



Donna Todd and Mary Gregory  
Toledo Council of Black Nurses

## In This Issue

The Truth Editorial  
Page 2

My View  
Page 2

TFT Proposes New School  
Model  
Page 4

TUSA Receives Ten Grand  
Page 4

Cover Story:  
Gregory and Todd  
Page 5

Man Up Committee  
Page 6

Arts Section  
A Play in One Act  
Page 7

Burton's Donation  
Page 8

Youssou N'Dour  
Page 9

Interfaith Mass Choir  
Page 10

Norvelle Gross  
Page 11

The Lima Truth  
Page 12

BlackMarketPlace  
Page 14

Classifieds  
Page 15

Kwanzaa Fashion Show  
Page 16

*“Hopefully this community health fair will stimulate the public’s awareness and help them acquire real knowledge. Even more important, it will help them to utilize that knowledge for their benefit.”*

## This Strikes Us ...

*A Sojourner's Truth Editorial*

You name the health problem ... African-Americans suffer disproportionately from it. Heart disease, kidney failure, blindness, diabetes, HIV/AIDS and so on and so on.

It's easy enough to say that the American system of health care, or lack of a system, denies African-Americans equal access to same quality of medical care that the majority culture enjoys. That is regrettably true.

However, the root causes of so many of these chronic ailments have little or nothing to do with how the health system treats various groups of patients and much more to do with how black Americans treat themselves ... abominably.

Does anyone wonder why fast food restaurants populate their television and print advertisements with so many African-Americans? Is it due to some kind of excessive corporate consciousness?

Or do they simply see an easy target for the types of food that any health conscious individual would try to avoid at all costs?

Here's the bad news. Seventy percent of African-American males are rated as overweight. Here's the worse news. Eighty percent of African-American females are overweight.

Simply put, the sheer amount of food that we as a people eat puts us at greater risk for diabetes, kidney failure, heart disease and so on and so on. The types of food that we tend to eat and the lack of physical activity exacerbate the problem.

We don't eat enough fruit, we don't walk or get to the gym, we don't substitute the turkey for the pork.

There is just no good news here at all about the state of health in black America. It's more difficult for the poor to get in to see a doctor to be sure, but there is simply no excuse for the fact that so much of what ails our community is due to our own neglect.

This weekend, a coalition of groups is putting together a health clinic at the new Cordelia Martin Center on Nebraska. One of the components is a weight challenge that will be an ongoing program to help participants drop some of those very unnecessary pounds.

At least seven out of 10 of us need to attend that workshop.

\* \* \* \* \*

The surge is working! The military surge in Iraq is accomplishing its goal.

And a host of conservative commentators are trumpeting the fact that the Bush administration's decision to send an additional 25,000 to 30,000 troops to Iraq to quell the sectarian violence has proven to be effective.

Democratic candidates for president, Democratic members of Congress are now in a quandary as they try to explain their positions, or justify their opposition to the War in Iraq.

Lost in all of the political maneuvering – Republican and Democratic – are a few simple facts.

First, even as the surge is tamping down the violence, the political machinery of the country is still a mess.

Second, we are still fighting the wrong war in the wrong place.

Third, it took us three to four years, at a cost of thousands of Iraqi and American lives to put into place a tactic that retired Army Chief of Staff Eric Shinseki advocated before the invasion took place. Shinseki said then that we needed many more troops in place to keep the peace than we would need to overtake the Saddam military. For that assessment, he was unceremoniously shown the door by his civilian bosses who proceeded to thoroughly botch the handling of the situation.

Nevertheless, it's great to see Bush finally get something right. It's a pity we had to wait almost seven years for him to do so.

\* \* \* \* \*

This week, the head of the teacher's union, Francine Lawrence offered change (see the article on page 4). A significant change at that.

Lawrence is proposing to set up a principal-less elementary school in the heart of the central city.

The school would employ research-based instructional methods using a faculty that would receive incentives for bringing their act to a school that has so far been an educational disaster.

Certainly one of the most interesting aspects of the discussions to follow will be watching and listening to how people react to such a proposal that does indeed purport to bring change to the way we do things. Will it be just too much change for people to handle?

## The Sojourner's Truth

616<sup>1/2</sup> Adams Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604  
Phone 419-243-0007 • Fax 419-255-7700  
Published weekly on Wednesday  
Printed by Webco Graphics

### Subscribe to The Truth Today!

26 Weeks - Only \$40.00

52 Weeks - only \$70.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send your check or money order to:  
The Sojourner's Truth,

## Community Calendar

### \*November 28

"What's It All About?:" Free question and answer session about diabetes and participants will receive a blood glucose meter; 10-11:30 am and 2-3:30 pm; Toledo Diabetes Care Center, Ste 200: 419-291-6767

Mayor's Commission on Disabilities' Second Annual Disability Community Forum: Tremainsville Hall; 6 to 8 pm; Open to public: 419-255-0070

### \*November 29

Cultural Competence and Leadership Workshop: Presented by Hancock, Hancock & Associates; 8:30 am to 4:40 pm; Genesis Dreamplex; Self development and professional consulting

### \*November 30

Father's Day at "The City:" Mt. Zion Church; Special guest Pastor W.C. Thomas from Greater St. Mary's in Wichita, KS; 7 pm

Women's Free Heart Healthy Event: East Toledo Family Center; 11 am; Free event – food, health screenings, table favors and door prizes; Sponsored by WGTE and ProMedica: 419-380-4640

### \*December 1

A Journey through Tears: Healing for the Holidays; 11 am to 1 pm; Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church; Featuring the Interfaith Mass Choir

Community Health, Wellness and Weight Loss Challenge Health Fair: Cordelia Martin Health Center; 10 am to 2 pm; Free food, entertainment and medical testing

Point Place United Church of Christ Craft Show: From 9 am to 6 pm; Spaghetti take out dinner at 4: 419-726-2408

### \*December 1-2

Grace Temple Annual Bazaar/Cake Walk Contest: One stop shopping, hand bags, jewelry, clothes, perfume; Saturday 11 am to 3 pm; Sunday 1 to 4 pm: 419-242-9321

### \*December 2

Father's Day at "The City:" Mt. Zion Church; Special guest Pastor W.C. Thomas from Greater St. Mary's in Wichita, KS; 7 pm

Advent Fellowship Concert: American Baptist Churches of Ohio at Cass Roads Baptist Church

### \*December 3

Women's Free Heart Healthy Event: Mayores Senior Center; 11 am; Free event – food, health screenings, table favors and door prizes; Sponsored by WGTE and ProMedica: 419-380-4640

### \*December 7

Ninth Annual Cookie Walk: Bakery opens at 10 am and closes at 3 pm; Friendship Hall at Collingwood United Methodist Church: 419-472-4322

### \*December 8

United Way Jump 'n Play: Free health screenings for area children and their families; Sports activities, inflatable fun, fitness activities, health fair, youth recreation camp, exhibits, workshops, distribution of healthy sugar-free products; 10:30 am to 4 pm; Lucas County Rec Center in Maumee: 419-254-4637

### \*December 9

"The Service of Celebration:" Special service to celebrate merger of Adult Fellowship and Sanctuary Choirs honoring directors Joan Bolden and Marvin Ward; 3 pm; Third Baptist Church

An Evening with First Creation and Friends: Holiday charity gospel music concert to benefit area homeless shelters; 5 pm; Indiana Ave MBC: 419-699-3039 or 419-340-4198

Night of the Arts Benefit: Grace Community Center; Hors d'oeuvres by Chef Andreas Wilson; Silent auction from 3 to 6 pm; Live auction from 6 to 6:45 pm; Featuring art by Odes Roberts, Billie Mae Adams, Alice Grace, Willie Nell Shahraki Heard, Alecia Robinson: 419-248-2467

## The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American  
Owned and Operated Newspaper

Kevin McQueen  
Fletcher Word  
Becky McQueen

Publisher  
Publisher and Editor  
Business Manager

Alan Abrams  
Geneva J. Chapman  
Tamir A. Shaw  
Artisha Lawson  
Ashlee Austin  
Jack Ford  
Carol Chehade  
Michael J. Hayes

Reporter  
Reporter  
Reporter  
Reporter  
Political Columnist  
Columnist  
Entertainment Critic

Jason L. Lee Sr.  
Jennifer Retholtz  
Marla Cole  
Pamela Anderson  
Kathy Sweeney

Layout Designer  
Webmaster  
Sales Representative  
Sales Representative  
Ad Creation

### A Certified MBE, 2007

The Sojourner's Truth, 616<sup>1/2</sup> Adams Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604

Phone 419-243-0007 • Fax 419-255-7700

thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com

www.thetruthtoledo.com

**My View**

By Jack Ford  
The Truth's  
Political Columnist



Jack Ford

The changing of the guard is underway at EOPA in the wake of the passing of Oscar Griffith, Jr. A four-person management group, led by Ardenia Jones Terry and sanctioned by Theresa M. Gabriel, board president, has been installed.

Once this group has things well in hand, there will probably be a formal recruitment process leading to the selection of a new executive director. The EOPA position is a coveted one because the organization handles so many important projects in our community such as home repair, Head Start, temporary

assistance and economic development.

Long-time assistant James Powell should be a strong candidate. Powell has been the glue at EOPA during the past two years as Griffith's health declined. Gabriel has done the community a huge favor by remaining a board member for life. I think she was on the board when I was a member back in the late 80's or early 90's.

Gabriel, Jones Terry and the ubiquitous Bernard "Pete" Culp are part of the "Committee of the Whole," a Culp-inspired black think tank on issues impacting the African-American community.

I hope the governing committee at EOPA takes the normal steps which any large organization does when a long-time director leaves. It should take a reality check and assess whether its mission is being met or whether changes are needed. It should conduct an audit and report the results to the board of directors and the community. And, if the board is up to it, any other needed changes should be accomplished quickly.

Personally, I hope the City of Toledo and the E.O.P.A.

board do something to memorialize the name of Oscar Griffith, both father and son, in the Toledo community. Together the pair gave 75 years of continuous service to Toledo and the nation. That deserves recognition.

It will be done by the time we go to print, but here's hoping that City Council has its watchdog eyes in place with respect to the Larry Dillin deal at Dillards at Southwyck. The \$1.095 million temporary loan to Dillin, so he can buy a share in the Dillards property, is okay because he is supposed to pay it right back.

Of course, some might ask why doesn't Dillin just buy the property directly? Why the quick loan from the capital improvements purse?

But a more important question is what happens to the money that Dillin pays back to the city? Does he ultimately get control of that? How is it spent? And does it become a part of the financing in whatever happens to Southwyck?

