



Pastor Raymond Bishop

Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church

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"There is my vision for participating and then the logical perspective. But there is also a theological perspective. It's our calling as a church. As such, our agenda is simple. It is not an issue of taking earth to heaven but bringing heaven to earth."

This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

Six years later and where do we stand as a nation? As we assess our situation six years after the most devastating attack on this country's soil, it's about as bleak a picture as we could have imagined back then.

Three thousand lives lost on that date, squandered opportunities to avail ourselves of the rest of the world's good will to make positive changes, another 3,700 American lives lost fighting the wrong enemy in the wrong place, hundreds of thousands of Iraqi lives lost, absolutely no end in sight to the very worst sort of foreign entanglement and our nation as politically divided as it has been in years.

And, of course, the mastermind behind the 9/11 attacks is still running around in the hills of Pakistan/Afghanistan thumbing his nose at American ineptitude.

Chief among the ironies is the fact that this week, General David Petraeus, senior U.S. commander in Iraq, is making his long-awaited reported on the state of the struggle to force democracy down the throats of an unwilling people.

Who didn't know months ago what the general would say?

The surge is working in those areas where the extra troops are deployed. That's what Petraeus is saying and will say throughout this week.

The problem is, of course, that one did not need to be a military genius to recognize that such a tactic would work—at least temporarily. If you deploy more troops in a certain area, it will drive the enemy, particularly an unconventional enemy, underground. You draw down the troops later and a committed enemy returns to fill the vacuum.

Before the war started, Army Chief of Staff Eric Shinseki predicted that the coalition forces would need in excess of 200,000 troops to deal with the aftermath of the assault and to restore order. Shinseki's opinion conflicted with the Rumsfeld/Cheney line which held that we would be greeted as liberators, order would be quickly restored and the costs of the conflict would be borne by the immense oil resources at hand.

For his pains, Shinseki would be drummed out of the military—Rummy did not even have the courtesy to attend his retirement ceremonies. Over time, Shinseki was proven to be correct and thus the surge. The surge does not have the short-term impact of even restoring order to the country at large because it is too little too late, but we shuffle around troops claiming "look at the progress we have made in this province or that city."

What's worse is that in order to deliver that progress, we make deals with the devil. The devils in this case are the Sunni militias who have been armed by the coalition forces to join us in the battle against Al Qaeda-Iraq. There was no Al Qaeda-Iraq before we started the current war and that is yet another symptom of the tragic failure of our so-called War on Terrorism.

Now there is an Al Qaeda in Iraq and we are enlisting Sunni warlords to fight them. The majority of Iraqis are Shi'ites who oppose arming the Sunnis and when, or if, we ever leave, civil war is a distinct possibility.

The solution to that is to partition the country along lines of Sunni, Shi'ite and Kurdish majorities. And as for the prospects for peace after such a division? We need to look no further than the Indian subcontinent to understand what may well follow partition.

In the meantime, the Taliban and Al Qaeda still lurk, with fairly strong numbers, in the mountains of Pakistan and Afghanistan in large part because our forces are stretched too thin to effectively deal with the true enemy.

And just who are our friends in the foreign policy debacle?

Well, Australia, for example, has stepped up to the plate. Prime Minister John Howard offers his staunch support and his nations troops ... 500 of them, in fact. They will undoubtedly leave when Howard leaves office. This is representative of the kind of support our War in Iraq has earned us.

And what will Petraeus say of the political situation in Iraq?

We have seen that coming for months now also. It is a mess. Ministry positions unfilled. No cooperation among the various sects. No services brought to the citizens.

People are fleeing the country by the thousands daily. Unfortunately for them, especially the ones who have aided the U.S. in its misguided strategy to change the world, they cannot enter this country because at least on that front, we have the immigration problem well in hand.

For years, Bush refused to compare Iraq with Vietnam until he found a way to make such a comparison to his advantage. Of late he has said that if we leave Iraq precipitously, the Iraqi citizens will suffer in much the same way that the South Vietnamese and Cambodians suffered after our pull out from that region of the world. He neglects to say that the way we conducted our business in that arena were the reasons such brutalities occurred upon our departure.

There is an oft-repeated saying about history repeating itself. The fact is, it only seems that history repeats itself to those who do not know the details.

The Sojourner's Truth

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Community Calendar

*September 14-15

Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance: Pastor & Church Leaders' Conference; "A time for Refreshing: Preparing for a New Season;" Friday—7 pm, Bishop Walter Thomas of New Psalmist and the Interfaith Mass Choir; Saturday—8 am to 12:30 pm, Dr. James Perkins of Greater Christ Detroit Church: 419-242-1455

5th Annual Imani Festival: Mt. Zion Baptist Church; "The Big Push ... Takin' My Life Back;" Friday 5 to 9 pm—JAZZ Under the Stars; Saturday—health and wellness, musical guests, praise & worship, Steppin' for Christ, amusement rides, 3-on-3 basketball tournament: 419-246-1850

*September 14-16

St. Catherine Festival 2007: St. Catherine of Siena; Fri—6 pm to midnight; Sat—2 pm to midnight; Sun—Noon to 8 pm; Rides, Texas Hold'em, bingo, chicken dinner

*September 16

JJ Express Back to School Bowling Party; Imperial Lanes; 2 pm; Door prizes, raffles and fun: 419-514-6580

Braden United Methodist Church: 2007 homecoming—"A New Attitude;" Guest speaker Rev. James Matthews; 10:30 am; Book signing to follow; 3 pm Gospel Fest at Erie Street Market: 419-865-2833

*September 17-22

JJ Express Drill & Drum Corp annual tryouts; Car Spa at Dorr and Upton; 5 pm each day: 419-514-6580

*September 21

Fish Fry: Amazon Lodge Hall; 11 am to 5 pm

*September 22

End-of-the-Summer Chicken Barbecue: Margaret Hunt Senior Center; 1 to 4 pm; John Pickle performs; Games and bingo: 419-385-2595

*September 29

Monroe Street Neighborhood Center; Parents Week Neighborhood Fair; 10 am to noon; Food, cooking, dancing, sewing: 419-473-1167

*September 30

A Wine Event: Wine sampling session for wine makers; 4 to 7 pm; Bring a bottle of home-made wine for tasting: 419-241-2632

*October 6

Calvary Baptist Women's Ministry: Caregiver Workshop; Noon to 1:30 pm: 419-865-0019

*October 7

52nd Annual Women's Day Program: St Mark MBC; Morning speaker—Sis. Tammy Freeman of Columbus; Evening speaker—Sis. Willie Mae Ellis: 419-241-1726

*October 12-14

Scott High School 30th Year Reunion: Call 419-244-3677 or email scotthighschool30years@yahoo.com to register

*October 13

Calvary Baptist Women's Ministry: Caregiver Workshop; Noon to 1:30 pm: 419-865-0019

*October 20

Calvary Baptist Women's Ministry: Caregiver Workshop; Noon to 1:30 pm: 419-865-0019

The Sojourner's Truth

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Sin Is Common to Us All

Idaho's Republican Senator, Larry Craig's recent arrest at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, and his subsequent pleading guilty to a "disorderly conduct" charge, growing out of what some believe was an attempt to solicit sex from another man, refocuses attention on politicians who preach one thing and practice another. In the church, we call that hypocrisy.

From Mark Foley and his "Inappropriate emails," to congressional pages, to former New Jersey Governor, James McGreevey's public confession in 2004, that he is gay, to Louisiana Republican Bob Livingston's acknowledgement that he had strayed from his marriage in 1998, to Massachusetts' Democratic Gerry Studds' censure in the House of Representatives for his homosexual affair with a teenage page, to Illinois Republican Daniel Crane's reprimand for sexual misconduct with female pages in 1993, to President Bill Clinton's affair with Monica Lewinsky, we have a long list of public officials who have fallen from grace.

