



Local and National News

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The Truth

Sojourner's

Volume 16, No.12 "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..." July 8, 2009

In This Issue

The Truth Editorial
Page 2

Commentary
Page 3

African American Festival
Page 4

Communities Uniting
Page 5

Education Section

Horizon Science academy
Page 7

Wiping Out Illiteracy
Page 8

Our Children Can Soar
Page 9

Owens Tuition Contest
Page 10

Custom Car Show
Page 11

The Lima Truth
Page 12

Dating in T-Town
Page 13

BlackMarketPlace
Page 14

Classifieds
Page 15

Exhibit Opening
Page 16



Earnestine Crockette
Read for Literacy Tutor

“Illiteracy steals the magic places that a story read by a mother or a father takes a child to – places that belong only to the imagination. It is preventing many from achieving the ‘American Dream.’” – Susan Shaneck of Read For literacy

This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

Former Secretary of State Robert McNamara died earlier this week at the age of 93.

A skilled, brilliant planner and organizer with a first-rate mind capable of absorbing and analyzing a dazzling amount and array of information, McNamara arrived in Washington, D.C. in 1961 with newly elected President John Kennedy fresh off the success of the Ford Motor Company where he led the famed Whiz Kids of the post-war era.

He had just been named president of Ford when he was called to duty by the president of the United States to lead and restructure the Department of Defense. Unfortunately a war broke out about that same time and McNamara applied those same ideas and charts he had used to help re-build Ford to fighting a conventional war against an enemy that was anything but conventional.

In his book, *The Best and The Brightest*, author David Halberstam described the Whiz Kids and their ilk who marched into the nation's capital in 1961 determined to put their stamp of genius and accomplishment on the staid political structure.

Vice President Lyndon Johnson was so taken by the newcomers, particularly McNamara, that he lavished praise on them to Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn. Rayburn was not quite so enamored. "I'd feel a lot better if just one of them had once run for sheriff," he told the star-struck Johnson.

Halberstam's use of the phrase, "the best and the brightest," was, of course filled with irony. After all the missteps McNamara made during a war that cost more than 50,000 American lives and perhaps a million Vietnamese lives, Halberstam dubbed McNamara a "fool."

McNamara himself recognized well into the conflict that he and the administration had erred and had engaged the wrong enemy, at the wrong time in the wrong place. Not just wrong, "terribly wrong," he would finally admit in his memoirs published decades after the worst foreign affairs adventure in the 200 year history of the United States.

Regrettably, such folly was not the last such tragic mistake of American foreign policy. From 1951 to 2001, this country, after trying for so long in its history to isolate itself from the rest of the world, entered international relations with a bang ... and tried to convince the world of its purity of heart even as it tried to conquer the foreign policy learning curve.

We did so while gathering more and more enemies along the way. Immediately, even in the 1950's, we gained the tagline of Ugly Americans (by which definition in the dictionary there is surely a photograph of Robert McNamara). And by the time 2001 arrived, we were shocked, shocked, that some of those enemies would not wait for us to interfere once more in their beleaguered homelands before bringing the fight onto American soil.

Much more often than not, America has done the right thing overseas and for the right reasons - Afghanistan in the 1980's, the former Yugoslavia in the 1990's, Israel for decades, protecting Taiwan over the years, staying as clear as possible of the squabbles on the Indian subcontinent, etc.

But we have also had more than our share of mishaps - ignoring Africa, propping up the Shah of Iran, slighting the aspirations of the Palestinians, placing our oil interests well above what might have been best for the masses of peoples in those oil-producing countries, etc.

Above all, it is the sense of American arrogance that rubs salt in the wounds of those who reside in what has been known as the Third World. That is, "don't apologize, it's a sign of weakness."

Stateside, many Americans still feel as if we have been offended more than we have given offense and that we not only never have to apologize, we don't even have to explain.

Recently, President Obama's overseas trip earned him quite a lot of criticism from the right because they perceived the journey as an "apology tour," which it most decidedly was not. On the other hand, what could possibly be wrong with an apology or two now and then? In his Cairo speech, he certainly did not err factually when he addressed the various situations around the world that needed correcting.

McNamara apologized in his memoirs. Actually it was more of an "oops, my bad" offering. A kind of "we were wrong but then who wouldn't have been wrong under those circumstances" type of apology.

We would like to have the inclination to be more gracious to the leader of the whiz kids, the brightest of the best and the brightest, on the occasion of his death. Regrettably, for all of his early accomplishments in World War II and with the Ford Motor Company, and his later good deeds with the World Bank, McNamara will always remain a symbol of what went wrong with America in the second half of the 20th Century, and what needs to be corrected.

Community Calendar

July 9

Area Office on Aging Kinship Summer Series: Walbridge Park Shelter Houses; 11 am to 1 pm

July 13

Look Good ... Feel Better: American Cancer Society program to help women overcome the appearance-related side effects of cancer treatment; 9:30 am at Flower Hospital: 1-888-227-6446ext2

July 13-17

Church Revival at Greater St. Mary's MBC: 7 pm nightly; Revivalist Robert Lyons of Market Place Ministries of Dayton

July 11

Summer Concert in Ottawa Park: Extra Stout (Irish); 6 to 8 pm: 419-936-2700

July 14

Area Office on Aging Kinship Summer Series: Walbridge Park Shelter Houses; 11 am to 1 pm

July 16

Area Office on Aging Kinship Summer Series: Walbridge Park Shelter Houses; 11 am to 1 pm

July 18

Summer Concert in Ottawa Park: DeZire (Motown); 6 to 8 pm: 419-936-2700
West Toledo Bereavement Support Ministry: Community Center at Port Lawrence Homes; 10 am: 419-241-2133
4th Annual NAMI Walk Kick-Off Picnic: 9 am to 1 pm; 930 S. Detroit; Free food, activities

July 20-24

Worship Center's Vacation Bible School: Ages 4 to 11; 9 am to 12:30 pm; Serving breakfast and lunch daily

July 21

Area Office on Aging Kinship Summer Series: Walbridge Park Shelter Houses; 11 am to 1 pm

July 23

Area Office on Aging Kinship Summer Series: Walbridge Park Shelter Houses; 11 am to 1 pm

July 24

True Vine MBC 8th Pastoral Anniversary: Celebrating Pastor Melvin Barnes and First Lady Jeanette Barnes; 4 pm; Guests Bishop Duane Tisdale and Friendship Church; "Called to Be a Servant Leader"

July 25

Summer Concert in Ottawa Park: On the Beach (Pop; Rock); 6 to 8 pm: 419-936-2700

July 25-26

Calvary Baptist Church Women's Day
Luncheon on Saturday at 11 am; Sunday morning service at 10:45 am; Sunday afternoon service at 4 pm

August 1

Community Resources and Health Fair: Monroe St. Neighborhood Center; 10 am to 1 pm; Blood pressure screenings, cholesterol and diabetes checks; Healthy snack and kit provided

The Sojourner's Truth

1811 Adams Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604
Phone 419-243-0007 • Fax 419-255-7700
Published weekly on Wednesday

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Make-Over or Take-Over?

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



A successful coup d'etat need not involve armored vehicles and tanks in the streets, violence or physical force or confrontation. All that is required is for a community, weary and shaken by war, high unemployment, crime, and poverty to allow themselves to be "talked into" making a hurried and unclear decision to change the structure of their government by a "small group of individuals strategically portraying themselves as a populist movement with a catchy slogan" as their mantra.

The "Nine Is Fine" ballot initiative, in spite of being rebuffed by a legion of prominent Lucas County Republi-

cans as well as Democrats, proposes to reduce the number of councilmen from 12 to nine by eliminating the city-wide "At-Large" and replacing them with half as many "Super District" councilpersons. The so-called payoff being hyped is an estimated savings of \$250,000 or an infinitesimally small two percent of the \$12 million municipal budget deficit and the myth that super districts will generate "additional representation by subtraction."

The arguments, including claims of shoddiness due to the confusing language of the proposed charter change, and which calls for three at-large council members to be elected in November instead of the six called for in the current charter, have been conspicuously waged in local blogs and newspapers.

However, the urgency to put this initiative on the ballot and do it right now, act now, vote now -without letting the citizenry weigh in on it or call for public hearings compels those who like to "read between the lines" and utilize intuition in addition to

logic in their decision making to raise the question "Is this about a make-over or about a take-over?"

The thought of a take-over conjures in the mind of African-Americans the historical realities of backlash or counter blows against black political progress and victories against the system such as the Hayes-Tilden compromise of 1877 and other ugly backroom political and economic deals down through the years that have forced blacks to give up previously-won gains.

