



Local and National News

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VOTE

NO

ISSUES 1&2



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## VOTE NO on Issue 2

On September 15, Toledo voters will have the opportunity to vote in a municipal primary election. In fact, for those who wish to vote early, that opportunity already exists.

Issue 2 on the primary ballot asks voters to summarily overturn a well-thought out system of City Council representation which currently calls for six district seats and six at-large seats. If Issue 2 is approved by voters, there will be six district seats and three super districts with no at-large representation.

We strongly urge voters to vote NO on Issue 2.

There has already been a good deal of talk in town, particularly within the Lucas County Democratic Party, about the confusion that will result if Issue 2 is approved. The proposed legislation, say critics, is unclear about when and how such a change would take place, it contradicts existing language in the City Charter, it calls for the election of nine City Council members in an election when only six such seats are in play.

We agree with all of that, but our disenchantment with Issue 2 rests less on the legal niceties than on the broad concept of eliminating at-large seats. That's a change that will not be beneficial for different communities within the city.

We firmly believe that some council members ought to be accountable to everyone in the entire municipal area and not just for those residents within the boundaries of particular districts. If each councilman has only a particular district to represent, then each councilman has no incentive to concern himself with the cares of residents in other districts.

With our current mixed system, residents of each district can directly hold seven council members accountable for what happens in their district.

Of course, we also believe that the city as a whole is best served by having on council, representatives who have addressed the broad concerns of the city in their campaigns.

It is often argued that, in fact, with the present, overwhelming influence of the Democratic Party in Toledo, elected officials from that party feel fairly free to take African-American voters for granted and court their votes only at election time. Therefore, goes the argument, of what use are at-large councilmen when they have little or no intention of maintaining such interest in the black community during those four years between elections?

We have not found this to be universally true. Even if it were, the fault for such lack of attention lies, in great part, in the inability of voters to hold such representatives' feet to the fire. The system – the mixed system of at large and district representatives – can work, but voters have to be diligent enough to make it work to our advantage.

Proponents of Issue 2 – the Nine Is Fine group – have cited a study by Susan Welch in which she concludes that at-large elections have not historically represented the best interests of African-Americans. "While blacks are equitably represented in the district portions of mixed systems, they are abysmally underrepresented in the at-large portions," Welch wrote in one of her books – *Urban Reform and Its Consequences: a Study in Representation*.

However, the problems with this study, and Welch's conclusions, are legion.

First, the book, and much of her work, was written a generation ago. Second, even Welch concluded that one could not make generalizations about what might be the best system of representation, so much depends on the number of representatives involved in a mixed system, the size of the minority population of the city and the history and location of the city studied.

While Welch did write the above statement, she also wrote, for example, that "the ability of at-large systems to represent blacks has improved dramatically since the 1970's." She also concluded that "mixed systems do promote more equitable representation of blacks than at-large systems when black populations are small (under 20 %), but for larger black populations, at-large systems provide more equitable representations."

Of similar interest is the fact that she found that "small Hispanic populations are best represented in mixed elections."

One can cherry pick Welch's work and find just about anything one wants to find. More recent studies have reached conclusions at wide variance with the statement that Issue 2's proponents have used repeatedly. Just about all agree, as does Welch, that circumstances change in the way voters vote. For example, Welch arrived at these particular conclusions during a time when the infamous Bradley/Wilder effect (white voters telling pollsters that they will vote for a black candidate and then changing their minds when in the polling venue) was a widely accepted phenomenon among social scientists. The same social scientists generally concluded that the Bradley/Wilder effect virtually disappeared in the mid 1990's well after Welch's study.

Those supporting passage of Issue 2 have also pointed to the money that would be saved from reducing council's size from 12 to nine members – approximately \$250,000. We are all in favor of saving money. However, we think it would be short sighted to be so penny wise and pound foolish. This is, after all, a city that will be using an additional \$14 million in public funds to remodel a high school that serves 900 students in a good year. Note we said "additional." The cost to build a new school would be around \$25 million but this community will be spending \$39 million on the project.

We believe that the mixed system we have in Toledo offers voters an opportunity to vote for someone to represent the interests that vary from area to area but also to hold many other councilmen accountable for those same concerns.

We urge voters not to take anything for granted in this municipal primary election. Go to the polls and vote NO on Issue 2.

## Community Calendar

### September 9

5th Annual City Wide Support the Troops Rally: 6 pm; Friendship Park; Speakers, bands: 419-699-3439

### September 10

St. Philip Lutheran Church Day Care Open House: 5:30 to 7 pm: 419-475-2835

### September 11-12

7th Annual Imani Festival: City of Zion, the Mt. Zion Church; Friday at 7 pm, Saturday 10 am to 7 pm: 419-297-6134

### September 12

GLADettes Youth Club Bus Trip: Fundraiser; Original UniverSoul Circus in Detroit; Noon show: 419-535-5960

Back-to-School Kids' Fun Fair: 10 am to 2 pm; Body of Christ Fellowship Church; Free health screenings, refreshments, live entertainment: 419-464-8586

Luncheon and Style Show: Sponsored by Episcopal Church Women of All Saints' Episcopal Church; Gladioux Meadows; 11:30 am to 2:30 pm, luncheon at 11:45 am, style show at 12:45 pm: 419-243-9633 or 419-866-1528

Glass City Rollers Bag a Car Wash with a Bag of Groceries: Benefit for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church's food pantry; 11 am to 3 pm; Holly Trinity: 419-382-5182

NHA's Sickle Cell Walk: Walbridge Park; Registration at 8:30 am; 419-255-7883 ext 110 or 419-380-9658

### September 13

Beta Gamma Xinos and Kudos Informational Interest Meeting: For high school aged boys and girls; Auditorium of Seventh Day Adventist Church; Teens interested in culture, community service and arts are encouraged to attend; 5 pm

Birthday Musical Celebration for Avery Folks: St. Paul MBC; 4 pm; St. Paul Church Choir, Greater St. Mary's Adult Choir, Sis Laura Webb, Sis Deborah Gardner

