

Bobby Howard

In This Issue

The Truth Editorial
Page 2

Where Should TPS Employees Live
Page 3

Marina District Coming Together
Page 4

Mosley's Candidacy
Page 5

Levy Estimator
Page 6

Business Section

Cover Story:
Bobby Howard
Page 7

Vince Davis
Guest Columnist
Page 8

Bill Harris
Guest Columnist
Page 10

The Lima Truth
Page 12

Minister Reviews Perry
Page 13

BlackMarketPlace
Page 14

Classifieds
Page 15

DeVeaux Hosts Debate
Page 16

“But I just can’t get a sizeable contract; can’t get a positive response. The way the game is played, you have to be one of the good ol’ boys.”

This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

September's primary elections brought only about seven percent of registered voters to the polls. In an off-year election – no national or statewide issues or offices on the ballot – one cannot be surprised that so few turnout to exercise their constitutional rights.

However, as former Representative Tip O'Neil of Massachusetts once said, all politics is local.

This year, no governors, senators, U.S. representatives are on the ballot. Nor are there any of the more glittery local offices – such as mayor. All we have are judges, district council seats, school board seats and a handful of issues.

What could be more humdrum, eh?

Let's snap out of it, folks.

Those judges will determine which of our kids go to jail, what landlord has been negligent in the exercise of his responsibilities to his tenants, whether a plaintiff who has been injured may proceed to trial.

District councilmen handle their residents' complaints, clear the way for small businesses to operate in the neighborhood, see – or neglect to see – that streets are paved, that streetlights are operational, that curbs are fixed.

School board members have a direct and huge influence on – as one school board member once told us years ago – on the two most important assets of virtually every family's household – their children and their money.

One of the levy issues involves whether or not the public library can continue to operate and maintain the services that are so essential to the public.

So let's pose this question. Who is more important to the daily lives of Toledo residents – their district councilmen, their school board members, their judges or their U.S. Senators George Voinovich and Sherrod Brown?

It's not even close. All politics is local.

Now it's not that the candidates are not out there working hard to get elected or re-elected. They are knocking on doors, attending debates and forums, handing out literature, placing ads and signs all over the city. So the candidates are certainly taking this off-year election seriously.

And a handful of citizens are also concerned about who gets elected in less than a month. Students at DeVeaux Junior High are hosting a forum for school board candidates on October 25 at their school. They will be asking a lot of the questions themselves because they really want to be part of the process that selects those who will mean so much to their futures. Unfortunately they won't be able to vote on the day that matters the most.

Nevertheless, we can anticipate another low turnout on November 6 because a local election is not considered to be as sexy as the state and national events. That's really a shame. This is the one that counts.

* * * * *

And on the national scene, if one had just snapped out of a coma after say ... perhaps a five-year absence, the news of the last few days might have brought a sigh of relief that so much had been solved in the interim.

Upon hearing the news that the U.S. House of Representatives was considering a resolution condemning the genocide that the Ottoman Empire perpetrated on the Armenians during World War I, one would, of course, naturally assume that such an august body had pretty much taken care of more pressing and immediate matters – the War in Iraq, global terrorism, universal health care, the budget deficit, the disparities that minorities currently – yes, currently – experience in this country.

No such luck, we fear. Some in Congress, influenced by a \$3.5 million campaign financed by the Armenian-American community have determined that finally, after almost 100 years, the time is ripe to speak out against the violence. After all, say some congressmen, survivors of the early 20th Century holocaust are not going to be with us for long.

No kidding. The youngest such survivor would be 92 years old.

This is why politics, at its most effective, is all local.

It's not that there is anything wrong with such a resolution, other than the fact that it has really upset Turkey, the successor to the Ottoman Empire to the extent that they are seriously re-examining their relations with the U.S. and the assistance they provide for the War in Iraq. From a practical standpoint, that should give those in Congress pause.

After all, if we have waited this long to acknowledge the genocide, what's the harm in waiting another few years.

Maybe, as Speaker Nancy Pelosi – a lot of Armenian-Americans are in her congressional district, by the way – there is never a really good time.

And, the good news is, those of us lucky enough to live another 80 years or so might be able to see Congress get their knickers all in a bunch about such tragedies in Rwanda and Darfur.

Community Calendar

*October 17-19

Truth in Jesus Church Apostolic: "Good Old Time Revival;" Speaker Pastor Steve Robinson of Oberlin; 7 pm: 419-475-7698

*October 18

"Save Our Scott; Save Our Community;" Scott High School Alumni Association; 6:30 pm in school's cafeteria; To gain community insight: 419-450-0024

United Way African American Initiative: Lunch with Leaders; Sanger Branch Library; Guest speaker Rhonda Sewell of Toledo-Lucas County Library; 11:45 am to 1 pm: 419-254-4621

*October 19

Amazon Lodge No. 4 Fish Fry: 11 am to 5 pm: 419-531-7079

Bible Prophecy Series: "A Look at Prophecy in the Light of the Gospel;" 7 to 8:15 pm; 220 Parkwood; Pastor Mikel Moore: 419-241-5456

*October 19-21

Phillips Temple C.M.E. Church 2007 Family Conference: Friday – 6 pm "Worship from the Tabernacle;" Saturday – 9 am "Access Granted;" 2 pm "Youth Breakout Session;" 6 pm "Preparing for War;" Sunday – 11 am "The Fight Is On;" 419-242-7906

*October 20

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

Naomi Chapter #25 O.E.S.; 50th Annual day and W.M. Vivian Smith 21st Anniversary Celebration; Speaker Mother Lorene Calhoun from Union Grove MBC; 2 to 4 pm at Plaza Community Room: 419-243-3633

Women's Conference 2007: Presented by Toledo Youth Commission; Riverfront Hotel; 8:30 am to 4 pm; Speaker Annesha Freeman: 419-245-1565 or 419-936-2898

Mt. Vernon School Basketball Reunion: Former Coach Brian Brinkley and former boys basketball players (A & B teams); Noon; Reynolds Corner Library: 419-810-8153

Scott HS Class of 1988: Committee meeting; 3 pm; The 101 Club: Help plan 20th reunion: 419-254-1327 or 419-868-9196

*October 21

St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church: Connectional Lay Sunday; Speaker K. LaVerne Redden; 11 am

Candidates Forum: District 5 City Council; Hanni Covenant Presbyterian Church; Marty Skeldon and Tom Waniewski; 7 pm: 419-535-5711

Mt Nebo MBC: 77th Church Anniversary; 4 pm service; Joined by Mt. Zion

*October 22

Women Blessing Women Luncheon and Presentation; Noon to 1:30 pm; 223 Page Street; Speaker Sr. Juanita Shealey; African-American "In the Spirit" Lifetime Achievement Award Cleveland Diocese: 419-241-9789 ext. 103

Candidates' Forum: Toledo Board of Education; McMaster Center Main Branch Library; 6 pm

*October 23

"Poetry Live & Out Loud;" Toledo-Lucas County Main Branch Library; 7 to 8:30 pm

*October 24

Northcoast Behavioral Health Annual Breast Health Awareness Fair: 930 S. Detroit; 11 am to 4 pm; Free to the public: 419-381-1881 ext 1006

*October 25

Candidates' Forum: Toledo Board of Education; 7 pm; DeVeaux Junior High School

The Sojourner's Truth

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TPS Employees Should Live Where They Work

I noticed that candidate Jack Ford did not address any of the following issues that I raised in a City Paper article. I wonder if such was an intentional oversight or indicates either a lack of interest or he has not received his marching orders from Fran Lawrence to whom Jack is most indebted for prior campaign monies and support. Here they are again:

[1] All TPS board members who have school age children shall forthwith (that is, now) have those children placed in a Toledo public school.

[2] All school teachers, administrators, principals, staff members and paraprofessionals who have school age children shall place those children in the Toledo Public Schools.

[3] Beginning for the school year 2011, all present and future employees of the Toledo Public Schools including all teachers, principals, staff, administrators and paraprofessionals and TPS

board members shall physically reside in the city of Toledo.

[4] The Toledo Intern Plan shall be reevaluated by a panel of regional or national experts with input from local interested entities or persons including statistical analysis of the racial and gender breakdown of the Toledo Intern Plan's history since its inception.

[5] Principals shall be returned control of their schools including the rights of parents to visit the school at any time and to visit the classroom of their child at reserved times without seeking the permission of the school building rep or Fran Lawrence's input.

[6] There shall no instance wherein a Toledo Intern Plan participant is voted on by the IBOR (Internal Board of Review) board when the IBOR membership consists of like union members. Note: Intern members are union members who pay union dues, so why do you have union members

voting against fellow union members at these IBOR review meetings?

[7] All interns under the Toledo Intern Plan shall only be mentored and evaluated by teachers whose certification or specialty is the same as that of the intern. The principal of the school at which the intern did his or her teaching shall be a member of the IBOR when it comes to reviewing the performance of that intern.

It is quite amazing to me that TPS teachers are willing to teach in the Toledo public schools and draw their sustenance from the district but God forbid that they would place their precious Johnny or Suzie in the same system which enables them to send their kids to parochial or private schools or schools outside of Toledo.

It is the same analogy of the president of GM driving a Nissan car... he does not believe in his own product! Well, it is the same for the teachers and employees and school board members who give lip service that the To-

ledo Public Schools are great, yeah great for your kids but not theirs!

It tells you volumes about a school board member or a teacher or a school administrator who will send his kids to private schools but yet gets a fat paycheck from the public system and will try, with a straight face, to tell you to send your kids to the same system that he or she is deserting! What blatant hypocrisy!

