



Robin Wheatley, Ed.D.
Principal of
Early College High School

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“We don’t adjust the curriculum down. We expect our students to come up. That’s the only way for students to succeed here.”

This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

Toledo Mayor Carty Finkbeiner, being by his own description a sort of "glass-half-full" type of guy, issued a statement last week (see page 16) pledging his support to the once and future Toledo Public Schools Superintendent John Foley and taking the members of the Board of Education to task for unseemly displays of personal animosities and pettiness.

We cannot disagree with the mayor and his sentiments.

However, we must also note that very few people involved in the recent episode over the selection of the next superintendent covered themselves in glory. That includes the board, the critics of the board, the negotiators and William Harner, the first superintendent-elect, himself. It was a travesty from beginning to end.

The mayor – he really is a "glass-half-full" type of guy – included in his statement the fact that Toledo was recently rated by an international magazine as a "city of the future." And, ironically, as we pointed out last week, another such rating system placed the Toledo metropolitan area 26th in the nation in the category of education among large cities – 26th out of 379.

And, while that rating obviously includes those suburban areas that Harner became so enamored of during the 11th hour of his negotiations, keep in mind the fact that the Toledo area is dominated – as are so few large metropolitan areas – by its core-city population and institutions.

In another section of this issue, we are going to take a look at the Early College High School, now in its second year of operation. Early College offers the opportunity to students from lower economic backgrounds to meet rigorous academic challenges and to get a leg up on the expense of attending college.

Early College is a result of the folks from TPS, and The University of Toledo, having a vision and making the commitment to carry that vision to fruition. These are the same folks at TPS – board and administration – who are so often maligned, and properly so at times, for a variety of reasons.

But, in the *sturm und drang*, the finger pointing and the pettiness over the Harner debacle, one thing emerges as it always does here in Toledo during discussion about the school district. We never talk about children; we never talk about our students.

We always limit the discussions to who did what when and who should have been allowed to do what was done.

Every criticism of the school system seems to revolve around the issue of who is in control of the decision-making process. Should the board make decisions? How much input should citizens have in the process? And which citizens?

It's election time. This year two of the five school board seats – those occupied by President Deborah Barnett and long-time member Larry Sykes – are up for grabs. As a community, we have to be extremely careful in pressing candidates for those seats to speak to us about education and our children's needs. Too often, they are going to move into side issues such as community involvement.

One such candidate is already on the hustings touting a plan of fiscal responsibility and community involvement while giving lip service – in a phrase of about seven or eight words – to improving academic performance and making schools better.

If we can't entice school board candidates to speak in depth about what they would do to actually make our schools better, we are going to end up with the same divisive personality issues that dominate board politics today.

We just did a little research on discussions we had with candidates in prior races for the school board. Things that a candidate says during a campaign for such a position are often reflective of how that person will conduct himself or herself while in office. If a candidate does not have a plan for improving schools, one can bet that the office holder will pay scant attention to such notions after winning the election.

As of now, four individuals have declared themselves to be candidates for the school board. The deadline for application is August 23 and the sense here is that at least another four will enter the race.

It's going to be an expensive, contentious campaign. Candidates are going to say some really silly things about issues of little importance, especially when compared to the significant issue of academic excellence and how to get this district there in the shortest amount of time.

Voters have to focus like a laser on that issue and that issue only this time around. If we get too involved in all of these periphery issues, we are going to be asking for more

Community Calendar

May 4-25

• Bagley Housing Art Gallery: Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints – Expressions of Faith in the Popular Art of the Northeast of Brazil: 313-964-5942

May 11

• NOBMA Newsmaker Impact Awards Banquet: Honoring men and women who have influenced the news during the past year; Clarion Westgate

May 11-12

• Phillips Temple CME Church: "A Celebration of Motherhood;" 11 am; 419-242-7906
• Bethel apostolic Temple: "Don't Touch Me" Men and Women's Symposium; Minister Tabitha Williams; 10 am; Dr. Todd Hall, Minister Barbara Smith, Pastor Jeannette Williams; 7pm nightly: 901-339-5346

May 12

• African American Law Enforcement Agents' Association (AALEAA): 11th Annual Scholarships and Awards Banquet; Park Inn Toledo Hotel; "A Taste of Essence 2007;" Keynote speaker Earl Mack Jr; Reception at 6; Dinner at 7

May 15-18

• Libbey Annual co-ed Basketball Camp: For grades 4-8; 5 to 8 pm nightly; Fundamentals of team play and individual competition; Prizes awarded: 419-535-9544 or 419-385-5341

May 17

• United Way Women's Initiative Annual Luncheon: Toledo Riverfront Hotel (Wyndham); Learn about the impact of social and emotional learning and progress of students at East Side Elementary; Keynote speaker Roger Weissberg, Ph.D.: 419-254-4608

May 18

• St. Paul MBC: Faith Friday Celebration; 7 pm; Speaker Rev. DeMarco Carter; Praise and worship: 419-246-2886

May 18-19

• Bibleway Church: Young People's Union State Convention; "The Generation of the Greater Work;" 7:30 pm on Friday night; 9:30 am on Saturday; Services throughout the day; Keynote speaker Elder David Hollis and Bishop Norman Wagner: 419-246-0626

May 19

• Step Out For Kids Walk-a-Thon: Ottawa Park; Sponsored by the Lucas County Foster Parents Association Scholarship Committee; Registration at 10:15 am; Walk at 11 am: 419-350-3232

• Health Fair: Sponsored by EOPA/Toledo-Lucas County Head Start; Hamilton Building – Second Floor; 10 am to 4 pm; Registering Head Start children, Small Smiles Dental Center, Shots 4 Tots: 419-255-7125

• Pilgrim Church: Cabbage Roll Dinner; 5 to 7 pm; To sponsor a missionary trip to Jamaica: 419-478-6012

May 20

• Third Baptist Church: Women's Day; 10:45 am; Speaker Rev. Carol Ligans; "Born Again: To Be Wild About Jesus"

• Braden United Methodist Church 83rd Annual Women's Day: "Just One

June 3

• St. Paul AME Zion Church: First Year Appreciation for Pastor Cordell Jenkins; 4 pm; Guest Preacher Bishop Duane Tisdale: 419-243-1065

The Sojourner's Truth

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My View

By Jack Ford
The Truth's Political Columnist

Gov. Ted Strickland is preparing to name a new Lucas County Juvenile Court judge. These are always highly contested appointments because the job pays over \$100,000 per year and can lead to early, hefty retirement packages while allowing a lawyer to become a judge and work with troubled youth and their families.

Gov. Strickland has made some outstanding appointments across the board to date and we hope he appoints a much-needed qualified African-American to the bench this time.

Among the 14 persons who have applied for the judgeship are three African-Americans - William Hutcheson, a long-time Juvenile Court magistrate; Ian English, an assistant Lucas County prosecutor and Yolanda Gwinn, a law clerk to U.S. Magistrate Judge Vernelis Armstrong for many years.

Hutcheson is a nearly 30-year veteran of the bar and his extensive service in Juve-

nile Court matters. "Hutch" and I were classmates at The University of Toledo Law School in 1973 and he is my personal favorite. However, he is nearing 60 years of age which might work against him in that he would be able to serve only about 12 years on the bench.

Governors like to appoint judges who will be on the bench for a generation, if possible. And, outside of the Juvenile Court circle, "Hutch" is unknown to the political world.

A message to magistrates and referees - get known if you ever plan to run for judge!

English is not well known but his wife is Vallie Bowman English, the Municipal Clerk of Court. If Mr. English joins his wife in elected capacity, he will also join Judge Cook and Judge Bates as part of a third dynamic duo in Lucas County politics.

Vallie Bowman English is running for re-election this year and two candidates in one household is a bit much although the Juvenile Court

seat will not be contested until 2008.

Gwinn is really unknown outside of legal circles. She is reported to be well-tempered and since she is a black female, that would be an important demographic for Strickland to consider. Lucas County has never elected a black woman to the bench in its history. Judge Woods came close a few years ago but came up short against Amy Berling. Last year, Lourdes Santiago and Paula Hicks Hudson also fell short in their bid for judgeships.

This leads us to the question of electability. Most governors factor this into their choices. Are any of these three ready to run for election on their own merits? Not really, but with help from the party and the community, they could be competitive, particularly English since his name is already out there with Vallie's.

A judicial screening committee's endorsement might not be enough because another name - James

Nusbaum - is already in the hopper. Nusbaum lost last fall in an expensive race he should have won. Nusbaum is backed by a powerful legal coalition led by Bobby Kaplan, Jon Richardson and others. This group put in nearly 200 K in a losing race last fall. I doubt if they are going to let their investment lapse. They will be back for more this year.

If lightning strikes and Gov. Strickland names a black to the post, this community had better get serious and raise the money necessary to sustain a winning campaign - \$90 to \$120,000. That means a lot of giving by people who do not normally have an interest in court matters. That means that people who do not normally give to judge

will need to change their habits and open their wallets.

The long history of Lucas County judicial politics tells us that only a few men have ventured into judicial politics to bring and maintain diversity in our courts - Robert Franklin, Robert Penn, C. Allen McConnell and Charles Doneghy have been real trailblazers. Judge McConnell has time left but Judge Doneghy ran this past year in large part to preserve the legacy for other African-Americans on the bench. Had Doneghy not run, we would be down to just one remaining black judge.

For a town with a 30 percent minority population and a Juvenile Court system with 60 percent minority defen-



Jack Ford

dants, it behooves us to do everything we can to put competent minority representation on the bench in Lucas County. If you agree, let Gov. Strickland know it. Call 614-466-3555 or email ojarp@governor.ohio.gov

Correction

Two weeks ago, we printed a column about Don Monroe that contained several factual errors that have been brought to our attention by our readers.

(Continued on Page 6)

In Search Of Dimes Lost

By Jan Scotland
Guest Columnist

I remember reading that some people do not recognize opportunity even if you slap them in the face with it. "It could be raining hundred dollar bills outside and they would still be searching the ground for a dime they lost."

Opportunity lost in Toledo economic development is beginning to resemble these remarks. The Stautzenberger College exit is just the latest in a long line of exits from the city of Toledo. Not to mention the countless others whose interests in locating or expanding business in Toledo have been turned away.

The city of Amarillo, Texas was devastated in 1968 when then-Democratic President Lyndon Johnson closed their Air Force base. He did this to follow through on his threat he made if the Texas delegation failed to support his effort to extend the limit on the national debt. The result was devastating due to the thousands of jobs directly or indirectly supported by the base. Amarillo was in big trouble. Their entire economy had been dependent on that base since 1951. That closing seemed to represent the end of Amarillo and a good portion of Potter County where the city exists.