St. Philip Lutheran Church Mortgage Burning Service: 4 pm; Guest speaker Rev. Roosevelt Gray of the Michigan District: 419-259-5264

Christian Community Church 50th Year Anniversary Celebration: 10 am – Founders' Day Service

### September 14

Libbey HS Alumni Association: Meeting at the Sailing Club in Walbridge Park; 7 pm: 419-244-1236

### September 15

Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir: Rehearsal at 7 pm; St. Paul AME Zion: 419-241-7332 or 419-241-3330

### September 17

Eric Street Market Assistance Fair: Sponsored by the Joint Utility and Social Services Committee; Information on assistance for utilities, housing, real estate taxes, foreclosure prevention, home repair, medical, legal aid and more; 10 am to 2 pm; Free hot lunch for children under 18: 419-213-8930

### September 18-19

Margaret Hunt Senior Center Rummage Sale/Garage Sale/Flea Market: 9 am to 4 pm each day: 419-385-2595

### September 19

Trulight Cathedral Well-Watered Women of Faith program: "Oasis of Hope;" 11 am – 1 pm: 419-537-8629 or 419-450-2950

Fourth Annual Bowllathon Benefiting the MLK Kitchen for the Poor: Interstate Lanes: 734-604-7036 or emparish@hotmail.com

### September 20

A Taste of Diversity: Sponsored by the City of Toledo Board of Community Relations; Toledo Botanical Garden; 1 to 5 pm: 419-245-1565

Christian Community Church 50th Year Anniversary Celebration: Morning service at 10 am – Proclamation Day; Afternoon service at 6 pm – Musical Fellowship Stop the Violence Meeting: United MBC; 7 pm: 419-241-4345

# Adam Martinez

Democrat for Toledo City Council

- ProBusiness, Pro Neighborhoods, Pro Toledo -



Adam Martinez

"It is time to develop a long-term plan to help manage our government and to develop opportunities for individuals, including qualified women and minorities, to advance."

Paid for by the committee to elect Adam Martinez  
1232 Broadway, Toledo, OH 43609, Arturo Quintero, Treasurer

# The Courage To Lead

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



*Be bold and courageous, when you look back on your life, you'll regret the things you didn't do more than the ones you did.*

**-H. Jackson Brown Jr.**

The results from the Toledo electoral primary to be held next week on September 15 could easily be the most momentous election decision in decades. The choices being promoted, such as capital improvement or roads vs. safety and between changing the structure of city government versus fair and inclusive representation, come during a time of deep emotional ideological divide exacerbated by an economic crisis.

The choice for Toledo's next mayor, to be pared down to two persons next week, is currently an undertone to the harsh cacophony of discordant rhetoric of Issues One and Two and has proceeded thus far with almost an indifference from the electorate and lack of enthusiasm or inspiration from the candidates despite the consequential risks of making the wrong decision.

Who are the mayoral hopefuls?

Independent Mike Bell, in his own words as noted in The September 7 Toledo Blade, plans to "focus on regulations that inhibit business by collaborating and listening to others."

D. Michael Collins' theme, according to his website, seems to be Safety First and Charter review of the structure of City Government.

Ben Konop seems to represent a new and fresh start of younger leadership and a "from the ground-up" economic plan that protects workers' wages, employment and safety and calls for an expanded education and worker re-training.

Jim Moody has a similar

view to Mike Bell in that he describes his priorities as "creating a pro-business environment by repealing anti-business laws and effective economic development."

Keith Wilkowski, one of the first Barack Obama backers in our area and who has continued to attempt to use the president's election as campaign capital by portraying himself as an "agent of change," has stressed jobs, jobs and jobs. Wilkowski lists retaining manufacturing jobs as a first priority but also promotes jobs in the green collar and new energy, high tech and the transportation sectors.

What is immediately noticeable about the views of the mayoral candidates is that, with one or perhaps two exceptions, they all are saying the same things. There is a uniformity and homogeneity for the most part, and a lack of social, cultural or ethnic mix in the message being voiced to our diverse community.

Maybe it is because the aspirants are unaware that communities of color are being hit the hardest by far in this economic depression as

black unemployment is more than double that of others.

It could be that the candidates are oblivious to the fact that non-Hispanic black men are more likely to be unemployed at all education lev-

els. Perhaps they have bought into the false notion that "a rising tide lifts all boats" and are ignorant to the fact that minority boats will not rise without addressing the numerous invisible

barriers to getting help that the disadvantaged both need and deserve.

We have incessantly heard about pro-business policies but nothing but si-

*(Continued on Page 7)*

## VOTE NO on Issue 1

In 1982, the citizens of Toledo approved a "temporary" tax of ¼ of one percent that would be divided equally into three portions to go to the capital improvement program, the City of Toledo's general fund and police/fire.

That tax has been approved in the following years. In 2004, at the request of former Mayor Jack Ford, the allocation was changed to place one half of the monies into the general fund, one sixth into the CIP and the remaining one third into fire and police.

In 2008, the tax was re-allocated to the original formula and now, Issue 1 proposes to revert to a formula that will en-

able City Council to help balance the 2009 budget by pulling \$3.9 million from the ¼ tax that will help to pay for the safety forces.

Proponents of the re-allocation led by City Council President have labeled this re-allocation a "safety first" issue claiming that 200 policemen will have to be laid off if the issue fails at the polls.

Mayor Carty Finkbeiner and his allies, on the other hand, have denounced this measure aimed at balancing the budget. The mayor would prefer that Council made the tough choice to raise taxes and he claims that there is no danger of police layoffs given the commitment the

city had to make in order to secure COPS funds from the federal stimulus package.

The gist of the argument is how much latitude the future mayor and council should have with these monies and, given the fact that it is entirely possible that the City may lose millions of dollars in future matching funds from the feds and the state for road repairs, we have to roll with the mayor on this call.

We urge a NO vote on Issue 1.

