



Local and National News

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Volume 14, No.13

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

July 16, 2008

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Linda Ewing
VP, Community Affairs - Fifth Third Bank



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This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

Are we getting too far afield in this whole discussion of rebuilding or renovating Scott High School?

What are we trying to do when it comes to public education? Are we trying to save buildings or are we trying to save lives?

Scott is a wonderful, old building – one hundred years old in 2013 – full of memories for some of those who attended the school and a source of pride for many of those who live in the neighborhood.

And if the structure could be preserved, at a reasonable cost, who could argue?

But the cost has become unreasonable. The estimate is that to build a new school or schools would be around \$24 to \$28 million. It would cost \$37 to \$40 million to renovate the grand old structure.

There is now a discussion brewing about initiating a fund raising campaign to make up the difference. That's a campaign to raise \$14 million, that's \$14 million additional, in order to renovate Scott High School.

The first problem with such a notion is the unlikelihood of success. That amount is approximately the same amount that the Greater Toledo United Way has raised in its latest annual campaign. We shouldn't have to remind anyone that United Way, which has been at this thing for a number of decades, has a staff of professional fundraisers and has been able to coordinate its efforts with that of the corporate world in order to meet its goals.

The second problem has nothing to do with how the money – the \$14 million – would get here. It has to do with why we would want to spend such an extra sum on a building. The argument can be made that the Ohio School Facilities Commission should kick in more to offset the additional cost of renovation.

The fact is, however, that money doesn't just appear out of nowhere. Taxpayer dollars are taxpayer dollars, be they from the county, the state or the federal government.

At some point we have to consider the practicality, especially during these difficult financial times, of spending an extra \$14 million, which we don't have to spend, on a building.

Are we trying to save lives or are we trying to save buildings? We think that \$14 million could be better spent and it doesn't take much imagination to draw up a list of much better uses for that amount of money.

In case anyone is counting, for example, \$14 million would provide four-year, full ride scholarships to 250 students to a public institution of higher learning in the State of Ohio.

So again we ask – what should our focus be as a community when it comes to education?

There is a larger issue here than an argument over money. It has to do with our focus as a community on how to enhance the educational attainment of our students. We hear folks clamoring over a building, we hear no one raising a ruckus about the following educational opportunities that to some extent go to waste:

The University of Toledo has established a program titled "Seniors to Sophomores." Eligible high school seniors – those who have passed the appropriate high school tests and then take and pass a college readiness test – can apply for entrance into this program established by Gov. Ted Strickland. There are 237 incoming seniors in the Toledo Public Schools district who are eligible for the program that will provide a full free year of a college education at UT, and only 20 of that number applied. The program still has openings but at this rate the slots are not likely to be filled in time for the fall semester.

There is a program on the UT Health Science Campus called Toledo Starz, designed to give students, particularly those from underrepresented groups, exposure to various disciplines in the sciences and health professions. The students have opportunities to work with professional staff and faculty. There are still openings and the program has never been filled to capacity.

Early College High School offers two free years of college for high school students who can enter the program as freshman and earn a high school degree and an associate's degree in four years. The program has never been filled to capacity.

As all of these opportunities for students go begging for attention, the community's focus is on whether we should try to raise an additional \$14 million for a building.

The conclusion is painfully clear. We are not trying to save lives. The students just don't seem to matter much anymore.

The Sojourner's Truth

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Phone 419-243-0007 • Fax 419-255-7700

Published weekly on Wednesday
Printed by Webco Graphics

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Community Calendar

July 14-18

SKILLS Camp at Cornerstone Church: 9 am to noon daily; Ages 7 to 17; Baseball, basketball, cheerleading, drums, football, golf, gymnastics, martial arts, vocal and volleyball: 419-725-5000 or www.cornerstonechurch.us

Vacation Bible School and Bible Boot Camp: Mt. Zion Church; 6 pm nightly; "Counting all things joy!" 419-246-1850

July 16-18

Philips Temple CME Summer Revival: "Hot House;" 7 pm nightly; Features guest Rev. Joseph W. Harris of Rewarding Faith C.O.G.I.C. in Detroit: 419-242-7906 or 419-699-0648

July 18

National Caucus & Center on Black Aged: Annual fundraiser-membership drive and 8th annual Senior Fashion Show; 6 to 8:30 pm; Zablocki Senior Center: 419-478-6004

July 18-20

Generation Next Youth Conference: St. James Church "The Armory;" Speakers – Pastor Debora Hooper and Prophet Brian Carn: 419-537-9736

July 20

St. Stephen's A.M.E. Women's Day: 10 am service; "Women with a Mission;" Speaker Rev. Joetta of Warren A.M.E.: 419-536-2189

July 20-24

Vacation Bible School: Christian Community Church; 5 pm nightly: 419-536-8357

July 21-25

Vacation Bible School: Braden United Methodist Church; "Walk in Out In the Way of Jesus;" 9 am to 1 pm: 419-241-7257

July 21-27

86th Annual Convocation of the United Holy Church of America, Inc, Northwestern District: Clarion Westgate; Services 10 am, 7 pm and throughout the day; Guests are Bishop Isaiah Elam, Eld. James Smith, Clifton Buckrham, Sr. and others: 419-531-1859

July 22

There IS Happiness After Incest and Child Sexual Abuse Workshop: Workshop designed to assist survivors, loved ones from empowering and practical perspective; 5:30 to 8:30 pm; Elizabeth House (3837 Secor): 419-729-0245

Sports Physicals: Bay Park Community Hospital; For students participating in high school or middle school sports; Quality, low-cost physicals; 5 to 8 pm: 419-690-8400

Healthy Toledo: Free summer seminar on spinal health; Church on Strayer in Maumee; 6 to 7:30 pm; Speaker Thomas Baur, D.C.: 419-866-2094 ext. 20

July 22-23

5/3 Bank's Homeownership Mobile: Jerusalem MBC; 11 am to 4 pm each day; Educating the community on foreclosure prevention, homeownership responsibilities and financial literacy: 419-259-6988

July 23

SkyHy Ministries Healing Service: West Toledo YMCA; 7 pm; Speedway gas cards and Krogers food cards given away

July 24-27

Sonrise Community Church's Fifth Annual Dominion Word Festival: "Rise Up and Walk!" 419-480-0777

The Sojourner's Truth

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My View



fact, most of the ads in Midwest Urban are beauty salons that cater to African-American women. A joint barbershop and salon registration drive would do far in locking up the voter registration in Toledo.

Just add the churches and the union halls and we are home free. My knowledge of Buckeye politics tells me that the Toledo area is again the key to Ohio.

Last week, I laid out a six-step process for registering voters. Let me highlight a necessary seventh step.

When you act as a deputy registrar and sign up voters, make sure that you turn the voter registration cards in to the Lucas County Board of Elections before the deadline to get registered. Do not forget to turn the cards in by leaving them on your desk or in the trunk of your car.

A column in the Midwest Urban was on track in suggesting that we adopt a "barbershop" strategy in signing up voters. This is a splendid idea ... if only someone would do it. In

one vote per precinct among Ohio's 12,000 precincts.

As I said last week, if you are going to send a check to Senator Barack Obama or Senator John McCain, do it now. Now is when a campaign needs to count and make plans to buy television, radio, billboards, yard signs, etc. A mere \$10 will buy five yard signs. And those five yard

A mere \$10 will buy five yard signs. And those five yard signs will help to influence voters.

