



Local and National News

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# The Sojourner's Truth

Volume 16, No.08      "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."      June 10, 2009



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## This Strikes Us ...

*A Sojourner's Truth Editorial*

U. S. Circuit Court Judge Sonia Sotomayor, who has been tapped by President Obama to fill the vacancy on the U.S. Supreme Court created by the retirement of Justice David Souter, will most certainly win the consent of the U.S. Senate and most probably by a large margin.

In the meantime, however, critics of the appointment are lying in wait to question her statements that her life experiences as a Latina might cause her to reach different conclusions on the bench than, say, a white male counterpart.

The speech that Sotomayor gave on this topic was a well-reasoned address that pointed out the obvious – a judge is shaped by her experiences and it really isn't merely a question of whether this is good or bad, it simply is.

Her statements fly in the face of the opinion, oft stated by the Court's first female justice, Sandra Day O'Connor, that a wise old man and a wise old woman would reach the same decision. Given the numerous five-to-four decisions in which O'Connor herself was so often the swing vote, such affirmation of the ability of wise folk to reach the same inevitable conclusion on all but the rarest of occasions surely represented for O'Connor a triumph of hope over her very own experience.

Again, Sotomayor was merely stating the obvious. Research conducted by scholars at Washington University and Northwestern University's School of Law on federal circuit court judges shows that male judges, during the 10-year period studied, were 10 percent more likely to rule against victims of sex discrimination but were "significantly more likely" to rule in their favor if a female judge was on the panel. Coincidence? We think not.

Sotomayor's conservative critics will question her statements on her belief that judges are not, nor will be, uniform in their interpretations of the law but until now, such critics have been largely silent on the issue.

Where were they in 1857 when Chief Justice Roger Taney wrote in the famous Dred Scott decision that the drafters of the Constitution viewed all African-Americans as "beings of an inferior order, and altogether unfit to associate with the white race, either in social or political relations, and so far inferior that they had no rights which the white man was bound to respect?"

Should Scott's petition be granted, said Taney, blacks would be accorded full rights under the Constitution – not a desirable outcome in the least.

Where were they in 1896 when the Court in *Plessy v. Ferguson* ruled that the plaintiff's argument that "the enforced separation of the two races stamps the colored race with a badge of inferiority" and failed to recognize that there was any difference in quality between whites-only and blacks-only railway cars and that "separate but equal" was an achievable standard under the law?

Where were they in 1927 when the high court's ruling in *Buck v. Bell* was issued? In that case, the State of Georgia was defending its authority to order sterilization for those it deemed to be – in the language of the day – mentally feeble. A young Georgian woman was ordered sterilized because she was "feeble," her mother was "feeble" and her first child showed indications that she would also be "feeble." In the event, that diagnosis of the plaintiff's young daughter proved not to be the case but why take such chances ruled the highest court in the land.

The estimable Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., writing for the majority, agreed with the State of Georgia. Society should prevent those who are "manifestly unfit from continuing their kind," wrote Holmes. "Three generations of imbeciles are enough."

Why now, we ask, is there such concern about the fact that judges should have no convictions tempered by their personal experiences? Why now, when it appears that the number of minority and women justices on the Court might increase significantly under Obama's watch?

Sotomayor did not conclude that panels comprised solely of white males were unable to reach decisions applying the law equitably to all, including women and minorities. It just seems to have happened, in the fullness of time, that all-white, all male panels are a wee bit slow in divesting themselves from the prejudices of their time.

Yes, said Sotomayer, an all-white, all-male panel did reach the right conclusion in *Brown v. Board of Education*, but they did so only through the promptings of black attorneys.

Our Constitution is color-blind and the Court's decisions should be as well, wrote Justice Marshall Harlan, a former slave-holder, in his *Plessy* dissent. Regrettably, too many of our justices have not been.

It's a sign of progress, we suppose, that conservatives now, finally, wish our judges to be so. We just wish they had not waited quite so long to see the light.

Notwithstanding the truly exemplary men who have sat on the bench for so many years, we have had more than our share of those who were legally feeble – 10 generations worth, in fact.

Ten generations of imbeciles is enough.

## Community Calendar

### June 12

TPS Adult Education Graduation: Summit Annex Waite Brand Auditorium; 5 pm; Speaker St. Sen Teresa Fedor: 419-671-8700

Poetry Live: All poets and performers welcome; 7:30 pm; 2484 Collingwood: 419-508-1503

All Saints Episcopal Church Fish Fry: 10 am to 7 pm; Sponsored by the Men's Guild

### June 13

Scott HS Alumni Association Scholarship Bowling Party: Lido Bowling Lanes; 8 pm to 1 am; Bowling, pool, dominoes, raffles, open grill

Mt. Ararat MBC Fashion Show: 11 am

Phi Delta Kappa, Inc Beta Gamma Xinos Informational Tea: 3 to 5 pm; Sanger Branch Library: For young ladies grades 9-10: 419-380-9658

Big Flea Market: Octagon No. IV Hall; 8 am to 4 pm: 419-531-7079 or 419-466-4106  
Beulah MBC Friends and Family Day: "Yes, God can Save on a Saturday;" 5 pm

### June 15-19

Carnel Smith Summer Youth Camp: Seventh Annual Boys Football Camp; Grades 3-8; Scott HS; 10 am registration daily, Camp activities from 11 am to 3 pm: 419-917-3547

Braden United Methodist: Vacation Bible School; "On the Move;" 9 am to 1 pm; 5 to 16 years old: 419-698-6413

### June 19

Poetry Live: All poets and performers welcome; 7:30 pm; 2484 Collingwood: 419-508-1503

### June 20

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

Mt. Sinai Pentecostal Church Annual Yard Sale: 10 am; Tables available for \$25: 419-255-8577

### June 20-21

Positive Force Christian School of Dance: "Power of the Blood;" Owens Community College; 6 pm on Saturday, 3 pm on Sunday: 419-932-0593

### June 21

Rhema Word Christian Fellowship Church Choir: In concert; "Sing a New Song;" 6 pm

### June 21-27

28th Annual Edwin Hawkins and Walter Hawkins Music and Arts Love Fellowship Conference: 419-241-7332

### June 22-26

Union Grove MBC Vacation Bible School: 6 to 8 pm nightly; "Boomerang Express all comes back to Jesus;" Classes for ages 4 to adult

Carnel Smith Summer Youth Camp: First Annual Girls Basketball Camp; Grades 6 thru 8; Smith Park; Daily registration at 1 am; Camp activities from 11 am to 3 pm: 419-917-3547

### June 23

Toledo Kwanzaa House: Planning for Toledo's Kwanzaa celebration; Kent Branch Library; 7 pm

### June 26

Poetry Live: All poets and performers welcome; 7:30 pm; 2484 Collingwood: 419-508-1503

## The Sojourner's Truth

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# This Too Shall Pass...

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.



Most of us have accepted the ancient rhetorical riddle "The only thing that does not change is change itself." But while we are certain of change, our challenge is in handling the transition. We tend to romanticize the past through rose-colored memories rather than celebrate our new destination. Looking back, like the biblical Lot's wife, always leaves us fossilized in a state of permanent paralysis.

General Motors, once the world's largest manufacturer generating three percent of U.S. gross national product and was the symbol of American wealth and economic might, filed bankruptcy last week. Wal-Mart, with its low wages and lack of benefits and worker protections is now the nation's largest employer. Toyota, which surprisingly, pays \$30/hour in wages and benefits compared to GM's \$28.50 has become the world's largest auto manufacturer.

After a government bailout of \$60 billion, promises last week by U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda Solis to provide nearly \$88 million in additional dollars for training and support, the closing of 14 plants and the elimination of over 20,000 more workers the company is now owned by the

U.S. taxpayers.

Toledo's 1,450 employee GM Powertrain, the sole plant used to present GM's restructuring plan to President Obama appears to benefit from the failure by receiving the consolidated work resulting from the plant closures. They will be the lone American producer of the new rear-wheel drive six-speed transmissions used in pick-ups and SUV's as well as a front-wheel drive transmission used in small cars.

This is good news for Toledo obviously because of the employment and tax revenue that it generates for our area but behind the silver lining there are a few dark clouds.

The now floundering automotive industry was one of few available that those with only a high school education or less could obtain a secure job, safe and stable home, quality health care, retirement security, vacation time, the ability to save for the future and to provide a good education including college for your children. The industry provided a bridge out of poverty and increased the ability and opportunity for minorities and the poor to enter the middle class. The GM bankruptcy emphatically declares an end to this era.

