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The Sojourner's Truth

Volume 15, No.26 "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..." April 15, 2009

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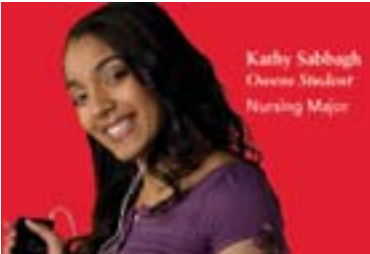
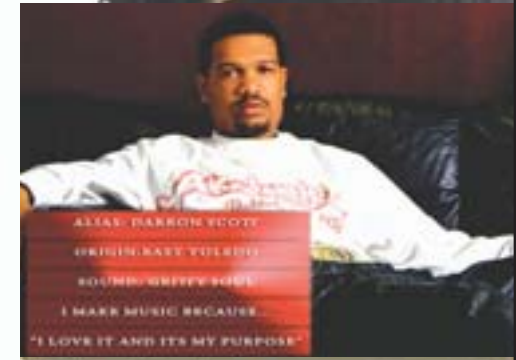
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Leadership Matters

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.
The Truth Contributor



Last week's Glass City Jungle and El Tiempo newspaper reported the potential loss of \$6 million in social service funding by Lucas County Job and Family Services (JFS) at the worst possible time of economic hardship and unemployment. Heaped atop the pressing issues caused by decisions to hack social safety nets from budgets are the additional heavy burdens of poverty, racism, sexism, classism and the resulting oppression from human-made misery. This is the theater in which several local elections or organizational appointments are being played out in a post-industrial, post-civil rights, post-racial and post-

Katrina Toledo.

What leaders should be anointed for these times which follow the now transcended Civil Rights movement which increased numbers of voters and was successful in breaking the barrier of legalized segregation but failed to address the social problems of unemployment, educational inequality, healthcare disparity and the weapon of mass deception called substandard or predatory lending?

What values should one vying for the chief seats of authority bring to the table in light of Hurricane Katrina which revealed a widely-held position that the most vulnerable in our society do not matter; or a supposed "post-racial" period when the election of the nation's first African-American president is used as an excuse to substitute the social responsibility to remove structural and institutional barriers to equality with the deceptive discourse of colorblindness, meritocracy, individual responsibility and open free market economies which ignores racial, social and economic disparities?

Or what perspective must one bring to this 21st Century arena where the most dire issue facing the community may be the rapidly expanding threat of personal meaninglessness, worthlessness and despair which is revealed in the symptomatic grim realities of violence, drugs and crime which plague not only our city but our nation.

It is clear that a new paradigm of moral leadership, which Cornel West argues must "move beyond the pitfalls of racial reasoning and the lack of courage to address the market moralities of black life," is demanded by the pressing complex social, political and economic problems that we face daily.

Budget documents and funding priorities are moral documents which reflect a leader's concept of justice and morality. When human capital development is sacrificed at the expense of short-term free market gains or economic development it is simply immoral. When poverty is put on the back burner and the deadly factors and events that keep persons trapped in its revolving cycle are ignored, leadership is a failure and has missed the mark of the true end and scope of our purpose. That is theologically-defined as "sin."

Investing in people, however, is not only moral but it is also fiscally responsible. It costs \$26,295 per prisoner to confine an inmate in Ohio but costs only one third of that amount to train or educate them. The short-term savings generated from social service budgetary cuts in most instances will result in greater long-term human and financial costs. A leader for these times must be moral, in the sense that he or she understands the need to rebuild our economy by making investments in people and their futures a priority, particularly through policies that protect and lift our children and families out of poverty.

A moral leader will also champion equality in education. The growing inequality between predominately white and black schools and performance of their students is fueled by a system which provides selective technical and commercial training as well as up-to-date instructional technology for the white schools while students in black schools face inexperienced teachers more frequently, are less likely to be provided with rigorous or engaging curricula, unlikely to meet with counselors and face other obstacles necessary for academic development.

In addition to educational equity, it is necessary to emphasize the moral imperative for health care for all and exhibit the political will to advocate for reform and help turn the current resistance into a political possibility as 47 million people abandoned by our healthcare system attempt to fend for themselves.

The unemployment rate for African-Americans is double that of whites at nearly each age and gender category. Many youth who desire a living wage but who have found the structural barriers and institutional racism too formidable, out of despair turn to self-destructive activities or behavior. It is critical that leaders provide jobs, jobs, jobs! This can be through infrastructure opportunities, the emerging green economy or by providing training and opening access to various trade and skill organizations.

Finally there is a need for young voices to be brought onto the political and organizational center stage, either at the helm or in an auxiliary capacity with the ability to inform the central agenda. We continue to allow the cream of so much local young and minority talent to be skimmed by other cities and states because we are slow to facilitate leadership development, mentoring and exposure for young African Americans who are born and raised in Toledo.

The intergenerational partnership and dialog should continue across racial lines, particularly with other ethnic minorities as new coalitions and collaborations are becoming increasingly important due to shifting demographics. The search for common ground is indispensable as we attempt to be moral and just in our engagement with the complexity of the public-policy issues of our day.

Contact Donald Perryman, D. Min, at drlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org

Community Calendar

March 21-April 18

Marvin Vines Art Exhibit: The Truth Art Gallery; Opening reception on March 21 from 6 to 9 pm: 419-243-0007

April 15-17

Calvary MBC Revival: 7 pm nightly; Guest Bishop Clifton Jones of Agape Love Ministries of Sandusky

April 17

Lagrange Street's Customer Appreciation Day: 11 am to 5 pm; Shops and stores sidewalk sales, raffles and give-aways: 419-255-8406

April 17-18

Evangelistic Crusade: Se'Lah Ministries; Services nightly at 7 pm; Power House Tabernacle; Host Pastor Nelson Clark; Guest speakers include Sis Freda McCoy

April 18

West Toledo Bereavement Support Ministry: Community Center Port Lawrence Homes; 10 am: 419-241-2133

Fifth "Annual Health in Motion" Health Fair: Warren AME; 10 am to 2 pm; Free healthy lunch for attendees; Screenings for vision and hearing, blood pressure, diabetes and more: 419-243-2273

Baggage Free Luncheon for Women: Presented by Free N Christ Summit; Hosted by Church of the Living God; 10 am to 2 pm; Guest speakers Min Helen Talbert of LA and Min Tabaita Williams of Perfecting Word Church of Detroit: 419-754-4071

April 19

Indiana Avenue MBC: 44th Anniversary celebration for Pastor John Roberts and Mother Bernice Roberts; 4 pm; Guests Rev. Jerry Boose and Second Baptist

Warren AME Lay Witness Sunday: 10:45 am worship service; Guest speaker is former Scott band director Edward Dixon: 419-536-9204

Shiloh MBC: Celebration of Pastor Theodis Horton's 23 years of service; "Pastor Shepherding the Lord's Sheep;" Guest Rance Allen and New Bethel: 419-693-6698 or 419-535-0615

April 25

"Take Back The Night:" End violence against women rally; Start High School; 6 pm - resource fair and displays; 7 pm - community rally: 419-530-3432 or tbntoledo@yahoo.com

11th Annual Free Prostate Screening Program: Toledo Council of Black Nurses and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; Cordelia Martin Health Center; 10 am to 2 pm: 419-531-4310

Warren AME Oral Health Workshop for Youth: Noon to 2 pm: 419-243-2237

Abundant Joy Ministries: Youth Biblical Rap Session; "It's OK to Say No;" Kent Branch Library; 2:30 to 5 pm: 419-787-3732 or 419-699-0586

April 27

Women's Entrepreneurial Network's Trade Show: Ramada Westgate (formerly the Clarion); 1 to 6 pm; For vendor information call Beth Miller at 419-254-6034

The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American
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My View

By Jack Ford
The Truth's Political Columnist



because he has an attractive message.

Keith Wilkowski tried to give an address on Sunday April 4 to the members of the Elks Club on Junction Avenue. But Wilkowski ran into a buzz saw of questions over loyalty from Weldon Douthitt and Elks kingpin, Junior Alexander. Give Wilkowski credit for showing up at a black event and taking some tough hits. However, where was Ben Konop? Mike Bell? Jim Moody?

School board candidate Aji Green had a very successful fundraiser a few weeks ago at Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church. Green pulled in \$4,100 on his first effort which is pretty impressive.

Just a few more along those lines and Green is well on his way. Now, don't spend your money, Aji! Save it until the last two weeks and put all of it into television and print media. That's how you win. Make sure you have a good media team.

My take on the Toledo Board of Education race has the following line up in this order - Bob Vasquez, Darlene Fisher, Brenda Hill and Green. But if Green raises big bucks, he can win

The pending retirement of UAW Region 2-B (all of Ohio) President Lloyd Mahaffey is a real loss to everyone. Mahaffey is one of the great labor leaders in America. He has been a great friend to working men and women.

Mahaffey believes in black leadership, both inside and outside of the UAW. He made sure people of color were given opportunities to lead. I would never have been mayor of Toledo had it not been for Lloyd Mahaffey.

He also placed African-American into the leadership pipeline of the UAW.

Mahaffey had a hand in the recent push by Gov. Ted Strickland in moving Kevin Boyce, a young black man, into the position of Treasurer of the State of Ohio. We will miss this guy but I am glad that Mahaffey and his wife Sharon can enjoy his retirement and their grandkids.