Also, why can't these school teachers and administrators and staff people live within the boundaries of the school system from which they are paid? Heaven forbid if they have to live in the city from which they get their paycheck!

Toledo is good enough to get a paycheck from but it is not good enough to live where you teach?

What a mockery of the system. It says: "I will take your funds, Mr. and Mrs. Taxpayer but I will not live there or pay taxes there or support you with my presence or spending power."

So, Jack, where you on the above issues?

Go Jack!



Sincerely,

Lafé Tolliver

Toledo Area Metroparks' "Starry Night" Benefits Friends of the Lathrop House

By Geneva J. Chapman,
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Illuminated stars hung between yards of sheer blue draped in front of a stage backlit by string of lights hung on an indigo backdrop decorated with more stars surrounding a three-dimensional rendering of the Lathrop House taken straight from the painting "Starry Night" by artist Jesse Mireles.

The star theme continued around the room with more draped sheers in autumn colors, lit with string lights on the side walls while topiaries decorated with string lights sat atop enormous urns in the corners of the back wall.

The occasion was a gala benefiting the restoration of the Lathrop House. The setting was The Pinnacle Saturday, October 6, 2007. Setting for numerous elegant affairs in the region, The Pinnacle is the epitome of class and refined good taste (there are attendants in the restrooms there!). So, anytime one goes there, one expects the utmost sophistication and *je ne sais quoi* in every detail.

Well, that all depends on whose hosting the event.

Some folk opt for the simple, preferring to scale down to cut down on costs. However, the event October 6 attracted some of the areas most affluent benefactors and when you ask the *crème de la crème* to give to a *cause celebre*, you have to provide them with all of the accoutrements they're accustomed to: good food, good wine, good music, good service, goodies to spend their money on and good company.

All of that and more was in good supply when Toledo Area Metroparks provided the A-List patrons of the Friends of the Lathrop House with a "Starry Night" to remember, October 6.

The chic crowd started arriving a little before seven dressed in festive evening attire, sans showy sequins and bugle beads. Although there was an occasional hint of glitz, area aristocrats looked the part in understated haute couture. Fashionable silk suits, subtly printed skirts and full-length gowns in muted fall hues were worn by the ladies, in keeping with current fashion trends.

Carole Martin's full-length silk evening suit in soft pastel blue, accented by jeweled stars and buttons could have been made for the occasion. The men looked equally well dressed in dark suits, some even wearing tuxedos and/or tails.

However, there were splashes of boldness, such as Doni Miller's strapless orange cocktail dress. One of the most stunning looks was a fringed burnout velvet three-quarter length, long-sleeved jacket worn over black

(Continued on Page 6)



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Libertarian Party Offer an Alternative

I was excited to read the Sept. 26 issue of The Sojourner's Truth. Of particular interest were "This Strikes Us" and Jan Scotland's "Even Baby Huey Gets It Right in the End."

I was excited because I couldn't agree more that the two-party system is not working in northwest Ohio; not only for the black community but for the entire community.

The Democrats have had a lock on power in the area for so long that they look lore towards their own ends than for the community they are supposed to serve.

The state and national Republican Parties long ago abandoned the local party as a lost cause. The result is that the few Republicans left have become de facto Democrats in order to be elected. Don't look for the state or national party to come calling anytime soon.

There is an alternative. The Libertarian Party of Lucas and Wood Counties (LPLW) is a fledgling organization with a growing constituency and strong state and national ties. The party is for (conservative) fiscally responsible government and (liberal) socially responsible citizens.

More importantly, the LPLW is actively seeking community support and involvement. Diversity will be key in our success as a party and a community.

The Democrats have been at best complacent and the Republicans non-existent in seeking real dialogue and participation from African-Americans and other minorities.

The LPLW on the other hand encourages dialogue and participation. If you or any of your readers are interested in learning more about the libertarian Party or being involved in a party that is inclusive for all Americans, please join us at our next open meeting, 7 p.m., the last Tuesday of each month at Charley's Restaurant, Rte. 25 in Perrysburg.

We are not the Democrats. We are not the Republicans. We are not the ones you were asking about, but we are the ones asking for your support.

Respectfully

Kenneth W. Sharp

Larry Dillin Puts Together Cash to Get Marina District Project Moving

Sojourner's Truth Staff

On October 1, when Tina Skeldon Wozniak, president of the Lucas County Board of Commissioners opened a press conference to announce the groundbreaking for downtown Toledo's new multipurpose arena, she threw up her arms in a gesture of relief and exclaimed: "Finally!"

Eleven days later, Toledo Mayor Carty Finkbeiner opened up another press conference to announce that the initial capital needed to kick off the long-awaited Marina District had been assembled and although he did not use the same language his county counterpart uttered, he seemed no less relieved.

"Later this month, groundbreaking will start for Riverside Drive along with the infrastructure for housing," said Finkbeiner last week in a room filled with the individuals from both the public and private sectors who will make this project go.

Chief among those individuals is Larry Dillin, developer of Levis Commons in Perrysburg, who announced that he had exceeded his goal of putting together \$50 million to get the project moving. Dillin has put forth a commitment of \$75 million that will pay for the first phase of the development that will include retail shops, rental housing and for-sale townhouses.

Dillin said that he anticipates work will begin on residential units in spring of 2008

the Marina District needed to be more "urbanized" – taller buildings, denser occupancy, smaller parking lots and smaller, more "walkable" blocks. Those changes have been made and the current incarnation calls for about 2,200 residential units.

Alan and Wayne Nowakowski will be developing the for-sale townhouses in a joint venture with Dillin Corp. that they expect will cost about \$25 million. Approximately 150 three-story townhouses will be build and will be for sale at prices ranging from \$125,000 to \$250,000 said the brothers.

The overall length of the project will take from between seven to 10 years. The initial 21-acre phase should generate enough excitement, the developers hope, to spark more investment from the



private sector to complete the 125-acre area.

"We have two concepts right out of the chute," said Dillin. "We start with row houses and a good concentration of rental units. The

about 40,000 square feet of retail space will go up in the first phase.

Dillin also noted that negotiations are continuing with an entity that can provide a multiple commercial project.

Additionally, he said "the entire development will be a green project ... the first totally green mixed-use development in the State of Ohio."

The City of Toledo had announced earlier in the year that it had fulfilled its commitment to raise \$10 million for the development of a riverside street and park. An additional \$15 million will be raised by diverting property tax revenues to pay off bonds.

This latest announcement marks the first time that the city has gotten so close to realizing the vision for the eastside property in the many years of discussion about

Marina District. Dillin himself has been at the center of such discussions on one prior occasion.

The project is also in its third mayoral term. Finkbeiner proposed the Marina District during his second four years

in office and selected Columbus's Frank Kass to lead the project.

During Mayor Jack Ford's four years, the administration completed the purchase of the land and cleared the land of environmental pollution.

The city has already built a marina and a passenger terminal for Great Lakes passenger ferries and cruise ships is near completion.

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and will be ready for occupancy by spring of 2009.

"We've got controls in place to make what happens here unique," said Dillin. "Good quality, market-rate housing on the waterfront."

Much of last week's discussion revolved around the updated plans for the Marina District. In February, he and Finkbeiner attended a conference in Miami, FL and obtained input on the 2006 design plans. While the urban design specialists were generally enthusiastic about the concept, they suggested that

retail goes along with that and we fill the area with restaurants. The market research tells us we should come out strong." He anticipates that

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Harold Mosley: Keeping It Simple ... and Safe

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"I'm going to keep it very, very simple," said Detective Harold Mosley, a 28 year veteran of the Toledo Police Department and now a Democratic candidate for the Toledo Board of Education.

"There are not a whole lot of complex issues. A board member's responsibility is to work with the superintendent," said Mosley as he sat down last week to chat with The Truth about his first campaign for elective office. "A board member can help develop policy but has little authority. I want to be as hands on as possible by visiting schools and teachers and finding out what they feel needs to be done.

with the superintendent to enhance academic performance," he added.

One of Mosley's other stated concerns is that clear goals need to be set for the superintendent "to move the district out of academic watch [on the State of Ohio report card], to resolve union contracts, especially with the teachers' union where teachers haven't had a raise in five years and to prepare us to put on a levy."

Just about everything else, concludes Mosley is a distraction to the public especially the discord on the board that has dominated the public's attention over the last year and a half.

"I've been asked how I would handle such situations," said Mosley. "A large part of a policeman's



lic schools]. A lot the reason for these schools is motivated by money not about education.

"Charter schools also have the luxury of being able to select students they want ... or don't want. Public school systems have to do a better job but there's less money to go around now because of charter schools and vouchers and there is just no accountability."

Mosley compared the controversial Intern Program (Toledo Plan) to a similar scheme that police departments use in which a rookie is paired with a veteran officer.

"I hear complaints from African-American teachers about flaws because not enough African-American teachers receive extended contracts - that needs to be examined and addressed."

Although Mosley is making his first run for elected office, he is no stranger to working with kids, he

"If teacher competence is equated with educating students, then it is woefully inadequate and students do need to see more positive role models ... teachers who look like them,"

"I am concerned with safety because that's my background and I will work

job is to handle conflict resolution. I am not going to be drawn into an argument

for the purposes of grand-standing. We need to stay on task, listen to what the

public says and work with the superintendent and the teachers' union."

We asked Mosley to comment on the same four issues that we had put before candidates Lisa Sobecki and Chris Myers in previous conversations: teacher competence and diversity, student academic achievement, charter schools/vouchers and the Toledo Intern Program.

"If teacher competence is equated with educating students, then it is woefully inadequate and students do need to see more positive role models ... teachers who look like them," said Mosley.

