

Volume 14, No.15

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

July 30, 2008

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Crystal Soto Oursi Student Office Administration Major

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This Strikes Me...

Fear and Loathing in West Central Ohio

By Vickie Shurelds Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The violent start that rang in the New Year has continued its echoing effect six months later. Tarika Wilson and her son Sincere, the events surrounding the shootings, and the incidents that have followed have made 2008 the year of stark reality for a considerable number of the people in the Lima, Ohio area.

Conversations concerning the distrust of many Lima residents in the police and sheriff's departments have generated new suggestions, criticisms and speculations on the way 'it should be' from the general public and public officials as well. For no apparent reason, shots were fired in a neighborhood.

When the news came of an indictment by the State of Ohio of Sgt. Chavalia, residents were surprised, amazed and a little confused. They watched in disbelief as the officer was spirited through the procedures and misdemeanor charges were brought against him. The strange but familiar story sent chills down collective spines of African-Americans throughout the country.

In Louisiana, on nationally syndicated talk show "Eyes Open With Tony Brown" callers responded in varied tones of frustration at the news. Warren Ballentine paid a visit, Jessie Jackson stopped by, Al Sharpton acknowledged that it is as it has always been. Tarika Wilson was gone, the lives of her children were altered for all time and the value of that weighed in at about the same as a DUI.

Someone's been shot on St. John's Avenue.

Letters arrive from the KKK, a noose is sent to the president of the local NAACP, the Shawnee Nation is refused access to their own land, a cross is burned in Delphos, the Washington Post reports on racism in Findlay, and shots are fired in the 7th ward.

If you're beginning to feel as though you're reading a news story from 1954, you are assured the information in this story is from 2008. The cross-burning is currently being investigated by the FBI. Two women, one black, one white were awakened on Thursday morning to find the charred remains of a cross erected in their yard sometime between the hours of midnight and 7a.m. The FBI was immediately called in to investigate the incident. So far, nothing has been released as far as concrete findings. The FBI will continue their evaluation of the incident.

Delphos known long ago as a predominantly African-American community, turned into a "sundown town" in the early 50s, and then went for a time as the "friendliest town in America" to its current state of conflict due to blatant racism. While it is true that the possibility exists the heinous act was not committed by a resident of Delphos – the fact remains the incident occurred on their watch.

Random shots are fired in a neighborhood in the 5th ward.

In the case featuring Joe Chavalia as the main focus, great lengths have been taken to protect the courtroom, court officers and the defendant from the possible anger during the proceedings. The judge has issued a statement of his non-tolerance for those who might challenge his rules and his authority has been supported by the last line of Sheriff Beck's issued rules and regulations: "The Judge is in charge."

The jury selection process began on Monday, and local media have already fallen into the trap of distortion by first forgetting the premise behind the death of Tarika Wilson. They consistently reported the shooting happened during a 'drug raid' which is not true.

Wilson and her son were shot during the delivery of a search warrant. There has never been any mention of the house as a drug house. All of the officers who purchased drugs from their target, Anthony Terry, have stated the deals were made miles away from his griffiend's home.

In some cases – the interchanges took place on the other side of town. But over the weeks, small inconsistencies such as these prove to distort the facts and add more weight to the reasons for the actions of the accused. One reporter noted a racially-based question was directed toward a possible juror: "Are you voting for Obama or McCain".

The juror displayed little hesitation with his answer: "None of your business."

Is that a racial question or political? The media responsibility in this case will be key to the thoughts and actions of the community following court proceedings. The atmosphere during the trial must be projected to those who cannot attend in a manner that is reflective of actual events — not the way it should have been or could have been.

Chavalia's lawyers asked that the only African-American woman in the pool so far be removed, she was asked if she thought she could face other members of the black community, if she was on a jury that found Chavalia not guilty. She said she could, they apparently didn't believe her.

In the middle of the afternoon, Chavalia's lawyers again requested a change in venue which was once again denied, they again challenged the jurors about prejudice, "If you don't think you can be fair, let me know, look into your hearts." The trial is expected to last just a week.

Two more young people are shot – though not critically – by a passing vehicle

"I'm scared." Sharon is retired from Lima City Schools. "I've lived in the south end of Lima for a long, long time—and I'm scared. All this shooting started four weeks ago. It's all related, shots fired on St. John's, my friend's car got shot up over on Prospect a couple weeks ago. Then the shooting on Kibby Street. They say the boy that's dead is the one that did the shooting on St. Johns. I was at the Lima Warrior's game and a young man came up to me and wanted to talk—he said he knew something but didn't want to talk about it, because he could end up dead, too. We've got some problems when a fifth grader has to talk like that!"

Friday night two brothers were at the Certified station on the corner of Kibby and Pine Streets. Shots were fired leaving 22 year old Michael Smith dead, his brother Maurice Tiwayne Smith was injured. Sunday night, a drive-by on St. John's and Catalpa Avenues,

(Continued on Page 12)

Community Calendar

July 29

Throw Down Tuesday: City of Zion Ministries; 7 pm; Keynote Speaker Sean Elder of New Orleans; music by Nicki D and the Browns: 419-246-1850 or www.cozmtzionchurch.org

July 28-August 1

 $Vacation\,Bible\,School; Walls\,Memorial\,Church; 6\,to\,8\,pm; ``Living\,God's\,Unshakeable\,Truths; ``4190535-6469$

July 30

Healthy Toledo: Free summer seminar on health; Featuring holistic physician Dr. Jay Nielsen: 7 to 8:30 pm; Church on Straver in Maumee: 419-866-2094, ext 20

July 31-August 1

Back to the Old Landmark Conference 2008: Universal New Beginnings COGIC; 7 pm nightly; Pastors Anthony Smith, Terry Cook, Chester Trail; Rummage sale on Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm: 419-470-8451

August 1-

Word of Faith Ministries' 2008 Tent Crusade: "Keeping It Real;" Friday from noon to 5 pm – gospel performances, Service at 6:30 pm with Bishop Brehon Hall; Saturday 10 am to 4 pm – vendors, food, fun and games for children – Service at 5 pm with Prophet Johnny Bonds; Sunday service at noon with Pastor Kevin Sutton: 419-727-0877

August

City of Toledo Frogtown Fair: Event to promote green living; Erie Street Market; 9 am to 1 pm; Exhibits, rain barrel sales, electronic waste, household batteries: 419-936-3767

Gigantic Rummage Sale: Ebenezer Baptist Church; 9 am to 5 pm: 419-244-1323 or 419-536-0930

August 4

Look Good ... Feel Better: Program designed to help women overcome the appearance-related side effects of cancer treatment; Noon; St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center: 888-227-6446ext5105

August 4-8

Vacation Bible School: Ridgewood Church of Christ; 6 to 8 pm nightly; "Walking in Sonlight:" 419-726-2210

August 7

Free Prostate Screening: Guiding Light Tabernacle Church; 4 to 7 pm: 419-251-4000

August 10

Center of Hope Baptist Church's Annual Men's Day Celebration: 11:30 am; Speaker Jack Ford

August 12-14

 2^{nd} Ānnual Revival: New Hope MBC; 7 pm nightly; Guest Pastor Benjamin Stanley Baker of Southfield MI: 419-244-2964 or 419-349-2323

August 13-16

UMADAOPS of Ohio 19th Annual Conference: "Rebuilding the Fallen Bridge;" Hilton Hotel; Featuring CNN's Roland Martin, the Rance Allen Group; Dr. Stephen Perry, Kelly Williams, David Miller, Coach Powell and Dr. Jorge Chinea: 419-255-4444 orwww.regionline.com

 11^{th} Annual Holy Convocation: Interfaith Fellowship of Churches; The Clarion Hotel on Reynolds: 419-250-3577

The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's *Truthful* African-American Owned and Operated Newspaper

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My View



By Jack Ford
The Truth's Political
Columnist

Let's hope the UAW-Juvenile Court issue works itself out. As you recall, the court had given approval for its employees to organize but negotiations stalled with the UAW. I remember when Judge Denise Cubbon was a candidate and a lot of us pushed hard for her to win.