I am told by John Jones, CEO of the Greater Toledo Urban League, that my call for donations resulted in a little bit of new money going into the coffers of the Urban League. Well, I am sending a little more - \$50 to be exact - to help defray some back debt to former CEO Johnny Mickler and his wife Tamara. These two folks were very good to the local Urban League when we struggled to come into existence. Let's all chip in and help the League.

And where is the board's big hitters like Jim Murray and Bruce Rumpf, and others? You guys should help Jones raise money. You promised him that help when you brought him on board. Follow through on your promise!

Ads That Will Never See the Light of Day!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq.
Guest Column



If I had a magic wand and if I could see some ads in print that would make me say, hmmm, ... these are they:

(1) The church members at Rahab Missionary Baptist Church are pleased to announce that they are canceling their upcoming gala celebration of the pastor's 35th anniversary. Due to the dire needs of the homeless and the evidence of hungry kids in our community, we would rather donate the \$28,000 that

we have collected for this event and turn it over to a cutting-edge charity that will get more benefit out of those funds than our pastor who has already been feted for the past 34 years and is not lacking a thing.

He's got a fine furnished house, three paid-up cars, takes two vacations a year, a paid-up retirement and has liberal use of a church VISA card. Besides, being the mistress of ceremonies and trying to get my size 16 in a size six gown is killing me and these cute open toe shoes are playing havoc with my corns!

I wonder will any other churches take our cue and do the same?

Signed: Sister Gloria R. Louis, chairman of the anniversary committee

(2) The black community is now informed that we will no longer obtain dubious

doctorate degrees from diploma mills in order to impress our members or use that degree in an effort to raise better offerings under the guise that if I am a doctor of divinity, I must know more and hopefully you will give more to me.

Matter of fact, we will be satisfied with the title of simply being called pastor or servant. We will even stop using the title reverend since there is no such title in the Bible.

We also pledge to disavow the "name it... claim it" nonsense of the Word of Faith movement and stop trying to build our own personal earthly kingdoms. God is not impressed by grandiose titles or mammon, so why should we?

Signed: The Pastors of The Greater Toledo Area Progressive Ministerial Alliance.

(3) The Toledo Police
(Continued on Page 4)

Don't Forget Jim Moody

As a 50-year Democrat and past volunteer with the Lucas County Democratic Party and former Toledo City Council member I observed the cover of your April 1, 2009 issue and wondered if it was an April Fool's joke. Mayoral candidate [Republican] Jim Moody was not on the cover.

It appears The Sojourner's Truth newspaper is not telling the truth relative to the 2009 mayoral campaign. Why would you deny your readers an opportunity to review all the major candidates and what each represents?

Jim Moody is a viable candidate. He may not have the name recognition as well as the others but the September primary is five months away. To Jack Ford and "My View," I do not think Jim Moody will fade away. Never underestimate the power of a broker.

As a real estate broker, Jim is the first and only broker who opened a real estate office in the central city on Collingwood Blvd. At Delaware, managed by Julia Bryant. There were a lot of real estate funds generated from that move and it proves Jim had an early interest in the African-American community. The reason for my support of him.

He has also asked the following question: Why does the entrance to the Bancroft-Franklin Plaza, namely the IGA store and Family Dollar look so repulsive? It is not fit for a pig to enter! Let along humans. Swayne Field is not much better. Actually most of the businesses in the central city need a complete overhaul, as well as something needs to be done relative to the large number of vacant properties.

I ask voters to keep an open mind, listen to the debates to come and ask which candidate will serve you better. I know and I have plenty of experience in the community to prove it. Stay tuned.

June Boyd

**Saturday, April 25, 2009
12 Noon - 4 pm
United Way of Greater Toledo
One Stranahan Square
Conference Room: Anderson A**

**God is calling.
Will you answer?**

*Hosted by the
Women's Crusade Foundation, Inc.
womenscrusade@sbcglobal.net
Evg. Barbara Hamilton*

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mourning women . . . "**

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Rap, Hip Hop Doctor Delivers Health Messages

Special to The Truth

Dr. Anthony D. Atkins, MD, will present "Lifestoryz" at two "Check Me Out" health events during Minority Health Month. "Lifestoryz," a project that is equal parts rap, hip-hop and R&B, delivers positive and informational messages to help inner-city youth make the right choices about health and sex. Both events are free and sponsored by AIDS Resource Center Ohio (ARC Ohio) and funded by a grant they were awarded through the Ohio Commission on Minority Health.

"The local Commission on Minority Health documents the disparity between prevention and access to treatment and care within the African-American and Hispanic/Latino communities," says Jared Rose, prevention and outreach team leader at ARC Ohio. "Dr. Atkins brings a positive, interactive message targeted to the minority community and is designed to help adolescents avoid violence, sex, and drugs."

At the April 18 event, Dr. Atkins will present "Lifestoryz" with J-Verse and "Miss Behavin' Hip Hop Heart Health," with a focus on cardiovascular diseases, pri-

mary hypertension and diabetes. The event will also include free tests for blood sugar, blood pressure, cholesterol and HIV. Taking place from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Friendly Center, 1324 N. Superior St., the event is free and open to the entire public.

The April 25 event will also feature Dr. Atkins' "Lifestoryz" with J-Verse and "Miss Behavin' Real Talk," but at this event the focus will be on monitoring intimate

sexual health with free and confidential HIV testing available. Taking place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Mott Branch Library, 1085 Dorr St., this event is free and is geared towards more mature audiences of 14 and up.

According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, half of all new HIV infections are among young people ages 24 and under. "The number one population at risk for HIV/STDs is youth" says

Rose. "And young people will relate to Dr. Atkins innovative, affirmative message," Rose continues.

Anthony Atkins, MD., a family physician in Lima, Ohio, felt a burning desire to reach and impact the patients he saw come across his office door step including the young African-American males with bullet wounds, the pregnant teenage girls and those with multiple sexually-transmitted diseases. As a way to reach this age group, he began to write song lyrics and collaborated with rappers to create "LifeStoryz: State of Emergency" a hip-hop CD.

Minority Health Month was developed by the Ohio Commission of Minority Health to eliminate health disparities and improve the health status of minorities. AIDS Resource Center Ohio, is a nonprofit, community-based organization whose mission is to provide services to those infected, affected, and at risk of HIV/AIDS. ARC Ohio provides comprehensive support services, HIV testing and counseling, prevention education, linkage to care and advocacy in 35 Ohio counties.



Ads

(Continued from Page 3)

Department sincerely apologizes to the black and Latino communities for giving you bum traffic tickets and for harassing you for no other reason than that you are black or Latino. We will stop that behavior and issue only tickets or make arrests that are warranted by the facts and not motivated by our biases. We apologize for our long history of causing undue friction in your communities and pledge to do better. I will continue to root out the bad characters in our ranks who think that a gun and a badge is a license to intimidate.

Signed: Michael Navarre, Toledo Police Chief

(3) OK! So...you caught me. You are right. I did not deliver and much less deliver any results. I am sorry for my crass actions while serving as mayor. When you voted me in office over Jack Ford (what were you thinking!), I was delirious with power and I abused it. I could have done more but I did not want to work with City Council on community issues but only on my personal agenda

issues (yes, that \$9,999.99 for my personal office shower was not good thinking). I was wrong! I should not have run this second time. I just don't know when to quit.

Signed: Carty Finkbeiner.

(5) Gee guys, you would have done the same thing! The money was just too good to pass up. Who would want to share such lucrative construction contracts! I mean ...come on! Yeah, we didn't want you in with us. That meant the more for us. We did a lot of trickery, but-tery talk and spoke out of both sides of our mouths, but we have finally learned that when we all row the boat in the same direction, we will get to the destination faster.

Sorry. Let's try again and this time we will not hog all of the air in the room. We are new to this sharing thing. Still, we do not know why you guys didn't step to the plate and fight for your share. Glad you didn't but just wondering why.

Signed: White General Contractors and Project Owners.



AT THE ENCLAVE EVERYONE IS WELCOME

The Enclave in celebration with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission is proud to support Fair Housing and recognize that April 2009 marks the 41st anniversary of the Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, Federal Fair Housing Act, which provides for equal housing opportunity for all Americans and prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin/ancestry, familial status and disability.

If you believe that your rights have been violated, please contact the Ohio Civil Rights Commission at 419.245.2900.

At The Enclave, everyone is welcome.

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**Toledo Council of Black Nurses & Omega Psi Phi
Prostate Cancer Screening and Awareness Clinic**

By Vince Davis
Special to The Truth

The health fairs are a ministry for me. Prostate cancer killed my brother. Men of color get tested before prostate cancer kills you.

Cancer steals your manhood. The test prevents you from losing your manhood. Not getting tested will take your arms, legs, body and eventually your life. I'm talking about prostate cancer but I could be talking about any of the testing we will be doing Saturday, April 25, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

My brother Leslie Carl Davis was my closest and most dear brother. There were six of us including my twin Victor. There are only two brothers left. Leslie and I spent weekends barbecuing, going to concerts, clubs and enjoying every non-working moment.

Les was the type of guy who never met a stranger. He got along with rich and poor folk alike. Fourteen years ago he was diagnosed with prostate cancer. Les told me that it was no big deal. Les said it did not hurt and meant nothing. I so very much wanted to believe it was true.

