

The
Sojourner's



Truth

Local and
National News



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Volume 13, No.12

AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH...

January 16, 2008

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



“Here is the true meaning and value of compassion and nonviolence when it helps us to see the enemy’s point of view ... for from his view we may indeed see the basic weaknesses of our own condition and, if we are mature, we may learn and grow and profit from the wisdom of the brothers who are called the opposition.”

This Strikes Me ... Another Wrong Way on the Freeway Accident – Another Intoxicated Driver!

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Okay.
U.G.E. practice ended later than usual but before heading home, I headed to Wal Mart to get some cold medicine or whatever late Thursday/early Friday.

Leaving Wal Mart in Holland, I got on I-475 headed downtown.
In West Toledo right near the Toledo Hospital/Central Ave. exit I'm just rolling minding my own. I notice there's a blue pick up next to me.

I look up and see headlights heading toward me.
First thought: "NO, no way in hell this is happening."
Like, I felt myself denying it—like, it was just too improbable that ANOTHER person could be driving on the WRONG side of a major highway after the terrible accident here in Toledo that made national headlines two weeks ago.

I stared into the lights and I saw the driver in the blue pick up next to me start blowing on his horn. This white sedan was headed directly for both of us.

They weren't even driving in a lane!
The blue pick up and me were only separated by the dashing white line, and here comes this car towards us straddling that line in a head on collision course with both my truck and the truck next to me.

We both veer off, swerving to avoid the oncoming car.
He went left, I went right—only thing that saved me was that I sped up as I veered off and he didn't.

I-475 was almost completely empty... my car, the blue pick up and the wrong way-driving white car are the only cars in sight in either direction.

As we both veered off, my truck and the white car came within one or two feet of colliding and because I sped up, right behind me was the blue pick up. The collision was a loud smack of glass and metal and sparks. I pulled to the side and ran to the blue pick up which was now missing half a rear axle, a wheel and chunks of undercarriage which now lay all across I475. The driver of the pick up was stunned, but he was walking and said he was okay. I then ran even further down to the white car which had now pulled over to the wall-side shoulder.

I called 911 four times and got busy signals each time before finally getting through... When I got to the white car, the girl who was driving was pacing back and forth nervous and completely shaken. I asked her if she knew she was going the wrong way. She asked me if the guy in the truck was okay.

And now standing within a few feet of her I could smell the liquor.
I can't speculate how much she drank, but it was obvious she was beyond tipsy.
I then got mad and asked her how the hell she could do something so stupid after what just happened. I asked was she even from Toledo (maybe if she wasn't, then maybe our highways are confusing – but nope, she's no stranger to the area).

Finally getting the police on the phone and reporting our location, she starts crying saying "aww maan, I'm going to jail!" and I'm like "Hell, yeah you goin' to jail."

I was angry. But I didn't wanna be too angry because I could see the girl was injured.
Then her girl. The girl who was riding with her, once the sirens in the distance get closer and you see the police cruisers fast approaching... this girl in the white hoodie just decides it's time to go. Not looking at anyone or even saying bye to her friend, she just bounces!

She casually walks across the highway, begins to climb the embankment/hillside towards the fence at the top. Like she's just hoping to hide in the neighborhoods around Central/Monroe street... her friend is screaming "Nicole! Nicole!"

I'm out there like "Nicole, you can't just leave like that."
Cops roll up, I give reports, fill out paperwork, etc., etc.
Y'all know, I'm usually not a fan of police—however, in situations like this, it didn't seem to be about race or anything except public safety (always good when that happens).

The police were genuinely pissed that this girl was driving drunk.
One officer likened drunk driving to pre-meditated murder and I agree.
It's the same thing.

You get in a car. You know you are drunk.
If you kill or even injure someone, it's just as bad as if you planned to do so because you could've easily prevented it with just common sense.

I was out there for the duration, talking to authorities and then talking to the news crews.
The next day I'm getting text messages all day from friends and family saying they are thankful I was spared and I wanna thank you all for your concern.

But real talk—
I just don't get it.
For those of you who drink, smoke or whatever.
You know the difference between being tipsy and being slizzard.
You KNOW when you are saying "I'm cool, I'm cool" and you are NOT really cool.
Friends.

If you see ya peoples at the club and they can't hardly make it to the car... why let them drive?
You may be killing someone because you didn't stop some drunk idiot from driving.
And yeah... you're an idiot.

Plenty people go out and get drunk.
Plenty people also roll with folks and leave their car at home on purpose. That's smart.
Just assuming you will intoxicate yourself and yet still have all the same mental acuteness you have when you are sober... ??? That makes you an idiot.

Alcohol affects your brain, dummy. That buzz you feel, that's not a bunch of bubbles bouncing around in your head. You are altering your state of awareness.

Do that shuff if that's what you do, but NOT when you have to drive or work or watch children, etc.

I hope the guy in the blue pick up is okay and to the girls in the white Infiniti... just be thankful this wasn't as bad as it could've been.

I know I am.

peace.
glasscitytruth@yahoo.com

Community Calendar

January 18

Musical Celebration in Honor of MLK: Temple Shomer Emunim; Shabbat service at 7; Guests include David Carter Chorale, the Grace Temple Choir, Dwight Steel, Toledo School for the Arts: 419-885-3341

January 19

Gcreations Black Bridal Vendors Networking Luncheon: Bethlehem Life Center; 11:30 am; Guest speaker George Robinson—Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce: 419-346-5275 or gcreationsevents@yahoo.com

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc: Toledo Chapter presents 23rd Annual Prayer Breakfast; "Women Standing on the Power of Prayer;" 9:30 am; Gladioux Meadows

All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast: Bethel Apostolic Temple; 7 am to noon; Open to public

January 20

Third Pastoral Anniversary: Refuge Holy Tabernacle's Pastor Marvin Crittenden and Co-pastor Jori Crittenden; Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir; 6 pm: 419-242-5505

January 21

Northwest Ohio Black Media Association (NOBMA) presents the **Martin Luther King Jr. Basketball Classic**. Owens Community College, Student Health Activities Center. 1:00 p.m. Scott Bulldogs vs. East Chicago Central HS (Defending Indiana Class 4A State Champs.) 3 p.m. Libby Cowboys (Defending Toledo City league Champs) vs. Saginaw HS (Defending Michigan Class A State Champions.): 1-419-215-1087 or 419-243-0007

2008 Dr. Martin Luther King Unity Celebration: UT Savage Hall; 9:30 am; Community luncheon at 11 am; Sponsored by the City of Toledo and the Board of Community Relations; Musical guests include the Clarence Smith Community Choir, Lisa Hightower and Joyce Rush: 419-245-1565

25th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King "Oratorical" Contest: Sponsored by The "Ghanaian" Foundation "Step Up, Toledo;" Civic Center Promenade Hall; 9 am to 3 pm; Open to students K-12; Senior High winner receives a \$500 scholarship award: 419-868-8396

January 22

MLK Birthday Celebration at the Art Tatum African-American Resource Center: Kent Branch Library; Students will read "I Have a Dream" speech and a performance of "Moses at Gethsemane"

January 26

24th Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth: UT Student Union; 8:30 am to 1 pm; Keynote Speaker Byron Pitts of CBS National News; Breakout sessions for students and parents start at 10:30 am: 419-530-3820

Gcreations 3rd Annual Black Bridal Expo: Civic Center Promenade – Erie Street Market; Noon to 5 pm; Fashion show, vendors, renewal ceremony: 419-346-5275 or gcreationsevents@yahoo.com

Annual MLK Celebration: Presented by the Civil and Human Rights and Women's Committees of UAW Local 14; 5 until 9 pm; Dinner served at 6 pm; Keynote Speaker Larry Smith; 5411 Jackman Rd

Toledo School for the Arts: Open House; 10 am; Talk to teachers, students and staff and learn more about northwest Ohio's premier charter school featuring arts-based academic instruction: 419-246-8732

January 27

Third Pastoral Anniversary: Refuge Holy Tabernacle's Pastor Marvin Crittenden and Co-pastor Jori Crittenden; 12:30 pm; Guest Apostle John Mills, pastor of Home of Refuge for All People of Columbus: 419-242-5505

Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance: Installation of Officers for 2008; 5 pm; Mt. Nebo Baptist; Open service; Speaker Pastor Raymond Bishop of Mt. Pilgrim

St. Lucas Art Show: "What Does Heaven Look Like;" Noon to 2 pm; St. Lucas Evangelical Lutheran Church; More than two dozen area artists showing original works; Free and open to public; 419-243-8189

UNITED AUTO WORKERS CAP COUNCIL



The Toledo Area UAW-CAP Council works to improve the lives and well-being of union members, their families, and all the citizens of our community.

The CAP Council gives UAW members a voice in politics and community affairs - and we speak out for justice, dignity and fairness for all Americans.

Toledo Area UAW-CAP Council

Bruce Baumhower, President
Mark Buford, Vice President
Linda Neundorfer, Recording Secretary
Roger Commager, Financial Sec-Treas

Affiliated Locals

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Local 14 Ray Wood, President
Local 1435 Lee Baint, President
Local 1892 Bob Smotherman, President
Local 4444 Stan Hernacig, President
Local 5242 Dave Mccellan, President
Local 3056 Matt Luetke, President

Region 2-B, UAW

Lloyd Mahaffey, Director
Ken Lortz, Asst. Director

SOLIDARITY

But The Democrats Are Our Friends

By Jan K. M. Scotland
Guest Columnist

"But the Democrats are our friends. They love us. They accept us, invite us to their homes. They feel our pain. They are honest with us. We can trust them. Republicans? Don't get me started."

When I look at the fiasco

that occurred in the New Hampshire's primaries I can't help but think of these words. The poll of likely voters in the Democratic primary showed Barack Obama ahead by nine to 12 points. He mysteriously lost to Hillary Rodham Clinton by three points. This was a 12

to 15 point swing. What happened?