The current government structure - six district and six at-large councilpersons - keeps the infrastructure in place to protect the gains made in Toledo by African-Americans. According to one long-term Toledoan with extensive political experience, "If we go down to nine, African-American representation on council will likely go from three of 12 (25 percent) to only one of nine (11 percent)."

That is a great possibility. And with the acknowledgment that the current political context requires strategic alliances and coalitions, yet

African-Americans in Toledo -without diversified government, remain politically vul-

nerable and at risk upon the election of a mayor or councilpersons insensitive

to issues of concern to the black community in a new, (Continued on Page 4)

A Changing of the Hats

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq. Guest Column

Well, now that my opposition to the "rebuilding" of the fabled Scott High School was thoroughly pounded into the ground by the Old West End neighbors and other select groups, I am now sniffing around about the rumor that Superintendent John Foley is supposed to nominate or select an Oversight Committee that will have powers (real or perceived) to monitor what goes on at this rebuilding of Scott including the need for a beefing up of its academics, school discipline issues, teacher quality and athletic integrity complete with payroll parity with other schools. Let me address the next paragraphs to those in the community who surround Scott High School as enlightened nitwits if they believe that J. Foley and Company are going to surrender real power or control to any local community groups or interest factions that want to insure that Scott is given the needed monies and tools, competent teachers and academic programming so that its dwindling student body population will succeed and not fail.

I would be remiss in not remarking on the elephant in the china shop and, that is, unless Scott gets some positive PR as to its climb up the academic ladder and its student body starts to act like a premier high school that is no nonsense about academic excellence, Scott High School will always be floundering as a backwater.... "coulda been a top high school."

Unless Scott is developed as an impressive flag school equipped with all of the modern day educational goodies and gadgets including proficient teachers and not teacher trainees from Perrysburg and

Sylvania who are there to cut their teeth on black kids, Scott will languish. Let cut to the chase. If you were to monitor for the last 20 years, the Old West End residents and those within a five-mile radius of that school and even the Ol' Bulldog Alums, how many sent or how many now send their precious Johnny or Suzy to Scott High School?

How many parents including black professionals sent their kids to Scott High School as a transfer student? I see those hands. Not too many raised! Why?

Duh... it was seen and it was perceived as a mediocre high school with "so-so" academic programs and staffed by some teachers who were just there watching the clock.

It was seen as a troubled school where school discipline was out of control and the safety of your kids was a concern. Many times the perception of a problem is bigger than the reality of the problem.

My own confession? I lived on Islington Street for eight years and dear ol' Scott High

(I need to pause here to shed a tear or two... there, I am better) was down the road. None of my three kids went to Scott. Even when I moved out to Westmoreland, I never considered an out of district transfer to Scott High.

So, let's be honest. The glory days of Scott are past and the job now is to resurrect that high school so that it is a proficient high school educating kids and entreating their parents or guardians to get involved both at home and at the high school so that their children do not become part of the grimy statistics of being drop-outs or worse.

If the upcoming school

board elections produce a group of minority board members and those board members cannot flex their muscles and tell J. Foley what to do including the board exercising control over any oversight committee, then I say... you got what you voted for.

History proves me right. Remember the past board makeup in which we had three minority members? Remember how that board hee-hawed and dropped the ball about their responsibility of oversight regarding the schools building committee?

You know, they were to make sure that the white contractors shared the public trough with minority contractors and workers.

What did that committee do? They picked their noses in unison and barked about

how they were going to make sure that minority contractors got a fair share of the hundreds of millions of public funds that were being spent on the new local schools.

In fact, what did the minority contractors get? Nose pickings... tiny, ugly little particles of verbal nonsense to cover up for a complete meltdown of the responsibilities of that oversight committee!

It was a joke! And the only people laughing were the fat cat white contractors who had to find banks large enough to hold the bushels of cash they made off of these public contracts.

So, if J. Foley & Company and/or the newly constituted school board does not pony up to the plate and share the power and the attendant wealth of an oversight committee, Scott High will be bled dry and all we will hear in the future will be the bark of an anemic and lame bulldog.



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Ramona Collins Headlines African-American Festival

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Toledo's own Ramona Collins is one of this weekend's headliners at the Fifth Annual African American Festival at the Scott Park Campus of The University of Toledo. Collins will appear on Saturday from 4 to 5 p.m.

Collins, who was born in Toledo and reared in Lansing, MI, by her jazz pianist/singer mother – the late Alice (Collins) Carter – has been singing since her very early years. Collins made her debut at the age of 16 singing standards on a recording with her mother and accompanied by a drummer.

A Toledo producer recorded Collins in 1970 singing a soul single "You've Been Cheatin'" and "Now That You've Gone."

According to her biography, Collins fronted a number of bands during the 1970's – funk, top 40 and show bands – that toured the country.

However, over the last several decades, Collins has focused on her career as a jazz performer and has become one of the area's top attractions. She includes Nancy Wilson, Etta James, Dakota Staton and Joe Will-

iams as some of her top influences.

Collins has had the opportunity to perform with some of the country's greatest jazz musicians and vocalists and perform as well in some of the best-known area venues including the former Rusty's Jazz Café, Murphy's Place, Detroit's Baker's Keyboard Lounge and Bert's In the Eastern Market. She was one of the first jazz vocalists to

perform at the Motor City Casino when it opened.

In 2005, Collins released her second independent CD – *Live & Lovin' It* – which includes one of her original compositions "Choices." Accompanying her on this album are Eric Dickey on piano, Marty Greenberg on bass, Sean Dobbins on drums, Allan Barnes on sax and flute and Cass Harris on trumpet and vocals.



Other performers this weekend at the Fifth Annual African American Festival are: Priscilla, the Skip Turner

Band, Joyce Cooling and The Manhattans – on Saturday; Friendship Baptist Church Choir, First Creation, Nick

Colionne, Alexander Zonjic and Rance Allen – on Sunday.

Takeover

(Continued from Page 3)

reduced and smaller City Council.

Also, for too long, many in the African-American community have bought into false promises and accepted the assessment of what others deemed were in their best interests only later to suffer from the racism of "benign neglect" or the assault of progressive policies by those worried about their chances for re-election.

The lack of strong, coherent voices on the complexity of public policy issues faced by those in a city 30 percent nonwhite and living in tough economic times or to limit the African-American community to a single witness specially representing its perspectives would not only greatly shackle a population with marginalized interests and still is disproportionately

poor and disenfranchised, but also sabotage black progress and diversification of representation in Toledo.

So where is the hope? Whether termed as make-over, take-over or a turning back of the clock on progress, the "Nine is Fine" action sounds a clarion call for grassroots groups in Toledo to rise above their parochialism to unite and build political coalitions to fight issues which not only disproportionately affect the African-American community but all marginalized communities.

Differences and internecine feuds should be put aside and political coalitions with the Latino community, the ecumenical and the various denominations of the African-American church should come together along with a consortium of other grass roots community orga-

nizations and public interest groups to solve the various complex problems we face and to challenge any policies that take our community backwards and not forward.

As long as these policies go unchallenged, other forces will cut deals, get their piece of the action, further marginalize minorities, the poor and working class, and once again abandon the fundamental needs of the community as a whole.

So regardless of the political spin and whether seen as make-over or take-over, NOT THANK YOU, we don't want either! Vote NO on the "Nine Is Fine" ballot initiative.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D. Min., at dpperry@aachurch.org

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TV TO TALK ABOUT

Two Toledo Neighborhoods Organize Communities for Safety

By Artisha S. Lawson
Sojourner's Truth reporter

During the month of June, two Toledo communities decided to focus on safety and unify their neighborhoods. The residents of North Toledo and Central City planned to tackle issues that affect their neighborhoods during the summer months.

Following the assault of a Toledo Police detective's parents, North Toledo residents gathered and decided to take action by forming a safety committee to tackle six key issues. Since that incident, Lagrange Village Council (LVC), a group of volunteer residents and community organizers, have narrowed their focus to neighborhood safety concerns during the summer months and while economic problems still on the rise.

LVC held a press conference and the second in a series of neighborhood meetings to focus on safety on June 30. This meeting was called to hold elected government officials and community partners accountable and

to seek verbal confirmation of their continued or beginning support to solve ongoing safety concerns.

"I'm glad to see so many here, this proves that North Toledo residents care. For us to feel safe we have to go back to neighbors. After April's meeting it was apparent we had to deal with safety," said LVC president Sherry Walker.