He was in his mid-forties when he was diagnosed with prostate cancer. What started

out as no big deal finally killed him. Prostate cancer didn't just kill my brother. It made every inch of his body wish it had died. The cancer was like the torture monster begging for every inch of his dignity.

If Les had gotten tested earlier and caught the disease before it ravaged him he could have had a longer, healthier life. Unchecked, the disease ate Les up like a bunch of maggots devouring a man alive.

Even the strong drugs they gave him were no match for the strength of the pain the cancer brought. My brother is the type of guy who never admitted to feeling pain. Prostate cancer was like a jealous lover, it never stopped tormenting him.

The cancer spread to my brother's back. The surgeons cracked my brother's spine wide open. The doctors did this to surgically scrape the cancer from his back bone. The doctors then took his spine apart and put it back together; doctors used pins and wires; they sewed up a huge incision from the crack of his butt to the nape of his neck with stitches. It took hundreds – it seemed like thousands – of stitches to stitch



my brother up. His spine open, defused of the cancer from his surgically-separated vertebrae, was held together with a metal rod, put in to hold everything in place.

The doctors put my brother in an upper body cast. Sometimes Les would ask me to stick a pencil or part of a medal hanger in the cast to scratch his back. The doctors would let me roll Les out in front of the rehab center, outside the hospital. There Les would have me put his Omega hat on and he would talk of greater, happier days ahead. The surgery bought Les a few extra years.

After putting him in an upper body cast for several months, they sent my brother home to battle the cancer for a

few more rounds. The doctors put a metal rod down his back where his vertebrae used to be. One time Les took his shirt off and showed me. It was the most hideous thing that I had seen up to that point. The metal rod stuck out of his back and protruded between his shoulder blades.

He would never scream out, Les never gave up, Les never let the cancer think it won. Yet despite his unshakable will, the cancer finally won. The cancer acted like a big bully eating away at him trying to break him. It never broke his spirit. However it made everyone around him cry out, "Lord, son of Mary, son of The Father, our Lord have mercy on him." One crisp winter day the cancer finally won his battle. Les was dead.

Eventually the cancer got so bad Les had to move in with his daughter. Les moved to Palm Coast Florida. The weather is a lot better down there. The warmer weather extended Les's life. He was able to go out and stick his feet in the pool, smoke a square and have a "baby sized" drink.

Prostate cancer reduced Les to the weight of a full paper bag. During the final days of his life he could not move the lower extremities of his body. Eventually he could

not feed himself. My niece Kimberly and Les's wife Mary had to feed him. His arms eventually got so weak and small that he could not lift the spoon to his mouth to feed himself. Les' entire body looked like the sunken undernourished, chest of a child with a head on top of it. He literally looked like a living torso. By then his legs were small and useless.

Les always maintained it was no big deal. His attitude was flawless. Les blamed no one, expected nothing, relished life and the chance to hang out – "it's just one more day." Near the end, money, things do not matter. He came to know Christ because Christ was all he had left.

I helped him put his "last will and testament" together. I prayed with my brother. My fraternity brother Clarence Lewis and I witnessed Les's testimony. As we lay the Holy Bible on his chest Leslie accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

Les had often quipped that he and I would live forever. Then one day he was dead. Some men say they do not want to take the prostate cancer screening because it will make them less than a "real man." Well let me tell you something: if you were not less than a real man before you took the exam you will not be less than a real man after you take the exam.

The test may save you from

the suffering what my brother faced. My brother cried when mommy died. I'm not sure if he cried because of her death or because he couldn't go to the funeral. There is nothing that made my brother feel worse than not being able to clean himself; he could not go to the bathroom; his daughter changed his diaper. The prostate exam takes under a minute. It could have saved his dignity

The Omegas, the Black Nurses and AKA's have been holding the health fairs for 14 years. We do it because prostate cancer kills men of color at twice the rate in which it kills white men.

Besides all that, The Powerful Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated will be getting tested. I'm an Omega and I will be getting tested. Dr. Anyse Story will be testing me. Dr. Story has helped us with the prostate test for several years. She and the Omegas have generated a following of men getting tested. Yes I did say she. Dr. Story is a woman. She is one of the doctors doing the testing. We will be testing for the other diseases that kill us like HIV, high blood pressure, sugar, etc. All the tests are free. That is potentially thousands of dollars in savings.

I will see you at the test. For more information call Mary Gregory at 419-535-9561 or Vince Davis 419-244-2904

The Toledo Club of Atlanta may be contacted

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The Sojourner's Truth

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Morlon R. Harris: Connecting North Toledo Neighbors with Resources to Empower Lives

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"I've always been a spiritual person," says Morlon R. Harris when asked how, after an early career as a disease intervention specialist with the Ohio Department of Health, he turned to counseling and ended up as the executive director of the Friendly Center.

As a disease intervention specialist, Harris was responsible for the supervision of five county health department sites in the state's effort to limit the spread of infectious diseases, particularly sexually transmitted diseases.

Harris's epiphany occurred one day when a 10-year old African-American boy knocked on his office door and asked for condoms.

"I was so surprised by that," Harris recalls. He sat down with the youngster and talked about the boy's need for condoms. "I realized that something was happening in our community. We had young ladies - 13 and 14 years old - testing for STD's. Something was certainly happening."

At that point Harris made some changes in his life. He started volunteering more - for churches, for the American Red Cross, for youth organizations - in order to educate and train individuals to intervene in the lives of young people to prevent the spread of STD's.

He also changed the direction of his career and went to the YMCA's Chance for Change Program as executive director. In 2007, the position of executive director at the Friendly Center opened. Harris had just completed his master's degree in

divinity at Ashland Theological Seminary. The Friendly Center, founded in 1923 by the United Methodist Church made all the sense in the world for Harris.

"This position with a faith-based foundation was more of a fit for me in working with the community."

The Friendly Center, as Harris describes it "is a community resource center that provides basic needs - food and clothing - to residents of North Toledo, specifically the zip codes of 43611, 43604 and 43608."

In addition to the basic needs programs the Center also has a senior program, an after-school youth program and a variety of classes and programs that deal with such pressing issues as anger management, domestic violence and parenting.

One of the Center's largest programs is the Help Me Grow program that is administered by the Board of Lucas County and the Lucas County Family Council. Help Me Grow assists mothers from pregnancy to their children's third birthday with education about child development, parenting and goal setting. There are currently five trained coordinators at the Center who work with 45 parents each.

The newest program is the Zoe Project for families and individuals who wish to make positive changes in their lives - "family coaching" is the way Harris describes this program. "We want to help residents become self-sufficient," says Harris.

The Friendly Center is located in two buildings on



North Superior Street. The building at 1324 is in fact the original structure - a 7,200 square-foot building that holds the administrative offices and the Help Me Grow program. In the next lot is the 10,000 square-foot community center that has the space for athletics, computer classes, Tammy's Closet (the clothing store) and the summer enrichment program for youngsters, among others.

The Center assists approximately 1,500 individuals annually within the framework of its \$600,000 budget. Eleven full-time staffers and another seven part-timers assist in running the operation that is funded by United Way of Greater Toledo, Lucas County Jobs and Family Services and private donations.

In order to participate in the Friendly Center's programs, residents of the 43604, 43608 and 43611 zip codes must furnish a photo

ID, proof of current address (rent receipt, utility bill, etc.), information about all of the people residing in the household and information on all household income. The following basic needs programs are available:

- **Feed Your Neighbor** - every Friday morning from 8:45 to 10:45 a.m. May be used one Friday per

month;

- **Bread** - bread and sweets are available every Tuesday in the gymnasium. Sign up begins at 8:30 a.m. and the food is distributed on a first-come, first served basis until around 10 a.m.;

- **Government Commodities** - are provided on the second Wednesday of every month in the gymnasium. Sign up starts at 8:30 a.m.;

- **Emergency Food** - is available to those in need on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings between 9 and 11:30 a.m. This program may be used twice a year;

- **Senior Nutrition Program** - those over 60 can enjoy a hot lunch daily at 11:15 a.m. - Monday through Friday. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to noon for seniors to socialize;

- **Tammy's Closet** - clothing is provided at a cost of .20 per item or \$2 per bag every Tuesday from 10:30

11:30 a.m. and every Thursday from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Harris's efforts to fulfill the Friendly Center's mission statement - "connecting our neighbors in North Toledo with resources to empower their lives" - have not gone unrecognized.

The DeVilbiss graduate, who earned his undergraduate degree in health administration from Knoxville College and his first master's degree from The University of Toledo in public health/education, has been featured in The Blade on several occasions for his accomplishments.

In October 2008, Harris was honored with a Dr. Morton Goldberg Community Service Award for his numerous contributions to the Toledo community. The father of three daughters - Jessica, Jasmine and Indigo - Harris is also a pastor at the Gospel Tabernacle Church in Lima, OH.



Sarah Fuller, Andy Gary, Theresa Gonzales, Morlon Harris, Abby King, Richard Dennis, Jerri Thomas, Sheila Wheller Brubaker

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U.G.E. – The Last Royalty: The Making of a Local Compilation Album

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Behind The Scenes Of A Local Compilation Album:

U.G.E. doesn't have a building or office like many of the bigger and more established labels/crews in the city.

We all work regular day-time jobs. No one sells drugs or has any criminal activity, we fund our operation

through hard work and sacrifice.

A few of us have or are earning college degrees and one U.G.E. artist is actually pursuing a master's right now.