That is important because sometimes the developer might put in the terms such items as a "developer's fee" and "contingency costs" that result in a huge windfall on top of the profit the devel-

oper reaps from the overall deal. I could see a scenario in which Larry Dillin gets the Southwyck property for a song, maybe that's okay - just thought I would muse about it.

Oh, yes. Is not Dillin on contract with the city anyway for development of the Marina and Southwyck? Sometimes developers are stretched to the snapping point. Dillin may have been highly leveraged in putting Levis Commons together or may be not.

I visited Fallen Timbers Mall last week. Pretty impres-

sive! I question if there is enough retail business to go around. Why would the owner of Dillards sell so cheaply for a replacement competitor at Southwyck - just a stone's throw from Fallen Timbers?

On another note, a recent headline states that Toledo leads the state in house-price drops. That's not a good indicator. But it's something no one talks about anywhere in the number of vacant homes.

I am not talking about blighted houses scheduled for demolition but rather

homes that are in good shape and no one is living in them. If you would take the time to tour the city, you would be astounded by the tremendous number of houses that sit unoccupied in Toledo. It is in the thousands. What does that say about our future?

That is one of the reasons why major changes and reform must happen at TPS and some other institutions in Toledo. The election is over but we must force changes in the underperforming schools, drastically increase parental involvement and get the

*(Continued on Page 4)*

**What's The Matter With Young People?**

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, Ph.D., MBA, D.Min.



falling through the cracks of the numerous local youth programs.

First of all, we are prone to trumpet and accentuate the negative while remaining silent concerning the positive. There has been much discussion surrounding individual failures while the many local individual and program successes which have been empirically researched and tested have not been mentioned.

I am familiar with many, particularly those local sites of national programming or those originating in the black church such as "Women of Worth," "Daughters of Imani," and the Children's Defense Fund Freedom School. While no program or intervention has a 100 percent success rate, how many more tragic incidents perpe-

trated by young people might have occurred and had been prevented had it not been for the many noble youth programs currently operating in our area?

Secondly, those programs that are successful are so because they are run and operated by those who walk in the same shoes of experience as those whom they serve rather than being operated by those who are isolated and out of touch, and seek to empower and liberate rather than "manage their case" and keep them under control. We need more of these type programs and more dollars allocated rather than less.

Thirdly, the "youth problem" persists and young people fall through the cracks because they are stuck in fail-

*(Continued on Page 4)*



Isn't it time you had a Quiet Conversation™ with Kevin McQueen?



**Kevin S. McQueen**  
Financial Representative  
Northwestern Mutual  
Financial Network - Toledo  
3950 Sunforest Court, Suite 200  
Toledo, OH 43623  
(419) 407-8656 | (419) 473-2270  
kevin.mcqueen@nfmfn.com  
www.nmfn.com/toledofinancial

For more than 145 years, Northwestern Mutual and its products have quietly earned a most enviable reputation. Visit [www.nmfn.com](http://www.nmfn.com) for more information.



*It's time for a Quiet Conversation.™*

**Domestic Registry? Watch Out For Falling Brimstone!!**

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq.  
Guest Editorial

To the credit of the engaged Catholic Church community and to the chagrin and embarrassment of the feckless Protestant Church community, both black and white, I have arranged via a series of shameful back door deals to issue the following policy and position statement on behalf of the numerous Toledo "Churches-In-Hiding" regarding the domestic partnership registry that has passed

Toledo City Council and recently was granted mayoral approval.

Some of the lukewarm churches (See: Revelations 3:14 for an example of a lukewarm church) that have chosen not to publicly voice the Word of God position about this registry are: Cathedral of Praise (The Church on Strayer Road), First Church of God, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Friendship Baptist, Indiana Avenue Baptist Church, Epworth Methodist, Upton United Methodist Church, Cornerstone Church, Rhema Christian Fellowship, Westgate Chapel, Calvary Assembly of God, Liberty Baptist Church, Perrysburg Church of Christ, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Living Waters FourSquare Church, Grace Lutheran, Calvary Bible Chapel, Mt. Pilgrim, Warren A.M.E., NorthPoint Church, Heritage Christian Church, Hope Lutheran Church, First Congregational Church, St. James Holiness (aka: The Armory), Pinewood Tabernacle, Christ Presbyterian Church, Park Church and a host of others.

One would think that with clear Biblical prohibitions on gay marriages and a homosexual lifestyle not being approved the Word of God (see: Romans 1:26-28; I Corinthians 6:9-10; Leviticus 20:13; Leviticus 18:22) that the above-named churches and others would have been emboldened and rallied to the ramparts and issued public declarations regarding this insidious registry.

Make no mistake about it. This registry is the first of many attempts by the gay and lesbian community to "bogart" the discussion and win public approval for their lifestyles and eventually to place their same sex unions on parity with heterosexual marriages.

When many of the above pastors were confronted with their vocal cowardice in not making a stand for what the Word of God clearly states, most,

to the shock of this author, indicated that the following were the major reasons

*(Continued on Page 6)*

## American Baptist Churches Present \$10,000 to T.U.S.A.

Special to The Truth

On behalf of the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A., Kevin J. Bedford, senior pastor, Third Baptist Church, presented a \$10,000 check, payable to T.U.S.A. to Adrienne Davis, lead organizer

T.U.S.A. (Toledoans United for Social Action) was founded in 1992. It is a 22-member congregation throughout Lucas County representing nearly 20,000 members with diverse socio-economic, racial, denominational and geographic backgrounds. The mission is to work cooperatively and effectively to redress injustices in our community such as jobs, housing, education and



crime.

It also focuses on leadership development investing



time, energy and resources through sponsorship in national training, local workshops and on-going action-reflection processes. More than 4,000 leaders have been trained. The funds were disbursed through a grant that was written by Rev. Bedford and will be used for ongoing leadership development and training.

The check was presented to T.U.S.A. on November 18, 2007 during a service that included a baptismal ceremony.

## ...Young People?

(Continued from Page 3)

ing schools which increases their chances of becoming incarcerated. Statistics show that high school dropouts are almost three times as likely to be incarcerated as those who graduate. A relevant question here is why are some Toledo Public Schools providing excellent education while others in the same district are failing? A part of the "youth problem" is that many young people are taught by teachers who don't look like them, talk like them and who have low expectations of them. Too often staffing does not include those qualified to diagnose or deal with learning disabilities or emotional problems and the children are too readily pushed out of the organized school system to the "School of the Streets."

Also, for many youth, there is a loss of love, loss of meaning, and loss of purpose. Many contemporary churches have been able to provide entertainment for large crowds but unable to meet the needs of those who come with shame or the need to be unconditionally accepted. Behaviors and cultural expressions that are normative to today's youth are met with a constant barrage of criticism by the previous generation. The demographics of the black church have changed without the

theology keeping up. Antiquated perceptions serve to hinder most black youth from becoming involved in healthy organized religious activity as black theology has not evolved to speak to our present experience and is rather limited to literal, Eurocentric or an ancient patriarchal experience that is not normative for today's generation.

In order to train up a child in the ways he or she should go in today's complex environment it will require changing the old methods and techniques which are no longer helpful for black youth. As we recognize the need to adjust the structure and method of our teaching, we also need to recognize the presence of contemporary youth culture and find ways to integrate it with other cultural strands to be included in what as well as how we teach.

Finally, more importantly than co-coordinated youth services we need to go beyond the surface symptoms and get to the root of the problem. The problems in Toledo, as in nearly every major city in America are systemic. John Williams in *Beyond Angry Young Black* states that "Anger made us terribly aware that something is wrong because it does not

spring wantonly out of the air—it has an originating cause."

It is one thing to manage or address the tragedy of "bodies floating down the stream" but it is far better to address those persons or situations who are "dumping them or causing them to fall into the stream." The source of our problems points directly to a combination of poverty, economic subjugation and marginalization.

In Toledo, there also is no shortage of black organizations, activities, or spokespersons and yet there is no progress or gain for the masses of black people. The focus of much of our effort has been to pursue personal benefit, self-aggrandizement, or individual agendas. It is now time to press toward the higher mark of a collective black agenda that does not "trip" about what one or two of us have but strives toward collective progress that takes all of our personal differences and conflicted political interests and leaves none of us behind. Only then can we come together to heal and instruct another diverse generation coming up behind us.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman at [dirdperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org](mailto:dirdperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org)

## My View

(Continued from Page 3)

school board in control of policy.

The continuing saga at the Lucas County Improvement Corporation (LCIC) demonstrates the real challenge of regionalism. The LCIC was a concept that came out of my attempt at regionalism in 2003. Pete Gerken is a former student of mine at The University of Toledo. I still remember him as a young labor guy wearing a pony tail and blue jeans to class at Bowman-Oddy Hall. I trust Gerken although I know he likes to dip into everything.

Within that framework of knowing him, we got along very well and it made sense to try a joint economic venture—LCIC. The city and county would operate as one department.

Bill Carroll, our economic development director was to head the new team. The late Waymon

Usher, the county economic development leader was to be the number two guy. We knew this would break new ground.

One of the local press guys undermined the concept by calling it "unigov" too much rather than a joint venture which is what it really was.

So now we see Oregon Mayor Mary Brown taking on County Commissioner Ben Konop over LCIC's search for a new economic guru. We probably will never have a real shot at regionalism until we have a major crisis in this area and I mean MAJOR!

You should know that you pay extra taxes for all of the duplication that goes on in Lucas County. We do not need 28 economic king pins in Lucas County—the 22 cities and villages, the Regional Growth Partnership, the Port Authority, the UT economic leader and so on. Plus with Federal Express

leaving for Wood County and Marine Stamping closing (a lot of Toledoans worked there) and the third shift going down at Jeep, what economic stuff is really happening? Yet you pay for about two dozen economic leaders. Think about it.

Don't forget the Chamber of Commerce. They have a director and staff that you pay for through the cost of goods and services which pays for the membership dues of businesses. I hope everyone gets my drift.

Last week I said that The Blade was a big dinner in the 2007 municipal elections because so many of their endorsed candidates won. So was the UAW. Over 95 percent of the UAW endorsed candidates won their races in 2007.

Contact Jack Ford at [jack@thetruthtoledo.com](mailto:jack@thetruthtoledo.com)



# Low, Low Auto Rates.

Vince Davis Agency 419-244-2904



### Holiday Day Extravaganza with the Cleveland Cavaliers!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2007  
CLEVELAND CAVALIERS vs LOS ANGELES LAKERS  
prices from \$80 per person  
Tip Off 8:00pm

Join Tyus Tours & Travel and Enjoy a night at Quicken Loans Arena! Cheer for the Cavs as they take on the Los Angeles Lakers




Don't miss your chance to see the 2007 Eastern Conference Champions!  
\$40 deposit will reserve your seat  
Don't delay order today!