Unfortunately, preachers have also been guilty of sexual sins, from Jim Bakker, to Jimmy Swaggart, to Ted Haggard, who helped engineer President George Bush's successful campaign with the "Christian Right."

Sin is common to us all, politicians, preachers, and pews alike. For "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Hypocrisy is not so easy to forgive, especially when forgiveness is sought after one gets caught. To preach the high road, and walk the low road, is difficult to accept; especially when the high road is "Family values." Most politicians and preachers who have gotten caught in the web of sexual immorality were preaching one thing publicly and practicing another privately; some not so privately.

In His conversation with the woman at Jacob's well, Jesus said, "The time is coming—It has, in fact, come—when what you're called and where you go to worship will not matter. It's who you are and the way you live that count before God. He's looking for those who are simply and honestly themselves before Him in their worship."—The Message.

Floyd Rose



WHEN LOCAL STORIES GO NATIONAL!

The Press Club of Toledo presents another "Pressing Issues" forum

Do local angles change? Is there more pressure? Is there more trust of national journalists than local? Do local news organizations cooperate or compete with the big boys?

These and other questions will be addressed by: JACK LESSENBERY, Ombudsman, The Toledo Blade MELISSA ANDREWS, anchor/reporter, WTVG 13abc SALLY OBERSKI, Director of

Communications, Catholic Diocese of Toledo KEVIN MILLIKEN, WSPD-AM reporter/host and former television reporter.

The discussion will be moderated by Press Club board member Fletcher Word, publisher of Toledo newspaper Sojourner's Truth. Those attending will be encouraged to ask questions of panel members and share their observations.

Admission to the event is \$25. It will take place at the main Toledo-Lucas County Public Library at 325 North Michigan, September 14, at 9:00 a.m. and is scheduled to last 90 minutes. The Press Club of Toledo is a non-profit organization that provides opportunities for improvement of local journalism through discussion and education and recognizes excellence in news coverage.

Black College Tour Informational Meeting

An informational meeting for the annual historically black college and university tour will be held on September 18 at the Kent Branch Library from 6 to 8 pm.

The annual tour, which is open to high school students, takes place during the Easter holiday school break and is sponsored by the Maumee Bay Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.

For more information on the meeting, call 419-478-4268



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Fired Employee's Supporters Fire Back at the City of Toledo

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

The drama that began last winter when Mayor Carty Finkbeiner sought to downsize his administration in order to cut city expenses continues. Dwayne Morehead, whose job as co-youth leader was also downsized at that time, was fired on August 22 for being absent from work without an approved leave of absence.

This past Monday, a group of citizens, led by Bishop Stephen Ward, gathered outside of Government Center to protest the firing and to urge activist groups, such as the NAACP and the Greater Toledo Urban League, to rise up and highlight the matter for Toledo residents.

Ward read off a list of Finkbeiner transgressions committed during his term in office including calling former Fire Chief Mike Bell "King Kong," flouting the First Amendment by refusing to allow radio station WSPD access to city press conferences, accusing city employee Gary Daugherty of being lazy, firing the Office of

Affirmative Action/Contract Compliance Director Perlean Griffin and "disregard[ing] and disrespect[ing] Michael Ashford" after his ascendancy to the post of president of Toledo City Council.

"Enough is enough, we will no longer be strong armed, we will no longer lie down on the bed of injustice," said Ward as he also invoked the sentiments expressed in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s letter from a Birmingham jail during the close of his statement.

Morehead had been a city employee since 2002 when he was hired as a seasonal worker in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry. During Finkbeiner's campaign for mayor in 2005, Morehead was a highly visible supporter and was rewarded after the mayor's victory with a job as co-executive director of the Youth Commission.

This past March, however, Morehead was demoted, his salary was cut and he was placed in a dual role that resulted in his having to report to the Youth Commission and the Board of Com-

munity Relations as an acting administrative specialist III.

Morehead filed a complaint - still pending - with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission charging that the demotion was in retaliation for his continued association with Griffin. Griffin was released over her decision not to support the mayor's move to downsize that office from a department to a division.

"Dwayne Morehead chose the path of righteousness and was demoted for speaking with Perlean Griffin," said Ward during the press conference.

Morehead, who suffers from diabetes, has said that the stress that resulted from those retaliatory actions, sent his health into a tailspin. Over the next seven months he sought, but did not always receive, numerous medical excuses from work.

According to city records, which Brian Schwartz, City of Toledo information officer, released at the Monday press conference held by Bishop and other Morehead supporters, his supervisor on the Board of Community Rela-

tions, Director Juanita Greene, documented 21 "activities committed" by Morehead between the period of March 3 and June 5, 2007 including a variety of instances of calling in sick and not being in his office when he was purportedly at work.

Morehead was suspended for 30 workdays from July 2 to August 10, 2007 for the violations of insubordinate behavior, not performing assigned tasks, not being at home during his illnesses, tardiness and conduct unbecoming a city employee.

He returned to work on August 13 and then called off again, according to city records, on August 15. His letter of termination, signed by Greene, notes that he had not contacted his director to report absences from August 15 to August 22, 2007.

There are no violations or disciplinary issues noted in Morehead's file from Finkbeiner's inauguration in January 2005 until the March 2007 incidents that began with his demotion. However, the Morehead record under the previous administration is replete with violations of sick

leave policy, insubordination and unexcused absences.

He agreed to and accepted an 18-day suspension in May 2003 and was counseled on four occasions between February 2004 and August 2005 for poor attendance.

Ward took Greene and the Board of Community Relations to task for the firing. He charged a conflict of interest since it is the BCR's responsibility to investigate charges of discrimination. He accused Greene of sidestepping the matter because of her loyalty to the mayor.



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United Way Sets \$15 Million Goal

Special to The Truth

"This is the year we exceed traditional expectations." These are the words of 2007 United Way Campaign Chairman and President and CEO of Fifth Third Bank Bob LaClair who refuses to underestimate the collective power and generosity of the Toledo area community.

LaClair's comments marked the start of the annual 2007 United Way Campaign. As part of the campaign kickoff, which took place Wednesday, September 5 at Fifth Third Field, LaClair announced a \$15 million goal, or a 10 percent in-

crease over last year's success.

According to Bill Kitson, president and CEO of United Way, "We need a 10 percent increase because there is 100 percent more opportunity. The additional revenue will allow United Way to respond quickly to community needs by using innovative approaches beyond just program funding."

Kitson went on to say, "Although gifts to the United Way Community Impact Fund, which allow for such program funding, are the best way to create the most impact, United Way also provides donors the op-

portunity to choose how their contributions are invested."

Investments in the Community Impact Fund support United Way's four priorities, outlined in the Community Impact Plan 2009. These areas include getting young children off to a great start, creating strong foundations for children and teens, empowering vulnerable families and mobilizing resources.

To support these priority areas and to help reach this year's \$15 million goal, The Andersons and Fifth Third Bank have provided the \$100,000 United Way Leadership Challenge. The challenge is designed to inspire new or increased leadership giving to United Way. Donations of \$1,000 or more are considered leadership gifts. Donors who increase their existing leadership gift or make a gift that qualifies them as a leadership donor will have the amount of their increase matched by the Leadership Challenge.

According to LaClair, "The Leadership Challenge combined with all the positive energy and new business growth in our community, makes us optimistic



about achieving our goal."

In conjunction with the annual campaign kickoff, United Way Volunteer Center organized a United Way Day of Caring. Day of Caring matches employees from area companies with volunteer projects at local nonprofits. This year nearly 400 volunteers from 18 companies helped complete 34 volunteer projects at approximately 26 local non-

profit organizations. Volunteer projects included constructing a wheel chair ramp, painting, gardening, organizing a food pantry, and delivering meals to seniors. United Way Day of Caring not only helps increase company morale and camaraderie but also creates a visible difference in our community.