At least part of the reason for rescinding recognition of the UAW is the fact that Judge Cubbon's cars were vandalized.

I do not believe that the UAW would stoop to the alleged, underhanded tricks which have been raised as issues. I know both Lloyd Mahaffey and Ray Wood and neither would countenance such tactics. In fact, they do not need to do anything underhanded, the UAW has too many legitimate pressure points to rely on to make their case.

A prime example was the 35 members of the Ohio legislature who signed a letter asking Judge Cubbon to reengage with the UAW. Why is this important? Because it is the legislature which sets judicial pay in Ohio and judges love pay raises just as we all do. So this collective letter was really a shot across the bow to Cubbon and all judges—play square on collective bargaining.

Believe me, other judges will get it. We might see some gentle peer pressure exerted on Judge Cubbon who, by the way, has been an accessible, progressive force on the bench.

The Jim Hartung imbroglio seems to be expanding into a Carty v. Carroll duel. Mayor Carty Finkbeiner appears ready to go to the mat on this one. Port Authority Chairman of the Borad Bill Carroll is a real tough customer and will not back down.

Both men are quick to counter punch ... hard.

Carroll's biggest asset is that he may be one of the few guys or gals on the Port board who has put big deals together and Carty knows that. Bill Carroll has done what Carty wishes he could do. One last observation – how can Toledo get much done when City Hall is in all-out war with the Port Authority? Maybe the real goal was to get rid of Bill Carroll as chairman?

My guess is that some level of renovation will be in store for Scott High School. My guess is also that 20 years from now, the Scott students will be asking "how come we don't have a modern school like Start or Rogers?"

Those who are most vocal to save Scott will be dead or on the way. Finally, my best guess is that the Scott population may dip to as low as 650 before all is said and done with. What then?

The Toledo Public Schools' population is expected to recede from 29,500 to 22,000 by some estimates. If so, what and who will fill up the renovated Scott?

Is Alpha Towers still a seniors' complex? Are young families now admitted? What happened to the original mission of Alpha?

Wanda Penn passed away last week. Wanda was the widow of Charles Penn who was a long-time activist in Toledo and for whom the Greater Toledo Urban League's annual humanitarian award is named.

Wanda Penn was a force in her own right. She helped get me elected as mayor. She joined with about 10 other ladies who would come to Democratic head-quarters every day to make calls and do other campaign work. She will be deeply missed.

As we announced a few weeks ago, Wade Kapszukiewicz is holding a fundraiser for the Ohio Democratic Party, featuring Gov. Ted Strickland, at his home. For only \$1,000 a pop, you can hang with the governor and Wade K. This is big-time stuff. By the

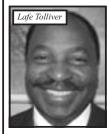
way, if you show up and bring \$250 or \$500, I'll bet they will still let you in. But they want the grand.

The Obama headquarters for the fall opened in the Warehouse District near Fifth Third Field. They need phone callers and others to help organize the GOTV – Get Out The Vote. This is the biggest political game in our lifetime. Do not miss out. Your grandchild will ask you one day this very simple question – "did you help Obama become president?"

Write a letter to the Editor email: thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com

Let's All Do the Scott Half Step ...!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq. Guest Column



Quick...and no peeking... What do the following examples all have in common?

(A) pancakes with no syrup; (B) peanut butter and no jelly; (C) a shampoo and no set; (D) a beat up high school building and no vision.

ive up?

They are all half done \dots not yet completed. They are awaiting the final touches to make the picture/task complete.

For a bonus point, in case you missed the answer, can you name the high school in part D? If you said Scott, give yourself a Bulldog shout out and go to the front

It now appears (not a firm guarantee) that the powers that be may allow a a deviation from state policy and permit a **partial** renovation of Scott High School.

Partial as in incomplete. Partial as in half-way fixed up. Partial as in almost.

Partial as in half done. Partial as in a ways yet to go.

You get the picture.

While other high schools and their communities and alumni are facing up to the challenges of the 21 the Century, the dear olf Scott Bulldogs are crying in their beer (or sodas) and want to step into a time machine and go back to the good old days at Scott ... some teary eyed nonsense about former grandeur.

They want to become sentinel statues in hugging a building that is past its prime and needs to make room for progress. Rather than take their illustrative memories (and there are many) of yore and transfer some symbolic symbols (trophy cabinets, some tiles out of the hallways, pictures off of the walls and banners) to a new building, the Bulldogs want to hang onto a decrepit building when a new one is being offered.

What is wrong with this picture? Why would Scott want to be the new school orphan and resist and wail against getting a new structure? Truth be told there is no "magic" in dem' Scott walls that will energize the student body to break out of the academic mold of seemingly being in constant academic emergency or watch.

If you are going to be in academic watch or emergency, would you not rather be embarrassed and shamed in a new building rather than an old building?

As I have said before, a rehabbed or a new building will not zing or zap the student population (which is constantly shrinking by the way) into academic excellence because excellence comes from the heart and will and not from rehabbed ceilings or new copper plumbing.

The way that certain public segments are clamoring for a rehab of Scott, one would think that if the building is rehabbed that there will be a shrine erected inside the building where one can burn incense and say a prayer to the Scott gods for saving the brick and mortar.

And as for the quick-lipped politicos who say save Scott, let's see how much they ante up when it comes time to pass the hat to raise the approximately \$12-14 million of private donations (along with the state's \$28 million) needed to complete any rehab of Scott.

Will the Toledo community and the thousands of Bulldog alumni and local corporations cough up the monies needed to save the Scott mausoleum from the wrecking ball?

From my vantage point, I say, "you have got to be kidding!" If one can not use the available psychic and emotional energies on achieving constant academic excellence and character development at Scott, why expend it on rehabbing plaster walls and outdated wiring? The Scott High School physical plant is on life supports. Will someone have the courage and decency to tell the family that it is time to let the old Scott peacefully pass away and let a new Scott arise?



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Jan Scotland Formally Announces His Challenge to Tina Skeldon Wozniak

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Republican Jan Scotland, flanked by family and supporters, formally announced his intention last week to run for the Lucas County Board of Commissioners' seat currently held by Board President Tina Skeldon Wozniak.

Scotland, the owner of a State Farm Insurance agency, spoke of the need to reduce the Lucas County tax bill and cited numerous examples of government growth even as the county population shrinks.

"I see opportunities to reduce wasteful spending by cutting duplication of efforts Democrats Pete Gerken, who is running unopposed to retain his seat, and Ben Konop are the other board members.

The three commissioners have been debating with great spirit the merits of the Lucas County Improvement Corporation (LCIC) with the

land. "It is inefficient and needs to be straightened out."

In addition to his State Farm duties, Scotland—who has served on numerous boards over the years such as the Frederick Douglass Community Center, the

"It's time for a change, we need to turn the county around"



across the board," said Scotland. "I plan on combining economic development programs that make sense and terminating ones that don't. I will work to lift from the taxpayer the burden of paying for 'green commissions' and 'mall walker' programs. And, I will strive to make it easier for businesses to come to town and stay in town."