Also, African-American workers are especially hit hard by the layoffs and restructuring as a result of their overrepresentation in the automotive industry and other occupations with high unemployment rates. The United Auto Workers was one of the first unions to organize blacks and make it possible for them to earn middle-class incomes and provide upward mobility to their children. As the UAW

membership continues to shrink, the black middle class – still last hired but first fired – is placed in jeopardy of being completely dismantled as economically inclusive communities begin to disappear.

There is other collateral damage in the bankruptcy fallout as well. GM and it's UAW membership spawn local car dealers and parts suppliers which also provide middle-class standards of living that enable many others to support a family. According to Ray Wood, president of Toledo's UAW Local 14, "We receive two to three dozen charitable requests per month and support neighborhood businesses near the plant such as taverns, auto service shops, and restaurants all along Alexis Road. We are members of churches and support them with our tithes or offerings and our membership is represented on the boards of many nonprofits. Our union members also support organizations such as United Way which helps to maintain other nonprofits."

As manufacturing jobs dry up or work opportunities move to the Global South where worker protections are rare and labor costs are lower, the challenge beyond the apparent good news for GM's local plant becomes long term and more encompassing. The question is how do millions of Americans and African Americans in particular, get to the middle class? What are the steps necessary to help us arrive?

General Motors is not without blame, having for decades produced cars that were unsafe, uneconomic and unreliable compared to its competi-

tion. Wood also concedes, "Although the exception rather than the rule, in the past there were abuses on our (union members) part. But now we are focused on obtaining fair pay without in-

timidation for fair work and on transitioning from the past to the future."

That future includes diversifying its membership to include other industries. "We currently have nurses and

tech support from St. Vincent's hospital. We have the Sheriff's Department and Toledo Municipal Clerk of Courts as well. The Lucas County Auditor's office is

*(Continued on Page 4)*

## Jazz Society Will Continue to Honor Art Tatum

I am writing to clarify some of the information that has been published recently about the "demise" of the Art Tatum Jazz Heritage Festival and the Toledo Jazz society.

Remarkably, the announcement was picked up by numerous news agencies around the globe, even the Financial Times, exhibiting the power the name Art Tatum hold worldwide.

The perception that the festival is dead and other people are "picking up the pieces" is unfortunate and misleading.

Indeed, because of the current financial situation and the withdrawal of Chrysler as our title sponsor, we did have to cancel this summer's event. We prefer to think that

it is going to be a bit delayed this year as we prepare for a special event this fall.

Our community is wonderful. A special thank you goes out to the many people, both fans of jazz and those who love the arts who have stepped forward to offer help in many ways to the Jazz Society as we announced the cancellation of our annual Art Tatum Jazz Heritage Festival. We truly appreciate and need their continuing support.

Art Tatum's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday will be on October 13 and we are pleased that there are a myriad of events that have been in the planning for many years celebrating the centenary of the icon that Oscar Peterson once referred to as "God."

The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library has been planning a soiree for over two years that will be held October 10 – three days before Tatum's actual birth date.

The Arts Commission will be installing an incredible sculpture dedicated to Tatum in conjunction with the opening of the new Arena ... also in October. This has been in the planning and building stages for many, many years.

He will be honored as his talent and place in history deserves – with celebrations and accolades galore to perpetuate Art Tatum, a Toledo Treasure and the pinnacle of the true American Art form.

Additionally, there is an impressive bonus this fall – *(Continued on Page 4)*

## Building a Strong Green Economy That Works for All

Recently The Truth's article referencing mayoral candidate Keith Wilkowski's suggestions utilizing the stimulus funds to retrofit our communities is just the beginning of an era of change and growth of new green ideas that will impact all of us in every aspect of our lives. The foundation for a bet-

ter economy is in the hands of our mayor and local officials. They are now responsible for implementing millions of dollars in green investments from President Obama's Recovery Package.

While developing their Recovery plan, our mayor and local officials should ensure transparency and account-

ability through a community-based, participatory planning process with seats at the table for members of community organizations.

Is our community doing its best to build a strong, green economy that works for all people? Let's face it: Even when experts called our economy strong, too many communities were excluded from American prosperity and opportunity as is happening now in Toledo. Let's use this crisis as an opportunity to build a better economy, based on principles of equality and opportunity for all and for respect for the earth. These are the principles that T-POP (Toledo Pathways Out of Poverty) will subscribe to and would like to invite other community and government organizations and businesses who share this vision to join and collaborate with us.

The Recovery funds can help us create new green jobs and training opportunities locally. They can help us build a new economy that is based on clean, safe energy sources, and good, green jobs for America workers.

Let's create a positive and inclusive community-based plan to build a green recovery locally.

Sincerely,  
Zenola Sherman



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# State Treasurer Kevin Boyce Is Seeking to Make the Smart Money Choices

By Fletcher Word  
Sojourner's Truth Editor

State of Ohio Treasurer Kevin Boyce visited Toledo last week and attended his first political fundraiser in the city. The event, hosted by Lucas County Auditor Anita Lopez and Toledo Board of Education member Jack Ford, drew doz-

appointed State Treasurer has encountered during his first several months in office.

"The biggest challenge is the volatility of the economy," said Boyce in a conversation with The Truth some hours before his fundraiser. "It's a

funds and growing the portfolio he has in his care. During the first four months, his department has earned taxpayers more than \$70 million, primarily through Triple-A bonds.

It's a matter of day-to-day, sometimes hour-to-hour decisions, said Boyce. He and his staff assess the state's portfolio constantly as they seek to find opportunities to enhance the income stream from the investments.

The Treasurer's office makes decisions about where to place millions of taxpayers' dollars in order to maximize the return on those investments. Safeguards in the statutes normally require that such investments are both low risk and low return, which often requires the type of massive commitments of dollars that minority-owned firms do not have the capacity to handle.

Boyce has addressed this concern with those managing the state's investments. "You need to show a willingness to deal with minority firms," he said he tells financial managers. "My staff's goals are to increase the number of minority firms and to help them to grow." According to Boyce, in his four months in office he and his team have already completed four to five major deals in which minority-owned financial management teams were involved.

Boyce and his staff have also turned considerable attention to long-range goals such as energy conservation and the financial literacy of Ohio's citizens. The state's position is that jobs in the energy conser-



Lucas County Auditor Anita Lopez, Ohio Treasurer Kevin Boyce, Board of Education member Jack Ford

ens of well-wishers, supporters and old friends to the Toledo Club for the \$100-a-guest event.

Boyce, who was appointed to the statewide office four months ago by Gov. Ted Strickland, is a Columbus, OH native but he attended college at The University of Toledo where he was a student of Ford. The 37-year-old Boyce has served on Columbus City Council for the past 10 years.

The Boyce fundraiser, in anticipation of his 2010 campaign to win election to the office, brought together most of the leading Democratic figures of Lucas County, including a number of this year's candidates for office.

The upcoming Boyce campaign, however, takes a back seat to the challenges the newly

level of volatility that the last generation, or the last two generations, have never seen."

Boyce has had to replenish a staff depleted by the departure of former Treasurer Richard Cordray, who won election to the office of Attorney General. Boyce has also had to establish both his short term and long term objectives on the fly but he leaves no doubt that he is comfortable about the goals and objectives he and his staff have either created or adopted from the previous office holder.

The primary function of the Treasurer's office is to manage the money entrusted to the state government by the tax payers. In these days of economic challenges, Boyce sees his primary short term goals to be that of providing safe havens for those



Omega Psi Phi brothers at Kevin Boyce fundraiser (l. to r.): Vince Davis, Harry Brown, Boyce, Jeff Rollins, Alan Bannister, Jack Ford, Norman Bell, Calvin Lawshe

vation and environmental protection sectors will help to replace those that have disappeared in the manufacturing arena.

A number of initiatives with respect to financial literacy have already been implemented such

as the Women and Money program geared for single women and women business owners and the Apple a Day program which honors the families of Appalachia.

Boyce kicked off a 10-city Smart Money Choices summer

tour last week. The tour, along with a series of segments on the Ohio News Network, will focus on topics such as Woman and Money, Apple a Day, the Changing Middle Class and From Economic Hard Times to Economic Hope Times.

## This Too

(Continued from Page 3)

also UAW membership" says Wood.

Policies which make college education more affordable and accessible to all and quality public elementary and high school education are also needed. Some experts believe that middle-class jobs that do not need a college degree are disappearing while others see a continuing need for service jobs as well as in

the new green economy.