Cleveland and Mahoning Valley offset suburban Columbus and GOP-rich Cincinnati. Toledo is the swing man in Ohio politics.

Just an extra six to 10 thousand registrations in Lucas County can flip the switch for the whole state. Again, remember 1976 when Jimmy Carter beat Gerald Ford in Ohio by a little over 11,000 votes or less than

signs will help to influence voters.

Tom Noe's request for dropping the penalties on his case due to pre-trial publicity is to be expected. He did get the hell beat out of him during the pre-trial phase.

I am not a Noe fan nor is he of me but the real target of all of the publicity was then-Gov. Bob Taft.

What about Lucas County Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz to move up to state treasurer to replace current Treasurer Rick Cordray if he wins his November bid to become attorney general?

Kapszukiewicz is really

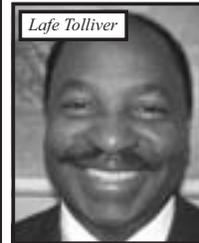
ambitious and is bright to pull it off. He is a sponsor of a fundraiser for Gov. Ted Strickland that is coming up soon. If Kapszukiewicz rakes in big bucks for the governor, that will demonstrate he has the juice to help himself in a state

treasurer's race. Then who replaces Wade?



Let's All Cry ... Boo Hoo ... Boo Hoo!

By Lafe Tolliver
Guest Column



At the last meeting of the Toledo school board committee meeting, two local

African-American Toledo luminaries gave conclusions regarding the appearance of a conspiracy regarding the neglect of Scott, Libbey and Waite high schools.

The collective concern is that those three high schools have the highest concentration of minority students and it appears that all three high schools will get or are getting the proverbial "short end of the financial stick."

The plans for the rehab or replacement of the local schools, for which the budgeted amount is in excess of \$640 million dollars, has tended to show that both minority contractors and the Scott High School surrounding community have been shafted and that all three aforementioned high schools are doomed to receive the same brass knuckle treatment.

With over five years in the planning, this Toledo Plan for the rehab of the schools had a startling cast of characters including profound statements from past school board members indicating that they would ride herd over this mammoth project to make sure that there was proper minority inclusion and that the plans and programs reflected fairness all the way around.

There was even a watchdog group that was purportedly supposed to monitor minority contractors and workers on the job site and there was the usual and expected tough talk from certain school board members about how the fur would fly if things did not go as planned.

A lot of jawboning, celebration, picture taking and then everyone went home happy, greasy and fat.

Not so fast. The so called monitoring board(s) who were supposed to be the ever-present guardians of truth and light were found with cobwebs in their brains as they never uttered a protest to the public about the shenanigans regarding the lack of minority contractors or vendors or suppliers on the school job sites.

(Continued on Page 4)



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It's time for a Quiet Conversation.™

Reject and Renounce Round # ?

By Ravi Perry

Growing up, my mother always made sure my hair was brushed before I left the house. She understood, in public, whom I represented. After a course of recent and unfortunate events in the black community, I think we all need to be reminded of who or what we represent in public.

Recall the recent flap between Illinois Senator, and presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, Barack Obama and the Rev. Jesse Jackson? Allegedly this began as Jackson was discontented with the message Obama gave to a church on the South Side of Chicago on that day.

In the speech on June 15 at Apostolic Church of God, a fairly conservative predominantly black church (vis-à-vis the famous Trinity), Obama said: "If we are hon-

est with ourselves, we'll admit that too many fathers also are missing - missing from too many lives and too many homes. They have abandoned their responsibilities, acting like boys instead of men. And the foundations of our families are weaker because of it. You and I know how true this is in the African-American community. We know that more than half of all black children live in single-parent households, a number that has doubled."

He's right! The facts speak for themselves.

However, Rev. Jesse Jackson publicly responded thereafter, commenting Obama was "talking down to black people." His comment were not new. In September, *The State* newspaper in South Carolina reported that Jackson said at a gathering that Obama was "acting like

he's white" in reference to Obama's response to the Jena Six conflict.

Clearly this public line of discussion is appropriate, especially for a religious leader. Especially in the context of mainstream (mainly Caucasian owned and operated networks who seem to feed off of what they perceive as intra-black conflict. (We shouldn't be surprised at this development nationally, it's been a prevalent concern on local news stations nationwide for decades in respect to 'black on black' crime).

Jackson, however, is not the only black figure in the public eye causing trouble for Obama.

At a fundraiser at a Hyatt hotel in Chicago for Obama last Friday with reportedly 600 or more attendees, comedian Bernie Mac ended vulgar lan-

(Continued on Page 5)

Bowling Green State University Bids Farewell to Ribeau

Sojourner's Truth Staff

A huge crowd of Bowling Green State University students, alumni, faculty and staff came together with residents from throughout north-west Ohio last week to say goodbyeto BGSU's long-time president, Sidney Ribeau, Ph.D.

Ribeau, who arrived at BGSU in 1995, is leaving to assume the presidency of Howard University, a historical black university in Washington, D.C. — the flagship, in fact, of HBCU's.

Calling last week's event one of "the most exciting days of my life," Ribeau rev-

eled in the warmth of the relationships he had forged during his tenure at BGSU.

Ribeau's 13 years at the helm of the institution is an anomaly these days when statistics show that the average length of service for a university of college president is about five years.

His years leading the university were filled with accomplishments that earned him the great outpouring of affection he experienced last week.

Chief among those achievements was the implementation of the

BGeXperience, the increase in the recruitment and retention of underrepresented minority students and a capital campaign that raised an unprecedented \$120 million.

The BGeXperience is an innovative program — mandatory for all incoming students — that has gained national recognition for the university. The program brings students to campus shortly before the start of fall semester for an intensive introduction to critical thinking about values.

Working in small groups with faculty members from



Photo courtesy of: BGSU Office of Marketing and Communications

various disciplines and a peer facilitator, students explore and begin to identify their own values, look at how values are implicit or explicit in everyday life, consider ethical issues they will face as college students and learn of the university's expectations of them.

That introduction is followed by a course the students take during their first semester examining how values are expressed in their particular disciplines.

When Ribeau first arrived on campus — he had spent the previous 20 years in California institutions and from 1992 to 1995 as vice president for academic affairs at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo campus —

BGSU's minority student population was 6.9 percent of the total. That has increased to 19 percent in recent years.

In 2003, Ribeau launched a capital campaign to raise \$120 million when analysts told BGSU that the university would be fortunate to raise half that amount. BGSU exceeded the goal in a shorter length of time than even the optimistic Ribeau had expected.

Ribeau, a Detroit native, earned his bachelor's degree from Wayne State University and his master's and doctoral degrees in interpersonal communication from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

He began his teaching ca-

reer at California State University, Los Angeles in 1976 and eight years later became the head of the Pan African Studies Department. He took the position of dean of undergraduate studies at California State University, San Bernardino in 1987 and moved to Cal Poly in 1990.

Ribeau will become the 16th president of Howard University when he takes over from H. Patrick Swygert, who was also named president in 1995.

Howard, established in 1867, has over 10,000 students in 12 schools and colleges and has produced more African-American Ph.D.'s than any other university in the world.