Scotland, who received the Lucas County Republican endorsement the night before his announcement, has been a resident of Lucas County since 1981 and was appointed to a seat on City Council in 1987 to replace Linda Furney after she had been elected to the Ohio Senter of the Council of the Co

Scotland lost his campaign to retain that seat in a race that included Jack Ford, who was at that time just starting his own career as an elected official. Scotland ran for office on two later occasions – against Democratic June Boyd for a district council seat and against Ford for a state representative seat.

"It's time for a change, we need to turn the county around" said Scotland after his prepared statement as he offered his assessment of the current office holders on the Board of Commissioners. newest officeholder, Konop, challenging the way the economic development agency operates. Scotland appeared to come out on the Konop side last week thus distinguishing himself from Skeldon Wozniak on that is-

"I'm not convinced that LCIC is effective," said Scot-

NAACP Freedom Fund and the Civil Service Commission, among others—has run the Sleepy Hollow Athletic League for the past 10 years offering over 2,000 youths from around the city the chance to compete in sports such as golf, soccer, baseball and softball.

Tabernacle of Faith Completes Rise from the Ashes

Sojourner's Truth Staff

It took about a year and a half but, finally, the transition is complete. The Tabernacle of Faith Church has a new home.

This past Sunday, the church completed its raise from the ashes and closed out a series of six events celebrating the dedication of its new location at 701 W. Central, at the corner of Scottwood and Central.

Tabernacle's previous home, at Detroit and Belmont Avenues, was destroyed in a fire in January, 2007, and the congregation had carried on in the ensuing 18 months at the Clarion Westgate. They purchased the Central Avenue building, which had been the home of Central United Methodist, earlier this year.

ethodist, earlier this year. Sunday's 4 p.m. service Tabernacle did not just featured Elder Ernest Morton,

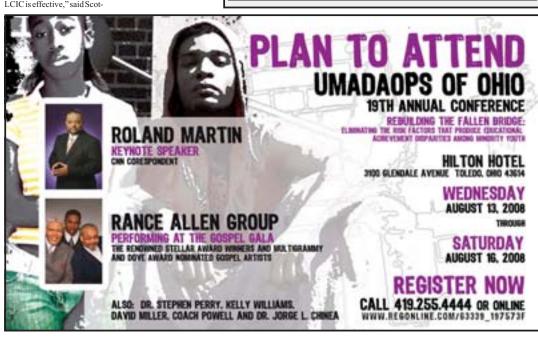


move into the new site, however. As The Truth was told by Pastor James C. Williams III, the church was virtually gutted and renovated. Only the original stained glass windows remain in the sanctuary.

Faith Tabernacle as the special guest. The five previous celebrations featured Bishop James Bowman of Antioch Holiness on July 17 and 18; Pastor Ricardo Thomas of Faith Tabernacle of Highland, MI on

(Continued on Page 7)





Open Letter to Ohio School Facilities Commission Executive Director Michael Shoemaker

Dear Mr. Shoemaker:

The Scott High School Alumni Association wants to thank you and your staff for your Toledo visit to Jesup W. Scott High School and the Ohio School Facilities Commission weighing special consideration for a newly renovated Scott High School. With OSFC's permission to allow local flexibility, the alumni will continue to work diligently with Toledo Public Schools' board to establish an affirmative plan for full renovation. Moreover, the alumni believe that such a plan can only begin with allocated dollars to Scott remain designated for the future of Scott High School.

To augment a successful renovation, other options the Alumni Association recommends TPS explore: 1) apply for alternative funding mechanisms such as Qualified Zone Academy Bonds, 2) launch a retention and recruitment campaign to maintain and increase enrollment of the 1,200 plus students currently at Scott, 3) fundraise for grant-matching opportunities, and 4) seek corporate educational partnerships to occupy space within the high school. The working plan is not yet formalized, however, exploring these options will advance the renovation goal.

Thank you once again for your visit and we look forward to hearing how OSFC would like for us to proceed. Please help us support what is best for the current and future students of Scott High School.

Sincerely,

The Jesup W. Scott High School Alumni Association

Save Our Scott Coalition Press Conference

Special to The Truth

On Thursday, July 24, the Save Our Scott Coalition launched its weekend-blitz campaign strategy which led into this week's Ohio School Facilities Commission meeting at Scott High School and Toledo Public Schools' Tuesday school board meeting.

The weekend campaign began with a morning press conference attended by a dozen and a half renovation supporters. Large yard signs that read "Save Our Scottwhere history and future meets" adorned the lawn as passing cars honked horns seemingly in agreement that renovation is the key to Scott's future.

The SOS coalition, following its press conference, sent a delegation of supporters to Columbus to speak at Ohio School Facilities Commission public meeting. Reporting back from Columbus, SOS organizer Jeff Nelson said, "the OSFC body was lively discussing the future of Scott."

The three voting members of the OSFC Committee acknowledged receipt of letters and petitions the local community sent. Nelson, along with Kathy Gagan, secretary of Landmarks Preservation Council of Northwestern Ohio, spoke before the OSFC board about the community's declaration to save and renovate Scott.

"The Toledo Public Schools has not taken on a full restoration in any of its buildings. A school is more than just brick and mortar—it's the fiber of the community, and a renovated Scott belongs in the historic Old



West End community," said Nelson.

The SOS Coalition spokesperson and Scott Alumni Advocacy Chairman Taron Cunningham outlined a working plan to renovate Scott: "The Alumni Association desires a world-class quality education for Scott students, and we believe this can best be delivered in a unique learning environment- a newly renovated Scott High School. SOS coalition needs TPS to take the leadership role to explore these options for an affirmative plan to renovate Scott:

- First the Building for Success plan calls for Scott to be renovated, we advocate allocated OSFC dollars to stay with Scott High School;
- We urge TPS to lobby OSFC to follow Governor Strickland's Advantage Ohio Regulatory Reform recommendations and allow

local flexibility by granting special considerations to Scott High School;

- We urge TPS to assist the Scott High school Alumni Association in its fundraising endeavors to explore alternative funding mechanisms, such as Qualified Zone Academy Bonds—TPS district meets the state requirements;
- We have counted that Scott's 2008 fall enrollment is over 1,200 students—the needed number of students to fully renovate Scott, less a larger Locally Funded Initiative dollar; we urge a retention and recruitment campaign to grow the student body."

The Jesup W. Scott Alumni Association embarked on TPS "Building for Success" program – in the interest of Scott high School – three years ago to ensure that the Scott learning community served as the pulse on the future direction of Scott high school, its facility and, most importantly, its student body.

After more than three years of involving a widebreadth of community folk parents at renovation retreats. Scott students in the classroom and at community forums, teachers and staffincluding retired administrators- sharing their hopes, education activists voicing their concerns, community residents within the district, alumni far and near: TPS and OSFC must follow the will of the people...the pulse of the Scott community beats overwhelmingly renovate our beloved Scott.

Speaking at the press conference was Avie Dixon who is an Alumni Association member and who taught at Scott for decades. "Scott is a beacon for Toledo's central-city community. It is a symbol of the challenges we face and the solutions we must devise in order to bring unity and stability to To-ledo," said Dixon, "Our interest is not merely preserving a building, however, our goal is to establish and nurture an educational environment for our children which will give them a comprehensive high school preparing them for demanding careers of the future."