The fact is that part of this council/mayor squabble – the latest in a long list of such squabbles – is to a certain extent much ado about nothing. It's a

*(Continued on Page 7)*

## Statement by Greater Toledo Urban League regarding President Obama's Address to Nation's Youth

On Tuesday, September 08, 2009 the President of the United States of America, Barack Obama, spoke to all youth in grades kindergarten through Sixth. This historic speech was broadcast via cable (C-Span) to all school districts live. Youth of all ethnic, class and social backgrounds had the opportunity to hear this speech and more importantly be engaged by their teachers to further discuss not only the speech itself, but also issues relevant

to them and education.

The Greater Toledo Urban League (GTUL) applauds President Obama for taking this bold step in confronting the problems with our educational system. With dropout rates on the rise, proficiency test scores stagnant or declining, and most of our urban schools in "academic watch" or "academic emergency", now is the time for bold, decisive action that will ultimately effect change.

We, the GTUL, recognize

the need for a cataclysmic shift in our entire thinking around education. The U.S. ranks near the bottom among nations in the areas of math and science. The world is moving at mach speed in preparing their youth for success in this global economy while the U.S. remains content with a separate, unequal and in some instances, inferior educational system. The time for change has come and it is now! Businesses, corpo-

*(Continued on Page 5)*

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# GREEN FOR GROWTH

....Because when TPS grows - so does Toledo

**Endorsed Democrat for the Toledo Board of Education**

Aji Green  
 2658 Merrimac Blvd, Toledo, OH 43606  
 Paid for by Green for School Board Committee - Venice Haynes, Treasurer

## Wilkowski Endorsed by Small Business Owners

Sojourner's Truth Staff



About a dozen and a half small business owners threw their support behind Democratic mayoral candidate last week at a news conference in front of 25 S. St. Clair St. in the Warehouse District.

"He's the man who can get us there," said Tom Brady, founder of Plastic Technologies, Inc., as he opened the news conference that took place on a block that has seen major redevelopment over the past few years, primarily by small businesses.

"We are working to transform Toledo into a place where we can operate," said the candidate as he thanked those in attendance for their support. "We want to make sure Toledo is not at a competitive disadvantage vis a vis surrounding areas and small business is the key to

the economy."

Wilkowski vowed to "strengthen businesses and in particular small businesses in Toledo" and announced his five-point action plan to assist businesses and create jobs. He said that as mayor he would:

- Establish a city of Toledo Small Business Commission to evaluate how proposed and existing legislation affects small businesses and to make recommendations to make the city more business friendly;

- Assemble a panel of business, civic and regional government leaders to review every City Charter section, code section, rule and regulation in order to simplify city government and make it more business friendly;

- Transform the Department of Taxation and

Treasury into the Office of Business Assistance and Tax Administration in order to promote resources available within city government, the Chamber of Commerce and other economic development entities;

- Provide a one-time tax credit of \$200 to small businesses who join the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce;

- Transform the city's Development Department into the Office of Innovation, Technology and Jobs to be headed by an experienced private sector entrepreneur.

Wilkowski was endorsed by the following business people: Brady, Bob Savage, co-founder of Savage and Associates; Sara Best, principal, Best People Solutions; Todd Black, secretary, Waterville Gas Company; Vince Davis, owner, State Farm Insurance Agency; Juan Hinojosa, president, Mondo Mechanical; Bob Maxwell, former president, Lathrop Company; Nadeem Salem, agency owner, N.Y. Life Insurance; Bud Wilson, president, Wilson Builders, among others.

When asked what he thought the endorsements meant, Wilkowski replied: "It means I'm serious about making Toledo a place where businesses can operate."

## Bell Proposes Adding "Ready to Work" Sites

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Independent mayoral candidate Mike Bell held a news conference last week and proposed that the City of Toledo construct a number of business-ready sites within the city limits. Standing at the Ironville Docks in East Toledo which will benefit from a \$5 million grant from the State of Ohio to redevelop the site into a manufacturing and distribution center, Bell suggested that three more such sites should be developed.

"All the appropriate utilities are set so that when prospective businesses come to town, we can market these sites," said the former Toledo Fire Chief and former State Fire Marshal.

"Working together enabled them to get a grant for \$5 million," said Bell. "Regionalism makes it easier to do. If we are going to market [these properties], it is much easier to bring people to sites that are already to go. The City of Toledo needs to continue to reach out and this is an example of what can be done."

Bell also referenced his eight-point plan to save and create jobs:



- Engage fully in the Toledo Regional Economic Plan (originally called the Meta Plan) that has been proposed by The University of Toledo, the Regional Growth Partnership, the Port Authority, the Lucas County Improvement Corporation and other public and private entities;

- Establish a Mayor's Business Advocate position on the senior staff to maintain contact with business leaders and guide prospective employers through the process of establishing a business in Toledo;

- Creating "ready-to-work" sites such as at the Ironville Docks;

- Establish "Neighborhood Business Centers" in each of the City's "tipping point" neighborhoods for use by small businesses;

- Join neighboring suburban communities in discussions about a regional water pact;

- Consolidate all city departments responsible for permits, inspections, business incentives with a single manager in charge of all;

- Initiate a plan to use technology to give on-line review and approvals of new projects;

- Lobby for the designation of a single point of contact for economic development prospects to the region.

## Stephen Ward Denounces Issue 2, Questions Proponent's Motives

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Stephen Ward, independent candidate for an at-large Toledo City Council seat, held a news conference on Labor Day to denounce the effort to reduce the size of city council from 12 to nine seats in the upcoming municipal primary. Ward also questioned the motives of Councilwoman Lindsay Webb who has been the primary contributor to the campaign to pass Issue 2.

"Currently a councilwoman is leading the charge to deceive the citizens for her own selfish reasons," said Ward as he opened his remarks in front of the Kitchen for the Poor on Vance Street. "Enough is enough. Nine isn't fine and Councilwoman Webb should be ashamed to use the poor as pawns for her own political agenda."

Ward did not dispute the fact that City Council should engage in cost cutting measures and, to that extent, he repeated his campaign promise to donate 20 percent of his City Council salary back to the city, inviting Webb to join him in this gesture.