The Democratic Party and pollsters have no good explanation yet there was no call for a recount. They heard rumors that bus loads of non-state voters were brought in

to vote yet there was no call for an investigation. There was even a suggestion by Dennis (the menace) Kucinich that the manual count showed Barack Obama winning while the electronic count had Hillary Rodham Clinton winning but this was quickly ignored by the drive by media. Oh yes, Jesse Jack-

son and Al Sharpton were nowhere to be found during this unprecedented turnaround. If there was a Republican involved all of the prementioned forces would be touting credible and not so credible sources suggesting foul play. Lawyers, political analysts, the NAACP and the Democratic National

Committee would be combing over the data to get an answer. The media would be filling the airways with irresponsible allegations from hanging chads to voter fraud. Now I'm not suggesting that there was any foul play, so maybe, just maybe, they all know the dirty little secret that
(Continued on Page 4)

Open Letter to Toledo City Councilwoman Lindsay Webb

I would like to raise some concerns as a resident of Toledo, as a local small businessperson, and as a minority contractor. I am greatly concerned over what I'm hearing about the potential award of a contract under ordinance number O-34-08 to Black & Veatch and its team.

It is my understanding that you seek to award the contract to Black & Veatch despite another bid being more than \$2 million below their bid. With that huge difference, it is astonishing that the ordinance would not go through the council committee scrutiny process. That process is critical to explaining why taxpayers should pay a contractor \$2 million more than the lowest bidder. It is my understanding that the lowest bidder is a respected national firm. Is the city of Toledo suggesting that that bidder is not a responsible bidder?

It is also quite unsettling that two of the Black & Veatch team members were involved in actually drafting the bid documents for the contract and now works for the Black & Veatch team prior to the award. That is a very disturbing conflict of interest if that is true. Being an attorney as I am, surely you recognize this as a serious conflict of interest and would want it to be investigated in the committee process. Why not have the scrutiny?

I trust that you will reconsider what I understand to be your decision to evade the council committee process in awarding this \$44 million dollar contract! It is quite irresponsible to do so.

Richard A. Mitchell, Esq.

MITCHELL LAW, LLC

"THE GAME"

By Bishop Stephen Ward
Guest Editorial



It seems that the prophetic word here in Toledo is that "enough is enough." However, I question those people preaching and proclaiming it now. Where were they when the community needed them the most? They chose to take the cowardly road, and close their eyes, and say "yessa, massa!" Now that issues have come to their neighborhoods and homes ... they want to speak out. Divide and conquer tactics and strategies are being used to control black people in Toledo. From "freed" versus enslaved, to black versus mulatto, to house versus field, to pulpit versus pew, to affluent versus poor, black people have been played and beat like a cheap drum in a successful effort to keep us apart from one another. In many cases we have been willing subjects because of the programming that caused us to believe that we are not quite "good enough," that we don't quite "measure up." Thus, we continue to run

away from our brothers and sisters rather than rally together to obtain the rightful position and status that we have earned and certainly deserve in this city. The game of divide and conquer, as it is played on blacks is analogous to the game of tennis, especially when there is a shut-out in process. I always wondered why they call zero points "love." So I looked it up and found that it comes from the French word, "l'oeuf," which means egg or zero. It's strange to me that the person who has no points is saddled with the term "love," but it also reminds me of black people in this city. Collectively, in many cases, we have not scored; we have "love" and our opponents have won the game as well as the set, and they are sending aces in our direction everyday trying desperately to win the entire match. Our defense is not a good offense; it's a small racket with broken strings. Our end of the court is muddy and sloppy, while the other end of the court is lush, green, and freshly manicured to assure firm footing for our opponents. Thanks to the flowers being planted at the request of ... How can black people have nothing, zero, no score at all, and still be in "love" with those who are slamming serves and returns

in our faces everyday? How can we be in "love" and content just to be on the court with them as they stand at the net hitting the ball from side to side, keeping us hopelessly but eagerly running after it? They are serving all the time; we never get a turn at that. They even get to play doubles against us as individuals, and they hit the ball harder than Venus and Serena combined! We are too busy trying to get out of the way, trying to avoid being hit by their onslaught, to think about winning the match; we just want to survive. Meanwhile, other black people are standing on the sidelines, watching their brothers and sisters get hammered on the court, and they are not about to pick up their rackets and get into the game. Thus, we have been divided again: the fearful versus the fearless. At least those on the court are taking the hits and making an effort, feeble as it may be, to fend off the assault. The tennis analogy speaks to our score, our fight, our plight, and the futility of individuality over collectivity. We are in "love" with those who are beating us down. They are way ahead in the game, and we are in "love." We get the emotional reward of feeling good, while they get the substantive economic rewards of writing all the rules

The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library Presents

- Live recreation of Dr. King's most noted speeches by living history performer Rudy Barker, followed by mock press conference
- Documentary film on Dr. King's life
- Children's craft workshop
- Historical photo exhibition and period news clippings

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Perlean Griffin Tapped to Head Local SCLC Chapter

Special to The Truth

The Rev. Floyd Rose, president of the Valdosta-Lowndes County chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and former Toledo civil rights activist, will announce the formation of a Toledo chapter of the civil rights organization which was founded by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1957 and which he led until his assassination in 1968.

Perlean Griffin, former director of the Office of Affirmative Action/Contract Compliance for the City of Toledo, has been asked to provide the leadership for the new chapter.

"There could be no more appropriate time for this announcement than January 21, the day that we honor

Dr. King's birth and celebrate his life," said Rose in a statement this week. "And there is no person more qualified than Perlean Griffin to head the Toledo



Rev. Floyd Rose

chapter of the movement which re-wrote American history and re-ordered the priorities of our nation."

Rose will hold a news conference Monday, Janu-

ary 21, at 9:45 AM at the Martin Luther King Kitchen for the Poor, 650 Vance Street and he will be the principal speaker at its annual M.L. King program at 10 AM at Lo Salem Baptist Church, 660 Vance.

That church's founder, Harvey Savage, named the Kitchen in honor of King, who was leading thousands of poor people to Washington to demand jobs and income when he stopped by Memphis to help garbage collectors in their struggle for a living wage.

Rose will explain why Griffin was selected to head the Toledo chapter of SCLC at the news conference.

Most Livable City Has Far to Go

Recent events and accusations occurring in Toledo on the political front have brought the above-mentioned quote to mind. The Toledo Chapter Coalition Of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU); which consists of members from 77 international and national unions, with 42 chapters across the country, has taken a stance that the treatment of Michael Ashford during the election of Toledo City Council President and the reasons given by District 6 Councilwoman Lindsay Webb and the card which quoted Proverbs 29:2, given to her by our Mayor Carty Finkbeiner ("When good people run things, everyone is glad.") are not acceptable. We will not sit idle while our leaders and community are being mistreated. CBTU members serve in various positions throughout the community, and we will raise our voice to insure our concerns are heard and mistreatment is addressed!

We seek titles of "Most Livable" and "All-American City" with fervor, but the unfortunate reality is that fervor has given way to backstabbing, lying, political gamesmanship.

We (CBTU) challenge you to revise the above quote of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and apply it in the context of our city as follows:

"The true measure of a "Most Livable All-American City" is where it stands in the treatment and perception of its citizens and ethnic groups."

Toledo Chapter
Coalition Of Black Trade Unionists
Cenia Willis, President
Written by member, Micheal Alexander

"The true measure of a man is not where he stands in times of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of conflict and controversy. - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

To The Entire Toledo Community



Oscar Bernard Griffith, Jr.

During a time like this we realize how much our family and friends really mean to us. . . Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered

Thank you very much from the Family of Oscar Bernard Griffith, Jr.

Black & Veatch Said to Exceed Minority Participation

I would appreciate the opportunity to clarify a few misstatements offered by Jack Ford in his January 9, 2008 column.

For our Phase I engineering work on the Toledo Waterways Initiative Project the engineer, Black & Veatch, was required to spend 10 percent of the contract with MBE firms. To the credit of Black & Veatch, they exceeded that commitment and have spent 14.65 percent of the Phase I contract on MBE participation, or \$3.675 million to minority business enterprises. These firms are primarily located in Toledo.

There is no contract yet for Phase II of the engineering work on the Toledo Waterways Initiative Project. Therefore, Mr. Ford's comment that minority participation dollars in Phase II will be "zilch" is an unfortunate and glaring misrepresentation. The City's seven percent MBE goal for professional services, as set by ordinance, was addressed in the Black & Veatch proposal for the Phase II work. I can assure you that when the contract for Phase II work is negotiated, the goal for participation by Minority Business Enterprises will exceed the City's goal of 7 percent for engineering services.

From Toledo - an International Award Winning City!

David E. Leffler, Director
Department of Public Utilities

Democrats

(Continued from Page 3)

the black community has not fully grasped.

As good and dynamic a candidate Barack Obama is, your friends in the party will not honestly tell you they won't vote for him. The so called Wilder or Dinkins effect is rearing its ugly head again and your friends, the Democrats, don't want to explain to you why they changed their mind behind the curtain.

"But they are our friends they would not do that". Well, in the Virginia governor's race in 1989, Doug Wilder, an African-American (Democrat), went into Election Day with polls showing a 10 percentage point lead but won by 0.5 percentage. This created the basis for the phenomenon called the "Wilder effect." This effect describes the dishonesty of Democratic voters who go to the polls and vote totally opposite of what they tell the pollsters.

In the 1989 race for Mayor of New York (an overwhelmingly Democratic city), a poll conducted just over a week before the election showed black candidate David

(Continued on Page 15)

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“Something Is Happening in America”

Toledoans witness the birth of a movement

On the Sunday before last week's New Hampshire primary, three members of the local Toledoans for Obama group – Lucas County Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz, former Toledo mayoral candidate Keith Wilkowski, and Chief Deputy Treasurer Mark Austin – piled into Kapszukiewicz's minivan and began a four-day road-trip to Manchester, New Hampshire, to help elect Sen. Barack Obama the next president of the United States. This is a diary of their trip.