The local government put together a plan to revive the area. This plan included firming up locally-based business while attracting moderately sized businesses (200-500) to the city. No business of any size was turned away and businesses with growth potential were helped to achieve their growth objectives. Amarillo would no longer allow itself to be a one-

horse town in a business sense. In USA Today Amarillo is ranked 106th while Toledo is ranked 368th.

Toledo has faced the same type of issues in the face of its dwindling giants. Millions of dollars spent on Owens Illinois, Owens Corning and even Jeep Corporation have netted major decreases in jobs for Toledo. Yet we still run at their beck and call while ignoring our need to firm up our base.

Countless local small businesses have been ignored and, in some cases, runaway. While large tax abatements are offered to these giants, the smaller businesses continue to pay their taxes at the full rate. Where millions in infrastructure and business incentives are offered to the giants, small businesses are buried in a mountain of bureaucracy.

Take for instance Aunt Minnie's Foods, an African-American small business food manufacturing company. They worked with the city to locate their manufacturing facility in Toledo. Their company had already received orders from Meijer, Wal-Mart, The Farm, Bassets and Seaway for their products.

They wanted to be a Toledo brand like the Mud Hens and Tony Packos with nationwide distribution. But with all of the vacant sites the city has, they were told they could not be helped. It seems the red tape and run around from the city of Toledo was so bad that they are now the proud owners of a manufacturing facility in Perrysburg Ohio. With possible appearances on the Oprah show and



Jan Scotland

other high profile venues, they have a good chance of expanding operations. But right now those operations will assist the tax base of Perrysburg not Toledo.

To be successful in the international business arena, Toledo must first seize the opportunities within our own borders. Improve the business atmosphere for those doing business here so they can be ambassadors for business we are trying to attract.

Our city has great potential as a business hub for companies with a wide array of products and services. If we show the world we know how to take care of our own then they will want to become a part of the business environment we create.

The dimes we have lost on the ground have proven to be the fools gold of companies no longer committed or able to support our future. The hundred dollar bills raining down are the opportunities we have with the small businesses that open their doors in our city every day. It's time we invest in those opportunities and reap the benefits that a strong base will bring.

Contact Jan Scotland at jan@thetruthtoledo.com

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE "BEST DRESSED WOMEN"

Because of the intense interest in this year's "BEST-DRESSED WOMEN" we are extending the voting for one more week. We will announce the winners - top vote getters - next week on May 16th.

NOMINEES ARE:

Cora Allen	Diane Labiche
Ellen Allen	Rowena Lee
Brenda Barnes	Celeste Mitchell
Deborah Barnett	Doreen Mosley
Denise Black Poon	Deb Ortiz
June Boyd	Joette Oxner
Jeanette Bradley	Ann Poeffnitz
Debra Brock	Laura Poon
Gwen Burks	Beverly Reynolds
Sheila Cook	Deborah Roberts
Tracy Cook	Lily Robinson
Rosa Day	Sarah Sawyer
Frances Ester	Rhonda Sewell
Leola Haynes	Joanne Triplett
Gloria Hilliard	Beverly Tucker
Marcia Hopkins	Gloria Walker
Margaret Huntley	Everna Walton
Gwendolyn Jones	Dr. Sharon Waters
Cee Bee Kidd	Margaret (Liz) Watson

Richard Brown Announces Candidacy for Board of Education

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Surrounded by the school-children he promised to put first, Richard Brown, a staff auditor with Toledo City Council, announced his candidacy for Toledo Board of Education on Sunday at the Toledo Public Schools head-

There are two seats on the Board of Education to be contested this November – those held by President Deborah Barnett and long-term member Larry Sykes. Barnett has announced that she will not be a candidate for

County Democratic Party, and Christopher Myers, a Republican and a webmaster with the University of Michigan. Myers ran unsuccessfully in 2005 for the board as a member of the Urban Coalition-backed "Three for Change."



Photo by Al Smith

quarters on Manhattan Boulevard.

"My career in finance and accounting has prepared me to address the budget challenges our district faces," said the candidate who received last week the endorsement of the Lucas County Democratic Party for his bid.

re-election. In addition to Brown, two others have made their intentions known to run for the board – Lisa Sobecki, president of the Ottawa River Elementary Parent-Teacher Organization and a Democrat who has also received the endorsement of the Lucas

His running mates, Darlene Fisher and Robert Torres, were successful in their bids for the board.

Standing with Brown at the announcement were Toledo City Councilmen Wilma Brown and Joe McNamara along with former Toledo Mayor Jack Ford.

• Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court •

Dear Governor Strickland:

As is well known by now, there is an opening on the Lucas County Juvenile Court due to the resignation of Judge James Ray. You will have the duty and the responsibility for appointing Judge Ray's replacement.

As the president and CEO of the Greater Toledo Urban League, I would like to bring to your attention the fact that in Lucas County we have what I consider to be a severe imbalance with respect to those who dispense justice and those who are on the receiving end.

There are currently only two African-American judges in the area – Lucas County Court of Common Pleas Judge Charles Doneghy and Municipal Court Judge C. Allen McConnell. There is no judge of color serving the Lucas County Juvenile Court.

Unfortunately, there are more than enough young defendants of color who appear before the bench in Juvenile Court. In fact, 60 percent of the defendants are African-American.

At the Greater Toledo Urban League, we are very concerned about the lack of minority representation on the bench in this northwest Ohio. Most particularly, we are concerned by the fact that the thousands of youngsters who are at risk in this area never have the opportunity to see someone who looks like they do in a position of such authority ... someone who has faced some of the same challenges and obstacles.

Fourteen people have filed applications to be considered for the post of Juvenile Court judge and of that group there are three African-American candidates who are all eminently qualified by dint of their experience, ability and character: Ian English, an assistant prosecutor in the Lucas County Prosecutor's office, Yolanda Gwinn, the law clerk for U.S. Magistrate Judge Vernelis Armstrong and William Hutcheson, a magistrate judge in the Juvenile Court.

I hope that you will seriously consider the great good that would be done by appointing to the bench any one of these fine candidates. Such an appointment would be long overdue.

Sincerely,
Johnny Mickler, President and CEO of the Greater Toledo Urban League

The Need For Community Support

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

The condition of a few local nursing homes has become frightfully substandard.

If you have loved ones who are in some of these homes I'm sure this topic will be of some interest to you.

TOLEDOCARES RALLY
MAY 17TH ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER

3p.m.
S.E.I.U. District 1199
They are trying to do something to bring serious reform to Toledo's nursing home facilities and the way they are managed.

It's time to put the patients first.

Show up at the rally and let everyone know that you value adequate care for those who

need it most.
Contact: Kyle Huff
419.450.7175

Hope to see you there May 17.

If you're already gonna be downtown at that time, just come to Government Center and show support for real change.

More on this in the future.

In Loving Memory of
My Mother – Ida Lue Barnes
Sept 4, 1922 - April 1, 2007




God took the rose to his garden. What a pleasant place it must be. Mumma, you were my friend, my guide through all the storms of my life. You were always by my side. You taught me love in an unselfish way; you gave me hope from day to day. But the best gift you gave me was life on Mothers' Day. And then you went on to teach me the gift of life by teaching me of My Savior, Jesus Christ.

Although I miss the beautiful smile upon your face, I have become to realize that you are in a much better place.

Happy Mothers' Day ... I love you


Your Loving Daughter, Brenda



open your
heart
 open your
home

Many children in our community cannot live safely in their own homes; they need the nurturing and stability that can only come from a family environment.

Won't you help?
 Consider becoming a foster or adoptive parent.
Please call 419.213.3336



Lucas County
 Children Services

• Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court • Juvenile Court •

Dear Governor and Members of the Ohio Judicial Appointments Recommendation Panel:

The Thurgood Marshall Law Association, Toledo, Ohio, is a local group of minority judges, lawyers and other professionals in the Toledo area. We are extremely concerned about the appointment of the next Juvenile Court judge here in Lucas County.

There are three highly qualified African-American candidates who have applied for the position. We are specifically concerned about what affect the next juvenile judge will have on the issues that affect families in the African-American community. The statistics would suggest that there are a disproportionate number of African-American children, specifically black males, who are entering the juvenile court system. We believe the next juvenile court judge should be an African-American person who better understands the unique and profound responsibility one has to identify and address the issues affecting our minority youth.

Certainly a judge has a responsibility to protect the public and serve families of all communities; but given the alarming statistics here in Lucas County, we believe an African-American judge in Juvenile Court would better reflect the community that court serves and the issues it faces.

We must remember that all children, specifically African-American children, are the products of many things, e.g., environment, parents, schools and other life experiences. It would be an asset to Lucas County and the State of Ohio to have a judge sensitive to those issues affecting the minority community.

While we empathize with the difficult decision you will have to make, the members of Thurgood Marshall Law Association cannot emphasize enough the need for a person of color to be selected as Juvenile court judge. If we can be of any further assistance during this process, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (419) 244-3393.

Sincerely,
Executive Officers,
Myron C. Duhart, President
Yulanda McCarty-Harris, Vice President
Shannon Moreland, Secretary
Paula Hicks-Hudson, Treasurer

Dear Governor Strickland:

As you may be aware, there is a vacancy on the Lucas County Juvenile Court due to the retirement of Judge James Ray. As I understand it, approximately 14 people have applied for the position. To the best of our knowledge, only three (3) of these individuals are African-Americans.

On behalf of the Committee of the Whole, we are requesting that the vacant Juvenile Court judgeship in Lucas County be filled with an African-American applicant, namely Ian English, Yolanda Gwinn or William Hutcheson.

It is important for an African-American to have this position because during 2006 there were a total of 8442 delinquency offenses, 432 status offenses and 3253 unofficial offenses brought before the Court for a total of 12,199 cases. Of that number, 58 percent of the offenders were African-Americans. This occurred in Lucas County where the African-American population comprises 17.8 percent of the total population.

We need judges who are sensitive to the issues that face African-American youthful offenders as well as the community at large. All three of the African-American applicants possess those traits by their skill and experience.

Ian English has been an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Lucas County for a number of years. Yolanda Gwinn has served as U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge Vereliss Armstrong's Clerk for over 15 years and Juvenile Court Magistrate Judge William Hutcheson has served as a Magistrate Judge in excess of 15 years. Clearly these individuals possess the necessary experience and skills to make them effective and exemplary jurists in Lucas County.

We remain available to discuss this matter with you at anytime. We thank you in advance for your review of this matter.

Sincerely,

Bernard H. Culp, CEO
Committee of the Whole for the Quality of Black Life

Dear Governor Strickland:

I am aware that you are in the process of making a Judicial Appointment to the Lucas County Juvenile Court. Although the Juvenile Court affects a wide population of children, African-American and minority children are affected at a greater rate and magnitude than any other group. Specifically, African-American males as a group are processed through the juvenile system at a greater rate than all others combined.