The list of invited elected officials and government agencies were Imran Andrabi, PhD, CEO of St. Vincent's Mercy Medical Center; Richard Wilkins, vice president of External Relations for Toledo Edison; Toledo City Councilmen Michael Ashford and Lindsay Webb; U.S. Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur of Ohio's Ninth District; Mayor Carlton Finkbeiner and Neighborhood Department Director Kattie Bonds of The City of Toledo; and Lucas County Court Judge Denise Cubbon.

Each of these officials received a personal invitation

from LVC Executive Board members in late May asking for their presence during this meeting. Only Bonds, Webb, and a representative for Kaptur attended this meeting.

LVC did receive a letter from Andrabi prior to the meeting, stating that a decision will be made about the off-duty police funding within 30-days. Currently through St. Vincent's Mercy Medical Center, the neighborhood can fund an off-duty police officer program which patrols problem areas.

Wilkins was asked to attend because the residents wanted to know the status of the Toledo Edison street light project that was promised to LVC. In his absence Webb had some answers for the residents.

"Ninety percent of the Vistula area is complete, and we will finish 50-80 lamps by fall of this year," said Webb. "I can't promise that the entire upgrade will be complete. You have my full support on



Tyren Byrd, Marquisha Moeisset, John Wiley, Washington Muhammad

the alley light project, but I didn't have a chance to meet with Mr. Wilkins about the alleys yet."

The five other topics for discussion were the Weed and Seed program, problem properties, convenient store spacing, parent accountability and citizen foot patrol.

Theresa Morris, staff assistant to Congresswoman Kaptur, agreed to help LVC's application for Weed and Seed program which strives to weed out criminal activity and seed in prevention programs.

Bonds spoke about problem properties. "People have begun to register for the vacant property listing and ordinances are being enforced," said Bonds. "Over 100 letters have been sent to register properties. I can partly answer yes about demolishing homes on the list because I don't know how many there are. There is a specific inspector assigned

to this task."

LVC did not get a response from Judge Cubbons about parental accountability.

The group did announce the kick-off of the citizen foot patrol and still plan to hold the city officials who were absent accountable for their duties. "We need to hold Ashford and Cubbons accountable. Parents need to be held accountable; it's time to wake up. We will focus on these actions after our Polish Festival," said Beth Lewindowski, vice president of LVC.

Just a few miles from that meeting another group of residents gathered to discuss ways to improve safety in the community and seek street light upgrades. Through a grant given to the Padua Center on the corner of Nebraska and Junction, community organizers were hired and trained to form Brighten Up.

This group plans to build

a community during the next 15 weeks that is safe, healthy, prosperous and beautified by people actively engaged in community improvement and self-growth.

Ultimately, the group plans to canvass the neighborhoods between Klondike Street to Hawley and Dorr Street to Brown Street and then collect concerns about the neighborhood, ask their opinion on the street light initiative, rally the neighbors to attend community meetings and activities and build a community development driven by volunteers to continue the program after the 15-week initial period.

The Padua Center was opened in 2007 and sponsored through St. Martin de Porres Parish on Bancroft. The center offers tutoring, computer classes, alternative suspension programs, adolescent girl programs and summer camps with different

(Continued on Page 6)

Nature's Neighborhood

The Toledo Zoo has re-imagined its children's zoo— come see what it's all about!

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Imagination Station™ New Name, New Look, Same Focus

After months of work and hundreds of suggestions from the public, the Toledo Science Center, formerly COSI Toledo, has a permanent name, the Imagination Station™.

"The name really does a great job of describing exactly what our science center is all about," said Robert C. Savage, vice chairman of the Imagination Station and chair of the Create a Great Name Committee. "Eleven different individuals suggested 'Imagination Station' during the call for entries." (*The names of the 11 individuals follow the end of this release.*)

The name and the highly imaginative graphic treatment that symbolizes the re-born operation were both unveiled today.

More than 2,800 entries (2,000 different names) were suggested by people of all ages during the naming process. Names were entered online, mailed, e-mailed and faxed. The 20-member Create a Great Name Committee reviewed all the entries and narrowed

the field. It sent a short list of name ideas to the Science Center's Board of Trustees who made the final selection.

Part of the naming contest involved urging entire school classes to submit names. A total of 33 elementary school classes qualified to win one of two free pizza parties. Additionally, the entire school was invited to attend an extreme science demonstration. The winners were Blessed Sacrament School; Toledo teacher, Brandy Huddleston and Jackman Elementary School; Toledo teacher, Kristi Martin.

In addition, everyone who submitted a name – and in the case of students, their parents and teacher – will be invited to a special sneak preview event at the Imagination Station in October.

"Things are beginning to fall into place," said Lori Hauser, Executive Director of the newly named Imagination Station. "We promised the voters last November a new and invigorated

facility and that's what we're going to give them."

The original facility closed at the end of 2007. Lucas County voters this past November agreed to a small increase in property taxes to fund operations for the next five years. Since November, the building has undergone a thorough cleaning, new paint and carpeting have been added, existing displays have been refurbished and planning has proceeded for new exhibits.

Plans call for the entire process to come together this fall with a grand opening anticipated in October.

About the Imagination Station

The Imagination Station (www.imaginationstationtoledo.org) is a science center delivering science- and technology-based programming to youth and their families throughout Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan. This not-for-profit organization is located in downtown Toledo and seeks to build public-private partner-

ships at every opportunity. Originally known as COSI Toledo, the organization has served nearly three million visitors from its opening, March 1997, through De-

ember 2007, when it was forced to close its doors. In the interim, the organization continued to operate its popular outreach programs. From December

2008 to June 2009, the organization was known as the Toledo Science Center. Its permanent name, the Imagination Station, was adopted in June 2009.

Safety

(Continued from Page 5)

themes during the weeks of July 13-17, July 27-31, August 3-7 and August 10-14.

During the initial week of canvassing, the adult community organizers listed concerns which included: inadequate street lights, robbery, lawns, demolition of dangerous homes, loitering, illegal drug activities, more police patrolling and children left unattended after curfew hours.

The objective of the organizers is to encourage residents to attend, voice their safety concerns and get results for common concerns. Among the five community organizers are teen interns that will incorporate youth into the idea of community organizing.

The teen organizers held organizing meetings their initial week and now plan to take action in weeks ahead. Their plans include distributing flyers and talking with neighbors about a neighborhood cleanup scheduled for July 21 from 11am-1pm beginning on the corner of Vance and Junction.

Organizers include John King, Libbey High School graduate; Marilyn Willey, Maumee Valley Country Day School student; Marquisha Moeissett and Tyren Byrd of Libbey High School. They plan to work with community activist and Brighten Up teen leader Washington Muhammad.

"I'm excited about this summer; they kind of offered me this chance to work in my

community. I believe, I show positive character and I live in this neighborhood so I can get people excited about this project," said Byrd.

"My goal is to engage the community, change attitudes and behaviors of youth in our community. Focus on neighborhood beautification. If we can recruit at least two young people, then that's success," said Muhammad.

If you are interested in further information on Lagrange Village Council, contact Community Organizer Ramon Perez at 419-255-8406.

For further information on Padua Center, contact Educational Coordinator Alicia Smith at 419-241-6465.



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Keith Wilkowsky

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Engin Karatas

The Sojourner's Truth Education

Education Section *Education Section *Education Section *Education Section *Education Section *Education Section

Horizon Science Academy Strives to Make a Difference

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"We are here to make a difference," says Engin Karatas, director of the Horizon Science Academy, of his charter school's reason for existence. "If we are only doing what [public] schools are doing, there is no need to have another school system."

According to the director, that's exactly what Horizon has started doing ... making a difference. And as this academic school year Ohio State report cards are about to be released, that difference is significant. Horizon, a high school in the heart of downtown Toledo which has been graded as a continuous improvement school for the last several years, has moved into the excellent category.

The school and its students have met all 12 indicators in the statewide tests. It's a record that Karatas repeats with pride while noting that he is not totally satisfied.

"How can we keep [the score] at excellent?" he asks his teachers and students. That's the next step in Horizon's educational challenge.

As proud as Karatas is of the school's scores, there are two other measures of

success that are of greater importance for the director who just completed his second year at the helm of the school.

First, all 14 seniors in 2008 and all 24 in this year's class graduated and all were accepted into college. The second mark of achievement that Karatas mentions is the increase in re-enrollment rate. When he arrived two years ago, the school was re-enrolling students at the rate of 50 percent. That rate went up to 75 percent after his first year, and to 85 percent this year.