Boo Hoo

(Continued from Page 3)

Truth be known, the oversight committees were not only blind but had no powder in their guns to intimidate even a low-flying junebug.

What was foisted upon the gullible black community was a lot of hoopla and razzle dazzle and pompous speeches that put everyone to sleep while the real powers that be did their work in earnest ... and now it is too late.

The proverbial, "the cat is out of the bag," has taken place and the black community is now the hick country bumpkin holding the bag.

Why did this take place? Very simple ... too simple. The black community shouts loud but shouts short. In other words we have a long and distinguished reputation of showing our teeth but when it comes to taking a bite, we wimp out and slink away.

We are too easily satisfied with a handshake and a smile from a politician and a limp promise (of course, never in writing) from a "named person."

We still do not know how to place the dagger oh so very close to the financial jugular vein and let it remain there teasingly until the promised ransom is paid. In other words, we are rookies playing in the big leagues and all it takes to have us grin and smile and do a quick shuffle dance is a little bit of "pork and taters" and a fat cat politician telling us what we crave to hear.

For our part, we do not invest in the needed infrastructure of an office and a director and a staff and monies for a budget so we can go out and "kick butt" both politically, economically. Nor do we employ adverse public relations against those who take us for granted.

But, our record in Toledo shows that we do not mind being slapped upside the head because we feel we are not worthy to come to the table and sit down with the "big dogs."

We can change this negative matrix if we are so inclined but to do that would require intense organizational efforts, fund raising and concentrated educational outreaches to a community that only shouts when someone's foot is stepping on their bunions. Otherwise, we are docile and quiet and are good obedient Negroes from fine families.

When I read about conspiracies and hear about how the plans were already stacked against black people and poor people, I now only yawn and scratch my belly and say "what

accord with our vision.

But we did not. We sat on the sidelines hoping that others would coddle and care for us and when they did not, we are now both outraged and realize that we have been bamboozled ... again.

For some reason many black Toledoans, refuse to grow up and take the bull by the horns and demand and work for change. We have a plethora of fraternities, sororities, social clubs, churches and civic groups and they are all running to the beat of their own drummer and, as a community, we lose.

The other butt kicking programs on the agenda will be the waterworks programs (hundreds of millions

For some reason many black Toledoans, refuse to grow up and take the bull by the horns and demand and work for change.

did you expect?"

Did you expect people who can control millions of dollars to look out for your best interest? Why?

Did you expect politicians, who sole job it is to stay in power and to get re-elected, are going to go up the rough side of the mountain and help you out?

For what? If you do not vote or contribute monies to their campaigns, you are an irritant when it comes time to dole out the financial goodies.

So, let's all cry in unison for the black community and the recent butt kicking that we are now getting about the schools rebuild program ... knowing very well that when it first came out as a plan, we should have been breaking knee caps to make sure that the powers that be were in

of dollars) and the downtown multi use facility (also hundreds of million of dollars).

We will go through this same scenario and we will cry and wail and we will be spoon fed answers that indicate we are functionally illiterate or of no consequence.

But from my vantage point, unless there is some no nonsense organizational planning done and some intense campaigning to make sure all is on the up and up ... just keeping bringing out the crying towels and bringing up the old goblins of conspiracies to conceal a woe-full lack of concerted community organization.

Oh ... would someone please take this crying towel and hand me another one, I feel a tear or two coming on.

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Reject

(Continued from Page 3)

guage and demeaning references to women in an effort to warm up the crowd before introducing Obama. Consequently, Senator Obama was forced to publicly reject and denounce the comedian's rhetoric (remember the Farrakhan reference at the 2/26 Ohio debate between him and Senator Clinton?). The senator released a statement saying he doesn't condone Bernie Mac's statements and that he believed what was said was inappropriate.

These repeated events where Obama is left to reject and denounce another public black figure's comments makes it necessary to assert the importance of keeping things 'in house' in reference to fellow blacks' disagreements or lack of understanding concerning Obama, his values and what he is trying to accomplish.

The argument is simple, you can't on the one hand say, "I want to cut his n—s off" and on the other hand be supportive of his candidacy — not in the eyes of the majority white public and media who will either take it and run, and Obama will look better for it. Or they will take it and

stop and think — 'hey, if his own black people can't vote for him, why should I?'

The problem with this, I know, is the idea of a monolithic black public opinion. Op-Ed columnist Colbert I. King at *The Washington Post* (Jesse Jackson's Unkindest Cut

By Colbert I. King; Saturday, July 12, 2008) discussed this concept in a recent column, saying "I'm so tired of writing this — and some of you may be weary of reading it — but it once again seems necessary, so here goes: There is, in our United States of America, no such thing as monolithic black opinion on anything. That most certainly is the case where Jesse Jackson and his worldview are concerned."

While King is right in one sense, he is not completely accurate. The fact is, there is no monolithic opinion, not with any group that has 37 million people! However, there is the fact that in terms of politics and policy, there is a general congruence among black policy preferences of all relevant social classes.

As professors Patricia Gurin, Shirley Hatchett, and

James S. Jackson find in *Hope and Independence* (1989), "blacks from all walks of life had similar political goals and policy preferences and also felt a sense of racial solidarity." In addition, political scientist Michael Dawson found in his study *Behind the Mule* (1994) that, "perceptions of group interests are not associated with economic status. Within the confines of mainstream American politics, individuals' economic status plays a small role in shaping African Americans' political choice." Hence, blacks choose to identify monolithically in terms of politics. And that choice is not disrupted by one's economic status.

So while there might be no one voice for the 37 million blacks living in this country, there is a thing called perception which in the media is that black leaders of the civil rights generation still have sway in the black community (e.g., Jackson, Sr.). I choose not to argue that point (I think it's obvious). Yet, there remains a thing called tact. And blacks should not lose sight of that. We're going to need to display more of it for Obama to

be successful.

A friend of mine once told me it takes no talent to criticize. I agree. Although I'd add that self-criticism as a group for African-Americans may be just what the doctor ordered. We need a cure for our cling to celebration.

Another friend of mine told me that often blacks are too busy celebrating electoral victories while others are strategizing what to do with another crack in the ceiling.

Now I must admit I'm not siding with Jackson's "talking down to blacks" reference. In fact, I think it illustrates a generational divide (that is obvious) as Representative Jesse Jackson, Jr., an Obama national co-campaign chairman, blasted his father's comments saying, "I'm deeply outraged and disappointed in Reverend Jackson's reckless statements about Senator Barack Obama. His divisive and demeaning comments about the presumptive Democratic nominee — and I believe the next president of the United States — contradict his inspiring and courageous career."

That best describes the disconnect between former Democratic Presidential candidate Jackson and current presumptive Democratic nominee Obama. Jackson does not seem to understand that there are other ways to talk to fellow blacks than through hope (ironically for Obama, I know) and through building a rainbow coalition. In fact, one way to talk to and on behalf of blacks successfully, is to get enough whites to join the cause in a substantial way to ensure the causes of African-Americans can be appropriately tended to, assuming the electoral milestone is reached. At that juncture, money should have already been raised or pinpointed to alleviate some

of the concerns.