As the President of the Toledo Chapter of the NAACP, I am naturally concerned about the future of the court that has such a lasting impact on so many of our youth. There has never been an African-American Judge on the Juvenile Court bench. The last African-American appointed to a Judgeship was Judge Charles Doneghy who was appointed to the Lucas County Common Pleas Court in 1984. The absence of additional African-American appointees in over 20 years is indicative of previous administrations' disregard for diversity in the courts.

For nearly a century, the NAACP has fought hard to ensure that the voices of African-Americans would be heard and respected. In the year 2007, there are more prominent, powerful and wealthy African-Americans now than at any other time in this nation's history. These advances give great opportunity for celebration, however, they also create false illusions about the actual state of racial equality within the United States, and especially in Lucas County.

All of our children are important, but in this country, African-American children are at greatest risk and require the most support and leadership. Now is the time to appoint an African-American Judge to the Juvenile Court. Our youth need to encounter someone in the judicial system who has faced some of the same obstacles and adversities they have, and emerged victorious.

You have the power to make great advancements in this community by appointing a Judge who more adequately reflects the population served by the Juvenile Court. I ask that you consider this information while you prepare to make one of the most important decisions affecting the Juvenile Justice System in Lucas County. Thank you for your vision, leadership and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,
WilliAnn Moore,
President Toledo Branch
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Dear Governor Strickland:

As the president of the Toledo area Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, I would like to bring to your attention the deep and very real concerns that I and my fellow members have regarding the coming appointment you will be making on the Lucas County Juvenile Court.

We view this appointment with concern because of the great influence your decision will have on the minority youth population of this area.

As I am sure you are aware, the overwhelming majority of defendants in the juvenile court system are African-American. Unfortunately, not one judge on that bench is African-American. In fact, there are only two black judges in northwest Ohio, a fact that cries out for attention, and remedy, in light of the fact that 25 percent of the population of Lucas County is African-American.

My fellow pastors and I would urge you to consider appointing to the Juvenile Court one of the three well-qualified black applicants. This is an opportunity to finally place on the bench someone with whom young defendants can identify and someone who will serve as a role model for all of the youth of color of this area - whether or not they end up in the court system.

We are not asking you to lower standards in doing so. Ian English, an assistant prosecutor, Yolanda Gwinn, a law clerk to federal Magistrate Judge Vern Armstrong and William Hutcheson, a magistrate judge in Juvenile Court take a back seat to no one with respect to their qualifications and experience.

Please consider, when you make your decision, that our children are ultimately shaped by many influences. You have the power to shape a good deal of that influence when you make your choice about the next Juvenile Court judge.

We ask you to render such a decision with these considerations in mind.

Sincerely,
Rev. Cedric Brock, Pastor of Mt. Nebo MBC, President of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance.



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20 North Gallery, Preacher's Wife Host Derby Party

Sojourner's Truth Staff



20 North Director Peggy Grant and Tracee Perryman-Stewart

20 North Gallery opened its new location to the public on Kentucky Derby day and collaborated with the Preacher's Wife Hat Shop to show off a collection of horse and horse-racing themed art, spring-time hats and a new location for the gallery that will feature fine food and exquisite wines.

The new location is now in the adjoining building - 18 North St. Clair. Peggy Grant remains the director.

Grant pulled together a room full of Kentucky Derby art, as she does every year, from local painters, photographers and sculptors. The Preacher's Wife, located in the Davis Building on North Michigan, is owned and operated by Tracee Perryman-Stewart and her family, Rev. D.L. and First Lady Willetta Perryman of Center of Hope Baptist Church.



Staci Perryman, Contessa Croninger, Denise Black-Poon



Cynthia Ford with art work



Eric and Karl Hillenbrand

2007 IMA Spring Revival

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The 2007 Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA) Revival, "Promoting Unity Among Denomination," was held from May 2 to May 4 last week at Warren AME Church.

The special guest was Bishop Timothy J. Clarke, senior pastor of the First Church of God in Columbus and author of seven books including *Signs of His Coming* and *Help for Those Who Hurt*.

The IMA is led by Rev. Cedric M. Brock (president) of Mt. Nebo MBC, Rev. Pat McKinstry (first vice president) of Upton United Methodist, Rev. Williams Lucas (second vice president) of Liberty Ministries Church of God in Christ, Rev. Karen Shepler (secretary) of Monroe Street United Methodist, Rev. Otis J. Gordon, Jr. (treasurer) of Warren AME, Rev. John Algee, III, (parliamentarian) of St. Martin de Porres and Rev. Shirley A. Sparks (chaplain) of Walls Memorial AME Zion.



CORRECTION

(Continued From Page 3)

First, according to our additional research, Monroe did not have a formal role in the PICO development deal that went sour. He was involved with the actual building in which the "clean room" was housed but not until about five years after the PICO affair.

Second, while Monroe organized the building project in which Bec Labs was housed, he did so in 1983, well before that company was part of the structure and well after Monroe had left the project.

Third, Monroe had no formal involvement with the "tall ships" episode. Former Mayor Ford recalls him negotiating on behalf of the project but Monroe was not on the committee that organized that event.

We apologize to Don Monroe for any inconvenience these errors caused.

SPREAD THE WORD!

The Teen and Legislative committees of the Toledo Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. present a most powerful free address titled **HPV: What Every Young Person, Parent and Guardian Should Know!!!** scheduled at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 12, 2007 in the auditorium of the Kent Branch Library, 3101 Collingwood Blvd. Recommended for age 10 and up due to topic content. Refreshments will be served.



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Advocates for Victims and Justice, Inc. Honor Coleman and Pizza

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Advocates for Victims and Justice, Inc., a non-profit organization that aids and assists victims from various programs that operate under the umbrella of the Toledo/Lucas County Victim-Witness Assistance Program, honored Joan Coleman and Anthony G. Pizza on Wednesday, April 25, for their roles in increasing the awareness of issues faced by victims of crime over the years.

Coleman, a longtime community activist who was the first executive director of the Toledo/Lucas County Victim-Witness Assistance Program, and Pizza, who served as Lucas County Prosecutor from 1976 to 1996 and established the program in 1990, received the inaugural awards.

The annual event coincides with National Crime Victims' Rights Week in April.

Pizza started in the Lucas County Prosecutor's office in 1951 and spent 45 years fighting crime and developing innovative methods to



The Coleman family

reduce violence. He was honored with the "Stand Up For Victims" award.

Coleman, wife of Dr. John Coleman and mother of four, including Columbus Mayor

Michael Coleman, served as executive director of the Victim-Witness Assistance Program for 16 years. Coleman was the first recipient of the "Lifetime Advocate" award.



Joan Coleman and Tony Pizza



Joan Coleman and Deborah Barnett

Selection from Suzy Lori Parks "365 Days, 365 Plays" Performed at Robert B's Poetry Night

By Geneva J. Chapman, Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Poetry at Robert B's Wednesday, April 4 (the day of Don Imus' infamy), started on CP time. In other words, late, but not that late. Promptly at 7:45, Cameron Kiser, "The Village Voice," laid down his first rhyme, followed by approving snaps from the small crowd. But it was still early. Kiser did a little call and response thing, paying homage to the ancestors, then started calling poets to come up and read. Introducing the first poet, Lisa, Kiser offered an editorial comment. "She's been coming since it first started and this is the first time she's reciting," he said. "She e-mails me some great poems!"

A little tentative, Lisa did her first poetry reading with great response from the steadily growing audience.

"Give it up to my man, Ron!" Kiser said introducing poet number two. The confident young man read his poem as snow blew from a dusky sky as day quietly tipped into the shadows of twilight, turning slowly into one more frigid night in a winter season that never seemed to end.

Folks came in to get carry-out orders of "Poet's Special" chicken wings and fifty-cent hot dogs (on Wednesdays).

"The voice of the village" imparted more poetic wisdom, standing aloft a table as more poets came in out of the cold around 8:00. Sweets recited one of her "old, old" poems about walking past a homeless man and headlights from passing cars reflected snow falling sideways.

"Yeah, so it's cold outside right?" asked Sweets rhetorically. She read a political poem, then in the middle of Kiser's next poem, three more poets walked in and walked up and exchanged greetings with him as he tried to remember the words to a poem about HIV.

While the new poets organized their rhyme schemes, Kiser played some "old school" R&B. Robert B employee, Miss Althea was asked to recite her poem, "What About the Children?"

Seventeen year-old college student, Crispy, read relevant words about the reality of being an African-American male in America. "I'm going to open up my book and find a poem," he said. "This is the funny one."

(Continued on Page 8)

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Mark-et Place Combines Entertainment and Education for Teens.

By Artisha S. Lawson
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Toledo teens gathered at the Mark-etPlace on Friday, April 27, 2007 for a safe night of socializing, music, dancing and a message. Kimberly Baber, Mark-etPlace event coordinator, is excited about the upcoming plans. "Tonight's event is a social for young people and safe alternative to drugs and other negative influences. In the future we plan to host a hip-hop dance troupe, with a unique style," said Baber.

Usually the Mark-etPlace features popular teen music, plenty of food and beverages and a community leader to send the kids home with a message. Charles Waters Jr, New Destiny Worship Center Pastor, decided to inspire youth by discussing their identity. Waters had previously spoken with King Keyser Academy youth, just a few weeks ago, and instilled the same positive spiritual message that teens can relate to.

"I talked with the youth

about what their real identity is. Not what television and music say their identity is, but how using their unique gifts will identify themselves," Waters explained.

While attending the King Keyser Academy, Baber connected with speaker Waters.



Joseph Diggins of Golden Gate Lodge who volunteered to provide refreshments for the evening's event. "Yes, while attending the Academy, I was passing out flyers and the bro-

thers of Golden Gate were donating food. I shared some information about our project and he wanted to make an investment in our community. They helped cover the food cost for tonight, I am so grateful to the brothers of Golden Gate," Baber said. Diggins was excited to pro-

vide assistance, with some of his fellow lodge brothers, Spencer Utley and Jeremy Conley, who stayed and interacted with youth during the event. "We are here to serve the community

whenever there is a need, and are proud that we were able to aid the Mark-etPlace. The staff and volunteers really care about the community, this kind of center is what the community needs," Diggins said.

The Mark-etPlace is the creation of Lisa Hightower and Sharon Waters, and according to the website www.Mark-etPlace.com, the purpose of the center is "it serves as a community based resource and event center that uses platforms such as collective thinking 'the arts,' self actualization, social justice, quantum physics, sacred activism, relational integration and community focus to propel its inclusionary truth."

Individuals and organizations who are interested in investing in the Mark-etPlace's events, should contact Baber via email at Kheber19@hotmail.com or visit the website Mark-etPlace.com or call 1.888.300.7346.