So we didn't walk in with the best or most expensive equipment or accommodations. We grind in the true sense of the word.

U.G.E. isn't full of a bunch of people with nowhere to go and nothing to do all day. We don't do music out of boredom, this is our life's goal.

Some of our artists are parents and that's a non-stop commitment.

Educational pursuits, working, tending to family while still having this unwa-

vering faith that this music will one day make a way for us to provide for ourselves... that's how we get down, real grassroots.

Months worth of late night sessions after working all day.

Having babysitters on hand at the sessions, fixing computer problems, going back and forth between legal

people in New York and the parent label to get the contract so it would be extremely fair for both parties.

It was a lot of work just in terms of scheduling the work to simply begin.

And the science behind the release is built for the long term ... a few hundred copies here and there with the album available on the top ten online music retail sites.

But we are proud and we wanted to share our experience with all of you.

The Last Royalty Compilation C.D. - A Producer's Perspective (written by Lavale Stewart and Michael Hayes)

Twenty-one tracks, all produced by Lavale a/k/a Adonis and Michael a/k/a Mercury.

We go by the name The Undergodz. We built our roster around the various types of tracks we produce so a compilation album has been on our minds for a couple of years. We didn't use any samples and the tracks on here were made a variety of different ways. Fruity Loops, Reason, Korg 01 and a few pieces of equipment and plugins we never tell anyone about.

This CD took about 400 hours just to record, and mix.

That's not counting the time spent on actually making and writing the material or even extra things like photo and video shoots and all the graphics (all this was done in-house by the two of us).

It was about two months worth of negotiating with our parent label, Rockshot Records, and their attorney (Shouts out to Mr. Thompson) and their head of A&R Mr. Zachrich.

When we began the partnership, Mr. Zachrich came and took the U.G.E. roster out to eat at The Docks. That's a good way to start a partnership...feed the artists.

The timing for this project was good because we have so many talented artists and our sound is so diverse. From contemporary R&B to radio friendly pop and even hood music. We wanted people to see how diverse our sound is

and that we can do pretty much any genre.

When we did it, the city knew a little bit about us but they didn't have anything in their hands to show them what we did. We spent most of our time trying to get out the city, this was a new direction to actually focus on Toledo in a way.

The city is so cluttered with hip-hop artists, having an album that is mostly R&B helps us bring balance back to the game.

And hell...we just seemed to end up with a lot of R&B artists.

So, we are honored to have a project that we feel represents us well.

This is what the artists on the project had to say about the making of The Last Royalty.

What were your first thoughts when the label told you the plan for a compilation CD?

* T. Diamond: "Ok, this should be cool. We can get that money and get on the radar."

* Darron Scott: "I was thinking 'Finally, we have all the right pieces in place.'"

* Thee Untouchable: "Make good music, get a barcode, sell units."

* Mz. Johni: My first thought was 'Wow...this is really happening!' An opportunity for my music to be heard was finally coming true...so I wanted to take advantage of that.

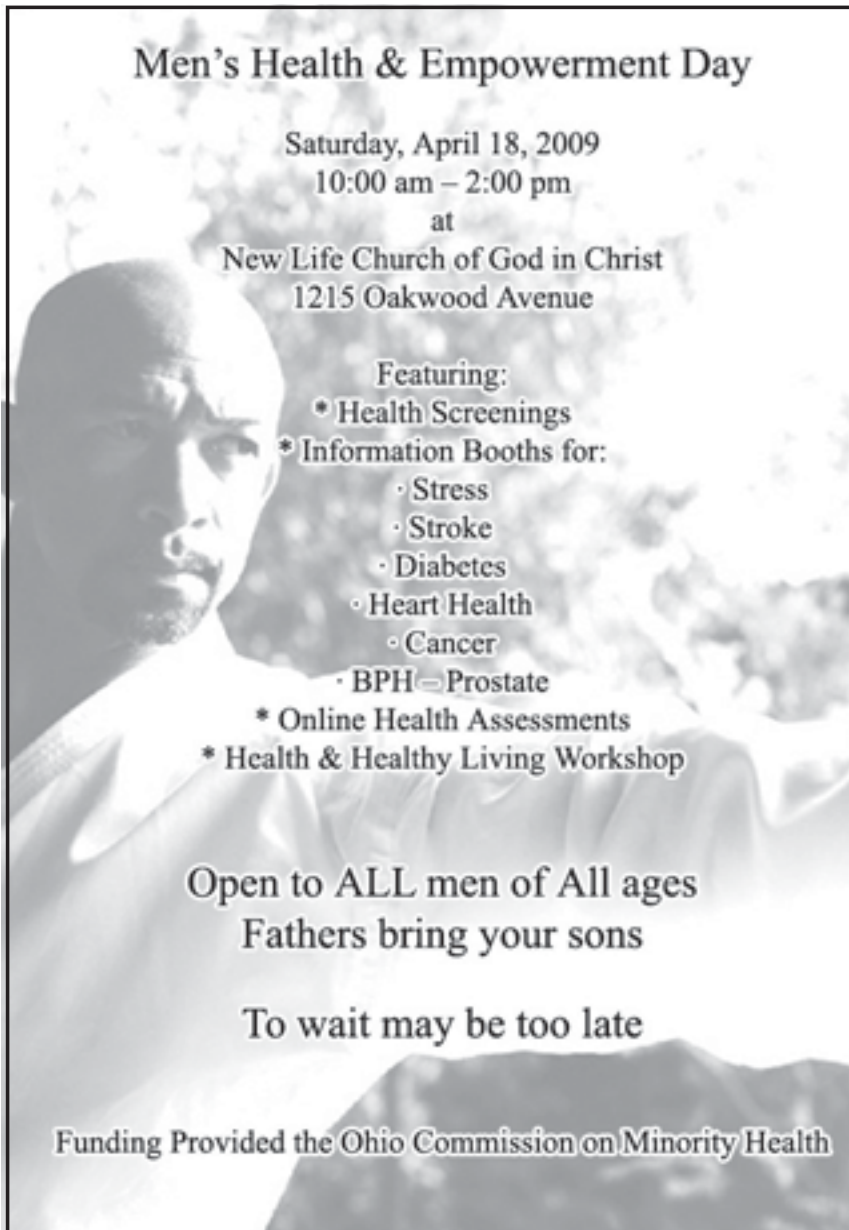
* Aye Dee: I thought 'Finally'. It was a major step in the right direction. We've been making good music, and been making constant improvements on ourselves. It's about time for the world to hear us.

* Leigh Ashley: I thought "let's get it in...let's get to work."

Based on the material you have on The Last Royalty Compilation C.D....what do you want listeners to know about YOU as an artist and U.G.E. as a label?

*Mz. Johni: My material is based on personal experience...which makes it easy to feel the music. I write with the intent to relate with

(Continued on Page 8)



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Fathers bring your sons
To wait may be too late

Funding Provided the Ohio Commission on Minority Health

U.G.E

(Continued from Page 7)



my fans and that is why I love U.G.E. because they allow you to be yourself and they do anything in their power to make your dream a reality. They respect and welcome individuality.

* T. Diamond: That I have integrity no matter what my songs are about it's gonna be real. I can make a up tempo track like "Strike A Pose" and still do "Shine" and on both tracks I came authentic.

* Darron Scott: I want people to know that I have a heart. Real talk.

That I have feelings. Also that I love my Toledo people but my songs may not be for all of them. I don't rely on heavy bass and a lot of useless noise to make a good song. I rely on my feel and the gifts that God has given me to please the listeners' ears.

I want people to know that U.G.E. is a family. We are hard working professional and reliable. We have something for everybody's ears. We are also on our way so mess with us now because in the future it might not be that easy.

* Aye Dee: That I love my music very much and I love what I do as an artist and we at U.G.E. are a collective of people that are trying to do something different in the game. My label...maaan. I tried doing this on my own before. U.G.E. allows us to be independent thinkers and be who we are but they give us a platform. They value the artist more than big level industry labels.

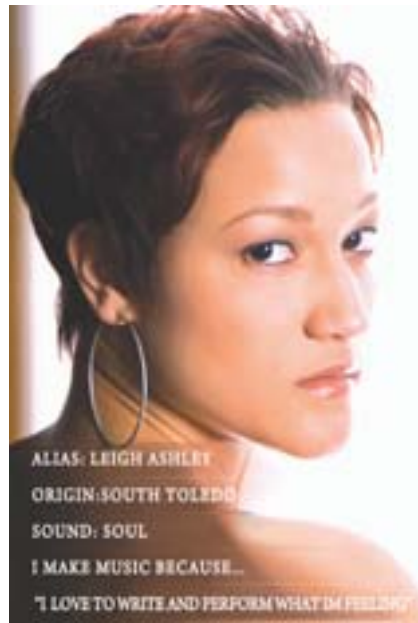
* Leigh Ashley: Me as an artist, I want people to see that I am a complex vocalist. I have a lot on my mind and I do have a large range when it comes to my pipes...LOL. The label is like my fam and they show that unconditional love. They believe in you even when you don't and are dedicated to your success. If they don't know the answers, they find them. We are important to them, not just a meal ticket.

* Thee Untouchable Dizzy T: I want people to know that as an artist I'm creative. I want to reach you and I'm real. Every song to me is a chapter in the story of my life. As far as U.G.E., you can relate us to D.J. Khaled and The Move-

ment. We got our clique of talented artists that's prepared to do it big.