The difference is that these jobs don't have to be low-wage, low-benefits Walmart jobs but unionization can make these industries into "another viable path to middle-class living standards." However, Congress should pass the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA).

One thing however, is certain. GM ain't what it used to

be, but even if the company should pass away the middle class doesn't have to die with it. A transitioned union, quality public and college education, skills training and union-level wages are the way forward narrowing the polarizing wage gaps between black and white and rich and poor while once again helping to make the American dream of middle-class prosperity a reality.

## Jazz

(Continued from Page 3)

our living treasure, Jon Hendricks, will celebrate his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday, which is a great coincidence equaling the 88 keys of a piano. Jon learned to play the piano as he sang at the side of Art Tatum.

Toledo is blessed with a long history of jazz and jazz impresarios and we are

poised to create a new image and a big footprint in the world.

A recent article in the Wall Street Journal, titled "Tatum's Art Changed Jazz," reviewed a newly released 10-CD boxed set. It stated that great classical pianists, including Arthur Rubinstein, were studying Tatum's music back in the

1950's, coming to the conclusion that indeed "jazz was art ... and Art was jazz."

I am always available by email, [jeff@haroldjaffe.com](mailto:jeff@haroldjaffe.com).  
Cordially,  
Jeff Jaffe, Vice President Toledo Jazz Society Board of Trustees

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# Keith Wilkowski Announces Energy Efficiency Plan ... Gains Some Council Support

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Mayoral candidate Keith Wilkowski introduced a plan last week that he said will create thousands of new jobs and address the numerous concerns of the energy economy. By the end of the week, two Toledo City Councilmen had given the plan their stamp of approval and announced that they would shepherd it through the legislative process.

The Wilkowski Energy Efficiency program, according to its author, will "create new jobs and put thousands of Toledoans to work, save Toledo homeowners millions of dollars on utility bills, improve Toledo's housing stock by retrofitting residential housing units and include

a solar energy component to boost Toledo's growing solar energy industry."

Wilkowski is asking the city to use \$50,000 of the \$3.1 million federal energy-stimulus grant to study his "green proposal."

Wilkowski's fact sheet accompanying his proposal indicates that two thirds of Toledo's 130,000 housing units will participate in the program, that the average cost of making a Toledo residence more energy efficient is estimated to be \$4,000, that energy consumption, after improvements, will decrease between 30 and 40 percent, that the average homeowner will then save \$41.59 per year and that 4,300 total jobs will

be created for effort.

"This program will pay benefits many years down the road," said Wilkowski at a news conference last week as he was joined by City Councilmen Mike Craig and Joe McNamara.

"I am very excited about the Wilkowski Energy Efficiency program," said McNamara. "It's going to create jobs long after the start-up efforts are going ... it's good because it stresses the need for cooperation and is designed to be a true public-private partnership."

McNamara noted that the Mayor Carty Finkbeiner administration has put together a plan without reaching out to City Council but that he



City Councilmen Mike Craig, Joe McNamara with Keith Wilkowski

will try to get Council to authorize the seed money of \$50,000 that the Wilkowski plan needs.

"There are many areas of the city where homes are in dire need of energy conservation," said Craig express-

ing his support of the plan. In addition to Craig and McNamara, Councilmen Lindsay Webb and Phil Copeland were also reported to be supportive of the Wilkowski plan though neither was able to attend last

week's news conference.

According to Wilkowski, several other communities have already started similar programs—Boulder, CO, Milwaukee, WI and the state of New York—although all are in the infancy stages.

# Mike Bell Calls for Regional Water Compact

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Mayoral candidate Mike Bell held a press conference this week to announce an initiative to bring the City of Toledo and neighboring communities together to form a regional water compact. Bell said he would pursue such a plan if elected mayor.

"Toledo has a valuable resource in its water," said the former fire chief. "We need to be able to bring to the table the ability to use the water system for the economic development of the region. We need to work together with our neighbors and sit down and develop a compact with them so that we can work together as a team and have fairness with that source of water."

Bell indicated that he had attended a conference of neighboring cities and townships during which he heard the concerns of surrounding communities about the water situation. "I went there to listen but there were no other city [of Toledo] representatives," said Bell of the public meeting in Rossford where he learned how neighboring communities may be exploring other options for water which could reduce revenue to Toledo and damage regional cooperation on economic development.



**"We need to be able to bring to the table the ability to use the water system for the economic development of the region."**

Bell emphasized that his plan would not call for the City of Toledo to sell its water system. "This is a valuable asset that our taxpayers have built and maintained over generations and we should never give it up." But he also noted that the water system was underutilized as a resource for economic development. "We can further regional growth," the independent

candidate for mayor said. "We need to be more user-friendly to our neighbors." Bell spoke of his ability to bring key players together. "My style is to be able to listen and find middle ground. The key point is that we need to loosen up our constraints. We have to use our water to create economic development rather than as a money resource."

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# The Sojourner's Truth Education

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## 50 Men and Women 29th Annual Scholarships Awards Recipients

Special to The Truth



Woodcock Bobby

Fifteen local minority high school seniors will receive scholarships this weekend from the 50 Men and Women of Toledo, Inc. The group, a byproduct of individuals who were the primary sponsors for the United Negro College Fund, has given over 200 mostly four-year renewable scholarships and more than one million dollars to Toledo area youth.

The mission of the organization states that monies raised will be used for the overall goal of educating minority youth to further their economic, political and social growth.

James C. Caldwell, educator, civic leader, first area black corporate executive for a Fortune 500 company and former executive director of a community center that now bears his name, was the prime inspiration in forming this group. He was elected its first president and continues in that capacity today.

50 Men & Women of Toledo, Inc. Scholarship

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide the opportunity for a highly motivated academic achiever to off-set a major cost of attaining a college education. This award is for \$1,500, non-restrictive, renewable for 4 years and may be matched annually. Consideration requirements are a 3.0 or higher GPA, 4 years of English, 3 years of mathematics and science, and 2 years of social studies and foreign language.

**Dana Crockett**  
Central Catholic High School  
University of Toledo  
Pharmacy  
GPA 3.88



Crockett Dana

**Rushia Edwards**  
Central Catholic High School  
Kent State  
Nursing/Communications  
GPA 3.28

**Amanda Suhrweier**  
Central Catholic High School  
University of Notre Dame  
Psychology  
GPA 3.82  
Kevin Chad Ellis Scholarship

This memorial scholarship is dedicated to the memory of Kevin Chad Ellis. Consideration requirements are a GPA of 2.5 or higher.

**David Kenneth Gant**  
Central Catholic High School  
University of Toledo  
Civil Engineering  
GPA 3.7

**Regan Williams**  
Calvin M. Woodward High School  
University of Toledo  
Sports Broadcasting  
GPA 3.21

James C. Caldwell Scholarship  
The purpose of this scholarship is to provide a college opportunity for a student who has shown high academic potential and career commitments to elementary and/or secondary education. This award is for \$1,500, renewable for 4 years. Consideration requirements are a GPA 3.0 or higher, 4 years of English, 3 years of mathematics and science, and 2 years of social studies and foreign language.

**Jasmine Shells**  
Central Catholic High School



Dunn Lee

University of Notre Dame  
Pre-Medicine  
GPA 4.47

**Jeff White**  
Central Catholic High School  
Ohio State University  
Pediatrician  
GPA 3.7

**Bobby Woodcock**  
Central Catholic High School  
University of Southern California  
Environmental Scientist  
GPA 3.98

James B. Simmons, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide a college opportunity for a student who has shown high academic potential. This award is \$1,500, non-restrictive, renewable for 4 years, and may be matched annually. Consideration requirements are a 3.0 GPA or higher, 4 years of English, 3 years of mathematics and science, and 2 years of social studies and foreign language.

**Amber Mitchell**  
Toledo Early College High School  
University of Toledo  
Pharmacy - Doctor of Pharmacy  
GPA 3.209

**Dennasia Patterson**  
Jesup W. Scott High School  
University of Toledo  
Computer Engineering  
GPA 3.67

John A. Anderson Memorial Scholarship  
The purpose of this scholarship is to provide the opportunity for the often forgotten average high school achiever who demonstrates



Edwards Rushia

through curriculum and standard test scores the potential to be successful in college. The award is for \$1,000, restricted to the University of Toledo, renewable and will be fully matched by the University. Consideration requirements are a 2.3 GPA or higher, 4 years of English, 3 years of mathematics and science, and 2 years of social studies and foreign language.