Why so, we asked? "It's a matter of going back to our roots," Mosley said. "[Black teachers] can identify with that particular environment - not to say that white teachers cannot, but they usually don't have the same background."

Mosley told of a recent incident when he was in a parade with a number of other officers all in uniform. A young black boy came up to Mosley and told him: "When I grow up, I want to be a policeman."

"That's why we need more black teachers, especially male black teachers," said Mosley.

"We need to look at where we are not proficient," said Mosley on the issue of student achievement. "We need to design programs - extended school



days, tutoring - whatever it takes. We need to do more in terms of breaking down information for kids to encourage learning. Teachers don't have the luxury of giving the time required in a public school so more tutoring, get more parents involved and find other avenues to increase comprehension.

"Charter schools are not held to the same standards and are a drain on public schools' finances," said Mosley. They should be held to those standards if they are getting public money ... it is so easy for a charter school to say it's doing better [than the pub-

pointed out. "I've always done things with young people, this is a natural extension of that."

The Scott High School graduate who attended The University of Toledo, has been a volunteer with the police department's PALS program and has served in the Youth Services section of the department. Married and the father of three - Harold, Jr, Jasmine and Justin - Mosley currently serves in the special victims unit's crimes against persons' section.

As a long-time policeman, Mosley always hastens to state that his message, in this troubling age of gang violence and weapon proliferation is school safety. Students cannot learn, teachers cannot teach, he says often, in an unsafe environment.

"It costs more to incarcerate than to educate," said Mosley. "And it's a lot easier to build a child than to repair an adult."



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Auditor Anita Lopez Unveils Lucas County's First Ever Levy Estimator and Tax Distributor Online

Special to The Truth

As a Lucas County property owner, have you ever wondered where your property taxes are going, or to which agency, issue, or jurisdiction receives the bulk of your property taxes and for how long?

On Tuesday, October 2, 2007, Lucas County Auditor Anita Lopez unveiled Lucas County's very first online levy estimator and tax distributor, which according to Lopez, "is part of my pledge to take the burden off the taxpayers and make government more transparent," adding "the levy estimator and tax distributor will make it easier for Lucas County's residents to better understand where their property taxes are going." These tools not only indicate the amount of taxes currently paid and list the various taxing agencies

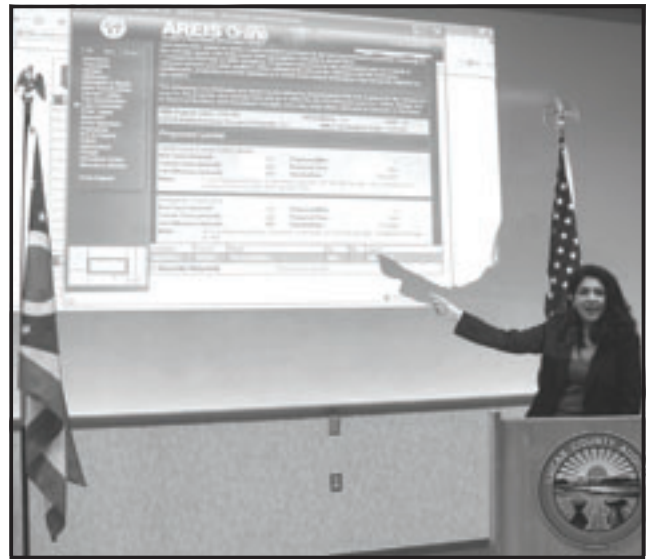
and jurisdictions, but they also estimate the effect that proposed levies have on individual parcels of property.

The Tax Distributor breaks down current taxes by the various levies in both percentages and dollar amounts, while also providing the amount of special assessments paid. Levies are grouped by categories: Lucas County, Municipality or Township, School District, and Other. Each category is further broken down into individual levies, such as TARTA, County Senior Services, Toledo City Police Pension, and Toledo City School District Permanent Improvement, etc. Additionally, Special Assessments include a break down of services paid for, such as tree maintenance and street services.

The Levy Estimator dis-

plays all the currently proposed levies by district, and the estimated amount of taxes due had the levies been in effect for the current tax year. It lists the current taxes, what the new taxes would be if the levy passes, and what a property owner's proposed taxes would be per year. The levy estimator also includes the proposed mills, year, election date for each levy, and a brief description of the levy.

Visitors to the site must keep in mind certain factors that may affect estimated taxes, such as new taxing districts or building a new home, in which case values are unavailable. The information represents tax values and levies as of January 1, 2007, and the tax rates displayed are for the 2006 tax duplicate, which is what you would have paid had the levies been in effect.



The levy estimator and tax distributor are a new part of AREIS Online and may be accessed by going to www.lucascountyoh.gov/areis/areismain.asp, the Lucas County Auditor's

main property tax tool for Lucas County citizens.

According to Lopez, "If you do not have internet access, but would still like to know the effect of current or proposed levies on

your taxes, contact the Department of Education and Outreach at (419) 213-4406."

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Lathrop

(Continued from Page 3)

slacks and shell by K. Laverne Redding.

The beautifully-adorned guests grazed on carved rounds of beef, sliced pork tenderloin, mashed white or sweet potatoes served in goblets, salad, fruit, baked brie and bread strategically placed at grazing stations around the room, flanking auction items selected to please the most discriminating of tastes.

Many items were valued at prices that might make some bidders squeamish, but not those who attended this event. There was an emerald ring valued at \$3,150, an emerald tennis bracelet valued at \$2,750, a week "up north" valued at \$1,800, a three-hour course at Lourdes College valued at \$1,239, a gourmet dinner for ten in The Pinnacle's Rainer Room and an amber vase created by Dominic Labino both valued at \$1,000, a sliver cuff bracelet valued at \$895, a half-page ad in The Toledo Business Review valued at \$625, a "spa night" at Sylvania Flux-Hazelton Salon and Wingate Inn valued at \$550, "a striking image of the reconstructed slave ship Amistad by photographer Ramon Tiggs valued at \$300. (Tiggs also had two other photographs among the auctioned items each valued at \$250.)

There were also a few bargains among the items, including: a "Starry Night" print by Jesse Mireles valued at \$150, a Greek dinner for six and "Metroparks in your backyard" both valued at \$120, a variety of nature-themed bracelets and a tote autographed by Earl G. Grave, Sr., chairman and CEO of Black Enterprises Magazine all valued at \$25.

Redden welcomed everyone to the event, giving an update on the efforts to restore the historic Lathrop House.

"This restoration [Phase I] will change forever the appearance of the house. It will go back to its 1800 motif."

She said Phase II will restore the basement "where they [escaping slaves] were fed, where they were nourished, where

New Works Writers Series' Presentation of "The Deacon's Awakening"

12 noon, October 31, 2007 At Caf☐ in the Park

New Works Writers Series, Northwest Ohio's longest continuous African American theatre company and arts organization, will partner with Caf☐ in the Park to present a performance of "The Deacon's Awakening" by Willis Richardson at the Park Lane Hotel, 142 23rd St. in Toledo, on Wednesday October 31, 2007. The performance will be presented at noon.

"The Deacon's Awakening," set in the 1920's, is a brief but powerful play in which a mother and daughter, performed by Latoya Williams and Erica Jacobs respectively, are determined to take advantage of the Nineteenth Amendment granting women the right to vote. The cast also includes Curtis Smith and Kenneth Taylor. "The Deacon's Awakening" helps us to look back and then move forward to face the challenges of the up-coming local and presidential elections," said New Works' director Imelda Hunt, Ph.D.

Lunch will be available and seats can be reserved by telephoning Toledo Restaurant Training Center to RSVP at (419) 241-5100. Seating for the performance is free but donations will be accepted.

"Stomp out the Flu Bug"- Mercy Health Partners offers flu shots at 6 locations

Mercy Health Partners is pleased to offer the flu vaccine to the public once again this year. The flu vaccine clinics will be held at locations throughout the Toledo area including St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center, St. Charles Mercy Hospital and St. Anne Mercy Hospital.

To be eligible for the vaccine, individuals must be 18 years of age and older and cannot be pregnant. The cost is \$25 and no appointment is necessary.

For all seniors who have Medicare Part B, simply show your card and Medicare will be billed. For all CareNet members, there is no charge, however, you must show your CareNet card as well.

Please note: insurance companies cannot be billed for the flu shot. For more information, call Mercy HealthLink at 419-251-4000.

Mercy Health Partners Flu Shots 2007 Schedule

- St. Charles Mercy Hospital – Main Lobby**
2600 Navarre Avenue, Oregon
 Thursday, October 18: 8 a.m.—12 noon
 Friday, October 19: 8 a.m.—12 noon
 Monday, October 22: 8 a.m.—12 noon
 Tuesday, October 25: 4 p.m.—8 p.m.
- St. Anne Mercy Hospital—Conference Room 1**
3404 W. Sylvania Avenue, Toledo
 Saturday, November 3: 9 a.m.—12 noon
- Mercy Healthcare Center – Main Lobby**
2200 Jefferson Avenue, Toledo
 Wednesday, November 7: 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- Mercy Center for Health Promotion at Sunforest Court**
3930 Sunforest Court, Suite 100, Toledo
 Friday, November 9: 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center – Main Lobby**
2213 Cherry Street, Toledo
 Saturday, November 10: 1:30 p.m.—4 p.m.
 Thursday, November 15: 8:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.
- Surgery Center at Regency**
2000 Regency Court, Suite 101, Toledo
 Wednesday, November 14: 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
 Monday, November 19: 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.



The Sojourner's Truth Business

Business Section • Business Section • Business Section • Business Section • Business Section • Business Section

Bobby Howard: It's Not Simply a Matter of Capacity

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"Minority contractors just don't have the capacity to fill the roles as subcontractors on large public works projects."