It took us 13 hours and 795.2 miles for us to drive from Toledo to Manchester, New Hampshire, last week. But it only took us a few minutes to be reminded why we went through all of the trouble.

At 6:45 a.m. on Monday morning, we were dispatched to the civic square near Manchester City Hall to wave signs for Sen. Obama behind



the temporary stage set up for the Good Morning America show, which was due to go live at 7 a.m. The energy and excitement of the Obama supporters was greater than anything we have ever seen. And the number of Obama supporters was greater than the GMA producers wanted to see.

Telling us that the gathering looked "too much like an Obama rally," they forced some Clinton and McCain supporters up to

the front of the crowd to "make it look more fair for the other campaigns."

Though we were amused by the TV producers' attempt to artificially create a sense of balance among the gathered throng, what really struck us was the sense among the Obama supporters that they are a part of something larger than themselves – a genuine movement to defeat the Washington status quo and bring about real

hope and change in our country.

Notably, the chants of these energized volunteers conveyed this reality: "Obama ... '08 ... Be a part of something great!" and "O-B-A-M-A ... Let's go change the world today!" and "He was against the war ... he's the one I'm voting for!" Sadly, the retort from some of the other campaigns emphasized nothing more than an inside-the-beltway mindset that was entirely void of any indication of how the country would be better if that candidate were elected President. The contrast, indeed, was stark.

Whether due to purest coincidence or, perhaps, intervention from some higher power, a rainbow appeared in the unseasonably warm New Hampshire sky at the very moment Obama appeared as a guest on the GMA show. We choose to think it was a sign.

The balance of our time in New Hampshire was spent having the kinds of experiences one might expect in an environment that, depending on your generation, resembled either a Woodstock or a Lolipolooza for political junkies.

We ate at a quintessential New England diner – the Red Arrow diner, opened in 1922 and voted by USA Today as one of the Top 10 diners in the country – and had a chance to meet a real-life presidential candidate, a psychiatrist by the name of Mark Klein. Encountering slightly off-kilter fringe candidates is as much a part of the New Hampshire experience as eating at the same diner where national newscasters eat, which was in fact the case when we arrived at the Red Arrow as Diane Sawyer was leaving.

Later, Keith encountered a real-life presidential candidate whose chances are far better than Dr. Klein's. Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, fresh off his win in the Iowa caucuses, showed up at the same polling place Keith was working on Election Day. One of

Huckabee's bodyguards told Keith "you can approach the governor if you'd like to meet him." Politely, Keith declined.

Wade was given an unexpected reminder of just how small our world is. While going door-to-door on Monday, Wade knocked on the door of a Mr. Shea, who lives at 99 Lodge Street, in Manchester's 2nd ward. Upon seeing Wade's Ohio State baseball cap, Mr. Shea wished the Buckeyes luck in their national championship game against LSU later that night. (Unfortunately, Mr.



Shea's well wishes were not enough.) He explained that he does business in Ohio. "My business takes me to Sun Oil in Toledo," he said, "which is about 800 miles away."

Wade told him that we were, in fact, from Toledo and that we now knew that Toledo was exactly 795.2 miles away from Manchester, as measured by the trip odometer in the minivan.

A month before the New Hampshire primary, Obama trailed by 20 points in the polls. Strengthened by his win in the Iowa caucuses, he closed nearly the entire gap and lost New Hampshire by just 2 points. Though Obama did not win, there is no doubt that he has caught the attention of the Washington establishment he is trying to topple. Wade, Keith and Mark were honored to play a small role in his effort.

What we saw in New Hampshire was very clear. Obama is not merely another politician, but rather the leader of a movement. Barack Obama gives us a shot at real change in our country, and a reason for hope in these dark and cynical times. He is not a polarizing symbol of the status quo. Obama is a uniter

who can bridge the blue state-red state divide and bring us together as a nation. More than anything else, that is what we witnessed in New Hampshire.

We drove to New Hampshire because we want to hope again. And we still do. As we drove back on Wednesday, we were very tired and our feet were a little sore from two days of going door-to-door in Manchester's pleasant – though hilly – neighborhoods. We are also extremely excited to be able to take the campaign back to Ohio. Three weeks ago, the pundits thought that Clinton would sweep Iowa and New Hampshire and have the nomination virtually wrapped up by now. Instead, the score is tied 1-1, and we have a real race on our hands.

Surely, just about every observer thought that Super Tuesday – February 5 – on which two dozen states will be conducting primaries, would bring about some sort of conclusion to the race. That may not be the case. Hillary Clinton's home state, New York, will vote for her and Obama's home state of Illinois will cast its votes for him – the rest are up for grabs.

Ohioans have bemoaned the fact that their primary is scheduled for March 4, well after Super Tuesday. However, almost in anticipation of Ohio's pivotal role in general elections, this state may well be as important in selecting the Democratic Party nominee.

There is a meeting of the local Toledoans for Obama group this Saturday, January 19, at 11 a.m. at Lucas County Democratic Headquarters. Our group began last April with about 10 members, and today we have well over 100 and the number is growing.

We expect the same energy and excitement we saw in New Hampshire to be in abundance in Toledo. As Sen. Obama said in his speech on Election Night, we are "Fired Up ... and Ready to Go!"

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A Triumph of Human Will: The Nonviolent Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Geneva J. Chapman,
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The King Holiday has become iconic for many African-Americans, representing the struggle for racial equality and real freedom in a nation that still held slaves after declaring its independence from a tyrannical power.

However, for many Americans, King Day is just another Monday holiday with little real meaning. Despite annual civic ceremonies and celebrations of King's life with recordings of his "I Have a Dream" speech blasting through the auditoriums of public schools, colleges, and universities, many Americans probably don't observe the day as anything more than a day off from work – provided they are lucky enough to work at a site that recognizes the holiday.

Those who do celebrate the holiday, often with great reverence and enthusiasm, see King as an almost messianic figure who has reached mythic proportions in the years since his death. Yet, the central ideology of his movement – nonviolent resistance – while employed by everyone from gay rights activists to anti-abortion, pro-life groups – seems lost on a generation as accustomed to school shootings and terrorists attacks as King's generation was to "whites only" signs on public restrooms and water fountains.

"Next week, the nation will celebrate (or merely acknowledge) the birthday of the most popular and prophetic protester of 20th century America – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." writes Sean Gonsalves. "And while the commercialized (let's all hold hands and sing "We Shall Overcome") image of Dr. King is praised from Cape Cod to California, collecting dust in the archives is an address the Gandhi apostle gave on April 4, 1967 – exactly one year before he was assassi-



nated during a campaign to help sanitation workers on strike in Memphis."

The speech Gonsalves refers to is not "I Have a Dream" or the famous "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech made the night before King's death. Gonsalves is talking about a speech called "A Time to Break Silence," given at Riverside Church in New York City. "True to his theological roots, King spoke out against what he considered to be an unjust and 'immoral war' in Vietnam," continues Gonsalves.

Although protest against the war seemed a logical progression for a movement based on nonviolent resistance, King's decision to speak out against the war was not without controversy.

However, despite his success in the Civil Rights Movement, King had already experienced opposition according to the African-American Almanac:

"In the north, King soon discovered that young and angry blacks cared little for his pulpit oratory and even less for his solemn pleas for peaceful protest. Their disenchantment was clearly one of the factors influencing his decision to

rally behind a new cause and stake out a fresh battleground: the war in Vietnam.

"Although his aim was to fuse a new coalition of dissent based on equal support for the peace crusade and the civil rights movement, King antagonized many civil rights leaders by declaring the United States to be 'the greatest purveyor of violence in the world.'"

"The rift was immediate. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) saw King's shift of emphasis as 'a serious tactical mistake;' the Urban League warned that the 'limited resources' of the civil rights movement would be spread too thin; Ralph Bunche felt King was undertaking an impossible mission in trying to bring the campaign for peace in step with the goals of the civil rights movement.

"From the vantage point of history, King's timing could only be regarded as superb. As students, professors, intellectuals, clergymen and reformers of every stripe rushed into the movement, King turned his attention to the domestic issue which, in his view, was directly related to the

Vietnam struggle: the War on Poverty.

"He threatened national boycotts and spoke of disrupting entire cities by nonviolent camp-ins. With this in mind, he began to draw up plans for a massive march of the poor on Washington D.C., itself." (The African-American Almanac, 7th edition, Gale, 1997)

The progression of Dr. King from preacher to civil rights leader to anti-war protester began in his youth. While at seminary King, became acquainted with Mohandas Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolent social protest. On a trip to India in 1959, King met with followers of Gandhi and during discussions with them, he became more convinced than ever that nonviolent resistance was the most potent weapon available to oppressed people in their struggle for freedom. His greatest living example of "a man of peace," as he had always believed Jesus to be was the humble

Indian.

Gandhi's life and commitment to nonviolence unfolded before King like a tapestry, depicting in real life images a vision he had for his own life of service.

Wrote Lord Richard Attenborough who directed the Academy Award-winning film *Gandhi*:

"Mohandas K. Gandhi was born in 1869 to Hindu parents in the state of Gujarat in Western India. He entered an arranged marriage with Kasturbai Makanji when both were 13 years old. His family later sent him to London to study law, and in 1891 he was admitted to the Inner Temple and called to the bar.

"In Southern Africa he worked ceaselessly to improve the rights of the immigrant Indians. It was there that he developed his creed of passive resistance against injustice, *Satyagraha*, meaning 'truth force,' and was frequently jailed as a result of the protests that he led. Be-

fore he returned to India with his wife and children in 1915, he had radically changed the lives of Indians living in Southern Africa.