He did, however, take the organizers of the Nine Is Fine movement to task for drawing up the charter revision without consulting the residents of Toledo and he assailed their comparison of Urbana, IL to Toledo. Issue 1 proponents have consistently held Urbana as an example of a city that is changing from at-large representation to district representation. Ward pointed out that Urbana—a town of less than 40,000 with a minority population of less than 18 percent—is not an apt comparison.

Ward was particularly pointed in his references to Webb and her history of "deliberate deception" with respect to fellow City Councilman Michael Ashford.

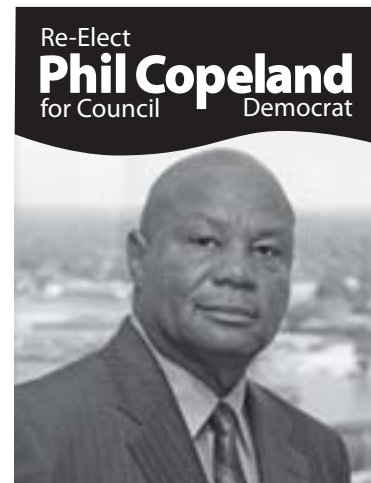
"Please don't be hoodwinked and bamboozled... there is more to the story," said Ward. "Don't forget Lindsay Webb is the same councilwoman who on January 3, 2008 admitted her first official vote in public office was part of a deliberate deception over the council presidency vote. She cast the final and sixth vote to elect former Council President Mark Sobczak, after 90 minutes earlier pledging to support Michael Ashford. So, ask yourself, can you truly believe anything Councilwoman Webb says when it comes to the Nine Is Fine?"

(Continued on Page 6)

On September 15, vote for the one candidate that's best for you.

Re-Elect  
**Phil Copeland**  
for Council Democrat

Phil Copeland



Phil Copeland is an effective member on City Council. Rather than grabbing headlines, he's used his skill as a negotiator to work with all sides on Council to help our community, including:

- Keeping City Pools Open
- Fighting for jobs for Toledoans and not out of town contractors
- Maintaining police staffing for neighborhood safety
- Ensuring our community receives services like street repair and filling potholes

On September 15, vote **Phil Copeland, Democrat for City Council**. You know his name and you know you can trust him to deliver for our community.

Paid for by: Phil Copeland for Council Committee, 340 Sheldon, Toledo, OH 43605, Bernie Quilter, Chair, Monica Carter, Treasurer

# Lagrange Village Council Bashes Ashford, Tries to Save Kroger

By Artisha S. Lawson  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The Lagrange Village Council is engaged in a heated battle to keep a Kroger Store on Manhattan Blvd. Open. They are fighting their battles on two fronts, however. Last week, they also opened fire on Toledo City Councilman Michael Ashford.

According to members of the Lagrange Village Council, Ashford, the District 4 councilman, hasn't had a good working relationship with residents of North Toledo since his appointment to council in January 2002 and subsequent election and re-election.

Ashford's district includes a large portion of North Toledo, that LVC calls Area 4, which includes I-75 to Central Avenue and Manhattan to Lagrange and



Bancroft.

Following an assault on an elderly North Toledo couple in May 2009, LVC targeted six areas of safety and held two neighborhood meetings in the following months to address those concerns. Invitations were then mailed to several elected and gov-

ernment officials to attempt to hold them accountable, seek actions in a timely fashion and encourage better communications.

The list of invited elected and government agencies included Imran Andrabi, Ph.D., CEO of St. Vincent's Mercy Medical Center; Rich-

ard 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; City of Toledo Director of Neighborhoods Kattie Bonds and Lucas County Court Judge Denise Cubbon.

Ashford did not attend either meeting, say LVC members.

For his part, Ashford says he has had perfect attendance at quarterly meetings held by the Lagrange Development Corporation for the past seven years and acknowledges that he missed one meeting in June when he was out of town.

He says that he attempted to find out if there were any problems and called the Lagrange office on numerous occasions after the meeting but his calls have never been returned.

Following the meetings,

LVC announced their launch of a volunteer resident foot patrol that will call police regarding suspicious activity and crime information. The patrol has been in effect since June 2009.

Announcement of the planned closing of Manhattan Blvd Kroger's Store, LVC invited Ashford to an August 12 meeting since many of his constituents shop at the store. Ashford did not attend the meeting and the council decided to address Ashford publicly.

Ashford says that he was never informed of the meeting. "I called them three times to get information and was never called any anyone," says the councilman.

LVC then decided to attend the September 4, 2009 City Council meeting and seek support for keeping the Manhattan Kroger's and to address their problems with Ashford. To announce their press conference prior to the council meeting, press releases were e-mailed to media

outlets on September 1, which included their 'list of grievances' against the District 4 councilman. Included with the press release was a statement released by North Toledo resident and LVC council member since 2008, Christina Yambrisk.

"Councilman Ashford has not been proactive let alone visible in our North Toledo neighborhoods. Our quality of life continues to decline and Councilman Ashford continues to negate his responsibilities to our district or show concern for his constituents," Yambrisk said in that press release.

According to LVC's press release, Ashford hasn't fulfilled promises made to North Toledo residents beginning in May 2002 just four months after being appointed to City Council.

LVC claims that after the city demolished the former Cook's Department store located in what is currently the empty lot on Buckeye Street, Ashford agreed to develop the site by getting the Environmental Protection Agency to clean up contamination and implement necessary studies for new usage.

Then on October 27, 2007 during a LVC-sponsored Toledo City Council candidates forum, LVC claims Ashford pledged that if re-elected he would get 40 blocks of trees trimmed and stumps removed, have two to four miles of streets refaced and demolish 40 abandoned homes each year in the LVC neighborhood. According to LVC, none of the promises have been fulfilled or begun.