Poetry Night

(Continued From Page 7)

Kiser read a short new poem written moments earlier. Then New Works Writers Series, under the direction of Dr. Imelda Hunt, performed a staged reading from Suzy Lori Parks' "365 Days, 365 Plays."

Parks wrote one play a day for a year and the one selected by New Works was written during the week of April 4, and was titled "Jerry Spring Greek Tragedy."

Theatrical, surreal and poetic, the drama transcended simple rhymes, but was as lyrical as any ode ever written. Like the original poetry recited earlier, Parks' words created stark images of 21st Century life, using cultural icons like television and symbols like the American flag to represent intellectual abstractions and spiritual ideals.

Classical in form, theme and characters, Parks' play provided a counterpoint to the hip-hop rhythms of the poetry being recited, giving a younger generation a glimpse into the origins of rhythm and rhyme and language.

Following the theatrical interlude, Eternal Fire recited original rhymes with the finesse of a rapper and the intellect of a philosopher. The cadence of his deep, rich voice kept the audience mesmerized as he spat rhyme after unbelievable rhyme.

The now nearly full restaurant shone brightly against the darkness of the night, illuminated by the brilliance of the words spoken there - words created by even more brilliant minds.

Poets, actors and audience gathered around that brilliant flame of creativity and spoken word, seeking warmth against the cold. Such is art.

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Robin Wheatley, Ed.D: Making Sure Her Students Rise to the Challenge

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"Do you remember what it was like your first year of college ... at 18?" asks a parent, who has a student at the Early College High School, of this reporter. "Well imagine what it would be like for a 14-year old."

Appropriately, Early College High School was an idea born of imagination ... and perseverance and the right people being in the right place at the right time.

Toledo board member Larry Sykes was instrumental in putting the Early College program together through his contacts at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and his energy in bringing together former Toledo Public Schools Superintendent Eugene Sanders, PhD., and former University of Toledo President Dan Johnson, Ph.D. Both Sanders and Johnson worked together over the course of several years to make the school a reality.

Valerie Nalpierski, now an assistant superintendent with TPS, served as the first principal during the 2005-2006 school year and, as such, was the school's planner and organizer.

Robin Wheatley, Ed.D., of course, doesn't have to imagine. Wheatley, in her first year as principal of Early College and, to her great satisfaction, also in the right place at the right time, has had a front-row seat to observe the educational achievement and maturation process as 14 year olds try to cope with adjusting to high school and college at the same time.

And, quite obviously, as principal, Wheatley has had to do a lot more than just observe. She has had to assist her 144 freshmen and sophomores in that process as she attempts to work out the remaining kinks in the fledgling program.

The Early College High School is a collaborative effort of Toledo Public Schools and The University of Toledo. The program receives funding from the KnowledgeWorks Foundation, The Gates Foundation and the Kellogg Foundation. One of six such programs in Ohio, Early College—located on the Scott Park Campus—opened in the 2005-2006 academic year and admits only freshmen. Early College will continue to admit freshmen

only until all four high school classes are filled.

Students must meet one of four basic criteria to be admitted. They must be of minority racial status or come from a low-income family or be the first generation in the family who is headed to college or be an English as a Second Language learner.

After qualifying on the above criteria, students then undergo a check based upon their standardized test scores (performance no lower than two grades below grade level), attendance records (outstanding), discipline history (few if any problems) and grades (minimum "C" average).

Early College is not necessarily a place only for established high achievers. Students who are high achievers, educators realize, generally manage to create their own opportunities. "This school is about creating opportunities for children who wouldn't ordinarily have that opportunity," says Wheatley.

Once accepted, students are placed on a track that is



Robin Wheatley, Ed.D.

designed to earn them 60 college credit hours by the time they graduate from high school—the equivalent of an associate's degree or two free years of college. And those credits may be earned from a variety of subject matter—English composition, science, math, fine arts, foreign languages, social studies, health and physical education.

It's a challenging endeavor, say a number of students whom The Truth spoke with for this article, particularly at the beginning of their freshman year. But the school district intends to maintain high, challenging standards for the youngsters.

"I don't think that people can appreciate the enormity of the transition from junior high to this campus," says Wheatley. "Here you have no room for failure. They take four classes and that's it. We don't have electives. The curriculum is far more demanding than in a typical school. If you don't have study skills and time management skills and are not used to the challenge, you are not going to make it."

Each student is closely monitored to make sure he or she is on track and does make it. "We don't want to find out

at the last minute that a student is struggling," says Wheatley. But struggling students are not shown an easier path to success, they are expected to step up their game in order to succeed. There are no remedial courses at Early College.

So aside from the minimal requirements, what is the school looking for in a student?

"We are looking at average students who want to grow into successful students," says Wheatley. "First, there is the attendance record. If he or she isn't here, he or she can't learn. Second, the discipline record. We don't need you here if you are going to be disruptive."

So there are no police or hall monitors wandering the Scott Park campus trying to maintain discipline. Discipline is not an issue at Early College. "If you get into a fight, you can't stay," says Wheatley underscoring the simplicity of the school's approach to discipline.

Then there is the third element of what the school is looking for in a student—commitment. That is, commitment from the student, says Wheatley, not just from the student's parents.

Early College, of course,

has any number of challenges as a school to work out as the institution matures and new issues arise. Chief among the challenges is who shall teach high school students college courses. The answer, says Wheatley, is professors who do not have a problem with teaching the youngsters, and full professors at that. "I have to admit, the support from the professors has been wonderful," says Wheatley of that collaboration.

There is also a matter of introducing greater structure to the rather free-flowing college environment. "One of the things I'm doing differently for next year is to make sure that there are fewer opportunities for students to leave classes during the day," says Wheatley. "I want to develop patterns instead of having them coming and going all day."

There is another coming and going issue for the students, in fact. That is the problem of getting to a school that is so far out of most of their neighborhoods and for which there are no dedicated bus lines. Wheatley has tried to solve that issue by initiating parent/teacher groups to help arrange car pools.

And there is the lunch (Continued on Page 13)



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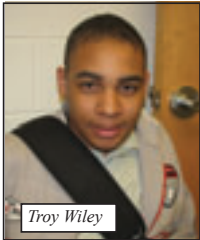
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Who Attends Early College High School?

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

There are currently 144 students at the Early College High School in the freshman and sophomore classes. Of that number, 105 are girls and only 39 are boys – 82 are African-American, nine are Latino, 50 are white and there



Troy Wiley

are three "others."

"I didn't do well at first," says sophomore Troy Wiley. He's turned that around. Now Troy is doing well in all of his subjects although he admits that math is still a major challenge. Troy will have to continue to improve in math, and the sciences, because he wants to be an architect and "they need a lot of science," he acknowledges. "I have always had a dream of building my parents a nice home," he says.

How has he turned around

those early difficulties?

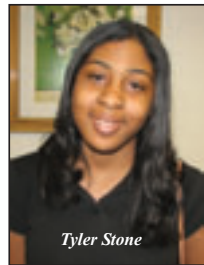
"It takes a lot of hard work and initiative," says Troy. "If you can't stay with it, it won't work out."

Brandy Cranon is in her first year at Early College having attended Horizon Science Academy last year. Her big classroom challenge has been biology – "that's my worst subject, so I study it most so I can get better."

Math, on the other hand, is Brandy's favorite.

Why did she choose to attend Early College?

"There are many opportunities and I am used to doing advanced work," she says. "I wanted to attend a school where teachers care. They are really interested in us – they take the extra time to help."



Tyler Stone

Tyler Stone is in her second year at the school and the second year has proved to be the charm for the sophomore. "This year has been a lot easier than the first year," she says. "There is a lot of work and then I was away from my friends. The toughest part – with all that work – was having to develop the time management skills to get it done."

Tyler's favorite subject

is English, a subject she hopes to major in when she moves on to college full time. "I want to be an editor and a lot of other things such as screenwriting and creative writing."

Going to Early College was not completely Tyler's idea, at least not initially. "At first it was my mother's idea, but when I got there and figured out how good an opportunity it was, I opened up."

Antonio Mitchell is a first year student. He arrived at Early College from Rosary Cathedral. "I like it a lot, but it's hard," he says referring specifically to biology and math. But for Antonio, there is no getting around those subjects. He wants to be either a doctor or a meteorologist so excelling in math and science is absolutely essential to achieve his goals.

As with the other students he spoke to, going to Early College left Antonio feeling a bit abandoned because his childhood friends went off in other directions – just another aspect of the early struggle for a number.

Since Antonio is one of a few boys at Early College, we asked him to address the issue of why so few of his male peers have opted to join him in the rigorous curriculum. "Because girls mature faster than boys," he says without the slightest bit of hesitation. "Girls at this age are more focused on their school work."

There were a number of common threads running



Antonio Mitchell

through the observations from the Early College students – the need to acquire time management and study skills, the thrill of succeeding at the academic challenges the school presents, the opportunities they envision because of their attendance.

But the stress of that early period of adjustment caused by a quantum leap in the academic degree of difficulty was a topic they addressed repeatedly. "I knew it would be hard and difficult," says Brandy Cranon. "But it was harder than I had expected." But Brandy has persevered. So have they all. "Now I'm catching up and getting there," she says.

BGSU Senior Overcomes Obstacles to Graduate with Honors

Special to The Truth

Mieasha Hicks faced numerous obstacles early in life. Her father died when she was 11 and her mother, who married as a teenager, moved to Florida. She was raised by her grandmother and two aunts. Despite those challenges, the young woman became a top student while at Toledo's Central Catholic High School, where she was involved in cheerleading, student council and choir.

On Saturday (May 5) she graduated with honors from Bowling Green State University, becoming the first in her family to not only graduate from high school but also to earn a college degree.

At BGSU, the microbiology major has juggled college courses, cheerleading, cross-country, a part-time campus job and working with the Toledo Boys and Girls Clubs. (During her freshman year at BGSU, she was the na-

tional spokesperson for Boys and Girls Clubs of America and traveled throughout the United States sharing a message of



Mieasha Hicks

hope and dedication to other young men and women.) When she recently had the chance to meet Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland, he asked, "What do you do in your spare time?" to which she responded, "Sleep!"

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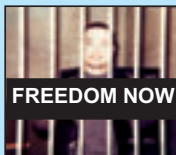


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Delta Sigma Theta Hosts 27th Annual Breakfast for M'Lady

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Toledo Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. hosted its annual Breakfast for

M'Lady on Saturday, May 5 and, as usual, handed out scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each to three local high school seniors and surprised a mother with the sorority's Mother of the Year Award.

Over 600 tickets were sold this year for the fundraising event held at the Pinnacle.