"Back in India, it was not long before he was taking the lead in the long struggle for independence from Britain. He never wavered in his unshakable belief in nonviolent protest and religious tolerance. When Muslim and Hindu patriots committed acts of violence, whether against the British who ruled India or against each other, he fasted until the fighting ceased.

"Independence, when it came in 1947, was not a military victory, but a triumph of human will." (*A Brief History of Mohandas K. Gandhi*, by Richard Attenborough)

King was duly impressed by Gandhi's successful use of nonviolent resistance and wanted to use a similar approach to ending the op-

(Continued on Page 7)

The University of Toledo, TOLEDO EXCEL

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The 24th Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth
(for Toledo-area 7th - 12th graders and their parents and Community)

"Communicating Effectively in the 21st Century: The Power of Words"



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The University of Toledo, Student Union Auditorium
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-----Free Admission and Lunch-----

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CBS National News Correspondent

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Martin Luther King, Jr.

(Continued from Page 6)

pression of African-Americans in the South. "Dismissing the use of violence as both impractical and immoral, Martin Luther King, Jr. endorsed the method of nonviolent protest stating that this "mentally and spiritually aggressive" technique not only avoids "external physical violence," but "seeks to avoid internal violence [to the] spirit."

In his first book, *Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story*, King wrote that, "Gandhi was probably the first person in history to lift the love ethic of Jesus above mere interaction between individuals to a powerful and effective social force on a large scale." King affirmed his conviction that nonviolent resistance is "one of the most potent weapons available to oppressed people in their quest for social justice."

History had demonstrated to King the power and potential of nonviolence. Upon returning from India, King remarked that

India and Gandhi had provided a template of social change, through nonviolent direct action for blacks in America. "I left India more convinced than ever before that nonviolent resistance was the most potent weapon available to oppressed people in their struggle for freedom. The way of acquiescence leads to moral and spiritual suicide. The way of violence leads to bitterness in the survivors and brutality in the destroyers. But the way of nonviolence leads to redemption and the creation of the beloved community. I returned to America with a greater determination to achieve freedom for my people through nonviolent means. As a result of my visit to India, my understanding of nonviolence became greater and my commitment deeper." ("Nonviolent Resistance," www.stanford.edu.)

Despite King's interest and theoretical commitment to nonviolent resistance, it was another African-American who provided the

neophyte preacher with the necessary skills that enabled him to put the theories into practice and become a truly nonviolent protester. Forty-four-year-old Quaker Bayard Rustin, the unheralded hero of the civil rights movement, became one of King's most influential and powerful allies and mentors.

Wrote Buss Haughton: "Although Bayard Rustin was one of the most important leaders of the American civil rights movement from the advent of its modern period in the 1950s until well into the 1980s, his name was seldom mentioned; he received comparatively little press or media attention, and others' names were usually much more readily associated with the movement than his was. His was a behind-the-scenes role that, for all its importance, never garnered Rustin the public acclaim he deserved."

"In 1956, Rustin was approached to provide Dr. Martin Luther King with some practical advice on

how to apply Gandhian principles to nonviolence to the boycott of public transportation then taking shape in Montgomery, Ala-

the March's chief architect. To devise a march of at least one-quarter of a million participants and to coordinate the various sometimes frac-

In his speech, "A Time to Break Silence," King addresses those who questioned his anti-war stance. "Why are you speaking about war, Dr. King? Why are you joining the voices of dissent? Peace and civil rights don't mix, they say."

On January 16, 2004, J. William T. Youngs, a history professor at Eastern Washington University, recalled hearing a speech King gave at Berkeley in May 1967. "King began slowly, arguing that the Vietnam War was wrong in itself and wrong also because it got in the way of efforts to fight poverty and discrimination. [His words] resonate today. 'We are on the side of the wealthy and the secure,' King said, 'while we create a hell for the poor.' And so Halliburton overcharges \$61 million for oil shipments to Iraq, and wealthy Americans enjoy huge tax breaks while social programs languish. And how could King have known almost four decades ago how we would trivialize France, Germany, and the entire United Nations with bogus claims about weapons of mass destruction in 2003? Here is what he said in 1967: 'Americans are forcing even their friends into becoming their enemies. It is curious that the Americans, who calculate so carefully on the possibilities of military victory do not realize that in the process they are incurring deep psychological and political defeat.' Remembering that moment thirty-six years ago, when Martin Luther King spoke these very words at Berkeley, I still recall being transfixed by his presence. I still remember his amazing conviction. I still remember seeing the actual sweat on the actual brows of that good, great man. 'Now it should be incandescently clear,' King said, 'that no one who has any concern for the integrity and life of America today can ignore the present war. If America's soul becomes totally poisoned, part of the autopsy must read 'Vietnam.''" Alas, today, as we Americans accept so sheepishly the news that we were led so dishonestly to war in the Middle East, Martin Luther King would likely say, "If America's soul becomes totally poisoned, part of the autopsy must read 'Iraq.'"

What would Dr. King's thoughts be on the war in Iraq? Would he feel the same way about the "war on terrorism" that he felt



bama" (*Bayard Rustin, Civil Right Leader*, by Buss Haughton, 1999.)

King had previous academic exposure to Gandhi but, according to Rustin biographer Jervis Anderson, it was Rustin who prevailed on King to dispense with armed guards and to embrace nonviolent action as the trademark of the budding movement. It was also Rustin who forged links to radicals in the North.

There was always nervousness among King's advisors about Rustin's communist past and his homosexuality, but his organizing skills and political savvy proved indispensable. According to Anderson, Rustin "conceived and charted" the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, along with Ella Baker and Stanley Levison. This was to serve as the organizational mechanism for King's ascent to national prominence.

Over the next decade, Rustin remained a close advisor to King, especially during moments of crisis. ("Bayard Rustin and the Rise and Decline of the Black Protest Movement," Stephen Steinberg, *New Politics*, Summer 1997)

"Arguably, the high point of Bayard Rustin's political career was the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom which took place on August 28, 1963, the place of Dr. Martin Luther King's stirring 'I Have a Dream' speech. Rustin was by all accounts

tious civil rights organizations that played a part in it was a Herculean feat of mobilization." (Haughton)


Rustin provided King with the tools, but it was King who built the movement. His strategies are spelled out in the encyclopedic entry from www.stanford.edu: "In King's 'Letter from a Birmingham Jail,' he laid out the four basic steps within a campaign using nonviolent direct action: (1) collection of facts to determine whether injustices are alive; (2) negotiation; (3) self-purification; (4) direct action. Through these steps, King concluded, the necessary level of constructive nonviolent tension would be created."

"Nonviolent direct action seeks to create such crises and establish such creative tension that a community that has constantly refused to negotiate is forced to confront the issue. It seeks to dramatize the case that can no longer be ignored," King wrote.


"In Birmingham and Albany, protesters trained in the discipline of nonviolent resistance responded to the violence of police dogs, Billy clubs and fire hoses with nonviolence. Their refusal to react violently aided the cause, creating a crisis in Birmingham and creating moral indignation throughout the world."

It was this resolve and resistance that King brought to his protests against the war in Vietnam.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
1929-1968



"When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir."
—At the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington, August 28, 1963



TOLEDO FEDERATION OF TEACHERS
AFT, AFL-CIO

Francine Lawrence, President — Sylvia Washburn, Vice President

(Continued on Page 8)

Martin Luther King, Jr.

(Continued from Page 7)

about the "war on communism" in Southeast Asia?

"In an era where a federal holiday has served to both commemorate and sanitize the history of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., white America has forgotten just how radical and controversial a figure he was in his time," writes Geov Parrish in a January 2004 article for WorkingForChange.com titled, "Martin Luther King: Terrorist?"

Parrish makes his point graphically. "Let's not mince words. Were Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. alive today, he would be at risk for being imprisoned indefinitely, without charges or access to legal counsel, as an 'enemy combatant.' He

as providing financial support for terrorism. Church groups' tax exemptions would be lifted; records would be seized. Charges would be brought, perhaps under federal RICO statutes or Patriot Act provisions. The FBI harassment that hounded King throughout his career would today be fiercer and subject to no judicial oversight."

Perhaps Parrish is right. It is merely speculation that King would even protest the war in Iraq. However, given his commitment to nonviolent resistance and his historic anti-Vietnam war activities at the end of his life, it is very likely that he would be part of the peace movement today.



would be decried by powerful figures inside and outside government as, at worst, a domestic terrorist, at best a publicity seeking menace whose criticisms of America gave comfort to our unseen enemies. King would not have the opportunity to engage in repeated nonviolent civil disobediences. Media would be quickly bored by the spectacles; a nation accustomed to police violence against protesters yawns at the tanks, rubber bullets, chemical weapons, and 'preventive' arrests now commonly used against those who employ the same tactics King himself once used. The felony charges against King would put him away for years – if he were allowed to stand trial at all. The powerful black religious networks that produced King and so many other courageous civil rights leaders would be attacked by federal prosecu-

Those last years of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and political career rarely get mentioned in the many celebrations that take place in his memory.

Jeff Cohen and Norman Solomon made the following observations about King's treatment by the media:

"It's become a TV ritual: every year in mid-January, around the time of Martin Luther King's birthday, we get perfunctory network news reports about 'the slain civil rights leader.' The remarkable thing about this annual review of King's life is that several years – his last years – are totally missing. What TV viewers see is a closed loop of familiar file footage: King battling desegregation in Birmingham (1963); reciting his dream of racial harmony at the rally in Washington (1963); marching for voting rights in Selma, Alabama (1965); and, finally, lying

dead on the motel balcony in Memphis (1968).

"An alert viewer might notice that the chronology jumps from 1965 to 1968. Yet King did not take a sabbatical near the end of his life. In fact, he was speaking and organizing as diligently as ever. Almost all of those speeches were filmed or taped. But they're not shown on TV. Why?"

"It's because national news media have never come to terms with what Martin Luther King, Jr. stood for during his final years. In the early 1960s, when King focused his challenge on legalized racial discrimination in the South, most major media were his allies.