"It tells me more students and their parents are satisfied," says Karatas.

Horizon Science Academy is part of Concept Schools, a 10-year old non-profit company that operates 20 schools in Ohio, one in Michigan, one in Indiana and one in Chicago, Illinois. All of the Ohio schools, says Karatas, are rated in continuous improvement or higher. "It's a pretty successful system," he says.

What is the reason for that success?

"We put students right in the center of whatever we do," he says of a process that focuses in a unique way on individual students.



Engin Karatas

"I tell my teachers that you need to teach self-confidence," ... The students need to believe they can do it."

"First, we think of their needs and provide diagnostic tests for each student," says the director. "If you keep your focus on students, you will be successful."

"Second, we really have a strong communication with parents," he says. "We inform them through our data base so that they can check on homework assignments or grades on a daily

basis."

And then the third reason for the school's recent success, Karatas cites, is the advisor system he established two years ago.

There were 240 students enrolled at Horizon this past year and there are about two dozen teachers at the school. Karatas moved away from the usual homeroom teacher structure and assigned each teacher as an advisor to approximately 10 students. That teacher is the academic monitor for the students in his or her group and is the primary liaison between school and parents.

The time that the

school's staff and faculty spend with students and teachers is the reason for the high acceptance rates from colleges. At Horizon, Karatas says, "getting ready for college starts in freshman year."

The emphasis on student success is also reflected in the school's "Academic Help" program in which students are encouraged to come in voluntarily on Saturdays to focus on preparation for the Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT). To encourage them the staff offers raffles and pizza for those attending the extra work sessions and about 50 percent of the school's students take advantage of the extraprep time—as reflected in the vastly improved scores this year.

But the scores are also a result of the Karatas's focus on building the self-confidence of the students through the teaching staff.

"I tell my teachers that you need to teach self-confidence," says Karatas. "The students need to believe they can do it."

As for the re-enrollment problem that Karatas tackled when he arrived, what he found out through surveying those still in attendance and those who had left was that the school lacked sufficient extracurricular activities. He appointed an activities director and the school doubled its offerings outside of the classroom.

Now there are basketball teams for both girls and boys, a volleyball team, flag football, a variety of trips that students can take around the country and overseas and science contests and projects. Recently the Horizon science team participated in a science fair for charter schools in Cleveland. The school entered 13 projects in the fair and finished in first place with four best of best awards.

Karatas attributes the increased re-enrollment numbers directly to the efforts to enhance the activities offered.

With Horizon Science Academy's success in retaining students, graduating students, getting students into college and scoring well on the Ohio report card, one could easily assume that accepting the best students from the pool of applicants might be one key to success.

That is decidedly not the case. Horizon has open enrollment so there is no cherry picking of the best academic minds, says Karatas.

African-Americans comprise about 60 percent of the student body, with seven to eight percent being Latino, 30 percent white and the rest in the multiracial category.

For more information on the school or enrollment, call 419-244-5710 or go to the website www.horizontoledo.org at



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African-American Community Called on for Help To Wipe Out Illiteracy

By Susan Shaneck, Read For Literacy Special to The Truth

It is a fact that nobody wants to recognize and is not widely discussed within the African-American community.

It affects many aspects of the daily life, hinders persons from achieving their goals and feeding their families.

It helps to fill our prisons with lives lived out in desperation and depression. It contributes to the decline of happy families by fueling domestic violence. It keeps important health information a secret from many.

It steals the magic places that a story read by a mother or a father takes a child to – places that belong only to the imagination. It is preventing many from achieving the “American Dream.”

“It” is low-literacy and illiteracy among adults. It is like an invisible, out-of-control cancer that is eating away at the success and happiness of many Americans.

20 Percent of African-Americans Suffer from Low Literacy

According to the latest National Association of Adult Literacy (NAAL), 14 percent of all U.S. citizens read at the Below Basic level. For African-American adults the figure is higher, listed in the study at 20 percent.

Many factors contribute to this situation, including the nation’s history of discrimination. But a key factor is that parents who are illiterate or low literate cannot provide their children with the experiences they need to be ready to read when they enter school. As a consequence, illiteracy or low literacy is passed from parent to child, a situation RFL is

committed to overcoming. African-American Tutors Needed

Read For Literacy, Toledo’s volunteer literacy program, is currently seeking help from Toledo’s African-American community. Jim Funk, Read For Literacy Director said, “More than 700 of our 1,200 adult students are African-American.”

“Given these percentages, the overwhelming majority of our African-American students are tutored by Caucasians. This is a great thing, but on the other hand we suspect that some African-American students would prefer to be tutored by African-American tutors. At the same time, we have an obligation to make volunteer opportunities available to African-Americans as we do to others in our community.”

One Local Woman Who Has Stepped Up to the Plate

Earnestine Crockette, who has volunteered at Read For Literacy for just over a year, has always been aware of the evils of illiteracy. She watched her brother struggle to learn to read in Mississippi where she and her family were sharecroppers during the 1940’s. Crockette, always a naturally good reader, was encouraged by her parents to “get a book” whenever she had spare time. Both of her parents could read, Earnestine said, but with the rigors of raising a family of 10 and working many long hours, there was little time left in the day for reading.

After she retired from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in

2007, Crockette decided that she wanted to help others learn to do what she was good at – reading!

She called Read For Literacy and was trained in RFL’s tutoring techniques in May of 2008. She now

She recently retired from a large food-processing plant after 25 years.

Crockette said that she now notices other people who display signs of not being literate such as refusing to read aloud in a group

situation, pretending that they don’t have their glasses, or saying they have lost the place on the page, often excuses for not being able to read.

She would never approach them about getting help because being illiterate is just not discussed. She said that just about every other subject – divorce, drugs, out-of-wedlock pregnancy, gangs, rape – is openly discussed but illiteracy is not one of them.

Tutors Needed For Adults; Volunteer Readers Needed for Pre-school Children

Read For Literacy is recruiting tutors for its three main programs: Basic Reading and Literacy for Adults, in which volunteer tutors help adults learn to read or to become better readers; Creating Young Readers, in which volunteers read to children in central city pre-schools to help them become ready to read when they en-

ter kindergarten; and English as a Second Language, in which individuals who speak other languages learn to read, write and speak English.

The Creating Young Readers program will be launched in September. In this program, volunteer readers will read to children on a one-on-one basis at ten day care centers operated by the Toledo Day Nursery, the YMCA-JCC of Greater Toledo and the East Toledo Family Center.

If you would like to help an African-American child or adult learn to read, Read For Literacy encourages you to make this your mission. The next 15-hour Basic Literacy training session begins July 28. Training for Creating Young Readers is slated for August and September. Call 419-242-7323 for more information or to register for any of the training sessions.



teaches her student reading, writing and spelling at the RFL offices, which are located in the Main Library at 325 N. Michigan Street. They also fit in an additional 45 minutes each week for Bible study, as her student wants to be able to read the Bible, a goal of many of the adults enrolled at RFL.

Her student, a 63-year-old woman who also was raised in Mississippi, was only allowed to attend school on rainy days because she was needed in the fields. Consequently, she did not get much schooling but always recognized the importance of reading and had the desire to learn. “This time I will succeed,” she proudly claims.

From the Amazon to You Mona Vie’s Premier Acai Blend Packs a Healthful Punch



The secret to Monavie’s premiere acai blend can be found thousands of miles away - deep in the Amazon rain forest of northern Brazil. The acai (pronounced ah-SIGH-ee) is the “crown jewel” of MonaVie’s three products - MonaVie Original, MonaVie Active and MonaVie Pulse.

This small black-purple berry grows in clusters on the acai palm and has been revered for centuries by the people of Brazil’s northern Amazon region.

There are three formulas currently available.

MonaVie’s Original; formula features the nutrient-dense acai berry and 18 other fruits. Some of these fruits are well-known, such as pomegranates, purple and white grapes, apples, cranberries, passion fruit, bananas, prunes, kiwis and blueberries.

Other fruits in the mixture are not so common - such as camu camu, which is also from the Amazon rainforest; bilberries, which are found throughout temperate and subarctic regions of the world; wolf berries and lychee from China and the acerola fruit, which is native to the West Indies and northern South America and is prized for its high vitamin C content.



For more information on all of the MonaVie products, go to our website at www.MyMonaVie.com/edwinamesley

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Book Review

***Our Children Can Soar* by Michelle Cook, foreword by Marian Wright Edelman**

c.2009, Bloomsbury USA \$16.99 / \$21.00 Canada 32 pages

If you could change anything in the world, what would you fix?

