicious, many members and guests took home the leftovers in carryout containers.

Most importantly, they carried home fond memories of another successful Women's

History Program presented by the Toledo Chapter of the NANBPWC, Inc.

Since 1935, the women of NANBPWC, Inc. have joined together across this nation to promote and protect the interests of African-American business and professional women, while serving their communities through relevant programmatic thrusts.

Founders - Emma Odessa Young, Ollie Chinn Porter and Effie Diton of New York City; Bertha Perry Rhodes, Josephine B. Keen, Adelaide Flemming of Philadelphia; and Pearl Flippin of Atlantic City

- were busy, working women who recognized the importance of sharing accomplishments with others and doing more for their community than the community did for them.

Women of NANBPWC, Inc., are owners, managers, college graduates and other professionally-licensed women who realize the importance of sharing accomplishments and providing opportunities for others to better their lives.

Anyone interested in becoming a member should contact Membership Director Donnetta Carter.

# The Black Market Place

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**Assistant Clinical Manager - Youth Homebased Services**

Seeking a currently competent professional who oversees all clinical and administrative aspects of the SED Community Support Program. Candidates must have a master's degree in a mental health field from an accredited college or university and be licensed to practice in Ohio (PCC, LISW). Familiarity with and desire to work with the SED population is required; clinical and management experience is preferred. Duties include managing, coordinating, evaluating and supervising operations for assigned clinical staff, providing personnel management functions, and assisting in innovation, development and implementation of programs and services. Must be able to use computer and software to manage and monitor program and to communicate with staff. Submit cover letter with salary expectations and resume by 4/18/07, to

Harbor Behavioral Healthcare (ACM-22),  
4334 Secor Road,  
Toledo, OH 43623-4234  
or fax to 419-724-9425  
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

EOE

**Relationship Manager**

Seeking a talented individual to promote the growth of a progressive behavioral health care organization's products and services as well as overall commitment to Customer Service Standards. Bachelor's degree plus a minimum of 2 years experience in marketing or sales required. Healthcare knowledge preferred. Must possess and demonstrate above-average skill in verbal, written and visual communications and exceptional customer service abilities. Must have driver's license and be willing to drive own car to perform job related duties. Duties include implementing strategic marketing tactics to reach and identify key referral customers, developing a sustainable and vibrant training and education program focused on increasing referrals and awareness, and conducting market research to guide product positioning and new product development. Submit cover letter with salary expectations and resume by 4/18/07, to

Harbor Behavioral Healthcare,  
Attn: Human Resources (RM),  
4334 Secor Road,  
Toledo, OH 43623-4234  
or fax to 419-724-9425  
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

EOE.

**Community Support Provider**

Progressive behavioral health care organization is seeking an energetic, dependable individual eager to provide support to severely and persistently mentally ill adults and their families. Requires Bachelor's degree in social work or mental health related field and experience working with SPMI adult population. Preference given to licensed candidate (Ohio LSW, PC). Duties include providing mental health services and crisis intervention, developing treatment plans, coordinating treatment with other providers, and providing linkage to community resources. Valid driver's license, good driving record, and ability to perform therapeutic holds required. Must be proficient and accurate in computer use. Submit resume, with cover letter and salary expectations, by 4/18/07, to

Harbor Behavioral Healthcare (CSP),  
4334 Secor Road,  
Toledo, OH 43623-4234  
or fax to 419-479-3230  
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

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**Clinical Therapists**

Dynamic outpatient facility committed to providing extraordinary care to children and families is seeking dedicated team players to provide clinical services. Masters degree in mental health field with Ohio license (LSW, LISW, PC, PCC); plus one year experience working with troubled children and families required. Must be computer literate and have word processing skills. Duties include providing diagnostic assessments, formulating client treatment plans and providing ongoing individual, family, and group therapy. Excellent organizational, communication, and documentation skills are essential. Commitment to excellent customer service a must. Submit cover letter with salary expectations and resume by 4/18/07, to

Harbor Behavioral Healthcare,  
Attn: Human Resources (22),  
4334 Secor Road,  
Toledo, OH 43623-4234  
or fax to 419-724-9425  
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