The \$15 million goal was also announced at kickoff celebrations in Wood and

Ottawa Counties.

Donations to this year's United Way campaign can be made securely online at www.unitedwaytoledo.org, by calling 419-248-2424 or by pledging at your workplace.

This year's campaign will conclude on December 4, 2007.



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Susan L. Taylor
Wednesday,
September 19, 2007

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Pastor Raymond Bishop: Successfully Bringing the Unchurched Back to the Fold

By Alan Abrams
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

During the 16-year-ministry of Pastor Raymond Bishop at Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church, Rev. Bishop had always been troubled by the alarming statistics showing the growth of the "unchurched."

According to data compiled by Barna Research, an individual defined as being unchurched is one who has not attended a Christian church service within the past six months, not including a holiday service (such as Easter or Christmas) or a special event at a church (such as a wedding or funeral).

There had been a 92 percent increase in the number of unchurched Americans in just 13 years. In 1991 there were 39 million unchurched Americans. By 2003-2004, when Bishop decided to take action to address the problem locally, their number had swelled to 75 million nationally.

Although they comprise slightly less than half of the national population, men constitute 55 percent of the unchurched.

The average unchurched person is 41, which is younger than the national norm of 45, according to 2006 statistics. That is the age bracket Bishop successfully targeted.

One-fifth of American adults (21 percent) are single-never-married, whereas nearly one-half of the unchurched fit that definition (48 percent).

More than three out of five (62 percent) unchurched adults consider themselves to be Christian.

44 percent claim they have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ that is still important in their life today.

In a typical week, 19 percent of unchurched people read the Bible compared to 47 percent of all adults who do so.

In a typical week, 66 percent of unchurched people pray compared to 84 percent of all adults who do so.

Three-fifths (61 percent) of the church population have accepted Jesus Christ as their savior, compared with one out of every five unchurched adults (21 percent) who has done so.

Those alarming statistics disturbed Bishop and motivated him to do something to address the problem. The result was Bishop's creation of several innovative services at Mt. Pilgrim Baptist for younger audiences.

"It was a matter of every-



thing and nothing," says Bishop. "In order to deal with the problem, I have to find a view. I decided to specifically target persons who were 40 and under, the largest urban unchurched audience. That meant reaching out to people who are not religiously engaged.

"Once I targeted that segment, which was the largest pool of the unchurched I could reach, I provided them with worship that is contemporary and relevant, and utilized both music and a message relevant to that specific audience," recalls Bishop.

At that time, Bishop was only 42, and not much older than the target audience on which he was focused.

Four years later, he looks back upon the result.

"It's miraculous!" he exclaims. "After four years with just one service, we went to a second service. The energy level is just so high."

Bishop shares credit for the results with those he calls his "incredible staff people. My Minister of Worship and Praise is Joyce Rush. She has incredible versatility and is a wonderfully talented vocalist.

"We also have an exceptionally great band under the direction of James Jones who is a musical genius.

"Our Urban hip-hop service will resume in September. It is held outside because that venue helps reach that segment of the community. It usually attracts about 150 to 200 people.

"We also have a Marching Band comprised of young people. It is called Joyful Noise and has 50 members.

"And we also have three different dance teams and a mime team," says Bishop.

Now Bishop is bringing that same energy to his efforts to revitalize the Dorr Street Corridor, the longtime historic showcase of Toledo's black community.

Again, Bishop is quick to share the credit. "The Dorr Street Corridor project is a joint effort of Suzette Cowell, the president and CEO of the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union (TUFUCO), myself, and Charles Welch, president of Welch Communications/WJUC-FM, The Juice.

"Suzette is my neighbor, Charles is a member of her board," says Bishop.

Despite his modesty, there is no doubt that Bishop is a catalyst for the project, especially in terms of connecting it to development.

"There is my vision for participating and then the logical perspective. But there is also a theological perspec-

ive. It's our calling as a church. As such, our agenda is simple. It is not an issue of taking earth to heaven but bringing heaven to earth," explains Bishop.

Bishop believes that the purpose of the community is to enact social revolution. "We have seen social transformation bring about social revolution in the civil rights movement," he says.

Bishop is now devoting his efforts to obtaining commitments from government and securing funds for the planning stages of the project.

"We have been meeting with community interest groups. The Dorr Street Coalition exceeds a registered membership of 800 persons of which 300 are active in our key areas of entrepreneurial interest/commercial development as well as in the healthcare, educational, residential and entertainment arenas.

"I have personally been conducting many of the meetings. I see this project in terms of an urban renaissance. And

to accomplish that goal we need community input. That's going to require a major commitment, a long-term commitment of the civic community. And the question people have to ask themselves is 'Am I comfortable with this?'

"They will do as much as they are willing to do. And that includes Carty. But it will also require major sacrifices on the part of the community. Commitment and sacrifice are the two remaining elements that are central on the urban commitment part of the project," explains Bishop.

He says he is pleased with the attendance at the meetings and the enthusiasm. "I believe it is a sustainable renovation," says Bishop.

He plans to introduce the preliminary proposals for the community at the city-wide Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration in Jan. 2008.

"I just hope other media start to devote attention to it," says Bishop.

He is originally from Altheimer, Arkansas, "a small rural community in the Deep

South." The son of Raymond and Fortune Bishop, he has one brother, Ricky, in Arkansas, and a sister, Ramona, in Houston, who is married to a pastor.

He earned his degrees at Ouachita (pronounced Wash-e-taw) Baptist University, Lourdes College and Winebrenner Theological Seminary in Findlay.

"When I was 14, I felt a real call to the ministry," recalls Bishop. "I eventually pastored in Arkansas for eight-and-a-half years in Pine Bluff and Hot Springs.

"I received the call to Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church and have been there 16 years. A member of the church, Mr. Robert Jackson, had relocated to Toledo and established the connection. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are now deceased," says Bishop.

He is single and has one son, Christian, 22 who his father says "migrated to Manhattan and is following a career in fashion photography."



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Area Residents Invited to Free Writers' Workshop At Owens Community College this Fall

Special to The Truth

Area writing enthusiasts of all levels are invited to expand their creative and literacy skills as Owens Community College hosts a Writers' Workshop during the Fall Semester. The free weekly workshop will provide attendees an educational venue to receive feedback on their writings and review work by other participants.

Offered free of charge, the Writers' Workshop meets every Wednesday from 6-9 p.m. in the Writing Center located in College Hall Room 156-D.

The first writing session will be held on Sept. 12. The workshop will continue throughout the Fall and Spring semesters. Owens' Toledo-area Campus is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township.

"Owens Community College is excited to once again provide a forum in which community members and students can share in the writing experience," said Lynda Hoffman, Owens Assistant Director of the Learning Centers. "The Writers' Workshop affords writers the opportunity to share their work and develop their skills, as well as have their work published in a College-sponsored journal."

The Writers' Workshop is designed to provide educational assistance and guidance to writers of all genres and skill levels. Writers will have the chance to share their work with other members and receive feedback concerning their own writings. Additionally, members will have the chance to give feedback to fellow writers. Participants will also have the opportunity to develop their skills through the critiquing, reviewing and discussing of works submitted.

For more information, call (567) 661-7385 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 7385.

Toledo Public School Ombudsman Makes It His Job To Listen

Sojourner's Truth Staff

"There's no small issue when you're dealing with children," says the ombudsman for the Toledo Public Schools, Rev. Cedric Brock.

And what is an ombudsman?

According to TPS literature, an ombudsman is a "person who investigates reported complaints that have not been resolved at the building level, reports findings and helps achieve equitable settlements."

Brock, who has been pastor of Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church for more than 13 years and is also president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA), started his ombudsman chores at the beginning of the 2004-2005 school year. As the official in charge of fielding parents' complaints about their children's problems with the system, Brock found himself up and running almost immediately.