For more information call George Rios, 419-260-1647 or call 866-547-5562.  
register at [www.tyustours.com](http://www.tyustours.com) or e-mail at [travel@tyustours.com](mailto:travel@tyustours.com)  
or in order; mail to Tyus tours & travel, Attn: Ricky Tyus  
5723 Emporium Square, Columbus, Ohio 43231



# Community Health, Wellness and Weight Loss Challenge Health Fair

By Fletcher Word  
Sojourner's Truth Editor

When the Toledo Council of Black Nurses, Inc. was formed in 1980 by a core group of founders – registered nurses Daisy Smith, Donna Todd and Mary Gregory, among others – the members envisioned a future in which they could positively impact the health and wellness through collaborative efforts with other community groups.



Donna Todd

Over the years, such collaboration has been spotty at best. About a decade ago, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., enlisted the aid of the Black Nurses to help stage a prostate screening clinic once a year during Minority Health Month. That joint effort, which brings in about 70 to 80 men

annually for their checkups at the Vince Davis State Farm Insurance office at the corner of Cherry and Sherman, helped lay the ground work for the ambitious effort that organizers have put together for the Community Health, Wellness, and Weight Loss Challenge Health Fair on December 1.

"This has been one of our objectives ever since we started the organization," says Donna Todd,

president of the Black Nurses. "Eventually the collaboration is starting."

It is most certainly starting. Through the inspiration of Vince Davis, who has lost several family members to disease over the past few years, the State Farm Insurance company, the Committee of the

Whole, the Greater Toledo Urban League, Mercy Health Partners, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Toledo Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., and the NAACP have partnered with the Black Nurses and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity to host a health fair that will provide medical testing for diabetes, prostate cancer, breast cancer, cholesterol, hypertension and HIV.

"Health fairs are excellent opportunities and give volunteers a chance to work in a safe setting and see what really works," says Gregory.

The unique focus of this health fair, however, will be the effort to enroll visitors in the free 50 Million Pound Challenge.

"Approximately eight out of 10 African American females and 70 percent of African American males are obese," wrote Gregory and Davis last week in an article explaining the weight loss challenge. "Obesity almost certainly leads to diabetes, cardiovascular disease,

work toward," says Gregory. There will be four follow-ups annually for the participants.

And one of the objec-



Mary Gregory

tives of the challenge is to ensure that those who want to lose weight are given every opportunity to do so.

variety of enjoyable activities.

"Every three months they will have the opportunity to get re-weighed,"

says Gregory. "Hopefully the adults will buddy up – that leads to the most success."

**"Health fairs are excellent opportunities and give volunteers a chance to work in a safe setting and see what really works," says Gregory**

and increased incidence of cancer, musculoskeletal problems, and an entire array of other problems too numerous to mention."

The Weight Loss Challenge does not begin and end with this weekend's health fair. Entrants will have their blood pressure, height and weight taken ... "the baseline numbers to

"In the Challenge, there will be an opportunity to join others or work alone," says Gregory, who notes that research has shown that working with a buddy or several others usually works better than facing such a task alone.

Groups can set up such exercises as walking, line or ball room dancing and a

Participants will receive a medical kit that includes an instructional booklet and CD along with a pedometer to help them.

It's that follow up, and the four subsequent weight loss challenge events to be held in 2008, that will distinguish this health fair from others, says Gregory.

In addition to the weight loss challenge and the medi-

cal screenings, the health fair will also provide workshops ... "continuous health education and encouraging comments to help them take charge of their health," says Todd. "African-Americans have some of the worst mortality and morbidity rates and this is an ongoing effort to [reach] the public."

Gregory, a commissioner on the Ohio Commission on Minority Health, is a native of Marion, IN who moved to Toledo at the age of nine. She was denied entrance in 1951 to nursing programs by all five Toledo-area hospitals.

She entered The University of Toledo and re-applied to nursing school, finally accepted by St. Vincent's after a number of leaders in the African-American community "raised a ruckus" on her behalf.

Todd, a native of Lorain, received her nursing education from the Maumee Valley Hospital School of Nursing – the former Medical College of Ohio – and has been a registered nurse since 1961.

Throughout the years since the formation of the Toledo Council of Black Nurses, the founding members – Gregory, Smith and Todd – have nurtured the mission of educating the African-American public about health and wellness. This weekend's health fair, they believe, will be a major step forward.

"Hopefully this will stimulate the public's awareness and help them acquire real knowledge," says Todd. "Even more important, it will help them to utilize [that knowledge] for their benefit."

## Man Up Committee: It Takes a Village to Raise a Child

By Alexis Randles  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

When many Toledo area residents look around the community they immediately become aware of the obstacles that are hindering young males from maturing into healthy men. From drug violence all the way to lack of father figures these are merely a few of the issues that affect young males on a daily basis. Many community leaders have begun to take a stand by relying on a rather traditional approach to assist them in keeping at risk youth on the straight and narrow.

The ancient African proverb teaches that it takes a village to raise a child and this is the very tool that these leaders are using to combat the issues deterring local youth from growing within society.

Over the past few weeks this reporter has had the opportunity to witness first hand how a small village intends to raise their children. This village consists of the City of Toledo Youth Commission and 13 other community-based organizations that comprise the Man Up Committee.

The idea of building a committee was formed in 2005

through the efforts of the City of Toledo Youth Commission. The Commission wanted to host a men's conference that would be geared towards reaching out to young males. However, during this time their greatest challenge was the lack of males on the staff. "We needed to recruit some experts," said Rosalinda Contreras, administrative specialist for the City of Toledo Youth Commission. "And who are the experts but the community centers?"

The commission immediately began contacting various local outreach agencies and community centers to get the ball rolling, which resulted in a small thinking group that rather quickly grew to what it is today. "We came together and started discussing some of the needs of our young men," said Contreras. "We agreed it takes a man to raise a man."

The Man Up Committee's mission is to empower and encourage the young men of today with tools for the present and future. Uplifting this mission along with Contreras, are the representatives of the 13 organizations that are respectively known as the thinking team. The men serving on the Man

Up Committee Board are Larry Robinson, director of Cherry Street Mission; Men's Ministry Division; Juvenile Case Manager Juan Hall, who is with the Lucas County Task Treatment; Wakeso Peterson, assistant director for UMADAOP and Morris Jenkins, Ph.D., with The University of Toledo's Criminal Justice Department.

Also on the committee are Tony Williams who is the executive director of Firm Foundation; Morlon Harris who is executive director of the Friendly Center; Stephen MacDonald who is the executive director of the Youth Opportunities Program (YOP) and also joining him is YOP Youth Specialist Emeka Okonkwo.

Completing the committee are Isaac Oehrtman, a youth specialist for the Adelante Latino Resource Center; Bill Emgram with the Frederick Douglas Community Association; Jake Shavers the youth coordinator for the Grace Community Center; Brandon Tucker who is the Labor Exchange Specialist for the Lucas County Work Force Development and YWCA Teen Outreach Specialist Joe Peterson.

For the past two months, each Thursday at noon, these

organizations have met at the Government Center to plot strategy and to put the finishing touches to an event they hope can only be as successful as their conferences in the past. This year's Man Up Conference will be the fourth conference since the program's inception and the second conference of the year.

"This conference is not only for minorities but for all men across racial boundaries and cultural boundaries," said Harris of the Friendly Center. "The common denominator is men because we all deal with the same issues."

Commenting on the success of the conference over the years, Juvenile Case Manager Hall said he personally did not realize just how much people within the community were so eager to get involved. "When word traveled about the conference, I would have people contact me about becoming a mentor so that they could do their part for their community," he said. "We see these tragedies in the streets everyday and you think you are alone fighting the war but it is a lot of people that want to get involved and have the

willingness to participate."

The theme for the Man Up Conference being held this Saturday on December 1 at the Riverfront Hotel is 'Healthy Relationships.' Throughout the evening all workshops will be concentrating on how to make healthy lifestyle choices. The last conference concentrated on alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and violence also commonly referred to in the outreach field as ATOD. "The initial topics have come from youth themselves," said Contreras. "Although we have our board meetings during school hours, the youth themselves are not excluded from the planning committee." Mentors and youth throughout the summer met in an informal setting to suggest topics that they believed were relevant to their struggle.

Since 2005, the conference has continued to double their numbers in attendees, mentors and outreach center volunteers. In 2006 the conference grew from 75 men to 160 men and 75 mentors. "We expect to have many more of the young males this year to return with friends and family ... oh, and neighbors," laughed Williams of the Firm

Foundation. "I believe once everyone gets on board our goal towards building a community with strong resources will be accomplished."

When asked by this reporter where the committee sees themselves heading in the future, the board members all seemed to have the same response, which was to be successful in their efforts. "When we think of the vision for this committee, ultimately what we want is for our men to get back together and to help the single parents raise our young males into men," said Contreras. "The ultimate big picture is that everyone in the community steps in to fill those gaps." Chiming in to answer the question, Harris replied, "We also want to create a referral mechanism based upon the fact that we cannot address every issue that an individual comes to us with, however, we want to be able to connect them to other resources."

To register for the approaching Man Up Conference being held on December 1, you can call the Toledo Youth Commission at 419-936-2898. The conference will be open and free to the public.

### Domestic Registry?

(Continued from Page 3)

for not coming forth and repudiating such a domestic partnership registry:

- [1] Many of my parishioners or their family members or friends are gay or lesbian and I did not want to offend them.
- [2] The gay and lesbian members of my church are the biggest financial givers to this church and to offend them means to lose needed budgetary support (and which includes my salary and benefits).
- [3] We are a tolerant church body and are open to all matters of expressions of love and happiness.
- [3] Our board met and we could not agree as to what to say or we remained silent.

In the Book of Revelations (last book in the Bible), Jesus the Christ and the head of the Church (the born-again believers) issued some dramatic tongue lashings for the Laodicean church and which church was neither hot nor cold but was lukewarm about the things of God.

This was the church that wanted to play it safe and not offend anyone with the gospel of redemption that is only accomplished by the shed Blood of the Lamb. They wanted to incur the favor of man at the expense of contending for the faith.

They wanted to play it safe and not go against the grain of the society in which they were placed as a light against the darkness. The applause of man and the emperor was more important to them than suffering for Jesus and his righteousness.

They wanted to be spoken well of and to enjoy the goodies and treats that come with compromise at the risk of emulating a John the Baptist approach to the sins of the world.