Jack Ford's *My View* column on 7/9/08 in this paper suggested such an effort in reference to the Scott High School issue. He suggested taking the \$24 million from the State of Ohio and raising local dollars to make up the difference. Much of that fundraising will have to come from like-minded whites (who likely are not alumni).

Strategy vs. Celebration
Maybe if more of us, including Obama, had the courage to say to fellow blacks the truth — as Ford did often as mayor in itemizing the problems the city faced without rose colored glasses — maybe then, the work of strategy can begin. Today, Obama might be saying, "I'm just messing with you." However, if he isn't careful, he might be singing Brandy's "Almost Doesn't Count" on November 5, instead of Stevie Wonder's "Signed, Sealed, and Delivered."

Strategy vs. Celebration . . . I talked at length in a speech once about the need to 'stop celebrating and start doing' to a group of political and community leaders: white, black and otherwise; at the Rhode Island Ministers Alliance's Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Prayer Breakfast in 2006 in Cranston, RI. Unfortunately, it seemed to fall on the ears of the 500+ people in the room to celebrate a young 'articulate' person discussing King's legacy rather than to help all of us determine the next strategy to use our knowledge to better our individual and collective lives. Maybe the result will be different this time.

This — yet another flap between Jackson and Obama has been called everything on blogs and papers from a Sister Souljah moment to several comments asking if Obama is too hard on blacks. Hopefully we can see how

this might look in the mass public in middle America.

While Obama's Father's Day message was a challenge he, rightly, in my view, has chosen not to back down from, his response to Bernie Mac is slightly disturbing. After being introduced at that Friday fundraiser, it is reported that Obama chided Bernie Mac briefly to "clean up his act," but then said, "I'm just messing with you, man."

Now, that is a flip flop. And by the way, Obama has not exactly flip-flopped on policies like Iraq, public financing, or the Cuban embargo. In some cases he has only non-definitively and verbally suggested an opinion not yet firm in previous contexts. Thus, for me, he has only 'flip-flopped' to two groups of people 1). Republicans looking for anything to discredit him and 2). Uninformed, idealist Democratic supporters and others who paid more attention in the primary season to his hope and change rhetoric in speeches at grand events than his clearly listed policy positions as explained on his website. Both groups need an education.

I guess my last column should be amended. I'm calling for civic education, period — for whites, blacks, Latinos, Asians, Native Americans, persons of mixed race — everyone. Previously, I asked for volunteers. I say, for whatever it is worth, I'm throwing my hat in. And yes, my hair will have been brushed.

Editor's Note: Ravi Kumar Perry is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Political Science at Brown University. For comments or suggestions on future topics, he may be reached at Ravi_Perry@brown.edu

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pre-college
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Obama Town Hall Meeting at Sanger

A town hall meeting for Barack Obama will be held on Sunday, July 20 from 2 to 5 p.m.

The meeting place will be the Sanger Branch Library located on 3030 Central Avenue.

The reason for this town meeting is to identify what issues/items are important to Toledo as well as Ohio.

Contact: Neenscrib@sbcglobal.net



Linda Ewing: Expanding Fifth Third's Profile in the Community

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

In October, 2007, Linda Ewing, a 24-year veteran with Fifth Third Bank, was promoted from her position as employment manager to that of vice president of community affairs. Her mission?

"Expanding the bank's profile in the community," says Ewing.

When others view the position of community affairs director, Ewing says, they most often think of the high-profile duties that are reported in the media – the PR events that provide photos – handing out the oversized checks, cutting the ribbons, shoveling earth at groundbreaking, for example.

The community affairs office, however, does substantially more than simply smile for the cameras.

"It's a bigger job than most will identify with," says Ewing. "[Among other things] we monitor lending patterns of the bank. We must ensure that the bank is extending lending opportunities to all segments of the community with emphasis on lower income segments."

For Ewing's office, however, the extension of lending opportunities is not a one-sided coin of monitoring what the bank is doing. The flip side of those duties is to make sure that an educational process is made available to the community so that potential clients can prepare themselves to partner with the bank.

For potential home owners, for example, that means the bank has been offering home buying workshops that focus on budgeting, helping clients manage personal finances, instructing in home maintenance and working with those who have had credit issues.

"It's a buyers' market and there are so many opportunities to help people get into homes with workshops and so forth," says Ewing. In spite of the opportunities, Ewing bemoans the fact that so few people take advantage of all that is offered by lending institutions in general and Fifth Third in particular.

In addition to working with potential homeowners, Ewing also offers educational opportunities to small business owners. She and the bank partner with groups such as ASSETS Toledo and the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce and those groups refer budding entrepreneurs to Ewing.

"The key is the educational process and how to

handle things such as balance sheets, marketing and accounts receivable," says Ewing. "My goal is to develop a series of workshops to develop these skills. Our small business owners need more than an idea."

Of course these days the biggest challenge that potential business borrowers have, says Ewing frankly, is their ability to come up with some portion of the monies needed for a particular project. And that's true for all financial lending institutions.

"All banks want to do an assist but [borrowers] need to make the financial commitment," says Ewing putting the small business person's challenges into perspective.

"It's a buyers' market and there are so many opportunities to help people get into homes with workshops and so forth,"

"They should get to the point where they are saying 'here's what I want to do; here's how I can do it; here's the money I can commit.'"

Ewing recalls one example of how everything recently fell into place for one such entrepreneur.

"A lady in Sandusky with a day care center. She had struggles, it took her a couple of months to get her there, but she eventually got the loan. It was the best phone call I've made in the eight months I've had the position," says Ewing.

Indeed Ewing's advice to potential borrowers is to not give up during those initial difficult times of trying to get banks to give them a good look.

"People may continue to turn you down, but you have to keep asking and looking," says Ewing. "Don't get emotional ... analyze. Six or 12 months can make a difference."

And with this, Ewing mentions the most satisfying part of her job.

"Being a liaison, putting people together, making sure products are being delivered," she says. "Putting the lender in touch with customers and making sure the borrower understands everything he has to do while trying to keep the lender happy."

As for the internal workings of the bank, Ewing has taken on the task of making sure that relationships are maintained with the community the bank serves. This often means getting senior

management out into the community working on long term projects. The results of her efforts are borne out in Fifth Third's partnership with Jerusalem Baptist Church and its rebuilding project and with the financial backing provided to the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union. For Ewing, the word "ambassador" aptly describes the largest part of her duties.

Ewing was not to the financial manner born. Banking is not her first career.

A Toledo native, Ewing is a graduate of Woodward High School and earned a bachelor's degree from The University of Toledo in communication, focusing on television broadcasting, speech,

theatre and journalism.

She spent seven years as a reporter with WTOL, she explains to a visitor from her office on the 21st Floor of the Fifth Third Building – formerly the Owens-Illinois Building.

Well into that career, she had the opportunity to cover the groundbreaking for the building in which she now works. A recruiter for O-I suggested she consider a new career path in human resources.

She left WTOL for O-I, traveling the country to recruit from college campuses. She was eventually downsized and subsequently worked for both the City of Toledo and the State of Ohio before returning to human resources work with Fifth Third 24 years ago.

She stayed in human resources with the bank as an employment specialist, an employee relations manager, and employment manager before her recent promotion to community affairs.

The important part of any job for Ewing is whether she has the opportunity to work with people. Clearly, the community affairs position satisfies that particular requirement.

