



Local and National News

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"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

May 28, 2008

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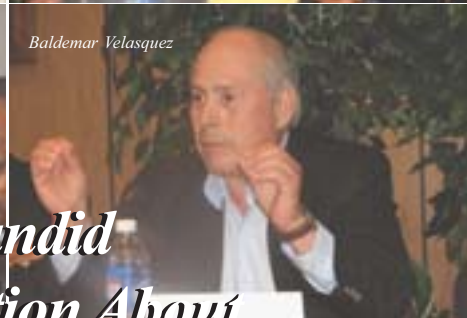


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Lloyd Mahaffey

Jan Scotland

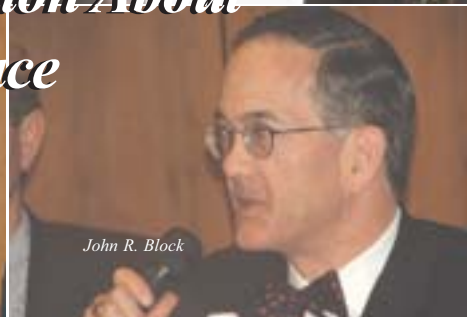
Baldemar Velasquez



*A Candid
Conversation About
Race*



Charlene Gilbert



John R. Block



Latasha Hamrah
Owens Student
Accounting Major

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This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

Last week, several area organizations presented a conversation on race at The University of Toledo. The event consisted of a panel of a dozen prominent citizens of various ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds and heritages.

The panelists addressed a number of topics concerning racism and religious oppression using life experiences to highlight the points they were making. There was not a whole lot of conflict nor, as to be expected, was there much emphasis on solutions. How could there be in such a forum of discussion?

We would hesitate to call the event a success simply because there is no way to measure success in this case. A single conversation on a subject of such complexity cannot really be called a success in and of itself.

But the organizers of this event have stated that they want to hold many more such conversations on many different levels and in many different locales. If they are able to do so, we may at some point in the future, term this first conversation a success because it led to something that may have some lasting impact on our community.

Rev. Robert Culp, pastor of the First Church of God and one of the panelists, urged those who wish to continue the effort to get with him. The organizers seconded that call to action.

We hope that citizens of this area will feel compelled to double whatever efforts they may be making to increase dialogue and understanding across racial, ethnic and religious lines. The fact is, we can fail to do enough, but there is no such thing as doing too much to promote understanding.

* * * * *

By the way, the person who inspired the conversation, Senator Barack Obama (Dem – Ill), continues his drive to sew up the Democratic Party nomination in the face of continued opposition by Senator Hillary Clinton (Dem – NY).

Clinton appears to have little chance of overtaking Obama at this point. She would have to win the rest of the primaries – Puerto Rico, Montana and South Dakota – by very impressive margin and she would have to get the Party leaders to agree to seat the Florida and Michigan delegations with their current vote totals intact – she won about 50 percent in each. Obama's name was not on the Michigan ballot and neither campaigned in Florida.

And if all those things happen to her benefit, she would still have to convince a large number of undeclared super delegates to swing her way.

You have to admire Hillary for continuing the fight, for that never-give-up attitude.

On the other hand, there is the issue of her husband, former President Bill Clinton. This man has turned into a world-class whiner. No, really. We mean *world class*.

No matter how one feels about what sort of president Hillary would make, can we really stand the sight of Bill lurking in the halls of the White House for another eight years?

Whining at every turn? We can see it now – accusations of media bias and right-wing conspiracies behind every nook and cranny.

It is not the appearance of dynasty – Bush, Clinton, Bush, Clinton – that bothers us so much as it is the fact of Bill's continued presence. Enough already!

If she would just declare that Bill would be a *persona non grata* around the West Wing for the duration of her term, we think that the super delegates would be willing to at least listen to her make her case.

* * * * *

The Toledo Board of Education averted a teachers' strike last week by a four-to-one vote approving a fact-finder's report on a new contract for the teachers. The fact is that no contract could have possibly accomplished everything that all parties would have desired. That would be an entirely unrealistic expectation.

In any sort of contract negotiations, there has to be a certain amount of give and take. We agree with board member Jack Ford in that respect. Ford looked at the situation and concluded that, as in all such bargaining unit agreements, "nobody walks away from the table with everything they wanted."

The real bottom line here is that new contracts all too often build upon the mistakes or inadequacies of the past. It's fairly difficult to undo all of that baggage.

Under this agreement, the teachers receive their promised back pay and they will receive rather modest increases of one percent next school year and 2.8 percent for 2009-2010.

The good thing for this district is that the money will help to keep the district competitive in terms of compensation.

The Sojourner's Truth

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Community Calendar

May 29

Scott HS Alumni Association: Community engagement session re Scott's future; Nathan Hale; 6 pm: 419-902-6526

House Party: Greater Toledo Housing Coalition; Wesley's; 5 to 7 pm; Opportunity for landlords, tenants, realtors, contractors, developers, bank, etc to network: 419-474-1240

June 1

Pre-Pastor Anniversary Musical: 6 pm; St. Paul AMA Zion; Univ of Akron Gospel Choir; 5 pm speaker, Bishop Duane Tisdale: 419-243-1065

Southern MBC Annual Concert: "Hold Out ... Prayer Will Fix It"

Spring Concert: New Prospect Baptist Church; 4 pm

June 2

High School Graduation Celebration: M.T.A.N. a non-profit organization; 8 pm to midnight; Erie Street Market; DJ Keith Success: 419-381-3376

Look Good Feel Better: Program designed to help female cancer patients overcome the appearance-related effects of cancer treatments; Noon; St. Vincent's: 1-888-227-6446, ext 5105

June 6

Fish Fry at All Saints' Episcopal Church; 10 am to 7 pm: 419-866-1528

June 6-7

United MBC Nurses Guild Rummage Sale: 9 am to 3 pm both days: 419-380-9477

June 7

Women Blessing Women Springs Blessings Fashion Show Luncheon: Franciscan Center; 11:30 am: 419-241-9789

Parking Lot Rummage Sale: Building Fund Committee; 9 am to 7 pm; St. Mark Baptist Church: 419-535-5960

37th Annual King Wamba Carnival Parade: Collins Street to Floyd Street; 10 am to noon

June 8

Clarence Smith Community Chorus: "23rd Street;" Close of the Chorus' 32nd season; Maumee Indoor Theater; 7 pm: 419-534-3370

Christian education Celebrates 2008 Graduates: 10:45 am; Warren AME; Message by youth leader, Anthony Hughes: 419-725-6962

June 9-13

Vacation Bible School: Friendship Baptist Church; Sonworld Adventure Park; 5:45 to 8 pm: 419-531-3242