Later on Thursday evening, Dixon and the Alumni Association President Robert Davis recorded a television airing on Step Up Toledo, a local cable television show, which aired Sunday 7/27.

The weekend-blitz also included a heavy door-knocking campaign to get thousands of renovation petitions signed to present to Toledo Public Schools Board demanding support of renovation and the means to get it done.

"My husband, Willie, found out nothing more could be done for his cancer. He still had one last goal: to see our daughter, Joya, graduate from nursing school — which was nearly a year away.

"Hospice of Northwest Ohio provided care for Willie, right in our home. I believe their expertise helped him live to see the graduation, and made a lot more good days possible for him along the way."

Laura, Willie's Wife

"Whenever we had questions, Hospice explained every answer. They knew what to provide even before we knew what to ask for. And the staff connected on a personal level, too. My dad's nurse was like part of our family.

"Hospice made all the arrangements to get dad to my graduation, including the wheelchair and portable coygen. Having dad see me cross that stage meant the world to me. Now that I'm an RN, I know great care when I see it. My dad had the best."

Joya, Willie's Daughter

Hospice can help make the end of life meaningful and fulfilling. Te learn more, ask for our FREE brochure series, "Hospice Answers." Call 419-661-4001 or visit hospicenwo.org.

Answers for Living the Last Months of Life™



Amazing Weekend Re-Cap: Jaye M. Hayes Named Mentor of the Year

By Michael Hayes Minister of Culture

I don't know about the rest of you out there, but I find ways to keep myself busy in this city.

But someone told me recently that's because I got my hands in all types of things around here, but even those who just want to spectate...there's a lot going on and my past five days has been a span of that I will never forget.

So, I have included many pictures to go along with my recapofone of the most memorable weeks and weekends in my entire life!

Let's take it back to the middle of last week at Civic Center Auditorium just after 6:30 p.m.

Jaye M. Hayes ToledoanOfTheYear MentorOfTheYear Finding ways to give the youth in this city a way to express themselves has been a part of my mom's legacy even as she was just coming into her own as an adult.

Over 20 years working in various capacities with Toledo Public Schools, over 20 years as the lead dance instructor for NYSP and all of her work with numerous churches and community organizations has amassed an outstanding reputation for being a loving and devoted ambassador of the arts and family values. Best believe. she might be my and Kai'lah's mother but she has played a part in raising countless kids around here. And they all love her and tell her how much she affected their lives anytime they see her, so Mentor of the Year makes

announced me as the winner... wow, I was so fulfilled and just... grateful for being recognized for work that some see as thankless.

"I can assure everyone, that my work or work like this is never thankless when you are adding to people's lives and development through art and encouragement. So many out there have no one to encourage them. I have tried to do my best and I'm honored for the award.

"Next I just want to continue my work and find ways to integrate myself as an entrepreneur into what I do for the youth in Toledo. I am interested in any ideas or

troit and the Trail, if you see the big water tower saying Parkway Plaza ...her shop is right there in front of it. Okay...

So while we are out in the parking lot after the awards ceremony chilling... my sister

(I call her my baby sister even though she's 20 and a sophomore at UT) started having contractions and within the next 48 hours... I became an uncle!

My sister gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, six pounds, eight ounces on July 25.

Her name is Ava Jayelee Lynn Hayes (my sis has two middle names too, long story).

see Saturday

Promenade Park

singers, poets, rappers, dance groups from around the city all got up and did amazing



We were out there to support T. Rtist, our newest and youngest artist.

As a writer/producer, when you create a song for an artist the next step is deciding how it will look onstage and even though there is more work yet to be done. I'm proud of how the material came across because we got comments on the music and lyrics.

David, Rosalinda, J Verse and a host of others brought a teen talent showcase together that anyone would be proud of as everyone from iohs

There was a young girl... they said 12 years old or so who knocked out some old school Whitney Houston... somebody get me her information, she was amazing! But yeah, it was a great day...and it actually made Toledo look like THE PLACE TO BE!

Dragon boat races on the river, Jehovah's Witness Convention at Seagate brought people down to the waterfront in droves and then you had this Teen showcase going on and it was just a

(Continued on Page 9)



We all know I have been critical of everything our city's officials do from road maintenance, to hiring practices (maybe I was just mad they didn'thire me) and even serious things like discrimi-

However, you've got to take the bad with the good and the good is that someone thought it would

be a nice idea to reward outstanding members of our community by acknowledging them for their tireless work and contributions.

Seven people were given Toledoan of the Year awards after having been selected by a panel of judges and Mayor Carty Finkbeiner. Among the categories were: humanitarian, innovation, mentor, leadership, business community investment and a mayor's award. (Two individuals were selected in the business community investment category).

The winner in the mentor of the year category was Jaye M. Hayes, owner of a dance and fashion studio, teacher of dance in youth programs and, not least of all, my mother.

sense to me, mom.

Congratulations!

Jaye M. Hayes had this to say about receiving her award for Toledo's Mentor of the Year 2008:

"I was elated to even be nominated but when they funding or assistance in making my first entrepreneurial endeavor a success. I want it to become a destination for youth around the city to improve their fitness or just even learn about the arts of fashion and dance... so I'm ready for what is next and I am so grateful. I love you all."

HIP HOP vs RAP performer "BMG"

My mom's Ha'jami Fashion and Dance Studio is in Parkway Plaza just at the beginning of where Maumee city limit starts. Across from what was Value City at De-



Girl, you can do this!

...a school dedicated to pregnant & parenting teenage girls

For enrollment information, call 419-720-4503 today! www.pollyfox.org





Art4Food Raises \$15,000 to Feed Toledo's Hungry

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Art4Food Toledo Art Show & Auction on June 7, 2008 brought together art created by celebrity and local artists along with an appreciate audience of art lovers and patrons at the Secor Building. The auction, sponsored by Cornerstone Church was designed to raise funds to help feed hungry people of the community. Last week, funds raised through the event were donated to two local organizations. United Way of Greater Toledo received \$10,000 of the proceeds and the Martin Luther King Kitchen for the Poor will receive \$5,000.

United Way is investing its portion to sponsor Second Harvest's BackPack Program for children at day camps in North Toledo. The Kitchen for the Poor will use the monies to defray its everyday expenses.

Harvey Savage, president of the Kitchen for the Poor stressed in a news conference announcing the donations from Cornerstone that the three organizations have long had a mutually beneficial relationship. "Pastor



[Michael] Pitts has been behind us for years," he said of the leader of Cornerstone. "This is not the first time we've received help from Cornerstone. And we now have a case manager through the help of [President and CEO] Bill Kitson and United Way."

The news conference was held at the site of the Friendly Center which will administer the BackPack Program to 110 children and their families. The program distributes back packs filled with food on each

Friday to children so that they can take them home with them for the weekend. The packs are filled with nonperishable, easily consumed, vitaminfortified foods for the weekend and the children return the packs to the center on Mondays.

The money provided by the Cornerstone Art4Food program will fund the BackPack Program through the fall.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to get the community involved in this ef-

fort," said Kitson. "This will affect the health of a lot of children. This will help children bring home food to nourish them over the weekend by filling in hunger gaps."

The BackPack Program is designed to help meet the needs of hungry children when other resources such as free-reduced school lunches or summer youth program meals are not available, according to information provided by United Way



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Infants
Toddlers
Pre-schooler's
&
School Age



Tabernacle of Faith

(Continued from Page 4)

July 20 and Rev. Donald Coleman, pastor of Mt. Carmel Holiness Church of Chicago, IL on July 24 and

As Williams related several weeks ago in an interview with this newspaper, the Tabernacle of Faith has a unique mission. "We minister to the whole man," said Williams. "Salvation is the beginning, abundant life living is next. We gotnext!"