That is the mantra one hears so often these days during discussions about the dearth of minority subcontractors on larger projects, especially public-funded projects, in the Toledo area.

Capacity is the bugaboo that holds minority contractors at bay: does he have enough trucks to handle the work, does he have enough employees, does he have enough capital to pay for supplies and wages and to survive what may be a 60 to 90-day billing cycle? Is he bonded? Has he handled other such large projects?

If the answer to all of these questions is yes, there should be no obstacles for a minority contractor in obtaining contracts, correct?

Not so fast, my friend.

Meet Bobby Howard, owner of E & H Taylor Construction, a city-registered minority business enterprise.

Howard has been in the trucking business since the early 1990's and has about 30 trucks on his lot, along

with about 15 employees – full and part-time. In a world filled with craftsmen who go into business for themselves and frequently have only their own individual skills upon which to build a company, Howard stands out as one who has developed the "capacity" to take on the big jobs.

And in the world of construction, if Howard's fleet of trucks were not quite nearly enough to handle a large sub-contracted piece of the whole, he is large enough that, given a subcontracting public works job, he could assemble the remaining trucks and personnel necessary for the work from amongst the much smaller minority subcontractors in the area.

Not too long ago, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners re-emphasized their commitment to ensuring that minority contractors received a fair share of the lucrative contracts that will be handed out on the multipurpose arena being built downtown.

That follows on the heels of a massive school rebuilding program and a water/sewer project for the City of Toledo.

What has a minority contractor with capacity gotten out of all of this work? Not



much, says Howard.

"There's no problem getting my bids in," he says. "But I just can't get a sizeable contract; can't get a positive response. The way the game is played, you have to be one of the good ol' boys."

So Howard pieces together small jobs to keep his company and his employees busy. He does have a leaf removal contract with

the City of Toledo that has helped to sustain over the past four years. But his company cannot push through to the larger pieces of work.

Howard is circumspect about the reasons why he has not been able to break through. Other sources around town are not quite so tight-lipped, however.

When prime or general contractors win the bid for a substantial public project,

such as the school rebuilding program or the multipurpose arena, they are "urged" to dole out a part of the work to a percentage of minority subcontractors, such as Howard's E & T Taylor. Not many subcontractors in the area, in this particular case, who are truckers and work in excavation, can handle large pieces of the work. Many only have a few trucks.

According to a variety of people close to the construction scene who prefer to remain unnamed, a large subcontract that is doled out on a school job or the multipurpose arena, for example, will conceivably be obtained by a small minority subcontractor. If he cannot handle the entire piece of work, he will then piece it out again to others. The question is ... if firms such as Howard's are not getting the work that has been passed through, where is it going?

The additional question is ... are minorities getting all of the work that local government entities claim they are?

For Howard, who attends the pre-bid meetings and faithfully submits bids, he says, on time and in proper

fashion, those efforts are a triumph of hope over experience.

Howard, who was raised in Florida, arrived in Toledo in 1966 in order "to better my lifestyle." That he did.

He brought his first convenience store in 1970. "At that time, I had worked in retail before down South but the opportunities weren't there to advance." Over the following three years, Howard purchased or opened an addition four stores. He still operates the one at Hawley and Nebraska.

Howard also started in the construction business in the 70's, building, among other edifices, the one-time bank building at Indiana and Detroit—which he still owns, and the plaza in the 1300 block of Dorr Street.

Howard purchased E & H Taylor in 1994 and moved full-time into the trucking business. He has the trucks, he has the employees, he can carry a payroll. He's just waiting for the opportunity – the one he couldn't get down South.



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The Last Frontier, Business Ownership. Economic Empowerment Luncheon with Roy Hodge

By Vince Davis
Guest Columnist



The Economic Empowerment Luncheon Series takes place at The Toledo Restaurant Training Center located in The Park Lane Hotel at Jefferson and 23rd Streets.

The events are sponsored by The Toledo Club of the National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women's Club, Inc; The Committee of The Whole and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.

When ever we start something, we typically start from scratch. We have no idea of what we are doing. Economic empowerment is about empowering one another to be successful. In the past, successful black men and women moved

away from the neighborhood and never came back.

But black businesses are failing in this community at an alarming rate. Up to this point we have not collaborated in a meaningful, consistent way. We try opening a business on our own and then go hide in the corner if it does not work out.

It makes no sense to go into business without knowing everything there is to know about that business. It is also self defeating for us to not share the information. How about learning to do business from the mistakes and successes of people just like you? That is exactly what The Economic Empowerment Luncheons are all about.

Next month our speaker will be Amy Hall, the president of Ebony Construction. Call the TRTC to confirm the November 9 date at 12:00. The number is 419-241-5100. You buy lunch, sit back, listen and learn. It is a great networking opportunity.

Roy Hodge was our featured speaker at The Economic Empowerment Luncheon this month. He was focused, flexible, engaging, candid and approachable. Roy is originally

an information technology guy. He could have done a presentation fit for the board of directors of a fortune 500 company.

Instead of sharing irrelevant statistics and information Roy told them how he did it. He shared banking and networking concepts. Roy and I have known one another for over 20 years. Even though Roy was dressed impeccably in one of his patented Armani suits he "got down to the level of the least knowledgeable person in the audience."

Many of the younger people in the audience have never had an opportunity to go one on one with a guy like Roy. He stayed for a considerably long period of time after the luncheon. The brother had so many people following him around after he finished that he had to take his lunch in a "to go" box.

Roy is a relatively young entrepreneur. Roy said at the beginning of his talk "many years ago he asked me if I would be his big brother." I told Roy that I would be. When I look at the things that Roy has accomplished, as I weigh my life in the

balance, I wonder who is teaching whom.

Through trial and tribulation, Roy's resolve has never been shaken. Roy bends but does not break. He seizes opportunities and services need. Mentorship is what Roy did today. Roy discussed the "how to" of running a business.

Many years ago Roy showed me the land and the architectural plans to what constituted a mansion. It was in a plush suburban neighborhood. Roy had the plans and a site picked out way before he had the money to buy the house. After a while he bought the lot. He modified the plans for the house prior to it being built. He discussed it as if it were real even before the house was built. Roy talked about the house as if it was already there. Eventually he built it, lived in it and has moved on. A great big expensive house is fine if you gotta have one. But really after you have had a couple of parties and impressed all of your friends what good is it? Roy figured that out for himself. I didn't need to teach him that. He is a "pretty quick study."

The Economic Empower-

ment Seminars are a beautiful thing. People get to learn first hand the plus and minuses of going and staying in business. At the time I can remember saying to myself that the plans. I have never counted Roy out. There were times that I could not believe my ears when I listened to the size and scope of businesses plan that he contemplates. He talks about his plans as if they already have happened. In Roy's case when he thinks it, believes in it and plans for it, something great is about to happen. He travels all over the world. He has developed a real estate empire, mobile phone franchises and of course his bedrock, a computer IT company.

Roy is a devout Christian and a deacon at Friendship Baptist church. His future entails helping friendship achieve its goal. He wants to help Pastor Tisdale get Friendship to achieve its destiny. Where do you suppose that we will see Roy Hodge next? The cover of Black Enterprise is where Roy is headed. He told the audience that it is one of his goals. If he believes it he could achieve it.

I bear witness to the made-up mind, strength, integrity and sinew of my friend Roy Hodge. Mentoring Roy was easy. I got as much if not more than I ever put in! Everyone should have a little brother like Roy. That has really come in handy. Especially considering that my biological little brother left this world a little bit ago.

Some folks play the game of "I got mine you get yours." They belong to their uppity little clubs and hang with their bourgeois friends. When they die they take their wisdom with them. What a waste of life. You're not living if you're not sharing it baby. Rome is burning (metaphorically speaking) while we drink Hennessy. We can empower one another to achieve business success! Are you your brother's keeper? Hell yes. You are!

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ASK YVON

By S. Yvon Harper, CEO
Focus on Finance, LLC



Q. Dear Yvon: My wife and I recently had our third child. It is now time for her to go back to work. We will be required to put the new born in daycare while she works. Currently, she works part-time and earns about \$350 bi-weekly. Is returning to her current job really worth it? In addition,

I can hold down the fort with about a 45-hour work week to make up her difference. Do you think this is an opportunity for her to look for 'work from home' type of jobs? Thanks in advance for your time. ~Brad

A. Dear Brad: Congratulations on the new addi-

tion to your family! The decision regarding whether to return to work for the mother is always challenging after the birth of a child. Especially, when daycare costs is considered.

The cost of \$350 every two weeks is not enough, in many cases, to cover the cost of infant daycare, which can run upwards to \$300/wk or more. This also does not take into account the additional expenses for your wife's transportation, work clothes, meals and other work related incidentals. I'm assuming that the other children will not need daycare. Taken at face value it doesn't make financial sense for her to return to work outside the home from a cost perspective, not at least at the current income level.

However, there are some things that can still produce income for your family if your wife works from home. Such as starting a home daycare, providing medical billing services or becoming a cosmetics representative. The key to working at home is to ensure that the company or business is reputable. In essence that they do not have exorbitant start up fees and are recognized by the Better Business Bureau. It would

also require that she is able to manage her schedule around your child's needs. Also, the ability to be at home could be an excellent opportunity for your wife to pursue a college degree online, if she has an interest.

I'm a huge fan of the ability for a Mom to be in the home in a child's early years of development, if it is her desire. Calculated steps taken during this period can ensure that your family can comfortably make a transition to a single income family.