They smiled to themselves when people spoke of their titles of Reverend, Bishop, Pastor, Elder but did little more than affirm the status quo.

The above statements sound like the "churches-in-hiding" in Toledo. They have lost their voice and walk around as if clothed but are in fact naked and to be pitied. Salt of the earth? More like week-old red punch.

Jesus loves the sinner but hate the sin. This is not about being homophobic, it is simply taking a moral stand on an issue that is thousands of years old and has not and will not change.

Attempting to circumvent moral law with man made humanistic law is flawed from the inception and will not last because it is based upon human sin and error.

A registry for domestic partnership is not new, cool, hip or progressive nor will it make Toledo an "attractive city."

Reaching back towards the ruins of Sodom and Gomorrah (cities destroyed because of their open gay and lesbian lifestyles) (see: Genesis chapters 18 & 19) is not progressive but is another puny attempt by mankind to shake their fist in the face of God and declare, "I am a god and I create my own reality!"



### REFINERY PROCESS OPERATORS (Entry Level)

*Sunoco, Inc. is a leading manufacturer of petroleum and petrochemical products, committed to operating our facilities in a Safe, Reliable, and Environmentally Sound manner. The Toledo refinery has a limited number of positions available to work on rotating shifts. Successful candidates will be selected for entry into a formal 36-month apprenticeship program.*

Requirements include a high school diploma or GED; at least 18 years of age and valid driver's license upon employment; ability to work shifts and perform physically active assignments; and willingness to participate in pre-employment testing and drug screening that may take several days of one's time. Starting rate of pay is \$22.34 per hour.

Individuals wishing to be considered need to have a paper and pencil available and must call 1-888-746-3636 on or after December 3rd at 8:00 a.m. to apply. This is the ONLY METHOD OF APPLICATION FOR THESE POSITIONS, AND A LIMITED NUMBER OF CANDIDATES WILL BE ACCEPTED. Listen to the directions carefully. Applicants will only be able to participate in this telephone process ONCE.

Sunoco is an Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V

[www.sunocoinc.com](http://www.sunocoinc.com)

## MOSES AT GETHSEMANE

*A One-Act Drama By G.J. Chapman*

[The play is set in Memphis, March 28, 1968, the day of a march there that ended in looting and violence; April 3, 1968, the day Dr. King gave his "mountaintop" speech; and April 4, 1968, the day of his assassination. The actors are MARTIN and a four-member Chorus.]

SCENE 1:

[Open on "march" as Chorus breaks into chatter.]

- Dr. King! They're breaking windows!

- The police are arresting looters!

- A bunch of young thugs!

- Somebody paid them to do it!

- Should we keep marching?

- Dr. King! What should we do?

MARTIN

[**Moves forward.**] Infamous this day in Memphis, city of my demise. Not since I sat in the belly of the whale that was the Birmingham jail have I known such despair. Beale Street's blue today, corrupted by youthful greed and impoverished need. But I can't sing the blues! I only know the words of hymns and the melodies of spirituals. This street that shared its secrets with Elvis gives me no victory, no joy, no success today. Perhaps, like him, I should have skulked through the night to come and take from you all I need and not pay the Beale, but get paid like those who loot and destroy you, oh, great bastion of the blues. [sings] "Jesus, please forgive me. This is not the fight I seek. Jesus, please forgive me. This is not the fight I seek. I've done all you said. Held my peace and

turned the other cheek." Take me away from here where shattered glass cracks my voice crying out for justice, but not my resolve, not my spine. I stand determined and unafraid of violence and will not foster it. Bayard, you taught me well Ghandi's way of waging peace! The Great Mahatma was my ideal, but Bayard Rustin unarmed my guards and made me realize that true resistance is totally non-violent. Never can I raise a hand or a fist in anger in this fight. Never can I wield a weapon or strike a blow. Never can I lead a march that becomes a riot. God, deliver me from this tempest in Memphis! This is not my march. This is not my day. Memphis, you will not steal my dream like Elvis stealing notes from Beale Street to write his own ticket and become the King of Rock & Roll. Here in his kingdom, he rules. And I cannot dethrone him in the name of justice. Were there truly grace in this land – this home of a king, but not this one so named – there would be justice. And I would not be here to endure the injustice of having my methods mocked, my nonviolent protest disrupted by violence – outrageous but not outraged. No, this violence, calculated down to the dollar, knows no anger; only avarice. And I am outraged by its lack of rage. There is no real violence here, just mindlessness. A mob of mercenaries follows me, but I will not lead them that lead me to my own destruction by their wanton willingness to compromise our cause for a few dollar bills. Beale Street has forced me to sing the blues and leave a march defeated. Not beaten, not bowed, but far from victorious. I leave today to return, armed with righteousness and

real wrath that needs no violent expression. I go with God from this place of disgrace, from the land of the free fall into the depth of despair to the home of the Braves. Atlanta, I return to your welcome arms! Your sanctuary will be my respite. Your love will be my solace, my peace; be still on this Beale Street so blue – my Waterloo? No, I am no tyrant bringing down destruction, conquering through war. I am but a servant of the Prince of peace, engaging in nonviolent civil disobedience; walking in the very footsteps of my Savior. I walked in those footsteps to Selma and to Washington and they will lead me back here to Memphis.

SCENE 2:

[Chorus begins dialog with MARTIN.]

- Your husband didn't say much during dinner.

- He's just tired. Maybe he's feeling better since he ate.

- He sure ate a lot!

- Well, he said he wanted some fish. Come calling me talking 'bout, "Juan

[*Juanita Abernathy, wife of Ralph Abernathy*], why don't

me and Ralph just buy some fish and you and Corie [*Dr. King's wife, Coretta*]

can cook it for us instead of us going out to eat tonight?" Funny how

men are always finding things for us women to do!

- Isn't it?

- That's a wife's duty – to serve her husband. Says so in the Bible.

- Here you go again, talking about Paul. Did Paul have a wife?

- No, but what difference does that make?

- A lot! How can some man who's never been married

make the rules about marriage? MARTIN

[Has been standing in the center of Chorus, but moves away for monologue; Chorus exits once he starts speaking]

I hear them talking, laughing, their chatter clutters my ears, making them itch. I know they're talking, but I don't know what they're talking about; because no one is talking about what happened today. They avoid talking about it because they don't want to upset me. But they upset me more by not talking about it – pretending none of it happened. But it did happen and there is no amount of small talk, joviality, or fried fish that can erase that fact. This day was not my dawn of triumph, neither was it my twilight of defeat. This day remained neutral in the struggle, not taking sides. These twenty-four hours

are not my enemy any more than are the misguided youth who tried to shatter a dream on Beale Street and were only able to shatter glass. I do not regret this day nor can I revere it. I just remember it as a lesson in tactics and tenacity. Yet, despite this degree in strategy so recently earned, I will have no victory march in this city without great sacrifice. What more can you take? You already ravished Beale Street, leaving it a relic while your King grew rich from the music he pirated there. Perhaps it is fitting that Beale Street finally exploded in fury today after years of singing the blues for the profit of others. I don't condone the violence, but I understand it. As a race, we have forgiven so much. But the burden of that forgiveness is a heavy one straddling our backs and pushing us down. I'm not complaining,

Lord. I know you brought us here in the hold of slave ships because you had a purpose for us being here. Considering that the people who enslaved us called themselves your servants, maybe you brought us here to show them who you really are. We sure found out in those cotton fields and on those auction blocks. Yes, we discovered the Lord of Moses and created America's first original art form to express our spirituality. Pharaoh let us go, but we are still trying to get to the Promised Land. I know we'll get there some day. My faith in the Lord tells me we'll get there and it won't be much longer. It's just years, months, weeks, days away. And this day – this day in Memphis will not stop us from getting to the land of milk and honey; the promise of the American dream, my dream. *To Be Continued Next Week*

- ☐ Three time "Lake Erie West People's Choice" Award Winners for gospel music group 2005-2006
- ☐ 1st round nominees for the gospel "Stellar Awards"
- ☐ Three appearances on the National TV broadcast of "Bobby Jones Gospel"

**F.C. Productions Inc. Presents**

"An Evening with *First Creation* and Friends"  
**A Holiday Charity Gospel Music Concert to Benefit Area Homeless Shelters**

**Sunday December 9, 2007  
 5:00 pm**

**Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church  
 640 Indiana Ave, Toledo, Ohio**

**CONCERT ADMISSION:**

**Please bring a NEW toy or NEW clothing donation**



"When You Have Done It For The Least of My Brethren You Have Done It For Me." **Matthew 25:40**

**This is First Creations inaugural holiday concert and they are asking for your help in making it a successful benefit event for the Toledo community.**

**First Creation wants to give back to the community that has supported them for 19 years strong.**

**<http://www.myspace.com/firstcreationmusic>**



• Arts Section • Arts Section • Arts Section • Arts Section • Arts Section • Arts Section • Arts Section • Arts Section • Arts Section • Arts Section • Arts Section • Arts Section •

# Merry Christmas! Local Artist Donates Painting to Benefit Toledo Public School's Art Program

Special to The Truth

Terry A. Burton's painting titled "Art Teacher" is part of a holiday exhibit titled "Tis the Secor," scheduled to open Saturday, December 1, 2007 (5-11 p.m.) at the Secor Studios on 425 Jefferson Ave. in Toledo, Ohio.

If someone buys the painting "Art Teacher," Burton will donate the proceeds from the sale of that painting to an elementary school art program in the Toledo Public School's system. His contribution of three paintings in total to the exhibit are only a small part of scheduled event of over 40 artists in the Toledo, Ohio area.

During the opening of the exhibit "Tis the Secor," there will be live entertainment, refreshments and a silent art auction to benefit the Young Artist at Work Program. This art program is one of the many outreach programs provided by the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo to stimulate

art making and education opportunities for young people in the Toledo, Ohio area. Some of the sponsors of this event include Diva Restaurant, the Toledo Opera, the Toledo Museum of Art and the Lucas County Art Assist Program.

Terry A. Burton (27) is a young artist living and working in Toledo. His most recent accomplishments include selling a painting at public auction for the Art Works for Life benefit in Dearborn, Michigan, part of the Midwest AIDS Prevention Project (Sunday, September 23, 2007) and exhibiting four paintings in a group exhibition titled "A Community's History: Celebrating Juneteenth" at the Toledo Museum of Art's Community Gallery in Toledo, Ohio (June 8-July 29, 2007). Also, one of his most recent commissions is on display at the Lucas County Commissioner's Office, One Government Center in Toledo, Ohio.