**Tommy Gaton**  
Rogers High School  
Ohio State University  
Industrial Design Engineer



Gant David

GPA 2.30  
**Camille Ramsey**  
Jesup W. Scott High School  
Undecided  
Medical Field  
GPA 3.18

O-I Scholarship  
This award is sponsored by O-I, Inc. The award is for \$3000 per year, renewable for 4 years. The recipient must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher and must be one who has shown high academic potential. Emphasis is placed on



Gaton Tommy

science, math, business and engineering.

**Lee Dunn**  
Toledo Technology Academy  
Lawrence Technological University  
Industrial Operations Engineering  
GPA 3.8

Dr. Kay E. Meadows Scholarship

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide a college opportunity for a student who has shown high academic

(Continued on Page 7)

### The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union

currently located at 1339 Dorr Street, has just launched their "Brick Campaign". The TUFUCU has begun this campaign in an effort to raise funds for the new building which will be built at the corner of Detroit Avenue at Dorr Street. If you are interested in purchasing a "Brick" as a part of the campaign the prices are as follows:

- \$ 50.00 for each "Walkway" brick
- \$100.00 for each "Vestibule" brick
- \$500.00 for each "Archway" brick

**Please call TUFUCU at 419.255.8876 to make your contribution TODAY!**

**Bricks sold as of May 22, 2009**

Pastor Troy Thomas, New Life Church of God & Christ, Pastor Robert Culp, Nabil's Next Day Sign, Toledo Chapter Coalition of Black Trades Union, Pastor Talmadge J. Thomas, Pastor Darian Banks, Bishop Edward T. Cook, First Lady Sheila L. Cook, Rev. Dr. & Mother John E. Roberts, Pastor William C. Terry, Councilwoman Wilma Brown, Suzette R. Cowell, Andre L. Cowell Sr., George W. Cowell Jr., Kevin L. Cowell, Ruth L. Cowell, Shawn Cowell, Atty Eddie Cole, Vallie Bowman English, Ian B. English Esq, Mira J. Banks, Queen Ester Barringer, Anita Hackett Braswell, Charsena Braswell, Gwen Brown & Family's, Leona Brown, Steve Brown, Drenda Brooks, Michael A. Cancel Sr., John Chapman, Russell Chapman, Lamont & Leona Chenault, Charles Coley, Reginal Coley, Branden Mykal Cook, Manhattan Michelle Cook, Barbara Corrgens, Sharon Crawford, Jeanette Davis, Maratha N. Ramey DeWalt, Shirley A. Thomas El, Albert Earl Jr., William H. Ellis Sr., Rose E. Bonhart Ellis, Priscilla Fletcher, Janice Fryar, Verbie Garland, Stanley Graves, Gertrude Green, Ralph Green, Willie Green, Harriett Hardy, Yvonne Harper, Sylvia Hewitt, Aviance Hill, Brenda Hill, Mozell Hill, George Hillard, Gloria Hillard, Gabrielle Hinton, Lucile Hutton, Thomas Hutton, Jacqueline Luckett Johnson, Anthony Q. Jones, Sr., Delores Latson, Yulonda McClure-Logan, Alto King III, Alto King Sr., Edwin Mabrey, Leo D. Martinez, Maria E. Martinez, Larzzy McClelland, Sr., Theresa McClendon, Donald H. McCreary, Robert E. Montgomery, Teresa M. Morre, WilliAnn Moore, Dorine A. Mosley, Lavern Mosley, Bernadine Powell, James Powell, Nell Roach, Po-Mo's, Sharlene K. Roberts, DeLise Simmons, Sean Simmons, James E. Simpson Sr., Chris Smith, David Smith, Frances Smith, Shirley Smith, Tracee Perryman-Stewart, Mattie Taylor, Monique Taylor, Charles B. Welch, Barb Wilkowski, Keith W. Wilkowski, Felesha Williams, Jane E. Williamson, Twyla Lorraine Wheaton, Anderson N. Whitt, ABCO Contracting LLC, Alpha & Omega Collections, ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY (ALPHA XI LAMBDA CHAPTER) Commodore Perry Federal Credit Union, Logan Creek Construction Company, Midwest Urban Newspaper, and Mo's Market

# Toledo's Class of 2009 Shining Stars

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

For the first eight months of the academic year, we are battered by the bad news coming out of the typical urban school district, Toledo being no exception – failed tests, lack of discipline, drop outs ...

Finally, the end of the year arrives and the good news starts to pour in. In this area, for example, Greek letter organizations such as the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc, the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc, The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc hand out scholarships to some of the bright lights among the high school senior class.

The 50 Men & Women, as chronicled on adjoining pages, typically hands out scholarships to 15 to 25 minority students at their annual dinner.

And The University of Toledo's Toledo EXCEL program holds its very own graduation for its group of minority students who have

just completed the four-year program. This will be the 17th annual EXCEL Commencement.

This year's 37 Toledo EXCEL students participating in this weekend's graduation ceremony at Nitschke Auditorium have an average grade point average of 3.43, with six students above the 4.0 mark. The average ACT score is 23 and 87 percent will be attending UT on a full-tuition scholarship.

This year's valedictorian and salutatorian at Scott High School were Keishay Huffman and Skyler Gregory, respectively.

Huffman, who will be attending Bowling Green State University in the fall to major in business administration, will be the first member of her family to attend college.

Huffman set her sights on finishing first in her class early in her Scott career when she realized that hard

work was paying big dividends. She made up her mind to keep working hard, especially after being told by faculty and staff that she could have a shot at being her class's valedictorian.

And, of course, her mother played a huge part in her daughter's development.

"My mother stayed on me – made sure I did my homework," says Huffman. "Especially when she found out I could be at the top of my class ... she kept on me."

Huffman was a member of the chess, math and Afro clubs; played basketball and volleyball; was class president and was a member of the National Honor Society.

Gregory will be attending The Ohio State University and has not yet decided on her major, but she does know that she would like a career in the medical profession. Gregory never really thought about becoming

valuedictorian or salutatorian she says. "I just did my work and kept at it."

Gregory played basketball, volleyball, softball, golf

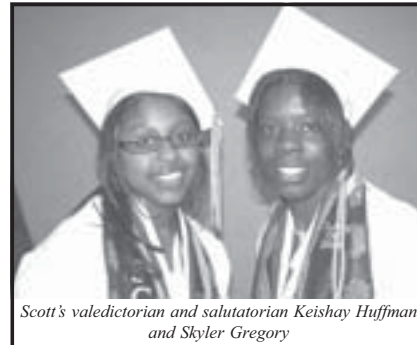
and tennis during her years at Scott.

She particularly credits her uncle, Tyrone Gregory, for his help in guiding her

through the college application and scholarship process. Her uncle is the only other member of her family to attend college.

It's a banner year for our young scholars ... as it is every year.

Congratulations to Toledo's other minority students who excelled and finished at or near the top of their classes: Woodward's valedictorian and salutatorian, Yalona Blair and Danille James; Toledo Technology Academy's salutatorian Jaison Tucker; Toledo Early College's salutatorian Breyonna Mathis.



*Scott's valedictorian and salutatorian Keishay Huffman and Skyler Gregory*

## 50 Men and Women

*(Continued from Page 6)*



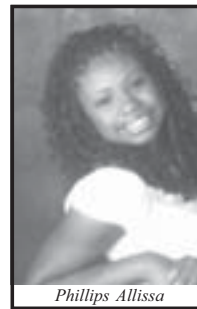
*Hawkins Da Jaunteye*



*Mitchell Amber*



*Patterson Dennasia*



*Phillips Allissa*



*Ramsey Camille*



*Shells Jasmine*



*Suhrweier Amanda*



*White Jeff*



*Williams Regan*

potential. This award is for \$1,500 per year and will be matched, restricted to the University of Toledo and renewable for four (4) years, matched annually. Consideration requirements are a GPA 3.0 or higher, 4 years of English, 3 years of mathematics

and science, and 2 years of social studies and foreign language. Total - \$12,000 for 4 years

**Da Jaunteye' Hawkins**  
Horizon Science Academy  
University of Toledo  
Corporate Lawyer

GPA 3.76

**Allissa Phillips**  
Springfield High School  
Bowling Green State University  
Lawyer  
GPA 3.39

Toledo-Lucas County Public Library  
**SUMMER READING CLUB**

**Read! Create! Participate!**

@ Your Library

---

**June 8 - August 1**

Sign up for a chance to win some very cool prizes!