From an artist's standpoint, explain all that went into making the finished product look and sound the way it does.

* Aye Dee: My producers



say all the time that this was like 200 hours recording and mixing, and all the photo shoots and graphics and everything were all done in house. I mean, this is no easy walk, ya dig? For the artists, we had to stay on schedule with our writing and recording or get left off. If I hadn't have gotten sick and damn near lost my ability to sing, I'd have four songs on instead of just three. I know my producers partnered with the parent label to make sure the artists could profit from this album without ever spending one penny to make the album. They made it so we could concentrate on the music and the grind.

A lot of partnerships were forged and a lot of priorities were shifted to make this thing a reality. I mean, I have an album out.

Produced, packaged, with graphics and images and all that.

And even though I profit



from the album, U.G.E. made sure it cost me nothing as an artist besides my time, effort and my commitment to the U.G.E. team philosophy.

Pick one of your songs from the album and talk about why you made it, how it was done and what you hope

people get from it

* T. Diamond: "Bopperz." That came about crazy because me and Dizzy didn't even wanna make the song and we had sat on it for like a month. And then we was over at Mere's house one night and he was like "YA'LL GON WRITE THIS DAMN SONG" - and that kinda how it came about. Turned out hot. Real educational. Men, please listen to the lyrics it might save



your life. * Darron Scott: Fabulous. Man that track was amazing when I got it.

I grew up on Prince and when I sat with my producers (The Undergodz/ Adonis and Mercury - shouts to y'all for making this happen) to listen to this track they told me that it had a Prince sound so I had to have it. I was sitting at work and decided that I wanted to make my own ver-

sion of the Gap Band's "Outstanding." I just wanted to let people know that there are good women out there. Also how I feel my woman should be to me. And, yes, my girl is that to me. If you know the song ... I wrote that "I found my treasure so your like my pot of gold. Girl, you're unbelievable. Beautiful. Wonderful."

That's what my girl is too! (Continued on Page 9)



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The Toledo Club of the NANBPWC, Inc. Holds 6th Annual Vocal Arts Competition for Emerging Artists

Special to The Truth

The Toledo Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. held its Sixth Annual Vocal Arts Competition for Emerging Artists on April 3, 2009 at the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church.

Angela V. Moore, soprano and graduate student at Bowling Green State University, qualified to advance to the North Central District Vocal Arts Competition to be held May 15, 2009 at the Holiday Inn Elyria in Elyria, OH. There

she will compete with other contestants sent by other clubs in the North Central District. If she wins there, she will advance to the National Competition to be held in July 2009 in Buffalo, NY. At the National Competition, Moore will have

the opportunity to qualify for financial scholarships ranging from \$300.00 to \$3,000.00.

Exhibiting a very powerful and expressive voice range, Moore performed a required repertoire consisting of an aria from a major

opera, an oratorio cantata, a German Lied, a French melodie and a Negro spiritual. Her accompanist was Alanna Cushings, a masters student at Bowling Green State University. Margaret Barron and Shirley Lyons served as ad-

judicators.

Barbara Tucker is the Vocal Arts chairman and Sharon Green-Gaines, co-chairman.

Wanda J. Terrell is the Toledo Club president and Delores Bates in the first vice president.



U.G.E

(Continued from Page 8)

(I love you baby!!!)

* AyeDee: "Take Care of Itself" - it was written in a parking lot and it's about a guy trying to show his love to his woman in spite of all the haters that don't want them together. We are sitting down to have the video treatment soon.

* Thee Untouchable Dizzy T: "Wifey" is about the kind of women that I prefer. It came about when I found promiscuous girls that were only good for now. I wanted to remind dudes on what a girl is and how much she really means. I hope people got my message, girls don't have to be a hoe to get a man. And

guys shouldn't settle for hoes. Even though it looks like they are everywhere be patient and get what you want. She's out here.

* Leigh Ashley: "My Turn" - the concept and the hook and some of the verses were my idea because I was really trying to find love at the time. And me and Mercury always talk about how special it was that I met and fell in love with someone within a few months of making this song. At the time when we wrote it I was just trying to remind myself that the man of my dreams was out there somewhere.

Knowing the music industry is in shambles, as an up-

and coming artist...what do you hope to gain from being on this album?

* AyeDee: I want people to hear what real music is supposed to sound like and I want them same people to anticipate that their going to be hearing more music from us. And I want paid shows!

I'll sing at your wedding, I'll even sing at your divorce.

We got songs for every occasion!

* T. Diamond: Mike, you know me. I don't want much. But the money and respect. Hope people see this push and drive we got. And paid shows.

* Darron Scott: I mean, just like any artist I would love wealth and fame, ha. But I do this for Trina, Big Rod, Lil Rod, Terrell, Ahlazja, and Takia. I do this for my listeners to know that good music is possible. For myself to know that I can accomplish what I set out to do. For my girl and her kids to know that a better life is

(Continued on Page 14)



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Soul! Project Explores African American Experience Through The Arts

Exhibits, Programs Highlight Culture's Rich Heritage at Ohio Historical Center

Special to The Truth

A 10-month-long exhibition opening at the Ohio Historical Center May 1 will showcase the "art and soul" of African-American history and culture and offer exhibit goers a studio space where they can create artwork to tell their own stories.

The focal point of *Soul! Art from the National Afro-American Museum & Cultural Center* is a display of 119 works dating from 1835 to 2003 that reflect African heritage, family, self-determination, love, celebration and other experiences deriving from being black in America. Comprised of art on loan from the Ohio Historical Society's National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center in Wilberforce, Ohio, the exhibit features works in a variety of media by many renowned artists, including Benny Andrews, Richmond Barthé, Elizabeth Catlett and Willis "Bing" Davis.

"Our goal for the *Soul!* Project is to give people of all cultures the opportunity to recognize the passions in the hearts and souls of these African-American artists and to identify similar emotions and experiences in their own lives," said Connie Bodner, OHS director of education and interpretation services. "Art can be a bridge between cultures and through art people often find more commonalities than differences."

A 1,000-square-foot space next to the exhibit called The Studio will host related educational programs. Weekends will feature half-hour gallery tours and on many weekends African-American guest artists will conduct workshops in doll making, jewelry, poetry and various other art media. Among visiting artists will be Queen Brooks and Willis "Bing" Davis. On seven consecutive Saturdays beginning next Jan. 16, exhibit visitors can visit The Studio to help create a massive public mural entitled "Living in a Diverse Community."

The Ohio Historical Society's History-to-Go van will be transformed into the



African Pride by James Bongo Allen

Art-to-Go van will take *Soul!*-related programs to Columbus-area schools during the academic year and to community centers and group events in the summer.

The Society's traditional *Blast from the Past* summer day camps this year will offer four *Soul!* sessions for kids ages six to eight and three sessions for children ages nine-11, allowing kids to make their own interpretations of exhibited works and related activities and to use The Studio to create dolls, masks, metal works and other art forms that will be displayed at concluding family events. For *Soul!* day camp dates, visit www.ohiohistory.org/summercamps.

"We want people to feel good and feel empowered in creating their own works of art," Bodner said. "We just want people to tap into their own creativity and enjoy the experience."

Soul! runs through Feb. 28, 2010. Rotating companion exhibits, also from the National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center, will focus on African-American jazz, dance, quilt-making and spirituality as well as on the story of white abolitionist John Brown. *Making Music: Jazz Photographs* by Luis Figgs and *Golden Motions: Celebrating the Art of Dance* by Ademola Olugebefola will be on display

May 1-Aug. 30; *The Legend*

of the state's partner in preserving history, archaeology, natural history and architecture. It provides services in nearly every community in the state.

Owens Center for Fine and Performing Arts and Students Present 'The Curate Shakespeare As You Like It,' April 16-19

Special to The Truth

Biting satire and rollicking comedy will engulf the Center for Fine and Performing Arts' Mainstage Theatre as Owens Community College presents the student production of "The Curate Shakespeare As You Like It," April 16-19.

The first of several performances will occur at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 16 in the College's Mainstage Theatre. Owens' Toledo-area Campus is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township.

"Owens Community College's Center for Fine and Performing Arts is excited to present such a unique theatrical production, featuring the talents of so many Owens students," said Doug Mead, Owens Chair of Fine and Performing Arts. "The Curate Shakespeare As You Like It" is a funny, lighthearted show, and the talented student actors are sure to entertain community members of all ages."

"The Curate Shakespeare As You Like It" tells the story of a comically inept acting company that attempts to perform "As You Like It" with hilarious perseverance. The predicament begins with the lead actor departing for a career as a professional wrestler and the leading actress losing her mind. With Curate's encouragement and support, the remaining actors and actresses attempt to perform all 33 roles, which results in many comical missteps.

The cast of "The Curate Shakespeare As You Like It" is comprised of students from Owens and theatrical production is directed by Owens Instructor of Fine and Performing Arts Jeremy Meier.

Students involved in the production as cast members include Nathan Aschliman of Edon, Alisha Bond of Bowling Green, Lydia Clark of Toledo, Jon Masters of Toledo, Bill Toth of Toledo, John Toth of Toledo and Sarah Wurzinger of Toledo. Owens' Cathrine Bonham of Ottawa will serve as the stage manager, while La Donna Knabbs of Toledo will hold the position of dramaturg for the production.