"My job is to listen," he says, and he has been listening quite a bit since day one. Brock estimates that he handles well over 1,500 inquiries during an academic year and averages about four hearings a week.

The cases Brock encounters come in all shapes and sizes. He is questioned on legal papers, how to effect a transfer, how to deal with an unruly child. But the overwhelming majority of Brock's

cases – perhaps as many as 90 percent of the total – are complaints from parents who believe their child is being unfairly treated, especially when that child is on the brink of suspension or expulsion from school.

Those are the cases that bring out Brock's best effort



to walk the fine line between the child's interest and the system's requirements, but he always has the interest of the child as his guiding principle. "We do what we can to permit the child to come out on the better end – with grace being upon the child," he says.

But there is also the "rulebook," he adds.

Clearly, the ombudsman's function is to weed out less serious infractions that may place the child's stay in

school in jeopardy and to try to reach an accommodation between administration and parents.

"It's a tough position but I deal with the church and they are very similar," he says. "I have to be a listener and try to see that answers are given. I have to get the best answer according to the rulebook."

The difficulty he encounters occurs when the child's interest and the rulebook prescription for discipline come into conflict. Brock is an employee of TPS and he has no problem recognizing the fact that the school system operates for the benefit of the children. "They do all they can to help children be successful," he says.

But he does find himself in situations in which particular school administration "has followed the rules of the land rather than the rules of grace." In such settings, he strives to point out to everyone what is in the best interest of the child.

The issue of suspensions and expulsions is a hot button topic at the moment for TPS and Brock finds himself right in the middle of it. If a child is violent, has drugs or

Homework Helpers Needed At Two Library Branch Locations

Are you a retired teacher, hoping to re-enter the job market or just want to help youth succeed in education? You can become a **Homework Helper** for the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library. Paid openings are available at the following locations: Locke Branch Library, 703 Miami St., and at South Branch Library, 1736 Broadway.

The Library is seeking adult Homework Helpers to work two hours a day for two or three days a week (except on Fridays). Helpers work with early elementary school-age children through sixth grade. Helpers are paid \$11 per hour and will work with youth during after-school hours from 3:30-5:30 p.m. or from 4-6 p.m. Homework Helpers do not provide one-on-one tutoring or help during school vacation or school closings.

Please send resume to Youth Services Manager Marilyn Zielinski via email at marilynzielinski@tolcolibrary.org or by mail at 325 Michigan Street, Toledo, OH 43604.

For more details, please call 419.259.5388.

Confused by the College World?

Parent College 101 presented by Owens

Three Toledo-Lucas County Public Library branch locations are scheduled to host "**Parent College 101: Success Strategies for First Generation College Families**," a free, two-hour program presented by Owens Community College.

Parents are invited to learn how students can make a successful transition from high school to college. These free sessions are designed for families who have not had previous experience with college and will cover topics such as the best payment options, understanding college language and answering your questions.

The sessions will be held at the following times/locations:

Oregon Branch Library, 3340 Dustin Road
 Thursday, September 13, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

West Toledo Branch Library, 1320 Sylvania Avenue
 Thursday October 18, 7-8:30 p.m.
 Thursday October 25, 7-8:30 p.m.

Mott Branch Library, 1085 Dorr Street
 Monday, October 22, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

For more details, or to register, please go online to www.owens.edu/parentcollege101 or call 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 7253.

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Hicks Early Childhood Learning Center Opens on Ashland

Sojourner's Truth Staff

When he was a senior in high school in Kansas City, Missouri, George Hicks would rise before dawn so that he could drive around the city to pick up children who attended his parents' day care center.

That was the beginning of a 30-year career in day care, a career that marked another milestone this week with the opening of the Hicks Early Childhood Learning Center at 2001 Ashland on the site of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist church.

The new day care center, which Hicks will operate with his wife and partner Cynthia, will be, within a few months, the largest such facility owned and operated by African-Americans in Toledo.

The Hicks, along with partner and developer Sylvester Gould, have put up \$400,000 to renovate and remodel the 10,000 square foot Learning Center in the Ebenezer structure.

Opening this week with 15 children under their care, the Hicks anticipate that within a few months they will have almost 100 children and should reach their maximum capacity of 167 by the end of the school year. It will take the equivalent of 25-27 full-time employees to care for the maximum number of children.

What will set the Hicks' operation apart from others in the business, says

George Hicks, is that part of the Learning Center's full-service appeal will include transportation for the children to and from their residences. They have three 15-passenger vans that can traverse the entire city.

It is no small accomplishment to open state-sanctioned day care center in Ohio, notes Gould, who has built, he estimates, several dozen day-care centers in a number of states. "The Ohio is one of the most regulated states for the day care industry," says Gould. "Every little detail is regulated—as it should be."

Not only does the center itself have to pass muster but the employees also have to be certified, undergo FBI background checks and have a minimum of a high school equivalency degree.

The Hicks are opening their facility with a one-star rating from the State of Ohio. Their goal is to get to three stars – the highest ranking – in short order so that they can compete with the really big names in area day care such as Toddler School, Toledo Day Nursery and Discovery Zone.

Nevertheless, the Learning Center hits the ground running this week. The day care will offer handicap-access ramps with rooms and bathrooms that are wheelchair accessible.

The staff is experienced in working with autistic children and those with cerebral palsy and with ADHD. There will be instruction

provided in both Spanish and French.

The facility will boast a full-service kitchen in a few months, until then food will be catered by Manhattan's Restaurant.

"This is going to be a real positive experience for the community," says Gould as he speaks of how the Learning Center will offer competitive salaries for its employees along with benefits.

"We have hired mothers with children that they can bring in," says Cynthia Hicks. "And we are encouraging our staff to enhance their educational opportunities while they are here."

George Hicks, a former U.S. Marine, eventually settled in Denver, Colorado continuing in the day care business. There he met Cynthia, a Denver native. The Hicks felt that Denver property values were out of line so they decided to look for a more affordable area – which they found in Toledo.

They have been in northwest Ohio for eight years and have an established day care center – Hicks Day Care – at the corner of Maplewood and Delaware, an area in which they also own a number of other properties. That day care services 36 children.

For more information about the Hicks Early Childhood Learning Center, call 419-870-2335



George and Cynthia Hicks with Sylvester Gould

The House of Day Funeral Service
 "Locally Owned And Operated"
 "Our Family Serving Your Family"



Food for Thought:

WHEREVER YOU SPEND YOUR MONEY IS WHERE YOU CREATE A JOB. IF YOU ARE BLACK AND THE BUSINESSES ARE RUN BY PEOPLE WHO AREN'T, THEN THOSE PEOPLE COME AND TAKE WEALTH TO THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THEY LIVE.
 -Tony Brown

2550 Nebraska Avenue - Toledo, Ohio 43607
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School Board Candidates Mix It Up at Wilson Park Forum

Sojourner's Truth Staff



Harold Mosley

An audience failed to show up for the Nelson Grace/Nellie Gales Democratic Club-sponsored candidates forum last Saturday

afternoon at the Wilson Park Shelter House but the candidates for Toledo City Council District 4 and the Toledo Board of Education

who participated forged on nonetheless. The forum brought together all four of the District 4 candidates – Democratic

incumbent Michael Ashford and challengers Thomas Meinecke, Terry Shankland and Ronnell Traynum – during the last weekend of campaigning in the run up to this week's primary.

There are two open seats on the school board and candidates Lisa Sobecki, Harold Mosley, Chris Myers and Cheryl Catlin held forth on their views about what the next school board member should bring to the proceedings.

Myers spoke of his goals of focusing on academic preparation to "make sure the children are prepared for the future – a creative future and a tech future."