June 11

Libbey High School Reunion: Classes 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968; Gladieux Meadows; 7:30 pm; 419-699-3846

June 13

50 Men & Women: 28th Annual Scholarship Banquet; Stranahan Complex; 7 pm

June 16-19

City-Wide Dance Team Tryouts: Youths in grades 6 to 12; Mon at Reynolds Corner Library; 4 to 5:30 pm; Tues at Kent Branch from 5:30 to 7:30 pm; Wed at Sanger Branch from 4 to 5:30 pm; Thurs at Mott Branch from 4 to 5:30 pm: 419-509-1118 or 419-266-5308

June 16-20

Sixth Annual Carnel Smith Summer Youth Football Camp: Boys in grades 3 thru 8; Scott HS; 11 am to 2:45 pm daily: 419-917-3547

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Healthy Cynicism: Notes on a "Candid Discussion on Race"

By Mario Harris Rosser
Guest Column

This past Thursday, at the University of Toledo's Student Union, the question was posed, "What effects—both symbolical and literal—is the candidacy of Barack Obama having on the issues of race relations in this nation? And if elected what effects will an

Obama presidency have on the same issues?"

The varying responses of the panelists at this particularly "candid conversation" on racial issues—whose overall political make-up leaned slightly to the left of gravity—captured on some

superficial level, the sentiments of many American citizens who have yet to sensitively cope with what are among the most serious and insidious social issues in America.

At the beginning of the discussion it was clearly es-

tablished, "that the only goals of the conversation, are that there will be no goals, nor any action plans." It was this ground rule—or lack thereof—that was the most constructive component of the initiative. By declaring no expectations, just decent exchange and dialogue, the organizers of the panel transcended the shallow and calculative steps taken by so many "doers" and those who are "committed to action."

The dynamics of racial

relations in this country are so incomprehensibly complex that it would have been naive and condescending to assume that any semblance of a solution—if one exists—would emerge from the sole discussion. When considering the egregious utilization of euphemisms and generalizations rife in the practices of "professional and respected journalism," it is laudable that it was possible to have these "representatives" of their

respective ethnic and racial

communities, agree to sit down with each other and ostensibly attempt to sincerely empathize and feign mutual understanding.

What is to be expected of a "candid discussion" on racial relations? Who should be included in the discussion? What questions should be asked—or should not? How long will the issue be discussed? Has the conversation progressed—regressed? These are only a few ques-

(Continued on Page 10)

More on Crystal Dixon

I'm a little petrified at the stance The Truth has taken on this topic. There was a very legitimate reason for firing her, and defending her stance with religion is something almost all hate groups do.

If someone were in a position of power similar to hers, and said something derogatory about African-Americans in an editorial, the same outcome would have happened, and for good reason. Granted, she claims to have hired many homosexuals in the past, but if it came down to a decision between hiring a gay or straight person for the same position, if equally qualified, she would obviously go with straight.

People who say being gay is a choice are ignorant, and very wrong. Biologists today have come far in identifying what causes homosexuality, and it is not upbringing. Ask almost any gay or lesbian and they will tell you they have always known how they are.

Draw the line if you will, claim this struggle is different from the African-American struggle. You do so, however, by jamming the religion down the throats of gays and lesbians that was jammed down your ancestors throats.

I am white. I read The Truth because all issues of liberties and freedoms are important to me, regardless who is struggling through them. Now that you're almost up the hill, will you kick us back down in, or help us up with you.

Sincerely,

Nicole Gschwind

Ed. Note: Just for the record, The Truth did not write any commentary on the Crystal Dixon issue and took no stance whatsoever.



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NABJ Says Ferraro Comments Show Unapologetic Bigotry

Special to The Truth

The National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) voices a strong rebuke to the remarks made by former vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro.

In an on-air interview with Fox News Channel's Shepard Smith, Ferraro, the 1984 Democratic vice presidential candidate, implied Saturday that all black journalists were surrogates for the Barack Obama campaign.

"If you have conference calls with these people every week and you give them your message and they put your message in the paper, that to me is a campaign," said the country's first female vice presidential nominee.

Ferraro cited The New York Times columnist Bob Herbert as an example of black journalists as the arbiters of misogynist attacks against Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton.

"Have you read Bob Herbert recently in the past six months? There wasn't one column that had anything decent to say about Hillary," Ferraro said.

"NABJ is outraged that a former vice presidential candidate would suggest that all black reporters are mouthpieces for the Obama campaign. To suggest this shows not only a stunning lack of judgment but also her unapologetic bigotry," said Barbara Ciara, president of the nation's largest minority journalism organization. "Ms. Ferraro used her appearance on Fox News to reinforce stereotypes that suggest that black reporters can't be trusted to cover another person of color without bias and favoritism."

"To suggest that black journalists have done anything less than cover this campaign fair and objectively is a direct attack on not only their integrity, but the integrity of all journalists who work every day to provide good, honest journalism," said Ernie Suggs, vice president of print.

"African Americans make up a tiny fraction of journalists covering this historic campaign. We are more than qualified to handle the job objectively," said Kathy Times, vice president of broadcast.

The Democratic and Republican nominees for president will have an audience with journalists of color this summer at the UNITY: Journalists of Color Convention and Career Expo, July 23-27 in Chicago, Ill. Senators Clinton and Obama both spoke at NABJ's convention last fall. Sen. John McCain turned down the invitation due to a scheduling conflict.

An advocacy group established in 1975 in Washington, D.C., NABJ is the largest organization of journalists of color in the nation, with nearly 4,000 members, and provides educational, career development and support to black journalists worldwide.

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A Candid Conversation About Race: Because It Matters

Sojourner's Truth Staff

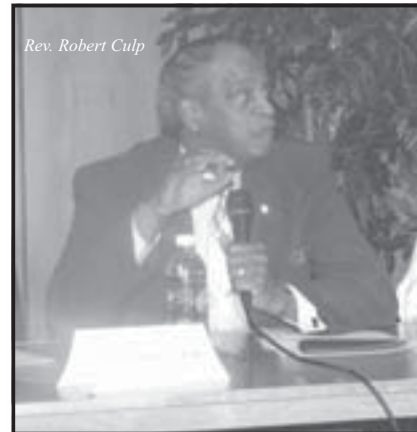
A panel of 12 prominent citizens gathered last Thursday evening before an audience of about 200 people to discuss race and racism.