This year's three scholarship recipients were Janelle Braxton, Brittany Pendleton and Jessica Thomas.

Braxton, a senior at Start

High School, will be attending The University of Toledo next fall. A member of the Toledo EXCEL Program, Braxton is a member of the National Honor Society, the president of Mu Alpha Theta and is listed in Who's Who Among High School Students. Braxton was the UT EXCEL Scholar Queen and Miss Academics of the UT EXCEL Annual Ball for 2005. She carries a 4.3 grade point average.

Pendleton is a senior at Jesup W. Scott High School and will be attending Bowling Green State University. She was on the honor roll, had perfect attendance, was senior class president and is a member of the National Honors Society. She is also in the Scott Marching Band and is a day care tutor.

Thomas is a senior at Bowsheer High School and will attend The Ohio State University. She is also a member of the National Honors Society and was on the Principal's List for four years. She played varsity tennis, was in the jazz band and in the Honors Orchestra. She has completed over 100 hours of service with Jack and Jill of America, the Teen Institute Leaders of Toledo and the Bowsheer Service Corps.

Lela Braynum was named

Mother of the Year. Braynum has raised two adult children – one deceased – and is in the process of raising her two grandchildren.

The awards were followed as usual by a fashion show presented by the Vogue-Esquire Staff.

The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was founded on the campus of Howard University in 1913 by 22 enlightened, dynamic college women. Today the sorority has a membership of over 250,000 women making it one of the largest African-American women's organizations in the world.

The Toledo Chapter of

Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. was formed in 1937 by seven young women and the Alumnae Chapter was started in 1972.

Bettina Shuford, Ph.D., is the president of the local chapter. Bessie Mack and Tiffany Triplett are co-chairmen of the Breakfast for M'Lady Committee; Yatika Langford is chairman of the Scholarship Committee and Phyllis Wadley and Billie Lothery are chairmen of the Mother of the Year Committee.

Cecilia Adams, Ph.D., served as mistress of ceremonies for this year's breakfast.



Mother of the Year Lela Traynum



Scholarship Committee Chairman Yatika Langford (left) with recipients Brittany Pendleton, Janelle Braxton and Jessica Thomas



City Councilman Michael Ashford with Delta President Bettina Shuford

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East Coast Hip Hop at a Crossroads: M.I.M.S. Music Is My Savior, The Roots Game Theory

By Michael Hayes Minister of Culture

I appreciate all the love over the last few articles.

Yo, who would've known Don Imus silly ass would take me off my reviewing grind and allow me to get open on some "otha" stuff. But yo, that's why they hired me - to speak my mind.

No doubt, I'm still gonna probably hit' all up with more commentary on this whole "Women vs. Hip Hop" thing. If you got some words for me (agree or disagree), get at me (Mpress !!! - you was supposed to email me fam!). We can chop it up all day long on this because I'm passionate about this.

Every week more and more public figures seem to be pushing for censorship in hip-hop music.

As if the words we express are just too negative for this country's citizens to digest.

Meanwhile, Quentin Tarantino has a major motion picture with all types of mofo's getting shot the hell up.

Meanwhile, there's a REAL AND ACTUAL war going on where people are being killed simply for fighting against an un-called-for invasion of their land.

What's worse? Rappers speaking about violent acts or

being tortured by our government?

I have to defend hip-hop, I love it and everyday I work to get better at my role in the game.

But as a fan and as a performer, I of course have some things I'd love to change about the hip-hop world.

So, I wanted to showcase two albums this go around and just chop it up about how hip-hop is right now.

Peeps see me around and talk to me about my article.

And, of course, peeps who know my group's music always accuse us of favoring that East Coast sound.

Guilty as charged.

To be honest, me and my cuzo were dangerously close to the streets in the 90's.

I won't go into detail but let's just say I had a reckless period and was infatuated with some aspects of my environment that were less than positive.

A big part of what got my head right was listening to East Coast hip-hop.

Nas' first album, A Tribe Called Quest Midnight Marauder's album... these things were turning points for

me as an adolescent. The same way Jerry Heller orchestrated much of N.W.A. and Easy E's proliferation of gangsta mentality, the East Coast hip-hop sound spoke of harsh times you could relate to but did in a way that you felt empowered to change it. De La Soul's Stakes Is High, I mean yo - too many landmark releases to name.

But East Coast hip-hop taught me. It made me wanna man up. It made me stop wildin' out.

Okay, well - at least made let me wild out in a different way.

It's so ill now.

I hear Scott High School Class of 96 is about to have our 10-year reunion (one year late - L.O.L.) and it takes me back to those days and how isolated I felt.

Everybody else in that school was listening to West Coast stuff or Master P or whomever.

But me and my crew were on some B.I.G. and some Wu Tang and they thought I was so weird.

Walkin' around with my backpack and my timbos when everyone else was rockin' Dickies and mess.

But I couldn't help it - and my crew to this day (Corey, Rick, Marcus, Lavon, etc.) have all benefited from that shift in our perspective during those years.

But as much as I love East Coast hip-hop, right now it's safe to say that it's stagnant as hell.

The radio play lists and charts from Coast to Coast are all dominated by Dirty South rap.

Unless you're Jim Jones you probably aren't even touching a remix these days if you're an East Coast rapper.

Record labels have even re-structured their entire marketing push to accommodate for the slumped sales of their East Coast hip-hop acts. It's said these days that the typical East Coast act is probably gonna do about 200,000 to 350,000 units. And that's not first week, that's all in.

And when you look at Mobb Deep, Fat Joe (his last release on Atlantic), and even acts like The Roots - you see proof of that theory. Busta Rhymes had the illest record of the year with "Touch It" and he struggled to go gold in 2006. And then you've got DefJam... what used to be the cornerstone of East Coast domination in hip-hop music now enjoys success with Rick Ross, Young Jeezy and Ludacris albums while completely failing to properly market albums by Redman, The Roots and Ghostface.

But maybe there's hope. Maybe. Of course there's Jay Z and Nas, but they are superstars... they rep NY but their domination doesn't exactly mean that the region is still reppin' to its fullest.

I decided to pick up Mims' debut album Music Is My Savior because he is the last new NY cat to have a breakout hit.

His song was featured in Super Bowl commercials and eventually hit number one on the pop charts. "This Is Why I'm Hot" sounds nothing like a typical New York emcee type of joint.

There's a heavy ATL influence on the production and he made history by incorporating so many other hits into that legendary first verse of his.

But as much as I was happy to see a New York emcee with an anthem earlier this year, it was still bittersweet because... honestly, the song just isn't slick enough to bring any clout



back to the East Coast.

"I'm hot cuz I'm fly, you ain't cuz you not - this is why, this is why, this is why I'm hot"

Yeah, that's really cute if you're in the sixth grade but real heads need a little more.

Hoping to find more substance on his album, I'm already diggin the concept.

Mims explains how being into music at an early age kept him out of the way of trouble.

So in many ways, music really did save his life.

I feel that.

So I bought the album to check him out.

I must admit that I'm not very happy with my purchase.

Blackout Movement handles the lion share of the production duties and it's obvious they wanna take his Pappoose style and mix it with some of T.I. type of beats.

Sometimes it holds him back, other times it comes off pretty decent.

"They Don't Wanna Play" is pretty hard but by the time track nine "Like This" comes on you will be very close to regretting your purchase. "Just Like That," "Girlfriends Fav MC," and "Where I Belong" are the only good songs on this joint. Just about every thing else is somewhere between WACK and WACKAS HELL.

For real yo - if you hear "Superman" - you will surely be inclined to agree.

I'm waitin to see what Pappoose, Fabolous and Aasim are gonna bring to the table because the picture of a successful East Coast young-gun type of emcee is fading from memory.

Even though there's one hell of a hot ass track on Music Is My Savior, the album just doesn't satisfy at all.

Which leads me to turn my attention towards an East Coast hip-hop group that is usually guaranteed to please: The Roots!! (applause, applause - yeah I know).

Now they had a single last year that I was feelin in a big way but I didn't hear it on radio, I had to go on Questlove's myspace page to hear it. "Don't Feel Right" isn't exactly made for the dance floor even though it's far more up tempo than most rap joints these days.

Featuring long time collaborators The Jazzy Fatnasties, Black Thought

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Advanced Care with the Heart of Mercy.

On Sunday, May 20, St. V's will open The Regional Heart & Vascular Center, the area's first and only stand-alone facility for the treatment of heart and vascular diseases. "By providing highly qualified physicians with the most up-to-date technology, the facility is a tremendous advancement in this region," said Dr. Ameer Kabour, Section Chief of Cardiology for St. V's.

The Center provides full treatment capabilities from cardiac catheterization to angioplasty to stenting. Its operating suites feature the latest imaging technologies – critical for conducting minimally invasive vascular procedures. "People don't realize that vascular disease, often called hardening of the arteries, is as big a problem as heart disease. It can have a devastating impact on people's lives," said Dr. Gregory Kaspet, St. V's Section Chief of Peripheral Vascular Surgery. "The Center will be the region's most advanced for treating vascular diseases."

The Regional Heart & Vascular Center doesn't stop at cutting edge medical technology. "The facility has been designed to blend the latest technology for diagnosing and treating heart problems with the most comfortable setting as possible for patients and their families," said Paul Berlachar, M.D., a cardiologist with Northwest Ohio Cardiology Consultants.

The emphasis on patient convenience begins from the moment of arrival. Check-in occurs at the patient's bedside as part of a "universal bed" approach. As patients progress from preparation for a procedure through recovery, they remain in the same room. Appropriate equipment and personnel move to the patient. The spacious, private rooms feature large windows for a more comforting environment. Patients' loved ones also will appreciate the relaxing family gathering areas complete with kitchen amenities.

"Walking through the facility, particularly the spacious, private patient rooms, you immediately notice what a comforting environment it will be," said Barbara Dianda-Martin, R.N., St. V's Vice President of Nursing.

The Regional Heart & Vascular Center is the centerpiece of the St. V's Legacy Project, a \$90 million investment in enhancing the hospital's services. "This building is an important evolution in our cardiac services to the community," said Dr. Anoa Zacharias, the center's Medical Director. "Its technology and attention to patient comfort is a first for this region."

The Community Grand Opening of The Regional Heart & Vascular Center is open to the public. The celebration, which will take place on Sunday, May 20, from 2:00 – 4:30 p.m., will feature tours, refreshments, activities for children, and a reunion of past St. V's heart patients, family members, physicians and nurses.

Learn more about the Community Grand Opening of the Regional Heart & Vascular Center at mercyweb.org



1.877.MERCY.4.CARDIAC
mercyweb.org



East Coast Hip Hop at a Crossroads

(Continued from Page 12)

spits that traditional East Coast fire about the state of our world right now and how the eerie vibe of New World Order type of changes are lurking around the corner.