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**Account Manager**

Regional employee assistance program and wellness leader is seeking a high energy account manager to build relationships with professionals, assume primary responsibility of customer service needs, increase business growth, and conduct sales negotiations. Bachelor's degree in business or marketing-related field, plus a minimum of 3 years experience in account management with proven track record required. Must be able to demonstrate strong communication skills and knowledge of Microsoft Word. Must have driver's license and be willing to drive own car to perform job related duties. Duties include implementing new account procedures, identifying client needs and assisting with sales presentation proposals. Submit cover letter with salary expectations and resume by 4/18/07, to

Harbor Behavioral Healthcare,  
Attn: Human Resources (AM),  
4334 Secor Road,  
Toledo, OH 43623-4234  
or fax to 419-724-9425  
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

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**FREE TOWING**

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**Seasonal Employment**

The YMCAJCC of Greater Toledo is looking for degreed and/or certified staff that will lead activities including, games, team building activities, arts and crafts, and cultural activities. The hours are forty per week. The applicants must have an excellent driving record, five years experience working with at risk youth or a minimum of a two year degree in Art and Science or Social Services. Applicants must have great communication skills, time management skills and committed to working with children. Benefits: Competitive wage, free YMCA membership and reduced child care fees. Email resumes to sbrownlee@ymcatoledo.org or mail to Shantae Brownlee 2053 N. 14<sup>th</sup> St. Toledo, OH 43620. Deadline is Wed. April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

**Help Wanted**

Weekly newspaper needs a lay out person for part-time position. Flexible hours, pay commensurate with experience and ability. Should be familiar with Pagemaker. Call 419-243-0007 or email thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com.

**Lima NAACP**

(Continued from Page 12)

usually off the radar for a number of months. One of the key issues at hand is getting people involved before they need the help of the NAACP. "It seems some people just assume we're active and ready to go, but we need members - active members who are willing to help us lay the ground work, and provide some positive input for the community - we're more than just "watch-dogs" - we provide a very specific service - we offer the opportunity for the entire community to work together for change." Alberta Shurelds is acting as liaison for the local, state and national organization until new elections can be held. "The NAACP cannot exist without members who are committed to our mission statement."

There has been a stream of support from different sectors of the community. Several people have stepped forward to offer their talents to the effort. The sheer numbers of people in Lima/Allen County who have retained their membership or secured lifetime memberships easily place them in a manageable place for a branch in good standing, however the active membership had long sense dwindled. It's difficult to say just what happened, when the deterioration

began or what precipitated it, but it is obvious the need still exists for the services and support provided by the NAACP.

They are putting out a call for strong leadership, sharp minds and dedicated workers to join them in breathing new life into the local branch of the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the world. The Lima branch was at one time a strong organization that demanded notice. They were at the forefront of positive strides toward equality in Allen County. The groundwork is being laid to return the local organization to its past stature. Any community is only as strong as its weakest subgroup; a stronger NAACP will undoubtedly lead to a stronger Lima, say its supporters.

Lima Branch of the NAACP appointed officers:

Helen Roberts, president; Charles Thomas, vice president; Alberta Shurelds, secretary; Diane Griffith, assistant secretary; Camilla Banks, treasurer. Five board members: John L. Brown, Beverly McCoy, Annie Mae Banks, Farley Banks, Clarence Powell and Jason Upthegrove. Lifetime Membership Chairman Bev McCoy, Co-chairman Walter Potts, regular membership chair: Daise Gibson PO Box 868 Lima, 45802.

**Reel Review**

(Continued from Page 13)

Well, such behavior is not common to the mild-mannered farmer.

But his friend at the bank, his friend the police officer and his friend the judge are all on the same page as the rest of the town as their patience is beginning to wear thin with the whimsical Charlie Farmer's dreams of going to space. And what makes everything so honest is that he speaks of it with the calm frankness similar to saying you're going to the corner store.

Meanwhile, the FBI gets involved once it comes to their attention that someone is trying to buy rocket fuel.

And that's where *The Astronaut Farmer* becomes an important film beyond just entertaining families because it actually criticizes the vice grip or noose-like quality of this Homeland Security/ Patriot Act madness. And ya'll know I love it when any film makes a point to point out the BS soaked policies of our government.

But it's still a family film so it doesn't go too deep.

One thing I didn't really like was the script - there were many points where it felt like a B movie because the plot element would be far heavier than the wording seemed able to convey. It wasn't Disney-corny, but the dialogue left much to be desired at critical moments in the film.

One thing that was on point was the cinematic direction and how it capitalized on the picturesque elements of the land.

I won't say how it ends because I feel like you should go ahead and see this one.