**Reading Clubs:**

Preschool - 5th Grade  
Read one hour and come to your local Library for your folder.  
Read at least 15 minutes a day.

6th - 12th Grade  
Read a book and come to your local Library to fill out an entry blank.

Grown-ups can get in on the fun with our reading club for adults! Call 419.259.5207 for more information.

Thank you, 2009 Summer Reading Club Sponsors:



Education Section \*Education Section \*Education Section \*Education Section \*Education Section \*Education Section

## Toledoans Futrell and Perry Earn Advanced Degrees

*Special to The Truth*

Ashley Futrell and Ravi Perry, Ph.D., contributors to The Truth over recent years and long-time friends who graduated from Toledo high schools, both received advanced degrees recently from prestigious East Coast universities.

Futrell, a lobbyist on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., graduated with a master's degree on May 22 in government from Johns Hopkins University. Futrell has been in D.C. for a number of years now, having attended American University for her undergraduate degree in law and society. She will stay on with her lobbying firm in the nation's capital.

Futrell graduated from Toledo Christian in 2002



Ashley Futrell with mother Donna Hughes



Futrell and Sondra Spaulding – Spaulding is a Maumee Valley and Howard graduate currently serving as press secretary of a New York congressman



LaRouth Perry and Ravi Perry



Left: Perry and sister Kai  
Below: Robert Perry, Ph.D., and John Scott, Ph.D.



and is the daughter of Clyde and Donna Hughes.

Perry earned a doctorate in political science on May 24 from Brown University in Providence, RI. Perry attended the University of Michigan for his under-

graduate degree in political science and is also a 2001 graduate of Central Catholic.

Perry is heading to Clark University in Worcester, MA in the fall where he will be an assistant professor

in the Department of Government teaching African-American politics and research methods.

Perry is the son of Robert and LaRouth Perry. Both parents hold doctor of philosophy degrees.



## is now open in Toledo!

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# Midwest Urban Newspaper 1st Photography Class Graduation Event

By Glenda Brown  
Special to The Truth



The Midwest Urban Newspaper held its first photography class graduation on Friday, June 5, 2009 at The Truth Art Gallery, 1811 Adams Street. Family and friends of the graduates came out to support the graduates and to view their work along with the art exhibit in the gallery. Councilwoman Wilma

Brown congratulated the class and shared words of encouragement, especially to Jeff Willis to continue the good work he is doing in the community. Wanda Terrell, president of NANPBWC attended showing support for Willis and his graduates. Al Smith and Ramon Tiggs, established photographers,

were also in attendance to support the graduates and the event. Cersandra McPherson, NANPBWC Club sister was the guest speaker for the graduating class. As she congratulated the class, she also spoke works of encouragement leaving the audience  
*(Continued on Page 10)*

# “\$500 Scholarship Award Winner Is ...Edward Tucker, Jr.”

By Glenda D. Brown  
Special to The Truth

Statistics show that in single parent homes, about 84 percent of custodial parents are mothers, and 16 percent who are fathers. M.T.A.N. More Than A Notion, Foundation, Inc. mission is “To empower single parent households through spiritual support, awareness, mentoring, and educational programs to increase the number of high school graduates and maintain healthy family relationships.”



MTAN held its first board meeting at The Truth Art Gallery one year ago and were excited recently to present a graduate from a single parent home with a \$500 Scholarship at the Truth Art Gallery.

On Thursday, May 28, 2009 MTAN honored Edward Tucker, Jr. graduate of St. John's Jesuit High School.

Karrie Mosley was the mistress of ceremony for the evening. Candace Brown, daughter of Glenda Brown shared the history of MTAN with the audience, highlighting the 2008 events including: The Graduation Celebration (Erie Street Market); Back To School Festival (Bethlehem Life Center); College Prep Workshop (Mott Branch Library) and the Women's Empowerment Workshop (The Truth Art Gallery).

The MTAN scholarship committee selected Tucker as the first recipient for the 2009 MTAN \$500.00 Scholarship Award. Tucker is the son of Michelle Hughes-Tucker and the brother of Victoria Tucker. His mother calls Edward her blessing. Edward is an active and faithful member of Southern Missionary Baptist Church. He attends Sunday School, Youth Group and he volunteers when needed.

Karrie Mosley, CEO of Empower2Empower shared words of appreciation and encouragement with Edward's mother, Michelle. MTAN presented her with flowers recognizing her for all of her love and support in raising a young African-American male in a single parent household.

Pastor Tim Williams talked about his experiences as a high school graduate of Scott High School, and then a college graduate of Bowling Green University. He encouraged Edward in a message to “Endure No Matter What” as he continues on to college and to fulfill God's purpose in his life and to also empower other young men.

While maintaining a 3.09 G.P.A. Edward has: ledd St. John's seniors on a spiritual retreat, worked with St. Vincent's medical staff, worked with disabled at St. Josephine's, performed in St. John's Marching Band for four years, served as Youth Group President of Southern M.B.C., plays saxophone in the Southern M.B.C. Choir. Edward worked at Krogers and also escorted Kiara Harris in this year's 2009 Cotillion Event.

Glenda Brown, founder and executive director of MTAN was overjoyed to present Edward with the first \$500 Scholarship Award. The ceremony concluded with prayer for the family and tears began to flow. Refreshments were served and the guest congratulated Edwards on a job well done! Edward has been accepted at and plans to attend the University of Pittsburgh.

MTAN Board Members: Wanda Addie, Candace Brown, Karrie Mosley, Rev. Jerome Graham, Rev. Jeffrey Reed, Pastor Tim Williams and Glenda Brown. Visit our website for information about resources, events, donations, and volunteering: [www.mtan4singleparents.org](http://www.mtan4singleparents.org) or email: [mtan4singleparents@yahoo.com](mailto:mtan4singleparents@yahoo.com).

Single parent families may sign up to join MTAN's mailing list to receive information for upcoming events. All high school graduates from a single parent household are invited to sign up for our College Support Club.

MTAN 2009 Upcoming Events: African American Festival (July), Back To School Festival (August) Women's Empowerment Conference (Fall), A Family Celebration (December)

**Church's Chicken**

99¢ Menu

NEW! 5 Nuggets

Leg or Thigh and Honey Butter Biscuit

380 CALORIES

Chicken Tender Strip and Honey Butter Biscuit

and More!

Offer good for Church's Chicken at  
2124 Franklin Avenue, Toledo, Ohio

## Complaint filed with State Department of Education against Toledo Public Schools on Behalf of Students Seeking Special Education Evaluations

# School system fails to identify students with educational Disabilities and ignores requests for evaluations and Services.

Special to The Truth

According to an administrative complaint filed with the Ohio Department of Education Office of Exceptional Children, Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc. (LAWO) and Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE) allege that Toledo Public Schools (TPS) has violated federal law by failing to adequately identify and evaluate students who may be disabled and in need of special education supports and services in school.

The 15-page administrative complaint outlines the district's failure to comply with federal and state laws pertaining to students with disabilities. The complaint aims to bring the school district into compliance with the Child Find provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the Operating Standards for Ohio Educational Agencies serving Children with Disabilities.

Child Find establishes that public school districts have an affirmative duty to locate, identify and evaluate children who may be disabled and provide services to children who have a disability and are in need of special education services. If school employees and the public school system fail to do so, they have

defaulted in their legal obligation and may be liable to the children who have been denied services.

In 1989, ABLE filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court against TPS for violations of the Education for all Handicapped Children's Act (later amended as IDEA) and the Ohio Revised Code,

including Child Find obligations. *Rebecca S. et al v Ohio State Board of Education, et al.*, no. C87-7239, (N.D. Oh. 1989). This lawsuit resulted in a settlement agreement requiring TPS to develop policies and practices to ensure compliance with Child Find.

"Almost two decades later, TPS continues to fail to comply with the Child Find provisions of IDEA," says ABLE Attorney Ryan Wilson. "TPS's failure to adequately implement its Child Find obligations is pervasive and systemic. TPS has a history of non-compliance with this essential element of IDEA which ensures that students who need special education services are located and identified," he adds.

The experiences of the seven children named in the complaint reportedly reflect

a pattern of TPS officials failing to adequately respond to children facing significant challenges in school, an inadequate school based intervention policy, a lack of respect for parental perspective and input and a lack of urgency in ensuring that children struggling in school receive the additional services and supports that they need at the earliest possible time.

The representative complainants include children with severe and diagnosed behavior related challenges, children who have failed multiple grade levels, children who have been removed from school repeatedly for disciplinary issues, and children who struggle with basic skills needed to advance academically.