~Yvon

Q. Dear Yvon: I'm closing out default credit cards. Should I make an offer of a certain dollar amount to close the account? ~Denise

A. Dear Denise: This subject can sometimes be tricky, but let's look at some basic components. The goal of the creditor when attempting to collect on a default loan is to recuperate some on the company's loss. In many cases these types of accounts are sold for pennies on the dollar to collection agencies and others in the default credit industry. This

is why people may receive a demand for payment notice from collection agencies other than the original creditor.

Often the creditor will offer the defaulted cardholder the opportunity to 'make a deal' for a lesser amount to clear the loan from their records. Again, keep in mind that something is better than nothing for the loan holder. This type of agreement can be a win for the debtor, but will only work if they are able to commit to pay the agreed amount within a short period of time. Generally, between 30-90 days, otherwise 'all bets' are off.

If you find yourself in this type of situation do pursue to bargain for a lower amount to settle the debt. Be cautious however if the agreement calls for you to sign a repayment agreement. In these cases you should have a legal representative review it first so that you understand your legal rights. Otherwise, request that your loan holder provide in writing the new terms for your repayment agreement to be finalized. Make all payments by check or money order and be sure to retain a copy for your records. My suggestion here is to use a government money order

for reliability of tracing a payment if necessary.

Also, if the debt that is attempting to be collected is more than seven years old consider NOT paying it. Why? The statute of limitations on the account will start over. This means the debt can continue to show up on your credit report for another seven years! Generally, after seven years the account 'falls off' of your credit reports.

~Yvon

Ask Yvon is a production of Focus on Finance, LLC. All rights reserved. S. Yvon Harper has 20 years of experience in the real estate, tax, and accounting field. Submissions for the 'Ask Yvon' column can be done online at www.AskYvon.com or in writing at Ask Yvon c/o Focus on Finance, 3189 Princeton Rd #201, Hamilton, OH 45011. There are no warranties, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy and/or completeness of the information posted in this column or any referenced material. Readers are strongly urged to consult with a qualified legal or tax advisor to analyze your specific financial situation before initiating advice from the Ask Yvon column.

How will you fight cancer?



FAITH.

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City of Toledo Launches New Website

Special to The Truth

The city of Toledo has launched its new website — a completely redesigned and redeveloped source of services and information about the city. The site features an improved appearance as well as new tools for citizens and visitors to the city. The new design offers a simple and attractive organization, makes information a nd to find features been to the cluding search-



tive lay-organ-which infor- quicker easier Several have added site, in-a a b l e

phone directory, searchable archive of legislation, maps of City parks, bike paths and recycling routes. In addition it contains a full calendar showcasing City sponsored events.

"Our main goal was for the website to be more user friendly and provide better representation of Toledo. We wanted a more business friendly and professional face to the city. I think we have achieved that", said the city's webmaster Katerina Bekyarska. She added, "The website design and information focus on business development and quality of life offered in Toledo."

The city hired Communica, a Downtown Toledo marketing firm to redesign and rebuild the website for the city. Communica, Inc. is a downtown Toledo marketing, advertising and public relations firm that has been located in the warehouse district, on Erie Street, for more than 19 years. Their clients are regional and national in scope.

This is the first step of bringing Toledo closer to a 24 hour government. Depending on funds availability more features and improvements could be added to the website in the future.

How Your Personality Affects Your Financial Decision-making

By Bill Harris
Guest Columnist



The recent volatility in the stock market has everyone a little jumpy – even folks who have worked with a trusted financial planner for years. But if you've never worked with a planner before, one of the first things he or she will do is make you fill out a risk analysis questionnaire.

Why is risk analysis important before you make decisions with your money? Risk tolerance is an important part of investing – everyone knows that. But the real value of answering a lot of questions about your risk tolerance is to tell you what you *don't* know – how the sources of your money, the way you made it, how outside forces have shaped your view of it and how you're handling it now will inform every decision you make about it in the future.

The most important thing a risk questionnaire can tell is what's important about money to you. Trained financial advisers can determine your money personality through a process of questioning and discovery. Planners can then guide investors within their money personality. Do you want certainty, are you willing to take a little risk or let it roll because "you can always make more of it?"

A financial planner tries to see through the static to find out what you really need to create a solid financial life. But it might make sense to ask yourself a few questions before you and your planner sit

downto:

1. What's important about money?
2. What do I do with my money?
3. If money was absolutely not an issue, what would I do with my life?
4. Has the way I've made my money – through work, marriage or inheritance – affected the way I think about it in a particular way?
5. How much debt do I have and how do I feel about it?
6. Am I more concerned about maintaining the value of my initial investment or making a profit from it?
7. Am I willing to give up that stability for the chance at long-term growth?
8. What am I most likely to enjoy spending money on?
9. How would I feel if the value of my investment dropped for several months?
10. How would I feel if the value of my investment dropped for several years?
11. If I had to list three things I really wanted to do with my money, what would they be?
12. What does retirement mean to me? Does it mean quitting work entirely and doing whatever I want to do or working in a new career full- or part-time?
13. Do I want kids? Do I understand the financial commitment?
14. If I have kids, do I expect them to pay their own way through college or will I pay all or part of it? What kind of shape am I in to afford their college education?
15. How's my health and my health insurance coverage?
16. What kind of physical and financial shape are my parents in?
17. What's important about money?
18. What do I do with my money?

19. If money was absolutely not an issue, what would I do with my life?
 20. Has the way I've made my money – through work, marriage or inheritance – affected the way I think about it in a particular way?
 21. How much debt do I have and how do I feel about it?
 22. Am I more concerned about maintaining the value of my initial investment or making a profit from it?
 23. Am I willing to give up that stability for the chance at long-term growth?
 24. What am I most likely to enjoy spending money on?
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 28. What does retirement mean to me? Does it mean quitting work entirely and doing whatever I want to do or working in a new career full- or part-time?
 29. Do I want kids? Do I understand the financial commitment?
 30. If I have kids, do I expect them to pay their own way through college or will I pay all or part of it? What kind of shape am I in to afford their college education?
 31. How's my health and my health insurance coverage?
 32. What kind of physical and financial shape are my parents in?
- One of the toughest aspects of getting a financial plan going is recognizing how your personal style, mindset, and life situation might affect your investment decisions. A financial professional will understand this challenge and can help you think through your choices. Your resulting port-

folio should feel like a perfect fit for you!
This column is produced by the Financial Planning Association, the membership organization for the financial planning community, and is provided by Bill Harris, Fi-

nanacial Advisor and a local member of the FPA. Bill Harris is a financial advisor with Informative Financial Services of Toledo, Ohio. Securities and advisory services offered through Mutual Service Corporation, member NASD/

SIPC. Informative Financial Services is not affiliated with Mutual Service Corporation. For seminars and speaking engagements, Bill can be reached at 419-885-8384.

Treasurer Cordray Offers Financing Help for Small Business Owners

By Richard Cordray
Special to The Truth

October is National Women's Business Month. At the Ohio Treasury, we want to make all small business owners – especially women – aware of an exciting economic development opportunity, which is our Ohio Small Business Linked Deposit program.

The number of women business owners in the United States has increased by more than twenty percent in the past decade, so that now more than a quarter of all businesses in the country are led by women. However, businesswomen apply for the Ohio Treasury's Small Business Linked Deposit program in disproportionately higher numbers than do businesswomen. We do not know why this gap exists, but we do know that women-owned businesses deserve our strong support as well. Therefore we are working to match the exponential increase of business activity among women with an increase in applications for the Small Business Linked Deposit Program.

The Treasury's Small Business Linked Deposit Program buys down the interest rate on bank loans for small businesses by three percent for the first two years, which is when they are going through a critical growth period. At a time when small businesses often must pay a premium to access financial capital, our program ensures them access to funds at below-market interest rates.

We have purposely kept the application process for this program very simple, since as a former small business owner myself, I know that time is at a premium and wrestling with government red tape is not something most business owners have any desire to do. Here is how it works:

1. A small business owner applies for a loan from one of the state's many eligible banks. (A complete list of eligible banks is available at www.ohiotreasurer.gov).

2. The lender offers a loan and negotiates an interest rate with the business owner.

3. The borrower and the lender complete an application for a linked deposit with my office, which takes less than 30 minutes and involves not quite three pages of paperwork.

4. The Treasury will review the application and reply to the lender on program acceptance within 48 hours.

Our program is focused on job targets: one job should be saved or created for every \$50,000 requested – up to a maximum of \$400,000. The interest rate reduction will last for two years, but the loan with the bank may last longer. After the two-year linked deposit period ends, the loan will return to the previously negotiated interest rate. To qualify, businesses must be organized for profit, employ fewer than 150 people, and have offices and operating facilities solely in Ohio.

A linked deposit loan has no spending restrictions, as long as the business receiving the loan is also directly saving or creating the jobs. You can use

a linked deposit loan in many ways. For example, you can refinance a start-up loan at a much lower rate, purchase new equipment, or cover research, development, or marketing costs. We have seen that all of these approaches may unlock an opportunity that allows a small business to grow and create new jobs.

The most important thing to remember is that applying and being accepted for a Small Business Linked Deposit is fast, easy, and could save a business owner up to \$24,000 over two years. That is money that you can plow right back into growing your business and strengthening the community.

Again, as a former small business owner myself, I know very well the long hours, hard work, and ingenuity involved in running your own business. In the beginning, you are much more than just an ambitious entrepreneur. You are responsible for being a master of all trades, the work is laborious, and success never comes as quickly as you hope. Linked deposits exist to help the state's small businesses grow and stay strong so that Ohio's economy will thrive. I encourage all small business owners, especially women, to contact the Ohio Treasury at 1-800-228-1102 to learn more about the Small Business Linked Deposit Program. Our main objective is to help keep jobs and families together here in Ohio, and we see the success of our small businesses as a great way to accomplish that goal.