A widowed mother of two, Ewing can succinctly place into perspective the message she wants to deliver to any potential customer she works with for Fifth Third: "Come, learn and do."



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Commissioners Join UAW in Efforts to Organize Court Employees

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The three members of the Lucas County Board of Commissioners held a news conference early this week to announce their support for the United Auto Workers' effort to represent Juvenile Court personnel and to decry Juvenile Court Judge Denise Cubbon's decision to rescind the union's authorization.



"It's tragic that recognition has been rescinded from a major community partner," said Commissioner Pete Gerken. "We are asking Judge Cubbon to recognize the United Auto Workers. We have to give back to these workers the rights they were given."

The controversy the commissioners were addressing came to a head after negotiations appeared to be stalled in June and, during the same period, Cubbon's family cars were damaged by vandals. In a letter denying the right of the union to organize - judge's have that ability under state law -

Cubbon cited the stalled negotiations and connected that property damage to the union.

"At some point the judge decided she didn't want to be a part of the [negotiations] and issued a statement playing on stereotypes," said Ray Wood, president of Local 14, during Monday's news conference.

"Let's make it clear, it's about the workers," said Wood. "We felt that negotiations were progressing when money became an issue."

"Workers have a fundamental right to organize," said Tina Skeldon Wozniak, president of the Board of Commissioners. "And they have a right to be represented by a union."

Commissioner Ben Konop made the point that wage and salaries were not the only reason for a union to represent workers. Konop noted that working conditions also fell within the purview of a union and it would be particularly appropriate for the UAW to represent court workers considering the number of "well documented claims of sexual harassment" from court workers that were in his possession. These were situations, said Konop, "that the UAW can help to prevent."

Wood and Gerken also emphasized that the negotiations never got to the point where irreconcilable differences might have prevented progress.

"[The workers asked for representation, they were granted representation," said Gerken. "Negotiations got tough, negotiations get tough. You have to stay to the finish... we are not finished."

"We felt we negotiated in good faith... we want a win-win situation."

Cubbon and then-Judge James Ray had initially agreed to recognize the union as the bargaining agent for their employees in 2007 after the employees voted for representation. One of the points that Cubbon raised in her recent letter was the fact that the union would force wages so high as to require her to lay off some workers. Wood and Gerken disputed this contention saying that it would never be the intention of negotiations to create a situation in which jobs were lost.

Green Party Picks Former Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney

Sojourner's Truth Staff



McKinney with Theresa and Regina Gabriel

Green Party delegates selected former Georgia Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney to represent the party in the November presidential general election last weekend during the party's convention in Chicago, IL.

McKinney entered politics in 1988 by running for, and winning, a seat in the Georgia State House of Representatives. In 1992, she won a U.S. Congress seat and became the first African-American woman to represent Georgia in Congress.

She was re-elected several times but an accumulation of controversies caught up with the congresswoman in 2002 as she lost a primary battle. She returned to Congress in 2004 but lost again in 2006.

McKinney was an early opponent of the Iraq war calling for investigations into the September 11 attacks and had introduced articles of impeachment against President George Bush and other administration officials.

In 2006, McKinney became embroiled in a well-publicized altercation with a Capitol Police officer when she attempted to pass through a security check without an identification badge. She later apologized on the floor of the House.

McKinney has selected Rosa Clemente, a hip-hop artist, journalist and activist as her running mate.

The Green Party garnered just under three million votes in 2000 - or 2.74 percent - with consumer activist Ralph Nader carrying the banner. It is widely believed by analysts that Nader's vote total was largely siphoned off the traditional Democratic Party base of support enabling Republican Party nominee George W. Bush to defeat Democrat Al Gore. Gore actually did win about a half a million votes more than Bush but lost the Electoral College race.

In 2004, however, Nader and the Green Party's total had slipped to just more than 400,000 votes or about one percent of the total.

McKinney has said that she would be satisfied if the Green Party can pick up five percent of the total vote on November 4.

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Fourth Annual African-American Festival Draws the Largest Crowds Ever

By Geneva J. Chapman,
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Hundreds of people lounging in lawn chairs or on the soft, green grass that covers a sloping hill on The University of Toledo's Scott Park campus enjoyed a succession of top musical acts from Toledo and Detroit, Saturday and Sunday July 12 and 13, 2008, at the Fourth Annual African-

revealing a sweltering sun and clear, blue sky full of wispy clouds that looked as if they'd been airbrushed onto a serene background on the world's largest canvas.

The festival bristled with activity as people came and went, enjoying any bit of shade or cool breeze that

reminisce about, this wasn't just a bunch of friends and family getting together with some home-cooked food and an eight track playing old tunes and touch football.

This year's festival was a well-planned event by Suzette Cowell, CEO of TUFCU, that included a

However, even the most energetic among the crowd started to mellow out when Straight Ahead took the stage around eight o'clock Saturday evening, as the sun slid down the sky, slipping slowly into darkness like melting butter and giving the western sky, now totally clear, a luminescence that seemed to spotlight the place, the time and the event.

A cooling breeze settled on the grass, alongside the folks lighted there, bedding down for the night that was soon to come and with it a most mellow jazz sound straight from across the border and that mecca of music, the Motor City, Detroit, Michigan.

Straight Ahead set the Toledo audience straight about a few things when they took the stage. That exclusive club of "jazzmen" has accepted a few female members, number one. Number two, the sistahs

can play!

Following an instrumental introduction, the women (and a couple of male guest musicians) of Straight Ahead blew the crowd away with their rendition of

audience warmed up to the group and Straight Ahead continued to mellow them out with more oh so smooth jazz.

Marion Hayden (bass), Eileen Orr (piano), Althea



Suzette Cowell

American Festival sponsored by the Toledo Urban Credit Union (TUFCU).

The two-day event featured notable acts at the Saturday venue, including: Nate Gurley and Friends, Jesse Coleman and the Affinity Band, KGB,

blew by like soft whispers at the end of the summer day.

It was a social event akin to those church picnics, family reunions and community gatherings of the past where folks knew they'd see familiar faces,

health fair both Saturday and Sunday afternoons, musical venues that included local gospel greats culminating with the Rance Allen Trio Sunday night and an abundance of activities for children.

Among the special events just for youth were a karate demonstration by Mike Sherman and team members; physical fitness with Steve Corrgens and associates; HIV/AIDS information from Sherita Evans; Omega's Step Show presented by Chad Diggs and Bru's and a ballroom dancing demonstration by the Step Dancers.

These events kept the energetic young busy while their parents perused various vendors' wares, nibbled on ribs, chicken, fish and nice-size wedges of really sweet watermelon, which were a bargain at two dollars a slice and talked with other grown folks.



Straight Ahead

Alexander Zonjic and Friends and Straight Ahead, a female jazz group from Detroit performing at the festival for the first time.

On Sunday the acts included Jason Carter & Amy Hancock, Debra Brock & Company, Bryan Wilson, Tim Bowman and The Rance Allen Group.

Dire predictions of rain and possibly severe thunderstorms and high winds for Saturday, like the ones that have pummeled the Midwest all spring and summer, proved false; and the gloomy weather forecasts were soon forgotten as rain clouds evaporated,

eat good food, listen to good music, show off their new outfits and have a good ol' time.