"Network TV and national publications graphically showed the police dogs and bullwhips and cattle prods used against Southern blacks who sought the right to vote or to eat at a public lunch counter. But after passage of civil rights acts in 1964 and 1965, King began challenging the nation's fundamental priorities. He maintained that civil rights laws were empty without 'human rights' – including economic rights.

"By 1967, King had also become the country's most prominent opponent of the Vietnam War. You haven't heard the 'Beyond Vietnam' speech on network news retrospectives, but national media heard it loud and clear back in 1967 – and loudly denounced it.

"Time magazine called it 'demagogic slander that sounded like a script for Radio Hanoi.' The Washington Post patronized that "King has diminished his usefulness to his cause, his country, his people."

"In his last months, King was organizing the most militant project of his life: the Poor People's Campaign. He crisscrossed the country to assemble "a multiracial army of the poor" that would descend on Washington – engaging in nonviolent civil disobedience at the Capitol, if need be – until Congress enacted a poor people's bill of rights. Reader's Digest warned of an 'insurrection.'

"King's economic bill of rights called for massive government jobs programs to rebuild America's cities. He saw a crying need to confront a Congress that had demonstrated its 'hostility to the poor' – appropriating 'military funds with alacrity and generosity,' but providing "poverty funds with miserliness."

How familiar that sounds today." ("The Martin Luther King You Don't See on TV," by Jeff Cohen and Norman Solomon, 1995).

No, there won't be any youths reciting King's speeches protesting the Vietnam War or speculation about how things might have changed in this country had the Poor People's March taken place in 1968, but there are those who remember all of King's life, including those years we never talk about on King Day.

"This year, even more

than in the past, it has become essential to remember that King did far more than have a dream. Along with Mohandas Gandhi, he was one of the two most internationally revered symbols of nonviolence in the 20th century. King is not a legend because he believed in diversity trainings and civic ceremonies. He is remembered because he took serious risks and, as the Quakers say, spoke truth to power. Unfortunately, we don't hear his powerful indictment of poverty, the Vietnam War, and

the military-industrial complex. Today, as American soldiers fight two major wars on the far side of the world, and the U.S. military wades quietly into a half dozen more – all in non-white countries – they're more timely than ever. But it's not likely we'll hear much on the networks of King pronouncing the spiritual death of a country that would spend so much to kill and so little to help people live. That's a little too touchy nowadays." (Parrish)



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A City United. A City Divided. In the Aftermath of the Death of Tarika Wilson

By Vickie Shurelds
Sojourner's Truth Reporter



"It is necessary to understand that Black Power is a cry of disappointment. The Black Power slogan did not spring full grown from the head of some philosophical Zeus. It was born from the wounds of despair and disappointment. It is a cry of daily hurt and persistent pain." - MLK, Jr.

As the media arrived to cover city council as usual on Monday, January 7, it was obvious this was no ordinary meeting. Throngs of people gathered outside the city building waiting to get in. Normally, the set up has plenty of room—even during the recent open hearings set for discussion of a possible

Shawnee Indian-run Entertainment Complex there were still plenty of seats.

But, not tonight. There was an overflow of residents with things to say and, as the coolness of the winter evening began to set in, the heat from tempers began to rise. A security guard had locked the door; the room

where city council is held was already at capacity. "This is ridiculous! They knew we were coming!" and other such comments rang from the crowd.

Inside the building, council members discussed protocol and the need to hear every voice that had a desire to speak out; there were housekeeping issues that had to be addressed—the swearing in of new officers.

The decision was made to begin the meeting going through all the usual formalities, get new council members seated, table the rest of the agenda until the following evening, then adjourn and reconvene at Lima Senior High School's Auditorium for "Privilege of the Floor." As arrangements were being made with the superintendent of Lima City Schools, the meeting began. The crowd outside was told of the plan and began to return to their cars for the change in venue.

City council members were asked not to speak. To allow the residents to voice their concerns while keeping their personal opinions to themselves, some council agreed; others did not. They were asked to remain quiet until the report was released from the state regarding the shooting death of Tarika Wilson, a 26 year old mother of 6 who had been shot during the performance of a high risk search warrant on January 4.

As residents arrived in the parking lot at the school, several noticed movement on the roof of the buildings. The Lima SWAT team was in position looking down on the gathering speakers. "Here we come in good faith, and they have snipers on the roofs of our school! We came in peace, and they are ready to gun us down like dogs!" Willie Manley vowed to ask them face to face. "How can we trust you, when you can't trust us?"

The mood seemed to change as people continued to walk into the school many taking a final glance at the rooftops in disbelief, shaking their heads and commenting to friends.

The first speaker called was Rev. CM Manley who promptly invited 6th Ward Councilman Derry Glenn to come to the microphone. The entire council began to look at one another, and Pastor



Manley once again invited Glenn to address the residents of the 6th Ward. Glenn spoke with passion about the choices that could have been made that day, many of which may have spared Wilson's life. "They could have called me and said, 'Derry, we think this is going on in your house.' I would have gone to the house and taken care of this."

In all, 34 speakers spoke their piece to Lima City Council, Mayor David Berger and Chief Greg Garlock, all of whom were in attendance.

Julius Laws - If the warrant was executed for the home and not for Anthony Terry, why was it necessary for another warrant to be issued - (a warrant was issued for re-entry to the home that evening, family members waited outside the home for four hours waiting for information regarding Tarika Wilson and her baby as the police made arrangements for a new warrant) There was, on September 13, money allocated to Lima Police Department targeting particular black areas, they are already targeting our neighborhoods. If there has been a long term investigation they had to have known there was a woman and six babies in the house. Why was it a high risk warrant? Did the police expect guns, other violence? What made this a "high risk" case?

Mozella Fisher - There was no cause for this - Police demonstrated no respect for the family - telling the mother to shut up and step back when she was trying to find out information regarding her child. Police Department

needs to be better organized, and have more training about how to deal with people.

Vickie Johnson (Aunt of Tarika Wilson) - It's wrong because they target the blacks. I'm white and my niece was half white, half black. My question is: Why were tazers not used? If officers felt like they were in some danger from a woman and her children, a tazer could have been used, you didn't have to shoot her down.

Claytonia Logan - Thank you for listening but not answering question. Was the fact she was 50 percent black is that why she was killed? You couldn't stand the fact that Tarika had that bit of black inside her? I was in the military, and I learned first about procedures. Chief, what about your people learning procedures? Can you at least answer that? Come on, Chief, holler at the people.

Bishop Richard Cox - Executive Assistant to the National Southern Christian Leadership Council - you may not answer tonight; but you will answer the questions, and soon! There is going to be a JENA in Lima, Ohio - we will use direct action non-violently - because what's been going on in Lima has been going on for a long time. We are insisting on an investigation conducted by the FBI - these people and Tarika Wilson's family have a right to know what happened that night - No JUSTICE, NO PEACE.

(Continued on Page 12)



WE REVERENCE YOUR BIRTHDAY MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

"WE SHALL OVERCOME SOME DAY" WE SHALL NEVER FORGET THE SACRIFICE OF LIFE OF THIS FAMILY, SO THAT WE, BLACKS, COULD HAVE A BETTER LIFE. WE ARE PROUD OF THE "KINGS" AND OUR RACE!!

In Memoriam:

Martin L. King, Jr.	1929-1968
Coretta S. King	1927-2006
Yolanda King	1956-2007

"There is neither Jews nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is nether male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus" Gal. 3:28

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The NOBMA MLK Basketball Classic – Stars Galore

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Northwest Ohio Black Media Association's (NOBMA) annual MLK Basketball Classic is aptly named, particularly this year. Starting at 1 p.m. on Monday, January 21, Scott High School will take on defending Indiana Class 4A state champion East Chicago Central High School.

In the second game, starting at 3 p.m., the defending Toledo City League champion Libbey High School Cowboys will their hands full with Saginaw High School, the defending Michigan Class A state champion.

East Chicago is led by Angel Garcia, ranked 27th overall in the high school class of 2008 by Rivals.com. Garcia committed to the University of Memphis in Sep-



tember. Memphis is currently ranked number two in the national polls.

East Chicago is listed number six by USA Today in their Midwest regional

boys' basketball teams' rankings.

Meanwhile, Saginaw is currently number six in the national rankings with a record of 8-0. Led by Cortney Washington, Saginaw seems poised to repeat as state champions.

Libbey's William Buford, however, is the biggest individual star playing next Monday. Buford, who has committed to The Ohio State University, is ranked by Rivals.com as the 19th best high school prospect in the nation.

CCMT & Mobile Meals Begin New Program

Special to The Truth

A new program to feed hungry children at Pope John Paul II School began last week with the debut of the "Weekender Program." In collaboration with Mobile Meals of Toledo, the program provides a brown paper bag full of non-perishable, nutritional food for children to take home on the weekends when meal resources are scarce.

"We found that many children were so hungry on Monday mornings. They weren't getting enough food to eat on the weekends and they had a difficult time concentrating in class," said Sister Mary Carol Gregory, Director of Central City Ministry of Toledo (CCMT), a consortium which operates four schools including Pope John Paul II. "The teachers have to stock energy bars and other healthy snacks to hold them over until lunch is served."

CCMT received an \$18,000 grant from Ronald McDonald House Charities

of Northwest Ohio to begin a pilot program for 146 students on the free and reduced lunch plan at Pope John Paul II. The school is located on Lagrange and Warsaw in North Toledo. Mobile Meals charges \$5 per student per week which includes the food and labor. "We are doing this for CCMT at cost," said Maureen Stevens, Executive Director of Mobile Meals. "We are happy to participate in such a worthwhile and necessary project."