Two Toledo Area Youngsters Will be Invading Hollywood Soon

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Margaret O'Brien's Starbound NYC stopped in Toledo recently and took in a show. They got their money's worth.

This talent agency – the same one that discovered Toledo Katie Holmes and got her ticket to Hollywood punched – were at it again. This time, two lucky Toledo youngsters will be getting tickets to the West Coast.

Tyree Bell, a 17-year-old junior to be at Scott High School, and Nicole Herndon, a nine-year-old third grader at McKinley, were performing in Positive Force's annual recital in June when they came under the scrutiny of the talent scouts from Starbound. As

a result, both will be heading to Los Angeles in January 2009 for a round of auditions and interviews.

Tyree, whom The Truth profiled almost three years ago, has been dancing with Positive Force, under the guidance of founder and artistic director Sheila Gibson, since he was eight years old.

"It feels like I'm on a cloud," he said in an interview in 2005 of what happens to him during a performance. "I feel very calm."

And as he told us then, he plans to prolong his association with dance. "I want to become a versatile dancer and then a famous choreographer by studying all types of dance." Broad-

way was and still is Tyree's goal, he told us just recently.

In fact, he would like to attend college in New York City so he can be close to the dance and entertainment scene.

First, however, a quick side trip to the other coast.

Tyree will be leaving in January on an all-expense paid trip to Los Angeles to audition for situation comedies, modeling ads and dance shows. In the meanime, talent coaches with Starbound will be working with the youth on developing his all-around talents – acting and singing, for example.

For Tyree, who was in-

troduced to dance by an older sister who was under Gibson's tutelage at the time, this discovery is the culmination of many years of work and the expectation that his talent would eventually be unveiled.

For Nicole Herndon, however, such a discovery was as unexpected as it was unlikely, says her mother Jan Herndon.

Nicole, says her mother, was born prematurely and had a learning disability. She did not start talking until the age of four and then, at five, was diagnosed with diabetes.

"She went through a lot of trials and tribulations," says Jan Herndon. "She started school a year late because she had so much catching up to do. This kid has been through the wringer."

Just by chance, Gibson's father encountered the Herndons shortly after they moved to Toledo three years ago and noticed how Nicole moved around so much. She

suggested they enroll the six-year old in dance school. "The rest is history," says Jan Herndon.

Well, not yet it isn't. Actually the history is still being made.

Nicole now gets all A's and B's on her report card. "She cries if she gets a B," says Jan Herndon. In fact, Herndon credits the dance classes – Nicole is taking three this summer and a gymnastics class – with the improved grades and helping to keep the diabetes under control due to the strenuous physical activity.

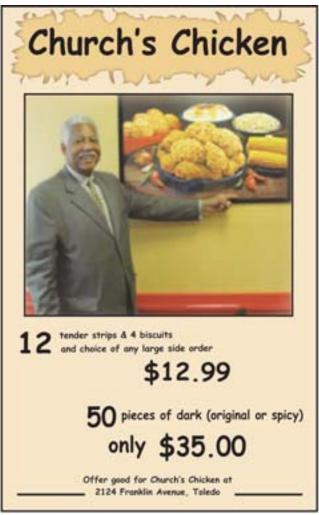
Needless to say, the fact that Nicole has been selected to visit Hollywood, all expenses paid, is icing on the cake. The family has been told that Nicole is just what companies such as Disney and Nickelodeon are seeking.

So it's somewhere over the rainbow for a round of visits with directors, producers and agents ... for both Tyree and Nicole.

Now, that's entertainment.







Amazing Weekend

(Continued from Page 6)

great look!

As soon as that was over, had to start getting ready for

HipHopvs.RapShowdown at Mickey Finns - brought to you by U.G.E. & Stressed Out Productions

The 16 Bar Beast Freestyle Battle got underway after waiting on more of the confirmed contestants to arrive and I have to say, I've never seen anything like it.

First tho, even before that jumped off-we decided to do something only we would be crazy enough to attempt: "A Milli Marathon.'

That's right, we let any and everyone in the place who felt like they wanted to flow get up on stage and flow over Lil Wayne's monster banger.

Damn! Didn't think it would go on for 20 minutes,

But wow, the rhymes got iller and iller with every pass around the cipher.

Then guess who stole the show?

Just guess who? SINGER/ U.G.E. songwriter - Aye Dee.

I battle him all the time of ... okay, I'll just say that ..

when we are playing around between rehearsals and sessions, but after Saturday night I might think twice. Why our male singer had one of the illest rap flows of the "A Milli Marathon" is beyond me, but the crowd was just as amazed as we were.

The 16 Bar Beast Freestyle Battle Winner:

D.C. a/k/a Lenz.

In the championship round D.C. and Wes Craven went head to head in what will be an unforgettable battle

um...yeah.

Expect to see tha boy D.C. in these pages real soon (holla at me dude).

Congrats on ya victory! Also, have to say that even though we had to cut the night short and not everyone got as much burn as they hoped, everyone got seen and heard and it was a show to remember.

Footage will be up real soon, I'll keep everyone posted.

Ladi of Dangerously Am-(Continued on Page 12)

Local Playwright Celebrates 50th Birthday with Staged **Production**

Sojourner's Truth Staff



"I want plays to minister to people and to touch people."

says local playwright Marcia Lynn Stanton. "I want to make them laugh and to deal with sensitive subjects.

So on the occasion of her 50th birthday, Stanton did just that with her play titled MeMah. Last Saturday evening, Stanton and her family, friends and fans of theatre enjoyed a buffet dinner at the Genesis Dreamplex after being treated to MeMah, a 12-character story about a grandmother, her son, his wife, his talented daughter, his son and the brotha' next door,

"It's about a mother - the backbone of the family - and what happens when crisis threatens," said Stanton a few minutes before dinner. "It's a blended family in a mess ... in an uproar. Even though it's a Christian home, prayer has been excluded and that's the

The term "MeMah" comes from the South and is a term of endearment for the family matriarch ... "big mama" as Stanton explained.

Stanton, a hair stylist by trade, is no stranger to the arts. She is an accomplished musician having sung in such far-flung locales as Bulgaria and New Zealand; she writes short stories and she is a comedienne. Her visual art has been on display for the last three years at the Toledo Museum of Art and she is a two-time recipient of the Toledo Museum of Art Juneteenth Award.

In addition to the play, the audience also saw the praise dancers, Steps of Grace from St. James "The Armory," perform "That Name" sung by ... no other than Stanton herself. Next up for Stanton? She has just completed a play titled Under the Blood about gang violence which will be produced in 2009.



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1970s Group Sets Toledo Zoo on Fire!

By Geneva J. Chapman, Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The group Earth, Wind, & Fire was formed in 1969, the year I graduated from high school. Bythen, I was a firmly rooted in the "Motown Sound" and Aretha Franklin, so when the group became popular in the 1970s, the mass appeal of their mixture of soul, R&B, funk and disco completely bypassed me.

I went to college and traded in Motown's Temptations for

I was not terribly enthused, but as a big fan of live performance of any kind (I have been known to enjoy things as hokey as a hog-calling contest!), I agreed and knew I'd have a good time no matter who was performing.