The discussion, organized by several local Toledoans, including the Huntington Bank's Deborah Barnett, the City of Toledo's Adia Boston, business owner Adam Martinez, the Neighborhood Health Association's Doni Miller and The Sojourner's Truth's Fletcher Word, presented a

panel of 12 prominent citizens gathered last Thursday evening before an audience of about 200 people to discuss race and racism. The discussion, organized by several local Toledoans, including the Huntington Bank's Deborah Barnett, the City of Toledo's Adia Boston, business owner Adam Martinez, the Neighborhood Health Association's Doni Miller and The Sojourner's Truth's Fletcher Word, presented a

the event, was inspired by a speech given by Democratic presidential candidate Senator Barack Obama of Illinois on March 18 in Philadelphia. It was during that time that Obama was first embroiled in the controversy over remarks by his former pastor, Rev. Jeremiah Wright of the Trinity United Church.

the event, was inspired by a speech given by Democratic presidential candidate Senator Barack Obama of Illinois on March 18 in Philadelphia. It was during that time that Obama was first embroiled in the controversy over remarks by his former pastor, Rev. Jeremiah Wright of the Trinity United Church.



Rev. Robert Culp

can and Latino communities, tensions between the African-American and Middle Eastern communities, over-sensitiveness to race-oriented comments by public figures, among other topics.

The panelists included the Culp; Charlene Gilbert, an acclaimed filmmaker, professor in The University of Toledo's Women's and Gender Studies Department and director of the UT Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women; Jan Scotland, owner of a State Farm Insurance agency and a former member of Toledo City Council; Baldemar Velasquez, founder and president of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee;

Lourdes Santiago, an attorney who works for the City of Toledo and a former member of City Council;

zette; Bruce Rumpf, president of Job 1 USA; Lloyd Mahaffey, director of the United Auto Workers Ohio region; Mark Jacobs, attorney and co-owner and financial director of The Toledo City Paper and Jon Stainbrook, Lucas County Republican Party activist.

A good deal of the two-and-a-half hour discussion touched on Obama's presidential campaign and the reaction of the nation to his chances to gain the presidency. In one of the night's more combative moments, Block, both of whose papers have endorsed Obama's candidacy, spoke of the possibility that an Obama victory might have the effect of diminishing the need for "affirmative action for African-Americans."

Block went on to offer that "anybody who is the beneficiary of affirmative action ... it does carry a little bit of a stigma."

Block, a member of the Yale University class of 1977, was immediately challenged on this point by panelist Charlene Gilbert, a

member of the Yale class of 1987. Gilbert answered her fellow alum by contending that affirmative action has been present for the majority community for centuries, including at her alma mater in the form of legacies – preferential admissions for the offspring of alumni.

Gilbert noted that none of those beneficiaries of the legacy entitlements she encountered at Yale seemed to be aware of any sense of a stigma due to their favored status.

The evening's topics also brought out a number of personal stories about encounters with racism or attempts to cope with the specter of racial issues.

Velasquez answered a question about the changing landscape and complexities of race by recounting his travels as an immigrant farm worker in the 1950's and 1960's when Latinos would encounter signs in the South over water fountains that would read "whites only" or "colored only."

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Linda Mansour

number of topics on the complexities of race and ethnicity such as racism, racism by minorities, the interaction between the majority community and minorities and the interaction between different minority communities.

The forum, according to Miller and Word, who served as moderators for

City Paper, The Blade and the Northwest Ohio Black Media Association (NOBMA).

Thereafter the panel dis-

Linda Mansour, who is considered to be the first female Palestinian-American attorney; Dr. Amjad Hussain, retired surgeon of Pakistani descent who writes a column for The Blade; John R. Robinson, co-publisher and editor-in-chief of both The Blade and the Pittsburgh Post Ga-

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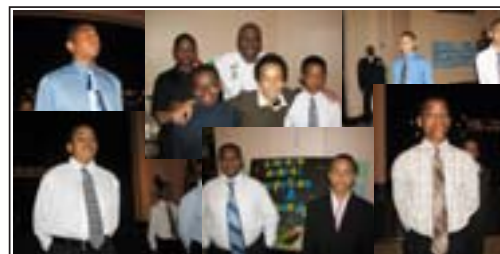
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community Action

Race

(Continued from Page 4)

"So we wouldn't drink" said Velasquez to laughter from both the audience and the panelists, "because we didn't want to upset anyone."

After that humorous opening, Velasquez spoke of the dignity of immigrant workers and the dangers of the United States clamping down on immigration in times such as these. Nothing has changed in immigration, said Velasquez, except for the rules.

Mansour shared her own moment of personal pain as she spoke of her school-age daughter and

the difficulties and ethnic slurs the young girls has endured since September 11, 2001.

"This is not the Olympics of oppression," said Mansour as she addressed the urge that some members of minority groups have to outdo each other in their claims of racial suffering. "Understand me and know what I am going through."

Race was not the only issue on the minds of the panelists. The three Abrahamic religions - Judaism, Christianity and Islam - were all represented

by the participants and as Dr. Hussain reminded his fellow panelists and the audience, much of the complexity in racial matters is further complicated by issues of religion.

The conversation touched, for example, on Wright's controversial comments captured such attention starting two months ago. Several panelists, including Gilbert and Velasquez, said that they had taken the time to examine those comments in detail and to read or listen to the entire sermons. Ultimately no one on the panel expressed a belief that Wright's comments were racist or particularly unpatriotic.

Dr. Hussain, in fact, stated that he was much more upset by the recent remarks by a supporter of Senator John McCain, the presumptive Republican nominee for president. Last week, it was revealed that John Hagee, a conservative televangelist whose support McCain had long sought, had made remarks implying that God had pre-



Mark Jacobs

dicted that a scourge would devastate the Jewish community and that that scourge was Adolf Hitler. Hagee had formerly called the Roman Catholic Church the "great whore."

pains to explain their own, sometimes unique, views rather than to take others to task for theirs.

The first part of the evening consisted of prepared questions posed by

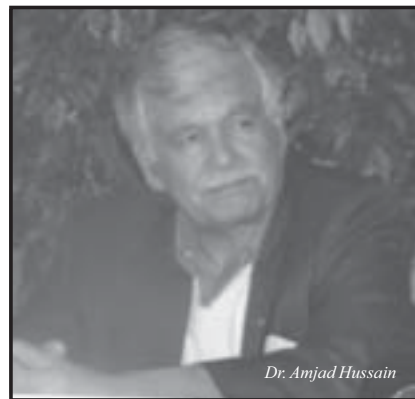
sions among themselves but then feel that it is proper to take outsiders to task for using the same expressions. The example that sparked the discussion in the first part of the evening was shock jock Don Imus calling the Rutgers women's basketball team "nappy-headed hoers."