According to the complaint, cases reflect a disregard for parental input as each shows TPS's failure to take parental requests for services and special education evaluations seriously. "Not only has TPS failed to affirmatively identify children who should be suspected of having a disability, TPS has failed to adequately consider parental requests for evaluations and has failed to make a good faith effort to investigate pa-

rental referrals for special education evaluations," says LAWO Attorney Kate Mitchell.

The complaint calls for the Office for Exceptional Children to investigate and provide the students named in the complaint who have not yet been evaluated with an evaluation and compensatory education services.

The complaint also asks for a review of the educational records of all children who have failed academically for more than two quarters in any academic year, have been suspended or otherwise removed from school for more than 10 days during any school year, or who have been diagnosed with any medical or mental health condition which may impact their ability to benefit from their edu-

cation and have provided documentation of such diagnosis to TPS.

In addition, the complaint calls for the appointment of an expert to work with TPS to develop a policy that includes the implementation of a number of interventions as soon as a child begins to struggle in school with academics or behavior related issues and to ensure the completion of a special education evaluation within 90 days of a parents request for an evaluation, 60 days of parental consent or within 120 days of a school based referral for an evaluation.

This case is the result of work by the Toledo Medical-Legal Partnership for Children (MLPC) and the Education Law practice at ABLE. "A number of students experi-

encing these issues with the Toledo Public Schools have been identified by the MLPC – a multidisciplinary collaboration of pediatricians, lawyers, and mental health providers who work together to address a variety of legal issues that impact the health and well-being of children," says Mitchell.

ABLE and LAWO are non-profit law firms that provide free legal services to low-income residents in 32 counties of northwest and west central Ohio and to agricultural workers and immigration clients throughout the state. The MLPC is a partnership among ABLE, LAWO, St. Vincent Mercy Children's Hospital, and University Pediatrics at the University of Toledo College of Medicine.

## Owens Community College Assists School Children With 'Backpack to the Future' Summer Supply Drive

As another school year comes to an end, many students are once again placing their backpacks in storage or are discarding them entirely in anticipation of buying next fall's latest fashion trend. Owens Community College's Alumni Association has taken the initiative of once again organizing a gently-used backpack drive to provide new life for what many students consider their mobile lifeline to learning.

The College's Alumni Association community service endeavor, titled "Backpack to the Future," is currently accepting gently-used or new backpacks and new school supplies from area residents during the summer months. Items collected, as part of the "Backpack to the Future" program, will be given to low-income elementary school children throughout North-

west Ohio.

"Owens Community College's Alumni Association is proud to once again coordinate a program benefiting such a worthy cause," said Kaye Koevenig, Owens Community Service Chair of the Alumni Association.

"There are many low-income families that can barely afford to pay their bills, and may not be able to provide their children with new supplies. Our goal is to ensure that such occurrences do not happen and that all children begin their school year with new educational resources."

In addition to the gently-used backpacks and new backpacks, individuals can donate crayons, markers, bottles of glue, glue sticks, colored pencils, pencils, pink erasers, school boxes, pocket folders, marbled covered composition books and

Kleenex tissues. Area residents can bring their charitable donations to the Office of Alumni Relations on the Toledo-area Campus in Perrysburg Township and to the Enrollment Services Office on the Findlay-area Campus in Findlay.

Since establishing the program in 2004, the Owens Alumni Association has given over 1,150 backpacks and over 17,500 school supplies to benefit disadvantaged children throughout Northwest Ohio.

Since opening its doors in 1965, Owens has provided higher education to more than 250,000 students. Owens' Alumni Association is committed to the personal and professional success of alumni and students through the ongoing development of value-added initiatives.





## Congratulations to the Class of 2009

Congratulations to the Top 10 students from each of our high schools. These students have achieved academic excellence and are sure to be successful in their future endeavors. The entire graduating class of 2009 is a credit to themselves, their families, their teachers, their community and to Toledo Public Schools.



**Alexis Guyton**  
Valedictorian



**Andrew Alvarez**  
Salutatorian



**Chelsea Ireland**  
Valedictorian



**Robyn Jefferson-Cobert**  
Salutatorian



**Jessica Jagodzinski**  
Valedictorian



**Lauren Holmes**  
Salutatorian



**Chelsea Ireland**  
Valedictorian

**Robyn Jefferson-Cobert**  
Salutatorian



**Jessica Jagodzinski**  
Valedictorian



**Lauren Holmes**  
Salutatorian



**ROGERS**



**SCOTT**



**Keishay Huffman**  
Valedictorian



**Skyler Gregory**  
Salutatorian



**Samuel Carey**  
Valedictorian



**Chrylma James**  
Salutatorian



**START**



**WAITE**



**Courtney Kinney**  
Valedictorian



**Brenda Urias**  
Salutatorian



**Yelona Blair**  
Valedictorian



**Danielle James**  
Salutatorian



**WOODWARD**



**TOLEDO TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY**



**Samuel Martin**  
Valedictorian



**Jason Tucker**  
Salutatorian



**Lauren Merrill**  
Valedictorian



**Breyonna Mathis**  
Salutatorian



## Message to the recent Graduates, Class of 2009

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture



Recent high school graduates, congratulations!

Every year I get at the graduating class to let them know their hard work is acknowledged but it's just a rite of passage into a much more challenging time of life.

When I do these little "messages to the graduating class of \_\_\_\_", the weeks after I usually get a few parents who thank me for speaking to young adults on their level because so many parents try but still fail at communicating with 17-19 year olds.

That's one of the reasons I do this.

Also, every time I do this article I get emails FROM the 17-19 year olds who read The Truth and they usually thank me for just coming at them from a real place.

So I want to start this year's edition like this:

### WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO MAKE MONEY?

Okay, you just graduated and you've got college plans.

Hopefully that means you've got some career goals.

I can't even front, if I was in your position I would feel a strong urge to just go after the money ... LOL, real talk - just focus on getting paid.

From sixth grade to the start of college, I grew up in the 90's and graduated college during the second George Bush's reign of terror.

That means as a pre-teen and teen when I made my career goals, the economy had money floating everywhere but then when I came out of college it was the beginning of things getting as bad as they are now.

So I have a degree in a field that was more motivated by what I like to do than it was motivated by what would pay me well.

I advise you out there to GO AFTER WHAT PAYS

WELL!

Unless you're an artist of some kind and like most artists you would be miserable working in any other capacity other than those where you can live off your talents.

Other than that ... don't try to live beyond your means.

Don't try to do it big too soon, just focus on a skill that will always be needed even in a tough economy and go after that.

When your dream job isn't there anymore, never mind the dream, just aim for the job!

Yeah...I bet y'all thought I was gonna come at y'all with some "reach for the stars" and all that.

I do believe you should go hard at what you do and live up to your potential, but we are damn near in a depression in the United States.

By the time you get your bachelor's the American dollar bill might be a thing of the past.

Go after what pays well and will always be needed.

In the 90's, everyone was gang banging so tough they just told us to follow our hearts hoping that we would dream of something beyond the hood.

The year I came out of

highschool, Lil Kim and Foxy Brown both had albums drop that went multi-platinum so even chicken-head type girls felt they could basically dream big and cash would follow.

That is no longer the case! You are gonna have to work like hell and make wise decisions every step of the way or severely get left behind.

Research different fields and career options.

Stop using the music/entertainment business, sports and military as easy answers.

When you pick your degree...don't pick something that will have you out of work in a few years and if you choose to specialize make sure there is a demand for whatever the position is first.

I have a bachelor's in communication/P.R. and even though I have never found that dream job at an ad agency, this degree offers versatility.

But if I had it to all over again, I'd skip the need to use my creativity and I'd focus on business or something technical.

Because that's what pays bills.

### STOP LIVING FAST AND LEARN TO LISTEN:

If you have grandparents, talk to them.

I mean it... take time and really sit and chop it up with them about life and about history and don't let it be a discussion of just disagreements.

You can learn a lot from people who have lived through racial injustice.

You can learn a lot from people who have seen it all before.

Yeah, ya granny may not be able to tell the difference between an iPod and a computer mouse but she can give you some wisdom that will last you until you're her age.

Even chop it up with your parents, too!!

Ask them about life in their day, what were things like and what they would do differently if they could.

If you are 17-18-19 years old, chances are most of

you have parents that are the same age as my parents... between 48- to mid 50's or so.

Those are the last members of their generation, the Baby Boomers.