Mobile Meals orders the food, assembles the bags, and delivers them to Pope John Paul II each week. On Friday, the participating children take a food bag and slip it discreetly in their backpack to take home for the weekend. Last week, the bag contained canned spaghetti with meatballs, chicken and rice soup, two puddings, diced peaches, a juice box, cookies, crackers, a granola bar, a banana, and a bowl of cereal. All of

the food is packaged in easy-to-open containers.

"The children loved the food. They were so excited," said Laura Cousino, Food Services Coordinator at Pope John Paul II School. "Many of the children had a big thank you for their weekend bag and gave a thumbs-up to everything they found inside it."

The Weekender Program will provide a bag of food for each eligible child every Friday until the end of May. If the pilot program succeeds, CCMT hopes to expand the program to include the other three campuses.

"Our intention is to feed the bellies of these children so that we can better feed their minds," said Sr. Carol. "How can children succeed in school if they are hungry?"

Central City Ministry of Toledo (CCMT) provides a faith-based education to more than 600 children at four Catholic elementary schools in the central city.

Vivian Gregory NTAf Great Lakes Lung Transplant Fund

Vivian Gregory is raising money to pay for uninsured medical expenses associated with her lung transplant. Vivian lives in Toledo, OH and is being treated at University of Michigan Medical Center.

Vivian has chosen to fundraise with National Transplant Assistance Fund (NTAF) in part because NTAF provides both tax-deductibility and fiscal accountability to her contributors. Contributors can be sure that funds contributed will be used only to pay or reimburse medically-related expenses.

To make a contribution to Vivian's fundraising campaign, go to www.transplantfund.org <<http://www.transplantfund.org/>> .

For more information, please contact NTAF at 800-642-8399

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First Step FastTrac Training Schedule

Tuesdays, February 19 – May 6, 2008
 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
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Feb. 19 - Class 1

Introduction to First Step FastTrac: Define personal vision and goals and introduction of Model Business Reality Check

Feb. 26 - Class 2

Communicating the Business Concept: Transform business ideas into business concept statements

March 4 - Class 3: Kristen Cook-Consumer Credit Counseling (CCC) Services

Gathering Information for Feasibility: Feedback on business concept statements and consider personal financial readiness

March 11 - Class 4

Products and Service: Describe product/services including features, benefits, and uniqueness

March 18 - Class 5

Market Analysis - Industry and Competition: Focus on opportunities in the industry and evaluate competition

March 25 - Class 6

Market Analysis - Market Segments and Strategies: Define target markets and develop marketing strategies

April 1 - Class 7

Price and Profitability - Pricing: Pricing strategies and the affect prices have on profitability; break-even analysis

April 8 - Class 8

Price and Profitability - Profits: Difference between profits and cash; determining start-up costs

April 15 - Class 9

Price and Profitability - Cash Flow: Using the Cash Flow Report to evaluate feasibility; key legal issues; sales projection tools

April 22 - Class 10

Price and Profitability - Cash Flow: Finalizing the Cash Flow Report and key accounting issues

April 29 - Class 11

Plan for Further Action - Next Steps: Tools to complete the feasibility plan and key financial resources

May 6 - Class 12

Celebrating Accomplishments!
Graduation and Executive Summary Presentation

Toledo Community Foundation Awards Grant To Local Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools

Special to The Truth

The Board of Trustees of the Toledo Community Foundation has approved a grant to the **Center of Hope Freedom Schools** (affiliated with the Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools) in the amount of \$42,750.00. These funds will be used to support the local Freedom Schools' programs, which provide critical summer and after school enrichment to area youth.

The Toledo Community Foundation grant will fund all costs associated with operating the five-week summer enrichment program for Toledo's youth. The University of Toledo will provide the facilities for the 2008 Freedom Schools.

"With these vital funds awarded by the Toledo Community Foundation, our **Center of Hope Freedom Schools** will be able to continue its necessary work which is deeply rooted in the education and enrichment of our community's youth," said Tracee L. Perryman-Stewart, director of the COH Freedom School.

"The Toledo Community Foundation believes in the future of our children in this community. Our Foundation's grant award to this program demonstrates that commitment," said Keith Burwell, president of the Toledo Community Foundation.

The Toledo Community

Foundation, Inc., is a public charitable organization created by citizens of our community to enrich the quality of life for individuals and families in our area. In existence since 1973, the Foundation now has over 400 funds with assets of approximately \$147 million. The Foundation provides philanthropic services for individuals, families, businesses and corporations to meet their charitable giving needs. For more information on the Foundation, please visit www.toledocf.org

Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools' programs provide critical summer and after-school enrichment through a model curriculum that supports children and families around five essential components: high quality academic enrichment, part and family involvement, civic engagement and social action, intergenerational leadership development and nutrition, health and mental health.

In the summer of 1964, the first Freedom School was founded in Mississippi as part of the "Mississippi Freedom Summer Project." College-age young leaders spent their summer conducting education programs for black children and teenagers, and modeled for Mississippi children their responsibility to become a force for change in their state and nation. Over 40 years later, in 2007, the Center of Hope in Toledo, Ohio proudly joined over 100 other sites around the country in founding its own Freedom School as part of the Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools' program.

Because of the generous support of the Toledo Community Foundation, young people in Toledo have an opportunity to enrich their education, participate in positive character development activities, and work closely with servant leader role models through the Center of Hope Freedom School. Children, particularly minority youth, continue to face risks and extraordinary challenges to their future success.

The Center for Hope and the Toledo Community Foundation are committed to strengthening our young people and providing them with the tools they need to become our future leaders. Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools' programs are nurturing environments that promote children's strengths and abilities.

For more information on the Center of Hope Freedom School, please visit www.centerofhopebaptist.org, or contact Tracee L. Perryman-Stewart, executive director at tperryman@sbcglobal.net

Volunteers Needed To Help with Earned Income Tax Credit Program

Again this year, United Way is joining the Lucas County Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Coalition in the effort to help working families take advantage of the EITC program.

EITC is a tax benefit for people who earn low or moderate incomes. The refundable credit can put money back into the hands of families and individuals who qualify and apply for it.

However, in order to assist families in applying for EITC, **United Way is in need of volunteers** with basic math and computer skills. People interested in volunteering are required to attend a brief training, monitored by the IRS, and are then certified to help with free tax preparation at various locations within the county. Trainings are available online or by attending a class (weekday, weeknight and weekend options available).

To sign up for one of the trainings or to learn more call United Way 2-1-1 by simply dialing 2-1-1 or visit www.unitedwaytoledo.org/EITC.



Janice, Hubert's Daughter

“Hospice of Northwest Ohio turned my doubt into trust.”

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

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

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

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

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

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



HOSPICE
OF NORTHWEST OHIO

Answers for Living the Last Months of Life.SM

The Lima Truth

January 16, 2008

The Sojourner's Truth

Page 12

A City United...

(Continued from Page 9)

Tarika Wilson. I give you my word on the soul of Emmitt Till, Martin Luther King, Jr., Brother Malcolm X and others that have died in an unjust world, that we will seek and accomplish justice in this situation.

Pastor Manley – There are a lot of unanswered questions. And you can't cover them all up. We will find out the answers. Remember, if it don't come out in the wash, it will come out in the rinse.

Pastor LaMont Monford – We can only feel injustice, because we have no answer. We're at a point – if we don't get this right, Lima will never be the same. Whether real or perceived, there is a divide – My mother was murdered and all we've ever known was that it was a white man that did it. We promise you; and you see we didn't get it right again because we're back here in this same place 30 years later. The way to honor her (Tarika) is with integrity, intelligence, be sure you're thinking. Organize, stop looking at one another – united we stand. We won't let any body rest – the truth will set you free. And a word about the ministers. We may not say much but don't think we're not doing anything, we have to work things like we work them, but we get things done.

Demond Liles – The police are focused on parking tickets, giving tickets for loud music – yet, my nephew was killed last year – we've never heard anything after words – I believe we're here now, and we will have to come back again.

Manrita Jones – I, too am a mother of six, Mayor Berger, you say these men are – highly skilled? I agree with Tarika's aunt. Why weren't tazers used? I just hope everybody stays together that's the only way we're going to stop this from happening again.

Francis Jones – in my 50 years in Lima, this is the third time a parent sits looking at this city asking why is my child dead. Ms. Ricks, JC Brown, Tarika Wilson ... to me, when they say "investigation" that means nothing is going to change. We pay taxes, we live in the 6th ward, we work! And all the drugs in this town are not on the south end of Lima.

Quintell Wilson – I'm still waiting to hear "victim" attached to Tarika Wilson's name – 7th round

Lonnie Hopson – Mr. Glenn, we feel you but we've been getting this kind of sh** for 50 years. It is about time it stops. We're not going to go away. I'm black 365 days



a year, not just in February. This town is heading for disaster if we don't get this one right.

Kenny McGriff – I want to talk about how police mishandle situations. On Sunday morning, July 1st, I heard gunshots, so I ran around the back of a building. When I thought it was safe to continue on my way, I walked back on to the sidewalk. The police told me to get down on the ground ... I'm a big guy, so the ground is far away, and I'm not as young as I used to be, so I guess I wasn't moving fast enough, so an officer pushed my head to the pavement, then they tazed me, charged me with disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, obstructing official business. I was just walking down the street to meet a friend.

Lorenzo White – I've been a resident here all my life – what are we doing? By listening to us without answering, are you trying to appease the community in the hopes it will just go away? The City charter allows the council to oversee the administration. Do your civic duty as officers of the city. We put you in those positions so you can make sure everyone is doing their jobs. The administration is responsible to you – do your duty everything will be ok.

Marvin Little – This is not black or white issue – it's about safety first. Protect and serve. Uphold – don't investigate – the law has been broken. These officers are supposed to be trained to know what situation they are

walking into. It is obvious – procedure was not followed and it looks bad for all of you.

Rev. James C. White, Jr. – Speak the truth and nothing but. We have, over the past year, watched everything happen to my people. What is there to investigate?