Scotland rejected the notion that such terms are properly used even in closed settings. He spoke eloquently on the fact that African-Americans do themselves no good by using such derogatory terms toward women under any circumstances. Scotland's answer to the question was so complete, it drew no further comment from the panel - the only such moment of the evening.

The "Candid Conversation on Race" brought together a diverse audience of white, black, Latino and Middle Eastern. There were a significant number of elected officials in attendance as well. Toledo Mayor Carty Finkbeiner was present as were the three members of the Lucas County Board of Commissioners - President Tina Skeldon Wozniak, Pete Gerken and Ben Konop, along with Lucas County Recorder Jeannine Perry, City Councilman Frank Szollosi, and Board of Education member Bob Vasquez.

According to the organizers, this is the first event in what they hope will turn into dozens. Next up, said the moderators, is a similar discussion involving a panel of young adults.

Rev. Culp closed the panel discussion by inviting anyone who wanted to continue such conversations on race to contact him.



Dr. Amjad Hussain

"America ... is a multi-religious community and, for that reason, we need to accept each other," said Dr. Hussain.

Clashes were infrequent last Thursday evening, the most notable being the disagreement that marked the exchange between Gilbert and Block. The panelists, for the most part, took

the moderators. The second part brought the audience into action as panelists answered questions posed by the onlookers.

One such question was a follow up from the first part of the evening that was put to Scotland for an explanation of why it is permissible for racial or ethnic groups to use such expres-



Baldemar Velasquez

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NANBPWC's 44th Annual Debutante Cotillion Ball

By Faith A. McGlown
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Wrapped in rich tradition and refined elegance, the 44th Annual Debutante Cotillion Ball was held at the Great Hall of the Stranahan Theater on Saturday, May 24.

The regal gala, presented by the Toledo Club of The National Association of Ne-



gro Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. (NANBPWC, Inc.), introduced 46 accomplished and stunning debutantes and debs-in-waiting to the society.

NANBPWC, Inc. upheld the long heritage of the club's beginnings in 1934. Firmly rooted in community service, NANBPWC, Inc. recognizes the outstanding achievements of young African-American women at its Debutante Cotillion.

The late Emma Odessa Young, a realtor from New York City and a member of the New York Club of Business and Professional Women, first visualized the idea of this national organization.

"The purpose of the Cotillion is to present our outstanding young ladies to society clothed with the finer thoughts of living and endowed with a complete sense of responsibility."

Opening the evening, Dolores Bates, first vice president, welcomed everyone and launched the night's celebration after everyone was seated. The audience wore formal evening attire creating a royal atmosphere.

"Today's preparation determines tomorrow's achievements," Barbara Tucker, North Central District vice-governor, told the audience. After brief remarks, she introduced the judges and tallies for the evening.

The judges, three Toledo business and professional women, were Vallie Bowman-English, municipal clerk of court; Alexis Means, WTVG-Channel 13 News reporter; and Robin Wheatley, Ed.D., principal of Early College High School at The University of Toledo. They were given the difficult job of crowning a winner based on personality, poise, posture, grace, appearance and confi-

dence.

Waiting to make their debut, 25 future-debs dressed in vibrant red gowns and matching shoes then introduced themselves in a well-choreographed routine by Sallie Chovan, Cotillion choreographer.

lion chairman, spoke about the importance of the event's corporate sponsorships, including that of Toledo native Jimmy Jackson. Brown said the annual event's costs are reaching \$30,000.

To the glee of proud family and friends, the debutantes and their escorts performed the Cotillion Waltz, choreographed by Chovan and an encore. Debutantes, escorts and parents danced a Parents' Waltz.

Miss Brittany Lynne Darrington graciously took her final dance as Miss Debutante 2007.

Darrington attends Miami University, has a 3.1 grade-point-average, and majors in business finance with a minor in sports marketing.

As time grew near to the night's big moment, Brown, assisted by Wanda Terrell, club president, presented the evening's awards. The President Scholarships from the University of Toledo were



the center floor.

Each debutante was presented with a string of pearls by a deb-in-waiting - next year's debutantes. Councilwoman Wilma Brown, Cotil-

presented by Kaye Patton Wallace, vice president of Student Life at UT, and Deborah Thomas, Myriah Lewis, Kourtnee Lyons,

(Continued on Page 12)

JLJ Vision Outreach Announces Summer Program for Students

Special to The Truth

JLJ Vision Outreach, Inc., a non-profit mentoring agency announces the collaboration with Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio to execute a summer program for at-risk school-aged children ages 14-16. The 'Summer Extravaganza Elite' program will take place on the campus of BGSU in summer 2008.

The program is set to begin on June 23 and will continue through August 8. JLJ Vision Outreach, Inc will select the lucky fifteen Toledo Public School students who will attend this summer. The children invited to take part of the BGSU 'Summer Extravaganza Elite' program will have proven themselves as stellar performers during the 2007-2008 school year. The program will include interactive activities in the areas of health and well-being, learning strategies, technology, education, communication sciences and disorders, money management and cultural arts just to name a few.

"We are excited that an educational institution of BGSU's caliber has taken such a holistic interest in the lives of our at-risk youth," said Keith B. Jordan, Sr., executive director of JLJ Vision Outreach, Inc.



"We take pride in the fact that this partnership will bring about changes in the communities in which we live. We give much thanks to Dr. Ribeau, president BGSU and Barbara Waddell, special assistant to the provost for their leadership and willingness to embark upon such a rewarding endeavor."

JLJ Vision Outreach has worked extensively with BGSU to develop this program which is slated to be expanded in years to come. Others to be acknowledged for their dedication of time and talent to the development of this program are Stayce Fowler, VP program director, JLJ Vision Outreach, Inc., from BGSU; Linda Petrosino, PhD, dean College of Health and Human Services, Bettina Shuford, PhD, assistant VP for Student Affairs and Director Center for Multicultural and Academic Initiatives, Rosalind Hammond, interim dean College of Education and

Human Development and Thomas C. Atwood, dean University Libraries.

"Becoming involved with JLJ Vision Outreach this summer is not only an excellent opportunity for disadvantaged youth to become aware of what being a college student at BGSU is like, it also provides a means for our campus to continue to help meet needs within our community by sharing this picture of academic life to young people who may never have had the opportunity. For many of these young people, BGSU is just miles away from their home. Our campus may as well be thousands of miles away if there is never an opportunity to explore us to see what our campus is like. A college career turns around lives, and this is a special opportunity," said Thomas Atwood, Dean of University Libraries.

For more information contact Keith Jordan at JLJ Vision Outreach, Inc. (419) 242-5615

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The Clarence Smith Community Chorus

Special to The Truth

The Clarence Smith Community Chorus (CSCC) will close its 32nd season with a spectacular musical and theatrical presentation entitled, **23rd Street**. The play centers on the neighborhood matriarch and the friendships and bonds that exist within the neighborhood on "23rd Street."