Would you change it so your parents are home with you more, or would you take them on a far-away vacation? Maybe you'd make the sky green and the grass red or you'd make a No-Bedtime Before Nine O'Clock rule. Perhaps you'd give everyone jobs

In the new book *Our Children Can Soar* by Michelle Cook, illustrations by various artists, you'll see that anyone can make a difference and that people have been doing it for a long time.

Years ago, some of your ancestors may have fought in the Civil War. Many people didn't want them to fight, but they did. They

Americans to be in movies or to sing in certain public places. But Hattie McDaniel changed all that when she won an award for a movie in which she starred. She opened the doors so that others could sing and dance for all audiences.

Before Jackie Robinson, African-American baseball players had to play

You may be just a kid, but there are lots of things you can do to make change

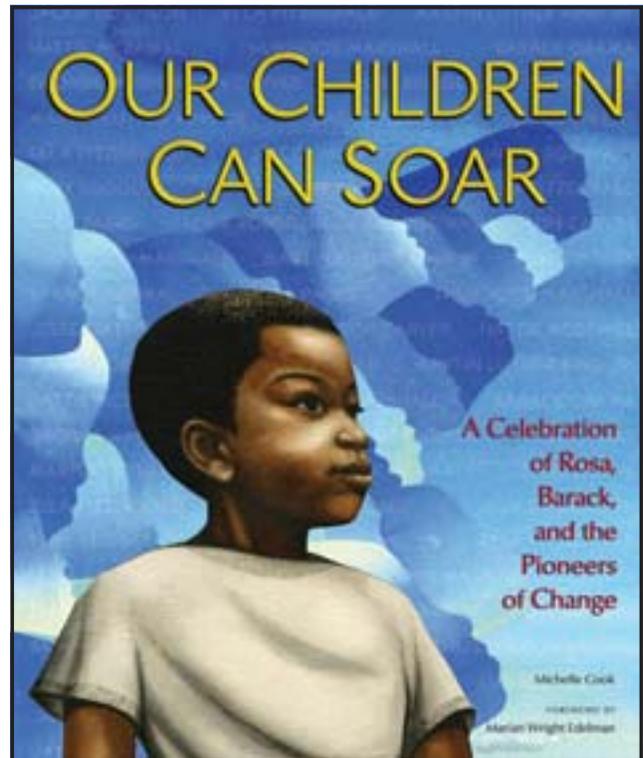
and food or you'd be sure that there was no war, ever again.

You may be just a kid, but there are lots of things you can do to make change.

fought so others would have the freedom to invent new things and run swift races.

Once, it was almost unheard-of for African-

separately from white players. It took courage for Robinson to be the first black baseball player in the major leagues but he did it by standing up for his abili-



ties and rights. Why? So that others would have the courage to stand up, too.

Or, in Rosa Parks' case, to sit down.

And when Rosa refused to get up and get off that bus, it started a chain of events in which a little girl went to school. She, in turn, gave Martin Luther King another reason to march for civil rights. And because these people worked to change the world, you have the freedom to make a difference, too.

"Rosa sat so Martin could walk...." Those six

words were the beginning of a thought that raced around the country last fall, pre-election. *Our Children Can Soar* is that sentiment, expanded.

Editor and author Michelle Cook (a pseudonym) reached 150 years back to start this book at a courageous beginning, and the story doesn't stop until it emboldens and inspires children. Marian Wright Edelman offers a foreword that encourages parents to explore their own families in search of difference-making forebears.

But, because your kids

will be looking at the illustrations, I like to check them out, too. What I found here is a treasure-trove: each featured person is honored through a portrait done by a different artist. Kids might not notice, but that's a nice twist for any grown-up assigned to read aloud.

While you can present this book to any child, its simple text is better suited for those ages two-to-eight. If you're looking for a beautiful book with which to entertain your (smaller) kids, *Our Children Can Soar* will fly quite nicely.

cupcakecamp Toledo

Cake & Creative Creations is hosting the first ever Cupcake Camp Toledo for Charity. We are looking for creative, talented, local amateur cupcake artists to showcase their talents. It will be an all-you-can-eat cupcake event to raise money for Family House and the Toledo Humane Society. If you would like to donate, bake for, or help with the event then please don't hesitate to contact us at (419) 973 - 2386.

All help is appreciated!

Thanks,
Lindsey Tucker

• Education Section •

Edward M. Parker Electrical Academy Receives Department of Labor Approval

On June 22, 2009 Edward M. Parker Electrical Academy (EMP) received approval from the Department of Labor (DOL) and the Ohio State Apprenticeship Council (OSAC) as an official apprenticeship school and Related Technical Instruction (RTI) provider.

EMP offers a robust electrical curriculum that provides members of the community an opportunity to acquire the necessary skills to obtain gainful employment in the

electrical and emerging alternative energy industries.

Students may obtain a Pre-Apprentice Certificate, 2 Year - Residential Journeyman Electrical Construction License, 4 Year - General Journeyman Electrical Construction License, and Photovoltaic Entry Level Certificate of Knowledge.

The maiden class kicked off on March 14, 2009 with over forty students enrolled. Classes are conducted at the Frederick Douglas Commu-

nity Association on Indiana Avenue. EMP is a non-profit educational training center sponsored in part by Parker Enterprises LLC

(www.parkerenterprisesllc.com). EMP is the only minority DOL and OSAC approved apprentice program in the metro Toledo area. For additional information, please visit www.empelectricalacademy.org or contact Karl Parker, MBA, 6ABB, P.E., Executive Director of EMP at 419-944-4063.

Owens Community College, 92.5 KISS-FM, 104.7 WIOT and 103.7 CKY Partner to Provide Free College Education

Special to The Truth

Owens Community College and three Clear Channel radio stations are partnering in a contest to award a free college education to four area residents, with two winners receiving the grand prize of two semesters of free Owens tuition.

92.5 KISS-FM, 104.7 WIOT and 103.7 CKY began airing promotional announcements for the contest on Monday, July 6.

"Owens Community College is proud to partner with Clear Channel Radio and offer this life-changing opportunity for the Northwest Ohio community," said Gary Corrigan, Ph.D., Owens Director of Marketing and Communications. "Thanks to 92.5 KISS-FM, 104.7 WIOT and 103.7 CKY, four students will be able to experience a quality education for free at Owens Community College."

Individuals can enter the contest by logging onto any of our Web sites - www.owens.edu, www.925kissfm.com, or www.wiot.com or www.1037wcky.com - clicking on the "Tuition is Right" and correctly answering three questions. Applicants also can enter by completing a paper entry form available at the Enrollment Services Office on the Owens Toledo-area Campus, Information Desk on the Findlay-area Campus or the Reception Desk at the Owens Learning Center at The Source in downtown Toledo. All entries must be received by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 2.

All qualifying entrants will be eligible to attend the first final on Wednesday, Aug. 5 at 3 p.m. at the Community Education and Wellness Center on the Owens Findlay-area Campus in Findlay. One grand prize of two

semesters of free tuition and one runner-up prize of one semester of free tuition will be awarded by random draw.

All qualifying entrants who do not win a tuition prize Aug. 5 are eligible to attend the second final on Thursday, Aug. 6 at 3 p.m. at the Student Health and Activities Center on the Owens Toledo-area Campus in Perrysburg Township. The second grand prize of two semesters of free tuition and final runner-up prize of one semester of free tuition also will be awarded by random draw.

Also at the finals, other valuable prizes - such as free food for a year from SONIC, America's Drive-In; free rent for a year from Owens Lake Commons; free airfare from Jet

America Airlines and more - will be drawn and awarded at random as well.

Andy Stuart, vice president & market manager of Clear Channel Radio Toledo/Findlay, looks forward to a successful promotion on air that "will afford four individuals the opportunity to fulfill their educational dreams at Owens Community College. It is gratifying to encourage residents to strive for a higher education and a better life," he said.

The contest is open to residents 16 years of age or older. This marks the ninth occasion since 2003 that Owens has partnered with Northwest Ohio media and offered a tuition contest.