Ashford disputes both of those claims. In the matter of

(Continued on Page 14)

## The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union

has just launched their "Brick Campaign". The TUFUCU has begun this campaign to raise funds for the new building at 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 September 4, 2009

**Churches:** New Life Church of God & Christ, St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, St. Martin de Porres, Southern Missionary Baptist Church, Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church  
**Business:** ABCO Contracting LLC., Alpha & Omega Collections, Commodore Perry Federal Credit Union, Earl Enterprises LLC, The House of Day, Logan Creek Construction Company, Midwest Urban Newspaper, Mo's Market, Nabil's Next Day Sign, Po-Mo's, The Toledo Journal, Quality Time Day Care  
**Organizations:** ALPHA PHI ALPHA Fraternity (ALPHA XI LAMBDA CHAPTER), Maumee Bay Club NANBPWC, INC., Perry Burroughs Democratic Women's Club, Toledo Chapter Coalition of Black Trades Union  
**Clergy:** Bishop Edward T. Cook, Pastor Darian N. Banks, Rev. Raymond Bishop, Pastor Glen D. Burel Sr., Minister Charles E. Chandler, Pastor Robert A. Culp, Rev. Dr. Donald Perryman, Rev. Dr. John E. Roberts, Pastor Talmadge J. Thomas, Pastor Troy Thomas, Rev. Robert P. Wormely, Pastor William Terry, Mother Bernice Roberts, First Lady Sheila Cook, First Lady Willetta Perryman  
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**Community:** Eve Allen, Jewyana Anderson, Eric Baldwin, Mira Banks, Dale Barnhill, Queen Ester Barringer, Mr. & Mrs. Tony Bivens, Arlene Bond, Henry Boyd, Anita-Hackett-Braswell, Charsena Braswell, Carol-Jean Brazzel, Drenda Brooks, Gwen Brown, Leona Brown, Michael A. Cancel Sr., Ernestine Carter, John Chapman, Russell Chapman, Lamont Chenualt, Leona Chenualt, Rufus Coffey, Charlest Coley, Reginald Coley, Dennis Conley, Gloria Conner, Branden Mykal Cook, Manhattan Michelle Cook, Barbara Corgens, Andre L. Cowell Sr., Kevin Cowell, Ruth L. Cowell, Sharon D. Crawford, Lester Crump, Marquisa Darden, Martha N. Ramey-Dewalt, Janice Edwards, Shirley A. Thomas El, Patricia Y. Ellis, Rose E. Bonhart Ellis, William H. Ellis Sr., Percy Evans, Virginia Evans, Priscilla Fletcher, Janice Fryar, Verbie Garland, Del Grace, Kelli Grace, Stanley Graves, Gerturde Green, Ralph Green, Harriett Hardy, Yvonne Harper, Corene Harris, Doreen Harris, Patti Henry, Sylvia Hewitt, Aviance Hill, Mozell Hill, George Hillard, Gloria Hillard, Gabrielle Hinton, Roy Holloway Sr., Holly Hodge, Albert J. Hunter, Lucile Hutton, Thomas Hutton, Martin Jarret, Elaine Baker-Johnson, Gary Johnson, Jacqueline Luckett-Johnson, Jamie Johnson, Lee Johnson Jr., Anthony Q. Jones Sr., Sr. Anna M. Jones, Larry A. Jones, Alto King III, Alto King Sr., Delores Latson, Barbara Lee, Willie Lee, Lisa K. Linear, Yulonda McClure-Logan, Will Lucas, Larmy McClelland Sr., Theresa McClelland, Donald H. McCreary, LueDell F. Martin, Pamela Matthews, Paula Mayes, Eddie Merrell Jr., Robert Montgomery, Teresa Moore, Dorine Mosley, Lavern Mosley, Linley Pickett, Bernadine Powell, James Powell, Greg Powell, Gayla C. Price, Selma Rankins, Nell Roach, Doris M. Roberts, Sharlene K. Roberts, Charles Rowan, Odessa Rowan, DeLise Simmons, Sean Simmons, James Simpson Sr., Chris Smith, Shirley Smith, Virginia Haywood-Smith, Wanita Smith, James Snodgrass Sr., Tracee Perryman-Stewart, Lynn Storum, Antonio Stuart, Corneli Talley, Pierrette Talley, Mattie Taylor, Monique Talley, Lillie Watkins, Charles B. Welch, Twyla Lorraine Wheaton, Evangelia White, Anderson N. Whitt, Vincent Wiggins, Edith Williams, Fesha, Williams, Jane Williamson, J.T. Williamson, Dorothy Willis, Edward Willis, Pamela Wilson



**"I'm calling for a boycott"** ~Olivia Holden

## Statement

(Continued from Page 3)

rations and institutions are in search of "the best and brightest" minds this world has to offer. Education therefore must be **THE#1** focus in board rooms, government chambers and at kitchen tables.

It is with this in view that we are appalled at the backlash and outrage against the President and school systems by those that are opposed to the President. The rancorous and divisive cacophony of voices, while passionate is at best confusing and at worst extremely damaging to the very fabric with which this country was founded. The claims by many of these individuals about

the right to free speech, respect for authority and the need for personal responsibility are often recited, yet the example being set seems to be diametrically opposed to them. Should we not, as a country of Americans from all backgrounds, be supportive of a positive message of staying in school, studying hard, and being accountable, regardless of our personal opinion of President Obama's politics?

We, at the GTUL, are pleased to know that Superintendent Foley and Toledo Public Schools made the right decision to not block access to viewing this speech within the District. We now urge

each principal of an elementary school to freely discuss and learn about the participatory process of our democracy. We urge each parent to encourage and support their child by taking the time to share what this process means, because it takes a village to raise a child. We urge each community and business leader to become a champion for the cause of education, not just one day, but everyday. If we can begin to come together around this I am confident that we will be able to empower this community and change the lives of each child, parent and family.

**By John C. Jones, President of the GTUL**

# Lucas County Auditor's Office Seeks Feedback from Property Owners

By Sojourner's Truth Staff

Every three years the Lucas County Auditor's Office is required by law to issue new values for agricultural, commercial and residential properties in the county. The county does these valuations based upon information in their possession about individual properties and input from the owners. The deadline is drawing close for property owners to respond to the Value Change Notices they should already have received from the Auditor's Office.

"Individuals should know that this is the time – if you feel your [property] values are too high or too low – it is the owner's responsibility to make sure our information is accurate," said Anita Lopez, Lucas County Auditor, last week in a conversation with The Truth.

"Citizens should feel comfortable that, either way, they should contact our office," said Lopez.