I'd never been to one of the Toledo Zoo's popular concerts (I have this crowd phobia problem) and thought it might be worth a trip to one nearly drowning out the music coming from the stage. I even knew the words of almost all of the choruses (hey, I heard those songs on the radio so much 'back in the day,' they must have slipped into my subconscious!).

This is when I usually give my readers a moment by moment account of the event, putting them there, letting them feel the excitement and conga drums, kalimbas (African thumb pianos) and the voice of the wind (I swear Philip Bailey's voice does not begin or end in his vocal chords but somewhere in the stratosphere that he then channels through his vocal apparatus!).

What you'd see would be leaps of fire, jumping and leaping across space in bursts of energy and power unlike any force of nature (EW&F moves with such energy and force across a stage, it's like watching a scene from "The Matrix" sped up).

What you'd feel is the rumblings and undulating movement of mountains and rivers, flowing underneath you as you felt the rush of all of nature's quiet fury.

In other words, the group is baaaad!

Music I once grew weary hearing on the radio thrilled me as I listened intently to the musicianship of some exceptional musicians. At least a third of the performance was instrumental, much to my delight – I can take or leave vocals most of the time unless someone with an exceptional voice is singing, like Toledo's Ramona Collins, Stevie Wonder or Philip Bailey!

Yes, I'm a fan now.

What that man can do with a high note should be in "Ripley's Believe it Or Not." He may not be classified as a jazzvocalist, but at times during the Toledo Zoo concert, his voice was indistinguish-

able from the horns in EW&F's sensational brass section.

My other favorite was Verdine White, who gave us a Jimi Hendrix turn on his bass. I always found his long, straight locks an attractive look on the slight-built darkskinned man, but seeing him in person, I realize just how handsome he is - even 40 years later. The third original member of the group, Ralph Johnson, did a drum duet with Bailey that showed the musicians' range. Bailey started it all with an African drum solo that took me back to Africa. I don't know where the rest of the audience went, but they had a good time getting there and back.

Then, Johnson echoed with the snare drums, joining with Bailey to start another of the group's many hits and driving the audience into a frenzy that was only surpassed when the three 'originals' were introduced. Highlights of the show are hard to distinguish since the entire two-hour concert was a 120-minute stellar performance.

However, the love songs interlude during which the group sang its memorable ballads just as the sun set and day turned to dusk, brought couples into focus as they nestled against each other, husbands singing softly to wives and wives looking dreamily into space remembering when they first heard the words "I love you."

That was a moment.

Then, there was the finale. The group left the stage and the crowd turned into a mob of relentless fans demanding more as they pounded the backs of the aluminum seats we sat upon until all 11 of the men who'd just sung and played their hearts out came back onstage to do two more numbers.

Everyone heard their favorites. I don't have one, but I'll never dismiss the music and showmanship of EW&F again. Having experienced both at the Toledo Zoo, I know the meaning of the word "superstar."

I saw 11 superstars at the Toledo Zoo concert.

I couldn't wait to call my brother John in California when I got home to tell him about my conversion to EW&F fandom. He has a reggae band that actually reminds me a lot of the group. He agreed with me that he'd never liked the group much and always thought their lyrics were silly, but that they were all great musicians (we generally agree on most things).

He told me that EW&F had just played in the northern California community a 100 miles or so from San Francisco where he lives. The tickets for that concert were \$150.00. The Toledo Zoo's concert was a bargain!

Several thousand people paid half that amount and less to hear and see the best performance I've ever seen by musical group.



the Chi-Lites and the Queen of Soul for Roberta Flack, since my own singing style was closer to hers than anyone else I heard on the radio. The constant barrage of Earth, Wind & Fire hits on the radio during my last years of undergraduate school and my entire time in graduate school didnot change my mind about the group.

I found their music irritating and it played nonstop on every single radio station – pop, soul, rock & roll, you name it – everybody played Earth, Wind & Fire!

Seeing Maurice White leading the band in their energetic performances on television reinforced my opinion that the group was all show with no substance in their lyrics and pop melodies that would not stand the test of time. I was right about one thing: Earth, Wind & Fire definitely put on a show.

I found this out nearly 40 years later when the group put on the concert of the summer at the Toledo Zoo, Wednesday, July 23, 2008.

A friend had asked me to go to see EW&F with her a couple of months ago. I admit of my favorite Toledo tourist attractions to go and see what all the hoopla is about; besides, my friend paid for the tickets and dinner before the show – how could I turn that down?

The show at the zoo was incredible, to say the least. Thousands showed up to fill every seat and the crowd reminded me just how exciting live performances are. I've grown so used to lackluster responses to performances in Toledo, no matter how fantastic, I was not prepared for the response EW&F received at the Toledo Zoo.

People went absolutely berserk when the 11-member band came on stage a little after 7:30 pm and played nonstop until a little after 9:30 pm. People stood down front right up against the stage, dancing, screaming, applauding and just having a good time – something you see in other places, not in Toledo.

All around me, people sang along with familiar songs, whose melodies still hold up nearly 40 years later (proving my youthful lack of wisdom) and the memorable lyrics were shouted out, the spirit of what took place. There is no way, however, that I can describe an EW&F

I promised the staff at the Glendale Gardens Cafe where my friend and I had dinner before the show that I would write a story that made them feel as if they attended the concert, which they missed since they had to work (Chef Lius tried to persuade me to trade places with him and take over his cooking duties – as if I could!).

What hubris on my part! I can no more describe an EW&F than I can describe (I can't make the comparison I'd like to make here since this is a family newspaper), let's say, a moment of sheer ecstasy (you get my drift!).

Imagine the combined elements of earth, wind and fire converging in a single space for a moment to create, not an earthquake, volcano or tornado, but an ethereal experience of pure energy and joy that you can hear, see and feel.

What you'd hear would be the sounds of trumpets, saxophones, trombones, snare drums, keyboards,



Old West End Daycare Center Graduates 10 Preschoolers

The Sojourner's Truth reporter

Preschoolers from Old West End Daycare Center celebrated their accomplishments with a graduation in front of their family members and friends at The University of Toledo on Saturday, July 26.

Center Executive Director Patricia Dumbuva believes that a successful childcare development center should provide a sound foundation so children can succeed later in life. "This is what our preschool program is about, kindergarten readiness." said Dumbuya. "Our main goal throughout the year has been to equip the kids with the social and cognitive skills needed to succeed in kindergarten."

Dumbuva welcomed the guests as the 10 graduates were introduced. The Old West End Daycare Center's class of 2008 included: Akyia Burt, Azzure Clay, Allen Fell, Artasia Hopkins, Ta'Ron Jordan, Brishawn Reed, Selena Sell, Cassius Shaw, Dakotta Toney and James Turnbull

was excited about her be Cinderella." daughter's pending future. "She's been at the center for about a year, and I picked that daycare be- an average student while

Whatley continued his speech by talking about his childhood and how he was



cause it had a good reputation," said Toney. "I'm just so proud, she's going to be a doctor someday."

Guest speaker Larry Whatley of WTOL News 11 encouraged parents and graduates in the areas of goal setting, goal completion and educational objectives, "It's such a pleasure to be here, this is a historic occasion with these kids graduating at The Univer-

attending Bowling Green State University. "If you keep being good, someone will notice you and then good things will happen for you."