Peep the Lyrics:

Yo, in the land of the unseen hand, and hold trouble

Theorize your game, it's difficult to roll a double

The struggle ain't right up in your face, it's more subtle

But it's still comin' across like the bridge and tunnel vision

I try to school these bucks, but they don't wanna listen

That's the reason the system makin' its paper from the prison

And that's the reason we livin' where they don't wanna visit

Where the dope slang and keep swayin' like Sonny Liston

The money missin' and there's mouths to feed

Yet the brain kickin', thinkin' of a thousand things

Remember back in the days, when the kitchen had eggs

And pancakes, thicken and greens and Kool Aid

When the 'fridgeator nacked then the cupboard is bare

People got to strip naked, stick 'em up in the air

Wasn't lies when they told you wasn't nothin' to fear

Somethin' don't feel right out here,

And that's just verse one.



From the single no less.

You true Roots fans out there know that the jump off first full song on all of their CD's is like an opening jab from a heavyweight... completely no joke.

"False Media" is poetic and obtuse. It's what hip-hop was intended to be.

Some would call *Game Theory* dark and maybe even melancholy – but if hip-hop is a mirror for our times, I'd much

rather hear some stuff that lets me know about the world around me instead of just talking my ear off about rims and going to the club.

I'm thankful I bought this album.

Not only because it redeems East Coast hip-hop, but I truly feel like I'm communing with true artistic expression.

And such a juxtaposition ... such a crossroads we find ourselves at.

Hip-hop has people like Mims.

Hip-hop has people like The Roots.

The Roots have what our people NEED to hear, but the way radio is ... it's safe to say that they won't ever get that airplay that someone like Mims can enjoy.

But I wanna take this time to show everyone that hip-hop is multifaceted.

Choose wisely.

As for me – only one of these albums will find its way into heavy rotation with me...

THE ROOTS – *GAME THEORY*

Robin Wheatley: Making Sure Her Students Rise to the Challenge

(Continued from page 8)

issue, an issue that is more complicated than in high school where lunches are provided at less expense. "The challenge of offering free and reduced lunch program – off site – has proved to be difficult and we are trying to resolve it," she says.

Wheatley, an 18-year veteran of TPS and a Toledo native, graduated from DeVilbiss and earned her undergraduate degree from UT in journalism. She received, in addition to her teaching certificate, her master's degree from Bowling Green State University in guidance counseling. Her doctorate is in administration and supervision under the Leadership and Policy Studies program at BGSU. She spent the eight years prior to her arrival at Early College as assistant principal at Waite High School.

Wheatley clearly relishes the very different challenge that Early College presents – taking students who would have had little opportunity to excel and placing them on a much faster track, and doing so without compromising standards of excellence.

"We don't adjust the curriculum down," she says. "We expect our students to come up. That's the only way for students to succeed here."

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NAACP ACT-SO Competition Brings Out the Best

Special to The Truth

In a performance that would have made even Libbey High School basketball coach Leroy Bates envious, the Cowboys walked away with four gold medals, more than any other school, at the 2007 Toledo branch NAACP ACT-SO competition, Sunday, April 30th at the University of Toledo Student Union Auditorium.

ACT-SO, which stands for Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics, is a nationwide program where African-American students compete in 26 different categories covering the sciences, humanities, performing and visual arts. Local gold medal winners move on to compete in the national competition, which will be held in Detroit in July.

"ACT-SO has raised self-esteem, self-awareness, parent participation, community involvement, and gathered volunteers from all walk of life," said Toledo branch NAACP president WilliAnn Moore. "The NAACP is exceptionally proud of the Toledo ACT-SO program's stellar two years. We had outstanding performances from student from all around the city which has contributed to a successful program."

Libbey students scored six medals overall, tying them with the Toledo School for the Arts, whose students also won six medals, including two gold medals. Scott High School students captured three medals in the competition.

Some 40 students competed in this year's competition, down from last year but still one of the highest totals ever to compete in the local ACT-SO competition. Toledo ACT-SO has had nearly 100 competitors over the past two years.

"It was a lot of hard work holding orientation sessions at various schools, but those things continue to pay off with the turnout," said Donna Hughes, chairwoman of the local ACT-SO competition for the past two years. "One of our biggest challenges is educating the students on what ACT-SO is before we can even get around to talking with them about competition."

"We've held ACT-SO contests here for over a decade, but 95 percent of the students we've talked to had never heard of it before. We are dedicated to beating that drum until ACT-SO becomes

the competition that everyone wants to be a part of, and I think the numbers prove we are heading in the right direction."

Gregory Gibson, II, of Libbey, capture two gold medals in drawing and sculpture. Gibson, ironically a basketball player for the City League-champion Cowboys, successfully defending the gold medal he won in drawing last year, where he went on to represent Toledo at nationals.

Loganne Bond, of the Toledo School for the Arts, also defended the gold medal she won in dance last year by fending off Scott's Tyree Bell in probably one of the most competitive competitions of the day. Victoria Phifer, of Maumee Valley Country Day School, was another repeat gold medalist from last year, winning in oratory and will also represent Toledo again at nationals.

Judging for ACT-SO, which is designed by the NAACP national ACT-SO office, is very competitive and students are only awarded gold medals if they score a 95 or above with judges. Silver medal winners must score between 90-94. Bronze medals must score between 89-85.

Hughes said it would be a disservice to students to award medals to projects that didn't score in those parameter, even if they are the only contestants in a category. She said she hopes the scoring would encourage the students to bring projects and

work that represents the very best of their abilities.

Other gold-medal winning Libbey students included Charles Chandler, Jr., who put on a soul-stirring performance in the Music Instrumental Contemporary category, and Brandon Kimble, who captured the top award in painting.

Amaris Johnson won the second gold medal for the Toledo School for the Arts, with an outstanding performance of her own in the music instrumental classical class.

Melvin Claybrooks led the Scott contingent with a gold medal victory in poetry, one of the most competitive fields in the competition. Anna-Stacia Allen, of Rogers High School, won the silver medal.

Other Libbey medal winners included Kimble, who won a silver in drawing and Lemeon Woods, who won a bronze medal in playwriting. Other Toledo School for the Arts winners included Ashley Strickland, who captured a silver in dramatics

(Continued on Page 16)



WilliAnn Moore

Toledo Idols Steal the Show at The Frederick Douglass Center

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Young aspiring entertainers rocked the house on Sunday afternoon, April 29, as the first annual Toledo Idol competition arrived at the Frederick Douglass Community Center.

The fundraising event was organized by Sarah Bates, Flora Jones and Viva McCarver of New Technology Steel and American Businesses. All the proceeds were donated to the Frederick Douglass Center to help support that group's summer programs.

An audience of about 300 gathered to listen and watch the school-aged performing artists took to the stage and thrilled family and friends.

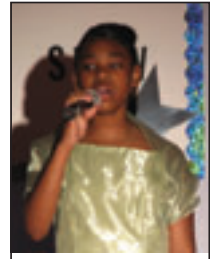
Four youngsters competed in the elementary school category as Brianna Corbin took first place honors, and a check for \$500. Brianna, a 10-year old student in the fourth grade at Birmingham Elementary, wants to be a nurse when she grows up but her success in the talent competition may have her re-thinking that goal.

Jamie Easter, a third grader at Stewart Academy for Girls, danced her way to second place and a \$400 check and Edayzcia Allen, a fifth grader at Stewart, won third place honors.

Also receiving recognition in the elementary category was Jalen Wilson, a

fifth grader at Wayne Trail Elementary.

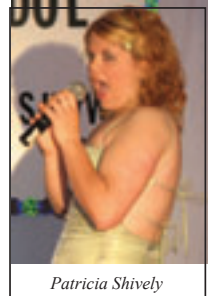
In the high school competition, Darius Coleman, a sophomore at Woodward, won top honors. Patricia Snively, a sophomore at Waite finished second and



Sara Bates, Viva McCarver and Flora Jones

dancing troupe, Reedeamerz took third place honors. The high school students received the same amount of cash prizes as did the elementary students.

NBC 24 anchor Shenikwa Straford served as the afternoon's mistress of ceremonies and Victor Colon, music producer; Nathaniel Gurley, vocal stylist, and Jami Quillen, recording artist, were the judges for this year's Toledo Idol.



Patricia Shively

(More Photos on Page 20)

Hospice helped our family reach a final goal.

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

HOSPICE
OF NORTHWEST OHIO

"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

Hospice can help make the end of life meaningful and fulfilling. To learn more, ask for our FREE brochure series, "Hospice Answers." Call 419-661-4001 or visit hospicenwo.org.

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2007 Miss Black USA Scholarship Pageant Scheduled: Sponsors and Delegates Needed

Special to The Truth

The Miss Black Ohio USA Scholarship Pageant will hold its 2007 pageant on August 12 in Columbus at the Shedd Theater, located at the Columbus Performing Arts Center in downtown Columbus. Warren Stevens of Magic 98.9 FM will again serve as a Co-Emcee for the pageant, along with Chavin Rucker, Miss Black Ohio USA 2006. The pageant is open to African-American women and teens ages 13 to 27 who live in, go to school in or work in Ohio. Areas of competition are interview, talent, fitness and evening gown.

According to Vanessa King, executive director for the Ohio program, The Miss Black Ohio USA Scholarship Pageant is searching for young women who are intelligent, talented, poised, and beautiful. The mission of the Miss Black Ohio USA Pageant is to develop and promote leadership among women in the African-American community. "We provide scholarship opportunities that allow our delegates to pursue and achieve their educational, career, and personal goals," says King.

"The organization strives to develop women who are strong, empowered, and educated, and who serve as positive role models to other women of color."

The woman selected as Miss Black Ohio USA 2007 will go on to compete against 50 other delegates vying for the title of Miss Black USA 2008. "The national competition is normally held in Washington, DC," says King, "but on May 23, Chavin Rucker, Miss Black Ohio USA 2006, and I will be traveling to The Gambia, West Africa for the 2007 national pageant. Because of preparations to go to The Gambia, the date and location on the 2008 national pageant has yet to be announced."

Ohio hosts a Miss and a Teen pageant. Miss Black Ohio USA will receive a scholarship, an array of prizes and media exposure, with opportunities to speak throughout Ohio. The teen selected as Miss Teen Black Ohio USA 2007 will hold the state title and be awarded a prize package that includes a savings bond. She will have the opportunity to make ap-



pearances throughout the state with Miss Black Ohio USA 2007, and attend the national pageant competition.

Sponsors are providing monetary and in-kind contributions for the 2007 Miss Black Ohio USA Scholarship Pageant. Some sponsors from last year, such as Yusuf Sadiq of Y Sadiq Diamonds who donated a 1/2 carat diamond pendant for Miss Black Ohio USA, have already committed to again assist the pageant this year. Additional

sponsors are needed.