If it's the two-dollar show at Spring Meadows, you can't beat that.

And that theatre is slept on more and more even though it offers affordable entertainment.

I didn't get hassled about having a critic's pass and the workers were cordial.

But anyway, I recommend this film for anyone that wants to remember what it's like to dream big. Or if you just happen to catch yourself remembering when movies made you feel like anything was possible. But as I said, beware of the script.

The true grade for *The Astronaut Farmer* is C+.

## Good Friday Service Brings Community of Pastors and Congregation Together

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

A group of ministers and approximately 300 worshippers gathered on Good Friday for a noon service at Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church in order "to enjoy each others gifts," said the event's host, Rev. Cedric Brock, pastor of Mt. Nebo.

Bishop Duane Tisdale, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, served as the worship leader for the Friday afternoon event.

Also in the pulpit were Bishop Nelson Clark of Powerhouse Tabernacle ("Father, forgive them:" Luke 23:34); Rev. Gary Black of Antioch ("Today shalt thou be with me in paradise:" Luke 23:30); Rev. Mark Small ("Woman, Behold thy son:" John 19:26, 27); Rev. Robert Bass of United MBC



Seated (l. to r.): Rev. Gary Black of First Antioch, Bishop Nelson Clark of Powerhouse Tabernacle, Rev. Cedric Brock of Mt. Nebo, Bishop Duane Tisdale of Friendship Baptist, Rev. John Walthall of Ararat Standing (l. to r.): Rev. Robert Bass of United MBC, Rev. William Lucas of Liberty Ministries C.O.G.I.C., Rev. Nolan White of Christian Community, Rev. Jenkins Cordell of St. Paul AME, Rev. Mark Small of Citizens of the Kingdom

("My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me:" Matthew 27:46); Rev. John Walthall of Ararat ("Thirst:" John 19:20); Rev. Cordell Jenkins ("It is finished:" John 19:30); Rev. Nolan White of Christian Community ("Father, into thy hands I comment my spirit:" Luke 23:46).

## Upton/Kingdom Worship's Ground Breaking Celebration

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Upton United Methodist Church is moving to a new location on 4747 Hill Avenue and the groundbreaking ceremony was held on Sunday April 1 to celebrate the new chapter in the church's life and a new name—the Kingdom Worship UMC.

Over 300 members of the congregation joined Rev. Pat McKinstry and a variety of speakers, singers and praise dancers for the occasion. Mistress of Ceremonies Vallie Bowman-English, clerk of court for Toledo Municipal Court, opened the ceremony by giving thanks for the remarkably lovely day. "Isn't God good to bless us with such a beautiful day for this occasion," said Bowman-English to the stand-



Rev. Pat McKinstry addresses congregation

ing-room only audience. "We're excited and we're happy to get this started."

McKinstry observed that the church had overcome a number of difficulties and delays to finalize the paperwork for the acquired land. "The adversary thought he had dominion over the land," she said. "But the Lord knew better and we thank God for vic-

tory today." Not everyone had such a short distance to travel.

Sheila Austin, former long-term administrator with Toledo Public Schools who now resides in Alabama, is a member of the congregation who returned for the event. "Because of my love, I could not let this day go by without my presence," said Austin.

## Alpha Phi Boule Honors Community Leaders

*By Warren Woodberry*

On April 5, 2007, the Toledo Club was the venue for the recognition of four individuals who have more than made their mark in the fields of business, social service, education and medicine.

The Alpha Phi Boule Chapter of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity honored Cynthia Thompson of The University of Toledo Board of Trustees; Billie John, executive director/CEO of the Area Office on Aging, Inc. of Northwest Ohio; Archon Anthony Armstrong, M.D., president of Academy of Medicine of Toledo and Lucas County and Bruce Carver, vice president and chief information officer of Dana Corporation.

It was not the first time any of this group has been honored and most certainly won't be the last.

Boule President, Attorney Keith Mitchell, and Judge C. Allen McConnell were assisted at the ceremony by moderator Rhonda Sewell.



Ernestine Butler, Kathryn Franklin, Rhonda Sewell, Karla (Butler) Hogan, Olivia Murphy



Dr. Anthony Armstrong, Cynthia Thompson, Bruce Carver, Billie Johnson, Judge C. Allen McConnell



Lisa McDuffie and Tempie McConnell



Jay Black, Billie Johnson, and Judge C. Allen McConnell

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