The production features an all-star cast of some of the best soloists in the community, in addition to Toledo's special gem, the CSCC. Under the direction of Sylvia Carter, professional actress and director, this year's play was written by another Toledo native, Bonita Adams. In fact, the entire production is really a reflection of the talent and skills of Toledoans.

Of special note, the 2008 production will feature phenomenal Toledo vocalist Tymara Spears, winner of the national singers' contest, the Marvin Winans Survivor (Gospel) Music Contest. She will be recording with him in late June for his next CD. The supporting cast also includes many outstanding vocalists, including her sister, singer-actress Danielle Smith, accomplished vocalist Cynthia Valentine, and the ever-popular, outstanding soloists of the CSCC. Also, appearing for the first time with the CSCC is singer-dancer-model, Brandon Wall. An equally talented group of instrumentalists will accompany the soloists, choir and actors as they highlight musical styles from gospel to jazz, Motown to opera.

The Clarence Smith Community Chorus has held true to its goals of preserving through performance the music of African Americans, with special emphasis on the Negro spiritual. For the past 32 years, the Chorus has featured area singers, composers, artists, dancers and writers in programs known for their entertaining, educational and historical focus. The CSCC has been an integral part of the cultural life of this community through its many appearances on TV, at civic events of all types, church and corporate programs, dedications and events.

The Libbey House Foundation—Home to the Glass City Story

Special to The Truth

Area dignitaries will converge 11:00 AM Friday, May 30 at the residence previously owned by Toledo Glass Industrialist Edward Drummond Libbey to celebrate the transfer of the home's ownership from private to public hands on a day when many historic buildings seem to have lost their significance.

Libbey House Foundation Board Chairman Philip Williams received the keys from owners Lloyd and Jeanene Perkins on the front porch of the historic home. The heart of the purchase, according to Williams, is to preserve the house and share Toledo's Glass City Story—past, present, and future—with the greater Toledo community.

Organized nearly three years ago, the LHF Board quietly has been raising funds for the home's purchase and renovations. Plans include using the home as a learning center showcasing the people, products and innovations instrumental to Toledo becoming known as the Glass City. Robert Sterling, LHF Board secretary, is enthused about the progress

the Board has made, especially the plans to ensure that the Libbey House is ADA accessible. "The Libbey House will be one of the few homes listed as a National Landmark which will be accessible to those with disabilities," Sterling proudly stated. The LHF Board purchased the house on May 20, 2008 with financial assistance provided by Fifth Third Bank: Northwestern Ohio.

"The community partnership forged among those individuals from government, labor, corporations and the community is the hallmark of our success thus far," stated Board Treasurer Thomas Hurley. The Implementation Team includes an architect, a contractor, a librarian, TMA people, bankers, foundations and donors. However, significant additional funds will be required to complete the restoration, renovation and displays.

Located on Scottwood Avenue in the Old West



Edward Drummond Libbey

End, The Libbey House greatly will add to the Arts Campus created by the Toledo Museum of Art, the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, the Art Department of The University of Toledo and the Arts Commission of Toledo. It will be a welcome addition to the growing list of reasons people will come to downtown Toledo.

The Libbey House had been held in private hands since Ms. Libbey's death in the 1930's. It will be ready for its public opening in 2009.

The Truth Art Gallery

1811 Adams Street,
Toledo, Ohio 43604
Phone: 419.243.0007

Ramon Tiggs, Curator

For event information contact:

Glenda D. Brown
Director of Events
419.346.5275

Email: gcreationevents@yahoo.com



The Truth Art Gallery and Events Center is dedicated to providing professional services for your next event. We invite you to come and view the art gallery and see the many possibilities that we offer for having your special event at this special venue.

Gallery Hours:
Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday - by Appointment only
Sunday - Closed

The Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church "Allegro Choir" Presents... "Jesus is the light who supplies all our needs, Praise Him!"

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8:12

"And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus"
Philippians 4:19

Join The Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. Dr. John E. Roberts, pastor, 640 Indiana Ave, Toledo Ohio, as they host the annual Music Department concert. The concert entitled "Jesus is the light who supplies all our needs, Praise Him!" is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on **Sunday, June 8, 2008** in the church sanctuary.

This musical concert hosted by the Allegro Choir consists of youth (young as 13 years of age) and young adults. The music department is led by Bro. Mac Neyland and Bro. Stacey Brown, choral director. The Allegro Choir president is Sis. Nicole Moore. Special guests for this concert will include Toledo's own "The Imani Project."

This will be a concert filled with praise and worship that you don't want to miss. The Allegro Choir is excited and hope that you will join them in recognizing that *Jesus is the Light who does indeed supply all of our needs!*

This is a free service; however love offerings will be accepted.

Authors! Authors! 2008-2009 Series

Special to The Truth

From a political analyst to a leading social critic and a syndicated journalist, the 2008-2009 Authors! Authors! series presented by The Blade and arranged by

the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library offers the community an exciting lineup of authors for readers of every interest.

The current series presents Princess Diaries author Meg Cabot, who is scheduled to speak on Tuesday, June 10 at 7 p.m. in the Stranahan Theater Great Hall, 4645 Heatherdowns Blvd.

Authors! Authors! events begin at 7 p.m. and will be held in the Stranahan Theater. Tickets are \$10 per person, \$8 for students. Tickets are available for purchase at all Toledo-Lucas County Public Library locations and are limited in quantity.

After a brief summer break, the new season of authors will kick off on Tuesday, September 9 with political analyst Donna Brazile. Her appearance is strategically timed for the November election.

Other 2008 Fall series authors include:

Thursday, October 16—Gore Vidal, leading social critic (*Format: Vidal interview on stage with retired

Blade vice president and editor Tom Walton)

Wednesday, November 12—Rick Steves, European travel expert

2009 Spring series authors include:

Wednesday, March 11—Douglas Brinkley, American historian

Thursday, April 16—Isabel Allende, Chilean novelist

Tuesday, May 19—Clarence Page, syndicated newspaper journalist

"Year after year, the Blade and the Library bring you the best in contemporary authors and writers," said Library Director Clyde Scoles. "We are proud to welcome such accom-

plished authors to Toledo and look forward to seeing everyone for another great season."

The Authors! Authors! series is now in its 14th year. Each program features an hour-long speech and a question-and-answer session presented by the featured author. Authors! Authors! welcomes bestselling authors to Toledo as

they discuss their books and careers, answer questions, and sign books. Books provided by Barnes & Noble will be available for purchase at each program. Past Authors! Authors! presenters have included Mary Higgins Clark, Robert Kennedy, Jr., Terry McMillan, David Gergen, and John Updike.