"We are grateful for the sponsors who have pledged their support to the Miss Black Ohio USA Pageant again this year," says Ms. King. "We still need to generate thousands of dollars to help support our operation costs. Last year we were able to give a \$1000 scholarship to Miss Rucker, Miss Black Ohio USA 2006 and a \$500 savings bond to Miss Teen Black Ohio USA. We would like to be able to do this again and also provide scholarships and savings bonds to our runner-ups. We would like to have other businesses and individuals donate to this event to assist these young ladies in making their educational and career dreams become reality."

Applications are still being accepted for delegates to compete in the 2007 Miss Black Ohio USA Scholarship Pageant. According to King, the entry fee for the pageant has been cut drastically over last year's fee to make it more affordable for those who in need of financial assistance. "We want to give more young ladies the opportunity to compete. There are many intelligent, talented African-American women who are not able to attend college or some type of career training program because they do not have the financial ability to do so. Our goal is to see these young ladies succeed."

For additional information on how you can become part of this great event, in-

cluding becoming a delegate, sponsor, advertiser in the program book, volunteer or judge, contact Vanessa King, Executive Director, at 614-638-5531 or email her at director@missblackohiousa.org. Monetary donations should be sent to: Miss Black Ohio USA Scholarship Pageant, PO Box 7804, Columbus, OH 43207. More information, delegate applications and sponsor packets can also be obtained from the Miss Black Ohio USA Scholarship Pageant website at www.missblackohiousa.org. The Miss Black Ohio USA Pageant and Scholarship Foundation, Inc., is a nonprofit corporation, recognized under the 501 (c) 3 code of the Internal Revenue Service.

AALEAA's
11th Annual Scholarship
 and
Awards Dinner Banquet

"A Taste of Essence 2007"

Saturday - May 12
 Reception at 6:00 p.m.
 Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Park Inn Toledo Hotel
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For ticket information please contact us at 419.536.7048 or access the web at: www.aaleaa.com Tickets may be purchased at the door.

Dear Ryan,

My butt is getting huge!!!! I want to come and see you so that I can be in better shape by summer time, but by the time I get home from work I am too tired to do anything. I sit for an hour then I cook for my kids and get ready for the next day. Do you have any simple remedies for me to get ready for summer? I am open for anything at this point.

J.J.

Dear J.J.

Well my remedy is quite simple, STOP MAKING EXCUSES! By the time you sit an hour at home you could've come to train with me and been home to start your motherly chores. You just need to make a decision on how important it is for you to get into shape and do it.

If motivation is a problem find a friend who wants to get into better shape and become accountable to each other. You have to get started now if you want see a noticeable difference and be in better shape for summer time. You can not procrastinate any longer! Clean up your eating and keep healthier snacks around the house. I know you have kids and you probably have Little Debbie's, fruit snacks and other kid-type snacks around. Get rid of them, it wouldn't kill the kids to have healthier snacks around as well. Get rid of all your temptations that are keeping you down as well. If you don't buy them then they aren't there to tempt you.

You need to increase your activity level to burn more calories. So when you get home, don't sit down. Go for a walk/jog, do an aerobics video or get some hand weights and just exercise! It is easier to just exercise before you go home because you don't have the distractions and once you get home you tend to get comfortable and relaxed. If you decide that you want to come train and get the results you want, my door is open come on in.

* * * * *

I am in the process of getting my website up and running. I would like some feed back from you readers to know if you would be interested in web cam training sessions on Saturdays along with nutrition seminars that you can watch in the comfort of your home. My cook book will also be finished and available for download. Please e-mail me and let me know if you have any interest in this or if there is something you would like to see. I am trying hard to make it easy for you to get information and knowledge with the least amount of effort on your part. Next week I will give an overview of my 2nd Annual Glass Scepter Bodybuilding & Figure contest.

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NAACP ACT-SO Competition

(Continued From Page 14)

and a bronze in Music Contemporary Vocal; Tatiana Owens, who won a silver in music vocal contemporary; and Anna Woods, who earned a bronze in music instrumental classical.

Along with Claybrook's gold and Bell's silver, Scott's Kenneth Pettaway won bronze in music instrumental contemporary. Central Catholic High School took home two silver medals: Keneas Fisher, in painting, and Mary Ann Williams, in sculpture.

Mario Harris-Rosser, of St. John's Jesuit High School, had a strong showing in capturing the silver medal in original essay, while Tremayne Griffin, from the Lucas County Treatment Center, won the bronze in drawing and Keiara Furr-Ruffin, of Woodward High

School, earned the bronze in painting.

Hughes said her biggest disappointment this year was not having students compete in the science categories. She said Toledo has a strong history of being every competitive at nationals in the science categories, including two national gold medal winners, Laura Cottingham, of Notre Dame Academy in biology, and Andre Gaines, in architecture.

"This will be one of our biggest concentrations this year," Hughes said. "We know these projects need to start in the summer and fall to reach the level it needs to be, so we are looking for students and mentors now for those categories. We have a reputation to uphold in these categories and we are determined to shine in those areas again."

Statement from Mayor Carty Finkbeiner

The *Blade's* Sunday editorial was biting, but they only wrote what others are saying. That is, that the time has come for Toledo's school board to put aside all of their personal animosities and work together for the improvement and progress of our school system's children.

While I deeply respect the challenges to citizen-educators, who seek to improve our nation's schools, the intrusion of petty politics and the absence of team play in matters concerning the welfare of our school children must end.

The selection of John Foley as the new superintendent of Toledo Public Schools ushers in a new chapter. I have called Mr. Foley and pledged my 100 percent support. I have written to the T.P.S. board

members and pledged the same. But the pettiness at T.P.S. board meetings (and in between meetings) must be replaced by intelligent analysis, and thoughtful, mature discussions of how our 45 new schools can have 45 environments within that are as stimulating and challenging as possible. That must start with enlightened T.P.S. leadership at the top. Anything less will be totally unacceptable to the Toledo leadership community and this mayor.

An international magazine has just rated Toledo a City of the Future. For that to happen, Toledo must have the Toledo Public School Board acting wisely and working together on behalf of 30,000 young people.

Life Skills Trainer

Seeking a competent mental health provider who delivers professional care in the community setting to adults and their families who are experiencing a severe and persistent mental illness. Requires Bachelor's degree in mental health related field plus experience working with adults who are severely and persistently mentally ill. Requires license to practice as a social worker or counselor (Ohio LSW, PC or Counselor Trainee). Duties include developing and updating an Individualized Service Plan for each client, ensuring quality and completeness of clinical records and helping the client achieve and maintain their highest level of functioning by striving for successful community living. Send resume with cover letter and salary expectations by 5/16/07 to

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Toledo, OH 43623-4234,
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or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

EOE.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Metroparks of the Toledo Area has an opening for a part time Volunteer Coordinator. Excellent benefits and opportunities for personal development, \$14.39 per hour. Requires Associates Degree or equivalent work experience and 2 years experience in volunteer program management. Must be able to work independently, demonstrate computer and database program proficiency. Professionalism, creativity and strong organizational skills required! Submit application and resume to Administrative Office, Wildwood Preserve Metropark, 5100 W. Central Avenue, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by May 17, 2007 or visit www.metroparkstoledo.com to review the position description and download an application. EOE

Citywide Christian Trustee Association

will meet at
J. B. Simmons Bldg,
1001 Indiana Ave., on
Saturday
May 19, 2007 at 10:00
am asking all members
please be present
Very important meeting

The King Wamba Carnival Parade kicks off the 36th annual Old West End Festival on June 2 and celebrates the birth of summer by paying homage to Toledo's grand, but short lived, Mardi Gras festival of 1909. The parade is a visual odyssey of art cars, floats, performance art and musical presentations unlike any other parade in the area. A production of The Mystic Order of Odelots (Toledo spelled backwards) www.odelot.org

Legal Notice

Sealed bids will be received by the Lucas County Department of Job and Family Services (LCDJFS) office, 3210 Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio, until 4:00 p.m., (local time), June 6, 2007 and opened immediately thereafter for the selection of Contractors for the provision of Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Positive Youth Development and Early Academic Services for At Risk Youth. Submitted bids must be completed according to the specifications and provisions outlined in the Request for Proposal. The contract period will be from August 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008.

On May 9, 2007, the Request for Proposal will be released and is available for pick up by potential bidders at the LCDJFS office during regular working hours or download the bid by going to the site: <https://apps.co.lucas.oh.us/bids>.

A Bidder's Conference will be held on May 15, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the LCDJFS office. **ATTENDANCE IS OPTIONAL, BUT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.** If any changes are made to the RFP as a result of the Bidder's Conference, an addendum to the RFP **will be posted on the website address noted above.**

ANY BIDDER WHO PLANS TO RESPOND TO THE RFP MUST SUBMIT A LETTER OF INTENT WITH PERTINENT INFORMATION SUCH AS NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS TO THE LCDJFS OFFICE BY May 16, 2007, by 4:00 p.m.. Attention: Eva Strickland.

Prior to the June 6, 2007 4:00 P.M. (local time) deadline each bid upon submission must be stamped for the time and date and placed in our bid box. The bid box is located at the Security Desk on the first floor of the LCDJFS office. No bids will be accepted after 4:00 P.M. (Bids that are time-stamped at the Document Center will not be accepted.)

This notice is posted, as of May 9, 2007, at <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/supportservices/bidnotices.asp>

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.
Tina Skeldon Wozniak - President
Pete Gerken - Commissioner
Ben Konop - Commissioner

Tutoring Coordinator

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Energetic, dependable professional needed to deliver training to staff on agency software applications. Requires Associate's degree in computer science or information systems, plus experience leading training sessions. Must have excellent written and oral communication skills, plus the ability to design, develop and deliver software training programs and individual classes. Assists in planning, design and development of new applications and enhancements, and collaborates with department heads to assess staff training needs. Must be committed to delivering excellent customer service. Send resume, with cover letter and salary expectations by 5/16/07, to
Harbor Behavioral Healthcare,
Attn: Human Resources (22),
4334 Secor Road,
Toledo, OH 43623-4234
or fax to 419-479-3230
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.
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WEP Site, Job Coach Manager

Mental health professional needed to provide job site supervision to adults through Ohio Works First Program as well as directly supervise WEP site job coaches. Bachelor's degree in human services or related field plus 3 years vocational rehabilitation experience preferred. Preferred candidate will have supervisor/management experience of a vocational program. Duties include providing job coaching and job development services on behalf of OWF clients, actively developing new WEP agreements and manage, coordinate, evaluate and supervise all operations within assigned vocational staff and program services. Must be an excellent communicator and accurate in computer use. Send resume with cover letter and salary expectations by 5/16/07 to
Career Connections,
Attn: Human Resources (WEP),
4334 Secor Rd.,
Toledo, OH 43623-4234,
or fax to 419-724-9425,
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.
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LCCS,
705 Adams St.,
Toledo, OH 43604
Fax: 419-327-3291

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Facilities Director

Seeking a competent individual to ensure that Harbor Behavioral Healthcare's facilities are well maintained and in compliance with applicable health and safety standards. Minimum of 5 years prior experience involving building, construction, or renovation work required. Experience must include formulation of contractor bid requirements and selection and oversight of contracts awarded. Experience in supervising building maintenance, HVAC and other building systems strongly preferred. Duties include overseeing the maintenance of all HVAC plumbing and electrical systems of Harbor facilities, identifying and prioritizing needed facility improvements and preparing bid specifications for contractors for identified projects. Send resume with cover letter and salary expectations by 5/16/07 to Harbor Behavioral Healthcare,

Attn: Human Resources (FD),
4334 Secor Rd.,
Toledo, OH 43623-4234,
or fax to 419-479-3230, or
e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

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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 5/16/07, 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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ATTENTION ALL VENDORS

The 3rd Annual African American Festival will be held at Nelson Grace Park on Friday, July 13, Saturday, July 14 and Sunday, July 15.