"The Curate Shakespeare As You Like It" will be performed April 16-18 at 7:30 p.m. A matinee performance will also occur on Sunday, April 19 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 for the general public, \$10 for senior citizens and \$8 for Owens students and employees. All seats are general admission. To purchase tickets, visit www.owens.edu or contact the College's Box Office. For more information, call the Center for Fine and Performing Arts at (567) 661-2787 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. ARTS (2787).

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Book Review

A Saint on Death Row by Thomas Cahill

c.2009, Nan A. Talese / Doubleday \$18.95 / \$22.00 Canada 144 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

Imagine meeting someone with the power to tell you everything that will happen to you in the future. He can see the good and bad, the ups and downs for the rest of your life. He has the power to tell all – including the exact time of your death.

Would you want to know? In the new book *A Saint on Death Row*, author **Thomas Cahill** writes about a man condemned to die, how he got to where he was and the lives he touched.

Popular authors travel a lot. In late 2003, Thomas Cahill (author of *How the Irish Saved Civilization*) was looking forward to the end of his book tour and a chance to relax. But unable to say “no” to a new acquaintance, he reluctantly agreed to take a day out of his schedule for a side-trip. The acquaintance, a semi-retired judge from Chicago, had been introduced to a prison inmate in Texas by a man who belonged to a religious community in Rome. The judge, Sheila Murphy, wanted Cahill to meet the inmate, Dominique Green.

At the beginning of his friendship with Green, Cahill wrote “Dominique is where he is for two reasons only: because he is poor and because he is black.” Green was raised in a household thick with drugs and alcohol, by an abusive mother and an apathetic father. He dropped out of school and started a “business” selling drugs so he could take care of two younger brothers.

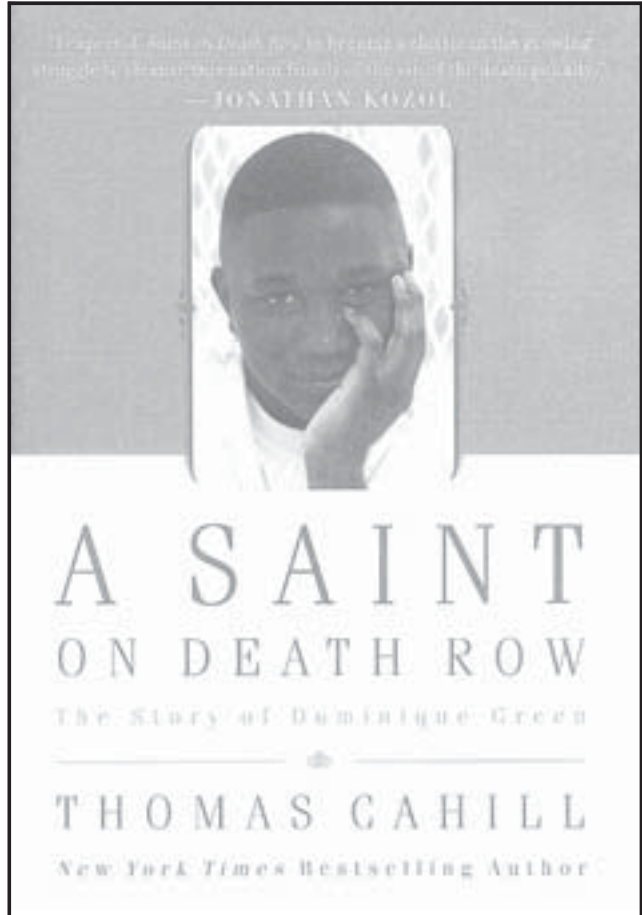
In October 1992, after being chased in a stolen car and on foot, Green was arrested. A handgun was in the car (along with two other boys), and tests established that it had been used in the murder of a truck driver in Houston. Cahill says, “the record becomes exceedingly muddled and incomplete” at this point. But of the four boys involved, only Dominique Green was tried and convicted, though many doubt that he committed the crime. Unable to afford private counsel, he alone was sentenced to death.

For not quite a year, Cahill spoke with, prayed with, and got to know Green while the

young man was in prison. He watched as supporters – including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, that retired Chicago judge and the murdered man’s family – fought for Green’s life.

And Cahill waited... If it wasn’t for author Thomas Cahill’s thoughtful musings and careful research, it might be easy to dismiss this book as very biased. There is no doubt that Cahill has extremely strong opinions on the subject of capital punishment. Obviously, as many people agree as disagree with him. But no matter on which side of the fence you sit, it’s hard not to be stunned by the chill of four words that Cahill uses sparingly: he says of Green and the system, they are “going to kill him.”

A Saint on Death Row may not change your mind about capital punishment, but it will start discussion, both politically and around the dinner table. Read it, though, because no matter your stance, it’s a pretty powerful book.



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Did You Just Find an Old Gift Certificate?

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

Ahh, there's something wonderful about spring cleaning.

It's a great time to rid yourself of all the clutter you amassed over the winter. A great time to make room for all the fun things you'll need for warm weather.

A great time to find gift certificates you forgot you had.

Oops.

So you got a gift certificate to the bookstore last Christmas, and you didn't use it. That's okay, just send it to me, care of....

Never mind. How about looking for any of these great books instead....

FICTION

Do you envy the lifestyles of the rich and famous? Then read *The Ex-Mrs. Hedgefund* by Jill Kargman. When Holly Talbott finds out that her husband's business trips are more than just business, she suddenly becomes a divorcee – a rich one, at that. This is one of those “guilty pleasure” books: fun to read and a great escape.

Looking for something a little different – and deeper? Try *Carpentaria* by Alexis Wright. This book, written by an Australian aboriginal writer includes mysticism, myth and magic for an engrossing story.

If short stories are more to your liking, look for *Button Button: Uncanny Stories* by Richard Matheson. One of the stories in this book is due to become a movie soon, and the rest...? They should be. This is a creepy book. You've been warned.

When two brothers take different paths, it leads to heartbreak in *Where the Line Bleeds* by Jesmyn Ward. This novel, set in Mississippi is the story of twin boys, one who finds a job and the other, who can't seem to find the right path. It's one of those novels you cherish, and will be perfect for that vacation you're taking this summer.

is a young adult novel? So what? It's still tons of fun for big girls, too. This book is filled with zombies, dead people, and a 15-year-old who's a Zombie Settler. Sounds fun? Read it, pass it along to your teen, discuss.

How about a staycation with a vacation theme? Then pick up *Trinidad Noir* by various authors. These mystery stories are set down near the equator, in a place where intrigue is as hot as the thermometer. When you're done, look for a few of the other Noir books in this same series. They're like literary peanuts: you can't stop reading them.

NONFICTION

Think of the Wild West, and horses come to mind, right? Then look for *Mustang Warriors* by Mike Sager. This book is a huge overview of the wild horse in history, pop culture, and industry. I love the pictures in here, and I think horse lovers will, too.

Beware before you start this book: if you've got a loved one at war. *Wounded Warriors* by Mike Sager will bring you to tears. This beautiful book is filled with stories of heroes come home, and it will touch even the hardest of hearts. Also look for *Wars...*, edited by Marc Aronson and Patty Campbell. This is a book of stories from soldiers, survivors, and family members, and is meant for teens, but is perfect for any adult, too.

I love a good mystery. I love a true mystery even more. And I love *A Question of Murder* by Cyril H. Wecht, MD, JD and Dawna Kaufmann. Dr. Wecht is one of America's most famous forensic pathologists, and in this book, he looks at several famous cases and tries to solve them. This is a great book if you love true crime, whodunits or if you just love a fascinating story.

Here's a great trivia-type book for the person who needs to know everything: *Genius and Heroin* by Michael Largo. This cool book is all about creative genius and angst, artists, poets and thinkers, bad (and deadly) habits and obsession. For trivia buffs and anyone who loves a bit of scandal, it's delicious fun.

If you think a book that makes you think is what you want, try *The Jewish Body* by Melvin Konner. This fascinating biology/history book is steeped in information, tradition, science, religion, and – beware – some photos that might upset weak-stomached readers. Also try *Stuck* by Anneli Rufus, a thoughtful book on getting out of your rut and moving forward in your life and in work.

Feeling blue about going green? You don't have to give up your cosmetics! Just read *The Green Beauty Guide* by Julie Gabriel and give up harmful chemicals. This book gives you tons of ideas and resources for looking great in an earth-friendly way. Bonus: some recipes so you can make your own beautifying products.

Love isn't just for the young, you know. If you're of A Certain Age, you'll love reading *September Songs* by Maggie Scarf. Whether you're celebrating your 50th anniversary or your fifth date, this book is filled with “good

news” about marriage and relationships in middle age and beyond. Perfect for anybody over 50, this book might also be of interest to 30-somethings looking ahead. Also look for *Welcome to the Departure Lounge* by Meg Federico. This is a funny, touching book about parenting your parents.

But what if you're not in a relationship? Then look for *Choosing Me Before We* by Christine Arylo. This book is empowering for any woman, and will help her learn to take care of herself, get to know herself, and learn that she's pretty darn awesome. Obviously, it's perfect for any woman of any age.

If you can't get enough of history, your bookshelf isn't complete without a copy of *History's Greatest Lies* by William Weir. Everything you think you know about Jesse James, Paul Revere and others might not be as true as your teachers taught you. Look for it – no lie. Also, for a different look at a historic event, read *The Lyncher in Me* by Warren Read. When Read found a photo of his grandfather, who was attending a lynching in Minnesota decades ago, it changed his life. Caution: this book may be controversial and is definitely unsettling.