The Artists at the Secor Studios Present The Art Room

## 'Tis The Secor

- a Fine Art Holiday Exhibit and Celebration

425 Jefferson Ave., at Superior  
 Dates: Sat, 4th, & 7th Floor  
 Saturday, December 1, 5-11pm

Over 40 artists and special guests give art demonstrations  
 Live Entertainment throughout the evening  
 Silent Auction to benefit AIDS

Continuing Exhibits  
 12/3 - 12/22 Tues. - Sat. 12 - 6pm  
 Featured Artists  
 Richard Reed, Tom Engeman, Scott Hubbard,  
 Mr. Atomic, Phil Hazard, Mori Reicherick,  
 Dustin Hodel et Terry Burton, and many more

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

- \* Pre-Arrangements
- \* On Line Arrangements
- \* Counseling Needs
- \* Cremation Service
- \* Insurance Available

Phone: 419.534.2550  
 Fax: 419.534.2570

www.houseofday.com  
 Email: mday@houseofday.com

2550 Nebraska Avenue  
 Toledo, Ohio 43607

**HIGHER EDUCATION. Smart Money.**

Natalie Chambers  
 Owens Student  
 Liberal Arts Major

Join the savvy students who are earning the first two years of a bachelor's degree at Owens Community College and then seamlessly transferring to an area or regional university.

REGISTER NOW! • Classes begin Jan. 10. • [www.owens.edu](http://www.owens.edu)

OWENS  
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE





# Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir Pays Tribute to Seniors

By Geneva J. Chapman,  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Majestic cathedrals hold within their walls ancient voices and ages of wisdom, both of which are sometimes lacking in many contemporary sacred edifices. However, though quite contemporary in architecture, Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church wears majesty like an ornate robe.

The stately church led by Rev. Raymond Bishop was the setting Saturday, November 17, 2007, for "O Give Thanks Unto the Lord," Toledo's Interfaith Mass Choir's Senior Class Tribute, recognizing individuals 70 years of age and older from all areas of the city.

The grand staircases on either side of the sanctuary, wainscoting on the back wall and in front of the balcony, gilded tapestries hanging on thirty-foot high walls, stained glass and a crystal chandelier that looks as if it should grace the ceiling of a royal palace give Mt. Pilgrim the appearance of a great cathedral. Judging from the goings-on November 17, it is definitely a cathedral of

praise!  
"We've come this far by faith!" sang Toledo's top gospel choir as the city's *pearls of wisdom* entered Holy Ground in a grand procession of vaulted hats, sparkling diamonds, luxurious furs and even a spiked heel or two.

Showing their respect by standing to receive their elders, the 300 or so people who packed Mt. Pilgrim were reverent and grateful to those who have come so far by faith.

Master of Ceremonies, the oh so debonair Larry Jones acknowledged proclamations from the state legislature and Representative Edna Brown, the City of Toledo and Mayor Carty Finkbeiner and the Toledo City Council, Michael Ashford, president.

County Commissioner Tina Skeldon Wozniak attended the event. If there was any doubt that Mt. Pilgrim is a cathedral of praise, Crystal McQueen, who serves as copastor with her musician husband of their church, gave a welcome that nearly started a riot of praise and

gave anyone who wasn't Pentecostal a Holy Ghost transfusion.

"I just wanted to see the atmosphere," she said. She accomplished her objective and the Holy Ghost-filled atmosphere remained hot, humid and read to burst into flames throughout the entire service. Jones nearly ignited that flame, proclaiming, "I would like to present to you the class of 2007!" Thunderous applause erupted, accompanied by instruments of praise.

"Tonight we've got five distinguished young women. And all of them are in their 90's." Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir Co-Director Brian Thomas singled out one nonagenarian. "This is my sweetheart," he said, pointing out Mildred Andrews, who he said has so much energy, one day he had to break social convention and ask her a question a gentleman never asks a lady.

"Just out of curiosity, I asked, 'How old are you?' She said, 'I'm only 92.'" Among the 101 honorees, 63 are in their 70's; 31 are in their 80's, six are in their

90's and one is over 100 years old. Sixteen are men and the other 85 are women.

They represent nearly every denomination, including: Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Catholic, Church of

of the presenters. "For years of service and faithfulness."

Co-presenter Geraldine Scrutchins elaborated further. "When I look out here, I think about the wisdom," she said. "Some of you mouthed

shouted the fiery preacher, fanning the flames ignited by Jones from that electric atmosphere set by McQueen and revved up by Thomas' tribute in song. "I can testify because He's been good!"

Honoring Our Elders Is Part of Our African Heritage

The Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir carried on an African tradition with the November 17 tribute of showing respect to elders. That tradition was recently observed in South Africa when a Counsel of Elders was convened by Nelson Mandela. "The Elders is a group of past world leaders, personally selected by Nelson Mandela and committed to contributing their wisdom, leadership and integrity to tackle the key challenges facing the World. I felt so privileged to be in the company of global icons of the caliber of Madiba, Graca Machel, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, former US President Jimmy Carter, Kofi Annan and former Irish President Mary Robinson for such an intimate and inspiring occasion. I felt so proud that such a significant initiative was being launched in South Africa and yet it also seemed so appropriate – not only because we are blessed with the greatest elder of all in Madiba, but also because of the culture of respect for elders in African society. **All over Africa, elders are respected and trusted – as mediators, facilitators and repositories of knowledge and wisdom. Indeed, in African societies, the elders are considered to be vast reservoirs of the collective wisdom that has been accumulated over time.** But, despite their wealth of knowledge, the important role of the elders in Western society has been lost. *The so-called developing world had much to teach industrialized societies about the fast-emerg-*



Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir Director Derrick Roberts

God, Church of Christ, Church of God in Christ, Full Gospel, Lutheran, Apostolic, Episcopal and non-denominational.

Regardless of denomination, the honorees seemed to enjoy the traditional Gospel music selected for their tribute. Clapping, singing along, patting their feet and often standing, they gave testimony to their faith.

The honorees and the audience also got a chance to laugh when Rodney Jones lip-synched to a fast-paced gospel number dressed like a woman. That laughter quickly turned to praise when the expert synchronizer slowed down the pace and emoted to a testimonial hymn.

Each honoree was acknowledged with a special souvenir program and a diploma. "The diploma is from God Almighty," said Cersandra McPherson, one

ers and fathers out there have cried and fussed, but most of all, I'm sure you've prayed.

A special presentation was made to Larry Jones for his mother, Gertrude Jones. "Music today is so new and some of the artists forget the ones who've paved the way for us," said Thomas. "We're going to sing something for the seniors."

Thomas sang a medley of traditional gospel songs beginning with "Tis The Old Ship of Zion." Other familiar old favorites included: "I Will Trust in the Lord" and "I Got What I Wanted from the Lord."

Continuing the old time gospel theme in a short but spirited homily, Rev. Cordell Jenkins from St. Paul AME Zion preached about the wisdom of aging that lets you know about the goodness of Jesus.

"I can praise the Lord because He's been good!"

(Continued on Page 14)

# The Toledo Ballet's 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Nutcracker

Sojourner's Truth Staff

There is simply no end in sight for the ballet set to Peter Tchaikovsky's score. The Nutcracker is back in Toledo for the Christmas season and among the many performances by the various companies is the 67<sup>th</sup> annual by the Toledo Ballet Lisa Mayer Lang, who as a young ballerina performed with the Toledo Ballet, is the artistic director for this year's Nutcracker and Toledo's own Steven Brown performs the role of the father, Dr. Stahlbaum, and a role in the Chinese dance in the dream portion of the second act. Brown began his ballet studies at the Toledo Ballet School with Marie Bollinger Vogt, founder and artistic director emerita, and Velta Cernonok. He went on to study on scholarship at many highly regarded schools including the Houston Ballet Academy, the former School of Cleveland Ballet, Eglevsky Ballet, the School of American Ballet and Steps Studio in New York City.



Steven Brown

In addition to dancing lead roles with Toledo Ballet, Brown has also danced with the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music Ballet Ensemble, Wisconsin Ballet Theatre and Montana Ballet. He completed degree requirements and received a bachelor's of Fine Arts degree in ballet from the University of Cincinnati. He also holds a bachelor's

of arts degree in communication from The University of Toledo.

Brown has taught ballet and dance at UT, Owens Community College, Cincinnati School for Creative and Performing Arts and is currently a lecturer, teaching dance at the University of Findlay's Theatre Department.

[www.thetruthtoledo.com](http://www.thetruthtoledo.com)

# Norvelle Gross Celebrates 63 Years as Toledo Resident



Norvelle E. Gross (front); Eddie M. Cole (L); Edwin Cole (rear) holding daughter Kamaree L. Cole

Special to The Truth

Norvelle E. Gross celebrated her 63<sup>rd</sup> year as a resident of Toledo, Ohio on Thanksgiving Day, November 22, 2007. She is a native of Belzoni and Greenwood, Mississippi. She came to Toledo in 1944 and began work at Willys Overland Motors (now Jeep) as a war production worker during World War II.

After the war, she remained in Toledo and later worked for the U.S. Department of Defense at Rossford Ordnance Depot, Erie Ordnance Depot and Wright Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio. She retired in 1980 after 28 years of service with the Depart-

ment of Defense.

Her musical talent as a singer was recognized while she was in Greenwood. At an early age, she formed a quartet comprised of Beatrice and Billy Caldwell, her brother Eddie Cole and herself. They sang the popular songs of the early 1930's. In high school, she was a member of the Greenwood High School Glee Club. At various times she sang in the choirs at Braden United Methodist Church, McKinley United Methodist Church in Dayton and the choir of Wright Patterson Air Force Base.

She received some of her inspiration for music by listening to the great perform-

ers who were showcased in the minstrel shows that came to Greenwood such as *Rabbit Foot*, *Silas Green*, *Sugar Foot* and other musical groups, including the big bands of Walter Barnes and Earl "Fatha" Hines, who traveled throughout the South during that era.

She was the pioneer of the family in arriving first in Toledo and she was soon joined by her brother and her mother, Tennie W. Cole, in 1946. Norvelle has been a pillar of support for her family, including Eddie and his wife Edrene, who passed away earlier this year, and their children, Elecia Cole Smith and Edwin L. Cole.

Norvelle joined Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church in Greenwood and upon moving to Toledo, she transferred that membership to Braden in 1944 under the leadership of Rev. John H. Simpson. She has remained a faithful member of Braden for 63 years.

The Coles found friends in Toledo from Macon, Mississippi, including the Florence Allen family and others and they have built a friendship that has lasted through the years. Norvelle, who celebrated her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday in August, 2007, has kept the faith and continues to run her race with trust in God.