Do what the law says – this was first degree murder. How can you just put them on leave on these people's money and they have to pay for him? Why is someone on vacation when they should be in jail.

Patricia White – Where is there peace, order and justice. Whenever I come home I see that things are still the same – the buddy/buddy system must go – if justice is not for all – there will be no peace.

Elton "Louie" Cannon – If you wanted to arrest Anthony Terry – he goes to Bingo three or four nights a week; if you were watching him, you knew that – why not arrest him then? If they had investigated they knew there were kids in the house – you passed them every day – why didn't they arrest him?

Brenda Johnson – I make a pledge that we will not let this go until we find out what happened – on that night, I had to take them up to the police department, we asked the officer there where was the man you arrested. The officer said, 'he's back in booking, but we're going to have to let him go, because we didn't find nothing.' The sister I had with me fell on the floor crying saying then you killed my sister for nothing!" And I want to ask this: after every drug raid in the city of Lima on the evening news there is a table, I don't know where the table is at – somewhere in the police department; there's this table where they proudly show the drugs, money, guns that they got when they raided the

house – where is it at? Where's the table, Chief? If you're truthful – there wasn't nothing. We've watched you do this over and over again. We're tired now. There will be no rest in Lima until we see a change. You can be moved, too. Derry, we got your back. No Justice, No Peace.

Valerie Glenn – I'm Malcolm Glenn's sister. My brother died while in custody of Lima Law Enforcement, and no one has ever given us any answers as to why. We have a webpage now Justice4Limaworldpress.com We're here to make a change

Candice Parrish – I believe the drugs were placed in the house – we've been looking all day for a shirt for Tarika to be buried in. We can't use Rest in Peace. How could she Rest in Peace? We want to print a shirt that says: Here is Tarika Wilson; do not pass her by

Willie Manley – Chief? It's about trust. Do you trust the black community? SWAT team on the roof, Mr. President, are there more SWAT members behind the curtain with guns aimed at us as we sit here talking to you?

(Continued on Page 14)

Lima: Form a Committee, File a Law Suit

To the victims of the Lima Police killing, you need to form a committee and raise funds for an expert witness to review the data and evidence so that you can file a multi-million dollar lawsuit against both the shooting officer, the police department and the City of Lima.

Unless the police can show justifiable reason as why they would purportedly re-enter the home after they have seized the object of their warrant, their actions are suspect to say the least. Understand, regrettably, that police target minority communities as being both vulnerable and hostile and, also, if they are called on the carpet to answer for their police misconduct, they know that in all likelihood, the affected community will "shout loud but shout short" and that will be the end of it.

This killing was preventable if you had police officers who were not trigger happy and itching for some "combustion." An unarmed woman holding a one-year old child and with no visible evidence of being an immediate threat to the officers, poses no danger unless you view black people as inherently hostile and dangerous.

Again, I can not emphasize enough the need for immediate capital to obtain the needed expert witness and funds to prosecute this killing. Cities and corporations understand two things: [1] adverse and prolonged publicity [2] lawsuits that produce monetary verdicts.

People of Lima, give no rest or quarter until justice is done.

Lafe Tolliver, Esq.



Are You Behind on Your Mortgage?

We may be able to Help!



The Fair Housing Center, through a grant from the Office of Housing and Community Partnerships at the Ohio Department of Development, can offer free emergency mortgage assistance (including escrowed taxes and insurance) for up to three months back payments if you meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Your loan has predatory terms (high interest rate, over-inflated value, pre-payment penalty, etc.)
- ✓ You are at or below 50% of the Area Median Income (see chart below for income guidelines)
- ✓ Your home is owner-occupied
- ✓ Your home is in Lucas County
- ✓ You can prove that once you receive assistance, you are able to resume and maintain your mortgage payments
- ✓ You commit to 24 months of free Financial Counseling Services, including a class on Successful Money Management (provided at no cost to you)

50% of Area Median Income (Effective March 2007)		
Family Size	Maximum Annual Household Income	Maximum Monthly Household Income
1	20,600	1,717
2	23,550	1,962
3	26,500	2,208
4	29,450	2,454
5	31,800	2,650
6	34,150	2,846
7	36,500	3,042
8	38,850	3,237

Assistance is limited to three months of back payments (including escrowed taxes and insurance). A maximum of \$2,100 per household may be offered.



For more information contact the Fair Housing Center at
(419) 243-6163 or via e-mail at fhctr@aol.com
432 N. Superior St., Toledo, Ohio 43604-1416
419/243-6163 • Fax: 419/243-3536 • TDD: 419/243-2135
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**U.G.E. Presents
SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE 2-2-08 @
The Peacock Cafe**

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



Ever been to a night-club and you're there and it's lovely, the D.J. is dropping each and everyone one of your favorite joints and then..... right when the dance floor is getting packed, right when things are getting interesting ... **BAM!**

Your favorite Young Jeezy or Lil Wayne song is abruptly cut off, so the D.J. can introduce some local rappers you've NEVER HEARD OF AND DON'T REALLY CARE TO HEAR!!

Has that ever happened? Hell, I know it's happened.... because at various times I and all the folks I know have BEEN that un-invited local artist faced with winning over a possible hostile crowd who only wants to get back to their club joints.

It's tricky putting on some new unheard of act right in the middle of a club happily dancing the night away to T.I., Jay Z and 50 Cent.

Well, the label I run and the music I produce has been put in that tricky position a lot.

U.G.E. has been fortun-

nate... Darron Scott and Aye Dee have turned some of the most un-assuming crowds into fans but it's not always easy.

We've done a few shows at Shadow Lounge and other clubs where the D.J. and the promoter wanted us there, but the crowd was like "who in the hell?"

But after we do our thing, it's mostly love. Even still, me and my Co-CEO/ Co- Producer Adonis... we decided to push the envelope even further by PURPOSELY giving our label/artists a chance to win over a crowd on our own terms. So with some help from The Peacock Caf, we introduce the following:

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE 2-2-08 @ The Peacock Caf

This will be NOTHING like the typical club scenario.

THIS WILL BE A NITE COMPLETELY DEDICATED TO INDEPENDENT MUSIC.

As performers or spectators, my label has seen this work dozens of times in other cities.

In Bowling Green, when my boy Stress throws a show... it's underground/local hip-hop ALL NITE LONG!!! - And I mean all damn night.

Like for nearly four hours, with just a few breaks in between. And the crowd loves it!

Now how is it that Bowling Green, a city barely a 10th of Toledo's size can be more open minded to

new music? I'm not willing to believe that the only way my label can showcase all we have to offer is if we go back to Michigan or to Ohio's outskirts.

I believe there are people right here in the Glass City that may be just a little sick of club hopping and would enjoy a night full of the best R&B and hip-hop this area has

feel. Onasis (formerly Dangerous Ones) will be doing what two 21-year old cats from West Toledo do best, holding it down for the block while proving they are the one of the most talented rap acts in the entire city. Check for "Sip A Lil Bit" and the new hit "Bopperz" as well as their featured performances alongside their U.G.E.

THIS WILL BE A NITE COMPLETELY DEDICATED TO INDEPENDENT MUSIC.

to offer. We've got quite a night planned for those of you enlightened open-minded enough to rock with some original music.

To keep it all the way one hunned, you and everybody you know probably raps/sings/produces.

It's kinda sad these days, because talent doesn't even enter the equation.

People are picking up microphones simply because they have nothing better to do these days.

But trust me - we are hitting you from ALL ANGLES at Saturday Night Live 2-28-08.

My company is blessed to boast some of the best songwriting, producing and stage talent in the area.

Aye Dee will be singing crowd favorites like "Grown Ass Man" (the man's anthem)

"Stay" (one of the realest relationship songs ever) and the new banger "Get Cool."

Darron Scott will be debuting new material for R&B lovers and both he and Aye Dee have duets with female singers that are sure to remind you how R&B used to make you

lablemates. New U.G.E. acts will be getting their first taste of a full out roster showcase and we have even more surprises in store.

Special invited guests include Sstres (underground hip-hop), Yasu (R&B/Soul) and Glass City favorites...

Da Basix (official boom bap hip-hop for the real headz).

D.J. Mpress is on the 1s and 2s and after the show, we gonna get into everybody's favorite hustles and all that and have a good night.

So, those of you who need to go to the club to hear the same stuff you heard last week...do that.

But, for those who want something new and fresh... those of you who love music and you want to see the best this area has to offer.

U.G.E. Presents Saturday Night Live 2-2-08

Peacock Caf. Doors at 8pm Show begins at 9 p.m. \$ 3 admission www.myspace.com/undergodzent

glasscitytruth@yahoo.com peace.

Area Residents Invited to Free Writers' Workshop At Owens Community College During Spring Semester

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

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

The first writing session will be held on Jan. 16. Owens' Toledo-area Campus is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township.

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

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

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

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(Continued from Page 12)

Demetria Sanders – my brother's children, I've never been arrested. I've never been in any trouble. My nephew moved here from California – he's had weapons pulled on him. My brother went to court at 1:30 – died at 10:27 that same

evening. I believe he was not provided medical attention in a timely manner. You are not the only ones with access, we can do research, too. We need answers.

James Dillard – Here's a question that could be answered tonight. Derry Glenn

is a man highly respected in this community, established – why was he not notified?

Mayor Berger – Before a raid, no notice is provided. We are not notified. The police visited his house.

Cherie Banks – I am the daughter of a former police

officer – served 20+ years – died of leukemia – Lima, do not let this go. Tormented in this town.

Oscar Jones – Why was Derry's name released? It was to discredit him. I'm tired of the Lima Police Department. An officer told me, "If

y'all could shoot straight, we wouldn't have to do the paperwork." We need answers and need to be treated fairly. Remember this: Respect – give it to get it. Where is the remorse? I see you all just sitting there, where is the remorse?