Obviously in this time of volatile property prices, such information is critical for an accurate assessment of values. If the valuation is too high, then the owner will be paying more in taxes than he or she should have too. On the other hand, an assessment that is too low can affect an individual's ability to sell at a fair price or obtain home equity loans at a fair market value.

"The real estate community looks at the Auditor's information for valuation," said Lopez. "So a low valuation may hurt in the long-term even if you save some taxes in the short-term."

Property valuation, said Lopez, is a three-part process by the state, county and city. "I want to educate



Lucas County Auditor Anita Lopez.

the public that your participation is absolutely essential and that you can contact us to help," said Lopez. Typically, noted the Auditor, residents of outlying areas of the city feel more comfortable in contacting the office than do residents of the central city.

There are over 200,000 parcels of property that the Auditor's office is responsible for assessing, said Lopez, but there is no way the office has been able to get to every piece of property during the three-year phase. And, of course, things can change on a property within a very short time frame.

Lopez, who prior to taking over three reins of the Auditor's office had been Lucas County Recorder, ran for her current position in

to feel as if we are not being responsive," said Lopez.

The deadline for property owners to contact the office is October 2, 2009. From September 8 through September 30, the Auditor's office will be conducting a series of property review meetings around the county including ones at the Frederick Douglass Community Association on September 14 and 15; The University of Toledo's Scott Park Campus on September 15, 16, 17; the Kent Branch Library on September 21 and 22 and the Main Branch Library on September 29 and 30.

For more information, you may contact the office at [www.co.lucas.oh.us/auditor](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/auditor) or call the Education and Outreach Department at 419-213-4406. You can get the answers to questions such as where tax dollars go, how much levies will cost you, what sales are used to influence value, among others.

November 2006 defeating 13-year incumbent Larry Kaczala. During that campaign, Lopez's chief focus was making the valuation process transparent and ensuring that homeowners were informed and educated. In an interview at that time with The Truth, Lopez said that the number one concern of homeowners is that "they believe their property has been over valued consistently by the Auditor's office and that has equated into being overtaxed..."

She promised to "make the format [one] that citizens understand" and to engage them in the process "as soon as possible." That was a promise she repeated last week during the lead in to the process.

"We don't want anyone

## Ward

(Continued from Page 4)

In addressing the lineup of the current system of six at-large and six district councilmen, Ward compared the impact that a configuration of six district and three super district might have on residents. "I would rather be able to hold seven people accountable than two," he said.

According to Ward, he



**"We don't need politicians with their own personal agendas, we need people who know what it means to serve,"**

believes that Webb's advocacy for Issue 2 is part of a scheme to rid herself of councilmen with whom she does not agree. Ward also said that he believed the events of the previous week, during which Ashford was taken to task by the Lagrange Village Council for his apparent non-support on the Manhattan Kroger's issue, were

orchestrated by Webb. "Webb is behind that and involved in it," said Ward.

"We don't need politicians with their own personal agendas, we need people who know what it means to serve," said Ward. "The greatest leader forgets himself and attends to the development of others."

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## United Way announces aggressive new direction

**TOLEDO, Ohio** – Today, United Way of Greater Toledo announced it is moving in a new direction for the 2009 campaign. This year, United Way is setting a needs-based goal, which means they have set their sights on a **\$17.9 million goal** to invest in their strategic community agenda.

At this morning's 2009 United Way Campaign Kickoff, held at St. Luke's Hospital, Campaign Chair Richard Hylant announced the new goal. The campaign, officially running today through December 10, is being led by Hylant, Regional Vice President; President-Toledo, Hylant Group.

"In order to establish our goal, I had one simple question," Hylant said. "What is the need in our community? What was United Way unable to invest in last year because the resources were not available?"

To calculate a needs-based goal, United Way staff looked at last year's requests from partner programs. They looked at the amount volunteers wanted to invest in those programs but were forced to cut because resources were not available. That number was then added to the 2008 campaign total to reach the \$17.9 million figure.

According to Bill Kitson, United Way of Greater Toledo president & CEO, this is a 32 percent increase over last year's campaign.

"This is huge for us," Kitson said. "We're asking this community to come together and raise \$17.9 million. Not for United Way. Not just for our partners. But for our friends, our relatives, and our neighbors."

"Putting a number on the need is not easy," Kitson continued, "because tomorrow's needs will be different than today's, just as today's are different than yesterday's. But we know the needs are still growing, which is why we think \$17.9 million will be a great starting point."

United Way plans to use several strategies to help reach this number including increasing participation from the largest employers in our community, focusing on federal grants, and beginning to engage the approximately 95 percent of the Northwest Ohio population that does not currently give to United Way.

"United Way's *Agenda for Change*, which focuses on education, income, and health, has the potential to change our community," Hylant added. "We just need to equip it with a few more resources. That's why the LIVE UNITED movement is focused on giving, advocating, and volunteering."



## Vote No

(Continued from Page 3)

powerplay couched in the sanctimony of putting safety first vs. we'll have potholes the size of Texas if the other side gets their way.

The change that McNamara wants grants future leaders the flexibility to use funds as they see fit. Nevertheless, McNamara's argument that the administration will have to lay off 200 police officers and throw the city into something resembling the scene in *Escape From New York* is overblown.

If Issue 1 passes, it does not necessarily mean that streets will not be paved, but that possibility does exist and therefore we come down on the side against granting such flexibility to council and the next mayor.

Every politician puts safety

first, even if it is only lip service for the voters. And there are some concerns we should have.

Recently Police Chief Mike Navarre told us that he has conducted research on major cities ratio of police officers to residents and Toledo has the lowest such ratio he has yet encountered.

Nevertheless, our crime statistics are remarkably low for a city of this size. Crimes of all sort have decreased fairly steadily in the last eight or nine years and this year, for example, the combined crimes reported during the first quarter of 2009 had decreased by 7.9 percent compared to the comparable quarter of 2008.

We have had 15 homicides through August 17, 2009 com-

pared to 37 for Buffalo, 52, 53, and 41 for Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati, respectively.