# Holiday Magic with Gordon Russ

The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library presents, Holiday Magic with **Gordon Russ**, scheduled Saturday, December 8 at three library locations.

Get the holidays started with magical fun! The amazing wonder of magician Gordon Russ happens fast and "flurrious" when snowmen, elves and others make their enchanted appearances. For more information on Russ log on to [www.gordonruss.com](http://www.gordonruss.com).

See program times and locations below:

- v 11 a.m. – Washington Branch Library, 5560 Harvest Ln., 419.259.5330.
- v 1:30 p.m. – Main Library/McMaster Center, 325 Michigan St., 419.259.5207.
- v 4 p.m. – Birmingham Branch Library, 203 Paine Ave., 419.259.5210.

This program is sponsored as part of the Toledo Area Community Credit Union's 2007 Fall Series.

# Annual Children's Book Sale

Saturday, December 8 at Classics Gift Shop Inside Main Library

Friends of the Library presents its *Annual Children's Book Sale* scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 8 in the Classics Gift Shop, located on the parking garage level of Main Library, 325 Michigan St.

Choose from a selection of fine gently used children's books, which make great gift ideas for the holidays! Many books will be priced on average from 50 cents to \$1.

While shopping for your favorite children's books and other fine gifts, enter to win a basket full of fun surprises . . . just in time for the holiday season!

MasterCard and Visa are welcome. For more details, please call 419.259.5358.

# The Kidney Foundation of Norwest Ohio's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine Affair

Special to The Truth

The Kidney Foundation of Northwest Ohio hosted its 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine Affair "Sweet Sixteen ... Friendship Uncorked" on Friday, November 16, 2007 at the Holiday Inn French Quarter.

The silent auction/live auction fundraising event was sponsored by a number of area corporations who supplied the wines, fine and rare, for the occasion. The mistress of ceremonies was Chrys Peterson and Toledo Board of Education member, and former mayor, Jack Ford served as the honorary event chairman.

Chronic kidney failure is the ninth-leading cause of death in the United States accounting for nearly 89,500 deaths per year. One in nine adults in northwest Ohio have chronic kidney disease and most don't realize it.



## SAVE THE DATE

**3RD Annual Black Bridal Expo**  
**Saturday, January 26, 2008**  
 12:00 – 5:00 P. M.

*"Preparing for that special day!"*

Fashion Show, Musical Entertainment, Prize Giveaways and Vendors  
 2007 Marriage Renewal Ceremony of Olivia (Assets Toledo) and Howard (Hobbs) (20 Years)

**A  
T  
T  
E  
N  
T  
I  
O  
N**

- Accessories
- Bakers
- Beauticians
- Beauty Consultants
- Caterers
- Dance Instructors
- Decorators
- Ed Services
- Event Planners
- Financial Planners
- Florist
- Formal Wear
- Jewelers
- Legal Assistants
- Limousine Services
- Lodging
- Marriage Counselors
- Musicians
- Photographers
- Salon & Spa Services
- Seamstresses
- Sublets
- Restaurants
- Retailers
- Travel Agents
- Vendors
- Videographers & more!

**30% Ad & Vendor Discount**  
Assets Toledo Business Graduate  
 The Sojourner Truth Newspaper Clients  
 Deadline: Dec. 31, 2007

Pastor Arlen & Rodinda Dawson  
 2007 Legacy of Love  
 Marriage Renewal Couple  
 (20 Years)

*Mission: "To support, network and serve with the spirit of excellence!"*

Contact Glenda Brown @ G-Creations 419-346-5275 or 419-381-3376  
 Email: [glendabrown@sojournertruth.com](mailto:glendabrown@sojournertruth.com)  
 Reserve your space today at the event or place an ad in the 2008 Black Bridal Guide & Directory

## Desi Shurelds: On the Wings of the Dream

By Vickie Shurelds  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

How does it feel when it seems your dreams may come true? That one in a million shot that you could work hard to get the job you'd love, and then actually get it? One Lima resident begins living her dream this week. Desi Shurelds, is the picture perfect example of what can happen if you develop a plan that works, then work the plan.

From the age of six months, it was evident she was bound for the stage. She was chosen as one of a short line of Kewpee Dolls, doing commercials for the popular restaurant in Lima before she could utter more than a few words.

By the time she was a year old, she already had a resume: commercial appearances for Pepsi, Rays Supermarkets and Hills department store. By four years of age, she and her brother TJ were runway models for JC Penney and Kamp's Shoes of Pittsburgh. Her kindergarten performance of Judy Garland's "Trolley Song" prompted her elementary principal to speak with her mother about entering the lottery draw for the Whittier Arts Magnet.

Through performance after performance under the excellent tutelage of Tekla Murphy, Charles Cheveront and Joyce Bagley, Shurelds gained confidence, learned to work the stage and developed a style all her own. Ric Bratton offered her the opportunity to sing live at the St. Jude Telethon, and audiences were overwhelmed with her ability to sell a song.

She then expanded her horizons performing for community theater groups including children's productions and the *Goodbye Girl* locally. In high school, she was asked to fill a part during a state theater competition with Jester's Roving Players and helped bring home ensemble honors for the Ronettes of Little Shop of Horrors.

Staying focused on the goal of professional theatre, Shurelds chose to attend Wright State University and audition for their musical theatre program. It has proven to be one of the best decisions she could have made. The program is already recognized as being one of the best available for training and professional op-

portunities.

She's taken advantage of every door and window that has opened just wide enough for her small frame to fit through. She has been involved with workshops produced by Broadway and off-Broadway producers: *The White Rose*, *Nefertitti*, and *Prometheus' Dream*. As a featured performer in professional productions of the Dream Weaver's Theater and the Human Race Theater of Dayton, she's worked beside some of the most requested names on the New York stage.

Her performances have given her recognition across the state and brought her to the attention of television and movie actor, and Dayton native, Martin Sheen. She was a recipient of the Augsburg-Esteviz Theater scholarship. This summer she chose to perform at King's Island for Cedar Fair. Singing and dancing in "Hot Island Rhythms," "Twistin' to the 60's" and "Meet the NickToons" brought her high acclaim as did her surprising rock performance in the controversial Fear Fest production of "Dead Awakenings." She was nominated for the IOAPA (International Outdoor Amusement Park Award) given to the best performers at Amusement Parks.

It hasn't been an easy task to stay focused during the past four years as her family's life took turn after turn for the worse. Financial and emotional challenges have been at a peak,

providing what at times had to seem insurmountable. But, as is her family mantra: "And still I rise," Shurelds just kept going, learning, developing, growing.

She had been called back to New York for four shows. Three of the shows called her in three times – they liked her style, loved her voice, were taken in by her looks, astounded by her dancing ability. Hip-hop, toe ballet, tap, jazz, rock, ballroom – whatever they threw



– she could catch and whip it back.

The next week began, she was still getting call backs – "Can you come in tomorrow?" "No, I'm back in Ohio, sorry I wish I could ..."

And then came the call – an offer to play a disciple and soul singer in the National Touring Company of Jesus Christ Superstar. Her favorite musical! One of her favorite performers in the leading roll – Ted Neely played the part of Jesus in the movie and on Broadway – this is his farewell tour.

The tour offered employment for nine months, 32



hectic start to a wonderful adventure.

"It's what I want right now, where I think I should be. Everything I've done so far has led me here," said Shurelds. "This is the life I know I want. I know it will be difficult to leave people I love, people I care about, but it's not forever – this is my time to make my life what I want it to be. I want to be on Broadway, I want to pay my dues, learn the business, and make the information I learned at Wright State work for me. I just have to work the plan, be ready, be

in place when the opportunity happens; and then walk through the door."

Watching the dream unfold ... it's what happens when raw talent, refined by skilled instructors combines with determination and the innate ability to keep a trained ear ready to hear when opportunity knocks. Remember this name: Desi Shurelds, you'll hear it again. That's a promise.

*Ed. Note: Desi Shurelds is the writer's daughter. Contact Vickie Shurelds at [vickie@sojournerstruth.com](mailto:vickie@sojournerstruth.com)*



Vickie Shurelds

Soul of the City

www.1150wima.com

1150 Wima

Sponsored by Dr. Bill Ellis

419-234-1150 1-800-789-TALK (8255)

THE OFFICIAL MUSIC TRUTH YEAR END REVIEW

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture



Peace everyone. And I mean that for real, peace.

You know... I was watching our editor Fletcher Word on Lee Conklin's show this week and I just peeped how he does his thug. Being credited for being a political analyst means you *have* to know your stuff, not just have an opinion - but have an informed opinion. So I look at my role as the so-called "minister of culture" and I wonder - do people think I really know my stuff, or do they think I just have an opinion.

Fletcher put that title on me because he wanted me to have a wide umbrella (ella ella ay! - LOL) of things I cover. From talking about Myspace, to Don Imus and of course plenty of things around Toledo. But you know if you read this page that usually my focus is on urban music and the business of music.

Why? Well, because I'm one of the few peeps in this area doing it (is that some competition I smell lurking behind?). But one thing **MUST BE CLEAR!**

I'm not God - I understand everything I say can be questioned.

I usually welcome a little debate. But yo - can you imagine having debates with

people at the gas station about something you wrote two months ago, then get in line at the bank and someone else wants to debate about something you wrote a week ago, etc. etc. etc.

Word is bond - I've tried to make myself available, I've tried to be up front with my own fallibility. Just bring some hip-hop swag to the weekly periodical game.

But not hip-hop as in bragging, or cockiness - I mean hip-hop fundamentals like being authentic. I'm just honest with y'all - I say what I know, and I admit what I don't know.

Some other "critic" would just sit here and judge everything that comes across his desk without any connection. Most people who *critique* have never *created* - which is why artists usually don't trust critics (until something is labeled "critically acclaimed" - then it's all gravy).

With me, when I talk about local music - when I talk about major music releases - when I talk about the industry... it's from the stand point of someone involved in all of this.

I've been creating and recording hip-hop and R&B since I was 10 years old (I'm 29).

I've been producing and writing for artists since I was 18 years old.

Coordinating performances, studying music theory, and organizing - anyone who knows my mom and dad knows I basically grew up doing those things.

Even everything I'm accomplishing with U.G.E. - **I'm the first to say that I'm still quite far from being an expert at this.** I write from the standpoint of someone

gaining access to the industry, from the mindset that artists here in the city can relate to.

I'm on the grind **JUST LIKE YOU.**

So there you have it - I have an opinion. It's probably a little more informed than some, but there's no need to see me out in the city and tell me what's what.

You are all entitled to *your*



opinion just as I am entitled to *mine*.