Toledo area magician Jimmy Gaines entertained the crowd with a few magic tricks, which included a

Parents Sylvia Emory and Bill Redd with Brishawn Reed



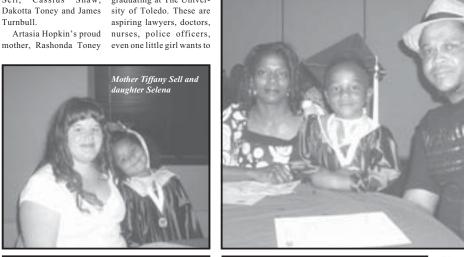
card trick and magical bending stick trick. Then special recognitions were given to center's staff and graduate parents.

mained the backbone of our program. They have been

center. And to that end, I take my hat off to them."

Before closing the afternoon event. 10 excited graduates received their certificates and words of wisdom from center administrator, Francis Dumbuva, who spoke about the challenges of minority students. "Personally, being a minority and having been a product of the inner-city, I know the challenges our parents face in raising their children," said Mr. Dumbuya. "I understand the challenges our children face in attending a poorly equipped school system. As a result, I feel an inherent responsibility to do my part in educating our children.'

The Old West End Daycare Center is located at 2700 Monroe Street in Toledo and the phone number is 419-244-8431.



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diligent in working with the children," said Patricia Dumbuya. "Some days have been more challenging than others, but through it all, our staff has remained committed to caring for the children that attend the



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Amazing Weekend

(Continued from Page 9)



bitious Ent. Amazing job stepping in as freestyle battle hostess and then killed it on the stage even with a sore throat. U.G.E. and Ladihold each other down always!

D.J. Boodyl - stepping in at the 11th hour when we needed a replacement D.J. and he was the perfect choice.... had the perfect ear of what to play when and just made things run ever so smoothly. And one more unlikely hero of the evening, U.G.E.'s Darron Scott.

When the hip-hop side of our roster has to perform, the

The official U.G.E. after hours spot...a/k/a IHOP on Talmadge was poppin until 4 a.m., then it was right back up five hours later to get ready for

Bash At The Bay with Hutch Daddy \$ Yung Joc.

Just over two thousand people showed up at Maumee Bay for a free concert and it proved that once again, Hutch Daddy Dolla gets Toledo to do

Dude, I'm thankful for this cat for real.

Police presence was awk-

may not even matter, but I watched as a steady stream of acts gave their best effort to get the crowd on their side.

Even the D.J.'s and hosts were surprised at the crowd's indifference, U.G.E. artist Darron Scott performed new joint "Fabolous," Onasis performed "Boppers" and Aye Dee had them backing him on 'We Get Chose'

R&B singer Tracy performed"Go Live" and recently signed rap artist Cuntry did his hit "Look At Me.

Yung Joc and Hot Styles got into "Lookin Boy" and other notable joints and ended it with his mega hit "It's Goin Down"...and his show was

Controlled the crowd, gave away shoes and money, cracked on the soundman (the sound was really a problem, yo, for real!)

He even brought up one of the deputy sheriff dudes onstage to talk about them trying to end the show early (which they did anyway).

All in all, you bring that many people out to the bay and give Toledo a whole new look... 's a success regardless of the bull that may have happened.

Hutch, I see ya vision playboy, keep doing it. Toledo gonna hold you down.

You please believe me on

The last few days have been AMAZING and I wanna give shouts and props to everyone who made it amazing

Apple, Kat, Natasha, Nancy If you see a beautiful woman at the door at a U.G.E. show.

voubettarespectthem. They work hard and they make it Ladies, thank you ever so

much... (Apple!!!!)

Mike jam - looking forward

to working with you, glad you like the material.

Hutch, Brandy Brown, Sheron, Lil D (U.G.E. welcomes you to the Glass City) and errybody at Hot 97.

D.C. - JOOKS - Nothing (securittyyy!!) - Wes Craven and all the other signees and participants for the Freestyle Battle at the Hip Hop vs. Rap showdown

Rick, Marcus, Corey, Ado-

nis, Chazy and all the artists and people who offered their assistance.

Thank you all, and once again congrats to my mom for her award and my sister on her successful and amazing delivery (all natural, like a boss!) and welcome to the world Ava

Glasscitytruth@yahoo.com



This Strikes Me...

left Cortez Fuqua, 20, and Lava Kitchen, 21, both of Lima, with minor injuries. Dr. Tony Atkins asks - do you think they'll play my CD, now? Homey Put the Gun

Away is a direct response to this kind of action. The information for this age group is put forward to them - straight talk in a language they understand. Dr. Atkins has received commendations for his work across the nation but not in the community that is his focus. He's gone to every radio station to ask them to include the positive messages from his rap CD on their playlists to help get vital information to the kids that need to hear it. Every station has turned him down. And the violence is on the rise. "I don't understand this community! What are we waiting for? I've been begging them to address this for two years - now look where we are! Are they ready to listen now, or must more people die?

Sixth Ward Councilman Derry Glenn voiced frustration with the reaction of law enforcement and the community. "We wanted to offer another gun buy-back program. The last one we had was successful - but I had to fund it out of my own pocket! I can't afford to do that again, but other agencies do have money for these types of programs - it's just a matter of finding out how far they are willing to let it go. The people that carry guns are getting to be younger and younger – and we need to be investigating to find out how these young people are getting these guns! Who is buying them; supplying them? We need to find out."

Jesse Lowe II is the founder of "Drugs Bring Death". "We've had three shootings, four victims in three days. It has to stop. We have to do something to stop



singers usually get to chill and show support.

This dude knew we were short some executives and took it upon himself to fill some bigger shoes that night and showed his organizational skills off by keeping things in order behind the scenes.

Good look on dat one Cuzo - you know U.G.E. is short staffed.

G., Black Swamp Coalition, Ladi, B.M.G., Yung Flo, Onasis and S.S.T.R.E.S. all gave performances that kept the audience in their seats ... and a whole night full of "local" music is a lot to ask of the average audience ... so if everyone stayed put, you know the talent was on point!

Special shouts to Yung Flo and B.M.G. for just blowing it out the water with their energy

intense delivery.

ward at times, but everything was thankfully drama free so

Just about every D.J. you can think of was there

D.J. Kausion, D.J. One Tyme, D.J. Big Lou Da Mayor, D.J. Mpress, D.J. Illsid, and a host of area producers, rappers, it was like a little micro local entertainment scene, with no beef and no one acting funny that I was aware of. A few performers from Detroit showed up too.

Only thing that made the day less than stellar:

1. Toledo crowds are resistant to anyone they don't personally know;

2. The sound was so bad that the day ended with chants of "Kill the sound man."

Yeah, Toledo crowds only check for people they can say "yeah, I know him..." so whether ya music is hot or not



Two New BGSU Trustees Named

Special to The Truth

Real estate executive David J. Levey, a 1971 Bowling Green State University graduate, has been appointed by Gov. Ted Strickland to a nine-year term on the BGSU Board of Trustees. Levey replaces Michael Wilcox of Toledo, whose term ended in the

spring

Also newly appointed is Antwan Jones, a doctoral student in sociology at the University, to a two-year term as the graduate student trustee. He succeeds Brady Gaskins in that position.

Levey, of Akron, is an



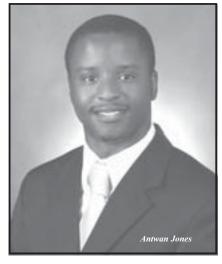
executive vice president with Forest City Enterprises Inc., an \$8 billion, publicly traded real estate firm based in Cleveland. His specific responsibilities are in the residential, multifamily group, where he handles acquisition and development activities in the eastern part of the country.