Lourdes' Summer Science Samp WOWs Sold Out Group For 2nd Consecutive Year

Special to The Truth

At the end of June, Lourdes College's Department of Chemistry and Physical Sciences hosted its annual summer science camp to a sold out group of students in grades five to seven. This year's camp, *WOW: Weather, Outer Space and Water*, entertained 15 students from 14 area schools including Dundee Elementary, Dundee Middle, Indian Hills Elementary, McCord Junior High, New Bedford Academy, Our Lady of Perpetual Hope, St. Joseph, Scotch Elementary, Sylvia Francis Academy, Timberstone Jr. High, Van Buren, Whiteford, Winterfield Venture and Woodland Academy.

During the three-day camp, students performed activities related to environmental science, weather and geology and viewed shows at the Appold Planetarium. Students also completed take-home projects including a grass-head guy, a nature print photo, a borax crystal, a rock collection and a plaster "fossil."

At the camp's conclusion, students were asked to complete an evaluation of their experience. One hundred percent of the

participating students said they enjoyed the camp, with 50% also noting that they wanted the camp to last longer. "I can't think of anything that would need improving. I wish I could come here again," noted one student. Another student noted that he enjoyed the "fun and exciting experiments" and thanked the instructors for the time they spent with the campers.

Camp instructors included Elaine Ault, instructor of chemistry; John Engel, instructor of chemistry and math; Earl Heath, instructor of physical sciences; Cynthia Molitor, Ph.D., associate professor of chemistry and physics; Sr. Barbara Stallman, O.S.F., Ph.D., professor of chemistry and Elizabeth Wise, Ph.D., associate professor of chemistry.

Lourdes College is a private, four-year educational

institution of professional studies and the arts and sciences providing a values-centered education in a caring and supportive community. More than 2,200 students are enrolled in programs such as Business, Education, Environmental Science, Nursing, Social Work, Criminal Justice and the Arts & Sciences. In addition to undergraduate and pre-professional programs, Lourdes offers Master degrees in Education, Nursing and Organizational Leadership through its Graduate School. Lourdes' Community Outreach Programs include The Appold Planetarium, Lifelong Learning Program, The Life Lab and Theater Vision. Discover us online at www.lourdes.edu or by phone at 419-885-3211.



"I saw firsthand the depth of care from Hospice of Northwest Ohio."

"I'm a physician. Occasionally, I've referred my patients to Hospice of Northwest Ohio, and I've always been impressed by their care. But I never realized the full depth of the care Hospice provides until I experienced it firsthand with my mother, Sally.

"When my mom first went to the Hospice Center, she was experiencing a lot of pain. The expertise of the Hospice staff was amazing. They not only controlled mom's pain, they took care of her emotional and spiritual needs as well.

"In fact, I'm convinced the expert care from Hospice of Northwest Ohio helped my mom live three to four times longer than expected.

"And those last weeks became a celebration, making them some of the happiest moments of her life. I recommend families contact Hospice of Northwest Ohio early, so they can take advantage of all the benefits Hospice offers."

To ask for our free DVD, "Hospice Answers," call 419-661-4001. Or for more information, visit hospicenwo.org.

Hospice care is covered by Medicare, Medicaid and most insurances. No one is turned away due to inability to pay.

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Northside Customs First Annual Car Show

Article and Photographs by Rashaunda Williams
Special to The Truth

On Saturday July 4, 2009, Northside Customs along with The Millennium Media Group hosted its First Annual Custom Car Show in the St Vincent's lot on the corner of Cherry and Bancroft.

Inside of Northside Customs' garage was a mini concert. Performing their latest singles were Wade, Anni Loc, Dez a.k.a Drastic, Tatiana and Angelica from the group XX and Rich Hood from Fly High Entertainment.

Other performers were Ta-Ball from Soul Free Entertainment, Duvondo-vondo and Kalyz P. Marsyn "Perry Man," Justin Jones from Cream 419ers and Benjamin.

The House of Adonis dancers gave the audience a sneak peek of the routine they will be performing this Wednesday on BET's Wild N Out.



Mustang, the Pepsi and Mugz Buicks; the infamous Sponge Bob and red snake skin Chargers both with lambo doors.

The kids even brought out their custom three-wheel bicycles. The event had a large turnout without any drama.

Special Thanks goes out to Bill Suden from St Vincent Medical Center, The Toledo Sheriff Department, The Millennium Media Group, North Side Customs Pro-

motional Group and Myrtle Sparks from Fly High Entertainment.

North Side Customs plans to do it again Labor Day weekend and raffle off a "74" Impala.

If you have any questions on registration contact George at North Side Customs 419-244-4111 and for promotional inquiries contact Virgilio Baker of The Millennium Media Group at 419-514-1284.



Local vendors and business in attendance were Po Mo's BBQ, Taqueria Tacos, XI Modeling agency and In The Black Photography.

Amongst the crowd were old school Chevys, Buicks, Rivas and Cadallacs ... to name a few. Crowd favorites were the Pink Baby Phat

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Lima Black Achievers Celebrate 15th Annual Salute Banquet

By Sharon Guice
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Achievers both young and old come together on a warm Saturday evening in June to celebrate the achievements of youth and adults alike. As people entered the banquet room they were welcomed by the wonderful sounds of the band, D'vine Information. Holly Geaman of WLIO-TV Noon Edition served as emcee along with Bob Lewis of Good Morning Gospel radio WBUK.

Nytasia Hicks gave a warm welcome followed by opening remarks from Jerry Courtney, CEO of the Lima Family YMCA. Pastor Levi Collins of Latty Zion Baptist Church invoked the presence of God and blessed the food as the program kicked off another great banquet of recognizing the achievements of some people who do mighty things in the bean town - Lima, Ohio.

Adult volunteer of year for the Lima YMCA Black Achievers Program for 2009 was Dorothy Lovell. Lovell is the president of I am Making A Difference; Get Involved to Make A Difference, Inc., DBA (Doing Business AS) I'm M.A.D.G.I.T. M.A.D., an organization that presents the Lima and Allen County Regional Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth "Oratorical" Contest.

Lovell holds a master's degree in Organizational Leadership from Gonzaga University School of Professional Studies and a bachelor's degree in Business Management from Rhodes State College. Lovell previously worked as an interim academic advisor for Rhodes State College and a substitute teacher for the Lima City Schools.

In 2007 she was elected to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges for outstanding merit and accomplishment as a student at Gonzaga University. Lovell, a long time member of Cornerstone Harvest Church, serves as an altar worker. She is a board member of the Ghanaian Foundation,



and a member in good standing of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice. Lovell is also a poet who believes in encouraging the heart, uplifting the spirit and inspiring the souls of people.

Her activities in the community and the Black Achievers Program as a mentor and Steering Committee member and her service as the public relations coordinator helped Lovell achieve the adult volunteer of the year award.

Her project in taking eight youth of the Black Achievers Program to the local Martin Luther King Jr. Oratorical Contest was a significant achievement. Seven of those eight proceeded to the state competition. The final victory for this achiever was that one of the eight youth, Brandon Warren, took third place in the Senior Division of the contest.

Brandon Warren, age 15 and a 10th grade student at Shawnee High School is an achiever because he started out as a shy student who loves to play music. Through his music, he showed the judges, the audience and other contestants how he would continue to keep the Martin Luther King's dream alive.

Other honorees were:
* Warner Roach is the Lima Plant Human Resource Manager for Procter and Gamble. He was born and raised in Dover, Delaware, graduating from Do-

ver High School in 1973. Roach has a bachelor of science degree in Human Resource Management from Wilmington University. He is a member of the Lima Rotary Club and the Lima Chamber of Commerce.

* Della Bradford a long time Lima citizen was nominated by Lima/Allen County College Access. Bradford, a GEAR UP Lighthouse Site Advisor, has been with the program since January 2006. Prior to joining Ohio College Access Network, she was an executive secretary for a newly founded Charter Public School in Lima. Previously, she was assistant director of the Financial Aid Department at the University of Northwestern Ohio. Her education includes an accounting degree from International Business College (Fort Wayne, Indiana) and she is a certified licensed realtor in the State of Ohio.

* Lisa Tracy was honored as an achiever as a Rhodes State College professor. Tracy has been at Rhodes State College for 13 years. She currently serves as a professor of Social Services where she teaches Introductory Sociology, Family Sociology, Social Problems, Cultural Diversity and Death and Dying.

* Nytasia Hicks, senior student in the program was awarded a scholarship. Hicks read her award winning essay and said that she has been in the program for

seven years. She valued the program for increasing her self-esteem. Hicks will be attending Central State University in Dayton, Ohio. After graduating from college, she plans to return to the community and give back to the program youths some of the same values that have been given to her.