For more details, please call 419.259.5266



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Hip Hop Benefit Concert May 16th Owens Community College

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

As a University of Toledo alumnus, I've always sipped a little bit of haterade each time I've attended an event at Owens Community College 's brand-spankin' new Center for Performing Arts.

That place is slick, but even more than the ambience, I was

impressed by the event I attended on May 16—just a few short weeks ago.

Ladi is a female MC who's been doing her thing around the T-O-L for quite some time now.

I first met her when my co-producer (shouts to Adonis)

and I were meeting with her to audition some tracks for an upcoming project. This was years ago and we still kept an eye out for her because we respected her skills and her vision.

I think when she comes to mind, that's the word [vision]

that I associate with her.

This is an artist who thinks about the larger picture.

So when I first heard about the benefit concert I actually didn't know what it was benefiting, but I saw it as a way to get Ladi out in front of the public and also the artists sharing the stage with her. That in and of itself is cool.

It's always good if you throw an event to reach out to other artists and Ladi extended an invite to U.G.E. artist Aye Dee which let me know she was going for a wide variety of talent.

So even before the actual



Ladi wit kidz

date, the buzz was decent.

People were talking about it, the PR machine was effective.

On the day of the event, Ladi was looking lovely and the show seemed to be exciting just from the line-up alone. The program broke everything down in acts as if it were a night at the theatre.

The performers were: Derrick Jordan, Free City, The Liddah (PHil & J Streetz), Nomeo, Paul M, Da Basix Aye Dee (U.G.E.), C.C. (poet), Annette McClair (poet), Christ M.O.B.B. (Men of Born Again Believers) and headlining the night with multiple routines was, of course, Ladi.

Of all the performers and songs, the most memorable in my opinion were Da Basix

(Continued on Page 10)



Aye Dee

*He taught me how to read.
How to tie my shoe.
How to ride on two wheels.
To act like a lady.
And not throw like a girl.
And most of all, how to not settle for
anyone who was less a man than him.
So when he needed it most,
I just wanted someone to take care of him,
the way he took care of me.*



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THA HOOK UP PT 3 TOLEDO IS SKURRED !

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Okay, I will stop beating this dead horse after this week.

But something strikes me as quite odd.

There is another publication in this city that regularly profiles single men and women.

Big picture and full biographical points of interest, all put on blast.

No one seems to have a problem doing it when they ask.

So why all the shyness when I ask?

I'm laughing to myself just typing this because, okay.

On more than one occasion since I've reached out to the readers and tried this, this is what will happen:

Someone will call or email me like "yeah, I wanna do that Hook Up thing but ... I don't know"

Then I'm like "whatchoo mean you don't know? It's simple".

Then usually whoever it is will be like "but I gotta put my picture in? Why I gotta put my picture in?"

My reply is always the same: "So your future boo can see what you look like, duh!"

Then come the excuses.

Two different people even went so far as to ask: "Hey, if I don't do the profile in your paper, do YOU have any friends yourself who I might be able to hook up with?"

HILARIOUS!

So, yo, maybe Toledo don't wanna be booped up this summer.

But I had to attempt it.

Why?

Because, as I've said so many times before, I'm always the one hearing from everybody

"Man, I just wish I could find somebody decent to kick it with"

"Men in Toledo Suck, I'm about to holla at this dude in Columbus I met online"

"Toledo females play too many games, I just don't feel like settling down because ain't no girls here worth it"

This is what I hear from casual acquaintances when we make small talk.

This is what I hear from people very new to the city who don't really know where to meet and greet.

This is what I hear from friends and family.

Ahh, yes, speaking of my close friends and family.

They know me, when I am single I turn into the most picky person on Planet Earth.

So of course the question has come up, how can I encourage others to get out there and date while I'm just

chillaxin and not even on it... or how can I play matchmaker when blah blah blah ...

Is that a double standard?

Well, I'm honest about mine - I just wanted people who claim to be ready, willing and able to step to the plate and shown and prove!

If you are one of those people complaining about what you can't find, I just wanted you to give Toledo a chance to show you more possibilities than you may have known of.

If you are one of those people in the club and you are not looking for a one night jump off, and you feel out of place because you are out and you look nice and you are surrounded by people but you still kinda feel like you want someone for yourself - this was a way for you to be seen.

But, real talk - peeps just don't wanna seem desperate.

No guts no glory, nothing ventured nothing gained is what I say to that (manipulative, huh?).

But for real, family, let's put it to bed.

I'm not willing to say it didn't work though, not with all the people hitting me up about it.

Just scared money.

So why don't we flip it, if you have already had an interesting hook up situation... let me know about it and maybe we can have this as a forum to keep discussing love and life - but without y'all scary mugs risking anything.

For example:

I've always believed in soulmates and all that mess, so when I meet people who

are like...my elders or whatever I ask them how they met their husbands/wives and such.

I been doing that for years and have heard some crazy stories, trust!

But last week I was chilling with a good friend and a relative of hers came over and I asked how she met her husband, and can you believe that this woman has been happily married for many many years with a lovely family and the whole nine... to a man she met on a blind date!!?

That's wild, ain't it?

Or how about this, there is an artist signed to my music company that is PROOF of calling love into existence when you are looking for it and open about it.

We wrote a song about finding a soulmate when a person is at the brink of desperation, but still just very hopeful. I kid you not, the artist singing that song is now happily engaged and that relationship started right after that song was completed.

So if you have interesting stories of love gone right, hit me up.

Maybe it's not too late to make an impact on Toledo's Love Life.

That's it for this week, y'all.

Coming Soon: Usher's "Here I Stand" album review, My 2008 Address to Graduating Seniors, and

The Hip Hop vs. Rap Showdown July 26th/ The 16 Bar Beast M.C. Battle.

THANKS FOR READING, stay up!

glasscitytruth@yahoo.com
www.myspace.com/
undergodzent (U.G.E.)

Cynicism

(Continued from Page 3)

tions. A philosophical adage states that, "one never steps into the same river twice," implying the infallible consistency of change. If this belief provides any insight regarding the conversation of race, this nation may not be as quietly prejudiced as the "white-working class voter" seems to be—at least according to exit poll data.

For the record the panelists included the following individuals: John Block, Bruce Rumpf, Rev. Robert Culp, Charlene Gilbert, Baldemar Velasquez, Dr. Amjad Hussain, Jan Scotland, Lloyd Mahaffey, Mark Jacobs and Linda Mansour.