Mosley, a detective with the Toledo Police Department addressed the need to improve safety. "The primary mission of any school is to promote learning," said Mosley. "A teacher cannot teach is she does not feel safe; a student cannot learn if he does not feel safe." Mosley also spoke of the need that African-American children have to see "someone who looks like me."

Sobecki urged those connected with the school district to be more forward looking. "Lets' move on from the past and let's move forward," said Sobecki who also spoke of her long-time involvement with the district as a parent.

There are nine candidates for the two school board seats including former Toledo Mayor Jack Ford.



Chris Myers



Lisa Sobecki

Church's Chicken

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only \$35.00

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Ombudsman

(Continued from Page 7)

weapons, presents a danger to others, is disruptive in a classroom to a point that other students are unable to learn, there can be little justification, he re-allocates, for keeping the student in the classroom.

Many of Brock's cases are not so clear cut.

In addition to fielding complaints, Brock is also working to stay well ahead of the discipline situation with an Ombudsman Service Mentor Program – "Tools for Success" – whose mission statement for success is: "Catch it before it's a problem and fix it before it's broken."

All of the district's senior and junior high schools and a few elemen-

tary schools are part of the mentoring program. The ombudsman conducts a once a month, 45-minute session at these schools with eight to 15 students selected by the school's administration. These students, says Brock, are "on the edge of being pushed in either direction."

Considering how busy Brock is with his "part-time" ombudsman position – he says in reality it has become a full-time job – it's a wonder TPS took so long to implement the program.

And considering the number of cases on Brock's plate, maybe TPS needs another Brock ... or two.

To contact the TPS ombudsman, call 419-671-8247.

50 Cent vs. Kanye West



By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Okay, by the time you read this the battle will already have been joined.

Even though sales figures won't really be in until Sunday, many of you already have your guess as to who will win.

Oh yeah, just in case you've been under a rock this entire summer of 2007, I'll recap.

50 Cent, one of the biggest names hip-hop music has ever spawned is never short on ego.

Fresh off his Dipset beef, ya boy 5-0 pushes back what was widely reported as his next solo record – a full-length joint titled *Before I Self Destruct* – and opts to hit the masses with *Curtis* instead.

This album was designed to be different from what most would expect.

G-Unit albums hardly ever have a lot of guest appearances outside the normal G-Unit/Shady/Aftermath family tree. However this time around, Akon and Justin Timberlake are just a few of the names of current heavy hitters in the game who make a cameo on Fiddy's new joint.

Something else that's a bit different for Fiddy – disappointment!

Everyone who knows anything about the recording industry will tell you that the average lifespan of a decent single is around three months.

Interscope dropped "Straight To The Bank" and "Amusement Park" this past spring in hopes of setting 50 Cent up for a June release date.

Neither of those singles made much of an impression and within a month or so, everyone only had a bad taste

in their mouth as a memory.

50 Cent has spent 2007's summer engaged in a beef that seems unlikely even for his trigger happy ways. His newest foe? Interscope Records.

After singles and videos that had been planned out for months in advance in support of *Curtis* found their way on to the Internet (that's right, record companies are leaking videos these days, not just songs) ya boy got heated. Rumor says he threw a few office items through a few windows. I wonder ... does he know Carty?

Anyway, through all this madness he was able to do two things that are exactly what we have come to expect from 50. He finally brought some heat with "I Get Money" and everyone I know in NYC says that joint right there got things on lock. No one remembers those blah blah joints from a few months ago.

"I Get Money" is the song that makes 50 a contender. "Ayo Technology" is decent,

but I really wish it was just Timbo and J.T. on that track without 50. And even though "I Get Money" isn't a chart topper, it is a certified banger.

The second thing billion dollar budget Jackson did right was to cause a nice amount of media buzz by shooting off his fat mouth in a way never seen before in hip-hop.

Because Interscope kept pushing his release date back, 50's new album had a locked in release date of Sept. 11 – the same day as another ego maniacal hip-hop superstar, Kanye West. Now, Kanye has had a great year.

Still high off of John Legend's second platinum plaque and currently credited with delivering another near-classic with *Common* on this summer's "Finding Forever" ... the Louis Vuitton Don may not be as high and mighty as 50 Cent, but he certainly has lost any ground either. Kanye's single "Can't Tell Me Nothing" (a slogan I used to abide by) has done nothing but open doors as the new sounds of DJ Toomp open up Kanye's *Graduation* to a whole new audience.

One man is known for a bear, the other is known for bullet holes.

One is signed to the power house label of the late 90's in Def Jam,

the other is signed to the power house label of the new millennium ... Interscope.

Well, that may not matter because both labels are owned by Universal Music

Group

(for all my true heads out there who know what's up).

Nonetheless, September 11, 2007 will be the day that the fans of hip-hop music take part in a democracy of sorts.

Both rappers are hot right now, both are vastly important to the culture.

Which one will sell the most?

50 Cent has gone so far as to say on record that he will officially retire from a solo rap career if Kanye West outsells him.

Oh yeah, country artist Kenny Chesney is probably gonna sell more than both of them so it's my guess that they are really competing for second place but ... hey.

So, we'll just have to wait and see for now.

But it has given all of us something interesting to talk about.

I mean yo ... Soulja Boy has the number one song in the country right now.

That's right – Soulja Boy, a rapper who can barely even talk ... a rapper whose complete and total lack of lyrical finesse is so blatant that the already low quality material floating on the airwaves these days becomes slightly more bearable after hearing his

"Soulja boy off in it, watch me crank it watch me whoooooaa" –

Hip-hop is becoming dumber by the moment.

I appreciate a little something interesting happening.

We'll see who the winner is.

St. Rita's Medical Center is offering free Prostate Cancer Screenings

WHO SHOULD BE SCREENED?

- Men should have a baseline PSA lab test and a digital rectal exam starting at age 40
- Men between the ages of 50 and 75 should have yearly PSA lab test and a digital rectal exam

(If you fit in one of the above, please contact St. Rita's Call A Nurse at 419-226 9000 or 1 800 437 4827 to schedule an appointment for the free screenings being offered at one of the following locations):

Tuesday, September 18, 2007
St. Rita's Putnam County Ambulatory Care
601 US 224
Glandorf, Ohio (8:00 am – 11:30 am)

Tuesday, September 18, 2007
St. Rita's Delphos Ambulatory Care Center
1800 E Fifth St.
Delphos, OH (1pm-4pm)

Thursday, September 20, 2007
St. Rita's at Wapakoneta YMCA
1100 Defiance Street
Wapakoneta, Ohio (1pm-5pm)

Friday, September 21, 2007
St. Rita's Allison Radiation Oncology Center
803 West Market
Lima, Ohio (1:00 pm – 6:00 pm)

Saturday, September 22, 2007
Lima Community Health Center
441 East 8th St.
Lima, OH (10:00am-2:00pm)

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Economic Empowerment in The Black Community Luncheon

Special to The Truth

The Committee of the Whole and the Negro Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. is hosting the third in a series of monthly luncheons on "Economic Empowerment in the Black Community". The monthly luncheon series has been an excellent forum for black professionals in our community to meet and discuss a variety of current and relevant topics impacting the black community.

Each luncheon has featured a successful black business person as the keynote speaker. The speakers are invited to make a 20-25 minute presentation on their experience and observations on how they have built their businesses. The speakers also share their unique strategies, concepts, philosophies, and techniques that they have applied to achieve their current and future level of success and wealth. And finally, the keynote speaker shares their perspective on ways to nurture and foster others to build wealth in the black community.

September's keynote speaker will *Glenn Grady*, President and CEO of *Cimarron Express, Inc.* Grady has been in the transportation/logistics business for over 20 years. Prior to starting Cimarron Express Grady was a business executive in Detroit, Michigan. Cimarron Express transports vehicles for the "Big Three" automotive companies and

was ranked No. 72 on the Black Enterprise Magazine able. The luncheon is open to the public. All are wel-



Glenn Grady

INDUSTRIAL/SERVICE 100 list for 2007 with \$30.1 million in gross sales.