The evening's guest speaker, Anthony E. Jones, M.Ed. is a highly respected coach, mentor, consultant,

author and human capital expert. For over 10 years this dynamic, multi-gifted world-changer has been equipping people to fulfill their destinies and maximize their potential by using personal testimonials and drawing on knowledge, experience and wisdom.

Jones said he was not tall enough to play pro basketball but was good at making folks laugh and has been pretty good at it since kindergarten. He got away with it until he ran into a nun in the third grade who did not think he was that funny. She sent him to a room to read a book and then take a test. From this he found out he was a special education student and did not know it until then.

In the fourth grade Jones was cutting up in class so much that he did not pass on to the fifth grade. When the letter came to the house saying he would not pass to the next grade, he prepared himself to get a whipping. He told the audience that black mamas do not whip,

they whop. Many in the audience laughed as they recognized those implications.

But, to his surprise his mother did not whip him. Instead she told him that the hurt of not going to the fifth grade would hurt more than any whipping she could give him. The next school year brought confusion to him when he was not allowed on the fifth grade bus but had to ride the fourth grade bus. Because he was not going to the fifth grade, he prepared to be the class terror as he set at the back of the room.

His teacher, Mrs. Sergeant, who had taught his mother and father in school told him to come to the front of the class. She told him she expected the best of him just as she did of his mother and father. She was the catalyst to his change and he went on to Fisk University where he is a summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa graduate. He holds a master's degree from

(Continued on Page 14)

Vickie Shurelds

Soul of the City

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Fear, Loathing and Dating in The Glass City

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



beginning of the 90's) has had an upbringing like no other.

In seminars, discussion groups and straight up heated debates I've had on this topic, I always point out that anyone who was a little kid in the 80s/90s had a distinctly different path of gender roles placed before them.

Our generation was raised by mothers/aunts and grandmothers who told most little girls in the 80s/90's to get an education, pursue a career and be independent!

Which I feel is awesome honestly.

This is why black women have been three times more likely to attend college than black men for the last 20 years.

However, most little black boys in the 80s/90s were being advised by their mothers and aunts to make sure they didn't repeat the sins of their fathers in their relationships.

Where the men of the 60s/70s abandoned scores of mothers, the sons of the next generation (ours) were instructed damn near out the womb to seek relationships.

I've always thought that

Generation Y African-Americans having trouble finding "the one" has been caused by the fact that we have been brought up to focus on two different aspects of life. The women who raised us turned the boys toward loving the girls and turned the girls toward seeking careers. We began to idolize love while our female counterparts began to prioritize careers, home ownership and fun ahead of love.

Not a blame game, just what I always felt happened.

But now, every time I log on Facebook people are talking about RELATIONSHIPS and categorically blaming their current city of residence for the reason they struggle to find love.

I'll be on there talking about God knows what and I start noticing that One third of all the status updates coming through are all about why someone is single and whose

and I told her I would print it in my article, so here it goes:

#1. THE GAMER:

This is the man who is 21 and up, who sits after work and pulls out the X-Box, PlayStation, etc. to play online with his boys. Most likely he is NOT going to notice your even in existence during the time he is playing. If you step in front of the TV too many times

This dude has the hottest car, with the hottest rims, wears the flyest clothes, has the newest shoes...etc. And AIN'T GOT S**T IN THE BANK. He lives with his momma and sad enough sometimes even tries to f**k women there. Or he tries to move into his girlfriend's house who gets government housing so he can live there for free and then invest his employment checks on his material things.

#5. And last but not least...MR. I DON'T KNOW:

He has no clue of what the hell he wants. He knows that he likes your body and your beauty but he don't know if he wants a relationship, he don't know if he wants marriage, he don't know if he wants kids, hell...he don't know if he wants anything!

Okay, all the females who hit me up saying how I never rep for the ladies...there you go (it ain't like y'all need any more representation, yaw got Oprah, Terry McMillian, Lifetime, The View...etc - that's why I ride for the good men who need a voice).

But you know what, I'm gonna wait to hit y'all with the top five females to avoid. And trust, it won't be pretty.

Any guys got any suggestions, email me.

Yea...we are back to talking about relationships here in my column.

But it's on your mind, so I gotta represent that.

In other news:
HUTCH DADDY BASH AT THE BAY 2009 goes down JULY 26TH!!!

Maumee Bay State Park. Car Show downtown the day before, get ready!

U.G.E. still has The Listening Open Mic Night going on every Saturday Night at The Truth Art Gallery on Adams. 1811 Adams, all ages...just be mature.

U.G.E. is taking over Friday's at Hot Peppers (except for 1st Fridays of course)... got D.J. Big Lou The Mayor rocking with us July 10th. Get there early...we just getting started. Hot Peppers is on Summit @ Jefferson.

Also July 10 @ Ground Level Coffee House a nite dedicated to Neo Soul featuring Leigh Ashley (U.G.E.), Elevated Thinking, Aye Dee (U.G.E.), Yasu and more!

Ground Level is on Central across from Dunkin' Donuts.

glasscitytruth@yahoo.com



fault it is.

I've seen people discuss why it's so hard to find love and many of them outwardly blame the fact that they live in Toledo.

But is it blame or is it actually a factor?

One female friend on FB broke her theory down for me:

All the good women who were in Toledo chase good jobs out of Toledo which leaves less good women in the city for any good men that are left here.

Most of the men who comment on being single in Toledo just blame the women for overlooking good men in favor of dudes who are only part of what they need but a lot of what is trendy and not long term ... an argument I actually co-sign.

But when you stand back from the debate, it all boils down to what options are available.

Everyone might want Mr. or Mrs. Right but how many knuckleheads do you have to hurdle before you can even get a clear view of whose on the market?

A facebook friend of mine named Charmella Harris is someone I love chopping it up with on this topic because we both rep our gender but we also keep it real.

T.J. (Hot 97) joked that she and I should have our own show: Mike and Mella-L.M.A.O.

So she wrote a note about the typical men that females run into and need to avoid

while he is playing he might

Karate Kick yo azz in the throat. Holding a conversation with a gamer is impossible, he will just say (to you) Hold on right quick (to his boy that he is playing online with) n***a look behind you... go to the left bro, go left...N***a, you just shot me, dude...and etc.

#2. THE EX-GANGSTA WHO HAS CHANGED HIS LIFE:

This dude actually has a job and is very sweet but the gangsta in him ain't quite died all the way yet. When he takes his shirt off you can't help but stare at his tattoo's (I have nothing against

tatts, I have one myself) But, when the tatt is one of all his dead homiez, three tear drops under his eyes, the words Thug 4 Life on his chest, Die bitch Die on his arm...etc. ummm??

#3. THE METRO-SEXUAL:

This dude looks GOOD. So good that you don't. He know all about fashion and hair,

He obviously date women but, is just a cup of sugar away from being gay. He is always in the mirror checking himself out. From head to toe he looks very fashion forward and he is not afraid to tell you if he thinks your not.

#4. MR. I WEAR MY IN-COME ON MY SLEEVE:

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Achievers

(Continued from Page 12)

Vanderbilt University. Jones attributed this success partly to his fourth grade teacher who raised the standards for him. He told the crowd that's what Black Achievers is doing with the youth of the program. He said one person can make a great impact on youth by raising the standards expected of them. He asked the audience to applaud the success of the Black

Achievers Program. Jones went on to tell the crowd that character is what will get and keep a job in these economic times. He gives the example of two store owners. One who has a clean and neat store versus another store owner who has a messy dirty store. He asked which one you would buy from. Cleanness, respect and trust between the buyer and seller requires

more than money. There is a new dollar in town and it is called ethical consumerism. Jones recalled that Jim Bakker said when you have been stripped of everything the only thing left is character. Character is the essence of who you are and it cannot be hidden. Character is like a roach, said Jones, you can not get rid of it. The audience laughs. Ending his speech, Jones

reminded everyone to have an uncompromising desire to do the right thing and it is called character. To be without strategy before you be without character. It takes character to stand in the gap. One small detail makes the difference and in tough times it is character that will see you through. The audience presented a standing ovation to Jones as he took his seat.

The youth were called forth one by one to shake hands with Jones and presented him an award of a certificate and dog tag necklace (inscribed with their name and the 2009 event) from John Upshaw and Ann Miles, volunteers in the program. Lewis Shine recognized the adult volunteers in the program and Rhodes States College and President

Debra McCurdy, Ph.D., received the Traveling Trophy for their participation in the program as sponsors for this program year. Closing remarks were by Terence Minor and "Lift Every Voice and Sing" ended the program after a closing prayer by Pastor Levi Collins.