However, unlike the good ol' days most people



Ribs, ribs and more ribs



Nate Gurley

Marvin Gaye's "Inner City Blues (Make Me Wanna Holla)" that did make people a few people "throw up both [their] hands," but no one got up on their feet, characteristic of Toledo's legendary lethargic audiences.

Listening intently, the

Rene (flute), Gayelynn McKinney (drums) and Kymberli Wright on vocals form the group of "strong, inventive instrumentalist and vocalists who have shown themselves to be powerful and imaginative composers and arrangers"

(Continued on Page 9)

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African-American Festival

(Continued from Page 8)

(gaianews@aol.com).

Finalists in the Sony Innovators competition their first year of performance,

this dynamic group of women has opened for Nina Simone at the Montreaux-

Switzerland Jazz Festival and been nominated for a Grammy.

"Widely recognized for their eclectic and soulful approach to creating music, the Straight Ahead sound ranges comfortably from mainstream jazz, R&B ballads, Latin to acid jazz. Their live performances are a dynamic celebration of power and joy. They delight in changing textures, moods and tempos" (gaianews@aol.com).

Hopefully, this group will become a regular act at the festival like other acts that performed before "the main event."

However the star of this



John 1:16
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year's event was undoubtedly the venue. This was the first year the African American Festival has been held at the Scott Park campus, having moved from its previous home at the corner of Detroit and Indiana Avenues.

According to Cowell, there were some grumblings about the decision in the weeks leading up to the event, but once folks arrived at the new locale, those ill feelings melted away, she said.

The Scott Park setting provides a slope down to the stage—a much more comfortable arrangement for those listening to the music. The vendors were, for the most part, arranged in a circle enabling those in the crowd to easily see what sort of food and crafts were being offered.

Never before has the fes-



tival had such a turnout. Saturday's crowd was impressive but Sunday's seemed to more than double that of the previous day.

In addition to TUFCU, sponsors included The Blade, Buckeye Cablesystem, State Farm Insurance, Fifth Third

Bank, Huntington Bank, National City Bank, Neighborhood Health Association, the Toledo Council of Black Nurses, WJUC, Dale-Riggs Funeral Home, C-Brown Funeral Home, The Truth, The Journal, Midwest Urban and a host of others.

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The Center of Hope Freedom Schools Participate in a State Wide Rally for Child Healthcare

Special to The Truth

The Center of Hope Freedom Schools, in collaboration with the Toledo Community Foundation, the University of Toledo Foundation and the Children's Defense Fund, joined a state-wide effort to rally for health care coverage for all children, and pregnant mothers. This state rally was a part of the Children's Defense Fund's National Day of Action, where young scholars in 24 states and 61 cities participated in a variety of actions including visiting and writing letters to elected officials, joining together for marches and rallies and leading awareness activities.

Freedom School staff members and scholars personally wrote letters to U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH), addressing the fact that now one in eight children are born without health coverage. Tracee Perryman, executive director, said: "Our goal was to assist scholars in becoming aware of injustices and

inequalities so prevalent in our nation, not solely for the purpose of empathizing with those who are less fortunate than we, but to

ness and justice, and motivate them to fight for causes just because it is the right thing to do."

The Freedom Schools

and safety to share the knowledge they gained with those who were eager to learn.

This premise is still alive today, as there are presently 161 Freedom Schools nationwide. College students, working as servant leader interns, return to their communities, and vigorously give of their time, comfort, and talents to share the gifts of literacy, critical thinking, personal responsibility and community advocacy with the children of this generation so that those scholars can make a difference in them-

selves, their families, their communities, their country, and their world.

According to Tracee Perryman, the Freedom School staff members and scholars have made a difference in themselves through self awareness, and have made a difference in their families, as many of the scholars brought their parents along to participate in the protest. Perryman asserts that the Freedom School Scholars have made a difference in their community by generating more awareness about inequalities in health

care coverage, and by presenting themselves as models of young people doing positive things. She believes that the Freedom School Scholars will make a difference in this country, and in the world, as she is optimistic that all people will eventually have health care coverage; and finally, according to Perryman, these children will be the catalyst that will inspire the United States to care for its people, and restore itself as the moral conscience of the world.

The Center of Hope Freedom School is a five-week summer program that meets Monday through Friday at the University of Toledo Scott Park Facility and is sponsored by the Center of Hope Community Baptist Church, where Rev. Donald L. Perryman is pastor. For more information regarding the Center of Hope Freedom Schools, please log on www.centerofhopebaptist.org, and click on "ministries."



Shelby Shaw, Tracee Perryman, Willetta Perryman



also guide scholars in developing a sense of fair-

ness originated out of the Mississippi Freedom Summer in 1964, where citizens not only challenged overt forms of injustice where all persons were not granted the right to vote, but also confronted the more subtle forms of injustice which served to create barriers to all people voting. One of those barriers was literacy tests, and college students from the North ventured to the South, where they sacrificed their time, comfort,



Applications available for The University of Toledo Toledo Starz Program



Applications are currently being accepted for the after school enrichment program for high school students (particularly those who are historically underrepresented in the sciences) interested in pursuing careers in the health professions.

The Starz program runs from September 23, 2008 – May 19, 2009, 4-6pm,

where students will be involved in monthly interactive medical-related presentations.

Students grades 9-12 who have a 2.0 GPA or better are eligible. The deadline for applications is September 5, 2008.

For an application packet or for more information, please contact the UT Office of Institutional Diversity at 419-383-3438.



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Got Freestyle Skills? Bring 'Em to the Showdown

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



Whether or not I choose to give in to what people want versus just doing what I feel is up to me, but as a producer you at least have to ask that question.

Our company is still growing, we are humble and we've got a lot of things yet we need to establish in order to have the buzz, momentum and dominance we need to be relevant in this city.

Under Godz Entertainment (the Under Godz being me and my co-producer/co-cco) has become synonymous with R&B because five out of the seven acts on our roster are all solo-singer/songwriters in various stages of development.

But a year ago, we signed a rap group ... ONASIS.

We refer to them as a new millennium version of Death Row's Tha Dogg Pound and the similarities are obvious. T. Dime/ Tanzi Utley (or his new name Diamond Keys)

He is the half of this rap duo that is all swag. Lyrics that are memorable and easily catch the attention of the average listener just comes easy to him.

I've seen this dude drop some punch lines that I know for a fact would shut down any freestyle cipher session, but it ain't really that serious to him.

With a Jay Z-sized confidence, Tanzi has amassed many fans of his flow...but he insists he's no rapper. In all actuality, until his group signed with us...he was making all of their beats.

So just like Daz in the Dogg Pound, you have a rapper who is a producer as well.

An artist who can impress the average fan without even trying too hard.

Then you have Dizzy T/ Reuben (or sometimes The Untouchable Dizzy T).

He does for Onasis what Kurupt did for the Dogg Pound.

As soon as the fans start appreciating you, there's always those hardcore rap dudes...those who eat and sleep rap music so much that they don't care about whether or not you got a "club" single.

They wanna know can you spit better than most.

They wanna know do your lyrics have depth.

They wanna know do your rhymes relate to the average dude in the hood on the come up.

And that is Onasis saving grace, tha boy Dizzy.

His rhymes are full of aggression, full of energy and he spits every line like his life depends on it.