September's luncheon will take place on Friday, September 14, from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Café In The Park located at Parklane Apartments, 14223rd Street. A four-course gourmet lunch will be prepared by the chefs of the Toledo Restaurant and Training Center and will be offered for an excellent price of \$12.99 per meal. Those interested in attending should RSVP Karen Everage at (419) 241-5100 or trc@buckeye-express.com to ensure that an adequate number of meals are avail-

come. Future luncheon dates, times, and location, will be published in the near future.

Event volunteers are still needed. Sponsors and partners are still needed. Future speakers are needed. For more information on how to get involved please call Vince Davis at (419) 244-2904 or Ethel Scott at (419) 255-4174. Or you can also send email to Davis at vince.davis.bun1@statefarm.com and Scott at ethel_scott@keybank.com

9/11 Revisited: Answers From the Minister to the 9/11 Disaster

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

I can and I will question every single event that lead up to September 11, 2001.

If you're one of those folks who implicitly trusts the Bush Administration and our government... you might wanna skip this article.

I give respect and acknowledgment to all those who lost loved ones on that day.

I give respect and acknowledgment to those who saved lives that day.

I give respect and acknowledgment to those who have signed their lives away to serve in our armed services to protect us from a threat they believe exists.

But, there are those of you out there who KNOW as I know.

There are those of you out there who know we are being lied to, at least on some level.

The cover up, the corruption, the smokescreen... lies, all damn lies.

This is The Sojourner's Truth newspaper.

On your sojourn, it's my responsibility to give it to you straight.

Your own government was behind the vicious attacks of 9/11.

No, I don't know everything there is to know... that's the problem, we ALL need to know more about what REALLY happened.

But the government has made so many enemies that even their own former co-conspirators are turning on them.

These are some of the facts we know so far.

Hopefully one day our media professionals, our Congress and the world's politicians will make this administration pay for all the lies, but for now, all we have is this thing we call free speech to piece together the facts.

Pay attention and be free from the b.s.

Lets' start at the beginning :

Operation Northwoods
March 13, 1962

A high-ranking government official wants to go to war with Cuba.

This man is the Joint Chief of Staff's Chariman **Lyman Lemnitzer**.

He sends a proposal to Secretary of Defense, Robert Macnamara.

The proposal included:
Ø Staging a terror campaign in Miami, Florida and also Washington D.C.

Ø Starting rumors about Cubans using clandestine radio to preach hatred against U.S.

Ø Planting friendly Cubans at Guantanamo Bay to stage attacks

Ø Sinking a ship outside the base entrance and later staging funerals for mock victims

Ø Destroying a remote-controlled drone aircraft disguised as a commercial airliner.

The story they planned on telling the public, is that the plane was full of college kids on vacation.

Luckily President Kennedy fired **Lemnitzer** for thinking up this evil plan.

However Washington D.C. can be a tricky place because 15 years later, President Ford places **Lyman Lemnitzer** on a project that finds him rubbing shoulders with **George Bush Sr., Dick Cheney and Donald Rumsfeld**.

You gotta understand how America viewed things in the 1960's.

Cuba and Fidel Castro were seen back then the same way we've been tricked into viewing

Iraq/Afghanistan and Saddam/Osama today.

They wanted a reason to go to war so they planned on terrorizing Americans and blaming Castro just so they could get the go-ahead to engage (*remember, if you are a contracted company that makes tanks, planes and missiles - there is much wealth to be gained in times of war - and they make a killing literally and figuratively*)

The plan to stage terrorist attacks on American soil was a plan made up by

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

So 42 years later, with many of the same key people still in key places and even more technology at their use... the plan finally comes to fruition.

But it's much more dramatic than simply blowing a plane up in mid-air.

Why?
Remember all that talk about **THE NEW WORLD ORDER?**

Chills up the spine right? Well there's a think tank called **THE PROJECT FOR A NEW AMERICAN CENTURY**.

This neo-conservative group of Republicans includes....**Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld and George W. Bush's brother... Jeb Bush.**

The change that these folks want to see in our society was so important to them that they wrote a report on it in the year 2000.

However in this report, they say that these changes they want to see take place might not happen unless there's "...some catastrophic and catalyzing event, like a new Pearl Harbor".

Okay, do you need a moment to mull it over?

Operation Northwoods talks about purposely destroying drone aircrafts in the '60's and in 2001 we have two airplanes hit the twin towers and hundreds of eyewitnesses and cameras fail

(Continued on Page 12)



Janice, Hubert's Daughter

Hospice of Northwest Ohio turned my doubt into trust.

"I was very protective of my father, especially after his health failed. I wasn't going to allow just anybody to come in to provide care for him.

"Our family didn't have the resources to hire a private nurse. But together, we decided to contact Hospice of Northwest Ohio.

"When Hospice came into our home, I just sat back and checked them out. They always explained to us what they were going to do and how they were going to do it. And the level of care was awesome. Hospice provided nursing care, aides to help in the home, plus all the medications and equipment my dad needed.

"All the services Hospice provided were covered by Medicare.* I don't think a lot of people are aware of the excellent care available. Families in situations like ours need to call Hospice of Northwest Ohio."

To ask for our free DVD, "Hospice Answers," call 419-661-4001. Or for more information, visit hospicenwo.org.

*Hospice care is covered by Medicare, Medicaid and most insurance. No one is turned away due to inability to pay.

HOSPICE
OF NORTHWEST OHIO

Answers for Living the Last Months of Life.SM

9/11 Revisited

(Continued from Page 11)

to readily identify the logos or even the windows that a commercial airplane would have.

Nearly 50 percent of New Yorkers polled have said that they believe our government knew about the so-called attacks on September 11 before they happened.

But having prior knowledge of the attacks is a far less heinous crime than *being responsible* for the attacks.

And if it's still just too heavy for your mind to handle, consider their motives.

#1. As previously mentioned, the neo-conservatives (Bush, Cheney & Co.) have a vision for how they would like this country to be. Much like how the Nazis had a vision for their country.

And just like Nazi Germany, these men are prepared to wage a public relations assault on their citizens in order to get their way.

Remember, it takes a thief to simply steal from people.

A TRUE con-artist can convince people to willingly give up their valuables (you know, civil liberties and the like).

#2. Nearly two years into George W. Bush's presidency, the public was starting to wonder if they fought through one of the nastiest re-counts in American history just to end up with the wrong guy.

Had 9/11 never happened, Dubya would've never received the support he's enjoyed since we were tricked into fighting terrorists. The American public willingly kissed his ass after that.

Wild goose chases for Osama that somehow turned into Saddam, silly color-coded terror level alerts, and internationally televised cowboy posturing (remember him staring at the camera saying "BRING IT ON"?)

Whatever this idiot wanted to do, the average American backed him. And

that's all due to 9/11.

#3. Well, let's not forget the reason most politicians do evil things... **Money.**

Consider this: July 24, 2001

Larry A. Silverstein becomes the owner of the lease on the entire World Trade Center complex.

Six weeks before 9/11 his lease was structured to pay him 3.5 billion dollars should anything happen to the World Trade Center as a result of what... Terrorism.

The company that wrote put that last amendment into place and wrote the policy?

HCC Insurance holdings, a company led by who... George Bush's brother Marvin Bush who later resigned from his position as director for the entire insurance firm.

Of course I could get into all the money that was made by invading Afghanistan and Iraq, but

I wanna stay on point with September 11.

Okay, if you don't buy the motives... a hardcore Bush backer would still feel like his government is being honest with him because millions of people literally watched the twin towers fall to the ground.

Hell, even I believed the story about the fires causing the buildings to tumble.