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Third Baptist Church Welcomes 'New Direction' in Worship

By Artisha S. Lawson
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The congregation and staff of Third Baptist Church are awaiting their 140th anniversary and plan to celebrate that milestone with a church transformation. This change will begin on Sunday, October 21, and last well into the year 2008. Leading this new direction are Pastor Rev. Kevin J. Bedford and his long-time ministry friend, Minister of Music Rev. Glenn Jones.

The two have been friends for more than 20 years, hav-

ing met while Bedford worked as a United States Navy Chaplain and Jones was a pastor in San Diego. "God established that friendship, we've both traveled many places and now are back together at this hour," said Jones.

Now Bedford and Jones are working with the congregation to establish a new direction for church ministry, with plans to enhance the sanctuary interior and to combine the two adult choirs into one. The choirs will become Voices of Unity by January 1, 2008. They will

sing all styles of Christian music and be very diverse," explained Jones.

In addition to the choir and sanctuary make-over, instruments will increase from two to almost 10. "In this new direction will include the expansion of our instruments. A new B3 Hammond Organ, seven-foot Petrof Grand Piano, percussions, bass guitars, saxophones and hand-bells will be purchased," said Jones.

The 'new direction,' will hopefully attract new members, particularly young families and young mothers



Rev. Glenn Jones, Third Baptist Church Minister of Music

<p><i>The Center for Successful Aging and the Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio, Inc.</i></p> <p><i>Present a workshop especially for caregivers</i></p>	<h2>Contemporary Issues in Caregiving</h2> <p>Thursday, November 1, 2007 10:00 am – 2:00 pm</p> <p>Eleanor N. Dana Conference Center University of Toledo Health Science Campus</p>
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<p>9:00 <i>Registration and Visit Exhibits</i> Welcome - Barbara Kopp Miller, PhD Administrative Director, Center for Successful Aging Assisted Living Options Jayne Wagner, RN, BS, Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio, Inc. (AOoA) Nursing Home Rights Sandy Hamilton, JD, ABLE Caregiving: The Financial & Legal Side Louise Jackson, Attorney/CPA Medicaid 101 Pete Kanios, JD, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services</p> <p>12:30 Town Hall Meeting* Moderator: Billie Johnson President/CEO, AOoA Panel: Judge Jack R. Puffenberger Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division Tina Skeldon-Wozniak, President Lucas County Commission Connie Eppstein, LISW, ACSW Geriatric Social Worker, UTMC Vicky Kwiatkowski, Caregiver <i>*Prior speakers will also participate.</i></p>	<p>Registration is required by Friday, October 26, 2007 – Limit 200 people</p> <p>There is no charge for caregivers, but you must call 419-383-3645 to reserve your spot.</p> <p>There will be a \$25.00 fee for Health Care Professionals. To register as a Health Care Professional, please fill out the attached registration form and return it by October 26, 2007. Continuing education credits are <u>not</u> available for this event. This event is geared toward persons who are family caregivers and those who have an interest in this topic. For more information, please call Vicki Melms at 419-383-3645.</p> <p>SPECIAL NOTE: <u>Feel free to join us following the Town Hall Meeting at 2:30:</u> Medicare & Part D, Prescription Drug Coverage Information for 2008. Sponsored by the Area Office on Aging of NW Ohio, Inc. and OSHIIP (Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program). Get current information about changes in Medicare, review your Medicare coverage and bring questions about potential changes before the Open Enrollment Period begins on November 15, 2007</p>
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gation to various forms of Christian music and expressive ministries.

"Liturgical dance and mime will be added to the worship service. Beginning in 2008 there will be a contemporary worship service; and 80 percent of that service will be contemporary of all kinds. Young people are a product of their environment; teens now have primarily been exposed to rap, and hip-hop music. So some are being exposed to spiritual music, and saying that it's okay," explained Jones.

Before the official kick-off, a pre-installation service is scheduled for Saturday, October 20, 2007 at Third Baptist Church, located at 402 Pinewood, for 6:00 p.m. The free concert is open to the public and features Arkansas Baptist Church Choir and Community Chorus, Sanctuary Choir of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas; and Choir of Division of Fine Arts. "I used to direct those groups and they will stay for the 11:00 a.m. service and 4:00 p.m. installation service," stated Jones.

The official kick-off for the 'new direction,' will be Sunday, October 21, 2007 with an installation service of Rev. Jones as minister of music during the 4:00 p.m. service at Third Baptist Church. The installation message will be given by Rev. Wendell L. Griffin, coordinator of ministries at Mt. Pleasant of Little Rock. At some point during that service, the adult choirs will be combined and new worship style of music will be introduced. "The two choirs will unite and sing as one," said Jones.

"God has great plans for Third Baptist Church to serve the needs. God prescribes how to worship, when people come into the light they too will have better understanding," said Jones.



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This One's For The Kids

Lima City School Levy

By Vickie Shurelds
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Linda Brown recalls she didn't understand what was going on that day when her father walked her to a new school close to her home in Topeka. She says that she and her neighborhood friends didn't understand why they could play together all summer long and on the weekends, but couldn't sit together in school.

Linda had been bused to an all black school on the other side of town. She didn't understand the significance of that historic walk, and she hadn't been a part of the conversation held between her father and the principal of the school. She only knew that she could feel the frustration and the tension in her father's hand in hers as they left that building and walked into history as they initiated the case of *Brown vs the Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*.

That ruling changed the face of American education. Of course, the courts ruling met with mountains of resistance. And it was years later, with Lyndon B. Johnson, a former school teacher who became president, that the federal government mounted a strong hand in encouraging each state to adhere to federal guidelines of integration or lose the opportunity to access federal education grants. That fight for educational justice and equality could easily have been the turning point that launched dozens of progression-based leaps for Latinos, women, and other minorities as well.

In Crystal City, Texas, Latino students were not only given instruction in English, but the majority of their teachers were Anglo. The situation was so grave that actual punishments were given out for cultural participation. Corporal punishments as well as suspensions were handed out for infractions like speaking Spanish.

Students there went on

strike. When it was apparent change may never come, students got together to boycott classes. They wanted their instructions given in Spanish, or at least in a bilingual atmosphere; and they wanted more of the school activities and after school sports, to reflect their proud heritage. They believed they would benefit more from an education that included their culture.

One of the most prolific statements about education came out of these cases by Supreme Court Judge Thurgood Marshall: Equality of treatment sometimes means you treat them (students) differently ... a fitting argument against the "separate but equal" doctrine.

It seems that in the past few years, Lima City Schools, along with other schools across the state, have been in a constant state of flux while trying to meet state standards and benchmarks for education and while continuing their desire to give each student the best education possible.

The educational achievement gap that's been discussed for the past number of years takes into consideration the inability for some students, in most cases those students are of African-American descent, to perform well on standardized tests. It's partly a question of relevance.

Programs are currently being put into place in schools all over Ohio as they fail to reach at least the designation of "continuous improvement." Those in "academic emergency" status are frantically trying to come up with the programming that will trigger student's ability to pass "the test" - The Ohio Graduation Test, if they don't pass it, they cannot graduate.

The No Child Left Behind Act has a component that gives schools with community support money for the new buildings. The act does not, however, make a strong effort toward giving additional monies to programs for student learning. Teachers were told the act would include a support net-

work that would allow them to reach the President's mandate of every child being at grade level by 2014. Most teachers believe the goal is not realistic.

These are just a few of the reasons the Lima City Schools has developed their Caring for Kids Campaign Levy. According to Superintendent Karol Oxley - this campaign is going door to door so school officials can impress upon the voters that they're not asking for money for buildings or operational costs - "This campaign has a direct impact on the students, their learning and their educational environment. We really need this levy (to pass) because we're so close, every one of our elementary schools is at continuous improvement - a far cry from when many were in academic emergency."

One of the most devastating results of *Brown vs. Board of Education* is rarely discussed, and it could be one of the key components to Closing the Gap. While the country focused on the integration of school children, no one thought about the teachers. Closing down all those black schools left teachers, principals, administrators - 30,000 of them in fact - jobless.

The issue of "separate but equal" meant all too often that black students were using out-of-date text books, their buildings were in disrepair, and they had very few opportunities for quality sports programs - but their teachers were of the highest caliber. Many of them had masters degrees and beyond, but were teaching in elementary, junior and high schools, because they were not being hired for other jobs for which they were qualified for by their education. They treated the whole child in their school, teaching them well beyond the typical classroom requirements. That element was lost with the political gain of integration.

In 1976 the Lima City School System led by Earl McGovern, Ph.D., sent representatives to the South to recruit black teachers. The opening of the steel foundry

and other industries had caused an influx of African-Americans into the area. Many of those teachers were graduates of Mississippi Valley State: Oscar Marshall, Robert Hampshire, Louis Pernell, and a host of others. It was the only time in Lima's history that an undertaking resulted in such a richness of diverse quality in education. Their presence changed the perception of Lima City Schools. Recently, complex conditions placed upon the structure of education have led to a deep chasm of despair. The achievement gap

must be addressed and eliminated.

According to educators, it can be done. Lincoln Elementary School in Mt. Vernon, New York, had more than 80 percent of its students meet or exceeded the state's science standards, and more than 95 percent of its students met standards in math and reading. It took an incredible commitment from teachers, administrators, parents and the community. They have maintained this level of success for five years. Their success can be replicated.

They were willing to do

whatever it would take to give every student the chance at a quality education. It's up to the community now to decide if the school system takes on the challenge alone, or with parents, grandparents, neighbors and friends at their side. The chance to put the students on a stronger foundation could happen November 6.