I love talking to my dad about the 60's and 70's when he was doing his music, traveling and coming of age. It's important you get some history from the people close to you.

Because someone else will try to TELL you your history and if you don't know any better you will believe them.

The club will be there, it's not going anywhere.

All the clothes you want to buy, all the people you want to see, all the fun you want to have will be there.

Studies show that educated people are waiting longer and longer to have children and start families.

If you are just leaving high school and about to enter college, don't trush into

staying out every night and trying to do way too much too soon because you've got all your 20'[s] to still go out and kick it.

Right now, have some fun but really try to focus.

Let me repeat that - have fun and all that but sit down and focus.

You can make a good life for yourself in any city, and if you choose well you can get ahead even in hard times.

Just don't be typical.

Because trust me, many of the people who you just graduated with don't have anyone to give them this message and you will soon see how they end up.

Thanks for reading, believe it or not it says a lot about you and the type of person you are going to become!

Congratulations again and have a safe summer.

glasscitytruth@yahoo.com

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## The Blessings of the Bikes

*Special to The Truth*

On Saturday, June 6, the New Psalmist True Church of God presented a Blessing of the Bikes for the motor cycle riders in the city and surrounding area.

Hundreds of bikers came by to have their bikes blessed by Bishop Brehon L. Hall, senior pastor. The event, which lasted from 1 to 6 p.m., provided the riders with free food, music and vendors who sold patches and scarves.



## Pastor Cedric Brock Celebrates 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Mt. Nebo

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Rev. Cedric Brock and First Lady Debra Brock are celebrating 16 years of leadership at Nebo Missionary Baptist Church this month.

The kickoff event was held during the afternoon service on Sunday, June 7 as Pastor Clifford Mayes of Macedonia MBC and Bishop James A. Jennings, Jr of Detroit's Shield of Faith and their congregations joined the congregants of Mt. Nebo.

On Wednesday, June 10, the congregations of Toledo's Serenity church of God in Christ and Mt. Zion MB will be the honored guests.

Next Sunday, June 14, the anniversary service will be



held as Rev. Chapman of the Calvary Church of Detroit leads the tribute to Mt. Nebo's first family. Calvin Hughes and the Ambassador Choir will be the musical guests.

## Wayman Palmer Community YMCA Offers Free Breakfast and Lunch to Youth

*Special to The Truth*

The YMCA and JCC of Greater Toledo is sponsoring a free food service program for children under the age of 18 this summer, under the Ohio Department of Education, USDA Food Service Program for Children. The program will be held at the Wayman Palmer Community YMCA, 2053 N. 14th Street, and through a collaborative effort, with the

Sofia Quintero Art and Cultural Center at 1225 Broadway Street.

The Wayman Palmer Community YMCA will offer breakfast from 8:00-9:00 am and lunch from noon-1:30 pm.

The Sofia Quintero Art and Cultural Center will offer lunch from 11:30 am-1:00 pm.

The free food program

meals will meet the state nutritional guidelines and be served weekdays June 8 through August 21 to any child under the age of 18. Children under the age of 12 should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

For more information, contact YMCA/JCC Food Program Administrator Lori Thompson at 419-474-3995.

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## Tabernacle of Faith's Pastoral Anniversary

*Special to The Truth*



Rev. James C. Williams, III, senior pastor, and Min. Carletta Williams, first lady, celebrated their Third Pastoral Anniversary at Tabernacle of Faith on Sunday, June 7 with a final event of this year's celebration during 11 a.m. services. The guest speaker for the culmination of the anniversary was Rev. Paul Rhinehart, senior pastor, Yadkin Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Salisbury, NC.

The final event followed an anniversary banquet held the previous night at the Ramada Inn Secor Rd and a 7 p.m. Friday kickoff event held at the church.

This year's service was especially noteworthy because it was the

first such event held at the church's new location at 701 W. Central.

The Tabernacle of Faith was originally located at the corner of Detroit and Belmont but a fire destroyed that edifice on January 8, 2007. For 17 months the congregation gathered for services at the Ramada (then the Clarion) on Secor and moved into the Central Avenue building this past summer.

James III had been associate pastor under his father, James, Jr., since 1996 before being installed as senior pastor three years ago.

Tabernacle of Faith also oversees the James C. Williams Center for Advancement, a ministry that works with ex-offenders and offers mentoring classes for children of offenders.

"We minister to the



Rev. James C. Williams, III, senior pastor, and Min. Carletta Williams

whole man," says James III. Taking their cue from John 10:10: "I am come that you might have life and you might have it more abundantly," the Williams believe that "salvation is necessary but it's just the beginning," says the current pastor.

**Soul Food on the East Side? Absolutely**

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

The Serenity Family Soul Food Restaurant at 932 Woodville Road opened about three months ago to the very great relief of those folks who do not want to leave East Toledo to get real home-cooked soul food.

Which, of course, is why it's on the east side.

"They did not have a soul food restaurant on this side," said co-owner Bishop M.C. McGhee, pas-

tor of Serenity Church of God in Christ. "We're trying to do something to help."

It's a family affair that's come to the rescue. Erma McGhee, First Lady of Serenity, is the chef who oversees the kitchen's production of chicken, fish, baked beans, green beans, hush puppies, macaroni and cheese, along with other traditional soul food delicacies.

McCardell McGhee, Robert McGhee, Vincent McGhee, Candus McGhee, Rebecca Williams, Alicia Henneman, Victoria Williams, Valerie McKee and Princess Anderson are all part of the staff as well.

The menu is studded with seafood specialties such as whiting, catfish, tilapia and shrimp. Chicken wings and burgers are also available as are an array of

lighter offerings such as chicken and shrimp salads. In addition to the menu, a full buffet is available during all hours the restaurant is open.

The Serenity Family Soul Food Restaurant is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For take out orders, call 419-671-6265.

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**NEW NOVEL by Toledo Writer:**  
A black farmer takes his sons to see a silent horror film showing at a new theater Halloween night in 1930, in central Texas. Nearly 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 [lulu.com/content/5743710](http://lulu.com/content/5743710) for only \$5.00

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# CLASSIFIEDS

June 10, 2009

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### Attention All Vendors

Join us for this year's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual African American Festival  
To be held  
Saturday, July 11 – Sunday, July 12, 2009  
At

The University of Toledo's Scott Park Campus  
Contact Suzette Cowell at 419.255.8876 for more information

Call TODAY - Space is limited!!



### Boy Scouts of America Paraprofessional

Erie Shores Council is seeking Paraprofessionals for leadership positions in Cub and Boy Scouts. Previous Scouting experience preferred.

Resumes to:  
Fax 419/241-6769 / [ereshores@bsaemail.org](mailto:ereshores@bsaemail.org)  
ESC, Scoutreach Division  
PO Box 337  
Toledo OH, 43604

### Scott Class of '69 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion

Friday and Saturday, July 24-25, 2009  
Ramada Hotel 3536 Secor Rd  
Contact Evelyn Wilson (419-246-9568) or Mary Larkett (419-536-9544)

### Public Notice

The public is hereby invited to review and comment on the proposed American Recovery & Investment Act Funded Project for the Economic Planning Association of Greater Toledo, Inc. (EOPA). The plan may be reviewed at EOPA's office located at 505 Hamilton Street, Toledo, OH. Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> – Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 between the hours of 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Comments should be submitted to the above office before 5:00 pm, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009. All comments will be kept on file and will be open for public review.

For further information, contact Eric W. Slack, Interim Director of Planning at (419) 242-7304 ext. 1402

### Auditions

K-8<sup>th</sup> grades with parents  
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Saturday, May 23, 2009  
A# Sharp Performing Arts Workshop  
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### PUBLIC NOTICE

Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) is issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for an Alternative School Suspension/Expulsion Services Program.

The goal is to provide children who have behavioral and academic problems and who have been suspended or expelled from school, regardless of duration, an alternative setting to go to that meets their academic and social/emotional needs in a therapeutic and supportive learning environment.

LCCS is seeking proposals from public and private agencies and individuals capable and willing to, at a minimum, collaborate with children's home schools and LCCS, assist with homework completion, provide academic instruction/assistance, and promote/coach appropriate academic and social behaviors.

RFP materials will be available from 9:00 a.m. June 8 through 4:00 p.m. June 22, 2009 at 705 Adams St., Toledo, Ohio, 43604. To make arrangements to pick up an RFP packet, call 419-213-3658. An applicant information meeting regarding the RFP will be held June 22, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Room #913 at the above address.