Ed. Note: Mario Harris Rosser is completing his junior year at St. John's Jesuit and has contributed in the past to The Truth

Hip Hop Concert

(Continued from Page 9)



(I can never say enough about their showmanship, they damn near turn peeps into hip-hop heads even if they aren't).

Paul M's "In My Chevy" was a great performance, too.

My absolute favorite joint with Ladi was "Addicted To You" and I think one of the high points of the night was "Love And Turntables" with Nomeo and Ladi flipping the whole Badu/Common type of vibe.

Annette McClair's poem "I'm Addicted To You" was so on point, I

"Are You The One?" and that's props well deserved.

The Liddah are these two cats I met while at Wright Tyme earlier this year and Frank told me they were on point, and they helped open up the show with a lot of energy.

At the end of the night, representatives from the intended benefactor agencies spoke.

Dawn from The Fredrick Douglass Center, Tom from The Boys and Girls Club, and Roz from The Cherry Street Mission Ministries.

Ladi gave Toledo talent a way to be seen and heard while making a charitable impact on agencies that are part of the backbone of our community's support systems.

And she proved throughout the night why her image and artistry stand out in an over-populated pool of Glass City rap artists.

Be on the lookout for more from Ladi.

Check the footage: www.gamesavvy.tv



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Delta's Participate in Annual Heart Walk



Twenty members of the Toledo Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. participated in the American Heart Association's Annual Heart Walk on Saturday, May 17. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. has embraced the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" campaign and has a number of initiatives that focus on developing healthy lifestyles within the African American community. The Toledo Alumna Chapter raised \$1,000.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Inducts New Members



The Toledo Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. inducted 24 new members on Saturday, April 26, at Garden Lake Hall.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is a public service organization that provides programs and services to uplift the black community. The Toledo Alumnae Chapter has

served the Toledo community since 1937.

The new members are: Seated on the floor: Erica Parish-Baker, Katrina Massey

Second Row: Temeaka Gray, Joan Reasonover, Janine Coogler, Alexandria Harris, Lisa Bonds, Theresa Braddy, Vicki Ampia, Natasha Wedley, Samone

Dudley

Third Row: Wanda Terrell, Tia Triplett, Gwendolyn Wilson-Banks, Stacey Jackson-Harris, NaTasha Baker, Carla Fitzgerald, Jacquelyn Jones, Ronata Bryant, Kaylene Miller, Herneika Glenn-Johnson, Felisha White, LauraAnn Williamson, and Shannon Tisdale

Owens Community College Hosts Express Boys Basketball Camp, June 16-19

Owens Community College will offer area basketball players in grades three through eight the opportunity

to learn about the fundamentals of the sport as the men's basketball program hosts an Express

Boys Individual Basketball Camp, June 16-19.

The basketball camp will occur each day from 9

a.m. - 12 p.m. in the College's Student Health and Activities Center on the Toledo-area Campus. Owens is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township.

Camp instructors will include the Owens Express men's basketball coaching staff and current and former intercollegiate

players. Each camp participant will receive individual instruction on basketball skills in their designated positions, as well as learn about sportsmanship and basketball conditioning activities. In addition, attendees will learn about drills and exercises for basketball and gain tips on improving their offensive and

defensive skills.

Parents and coaches are invited to attend the camp to listen and observe at no additional charge.

The camp fee is \$50 per player, which includes a camp T-shirt. For more information, or to register, call (567) 661-7940 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 7940.



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University of Toledo to Host Fourth Annual African-American Festival

Special to The Truth

An event that has become a Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union tradition over the last few years will have a new home this July. On July 12, and 13, Toledo Urban's African-American Festival will take place on The University of Toledo Scott Park Campus.

The celebration of the African-American culture features, music, food, rides and a parade. The parade will begin on Saturday, July 12 at 10 a.m., with the festival activities running from noon-10 p.m. and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday, July 13.

Credit Union and the event organizer. "We will have an extensive musical line-up and some wonderful activities for the whole family to enjoy."

According to Cowell, the new location is appealing, in



that it keeps the event close to the community, without some of the logistical challenges a neighborhood event can pose.

"This event will retain the character of the original," said Cowell. "Each year we have grown in turn out, and we expect that to continue with UT as a partner."

"Holding this event on our Scott Park Campus seemed a natural fit," said Lawrence J. Burns, vice president for enrollment, marketing and communications. "We at The University of Toledo want to do all we can to build connections with our community, and this is a perfect way to further develop that relationship."

For more information on the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union's African-American Festival, contact Cowell at 419.255.8876.

"We're thrilled that The University of Toledo has offered to host this important community event," Suzette Cowell, CEO of Toledo Urban Federal

Juneteenth-Related Events at The Toledo Museum of Art Friday, June 6



Public Reception: Continuing the Tradition: Celebrating Juneteenth 7 to 9 p.m. | Community Gallery Join us for a free reception to honor the local African-American artists represented in the Community Gallery exhibition, *Continuing the Tradition: Celebrating Juneteenth*.

Friday, June 6
Hands-on: Basket Weaving 7 to 9 p.m. | Rooms 103 & 105

How do you weave a basket? Find out, and try it yourself during this special hands-on activity to get you in the mood for our annual Juneteenth Celebration on Saturday, June 21, 2008.

Friday, June 20
Hands-on: Quilt Tree & African Animal Beaded Necklace 7 to 9 p.m. | Libbey Court
Create an animal bead necklace using clay, or decorate a felt leaf, fruit, flowers, or animal to place on our "tree." As visitors add to the tree, watch it come to life with creativity.

Saturday, June 21
4th Annual Juneteenth Celebration 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. | Museum Campus

Mark your calendar for our largest Juneteenth Celebration yet. Last year, nearly 4,000 visitors and volunteers joined us for a full day of family fun, food, music, dance, art, storytelling and much, much more. Parking, admission, and nearly all activities are FREE, so gather family and friends and visit your Museum! Read the full schedule of Juneteenth events here.

Cotillion

(Continued from Page 6)



Morgan Turner and Darryl Jackson. The Talent Award was given to TaTiana Sanders by Mary Dawson, Cotillion co-chairwoman. Miss Congeniality was given to Raven Jones, an award selected by her peers, and a gift from Henry's Jewelry.

The tallies, Samriah Khatib and Desiree McGee, calculated the votes for the presentation of Outstanding Debutante and TaTiana Sanders was named Miss Debutante 2008 to a standing ovation. Sanders was overwhelmed with emotion and happiness as the diamond tiara was placed upon her head. She was sponsored by Family Links Counsel-

ing and escorted by Max Evans (University of Toledo).