On the other hand, our street situation, particularly our residential streets, is dire. If funds are indeed pulled from street repaving over the next few years, the total number of miles paved could drop dramatically costing the city as much as an additional \$40 million in matching state and federal funds. We cannot afford for that to happen.

If the proponents of Issue 1 want to assure Toledo's residents that this will not happen, there can be no greater assurance than the defeat of this very unnecessary Issue at the polls next Tuesday.

## Courage To Lead

(Continued from Page 3)

lence concerning minority-owned business enterprises. Possibly it is because MBE owners face more barriers to success than the candidates are aware of. MBE's are less likely to be connected to business networks, they have less firsthand business operations experience, possess smaller amounts and have fewer sources for risk capital and are less likely to receive large-scale contracts that build income and scale.

There also has been no public word concerning the lack of fair distribution of school facility construction dollars and funding of new high schools in poor black and brown neighborhoods or educational inequalities that exist in inner-city schools.

There has been quiet on all fronts concerning the sociological concerns of the inner-city which is plagued with chronic joblessness, welfare dependence, disrupted families, teenage parenthood as well as unusually

high levels of violent crime. Perhaps it is unknown by the candidates that there is a direct correlation between economic inequality and the challenges faced by black and brown families living in poverty.

When their voices are not heard and cries not remedied with policies that address the painful and destructive economic and social inequities that confront children, families, and communities of color it causes suffering not only to the marginalized but to the entire city.

Yet, my take is that this strange silence and lack of variety in the vague abstract ideas and proposals being presented has been strategic. Perhaps there is an invisible campaign line which you don't cross to address certain issues. Therefore instead of authenticity in candidates we see those who bend over backwards not to offend a base that is hostile or indifferent to diversity. The hope-

ful leader instead tailors a campaign pitch that will appease the base and also play well to the media. But that's just my take.

Whom will I support?

The words of H. Jackson Brown are really a remix of the words of an older, wiser generation which communicated it long ago to me like this: "It's not about what you did, but what you didn't do—that you suffer."

I support those who do not play "prevent defense" by campaigning not-to-offend, but who are bold enough to be themselves and who also deal with the inequities and life and death issues that concern the African-American and other communities of color.

I support those with courage. No other character trait is a more accurate assessment in the examination of a leader.

contact Rev. Dr. Donald Perryman at [dhperryman@centerofourhistory.org](mailto:dhperryman@centerofourhistory.org)

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# Nigerian Royal Wear Makes Appearance at Truth Art Gallery

It was all about African inspired fashions at The Truth Gallery on September 2 featuring Julia Ugo, Nigerian fashion designer.

Antoine Kabwasa, distinguished professor at The University of Toledo and native of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, dis-

cussed African Clothes: Design & Cultural Identity, How You Define a Man & a Woman by What They Wear...



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# Arts Commission Announces Dedication Ceremony for the "Art Tatum Celebration Column"

*Special to The Truth*



The Arts Commission of Greater Toledo announces that a dedication ceremony for the "Art Tatum Celebration Column", a memorial to the Toledo native and jazz icon. The Dedication Ceremony will be held on Friday September 11 at 12:00 pm (noon) in front of the sculpture at the north entry to the Lucas County Multipurpose Arena, on the corner of Madison and Superior, Downtown Toledo.

In September of 2009 the Art Tatum Celebration Column, a glowing 27-foot tower of 88 piano keys, will welcome the public into the Superior St. pedestrian plaza of the new Lucas County Multipurpose Arena in historic Downtown Toledo.

The memorial to Art Tatum, created by San Francisco artist and jazz enthusiast Cork Marcheschi, consists of black and white stainless steel, three foot square boxes, separated by sheets of plate glass back lit with smoky blue LED lighting. The spiraled tower will become an elegant jazz beacon reminding the Toledo community and visitors of the legacy of its musical culture by honoring its native, Art Tatum.

The sculpture also includes three wall mounted and backlit dichroic glass panels inscribed with Art Tatum's biography, his image with a list of his greatest songs, and a panel for recognition of major donors who have made the memorial possible.

These panels colorfully call jazz lovers of every generation to read, admire and learn about Tatum as they stand in the arborous landscape of Toledo's most prominent entertainment venue.

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# My Interview with Lil D of Hot 97.3

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture

I am happy to bring my readers interviews of people that I relate to and that I feel have brought something meaningful to the city, and also who I can personally vouch for as cool people. So many in this city are trying to do music, or in some way involved in the entertainment scene.

I've seen Lil D around this whole year. Had a chance to chop it up with her.

Just in case you don't know who Lil D is (which means you may have been under a rock for the last two years)... I'm going to introduce you right now.

Hayes: What does the D in Lil D stand for?

Lil D: Lil D is an acronym. I-Life i-Intelligence I-Love These are the three most important things after God, in my opinion. The D stands for my cousin Damien and my friend Doug, both of whom I've lost. I have a tattoo that says "lilD=succes," and this is how I keep my people close to me.

Hayes: How did you get your start in radio?

Lil D: I was in the 12th



grade, and the night jock would have Freestyle Friday on his radio show. I called in and won nine weeks straight, killing everybody! And it was fair; I never told any of my friends to call in a vote for me. Anyway, the night jock had

my phone number because he'd call me when it was time to rap. He would call me every now and then to check on me and make sure everything was good with me. My second semester of college in 2005, I was getting ready to

transfer to LSU in Baton Rouge (I'm from Shreveport, another city in Louisiana), and he called me and asked if I wanted to be on his show. I said "I guess." I was Jay Tek's cohost for eight months, for free by the way, then I finally collected a check when they let me run the board for the Doug Banks Morning Show. It was \$7/hr, but whatever! A year and a half later, in October 2006, I got my own show. And I've been in love with it ever since. And Jay Tek is still my mentor and biggest supporter.

Hayes: What was it like coming to Toledo at a time when Hot 97-3 was expanding & making a bigger impact on listeners??