But really think about what you saw.

Two of the tallest skyscrapers on planet earth falling down in a pile of dust in 10 seconds?

Sounds more like a **demolition** project to me. Not collapse due to fire, which has never happened.

Consider this:

July 28 1945: a B-52 Bomber (much larger than commercial airliners) crashes into the Empire State Building.

Fires raged, people died. **The building did NOT fall.**

May 4 1988: A 62-story skyscraper in Los Angeles burns for 4 hours. **The building did NOT fall.**

February 23 1991, 38-

story skyscraper in Philly burned for 19 hours. **The building did NOT fall.**

October 17, 2004 a 56 - story skyscraper in Venezuela burned for over 17 hours and flames spread over 26 floors. **The building did NOT fall.**

But we're supposed to believe that TWO 110 story skyscrapers collapsed to the ground because fire spread over four floors in under 2

hours nowhere near where the planes hit. That's proof it was demolition!

All tapes of radio contact as well as one on one video interviews with New York City firefighters were immediately classified and confiscated after September 11, 2001.

It wasn't until August 2005 that over 15 hours of interviews and radio transcripts from the FDNY were

big deal right?

The World Trade Center was rocked by an underground bomb back in '93 (on my birthday, Feb. 26) so any changes in security detail for a once-targeted international landmark would have to go through a lot of red tape right? Wrong!

Because the company known as Securacom that was handling the security operations for WTC

is a company whose board of directors is none other than George W. Bush's brother, Marvin Bush (he's all over the place, huh?).

September 11, 2001 was an attack on the hearts and minds of Americans. Simple and plain.

Arabs and Muslims around the world have been vilified, tortured and killed because of this.

Thousands of our own men and women have died in the line of duty due to events stemming from this.

Healthcare, employment and education are all in shambles thanks to a president that should've been impeached or overthrown because of this (and other atrocities).

If you were one of the flag-waving morons who wanted Osama Bin Laden's head on a silver platter in the months following 9/11 - I hope you've learned your lesson.

The greatest attack on American soil was planned and executed by the people who govern the American citizens. And it was carried out with military precision as only we could do.

I could go on, but I'm sure I know what some of you are thinking:

"What makes this guy such an expert?"

Believe you me, I'm no expert - but I do keep my wits about me when deciding who to trust and who not to trust. Understand, this isn't some conspiracy theorist

bull.

Just a few people who won't stand for the lies even if you choose to.

All I did was simply watch another of many documentaries on the subject.

This one is among the best I've seen.

Its entitled "Loose Change."

Get online. go to google.com and type in "Loose Change" and select the hit that says http://video.google.com so you can watch the entire one hour and 20 minute piece in its entirety completely for free.

I'm very grateful that the internet allows for people to have access to un-biased media.

But if you didn't know, the government is now trying to take that away too!

Disguised as an attempt to restrict usage of pornographic and gambling websites, there's a bill right now that aims to cut access to the world wide web down to much smaller portions.

Just like the so-called gay marriage rights bill that really did more harm to unmarried heterosexual couples than anyone else, the GOP is planning to convince us to allow them to take our access to the internet away.

I hate to say it, but you probably need to watch "Loose Change" as soon as possible.

Hell, anything you've ever wanted to learn about anything that's honest and un-tampered with by the idiots in Washington... do it now.

God forbid anything else that might happen that would convince us to just take their word for it all over again.

Go and watch "Loose Change."

Holla back at me with your thoughts and they might end up right here in these pages (for better or worse- LOL).

Peace and please... stay awake!



Michael Hayes

hrs. ???

Military and aviation experts confirm that the jet fuel mostly burned up in those fireballs we all seen on impact.

The government and national media's story of why the towers fell is a bunch of bull and you don't have to take my word for it. There's proof.

Eyewitness accounts and even video tape prove that there were timed explosions going off inside the towers that helped to knock them to the ground floor by floor until it lay in a convenient pile of unrecognizable rubble.

The heroic fire fighters that entered those towers to try and save lives even communicated via radio about "secondary explosions" on

finally released to the public.

Why would they want to hide the fact that people heard explosive devices going off all over the place?

How did the explosive devices even get in to the World Trade Center?

WTC workers such as Doria Coard divulged to reporters that security detail had recently kicked in to high gear with 12 hour shifts in the weeks leading up to 9/11.

Then all of a sudden on September 6, 2001 - the 12-hour shifts were over and bomb -sniffing dogs were permanently removed from both towers.

Now, of course that's a

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U.G.E. Writing, Producing and Performing Music Since Elementary School

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Ed. Note: Last week we inadvertently deleted the second part of the U.G.E. article just as the Minister was about to describe the people who are part of the venture. We pick it up here at the start of the information about the performers and key players

Just who is U.G.E.?
Okay.
Aye Dee – singer/songwriter.

One of the most well-known male R&B singers in this city (and after '07, this region).

This past Labor Day weekend we had a show in Detroit and he was damn near

signing autographs afterwards because he tore it down on a crowd that at first didn't even want to see a show.

As producers, we throw everything at Aye Dee and he demolishes it.

Neo Soul joints like "Stay" and "My Fix." Up tempo joints like "Grown Ass Man" and "Unbelievable." Aye Dee will tell you himself, the music he's made since being with U.G.E.

as an official artist can stand up against just about anything you will hear anywhere.

From first Fridays here and out of town to ending up on mixtapes in Germany (real talk).

Big Man Soul (as we like to call it) is getting folks open. www.myspace.com/ayedeesings

Mz. Johni - singer/songwriter

For some reason, working with female singers has always been tough – until Mz. Johni.

A lot of girls in this city don't have the loyalty, the maturity and the focus that she does and that's why we had to scoop her up. Oh yeah,

plus she's a beast on them vocals.

Being in the studio, or onstage ... some females are just trying to look cute or be all up around some dudes – but that's NOT how we do things over here, this is business and the first girl who got with us and kept it official is Mz. Johni.

Now away at school, the songs she's done with us have been featured on samplers and people

became enamored with her voice at first listen. "What I Mean 2 U" is on our myspace page.

I tell her all the time, her getting with us means a lot to me. www.myspace.com/undergodzent

Darron Scott – singer/songwriter

Imagine having a listening session with a local artist who is searching for beats, then after a long discussion finding out that you are third cousins!

Crazy, right? We call



ripped off stage by some girls in the front row at a BG show last winter.

This summer, he's been blazing Hutch Daddy Dolla's interludes on Hot97 and makin more songs.

www.myspace.com/darronscott

Dangerous Ones – Dizzy – rapper/ T.Dime – rapper/producer

At only 20 years old, they aren't old enough to be in some of the clubs where they've done shows, but they carry themselves well and the music speaks for itself.

rough not to mess with.

In all honestly, dozens of rappers have asked to be with U.G.E. in recent years.

There's a reason we got these boys with us, they are gonna be the best at what they do. Period.

www.myspace.com/dangerousnesdo

In addition to those artists, we have standing relationships with artists such as Leigh, Mi Joy and a few others who are still prioritizing some things before we get to work.

Oh yeah, can't forget about my group – THE UNDERGODZ.

But I've said enough, anything else just hit us on the myspace or whatever.

But I wanted to take some time and let people know what my real career and occupation really is.

So if you see me in the club, I'm not there trying to get cool – I'm there on business.

If you see any of my team out in public, know that they work hard and we want this dream to happen.

Shout out to all who have been a big part of U.G.E.'s most successful summer yet.