Only difference, mine just happens to be published.

So having said that, let's get to it.

Outside of Kanye and Fiddy - has 2007 really been a very eventful year in music? I wouldn't say so.

The scandals around celebrities and artists this year have received so much attention that it's almost hard to remember what albums or songs were really impressive.

Sure - everyone will remember Britney's lethargic MTV performance and Soulja Boy's dance craze, but I'm talking about some memorable songs or albums.

Can you think of any? Ring tone rap all over the airwaves, and still hardly anyone outside the Disney camp sold any records.

One thing, is for sure tho - 2007 was the year of Pain - T-PAIN.

So, as the ringtone king

sits high atop the charts yet again this week (with four entries on the Hot 100) - lets start our tally with him.

**FAVORITE T-PAIN CAMEO OF 2007**

- "I'm So Hood"
- D.J. Khaled w/ Plies, Rick Ross, Trick Daddy and T-Pain
- "Kiss, Kiss"
- Chris Brown feat. T-Pain
- "Shawty"

missing some - hit me up on the email and remind me what else should be on this list.

**BIGGEST OVERALL URBAN HIT SONG OF 2007**

- "Buy U A Drank"
- T. Pain w/ Yung Joc
- "Same Girl"
- R. Kelly w/ Usher
- "Party Like A Rockstar"
- Shop Boyz
- "Crank Dat"
- Soulja Boy Tell Em
- "Bartender"
- T. Pain w/ Akon

Even if we just judged by BDS it would **STILL** be a close call.

There's a few joints I could've put on here that came close, but ya'll gotta decide.

*Out of all those hits, which one was the biggest this past year.*

**FAVORITE R&B JOINT OF 2007**

- "Bed"
- J. Holiday
- "Until The End of Time"
- Justin Timberlake
- "No One"
- Alicia Keys
- "On The Hotline"
- Pretty Ricky
- "I'm A Flirt"
- R. Kelly

Now, technically that Justin Timberlake song shouldn't be up there since that album was released last year but DAMN I love that song and even though he's had an endless string of singles that one song just seems to be his most enduring. People are gonna get married to that song years from now.

**FAVORITE CRANK DAT SPIN OFF**

- "Crank Dat" with the Barney video (go to youtube.com type "crank dat barney")
- "Crank Dat" with the Winnie the Pooh video
- "Crank Dat" with the Lion King video
- "Crank Dat Spiderman" (the infamous line "we don't superman no mo, we just spider man that hoe" - LOL)
- "Crank Dat Batman"
- Yeah, yeah I know.

*It's fa real fa real a new day in entertainment when*

*not only are you still wondering how a song like "Crank Dat" was able to dominate the radio for an entire season, but then you have millions of people remixing it for their own use. Hate to say it, but the most entertaining part of the Crank Dat phenom was just seeing what crazy mofo's would think of next as a spin off. Hell, I even came across something called "Crank Dat Bin Laden".*

**FAVORITE REAL HIP HOP MOMENT OF 2007**

The entire *Finding Forever* album by Common

Andre 3000's opening verse from U.G.K.'s "International Playas Anthem"

Kanye winning that first week sales war over 50 Cent

V.H.1 Hip Honors celebrating another great year

Beanie Sigel officially rejoining Roc A Fella

Personally, my favorite hip-hop moment this year was being in the Bronx while U.G.E.'s NYC reps showed me and Adonis where it ALL began.

Outside of that, yo - that Andre 3000 verse just does it for me.

I felt like I hadn't heard a real MC in so long... I nearly didn't know what to do.

I mean damn, that verse was... yo - I was thankful. Like, honestly thankful for that one.

Ok y'all.

Just to give y'all some new ish to think about.

Just hit me up: glasscitytruth@yahoo.com tell me what you pick or what I should've included.

Until next week, Toledo. Hold up - naw not just Toledo.

They reading us all over these days.

Oh yeah - check us out [www.myspace.com/undergodzent](http://www.myspace.com/undergodzent) and my new [wordseatyourface.blogspot.com](http://wordseatyourface.blogspot.com)

DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> - Peacock Caf.

Tigga 76 presents **LOVE LETTERS**

A night of interactive spoken word from one of Toledo's architects of the current spoken word scene - **BETHERE!**

PEACE!

**Toledo Third Most Liveable City**

Toledoans are bringing home a Silver Certificate from the International Awards for Liveable Communities 2007 and a beautiful crystal Third Place Award for the population category of 200,001 - 725,000 population. Toledo finished in third place behind Malmo, Sweden and Lyon, France.

"We had judges tell us that our comprehensive presentation was very good," said Toledo Mayor Carty Finkbeiner. "And our more experienced competitors applauded Toledo as doing quite well in its first appearance."

"We are very proud Toledoans this evening," he added.

Both Malmo, Sweden, and Lyon, France, have been previous competition participants and past winners.

The Judges have allocated Grades A (highest) to E for each community's entry. Here's Toledo's report card:

- Enhancement of Landscape: B
- Heritage Management: B
- Environmentally Sensitive Practices: B
- Community Sustainability: A
- Healthy Lifestyles: B
- Planning for the Future: B

To learn more about the LivCom Awards, visit [www.livcomawards.com](http://www.livcomawards.com) or [www.toledoinlondon.blog](http://www.toledoinlondon.blog)

**DIXIE** Auto Leasing Toledo, OH  
5880 N. Detroit  
**Month to Month Leasing**  
419-476-8674  
WE ARE A FULL SERVICE BUSINESS

EMZIE WILSON  
**REAL BRIGHT ELECTRIC**  
Al Wong  
Cell: (419) 870-1730  
Fax: (419) 531-4518

# Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir Pays Tribute to Seniors

(Continued from Page 10)

ing new intergenerational social structure,' says Director of Development for the HelpAge International Mark Gorman. 'Mostly it has to do with respect. The industrialized countries have developed very damaging stereotypes about ageing that don't exist in developing world societies. African society, for example, is very

intergenerational,' adds Director of the Centre for Social Policy Studies at the University of Ghana Dr. Nana Agyepong. 'We don't have that automatic association that turns advanced age into a state of dependency or illness. Elders in African society take care of children just as parents do. They are the support of their families.

There is no arbitrary cut-off to their active life.' In African culture, all persons are seen to be interdependent, from children all the way to the elderly. 'African societies have an advantage over others in their refusal to view elders in terms of dependency,' says Dr. Agyepong. 'In traditional societies, the elders always had a role in conflict

resolution, long-term thinking and applying wisdom wherever it was needed. We are moving to this global village and yet we don't have our global elders,' explains Gabriel. The role of The Elders, explained Madiba, is to supply courage where there is fear, to foster agreements where there is conflict and to inspire hope where

there is despair. 'These global leaders have the moral courage to rise above the parochial concerns of nation,' he continued. 'They can make our planet a more peaceful, equitable and healthy place to live. What is important is the independence and the integrity of those who are here - they do not have nations or constitu-

encies to build - meaning that they are free to follow paths they deem right even if these paths are hugely unpopular.' The Elders have been called and they have gathered. They are ready. Is a restless world ready to listen?' ["The Counsel of Elders," By Ian Macdonald, South Africa: The Good News, July 20, 2007].

# Black MarketPlace

**Toledo's New Premiere - Studio 329**  
Multi-Cultured Upscale Salon  
1<sup>st</sup> Time customers **FREE** - Cut with any style  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month **Senior Days 20% OFF**  
1238 Flaire Dr - Toledo, OH 43615 - Ph. 419.535.1862  
Email: studio329@sbcglobal.net

**Workers Wanted - Studio 329**  
Apprenticeship Program - Advanced Training - Magazine Photoshoots - Ask about business Starter Kits- **FREE**  
continued CEU classes - **Contact Owner Doug Keeton**  
1238 Flaire Drive - Phone 419.535.1862  
E-mail studio329@sbcglobal.net

**431 Islington -- \$34,900**  
**DUPLEX - GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!!**  
Vinyl siding, 2 car garage - Agents get your clients in.  
**Call Donnette Tiggs, Welles Bowen, Realtors**  
419.290.4567 or 419.891.0888

**Come Enjoy the Lite Side of Robert B**  
A Nice Family Restaurant  
2499 Collingwood Blvd.  
419.327.2499  
Dine In - Carry Out - Delivery  
Southern Cuisine at it's Best

**Shabba Airbrushing**  
2491 Collingwood  
Phone: 419.327.2491  
Cell: 419.704.1254

**325 Independence Road \$72,000**  
Lots of updates, vinyl siding, new windows, electrical system 2007, furnace 2003, roof 2000, fenced backyard with storage shed  
**Call Bessie Humphrey**  
Office 419.874.1188 - Cell 419.260.0215

**54 E. Lake Street \$69,000**  
1.5 car garage, large living room, 3 season porch, fenced yard  
**Please Call Bessie 419.260.0215 or Kim 419.810.7097**

**2040 Sandringham - \$196,000**  
4 bds to full baths, updated eat-in kitchen w/granite countertops, large deck, large master w/bath and adjacent office, built-in bookshelves.  
**Call Laneta Goings, Welles Bowen, Realtors**  
419.467.9302 or 419.891.0888

**Ms. Althea's Mini-Mart**  
Special T Shirts - Photo Shoots - Balloons  
2491 Collingwood - Toledo, Ohio  
Phone: 419.327.2491

**1748 Bobolink Lane \$255,000**  
4 Bdrm/possible 5 - 3 1/2 baths, Hardwood floors - finished basement, family rm w/bar  
Beautiful custom Home  
**Please call Bessie 419.260.0215 or Kim 419.810.7097**

**Call 419.460.1343**  
Video, and Photography  
Owner - **RAMON TIGGS**

**LARRY E. HAMME, Ph.D.**  
Clinical Psychologist  
Individual, Family, Marital, Group Therapy  
Psychological Testing, Training  
4125 Monroe Toledo, Ohio 43606  
Phone: 419.472.7330  
Fax: 419.472.8675

**324 Williamont \$89,000**  
Washington Schools, 3 bd ranch, family room, master bedroom with half bath, large yard  
**Call Bessie Humphrey**  
Office 419.874.1188 - Cell 419.260.0215

**1146 Pinewood Avenue \$65,000**  
Duplex - Great investment property. New siding and roof (3 years) 1 lower kitchen updated, extra lot.  
**Call Bessie Humphrey**  
Office 419.874.1188 - Cell 419.260.0215

You Asked For it TOLEDO - Certified SPANISH TEACHER  
**SPANISH CLASSES With NOVARRO**  
Classes now forming  
**Call: Novarro at 419.464.2361**  
NOTE: Only the serious need apply  
Regular Tutorial rates - novarro.1@netzero.com

**THE C. BROWN FUNERAL HOME, INC.**  
1629 NEBRASKA AVENUE 43607  
419.255.7682  
"WHEN TRUTH IN PRICING AND QUALITY MATTERS"  
IN OR OUT OF TOWN

**801 Lincoln Ave. - \$91,900**  
2 bds, Master Bath with Jacuzzi, Freshly painted, Finished basement, New roof & eaves, concrete steps. Double lot!  
**Call Laneta Goings, Welles Bowen, Realtors**  
419.467.9302 or 419.891.0888

**3157 Cragmoor Ave - \$149,000**  
Nothing to do but move! Large family rm hot tub overlooking the manicured fenced back yard. Half bath in basement.  
**Call Laneta Goings, Welles Bowen, Realtors**  
419.467.9302 or 419.891.0888

**Steven A. Parker**  
Barber Stylist at  
Hobbs Barber Salon 419.514.7493  
Call for Appointment 2777 W. Central  
No Wait Toledo, Ohio 43606

**5115 Grelyn Drive -\$165,000**  
2 bdrm brick ranch w/attached garage and family sized deck overlooking spacious backyard  
**Call Alma Dorlich-Gilbert**  
419.297.2301 for showing

**Houses For Rent**  
Everything New: Paint, Carpet, Stove, Refrig. Section 8 OK  
MVP Property Management  
419-244-8566.