Like all true artists, his soul is a bit at odds sometimes. Going back and forth between extremes... poetic and thoughtful one minute and the next minute...um, yeah.

Let's just say you might wanna put the kids to bed before you bump your Onasis CD.

So, when you have a group like this, and you're molding and building a team like we have, you have got to really know inside out what you're getting into.

And even though my partner and I consider ourselves hip-hop heads...we have signed Onasis who is an obvious rap group. They are not a hip-hop duo, they are a rap duo.

And that is great! We love it.

Wouldn't have it any other way.

What is the difference between hip-hop & rap?

S.S.T.R.E.S. Productions in partnership with U.G.E. is still bringing Toledo an event to remember:

The Hip Hop vs. Rap Showdown - July 26 - Mickey Finns on Lagrange at Huron.

But while we have a full-fledged show with all types of lyrics, all types of skills and a parade of the area's best talent... that's only part of the show.

The pre-show Rhyme Battle is just as much of a main attraction as the con-

cert portion - the 16 Bar Beast Thyme Battle.

We wanna do this like a sweet-16 bracket, with 16 rappers facing off.

Each emcee gets one full minute to spit from the dome over the illest beats in recent rap history.

Each emcee will have to go toe to toe with an opponent, two at a time until the audience voting moves someone up in the ranks and we will have a champion.

But what is freestyling?

Okay, in the basement on Rap City ...when you see your favorite rappers step up to the mic that's supposed to be a freestyle but of course you've seen plenty times where they are saying rhymes that are already written or in some cases even appearing on hard to find mixtapes.

The art of being able to freestyle.

At one point, it was just as important as ...hell, if you called yourself a rapper - that meant you could go off the dome.

But then, as all my peeps and I were growing up in the mid 90s, and the whole East Coast/West Coast stuff started ... all the hip-hop purists changed the rules.

Suddenly, if you were just a rapper ... then no one would care if you had skills or not.

Rappers entertain, and their music is meant for the masses.

But then came the distinction.

Rappers do rap music.

But emcees, are hip-hop artists and if you call yourself an emcee ... or even if you were one of the rappers who at least tried to act like you were interested in challenging anyone...you were expected to show true skill in a free style battle.

This is not to be confused with having a "beef," where two rappers might go track for track at each other's throats.

A freestyle battle isn't necessarily about bad blood, it's just about superiority, plain and simple.

Some epic ones in recent memory:

Lady Luck vs. Remy Ma and of course... the one no true hip hop fan could ever forget...

Cassidy vs. Freeway.

What you saw in 8 Mile will be similar to the 16 Bar Beast Rhyme Battle taking place at our show on the 26th.

Stage. Lights. The Crowd. The D.J. A Host.

But when you think about how a freestyle battle can sometimes go down, all you might need is a car with some beat and a crowd and someone who wants to challenge

you.

Thinking on your feet, is one thing but trying to outwit another person makes it challenging.

Not all freestyle sessions are a battle though.

Sometimes you might just wanna get open when it's just you and ya crew and there's no one-upmanship.

That's what hip-hop's art of rhyming was about, just pure wordplay.

It was like a pass time that was also an art form that became a display of skill.

I remember being in grade school and a few local rappers would freestyle for me and all the kids on the block and they would rhyme about everything in sight - from trees, to cars, even what everybody had on.

A lot of rappers in the 90s started to say they needed to burn a dutch before they could get down or they only knew how to spit off the top of the dome if it meant they could rely on a non-stop parade of vulgar obscenities.

And with the new millennium, if you find a group of dudes freestyling, it's usually about a car, a watch, a necklace or an outfit.

Once again, here's your incentive: A free professional photo-shoot.

An article right here, seen by tens of thousands of readers.

And free production.

All that, plus bragging rights, await the winner of the 16 Bar Beast.

Now, truth be told.

Toledo has an ego.

So many rappers here feel they are far too successful already to get in a competition with other rappers.

And we are cool with that, but we still invite you to show up.

And if you don't mind getting onstage and showing everybody that God-given talent you have to put words together and control the crowd...then yeah, sign up and spit it to win it.

Also -.

Onasis, S.S.T.R.E.S., Floeva, SLM (Flo's manager), Big Marc da General, are all performing on July 26 but they also got together for our first Hip-Hop vs. Rap Panel discussion held this past weekend at The Truth Gallery.

We will have the first clip entitled: "Lil Wayne, Hip Hop or Rap?" uploaded soon.

If you want more info, or a link or you have any questions ... hit me up:

glascitytruth@yahoo.com

In Memoriam

David D. Carter, age 81, renowned educator and mentor, music director and vocal performer, passed away in the early morning hours on Saturday, July 12, 2008 in his home in the presence of his wife of 60 years, Isabelle Carter. Carter succumbed to his one and one half year battle with leukemia.

The 19th of 20 children, Carter was born in Newton, Georgia on May 4, 1927 to the union of Phillip and Ethel Carter, his second wife. Having developed an interest in music as a child, Carter took piano lessons at the age of 10 and sang in church choirs. While attending Savannah State College in Georgia, Carter further participated in choirs, musical productions, ensembles, and theatrical performances. Ironically, Carter graduated from college with majors in science and math. He later, however, fulfilled requirements at Bowling Green State University for his certification to teach music in the Toledo Public School System.

To further his interest as a vocal artist, Carter took private vocal lessons in New Jersey, Bach Conservatory of Music, and the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, in Cincinnati, Ohio. A stellar baritone soloist, Carter performed at various churches throughout the city. Most notably, he was the cantorial soloist at the Temple Shomer Emunim for 13 years. Additionally, he served over 40 years as the baritone soloist at St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church. Carter had special performances as Elijah in Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and as Melchior in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*.

David's first assignment with Toledo Public Schools began in 1954 as a special education teacher. He formed a choir with his students which led to him being offered the music teacher position at Robinson Jr. High. At Robinson, Carter taught his students to per-

form music of quality with percussion and gusto. He organized a faculty choir, had a select choir which met before school, and at the close of the year, the students performed operettas that involved each department in the school for costumes, props, staging, etc.

David was transferred to Jesup W. Scott High School in 1962 where he served as director of choral music. During David's nine-year tenure at Scott, his choirs raised the bar in performance at the High School Choral Peristyle of the Toledo Museum of Art. The highlights of the year's choral performance were the annual May Festival presented by Scott High School's entire music department held in the field house to a capacity crowd. His choir also performed the Christmas and Easter portions of Handel's *Messiah*, took top honors in the Ohio choral music competitions, and put on numerous performances throughout the city. Additionally, the choir represented Toledo Public Schools and the City of Toledo by performing at the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music as part of his daughter's degree project.

Teaching assignments led David to Parkland Jr. High School in 1971 and Roy C. Start High School in 1972. At Start High School in 1975, Carter took his choir to Poland on a 23-day concert tour, gaining international notoriety. One of the performances was for the Archbishop of Krakow who, three years later, became Pope John Paul II. Beginning in 1976, he served as assistant principal and director of activities at DeVilbiss High School, where he retired in 1981. In 1982, David took a second career in a teaching position at Blessed Sacrament School.

Carter directed choirs at Phillips Temple CME Church, Third Baptist Church, All Saints Episcopal Church and St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. He participated in

the Kenneth Holland Chorus, was a founding member of the Toledo Opera Chorus, and directed the Mary Manse College Choirs as well as many other performing groups.