In his 26 years with Forest City, Levey's duties have also included syndication of public housing projects and development and construction of hotel properties. A nationally recognized expert in Historic Adaptive Reuse Development, he has been responsible for historic redevelopment in Philadelphia: Richmond, Va.: Washington D.C.; Boston, and Dallas, collaborating closely with the National Park Service to accomplish these urban redevelopment

Prior to joining Forest City, Levey was executive director of the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority. He is a member of the National Multifamily Housing Council and the Akron Children's Concert Society, as well as an avid gardener and gourmet cook. A frequent speaker at national conferences, he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from BGSU in 1971.

Jones, the new graduate student trustee, earned a master's degree in sociology from Bowling Green in 2007 and is currently pursuing a second master's degree, in applied statistics. He received his bachelor's degree in sociology and African American studies from Duke University in 2004.

The North Carolina native now resides in Maumee, Ohio, and is a member of BGSU's Sociology Graduate Students Association, African American Graduate Students Association and



Graduate Student Senate. Active in many Toledoarea civic organizations as well, he has also served on the American Sociological Association's Student Forum Advisory Board and the Society for the Study of Social Problems Board of Directors. In 2007, Jones

was the recipient of the Donald J. and Susan E. Adamchak Graduate Student Award in Demography.

Write A Letter to The Editor email: thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com



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In Memoriam

Hugo L. Johnson May 16, 1950 – July 23, 2008



If you ever took the Collingwood Avenue exit heading south on I 75, you knew Hugo L. Johnson. Hugo was a fixture at the Collingwood exit for many years. Hugo passed away last week at St. Vincent's.

Born in 1950 to Arlene Lathen and Hugo L. Johnson, Hugo's sisters are Deanna, Pauline, Anita, Rosland and Esther. His brothers are Curtis, Wade, Leon, Joel and Todd.

Hugo leaves behind his children Tonia, Taurus and Hugo, Jr . and a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Hugo enjoyed skating, boxing and writing poetry. Although he was homeless, he enjoyed his life and was sent home by the angels.

The wake will be held at Tate Funeral Home on Saturday, August 2 at 11 a.m. and the funeral will follow at the same location at noon.

The Peacock Café will be holding a fundraiser for Hugo's expenses on Friday evening from 8 p.m. to close. Hugo's suit has been donated by Jack's Men's Wear.

Jack Ford Files Discrimination Charge Against Toledo Urban League

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Jack Ford, member of the Toledo Board of Education, has filed a discrimination charge against the Greater Toledo Urban League (GTUL). Ford, who was recently a finalist for the position or president/CEO of the GTUL, claims in his complaint that "I believe I have been unlawfully discriminated against due to Respondent's consideration of my age."

The president's position became open when former-President Johnny Mickler resigned to take a similar position in his hometown of Greenville, SC.

John C. Jones, who had led the GTUL Young Professionals for several years, was named president/CEO in April and officially took over the reins of the organization in June.

"A civil rights organization should get it right if

nobody else does," said Ford earlier this week in an interview with this paper. "It struck me as bizarre that the Urban League would say they made a decision, in part, based upon age."

Ford cites in his complaint a statement by board member and then-interim President Paul L. Hubbard that "he wanted a vounger guy in the position."

"Had it been an isolated

incident, I probably would have ignored it," said Ford, "but there were other incidents.

Elaborating on the other incidents, Ford referred to his second interview with an Urban League national search team and their pattern of questions about his experience and an interview given by Hubbard to a media outlet early in the process in which he stated that the interim president, a position Ford also sought, would not be considered for the permanent position.

Ford, who has started several non-profit agencies including SASI and Adelante, Inc and is very familiar with the fundraising aspects of such organizations, further stated in his complaint that "I have more experience in fund-raising and non-profit leadership," than the current leader of the Urban

"Somebody ought to send me a note saying we had other reasons," said Ford who is also a columnist for this paper.

The former mayor of Toledo said that he is seeking a specific remedy. "At the least, the board should be required to undergo training so it doesn't happen again," said Ford.

The Urban League has declined comment on these mat-

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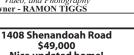
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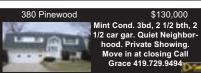
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CLASSIFIEDS

July 30, 2008

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Latinos for Obama

The Latino Democratic Caucus will sponsor a Latino "get together" for Obama on Aug 14 at El Camino Real (Toledo) from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM The purpose is to inform the community about various ways to assist in the Obama election campaign. Jesse Torrence, Obama campaign organizer, will present the strategies.

Please save the date and come. There is no admission fee. There will be food and a cash bar. Furthermore, information will be provided re-

garding several dates (in Aug, Sept and Oct) for voter education. These forums will take place at the Sofia Quintero Center. Angelita Cruz-Bridges will be coor-dinating the forums.

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Coffee With The Fords

Coffee With The Fords airs Every Sunday at 6:30 am on WTVG-13abc and can now be seen on www.13abc.com so you can link to the guests, places, and events that make living in our region so great!

August 3, 2008

Co Hosts Cynthia and Jack Ford welcome world renowned artists, Phil and Natalie Fisher, back to Toledo while on a whirlwind tour of the Midwest, Phil is a 1964 graduate of DeVilbiss High School and has a spot in the DeVilbiss Hall of Fame located at Frisch's on Secor Rd. in Toledo, Ohio.

Meanwhile, Mud Hens Manager, Joe Napoli, is on deck for the second segment to show off the action taking place in Lucas County's Fifth Third Field. Next, the Fords will show you where you can get some great food and atmosphere before and after the game. Batter Up!

August 10, 2008

Co Hosts Cynthia and Jack Ford invite viewers to "Come and Play All Day at Put-In-Bay... the 'Key West' of The Great Lakes" while catching the 2nd Jet Express Charter from the brand new Toledo Passenger Terminal, at 1701 Front Street, Toledo, Ohio. The round trip tickets are \$60.00 and include The Sunset Cruise all the way home on Sunday, August 24th. All proceeds from the event benefit The Toledo Animal Shelter. Seating is limited. Groups welcome. Call to make reservations at 1-800-245-1538. Jack Fines, Esq., chairman of the Toledo Animal Shelter Board will bring a special guest, "Rover", for viewers to meet and fall in love with. Edible Puppy Chow is on the menu at the kitchen counter!

August 17, 2008

Learn what we have in common with Toledo, Spain as co-hosts Cynthia and Jack Ford interview the founder of The Association of The Two Toledos, Lee Murray, and local artist Steve Conine whose raging paintings were created here and abroad! Finally, in the third segment, Senorita Cassandra teaches the flair of Spanish spices with a delectable dish demonstration. The temperature will be hot ... Ole!

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Lewis Family Reunion



Toledo was the site for the family reunion of descendants of Maggie Nicholson Lewis and Ossie Lewis on July 26

and 27, 2008.

Over 100 family members and five generations of Lewises came to the Glass City from Ohio,

Michigan, Kentucky, Texas, Alabama, Oklahoma, New Jersey and California.

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and Franklin Delano Lewis served as the chairmen of the event, the first year that the younger generation had organized the reunion.

The Lewis family first put together a reunion about 20 years ago, here in Toledo, the main hub of the family according to family member Brenda Powell. This was a major reunion, said Powell, because so many members of the family had not attended previous gather-

The children of Maggie and Ossie are Mayome Smith, Arkerdella (Lewis) Howard, Nancy Turner Bey, Franklin Lewis and their deceased siblings: Sylvester Lewis, Ruth Lewis, Charles Lewis, Dorothy Mae Wright and Frances Spencer.