Contact Vickie Shurelds at vickie@sojournertruth.com.



L to R: Dr. Lisa Lee, Dr. Nabissa Rogers, Dr. Nicole Nelson, and Dr. Aimee Hawley are all Board Certified Radiologists with Lima Radiological Associates which staff St. Rita's Imaging Services.

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Reel Review

Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married? (rated pg 13)

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Maan, there's been so much talk about relationships and marriage lately.

The article I did on "Divorced and Under 30" – peeps are still stopping me in the street or hitting me on myspace talking about that. See, no matter how hard some of y'all act, you know there is nothing more important on this earth than loving someone.

Wait – hold up. There is something more important than that:

PICKING THE RIGHT PERSON TO LOVE.

Sometimes I just sit back and look at the decisions people make.

It's amazing how grown folk still allow infatuation, lust and hormones to rule their actions.

Even more amazing how folk who are waaya grown (like 40+ yr olds) seem to not even have passion as a catalyst but instead choose mates based on loneliness, convenience and "keeping up appearances."

This is where art needs to imitate life more often.

When I say art I mean our music, our movies, our culture.

Yes – this is another time I'm mentioning what I do as a producer for U.G.E. – but it's relevant because in popular music there is this facade that at least my label tries to get around. Most of the music wants you to pretend that picking up someone from the club night after night and taking someone shopping and all that – the music on the radio tries to convince us that those things will make us happy.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

One of the artists signed to my label, Aye Dee – you may know him. Perfect example.

His struggles and triumphs, his daily life with the woman he loves... it all makes its way into the music. So when people listen to our stuff, they can relate to that instead of some pretend world where life is a video.

But for people who can't find any art to tell them something different, they fall right into the trap of pointless relationships where each person is merely out for his or her own selfish interests.

That's why Tyler Perry is so important.

I want my music to speak up for love and family the same way his movies/plays do.

Be honest ... lots of dirt gets done, people do kick it or whatever and not everyone is ready and willing to be in love wholeheartedly. It's not all love and marriage all the time.

But damn yo. Things are rougher now than ever before so it's important to prioritize.

Diseases, lies, so many folks cheating, so many folks with hidden agendas, so many folks with family and friends that deter love from happening, so many obligations to careers and such – it's a wonder that any relationship can be successful in this day and age.

It's like someone is waging war on love itself, and it's more than just "haters."

The average "hater" is just jealous. He hates on love because he doesn't know how to find it for himself.

But there are people, BLACK PEOPLE – young and old, who are ignorant when it comes to the beauty that being in love can bring to a person's life.

And I'd like to say that it's only those ignorant people who make the mistakes, but honestly it's all of us.

If you think I'm ranting, trust me – this movie has such a wide impact that my point will be made once you see it.

ALL OF US – make mistakes in love.

All my other point – ALL OF US know someone who is trying to diminish the importance of love in her life by acting as if it's something to play with.

ALL OF US know someone who is selfishly trying to kill a love he sees in others (not naming names but they know who they are) just so he

can gain money or prominence.

ALL OF US know someone who... desperately wants to overcome the bull so she can experience love.

And that's who's in Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married?

ALL OF US. Baby Boy was on B.E.T. again this weekend.

There we were working on music and lo and behold, B.E.T. is brainwashing the masses by showing this crap for the umpteenth time (I'll touch on this in my adjoining column this week). I mention this because our art has to be more responsible.

Our music, our movies, our media – everything.

We've never been fully portrayed accurately in song or onscreen, but when it comes to the relationships we have the stakes are even higher.

People my age grew up watching Cosby and Fresh Prince and we at least saw happy black families. If we didn't have it in our home, we at least saw it somewhere.

Thank God for reruns – LOL!

But even if you have those visions of that perfect black family... how do you get it?

Do you understand what makes people compatible?

Do you understand the sacrifice involved in truly putting the other person first?

Can you admit your faults and realize you won't always be right?

Can you trust?

Simple question, but you'd be surprised how many folks tell me that simply trusting anyone is a seriously tough task.

Yo – I'm no Dr. Phil.

But I've had some experience speaking at forums on relationships while in school.

I've taken advice from people, and I've advised people but I probably don't know any more than anyone reading this. The only thing that sets me apart is that I still believe in that *happily ever after* that most of you would try to convince each other is not possible.

Tyler Perry's movies always reminds you of that fact, the love you want is possible.

Man, if y'all only knew what I've been through.

I've seen some of the illest situations turn out for the good, and I've seen some of the realest and purest relationships ravaged by evil and ignorance. His movies inspire me.

His take on this whole subject never gets old to me.

He could make romantic comedies for years to come the same way Spike Lee did drama and I would go and see each and every one.

Why? Because that voice is needed out there these days.

Of course you've figured out by now that I'm not going to tell you what the movie is about. You need to go and see this one, point blank.

Don't worry about my explanation, go see it and then you can email me like always and tell me what you thought.

But I will say this....

On a straight up theatrical level... at some parts I was wishing he had picked stronger actors for this film. Some-

times the actual movie itself (storyline, sub-plot etc.) seem a little too heavy for some of these actors to carry.

One thing I'd like Tyler Perry to tackle more often is more portrayals of working class black folks. When most of his movies have black folks driving around in Beemers and living in mansions, I start feeling like I'm watching a video on B.E.T. again.

Even when I get my own Beemer and mansion, I'm still gonna remember that part of my audience who needs something more common to relate to (or will I hop into my Beemer and drive off into the sunset screaming "IM RICH BEEYOTCH!")

Okay, seriously though. Most of my problems with this film were just surface things.

The plot develops slowly but surely as it entwines you into a false beginning then really digs deep later on to the point you're almost on the edge of your seat.

And this isn't even an action flick!

If I was a 'one line' critic

I'd say things like: "POWERFUL" – "CAPTIVATING" – and all that would be accurate.

But it's me, y'all, I gotta keep it 100.

The subject is love and happiness... the issue is about marriage.

Tyler Perry makes you think... as always.

I'd advise you to first pick the right mate... even if ya family or friends disapprove, you know what's right for you when you sit down and let your soul and your mind lead.

But even after you've made your choice, navigating that life together may be something else.

Why Did I Get Married is perfect in how it addresses that part of loving the one you are with.

Because Why Did I Get Married isn't as much of a question... as it is an answer in itself.

The true grade for Tyler Perry's latest is what always is... A

All my real lovers – STAND UP!!!

All my fighters/haters – fall back.

NIGGAZ VS. BLACK FOLKS

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

I've been thinking about doing this for a long time, y'all, and the time is finally here. I've said it before and I'll say it my whole life – Chris Rock made a discovery! He said there is a civil war going on. On one side there's the black folks, and on the other side there's a bunch of niggaz.

Now – all my white/Anglo Saxon/ Caucasian readers (yes, white folks read our paper and my article, y'all – don't be surprised)... all of y'all, just turn the page.

You can just skip this article, because I need to talk to my people.

See, I'm trying to keep this in house because I don't want to be responsible for some white people casually talking around the water cooler about the difference between Black Folks and Niggaz. That's not a conversation for y'all to have.

Yeah, it's a double standard but so what – we can say it, y'all can't. Moving on.

Family, I was in the movies this weekend to see the Tyler Perry joint. U.G.E. singer/songwriter Darron Scott was there with me and a mutual acquaintance of ours (Apple Bees!!) So there we are minding our own, enjoying the show when lo and behold – BEHIND US WAS SOME NIGGAZ!

One, in particular. A girl, early 20's – in the movies talking loud on her cell phone.

But that wasn't it. Not only was she talking loud, ghetto, cussing into her cell phone while we are trying to pay attention to the film... she was also DRUNK OFF HER ASS.

Up and down she went along the staircase falling and nearly busting her ass several times. Only to beg the people on the other end of the phone to bring her more alcohol after the movie. Anyone who was at Franklin Park Friday night for the 11:45 show – you KNOW you heard this nigga-ass girl acting out.

See, the problem when black folks and niggaz get around each other is this... WHATEVER BLACK FOLKS TRY TO ENJOY... niggaz try to mess it up.

Niggaz just are not happy... they are not complete... they are not satisfied, until they have ruined an occasion for some Black People.

Then what happens next... in order to deal with the niggaz, us respectable, peace loving black folks have to stoop to that nigga level.

So there we are, yelling back and forth with this girl trying to get her to be quiet. Insults went back and forth, threats were made, people were restrained – LOL. All over what?

Someone who didn't give a damn about how her actions affected those around her. Even her friends were apologizing for her.

It's sad... so very sad that her ign'ant ass was so drunk... that she no longer cared how she carried herself in public.

To quote Charlie Murphy, y'all – We Got Tuh Doooo Betta! (hey, that's how he sounds when he says it).

If you have a Black People vs. Nigga moment – email me at glasscitytruth@yahoo.com –SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT-

My mom has opened her Hajami Fashion and Dance Studio in the Parkway Plaza shopping center across from Value City at Detroit St. and Anthony Wayne Trail. She will be having a SOLJA BOY – SUPERMAN DANCE CONTEST on FRIDAY NOVEMBER 2ND –

If you have a four-person dance crew, come and show your best routine to "Crank Dat Solja Boy" on November 2nd and you could win FOUR FREE TICKETS to Solja Boy's live performance at the Seagate Center on November 4th. Entry fee is \$15 per team, admission for everyone else is \$5. Dance competition will be judged by members of Undergodz Entertainment. Anyone who remembers my mom's former location on Reynolds should come out and see the new spot. Hit me up – glasscitytruth@yahoo.com or mercuryuge@gmail.com

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United Way of Greater Toledo Receives Charity Navigator's 4-Star Rating

Toledo, Ohio – Charity Navigator, the largest and most utilized national charity evaluator, has awarded United Way of Greater Toledo a 4-star rating, recognizing the organization as outperforming the majority of nonprofits in America in respect to fiscal responsibility.