5 1 3 C o n n e c t , D.Management, Lex Gunz C.D. Duplication (you official dude!), Ms. Jackie and Rodney of J.A.J., Keith Success and Tommy Kaye of Ebony World, The folks at Dollar King shirts, Reed Russell (always good in a crisis), D.J. Boodyl, Lyte N Rod & George Burton, Frank Wright, Jaye Hayes (love you ma!), D.J. Partyman, Bobby Gabriel, Hutch Daddy Dolla (please believe meeee!), Buck at Guitar Center (tough love, Buck – that's ya motto!), Hunter Prey, Dre P. Krystal (she knows who she is), Danielle/Sycamore/H.L. of Atlantic Records (N.Y. and Detroit offices)

Toledo, don't just chase something because everyone else is doing it.

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U.G.E. a family-based company, but don't get it twisted.

Darron works hard because he know he has to, family or not.

Out of all his shows so far, Darron has probably been in front of a total of 8,000 people and that's just over the last two and a half years. Performing "Let's Dance," "So Sexy" (a local favorite) and romantic joints like "Where Lovers Go" the ladies always love when he takes the stage.

Hell, he was actually

"Sip A Lil Bit" is a guaranteed party starter in the clubs (trust me, I've seen it) while

"I Don't Know" (feat. Aye Dee) is proof that these dudes from West Toledo can bring heat on any topic. Most of their music is self-produced and their work ethic is the best I've seen of any hip-hop artist in this city in the last five years.

T. Dime is the laid back lyrical giant while Dizzy is the energetic total performer.

Together they are just too

Kaptur Votes to Provide Historic Increase in College Financial Aid for Students and Families

Democratic Congress Makes Good on Promise to Make College More Affordable For All Americans

U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur last week joined a majority in the House to vote for legislation that would be the single largest investment in college financial aid since the 1944 GI Bill, helping millions of students and families pay for college – and doing so at no new cost to U.S. taxpayers. The bill, the College Cost Reduction and Access Act,

now goes to the President's desk for his signature.

The College Cost Reduction and Access Act combines key elements from House and Senate bills that were passed in July. The legislation, H.R. 2669, which the House passed by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 292-97, would boost college financial aid by more than \$20 billion over the next five

years. The bill pays for itself by reducing excessive federal subsidies paid to lenders in the college loan industry by \$20.9 billion. It also includes \$750 million in federal budget deficit reduction.

"Education is the foundation of a great society, and I am pleased to join my colleagues in making higher education more accessible," Kaptur said.

In Ohio, more than 173,000 students at four-year colleges and universities take out need-based loans. With this new legislation, each of these students will pay \$4,320.00 less over the life of the loan.

President George W. Bush has signaled that he will sign the bill into law.

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Jena 6 Protest
Join northwest Toledoans headed down to Jena, Louisiana for the September protest on the treatment of the "Jena 6."
The bus will leave from the First Church of God on Wednesday, September 19 at 7 a.m. and return on September 21.
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Help Wanted: Northwest Ohio Employers Seek Out Older Workers

Experience Works, Lucas County Commissioners, The Source, Area Office on Aging of Northwest Ohio and The Employment GuideR partner to connect older workers with some of Northwest Ohio's largest businesses at a special job fair Toledo, Ohio 9/7/07. In response to an aging workforce and a tightening labor market, these offices have combined efforts to bring together older workers with companies who seek their talents. On Wednesday, September 19th, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Lucas County Recreation Center (Fairgrounds Hall # 1) more than 25 companies will be in attendance and will meet and interview hundreds of job seekers, all age 50 and older, at the NORTHWEST OHIO 50+ JOB FAIR.

"Everyone wins by employers hiring the mature worker," said Experience Works Employment and Training Coordinator Doris Beach. "Older workers are productive, and bring experience to the job, have a great work ethic and do quality work, but most importantly can help a business increase their bottom line."

As Baby Boomers begin to gray, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that in 2000, 13 percent of the U.S. workforce was 55 and older and, by 2010, that figure will likely increase to 17 percent.

Nearly seven out of 10 workers age 45-74 report they plan to work in some capacity during their retirement years.

The Source, Lucas County's One-Stop Employment and Training Center, will provide information for job seekers about numerous organizations that can help them find employment, or better employment. Source staff will also assist job seekers with registering on the Shared Career Opportunities and

Training Information (SCOTI) job matching system, where they will have access to hundreds of additional employers who are looking for experienced workers.

Participating employers will seek to fill hourly positions ranging from entry-level to management and they represent industries such as health care, customer service, hospitality, finance, sales, insurance, skilled trades, transportation, security and more.

Courtesy of Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur's office one lucky older worker job seeker attending the Job Fair will win a U.S. flag that has flown over the Capitol in Washington DC. Co-sponsored by the offices of Experience Works, Lucas County Commissioners, The Source, Area Office on Aging of Northwest Ohio and The Employment GuideR, the Northwest Ohio job fair is part of the Employ the Older Workers Job Fair Series, taking place in more than 40 cities across the country from Aug. 22 to Oct. 23. The job fair series is being held in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor's <http://www.doleta.gov/Seniors/html_docs/NatEmpOldWkr.cfm> National Employ

The Older Worker Week , Sept. 23-29, 2007.

For more information, visit <<http://www.employmentguide.com/>>

The Lucas County Family Services

Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2007 at 10 a.m. in the EMS Building, located at 2144 Monroe Street, 3rd floor conference room. Please RSVP if you plan to attend to: Cheryl at 419-213-8809 or email www.wawrzc@odjfs.state.oh.us

The Service Advisory Committee, a sub-committee of Lucas County Family Services Planning Committee, is scheduled to meet on September 18, 2007 at 2 p.m. in the EMS Building located at 2144 Monroe Street, 3rd floor conference room. Please RSVP if you plan to attend to: Cheryl at 419-213-8809 or www.wawrzc@odjfs.state.oh.us

CLINICAL THERAPIST - JOINT VENTURE PROGRAM

Opportunity is available for experienced Clinical Therapist to work in a Joint Venture Program providing individual, family and group counseling and case management services. Candidate must possess a Master's degree, a minimum of two years experience working with individuals with chemical dependency issues and one of the following Ohio licenses: LSW, LISW, PC, PCC, LCDC III or LICDC.

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Legal Notice

Members of the Community Oversight Committee, which was established to monitor the Toledo Public Schools' renovation and rebuilding program, is seeking the names of citizens who are interested in serving on the committee.

Letters of application will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Friday, September 28, 2007 in the Superintendent's Office in the Thurgood Marshall Building. Review of the applications will begin immediately.

Members will be named to the vacancies on the committee based on the following criteria:

- Residents who live within one of the district's seven learning communities.
- Representation from the fields of finance, construction and engineering, or a TPS parent.

Committee members will serve for a two-year term and will be eligible for reappointment to a second term two-year term. The Oversight Committee serves on behalf of the citizens of the school district to ensure that the renovation and rebuilding program is conducted in a financially responsible manner, in accordance with the district's facilities master plan and in the best interests of the community. Members would be asked to meet as needed on the committee-of-the-whole, as well as to serve on one sub-committee.

Interested citizens should submit a one-page letter containing a brief summary of qualifications and designating the Learning Community in which they reside. Letters should be addressed to:

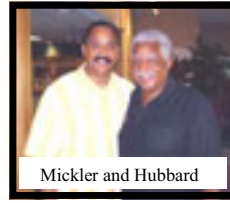
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Craig Washington



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The Guild and Young Professional Auxiliaries of the Greater Toledo Urban League, Inc. would like to thank Enterprise Rent-A-Car for helping us to present this year's Classic. We appreciate our Birdie Level sponsors UPS and Buckeye Community Health System for their continued support again this year. Thanks to Taylor Cadillac for helping to raise the level of this year's Classic with a Hole-in-One sponsorship of a 2007 Cadillac CTS (and other prizes). We are extremely to each person and organization that contributed through sponsorships and participation in the event itself. Your generous support allows us to continue the operation of valuable programs that engage and enrich the lives of the youth in our community. - John Jones, president, Greater Toledo Urban League Young Professionals

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