(Continued on Page 16)

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CLASSIFIEDS

The University of Toledo CWA Position

Job# 997411 Secretary 1, Wright Center PVIC:
The incumbent will provide administrative support for the Wright Center for Photovoltaics Innovation and Commercialization (PVIC) and serve as secretary for PVIC's co-Director, PVIC's Business Manager, and the NEG Chair and Eitel Institute Director. This is a three year, grant funded position.

The successful applicant must possess one year of secretarial experience, typing of 50 WPM and computer experience, excellent customer service skills and a high school diploma or equivalent. The position requires a successful score on the typing and Secretary 1 civil service tests for those not already in the classification. Preferred qualifications include: Familiarity with budgets, office procedures, and editing manuscripts and technical proposals; the ability to work independently and balance and prioritize multiple tasks; knowledge of tracking budget expenditures according to grants; working knowledge of MS Outlook, Access and Excel; able to organize and schedule meetings, and maintain calendars. Full time. Pay Grade 26.

To apply, submit a cover letter (include position title and job # 997411), a resume, as well as the names and contact information for three professional references to: The University of Toledo, Human Resources Department, Toledo, Ohio 43606-3390; Fax (419) 530-1490; or email recruit@utoledo.edu, which is preferred. Use only one method of application. Resumes must be received by: Friday, January 18, 2008. **The University of Toledo is an Equal Access, Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer and Educator.**

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EOE

Democrats

(Continued from Page 4)

Dinkins holding an 18-point lead over white candidate Rudy Giuliani. Four days before the election, a new poll showed that lead to have shrunk, but still standing at 14 points. On the day of the election, Dinkins prevailed by only two points.

In 2006 the Democrats in Ohio swept the state in a land slide carrying every state wide office except for three, two of whom happened to be their only state-wide black candidates Barbara Sykes for Auditor of State and Ben Espy for Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court.

"But they love us." We support them to the tune of 90 percent plus in elections nation wide. Why we even gave as much as 95 percent of our support to the man we call the first black president - Bill Clinton (by the way what did he say about Barack Obama?)

They invite us into their party with open arms but won't be honest about their lack of support for our candidates.

"Oh but Republicans, they are the enemy we don't care if they have a proven record of sensitivity or even proactive support for our issues, they can't be trusted we must vote Democratic. We must vote Democratic. We must vote Democratic."

Well to my knowledge the Wilder effect has never reared its ugly head in Republican politics. True we have fewer minority candidates than the Democrats but we are honest about our support and when we say we will vote for you we do.

OK settle down. I am not suggesting that in every instance that black Democrats are subject to the Wilder effect. What I am saying is that we must pay attention to these events and decide once again whether 90 plus percent of our vote should go in one direction. Can we be as comfortable with a party that says what's politically correct but stabs us in the back when they go to the poles?

Should we not look to vote based on the person not on the party because when is all said and done that is true political power. Not to mention good common sense. Don't let events like the New Hampshire's primaries go unnoticed in your decisions to label one party as racist and another as your friend. Make an effort to understand a powerful voter is one that isn't swayed simply by a smile and a pat on the back. An educated voter looks at the results of their loyalties not just the promises.

Ed. Note: To clarify a few points raised in Scotland's column, in New Hampshire's Democratic primary, Senator Barack Obama received virtually the same percentage of votes that polls reflected he would receive. Senator Hillary Clinton, on the other hand, received more than her polling figures would have indicated meaning that undecideds probably tended to vote overwhelmingly with the New York senator. Obama's numbers did not change dramatically from his polling figures.

In Iowa, on the other hand, the result was exactly the opposite. Obama captured about seven percentage points more than the polling had indicated and Clinton remained static.

As for the Bradley/Wilder/Dinkins (Tom Bradley ran for governor in California and this race started the research on this subject) effect, it should be noted that those were general elections in which both Democratic and Republican white voters could be held culpable for changing their minds.

Virginia, in particular, can be categorized as a predominantly Republican state since the 1964 presidential election. No Democratic nominee for president has carried the state since Lyndon Johnson did in that election.

In Memoriam

"O, Reasonova!"



Thomas A. Reasonover

01/15/51 ~ 06/18/92

A City United. A City Divided. In the Aftermath of the Death of Tarika Wilson

(Continued from Page 14)

Nakita Simms—When they raided my house, they called the school to make sure kids were there before they came—so you do make arrangements.

And then, finally we heard from the family of Tarika Wilson:

Ivory Lee Austin—(Tarika Wilson's Brother): Your men are not trained. You said there has been training—but they're not trained to deal with the people that they deal with every day. Your officers should be part of the community. Can we get some community training like that? Your officers need to know us, know us as people—not just suspects.

Tania Wilson (Tarika Wilson's Sister)—I heard Chief Garlock say on TV the other day—he gave an update on Tarika's son, Sincere. The Chief said he's OK. The injuries are not life-threatening. Well, Chief, he's not OK, lost a finger, he's got a hole in his shoulder—shot by the police. He had another surgery today. He wakes up shaking. And he looks at me as if to say, "You're not the one I want to see! Where's my mama? That's who I want!" He's Not OK, Chief. The doctor's say he may not ever be able to use his arm, he can't even turn his head like this (she turns to the right) and he shakes, sir, he shakes. Your report says my sister was not a person of interest. Her baby could not have been a

person of interest. Who's going to tell him when he's older, why he got shot and why they killed his mama?

The next morning, the weekly mayor's press conference was cancelled, with a note attached from Chief Greg Garlock. The name of the officer who shot Tarika Wilson and her child would be released, perhaps as soon as Wednesday.

Sgt. Joe Chavalía. On Friday, Chavalía was the SWAT team officer who fired the fatal shots that killed 26-year-old Tarika Wilson during a drug raid at 218 E. Third St.

Wilson was shot twice in the torso. Wilson's 1-year-old son, Sincere, also was shot in the shoulder and hand.

Chavalía, 52, is a 31-year veteran of the department and has served on the SWAT team for 22 years.

He is the same officer who gave the command to use deadly force during the department's last fatal shooting in 2000 at the Lima Rescue Home.

The rest of the week was a flurry of meetings and funeral arrangements—Wilson was being released to her family, the funeral would be held Friday at 1 p.m.

The funeral was held at Grace World Wide Ministries. In attendance were city officials, members of the community, friends and, of course,

Wilson's family. Her mother held each child up to the casket so they could kiss their mom goodbye for the last time. There were speeches and sermons and warnings but not the usual focus on the person whose life had come to such an abrupt ending.

The long ceremony may have been too much for Daria Jennings. Tarika Wilson's mother left the sanctuary for a time. Too long for the children to sit through, and too much about politics, and the community; not enough for this family who have lost someone they love.

A long line and ceremony at the cemetery. Then, fellowship at the Cheryl Allen Center. Finally, late in the evening. A chance to rest. At least until the March on Saturday at 4:30.

There has been a rift between the Ministerial Alliance and the leadership at the Cheryl Allen Southside Community Center. The ministers prefer to work behind the scenes without a lot of media attention, moving in deliberate fashion. The center's preference is undaunted pressure and a show of unity among the residents of the 6th ward and all of Allen County.

The marchers began to gather at 4:30 p.m., getting signs together and hearing from the liaison of the Southern Christian Leadership Council about how their efforts will

bring national leaders to the area. Sheriff Dan Beck had designated officers on horseback and motorcycles to help with traffic control as the marchers made their way from the center to the steps of the Lima Police Department in an effort to demand changes in the way they conducted themselves in different sections of the city.

By 5:00 p.m. more than 100 people had formed some with signs, some unsure of exactly what to expect, but all positive this was a way to be heard.

Wilson's father had said little during all of this, and even now he spoke mainly to others in the crowd. "She was a good girl, a daddy's girl. And she would call me every few days and say 'I love you, daddy.'"

The march gained members with every block, still a little shaky—most of them too young to remember songs like "We Shall Overcome" or other freedom calls. But, they were steady. As they passed the home where Wilson was killed they began to chant for Justice.

"I'm marching for the kids. Her kids deserve to have an answer as to why they shot their mother down. They can't just do something like this, and think they don't have to answer for it."

"I'm marching because I have to do something. I'm confused; I can't understand

why a town like Lima has to have so much pain in it. People just killed for no reason. It don't make no sense"

"We can't just let this stuff keep happening. Next week, it could be me or mine. They've got to know we are not just going to keep letting this happen."

There was news a group of white protesters were on the same path and planned to meet the group head to head. Organizers stopped the marchers and put the men in front, back and on the sides to protect the women and children. A little tension was felt through the crowd, the singing lost a little power; steps were a little more hesitant. At Main and Kibby Streets, the owners of Marcos bar came out handing bottles of water through the crowd. They were met with smiles and thanks; it gave another little boost of encouragement.

Fifth Ward Councilman Tommy Pitts rode up on his motorcycle and explained, the group of whites was not protesting against the march—but in unity with the march. Cheers rang out and the group moved faster. The two groups met and merged together with hugs and handshakes around Main and Eureka Streets. Now the crowd was about 300 strong.

Upon arrival at the police station there were short speeches securing pledges from the crowd they would

return next Saturday and every Saturday until the truth was told... a prayer, inspirational song and then dismissal.

Sunday evening, at Phillipian Missionary Baptist Church was packed to the rafters for a Community Healing Service featuring ministers from nearly every denomination. A joining together of the community for healing in unity. The chance that this young girl; a blend of two races might be the key to uniting the city. The service was attended by school teachers and administrators, city and county officials and members of virtually every sector of Allen County.

Plans continue to be made. Opinions are heard on radio talkshows, read on blogs, some even believe it was Wilson's fault she was shot. It can be a hard, cold world.

Whatever happens from this point on, the community now has taken on the responsibility of caring for this family. Making sure those six children still have a chance at life; and that this tragic instance does not become overshadowed by political issues and race relations.

It is still about a 26 year-old mother of six shot in her own home on Friday, January 4 by Officer Joe Chavalía.

It is still about Tarika Wilson.



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