In 1971, David organized and directed the Afro-American Youth Choir. This choir gave an opportunity to black youngsters who played instruments to gain choral experience and for some of the youth to be involved with music outside of their respective schools. The youth choir lasted for three years. David was also an outreach coordinator for the Toledo Symphony Orchestra's project of giving music lessons at nominal cost to promising central city children.

Carter's longest legacy has been the David Carter Symphonic Choir founded in 1985. Originally organized as the Scott High School Alumni Choir, the choir opened its membership to persons from every stratum of Toledo and the greater Toledo area. The purpose of this choir was to provide community service through its musical offerings. The choir has performed with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, Perrysburg Symphony Orchestra, Toledo Symphony Choral and the Toledo Opera chorus. For 12 years, the choir performed at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra in celebration of Black History Month.

As a community activist, Carter served as the music facilitator at the Frederick Douglass Community Center, director of NUBIA in 1979, and served on the Board of Directors of the Boy Scouts of America. Carter has had a long and illustrious career in education and music which has had a dominant impact on the lives of his students.

Carter was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity as well as Phi Delta Kappa



Fraternity. He has received numerous awards including: The University of Toledo Alumni Association Minority Alumni Award, the Saint Katherine Drexel Award, the Jesup W. Scott High School Hall of Fame Award, and the St. Michael's medal.

Carter was preceded in death by his parents and 18 of his siblings. Surviving are his wife, Isabelle Spaulding Carter, whom he married in 1948; sister Hattie Burns of Newton, GA, daughters, Deborah A. Carlisle (James) of Toledo, Ohio, Shari Mayer (Jon) of Arcadia, CA; grandchildren, Constance Glenn (Anthony) of Winchester, CA, and Phillip

Carlisle of Toledo, OH, numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

The family will receive visitors at the Dale-Riggs Funeral Home on Thursday, July 17 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. A celebration of the life of David Carter will be held on Friday, July 18 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church. A burial will follow at the Interment Ottawa Hills Memorial Park.

The family wishes to ex-

tend its gratitude to the staff of Hospice of N.W. Ohio and to the many friends and well wishers. Those wishing to make memorial contributions in David's name are asked to do so to the Toledo Public Schools Foundation for the David D. Carter Vocal Music Scholarship Award, to Hospice of N.W. Ohio or to St. Michael's in the Hills Music Fund.

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Step Out of the Box and Get On The Bus

By Alvin Thomas
Real Estate Columnist

My grandmother, a very pragmatic, no-nonsense woman, used to tell me that she didn't like the rides at amusement parks because "they just bring you right back to the same spot that the picked you up at."

Grandma Thomas would cringe at the similarities of today's so-called sophisticated marketing campaigns and an old fashion merry-go-round. These marketing ideas normally start with a lot of fervor, sincerity and promise but then - just like the popular rides at Cedar Point - end at the same place they started.

We business types, of course, believe we have to start with our normal rou-

line of having conversations we seem to think are necessary to discuss the emails we sent out to remind each other to set the times and guidelines we need to discuss writing the memos we have to circulate about the strategies we plan to implement to reach the

of habit so very few truly unique methods are tried. We rarely stray far from our comfort zones that we often talk about leaving. There are exceptions, however, such as a few brave pioneering soles like Rhonda Witty and Yvonne Johnson of Welles Bowen

of local foreclosed properties for prospective homebuyers on spacious, comfortable buses. It's a convenient and efficient way for buyers to view several homes in one Sunday afternoon.

"The purpose of Toledo Foreclosure Bus Tours is to

participants during the tour. In addition, the tour itself received enormous media that converged from the local daily newspaper and most of local TV stations that seem to recognized the unique qualities of the tour.

Although the tour bus is the brainchild of Witty and Johnson, they manage to gather the interest and sponsorship of several diverse mix of business in our local real estate market. Speaking of convenience, those businesses - including a home inspection company, a home warranty companies and a mortgage lender - were also present during the tour to answer questions for the homebuyers.

The bus tour "is a great new way of showcasing properties," according to Witty. She says, "with gas prices at an all time high and consumer confidence at its lowest in years, Toledo Foreclosure Bus Tours will show you there are deals still out there."

"Included in the tour are several specialists such as loan officers, home inspec-

tors, and realtors. These specialists are on the tour to help give all the insight any buyer could want about buying foreclosed homes. You will learn the 'ins and outs' of buying foreclosures and see some of the most incredible deals in town in a one-day foreclosure tour. And it is all free!"

The next bus tour is scheduled for July 27. Witty or Johnson can be contacted at their Welles Bowen office in Maumee for more details as to time and location.

Although the foreclosure bus tour will take its riders back to the same place where it picked them up, in today's roller coaster housing market, the foreclosure bus tour is a thrilling ride that my non-nonsense grandmother would have approved.

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.

"The purpose of Toledo Foreclosure Bus Tours is to bring some excitement to the Toledo housing market. The housing market has changed, but it is a great time to buy,"

goals that we have previously discussed and set and to go over the strategies that we read about in the books sold to us at the seminars we paid to attend to learn about the recycled marketing strategies that we forgot about implementing last year and by then we barely even have enough time or energy to continue doing the same things that we've always done. Grandma, I hope you're not watching.

The problem is that most professionals are creatures

Real Estate Realtors. Together Witty and Johnson have managed to jump of this fast moving roller coaster and on to a bus.

Instead of just pinning bright color balloons on their yard signs or coming up with catchy slogans to place on their websites, Witty and Johnson stepped totally out of the box and have brought a truly new concept to Toledo's real estate market - The Toledo Foreclosure Bus Tours.

They are offering tours

bring some excitement to the Toledo housing market. The demand from buyers to view [property] foreclosures is high. With the Toledo Foreclosure Bus Tours, we are able to show serious buyers the many deals available right now. The housing market has changed, but it is a great time to buy," says Witty.

The first tour was held last month, and the turnout was better than expected. There were several purchase offers made by the

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CLASSIFIEDS

July 16, 2008

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INTERESTED BIDDERS: TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – WOODWARD HIGH SCHOOL

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until **1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 13th, 2008**, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers' Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor material and supervision necessary for the new **Woodward High School Bid**, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by The Collaborative Inc. and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

Bid Documents for the project may be examined at the F.W. Dodge plan rooms in Maumee and Columbus, Builders Exchange in Toledo, University of Toledo – Capacity Building, E.O.P.A. – Hamilton Building, Northwest Ohio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and The Plan Room in Ann Arbor, Construction Association of Michigan, Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce and Ohio Construction News.

Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting **Wednesday, July 16th, 2008** which can be purchased from **Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615** Phone: 419-385-5303. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.

A PREBID CONFERENCE is scheduled for **Friday, August 1st, 2008** at 3:00 p.m. at Toledo Public Schools' Board Room, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608

If you have any questions or a need for additional information, please direct all questions in writing to Jessica.dandino@lgb-llc.com, by phone at (419) 776-5600, or (fax) (877) 281-0784.

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- \$ 1,124,200.00
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- \$ 3,873,100.00
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To apply, submit a cover letter (include position title and job #), 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, July 18, 2008. **The University of Toledo is an Equal Access, Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer and Educator.**

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