**1918 Peacock Lane - \$179,000**  
**SPRING MEADOWS AREA**  
4 BD, step down living rm w/vaulted ceiling and skylight, first floor laundry, master suite with cathedral ceiling, walk in closet  
**Call Bessie Humphrey**  
Office 419.874.1188 - Cell 419.260.0215

**1009 Tecumseh St. - \$12,000**  
**REDUCED.** Near UT, Brick, 3 bd - 2 fireplaces, hardwood floors, den and family rm, roof (2003), hot water (2004), furnace boilers (10 years old)  
**Call Laneta Goings, Welles Bowen, Realtors**  
419.467.9302 or 419.891.0888

**Kymard's Barber & Styling Salon**  
• 863 W. Central - Toledo, Ohio 43610  
For Appointment Call . . . . 248-9317  
Hair Stylist: Lynn • Clyde • Dail  
Latest Techniques in Hair Styles for Ladies & Men

**Powell's Barber & Beauty Supplies**  
901 Nebraska, Tol, OH 43607  
Complete Line of Barber & Beauty Supplies  
Phone: 419.243.7731 - Fax: 419.242.6390  
Mon: 10 - 6 & Tues: Sat. 8 - 5  
**Calvin Powell**

**1408 Shenandoah Road**  
**Nice updated home!**  
Great for the money - To get inside  
**Please call Bessie 419.260.0215 or Kim 419.810.7097**

**380 Pinewood \$130,000**  
Mint Cond. 3bd, 2 1/2 bth, 2 1/2 car gar. Quiet Neighborhood. Private Showing. Move in at closing Call  
**Grace 419.729.9494**

**2354 Robinwood Avenue \$120,000**  
Old West End Historic Home, 5 bd, hardwood floors 2.5 baths, double staircase, attached garage in rear. **MUST SEE!**  
**Call Bessie Humphrey**  
Office 419.874.1188 - Cell 419.260.0215

**1158 Vance Street - \$34,900**  
**Great home for a large family, 4 bedrooms/possibly 5, has walk in closets, newer gutters, nice garage.**  
**Call Donnette Tiggs, Welles Bowen, Realtors**  
419.290.4567 or 419.891.0888

# CLASSIFIEDS

### Organized Neighbors Yielding eXcellence (ONYX), Inc.

ONYX is seeking proposals for the Toledo West Weed & Seed 2007-2008 Program year. We would like for organizations to submit a program package which would identify the organization's sources of funds to help accomplish the following activities designated for the ONYX and NIP service areas.

- Entrepreneurial Training
  - Free Tax Assistance
  - Home Ownership Counseling
  - Financial Literacy
  - Computer Training for Seniors
  - Computer Training and Homework and Tutoring Assistance for Youth
- (Training will include the after school programs for youth providing food under the concept of Kids' Caf<sup>☐</sup>)
- Art Program which will incorporate the Toledo Art Museum and the Toledo Public School System
  - Teen Theatre (Education and Performances)
  - Parole and Probation Assistance Program
  - Victims of Sex Trafficking

Proposals must contain the following information:

11. Name of Organization
12. Funding Sources
13. Experience in providing services
14. Location of organization
15. Number of employees who will be working on the project
16. Budget that will contain dollars to be utilized to accomplish task

All proposals should be received in the office of ONYX by 12:00 Noon on December 7, 2007.

Please provide five (5) copies addressed to:

ONYX, Inc.  
525 Hamilton St., Suite 302-B  
Toledo, OH 43602  
Contact: Sandra Hill, 419.324.3619

During this project period, law enforcement efforts will focus on reducing violent crimes associated with drug activity and reducing gang and youth-related crime in the target area. Community policing goals include empowering law enforcement and residents to work collaboratively to reduce the fear of crime and to reduce the level of code enforcement violations in the target area. Prevention, intervention, and treatment goals include providing a holistic range of programs and services that encourages positive youth development as an alternative to negative behavior and improving the accessibility and utilization of community services for all residents and ex-offenders. Neighborhood restoration goals include increasing the value of the neighborhood by improving physical conditions of homes and the overall appearance of the community and expanding the local tax base by increasing the level of local business opportunities.

Jimmy L. Gaines, Sr., MBA Interim Executive Director ONYX, Inc.	WilliAnn Moore, M.Ed. President ONYX, Inc. Board of Directors
---	---

### Sales

If you work in sales, management or field service and need a career boost, consider movin' up to WIMX and WJZE, URBAN RADIO BROADCASTING. Mix 95.7 and Hot 97.3 are recruiting professionals who want the lifestyle, compensation and professional rewards you earn in radio advertising sales.

E-mail your resume to davidharrison@urbanradio.com or fax to 419-868-8765. Mix 95.7 and Hot 97.3 is URBAN RADIO BROADCASTING in Toledo and is an equal opportunity employer.

### MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Metroparks of the Toledo Area has an opening for a full time Maintenance Supervisor. Fantastic work environment, excellent benefits and opportunities for personal development, \$22.02 per hour. Requires a Bachelors degree in parks/rec, turf/ground maintenance or similar, or equivalent experience. Horticultural, arboricultural and project management experience preferred. Candidate must have understanding of PERRP or OSHA requirements, ability to read blueprints, manage multiple priorities and effectively supervise people, develop schedules and meet deadlines. Apply at Administrative Office, Wildwood Preserve Metropark, 5100 W. Central Avenue, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by December 7 or visit www.metroparkstoledo.com to review the position description and download an application. Resume and application required. EOE/AA

### Apartment for Rent

Four Bedroom, Carpet  
1411 Indiana Avenue  
\$400.00 per month  
Plus deposit, plus utilities  
Call for Appointment  
419-531-1011

### Hot Travel Deals

Be in the right place at the right time  
Email: TheTruthTravel@hotmail.com  
www.ytb.com/kmcqueen  
Call- 419-297-0907

### House for Sale

Single family home  
3 bed, 1 bath  
\$18,000  
1535 Buckingham  
Call 248-250-0179

### Need a Downtown Office?

Want to share office space in downtown setting  
Email thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com

### PRNs, RNs, LPNs & CNAs

Ohioans Home Healthcare is looking for part-time/PRNs, RNs, LPNs and CNA's in Toledo area.  
Excellent pervisit rate.  
Please fax resume to: (734) 692-0849.

### Place your classified in The Sojourner's Truth PAM at 419-243-0007

Classifieds are also posted online at www.thetruthtoledo.com

### SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

National Heritage Academies, a leading charter school management company, operates over fifty K-8 elementary schools nationwide. Immediate opportunities are available for Substitute Teachers at our Bennett Venture Academy and Winterfield Venture Academy, both located in Toledo. Flexibility is key as these roles will take on all teaching and classroom management responsibilities in the absence of the primary teacher on an on-call basis. To be considered, candidates must have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree. This is an excellent opportunity for new teachers to get their foot in the door with a growing school district. Apply online at www.heritageacademies.com/career

### Cultural Comptence and Leadership Workshop

This workshop will provide participants with the following outcomes:

- 1) Recognize when cultural factors may influence interpersonal dynamics and leadership style
- 2) Understand the relationship between working toward becoming culturally competent and being an effective leader
- 3) Communicate effectively across cultures.
- 4) Resolve cross-cultural conflict constructively.
- 5) Develop strategies for organizational and individual change
- 6) Develop the flexibility needed to function competently in culturally diverse environments.

The cost for this workshop is **\$129** which includes training materials, continental breakfast, certificate of attendance, and a t-shirt. Parking is free. Substitutions of participants may be made at any time. However, no shows or cancellations within five full business days of the workshop will be responsible for the registration fee. Make checks, money orders or purchase orders payable to Hancock, Hancock & Associates

### Registration Form

Cultural Competence and Leadership: How one can enhance the other

You can register by:  
• Phone: (419) 536-2408  
• Fax: (419) 534-5099  
• E-mail: HHA101@aol.com  
• Webpage: www.hancock Hancock.com  
\*\*Please cut out the registration form out and mail it along with your payment to the address listed below.\*\*

Or mail to: Hancock, Hancock & Associates  
4973 Merry Lane Suite B - Toledo, Ohio 43615-6050

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

THE FIRST 10 REGISTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A FREE PERSONAL INVENTORY ON HOW TO MANAGE TIME AND STRESS

# It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!



That is, it's Kwanzaa time again and a fundraising fashion show at the Wayman Palmer YMCA brought out some gorgeous fashions just a few weeks before the seasonal celebration.  
 Diane Gordon, organizer of the annual Kwanzaa festivities served as the mistress of ceremonies for the event.

## Community Health, Wellness, and Weight Loss Challenge Health Fair

**Saturday, December 1, 2007**  
**10:00AM - 2:00PM**

**Held at: The Cordelia Martin Health Center**  
**430 Nebraska at Division, Toledo, OH**

*FREE Food, Entertainment, and Medical Testing for:*  
**Diabetes, Prostate Cancer, Breast Cancer, Cholesterol, Hypertension and HIV**

Sponsored by: State Farm Insurance, Toledo Council of Black Nurses Inc., The Committee of the Whole, The Toledo Urban League, Mercy Health Partners, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., The Toledo Club of the National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., and the NAACP

Designed by Toshia Easter 419-367-7507