Less than a quarter of the charities evaluated have received a 4-star rating, the highest rating offered by Charity Navigator. In fact, only 32 charities in Ohio and 27 United Ways nationwide are ranked 4-star.

According to Bill Kitson, president and CEO of United Way of Greater Toledo, "We know donors have choices and want to invest their money wisely. That's why we work hard to be accountable, transparent, and deliver measurable results. We are proud to be the only Toledo charity with a 4-star rating."

"This exceptional designation," according to Charity Navigator, "differentiates United Way of Greater Toledo from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust."

With a month and a half left to go in United Way's annual fundraising campaign, Kitson states: "I hope this news strengthens the confidence donors have in our ability to change lives."

United Way of Greater Toledo serves Lucas, Wood, and Ottawa Counties. To learn more about the difference United Way is making in your community, visit www.unitedwaytoledo.org.

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Email thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com

RN or LSW

PAR/Screeener/Assessor/CM with 1 year experience in home care or gerontology. To conduct PASRR/LOC reviews for NF applicants, intake, assessments & care management. Community resource knowledge & reliable transportation required. EEO/AAP, Bilingual and minority applicants encouraged to apply.

Send resumes to: AOoA/PASSPORT
2155 Arlington Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43609

Homes For Rent With a Touch of Class

*4Bdrm, Spacious Home, 2254 Whitney
*3Bdrm, Spacious Home, 2258 Whitney
*3Bdrm, Newly remodeled, 852 Lincoln
*2Bdrm, Luxurious Apt Suites, 2018 Glenwood Ave
*2Bdrm, Gorgeous Apts, 3327 Collingwood Blvd

CALL NOW: 419-865-7787

Direct Care Staff - Group Home

Residential Skills Specialists needed at group home for adults with serious mental illness. Positions work on an as needed basis on all shifts normally on weekends. Current CPR, CPI and First Aid certification and experience in mental health or direct care preferred.

Send or fax resume with cover letter to:



Human Resources - DC
1425 Starr Avenue
Toledo, OH 43605
Fax 419.936.7574
Email: HR@UNISONBHG.ORG
EOE

INSTRUCTOR, SPEECH

Owens Community College invites you to learn more about this exciting job opportunity at <https://jobs.owens.edu>.

Become part of our inclusive culture that embraces and celebrates diversity.

AA/EOE

CHAIR, PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM

Owens Community College invites you to learn more about this exciting job opportunity at <https://jobs.owens.edu>.

Become part of our inclusive culture that embraces and celebrates diversity.

AA/EOE

Account Clerk 2, Law Library, College of Law:

Under the general supervision of the Head of the Acquisitions/Serials Department, the Account Clerk is responsible for maintaining all law library records relating to orders and payments for books, serials, and electronic resources.

This position requires the ability to calculate fractions, decimals and percentages and to read and write common vocabulary plus: 2 courses or 6 months experience in high school accounting or accounting for bookkeepers offered by college; 1 course in operations of adding machine & calculator (or 3 months experience); 6 months additional experience in bookkeeping. This position requires a successful score on the Account Clerk 2 civil service test for those not already in the classification. Full Time. Starting wage is \$12.51/hr.

To apply, submit a cover letter (include position title and job # 998274), a resume, as well as the names and contact information for three professional references to: The University of Toledo, Human Resources Department, Toledo, Ohio 43606-3390; Fax (419) 530-1490; or email recruit@utoledo.edu, which is preferred. Use only one method of application. Resumes must be received by Friday, October 19, 2007. **The University of Toledo is an Equal Access, Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer and Educator**

LONG TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN AMERICORPS MEMBER

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), a non-profit law firm that provides free, high quality legal assistance to low-income individuals and groups in western and northwest Ohio, seeks an Ombudsman/AmeriCorps member for its Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. The Program receives, investigates, and works to resolve complaints filed on behalf of consumers of long-term care services, primarily residents of nursing homes. It also provides community education, public information, and systemic advocacy related to long-term care. Candidate must have a Bachelor's Degree in a related field. Commensurate experience may be considered in lieu of Bachelor's Degree. Candidate must possess the combined qualities of excellent communication and human relations skills, and a demonstrated commitment to advocacy on behalf of consumers of long-term care facilities as well as experience in recruiting, supervising and training volunteers. This position is part of the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Opportunity Project and is funded under the Corporation for National and Community Service's AmeriCorps Program. Compensation is set by federal statute. For each year of service, participants will receive a living allowance of up to \$22,200, health insurance and eligibility for child care assistance, a \$10,000 education award for loan repayment or future tuition with the option of using \$2,500 of the award for a monthly housing allowance, loan forbearance and interest accrual payment for eligible government student loans, actual moving expenses up to \$3,500, travel reimbursement, access to an excellent training program, and an opportunity to join a staff of outstanding and experienced advocates in a program with an outstanding reputation. To apply, please e-mail a cover letter, resume, and list of references to: jobs@ablelaw.org with the subject line Ombudsman/AmeriCorps member Equal access to ABLE offices is available. Those applicants requiring accommodation to the interview/ application process should contact Administrator at the address listed above. Applicants are encouraged to apply immediately.

ABLE is an Equal Opportunity Employer

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) is issuing a request for Proposal (RFP) for Supportive Services to Women and Teenage Females Engaged in the Sex Industry.

The goal of the RFP is to provide services that will:

- Empower and equip women involved in the sex industry to provide emotional and financial support to their children resulting in family stability;
- Maintain children in their own home or reunify in a timely manner;
- Maintain stable placements for teenagers;
- Improve the health and emotional well being of females served.

LCCS is seeking proposals from governmental units, private for-profit entities/agencies and non-profit entities/agencies. Agencies should have unique information, education, knowledge and experience working with females engaged in the sex industry. RFP materials will be available from October 1 through October 16, 2007 at 705 Adams St., Toledo, OH 43624. To make arrangements to pick up a RFP packet, call 419-213-3658. An applicant information session regarding the RFP will be held at LCCS on October 16, 2007 at 10:30 A.M. in Room # 913.

The deadline for completed proposals (NO FAX) is 4:00 p.m. on November 5, 2007. No proposal will be accepted after the deadline.

By Dean Sparks, Executive Director
Lucas County Children Services

The Greater Toledo Urban League Young Professionals

Presents

“Urban League Thursdays” Networking Forum

All Toledo-Area Young Business Professionals

You are urged to attend our monthly **Networking Forum**, sponsored by the **Greater Toledo Urban League Young Professionals**. We will discuss *“Philanthropic Giving: One Dollar at a Time”*, and the role we should have in building our community. We will also kick off our fall community service project: **Food for the Soul**

October 18, 2007 ~ 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Jackson’s ~ 233 N. Huron St. in Downtown Toledo

Young professionals need an avenue to engage each other and receive critical information on various topics that will develop their lives **both professionally and personally**. We also recognize the need for professional networking events specifically targeted to young, minority business men and women.

The Greater Toledo Urban League Young Professionals Networking Forum is **free and open to the public**. Light refreshments will be served.

Organized in February 2005 as an auxiliary organization of the Greater Toledo Urban League, the membership of the **GTULYP** runs the gamut — from entrepreneur to engineer, scientist to social worker, production worker to politician. Our mission is *“to engage young professionals, from all industry backgrounds, in the movement towards the achievement of social and economic equality”*. Despite varied backgrounds, all **GTUL Young Professionals** are: **1) Young** – between the ages of 21 and 40; **2) Dedicated** – to their communities, and, **3) Committed** – to seeking innovative solutions to persistent economic and societal problems.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.
Margaret Mead, 1982

DeVeaux Junior High School Hosts School Board Debate

Sojourner's Truth Staff

“This is a great opportunity for our students,” said Morgan Gaudet, president of the DeVeaux Student Body Government, during a press conference on Monday to announce that the school will host a candidates’ forum for those running for the Toledo Board of Education. “Personally, I am really looking forward to the forum because I want to go into public service when I get older.”

Jordan Roy, student government vice president, offered his own reasons for his interest in hearing what the candidates have to say. “My friends and I are concerned about being prepared for the Ohio Graduation Tests so that we can graduate from high school,” said Roy. “We also want the schools and buses to be safe for us. Finally we know that school board members are constantly facing budget issues. We hope that the candidates that are elected will not try to sacrifice programs that are important to us like athletics and extra-curricular activities.”

The DeVeaux Junior High Forum is being sponsored by the student government, the DeVeaux Parent Network and the Toledo area League of Women Voters. The October 25 event will start at 7 p.m. at the school. Those wishing to submit questions for consideration are urged to arrive by 6:30 p.m. or to email suggestions in advance to vincehornik@yahoo.com or fax to 419-473-2123.



Student Government Officers: Secretary Alexandra McNaughton, Treasurer Makayla McKinney, Vice President Jordan Roy, President Morgan Gaudet



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Thurgood Marshall Law Association

The Thurgood Marshall Law Association is an organization of attorneys whose primary objectives are to:

- Educate and enhance the African-American community's access to the legal system;
- Increase the presence of African-American attorneys and law students in the City of Toledo; and
- Provide support, assistance, and advocacy to African-American Attorneys.

In our organizational efforts we especially salute the Honorable Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and continually strive toward the perfection and impact he exhibited in his legal career.

For more information about the Thurgood Marshall Law Association, contact any of our members.

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