The deadline for submitting completed proposals (NO FAX) is 4:00 p.m. on July 9, 2009. No proposal will be accepted after that deadline.

By Dean Sparks, Executive Director  
Lucas County Children Services

### Director, University Media Relations [No. 991205]

University Communications & Marketing

Opportunity for a Director of University Media Relations to assist the Associate Vice President in providing leadership in university communications and proactive media relations. To promote Kent State University in strategic and meaningful ways through writing, gathering information and other duties as designated.

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Application Deadline: June 11, 2009.

For a complete description of this position and to apply online, visit our jobsite at: <http://jobs.kent.edu>.

All documents submitted to Kent State University for employment opportunities are public records and subject to disclosure under the Ohio Public Records Law.

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### Child Advocate/Facilities Manager

The YWCA's Battered Women's Shelter is seeking to fill a full-time position. Responsibilities include working with children in the program, implementing recreational, educational activities, and conducting assessments. As the Facilities Manager, you will be responsible for the day to day operations of the shelter. Position requires experience working with children, and knowledge domestic violence issues. Flexible work hours, valid drivers license required.

Bachelors Degree preferred in Education, Early Childhood, Social Work, or related field. Salary: \$11.03

FINAL DEADLINE: June 19, 2009

SUBMIT RESUME TO:

PERSONNEL DIRECTOR/BWS  
YWCA

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### Notice to Bidders:

Inquiry # FY09-130, (Project # 0110-09-609) for Scott Park Athletic Concessions for the University of Toledo. 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, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 24, 2009. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 1:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$35.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Paul Sullivan of Paul R. Sullivan Jr. AIA LLC at 419-266-2733.

One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 5%. Project Estimate: \$193,185.00; Breakdown: General Const: \$153,385.00; Plumbing: \$18,300.00; HVAC: \$n/a & Electrical: \$21,500.00.

# TMA Celebrates African American Identity with Fifth Annual Juneteenth Festival

Saturday, June 13, 2009, Noon-5 P.M.

On Saturday, June 13 from noon to 5 p.m. the Toledo Museum of Art and its Committee for Cultural Diversity will present the fifth annual Juneteenth Celebration. This free festival features music, dance, film, art demonstrations, food, and hands-on art activities. Most activities, parking, and admission to the Museum are free.

The first Juneteenth event was a spontaneous celebration that took place on June 19, 1865 when President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation was read for the first time in Texas. When the more than 250,000 enslaved African Americans in that state heard the news they were free, a more than 130-year tradition of annual celebrations was born.

The Museum's Committee for Cultural Diversity (CCD) initiated

TMA's first Juneteenth Celebration in 2005 and continues to provide guidance and assistance in the planning and production of the festival. As an ad hoc committee of the Museum's Board of Directors, the CCD strives to encourage greater awareness and understanding of Toledo's culturally diverse community and to ensure the reflection of this cultural and ethnic heritage in the Museum's offerings. Volunteers are still needed to assist with Juneteenth activities; interested parties should contact the volunteer office at 419-254-5771, extension 7390. A complete listing of Juneteenth activities is attached. All events are free unless ticketing is indicated.

Juneteenth Activities List  
Saturday, June 13, 2009

**Rhythm of the Day**  
Local singers, dancers, and musicians will get you moving to the beat, tapping your toes and singing out loud. All Rhythm of the Day performances take place on the Peristyle Terrace.

**Kaye Cook Praise Dancers**  
NOON - 12:45 P.M. | Peristyle Terrace

**Funga Alafia! I Welcome You!** Join in as the Kaye Cook Praise Dancers begin the day with the *Funga* or Welcome Dance that also celebrates the harvest.

**KGB (Motown)**  
1:00-2:00 P.M. | Peristyle Terrace

**Funk Nation featuring special guest Ron Ricks (funk & hip hop)**  
2:45-3:45 P.M. | Peristyle Terrace

Damen Cook &

**Friends (jazz)**  
4:00-5:00 P.M. | Peristyle Terrace

**Demos, Performances, & Events**

**Program: Lathrop House**  
Noon - 5:00 P.M. | Canaday Gallery Entrance

Join the Metroparks of the Toledo Area to learn more about this newly restored stop on the Underground Railroad.

**Guided Tour: African and African American Art**

1:30-2:15 P.M. | Libbey Court

Join a TMA Docent for an enlightening gallery tour of highlights by African and African American artists.

**Poetry Reading: "CC"**  
Chawone Ardrey  
1:45-2:15 P.M. | GlasSalon

C.C. shares her poems about overcoming adversity in her life.

**JJ Express (percussion)**  
2:00-2:15 P.M. | Monroe Street Terrace

**Demonstration: Civil War Military Drills** by the Ohio 5th Infantry Regiment U.S. Colored Troop  
2:15-2:30 P.M. | Monroe Street Terrace

The troops of the reactivated Company C bring history to life through Civil War military drill reenactments.

**Meet the Artists:** Charles Gabriel, Ramon Tiggs, Ramon Keys  
3-5 P.M. | Community Gallery

Meet the artists behind the lens in the exhibition *Juneteenth: Photography in Focus*.

**Storytelling: Wil Clay**  
3:15-4:15 P.M., GlasSalon

Wil Clay, illustrator of children's books and storyteller, will enthrall you with stories about the African and African American experience. He will have on display many of

his books and several original illustrations. One lucky person will be chosen from the audience to model for a quick 15 minute portrait which will be theirs to take home.

**Art Hours: African-Inspired Glass Beads**  
1, 2, 3, & 4 P.M. | Glass Pavilion

Use a small torch to "framework" glass beads with African-inspired color schemes. Tickets, \$15 for members and \$25 for nonmembers, are required and can be purchased by calling the Museum starting Tuesday, June 9. Adults and accompanied children aged 14 years and older are welcome.

**Art Hours: Warm Glass Painted Tiles**  
2, 3, & 4 P.M. | Glass Pavilion

Tickets, \$15 for members and \$25 for nonmembers, are required and can be purchased by calling the Museum starting Tuesday, June 9. Adults and accompanied children aged 14 years and older are welcome.

**Glassblowing Demonstrations**  
1, 2, 3, & 4 P.M. | Glass Pavilion

Local artists share their techniques for working molten glass into dazzling works of art.

**Throughout the Day**

**Family Activity Stations**  
Noon - 5 p.m. | TMA campus

A wide variety of hands-on art activities will be going on at stations across the TMA campus including face painting, basket weaving, mask making, community art projects, sidewalk drawing, print making and much more.

**Film: Follow the Drinking Gourd**

Runs continuously  
Noon - 5 P.M. | Classic Court

This film follows young Mary Prentice and her family as they make their way north to freedom.

Decorate your own gourd inspired by the story.

**Film: Quincy Jones in the Pocket**

Runs continuously  
Noon-3:00 P.M. | Little Theater

Get a closer look at the life and work of one of the most far-reaching talents of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Film: The World of Nat King Cole**

Runs continuously  
3:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M. | Little Theater

Get to know the man behind the voice through interviews and never-before-seen performances.

**Gallery Explorations**  
Noon - 5 p.m. | TMA Galleries

Embark on a self-guided gallery hunt for TMA collection favorites and new acquisitions by African or African American artists. Stop by any Museum entrance for a pamphlet.

**Quality of Life and Health Organization Displays**

Noon - 5 p.m. | Monroe Street Terrace

Maintain and improve your health and well-being with information from local quality-of-life organizations.

**Ohio 5th Infantry Regiment U.S. Colored Troops**

Noon-5 P.M. | Glass Pavilion Grounds

The troops of the reactivated Company C share how African Americans met the challenges of surviving during the Civil War.

**Exhibition: Juneteenth: Photography in Focus**

Noon - 5 P.M. | Community Gallery

Explore photography by local African American artists.

**Food Booths**  
Noon - 5 P.M.

Enjoy delectable dishes from the Museum Café, Glass Pavilion Coffee Bar and vendors along Monroe Street.

THE CLARENCE SMITH COMMUNITY CHORUS

**KALEIDOSCOPE of Music**

FEATURING  
Jazz | Broadway | Gospel | Classical

SUNDAY  
**JUNE 14, 2009**  
7PM

Special Guests  
Vocalist: Tymara Spears  
Dancer: Tyree Bell

MAUMEE INDOOR THEATRE  
(Corner of Conant St. & Anthony Wayne Trail)

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE CALL  
ERNE WALKER: (419) 534-1378

Advance:  
\$15 Adults | \$17 Senior/Students  
Door:  
\$20 Adults | \$17 Senior/Students