True crime fanatics will definitely want to read *Maggots in my Sweet Potatoes* by Susan Madden Lanford. This amazing book is filled with stories of “women doing time” and the people who put them behind bars. It's huge, and it's going to give you a huge lump in your throat.

If you're in the mood for a good memoir, grab *Wife in the North* by Judith O'Reilly. This city-girl (London, England) meets-the-country (Alaska, USA) is charming, funny, and easy to enjoy. Also try *The Alaska Bush Pilot Chronicles* by Mort D. Mason. Same setting, different memoir.

If spring and summer have turned your thoughts to ones of love, take a look at *Boy Meets Girl* by Rachel Saffier. It's filled with true-life love stories from 40 couples and several generations. This book will speak to the romantic in everybody. If you're re-entering the dating scene after a few years (decades), try *Getting Naked Again* by Judy Sills, PhD. Sorry, 20-somethings. This is a book for Mom. Really.

There are a zillion books on the market about what to expect when you're pregnant. But what about after the baby's born? In *The Second Nine Months* by Vicki Glembocki, you'll laugh,

you'll sympathize... and if you're a mom, you'll realize you're definitely not alone.

AFRICAN AMERICAN AUTHORS

Has hip-hop changed your life – for better or worse? For more than a generation, it's become a musical way to examine and discuss race, but it's not without its controversy. Learn more by reading *The Hip Hop Wars* by Tricia Rose. Looking fairly at both sides, this book invites plenty of discussion, so read it and be prepared....

If you're relooking for something very uplifting, check out *A Freed Woman's Dance* by Doris Cope. This memoir is about Cope's childhood of abuse and betrayal, and her ultimate triumph over the hurt in her life. This book may be a challenge to find, but it's definitely worth it.

And if you need some history, look for *Fighting Slavery in Chicago* by Tom Campbell. Filled with short, quick-to-read sections and lots of pictures, this book gives you an overview of slavery and its opposition in the 19th Century. It might not be

a laying-in-the-hammock sort of book, but you'll be glad to have it on your bookshelf.

BUSINESS

Think there's a reason they call it “work”? Think again, and get *Enjoy!* by Gini Graham Scott, PhD. This book offers 101 little, easy ways to make work less work-like. Read it, leave it on your desk, try some of the ideas, and pass it around to your co-workers.

No matter how hard you've tried, you can't seem to give up chewing your nails/smoking/eating sweets. In the new book *Habit: The 95% of Behavior Marketers Ignore* by Neale Martin, you'll read about good habits and how you can take advantage of them in your business. This is a fascinating book, and one will be a good habit to read.

Ready to start or boost your small business? Then read *Battling Big Box* by Henry Dubroff & Susan J. Marks. Go against the big boys of retail by learning how to maintain your brand, empower your employees, and – the hard part – knowing

when to throw in the towel.

Take the word “men” out of businessmen, and you'll have *The Mocha Manual to Turning Your Passion into Profit* by Kimberly Seals-Allers. This book, specifically for women starting a business, will help you start from the bare-bones bottom to turn your hobby into a full-fledged income generator.

So much has been written about being “green,” but can you do it at work? Read *Saving the World at Work* by Tim Sanders and find out how. Learn how to make a difference while you make a profit in a few thoughtful steps with a book that might also make a great company-wide project.

That piece of paper was here a minute ago. It was right next to a calendar from 1995. Got a messy desk? Then look for *One Year to an Organized Work Life* by Regina Leedes. This week-by-week, step-by-step guide can clean up your office and your life, and it will help lower your stress level, too. Also look for *Throw Out Fifty Things* by Gail Blanke. This book is for business and

(Continued on Page 13)

Reduced-Cost Reproductive Health Care Services

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Gift Certificate

(Continued from Page 12)

for home, and for less clutter. And speaking of stress level, grab Less: Accomplishing More by Doing Less. This book will help you get to the bottom of what's important, thus helping you to be more productive and have more free time. And, you gotta love the name of the author of this book: Marc Lesser.

PETS Dog lovers know how special their pets are, right? So read about more special dogs in Angel Dogs with a Mission by Allen & Linda Anderson. Read about heroic pups, including service dogs, rescue dogs, and canines who find cancer. This is a great book for any pet lover, particularly Dog Moms or Dads.

And speaking of Pet Parents, if you're one, you'll love Saved: Rescued Animals and the Lives They Transform by Karin Winegar, photographs by Judy Olausen. This gorgeous, heartfelt book is filled with stories from people who saved animals, and vice versa. I loved it, and anyone who's rescued a dog, cat, horse, rabbit, or other critter will, too.

Okay, so it's not exactly a pet book, but it is: The Daily Coyote by Shreve Stockton. Hating Big City Life, Stockton moved to Wyoming, to a 12x12 log cabin. When she was presented with an orphaned baby coyote, she threw caution (and her cat's feelings) to the wind and raised the pup. Animal lovers will adore this book, but be careful you don't pass it on

to your favorite rancher. SPORTS Heard enough about spoiled athletes? Then pick up Away from the Ball by Alan Ross. This cool book is filled with stories of goodness: generous athletes, guys who value accountability, and athletes who help people who aren't as fortunate as they are. This is a wonderfully uplifting book, perfect for anybody, sports nut or not. Along the same lines, look for Time-Out: Sports Stories as a Game Plan For Spiritual Success by Dov Moshe Lipman. Using sport stories as inspiration, this is a great book for an athlete who struggles with spiritual direction.

Sports are for women, too! If you agree, you'll love Gameface by Erica Boeke and Chris De Benedetti. Part trivia book, part guide book, women who love the game will love learning how to get into a NASCAR pit, who played who in the movies, how to make your tailgate party a hit and more. Yes, this is a book for women, but open-minded men might like it, too.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS In this economy, who doesn't dream of riches? In How to Get Rich in the California Gold Rush by Todd Olson (illustrations by Scott Allred), your child can learn what it was like to pan for gold a hundred sixty years ago. Great for kids seven-and-up, this might also be of interest to adults who love history.

When you're a kid, making friends is easy. In Minnow and Rose: An Oregon Trail Story by Judy Young (illustrated by Bill Farnsworth), two young girls from different cultures find that they're not so different after all. This is a cute book, probably more for girls than for boys, and probably for ages eight-to-12.

What does a guy have to do to get some attention around here? In Nobody Here But Me by Judith Viorst (pictures by Christine Davenier), a young boy feels as if his entire family is ignoring him. Kids (ages three to eight) who grump about being left out are going to like this book, and Moms will love it because it's so darn cute.

Budding royal watchers will love to read The Raucous Royals by Carlyn Beccia. This hilarious book is all about Kings and Queens of yore, and it includes quizzes, trivia, and real history. I wouldn't hesitate to hand it to a 10-year-old who's fascinated by royalty or English history, and any like-minded kid up to age 13 will enjoy it.

So there you are. Several dozen ways to use up that gift certificate that's been floating around in your wallet or desk drawer. And if you still can't figure out what you want when you get to the bookstore, be sure to ask the bookseller there. That's what they get paid the Big Bucks for. Happy Reading!

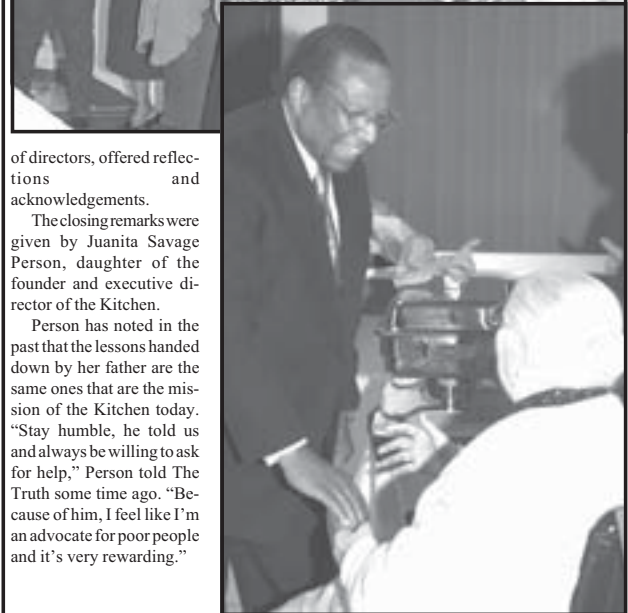
MLK Kitchen for Poor Celebrates 40 Years of Service: "Four Decades of Feeding"

Sojourner's Truth Staff

In 1969, Rev. Harvey Victor Savage, Sr., pastor of Lo Salem Baptist Church, spotted a man rummaging through garbage cans for food. That sight inspired Savage to found the Kitchen for the Poor, a non-profit agency that today prepares 36,000 meals a year, delivers 3,600 meals and provides an additional 1,000 summer meals for kids on an annual budget



of \$155,000. In celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Savage's founding of the Kitchen, a 40th Anniversary Fundraiser was held on April 2, 2009 at UFCW Local 911 in Holland, OH. Alexis Means of 13abc Action News served as mistress of ceremonies and also gave the historical presentation. Lo Salem's Praise Team presented a musical selection before and after dinner was served and Harvey Savage, Jr., president of the MLK Kitchen's board



of directors, offered reflections and acknowledgements. The closing remarks were given by Juanita Savage Person, daughter of the founder and executive director of the Kitchen. Person has noted in the past that the lessons handed down by her father are the same ones that are the mission of the Kitchen today. "Stay humble, he told us and always be willing to ask for help," Person told The Truth some time ago. "Because of him, I feel like I'm an advocate for poor people and it's very rewarding."