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 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 for only \$5.00

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CLASSIFIEDS

July 8, 2009

Page 15

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority is seeking bids from qualified contractors to furnish all labor, materials, and equipment for the following project(s):

JOB NO.: 29056
PROJECT NAME: Parking Lot Addition at Vistula Manor
WALK-THRU DATE: Tuesday, July 7, 2009 @ 10:00am
BID OPENING DATE: Tuesday, July 21, 2009 @ 11:00am

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the 2nd Floor Conference Room on the dates shown above, in the RCI/Modernization Department, at 201 Belmont Street. Contract documents and technical specifications/drawings will be available from the RCI/Modernization Department, and will be provided upon request. Documents will also be available on our website at www.lucasmha.org.

Each bid shall be accompanied by cash, an approved surety company bid bond, or a certified check upon a solvent bank, made payable to the Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority in an amount equal to five (5) percent of the bid, tendered as a bid guarantee (if required) that the bidder will, if the award is made to him, enter into a bona fide contract with Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority for this work and furnish proper guarantee bonding as required under the specifications within a period of ten (10) days after the awarding of the contract.

The prevailing wages for this locality, as established by the Department of Labor as Wage Determination OH20080028, as modified, must be paid all persons employed for this work. Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or to waive any informality in the bidding. No bids shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of the bids.

All bidders shall be required to meet the Affirmative Action requirements and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. Each bidder must insure that all employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, handicap, age, ancestry, creed, or military status.

LUCAS METROPOLITAN HOUSING
AUTHORITY
RCI/MODERNIZATION DEPARTMENT



Vendors Wanted Flea Market/Yard Sale

Sat. August 15 - 9 am to 5 pm
The Mildred H. Gibson Center
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(2) 6' - 8' Tables - \$25
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Deadline Aug 1
419-810-5284 for more info.

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Looking for beautiful, physically fit and fabulous moms for an equally fashionable project. Call 419.870.8757 for details or an audition if you or someone you know fits this profile.

APARTMENTS

AbundantLife of Perrysburg is a subsidized independent housing facility for those 62 or older. We are located in a beautiful, quiet residential setting in Perrysburg. AbundantLife offers one bedroom garden apartments with private patios, indoor mailboxes, reserved parking and busing to local grocery stores. Applications are now being accepted. Call 419.872.3510 or 419.874.4371



Notice of Public Hearing

The Board of Commissioners of the Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) is preparing to submit an amendment to Annual Plan 2009.

The Amended Annual Plan 2009 is available for review at LMHA's Website (www.lucasmha.org). LMHA invites you to submit comments on the Amended Annual Plan during the next 45 days. Please provide your comments no later than August 16, 2009, to amarathe@lucasmha.org.

You are invited to a Public Hearing on Monday/Wednesday, August 19, 2009, at 8:30 a.m., in the McClinton Nunn Community Building, 425 Nebraska Avenue, Toledo, Ohio, 43604. This hearing will provide interested citizens with pertinent information regarding the proposed amendments to the 2009 Annual Plan.

Should any attendee require auxiliary aids due to a disability, please contact the LMHA administrative office (419) 259-9457, at least one week prior to the hearing date to ensure your needs will be accommodated.

William J. Brennan, Chairman
Linnie B. Willis, Executive Director

PROGRAM MANAGER, CPST

Unison Behavioral Health Group is seeking a Program Manager to provide clinical and administrative supervision to a CPST team.

Qualified candidates must have leadership ability and creative problem solving skills. LPCC, LISW, or MSN is required, along with previous experience with adults with serious mental illness. Prior case management and supervisory experience is preferred.

Send resume with salary requirements to:



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EOE

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PROGRAM MANAGER

COSMOS - Graduate College
Bowling Green State University

Assist in the operation of all NWO/COSMOS activities. Serve as a point of contact for grant and project-related communications; facilitate internal project communication; communicate within the Northwest Ohio Center and with NWO/COSMOS partners throughout the region; act as a liaison to schools and community partners; communicate with funding agencies; maintain collaborations with business and community organizations; assist in the organization and advertisement of monthly meetings and other events and activities; assist with project budget administration; assist in the development and implementation of project public relations plans; coordinate and oversee aspects of project evaluation; supervise undergraduate and graduate student assistants.

For a complete job description & instruction on how to apply for this position (L-61476) visit http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/page11137.html or contact the Office of Human Resources at (419) 372-8421 or ohr@bgsu.edu. BGSU is an AA/EO employer/educator.

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Hours, days and location will vary based upon agency need. Candidates must be available to cover shifts that occur Monday - Friday between the hours of 8am to 9pm. Applicants must have excellent customer service skills, be proficient in computer operations, be able to multitask and work with frequent interruptions. Previous experience in dealing with individuals with mental illness preferred.

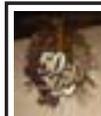
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The Truth Art Gallery Opens July Exhibit

By Ramon Tiggs, Curator

Mack Howard Walton, who retired from Jeep in 2001 after 24 years of employment, was first convinced to take up art in the second grade at Gunckel School. His desire was set in motion using the pencil as his instrument to produce sketches of his classmates and inanimate objects in his class room.

He took his first art class at Robinson Jr. High. Later, at Scott High School, he learned to use ink, oil, etchings and other media to convey his inspirations. He was taught the skills of figure and fashion art using classmates as live models.

Walton enrolled in correspondence art courses,

learning fine art taught by professional artist. After two years of study he began to paint portraits and landscapes for acquaintances, co-workers and different organizations. This experience has led him to exhibit his works in such places as the Toledo Art Museum, Hilton Hotel, Owens Community College, sorority functions and festivals.

"Now that I am permitting myself to express myself artistically, I am quite simply responding to the creative ideas and thoughts that I had throughout the years," says Paula Fullilove. "Since nature, which I prefer to call 'creation' has always been an

inspiration to me, I've chosen to use it as my medium. Many people see forms and shapes in the clouds but I see 'people' in trees. However you choose to see it, my hope is that you'll never look at a tree or any form of creation in quite the same way again.

"My 'First DivineVisions2002,' specifically features two sculptures entitled 'Forward' and 'WindDancer,' which came along with the others, are made from actual vines from a various assortment of tree. It is my theory that it is no coincidence that we see familiar forms appearing in the most unlikely of places in that there seems to be a consistency in design and yet the Creator has included an element of whimsy to amuse us. Some forms may appear beautiful and yet others daunting but that explains the 'tuatara' reptile in my opinion."

Walton's and Fullilove's combined presentations will be on showcase at the Truth Art Gallery, 1811 Adams Street, during the month of July. The exhibition will run from



Mack Walton

Friday, July 10, until Wednesday, August 5.

An opening reception for the artists will be held this Friday, July 10, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the gallery. For information on the exhibit or on the Truth Art Gallery, call 419-460-1343 or go to www.thetruthtoledo.com.



Paula Fullilove

There Is Always a Party at The Peacock

And on June 27, the Peacock Café hosted two very special such occasions.

Friends and family came together for a birthday celebration for the Peacock's very own Roxy Mott while a second set of well-wishers attended a going away



party for two Army National Guardsmen, Tommy Moore and Reva Kerkulah, who are on their way to Iraq.

Above: Reva Kerkulah and Tommy Moore
Left: Roxy Mott (r.) and mother Barbara Fair Coleman



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5TH ANNUAL

AFRICAN AMERICAN PRAYER BREAKFAST

Friday, July 10, 2009 ~ 8:00AM

Friendship Baptist Church

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Bishop Duane C. Tisdale

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With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible. Matthew 19:26

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SATURDAY, JULY 11
PARADE at 10:00 A.M.
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2-3:15 P.M. - Big Screen Band
4-5:15 P.M. - Prayers/Ceremony
6:00 - 7:00 P.M. - Live Cooking
7:00 - 8:00 P.M. - Live Entertainment

SUNDAY, JULY 12
1-2 P.M. - Fellowship Baptist Church Choir
2:00 - 3:00 P.M. - Live Entertainment
4 - 5:00 P.M. - Big Screen Band
6:00 - 7:00 P.M. - Live Entertainment
7:00 - 8:00 P.M. - Live Entertainment

Along with live food, clothing sales and exciting games at one of Toledo's most exciting events.

Adults: Free with live entertainment all weekend.
That set about the 5th Anniversary Celebration program!

FREE RIDES FOR KIDS!

\$6.00 ADMISSION

LOCATED AT SCOTT PARK CAMPUS

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL

419.255.8876