As space is limited to 50 entries, please contact Terri at the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union at 419/255-8876 for your application. Reservations will be given on a first come, first serve basis.

1339 Dorr Street · Toledo, Ohio 43607 · (419) 255-8876 · Fax (419) 255-4390 · Email: syourturn@aol.com

Job Developer

Seeking an energetic, team player to call on area companies to develop job opportunities for our clients. Requires Bachelor's degree in business, plus 1 year experience in sales/marketing; or Associate's degree and 1 year vocational rehabilitation experience; or 3 years sales, marketing, or job recruitment experience. Duties include marketing program and vocational services to area employers, actively developing job opportunities for clients, and providing job seeking skills training. Must be proficient and accurate in computer use and have a commitment to providing excellent customer service. Send resume, with cover letter and salary expectations, by 5/16/07 to

Career Connections,
Attn: Human Resources (JD-T),
4334 Secor Rd.,
Toledo, OH 43623-4234,
or fax to 419-479-3230,
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

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Vocational Program Manager

Dependable professional needed to oversee all aspects of the Vocational Program servicing OWF recipients. Bachelor's degree in human services or related field plus 3 years vocational rehabilitation experience required. Preferred candidate will have 2 years of supervisory/management experience of a vocational program. Familiarity with, and desire to work with, the OWF population is required. Duties include managing, coordinating, evaluating and supervising all operations within assigned vocational staff and program services, providing personnel management functions and assisting in innovation and development of services especially those focused on assisting OWF recipients in achieving self-sufficiency. Send resume with cover letter and salary expectations by 5/16/07 to

Career Connections,
Attn: Human Resources (VPM),
4334 Secor Rd.,
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or fax to 419-479-3230,
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

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Nurse Manager

Exciting opportunity for RN or APN to provide direct care and management leadership to our growing team of professional nurses working in outpatient settings with adult SPMI clients. Requires Ohio license and the passion to provide expert care and extraordinary service. Prior management and psychiatric experience preferred. Duties include personnel management, program planning and implementation, direct care/medical management of patients, coordination of nursing services with other clinical and administrative departments. Qualified candidates may submit resume with cover letter and salary requirements by 5/14/07 to Harbor Behavioral Healthcare,

Attn: Human Resources (NM),
4334 Secor Road
Toledo, OH 43623-4234,
or fax to 419-479-3230
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

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Employer Liaison

Seeking a high energy professional to be responsible for account management of Harbor Behavioral Healthcare Career Connections employer/consumer job matching database. Requires a minimum of Bachelor's degree in marketing or related field, plus a minimum of 3 years experience in marketing, sales, job development or employment recruitment with proven track record. Must be proficient and accurate in computer use, including Microsoft Word and Access database management. Must have valid driver's license and be willing to make sales calls and conduct account follow-up in community as necessitated. Duties include tracking all daily account management activity, measuring and ensuring overall customer satisfaction and networking and coordinating potential employment opportunities and appropriate job matches. Please submit cover letter with salary expectations and resume by 5/16/07, to

Career Connections,
Attn: Human Resources (EL),
4334 Secor Road,
Toledo, OH 43623-4234
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or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

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Help Wanted

Sales persons needed for local weekly newspaper marketing efforts. Excellent commission – full or part time.

Call 419-243-0007

or email thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com.

Vocational Specialist

Seeking a competent mental health professional to provide psychosocial and vocational assessments, and coordinate linkage between clients and employers. Requires Bachelor's degree in mental health related field plus 1 year vocational rehabilitation experience; or Associate's degree with 3 years vocational rehab experience; or 5 years experience providing vocational rehab services to BVR, ODJFS funding sources. Preference given to licensed candidate (Ohio LSW or PC). Duties include assessing client readiness for employment, identifying client interests/skills, and evaluating worksite/employee job match. Must be proficient and accurate in computer use. Send resume with cover letter and salary expectations by 5/16/07 to

Career Connections,
Attn: Human Resources (VS),
4334 Secor Rd.,
Toledo, OH 43623-4234,
or fax to 419-479-3230,
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

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Job Coaches

Progressive behavioral health care organization is seeking energetic, dependable professionals to provide job coaching services to assist clients to independently perform their job duties. Two years teaching/training experience required. Bachelor's degree plus teaching/training experience preferred. Duties include analyzing jobs and work environments, training clients to perform their job duties, and actively providing job development and Job Seeking Skills Training services. Must be proficient and accurate in computer use. Valid driver's license, good driving record required. Send resume and salary expectations by 5/16/07 to

Career Connections,
Attn: Human Resources (JC),
4334 Secor Rd.,
Toledo, OH 43623-4234,
or fax to 419-479-3230
or e-mail to harborhr@harbor.org.

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Program Analyst

Harbor Behavioral Healthcare, a progressive outpatient mental health agency, is seeking a competent professional to assist the Vice President of Quality Improvement. Bachelor's degree in mental health or business related field with an emphasis on data analysis required. Experience in accreditation and certification processes helpful. Knowledge and ability to lead and evaluate Continuous Quality Improvement processes highly preferred. Duties include implementing and evaluating the agency Utilization Management activities and investigating patient complaints and grievances. Submit cover letter with salary expectations and resume by 5/16/07, to

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

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**Open Board Seats
To serve on the
Civilian Police Review Board
Toledo, Ohio**

The Civilian Police Review Board for the City of Toledo is currently looking for Board Members to fill open seats. If you are interested in serving your community, as a volunteer please forward an updated resume, and a letter of intent. No experience is necessary, as each board member will be updated on all cases and given responsibilities as a board member. The Mayor and City Council members appoint (and or approve) each board member. Board members must attend all board meetings, and complete a ride along with the Toledo Police Department in the summer and or fall season. Scheduled board meetings "without a case to hear" will be used as a working meeting with guest speakers.

The object of this board is to give "citizens a fair and impartial appeal process" for complaints of police misconduct or allegations in which a citizen is dissatisfied with the findings of the Police Internal Affairs Investigation.

The Board may quell potentially volatile situations by acting in an *advisory capacity* to the Chief of Police on various issues such as police policies and procedures.

The board requires that all complaints to be "first" filed with Toledo Police Department where the complaint will be investigated by either the concerned officer's supervisor or the Police Division's Internal Affairs Unit, depending on the nature of the complaint. The complainant will be notified, in writing, when the investigations have been completed and be advised of the results.

The Civilian Police Review Board is made up of "Citizen's for Citizen's". One member shall reside and represent the following neighborhoods of the City of Toledo.

- North End of Toledo
- South End of Toledo
- East Side of Toledo
- West Side of Toledo
- Central Section of Toledo

At least one member of the N.A.A.C.P. and at least one member shall be representative of the Hispanic Community. At least one member shall be a practicing attorney and at least one member shall have a background in human relations. At least 3 members shall have background in law enforcement (but, NOT active on the Police Department).

If you are interested in being considered as a board member- please send your current resume and letter on intent to:

Toledo Police Department
@ 525 N. Erie Street
Toledo, Ohio 43604
Attn: Chief Navarre
c/o C.P.R.B. - Lisa Canales-Chairman

**COMMISSIONER OF
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/CONTRACT COMPLIANCE**

The City of Toledo, Ohio, is currently accepting resumes for the position of Commissioner of Affirmative Action/Contract Compliance.

The City seeks a highly motivated, experienced, professional individual with the ability to implement and coordinate the City of Toledo's Affirmative Action plan and to ensure compliance with all applicable local, state, and federal laws, rules and regulations as they relate to equal opportunity in employment and contract compliance.

Successful candidates must demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of laws concerning affirmative action and contract compliance; comprehensive knowledge of affirmative action concepts, principles and programs; considerable knowledge of the policies and procedures of various compliance agencies; considerable knowledge of the procedures for bidding and awarding contracts; good knowledge of personnel management; effective skills in public relations and information dissemination, supervisory methods and techniques; and knowledge of collective bargaining agreements and budget preparation. Minimum qualifications are a Bachelor's Degree in the Behavioral Sciences, Business Administration, Public Administration, or a closely related area, and five (5) years of responsible experience in the design, implementation and enforcement of affirmative action or contract compliance plans and programs, which included two (2) years of supervisory experience. Must be a resident of the City of Toledo within six (6) months of appointment. Salary is negotiable, depending on experience. Excellent fringe benefits. Interested candidates should submit a detailed cover letter and resume to:

Department of Human Resources
Attn: Peg Wallace, Manager
One Government Center, Suite 1920
Toledo, Ohio 43604

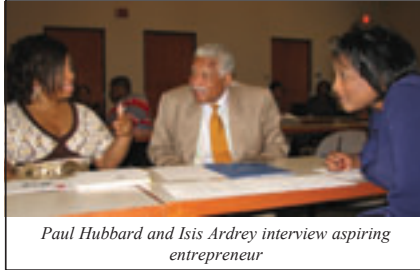
no later than Monday, 5/21/07. The City of Toledo is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Minorities, females and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

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Toledo Idol Youth Talent Show



Artist Loganne Bond



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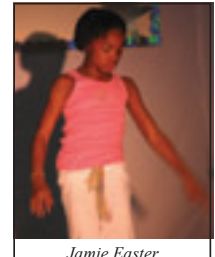
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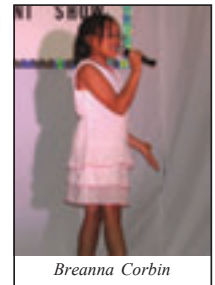
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