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U.G.E.

(Continued from Page 9)

possible and coming soon. I do this for U.G.E. to know that we make the hottest sh*t in the area and that we are on par with the industry. I do this for The Undergodz to know that they put their faith in the right dude. For the younger and newer artists on the label to know that if you work hard enough and realize what you have and embrace it, then you can be very successful. So as you can see I plan on giving more than I plan on gaining. (I do want that cash though! - LOL)

* Mz. Johni: I believe that everything has it's rough times but as long as I continue to do

what I love, I will be in the right place at the right time when the music industry improves.

* Thee Untouchable Dizzy T: I hope to gain the exposure and respect from the industry local and major. I wanna show them that realness still exists.

PRODUCER'S PERSPECTIVE :

A lot of fun was had too. Our crew has so many inside jokes based off The Boondocks...that helped us unwind.

Probably 100 bags of Doritos were consumed during this album. Oh yeah... Leigh's son, Marcel Jr. (a/k/a Deuce) was ac-

tually in the booth with her on some of her songs. He was three and wanted to be near his mommy so we were like "Okay, Deuce...just be really, really quiet and don't move a muscle."

He would be memorizing the songs as we were writing them!

The video shoot for "Autumn Day" was fun too... trying to make Darron and Leigh look like a couple was hilarious!

But we found a way to pay tribute to the Old West End and 90's R&B all at once. That's what we do... we just try to restore music to the point fans can be fans again.

U.G.E. is a start up, family-based independent music company.

Our artists:
T. Diamond (Sovine T. Utley)
Thee Untouchable (Reuben Fowlkes)

Leigh Ashley (Leigh Wizgen)
Mz. Johni (Johnica Carter)
Darron Scott (Kevin Scott)
T. Rtiist (Timothy Sherman)

Aye Dee (Adriant Gardner Schiessel) and new artists:
Big Marc Da General (B.M.G.) - (Marcus Jackson)
Chayse Evers (Joyce Allen)
T Lynn (Terri Davis)

Shouts to U.G.E. extended fam: Lashara Morris, DomoFreak (Start High School), Cherokee (Rogers '09 and '10 hold it down for us)

April McGowan, and all the people in the liner note thank yous.

THE LAST ROYALTY IS AVAILABLE AT:

The Sojourner's Truth Art Gallery during U.G.E.'s openmic night: The Listening...every Saturday evening from 9 until 11:30 p.m.

Also online at Amazon.com, itunes.com, emusic.com, rhapsody.com

and www.ugemusic.com - check out the video : youtube: Darron Scott "Autumn Day."

We are in the pre-release stage... the full release is weeks away and will have a another show...in-store availability and YES...

T. Diamond's first city-wide hit and 107.3 Battle of the beat 22 win champion "Haterz Get Mad" will be on the new version of the album at the start of May.

Thank you all.
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500 blacks were lynched in Texas that year; a movie about a
vampire hardly seemed frightening except to the youngest son,
Lijah, who consoles himself with his father's assurance that in the
film, "they just be killing white folks". Download at
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CLASSIFIEDS

April 15, 2009

Page 15

Teachers Wanted

A Rainbow's Treasure is looking for teachers ELI preschool – infant, toddler areas

- Must exhibit professionalism
- Love children
- Be willing to take required classes for ELI and Step Up to qualify

Please fax resumes to 419-874-4275
Call 419-720-4313 between 10 am and 3 pm to speak with Alison

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Bus Trip

"The Color Purple"
Fox Theater – Detroit, Michigan
Saturday, April 18, 2009
\$75
Call 419-535-6882

Safe-T-City Coordinator and Teachers

The Toledo Police Department is accepting resumes for the position of Coordinator and Teachers for the 2009 summer Safe-T-City Program. Interested applicants shall send their resume, home address, contact information, copies of any/all teaching certificates and experience coordinating or instructing child safety programs, and three (3) references (include name, address, and telephone number of each reference.) All information shall be submitted to Toledo Police Department, Personnel and Public Affairs Bureau, 525 N. Erie Street, 43604 by no later than April 17, 2009. EOE.

Scholarship for Female Nontraditional Minority Student Ages 25-35

Sponsored by Toledo Club of the National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc
Call Ms. Tucker at 419-472-3755 or 419-261-0056

LIBRARY CLERK (part-time, evenings)

Owens Community College invites you to learn more about this exciting job opportunity at <https://jobs.owens.edu>. Become part of our inclusive culture that embraces and celebrates diversity.
AA/EOE

20 Year Reunion

Scott High School Class of 1989 is seeking class members for their 20 year reunion.
Contact John Glover at 419-787-7124 or Tyrone Cleveland at 419-810-6077

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Special Notice

RE: Examinations for Journeyman Wireman

Applications for the Journeyman Inside Wireman test will be accepted April 13 – 17, 2009 at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 8, 807 Lime City Road, Rossford, Ohio between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The qualifications to be eligible for this examination are:

1. Must be 18 years of age or over.
2. Must live in the jurisdiction of Local 8 for one year prior to application.
3. Must have proof of 4 years employment in the commercial/industrial electrical construction industry.

In Loving Memory

Sherrill Thomas Reasonover, 81, passed away Monday, January 8, 2007, in Toledo Hospital. He was born in Gordonsville, TN on April 14, 1925 to Emma and Eli Reasonover. He served in the U.S. Navy during WWII and the Korean War and was honorably discharged. He was employed by the U.S. Post Office, Valentine Theater, Toledo Health & Retiree Center, Lucas County Recreation Center and retired from Owens Illinois, sponsoring AAA anonymous.

You are missed
Love, Your children and grandchildren

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CONTESTANT IN THE 2009-2010 MISS JUNIOR TOLEDO PAGEANT?

If you are between the ages of 12 and 18 (not turning 19 before July 26, 2009), possess a performing talent, please fill out this form completely and either mail or fax.

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Notice to Bidders:

Inquiry #FY09-105, (Project #6000-09-1444) for Campus Roadway Resurfacing for the University of Toledo Health Science Campus. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Main Campus, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 22, 2009. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 3:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from DGL Consulting Engineers, LLC, 3455 Briarfield Blvd. - Suite E, Maumee, Ohio 43537. Call 419-535-1015 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$40.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Steve Cherry of DGL Consulting Engineers, LLC at 419-535-1015. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Thursday, April 16, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in Dowling Hall, Room 2315 at the University of Toledo, Health Science Campus, 3000 Arlington Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43614. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 5%. Project Estimate: \$211,000.00; Breakdown: General Const: \$211,000.00.

Welch's Celebrate Golden Anniversary with Family and Friends

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Charles ("Charley Chuck") Welch and his wife Marjorie celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at their home on Saturday, April 4 with more than 100 guests. Joining them in their celebration were their children,

Rosalind Welch, Katrina Welch-Bills, Debra Hogan and Charles ("Charley Mack") Welch.

"A lifetime of memories, a lifetime of friends," said Charley Mack as he led the toast for his parents.

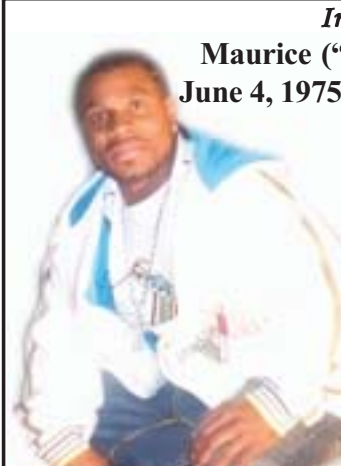
The Welch's, both of whom are natives of the South - Charles from Talledega, AL, Marjorie from Columbus, GA, were married in Detroit in a small ceremony in 1959 at the home of Margie's parents. They



Charlie Chuck entertains guests

In Memoriam

Maurice ("Man-Man") Purley June 4, 1975 – November 17, 2008



Not a day goes by that you are not truly missed and we long for the gentle sound of your calming voice. We miss you, Man-Man.

Love you always - your mom Bobbie, your sister Towana and your loving kids and niece and nephew.

We would like to give a special shout to the Manor Boys and to Club 101 and to everyone else who supported us.

We the family are offering a **\$5,000 reward** for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the murderers.



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Casino Chic

Saturday, April 25, 2009 from 8pm until Midnight • The Hilton Garden Inn, Perrysburg
\$65.00 per person, includes \$300 in gaming chips
Roulette, Blackjack, Poker, Baccarat, Slots, Grazing Stations
For more details and to secure tickets: 419.471.3888

STRENGTHEN THE BROTHERHOOD OF THE LINKS
MAYOR W.C. MICHELS, GOVERNOR & LEGISLATURE

EMPOWERMENT TRAINING
DISTRICT MEETING
Wednesday, April 1 2009
Friday, April 3 2009

Intercessory Prayer Nightly at 8:30 PM
Service Time Nightly at 7:00 PM

Blue Church
United Community Church
1201 Broadway St.
Toledo, Ohio 43606
419.242.5860