The 2008 Debutantes were Kennesha Awls (Central Catholic); Indya Brown (Start); Brittany Burgess (Scott); Celeste Douglas (Scott); Brittanie Edwards (Start); Darryl Jackson (Central Catholic); Raven Jones (Central Catholic); Felisa Jones (Woodward); Myriah Lewis (Rogers); Kourtnee Lyons (Whitmer); Shawntea Peery (Central Catholic); TaTiana Sanders (Notre Dame); Debralyn Woodberry-Shaw (Central

Catholic); Allie Simmons (Central Catholic); Antonetta Stewart (Libbey); Ashley Strickland (Toledo School for the Arts); Deborah Thomas (Rogers); Sharitta Thomas (Woodward); Morgan Turner (Springfield); Tyler Watson (Scott); and Don'Nika Womack (Woodward).

Left to continue the legacy and next year's hopefuls, the Debs-in-Waiting were Shalonda Boyd (Central Catholic); Jasmine Broughton (Start); Kiara Brown (St. Ursula); Sonya Brown (St. Ursula); Alexandra Davis (Central Catholic); Jamarah Fitzpatrick (Central Catholic); Kristin Gray (Libbey); Whitney Harris (Rogers); Creshawn Hatchett (Notre Dame); Veronica Lynn Hicks (Woodward); Camelle Hodges (Whitmer); Bree Lyons (Whitmer); Lauren Holmes (Rogers); Autumn McCadney (Bowsher); Amber M. Mitchell (Bowsher); Allisa Phillips (Springfield); Jasmine Poston (Notre Dame); Taylour Rogers (Notre Dame); Breanna Stephans (Libbey); Escense Sullivan (Start); Miriah Waller

(Springfield); Earlyn Whitehead (Springfield); Keisha Wilcox (Woodward); Jessica Williams (Libbey) and Tyniece Williams (Scott).

Nikylo Fitzgerald II (Start) was chosen as Mr. Escort 2008. He was presented a watch from Henry's Jewelry. Fitzgerald will have very large shoes to fill left by last year's winner, Allen Boyd II (Xavier University).

Boyd recalled his journeys and achievements over the last year, including working on Senator Barack Obama's presidential campaign, helping orphans in the Ukraine, and his upcoming travels to Paris, France.

"God's greatest gift to the black man is a strong black woman" Boyd remarked, summing up the majestic evening and it was evident that there were many strong black women in attendance. As 11 weeks of rehearsals paid off, the fairy-tale evening concluded with the 2008 Debutante Cotillion and their guests dancing to the music provided by Dance Time-Unique Sounds.

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Today's Housing market, Like the Great Depression, Offers Joy and Pain

By Alvin Thomas
Real Estate Columnist



"How come the things that makes us happy, make us sad... oh, but it's alright they're both one and the same." The R&B recording group Maze Featuring Frankie Beverly succinctly and soulfully makes the natural connection between hardship and happiness in their signature hit "Joy and Pain."

The same silver-lining-in-every-cloud theory that was the foundation of the song that Maze used to help make its fortune in the mu-

sic industry can also be applied in today's depressed real estate market. Even better stated, if Frankie doesn't mind, where there is pain there can also be joy.

Foreclosures are a legal procedure in which a mortgage holder reclaims a property due to default on a loan. The family is subsequently evicted. Obviously, this whole process causes immeasurable suffering, mental anguish, embarrassment and pain. Al-

though foreclosures have tragically displaced hundreds of families in Lucas County and other parts of northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan, opportunities abound for the astute homebuyer.

Every foreclosure also represents an opportunity. As mortgage lenders attempt to recoup some of the losses they normally sustain in the event of a foreclosure, they at times are forced to sell at below market prices. Because of the cost of maintenance, marketing and litigation, the longer a lender has to keep a property the more they lose.

Borrowing another sound premise from the entertainment industry - timing is everything. When the Great Depression is discussed, what quickly come to mind are the millions of people who lost their in-

vestments and entire nest eggs literally over night. However, the few opportunists who actually amassed great fortunes during that tumultuous period come to mind much slower, if they are remembered at all. Those bold individuals understood that even with the national economic instability caused by

REO properties are listed for sell on the market usually through a real estate agent, often at below market prices.

According to Angela January, a local realtor who specializes in foreclosures and currently has around 20 REO property listings, "banks are periodically re-

As previously stated, more than just a few people were blessed with adequate resources back in the late 1930's, so what held them back? More than likely, it was the two most formidable deterrents to wealth accumulation - knowledge and fear. One hopes that this column will help with



the Great Depression, the time was perfect was to invest.

The most basic fundamentals are sometimes the hardest to keep in mind. It's time to be mindful of the lessons learned from the Great Depression (and basic Business Class 101) - buy low and sell high. Now is the time to buy. Interest rates are still near historic lows and housing prices in this mother-of-all buyers market are at or near cyclical lows.

There is a favorable exception to the above theory when applied to home purchases. The shrewd investor that takes advantage of today's buyers' market does not have to sell in order to realize they value of their investment. The daily comfort, safe, affordable home are dividends collected on a daily basis by happy homeowners.

In many cases, foreclosed properties eventually become REO properties. Properties that are not purchased by the general public at auctions are normally bought by the original mortgage lender and from that point tagged REO - short for 'real estate owned.' Once they are acquired by the lender, the

evaluating and reducing the listed price of REO properties, often on a monthly basis. They are even willing to participate in the down payment assistance programs offered by non-profit agencies.

"Foreclosed properties at times present maintenance challenges, but in most cases the banks that own them are willing to take care of lender required repairs. Those types of repairs usually are strictly of a structural nature, not the cosmetic stuff," says January. She is expecting to more than double her REO listings in the near future when legal formalities regarding title are resolved.

If you decide to wait until your favorite evening news anchorman issues an 'all clear' and officially declares that the economy has officially rebounded, it could be too late. Keep in mind that, although countless Americans were either unemployed or severely underemployed during the Great Depression, there were still scores of people during that time who actually had the wherewithal to take advantage of the almost criminally low prices of goods and commodities, but only a few did.

the knowledge aspect.

For those of you blessed with above average ethics, it may seem unscrupulous to take advantage of your neighbor's misfortune, but another way to view it is that you owe it to these beleaguered families to make sure some good come from their despair.

With that said, anybody in the Toledo with an interest in homeownership and has an adequate verifiable source of income and decent credit should act now because even though the current economic forecast is bleak, according to Maze, "where there's a flower there's the sun and rain, oh and it's wonderful they're both one in the same... joy and pain."

Alvin Thomas is a mortgage loan officer with over 20 years of banking and mortgage lending experience. He can be reached at: alvin.thomas@noic.com or (419) 885-8300 ext. 150

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CLASSIFIEDS

May 28, 2008

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Lab Analyst

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