Lil D: Well, I didn't know what kind of influence Hot 97-3 was having on the city. I didn't know anyone here, so I was just excited to be in a different part of the country doing what I love. From my point of view, I feel that I brought a totally different flavor to the city. I don't sound like anyone elsewhere, for starters, and I don't do "robot radio," meaning I have personality, and I'm not afraid to show it. I had a nightly, themed entertainment report; I wasn't afraid to say a singer can't sing, I didn't shy away from saying a song was horrible. But I also gave props to the city. I'm the chick who interviewed a plethora of local artists, good and bad, and let the people of Toledo voice their opinions. I'm the chick who did an album with the local artists, lilD Presents: The Glass City Goons. People would often tell me that I was what Hot 97-3 was missing. My favorite quote from a listener is "I don't know where you came from, but you brought something to Toledo.

And we just be like, 'Is this girl for real? Is she serious?'" I knew I was impacting the city when a girl called the station and said "Bitch, why you always talking about people??" When I got off the phone, I remember saying to myself, "Wow. I've arrived."

Hayes: Honestly...what do you feel about Toledo? Talent wise...music biz wise...this city's approach to music/entertainment.

Lil D: Okay, remember you told me to be honest...90 percent of the rappers here should give up and go to college. But that's most rappers in the country. I like the style here; it's different from my hometown. But a lot of the rappers here sound the same. How many songs can you make about your swag? Especially in small-ass Toledo, where you rap about all the money you have, and I know you live with your parents and don't have a job or car? Seriously? As far as hip hop, I respect those rappers who promote themselves, and researched the business side of music. You're not going anywhere without knowledge of your craft, and what's impacting the business right now. No one cares if you're the hottest on your side of the city; THE WORLD IS BIGGER THAN TOLEDO. Big ups to Yung Prof, Big P.I., Dre P, Tempestt, TJ Caz and T. Diamond. Now a couple of those people I named, I don't think are the best rappers. But your promo will get you far. Look at Soulja Boy; he's definitely not the best, but he was getting 10 stacks a show BEFORE the deal.

Now R&B is a different story. Toledo has a lot of untapped potential. Tracy is clearly running the R&B game right now. I know him personally, so I know all about the countless hours he spends promoting himself on Myspace, Facebook and in the streets. For example, he has a show in Dallas September 11, and Austin, Texas September 12. What is he doing until then? Gathering as many Myspace and Facebook friends in those cities as possible. He's going down there with a case full of his albums and press kits. Tracy has the image of a singer, but the hustle of a rapper. Love it. But where are the other singers? I've heard people sing better than Tracy. The biggest problem Toledo has is that too many artists are small-city minded. They may gain a little popularity in the city, then stop. Detroit is up the street! Findlay and Sandusky are up the street. Take your grind to the next level, or give up and go to

college.

Oh, last thing. Please don't take this out! You can't be arrogant if you've done nothing. You think an A&R wants to sign someone who ALREADY has an ego? No one cares if you bring your cousins to every show to feel special! You need confidence, not conceitedness. Come back to earth. Jesus turned water to wine and he wasn't arrogant. What's your excuse?

Hayes: What role do you think local radio should play in a city's music scene?

Lil D: I'm glad you asked me this. The purpose of radio is to make money. "Let's play songs the majority of people like, so they can listen for extended periods of time, so our ratings can reflect that, so we can show those ratings to advertisers and they decide to spend money with us." Period. Depending on the city, I think radio can show love to local artists. I did it on my show, and wouldn't have seen a major problem with playing their songs once to let the listeners critique it. The reason Hot 97-3 is always beating the Juice (I love the Juice, no diss) is because they cater to white people as well. No white person in the city; THE WORLD IS BIGGER THAN TOLEDO. Big ups to Yung Prof, Big P.I., Dre P, Tempestt, TJ Caz and T. Diamond. Now a couple of those people I named, I don't think are the best rappers. But your promo will get you far. Look at Soulja Boy; he's definitely not the best, but he was getting 10 stacks a show BEFORE the deal.

And I want to make a point to say this. YOU DO NOT NEED RADIO TO GET A DEAL. Soulja Boy, Tupac, Biggie, Hurricane Chris. No radio play before the deal. If this is what you want to do, don't depend on anyone else. Besides, half of these rappers don't realize that if your music isn't registered, it doesn't matter how many times it plays on the radio; you're not getting credit. And that ONE spin on ONE radio station in ONE city...means NOTHING. Trust me. I do this.

Hayes: Name your top 5 (rappers) dead or alive.

Lil D: 1. Tupac- He was a revolutionary with real ideas, and a real plan to execute them. And he wasn't afraid to speak his mind. He was multi-talented, with music, poetry and acting. The greatest, hands down.

2. Master P- He wasn't the best lyrically, but he learned the business and pimped it. His distribution deal was one that no one will ever get again.

(Continued on Page 13)

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# The Sojourner's Truth Education

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## Adopt a Haircut Program Still Going Strong

Sojourners' Truth Staff

After two years, the Adopt a Haircut program that was implemented by the partnership of Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church, The Mott Branch of Toledo-Lucas County Public Library and Poor Clark's Barbershop, is still a

vital force in the Detroit Avenue part of the central city.

"Adopt a Haircut," explained Rev. Cedric Brock, pastor of Mt. Nebo's two years ago when the program was launched, "is designed to focus on young African-Ameri-

can boys because that is what mentoring is all about."

As always, the partners are asking members of the community to donate to the program in order to defray the costs. As for the boys, all they need to do is go to the library branch, check out a book, take the book to the barbershop and then receive a free haircut. About three hundred boys have participated in the program annually, said Henry Clark, proprietor of the legendary establishment – the place where Brock himself received his very first haircut as a boy.

Once at the shop, the boys are asked to read a bit from the book or, at times, the staff will read with them.

"There is no elevation without education," said Clark.

Several years ago, the Toledo Lucas County Library be-

gan a series of initiatives to encourage boys to read, said Judy Jones, manager of the Mott Branch. "We're losing them in terms of reading," said Jones. "And we're starting all kinds of initiatives because if they don't learn to read how are they going to succeed?"

The Mott Branch Library is located at 1085 Dorr Street and Poor Clark's is at 1723 Dorr Street.

"Transportation can be provided by Poor Clark's," said Brock. "We are pleading for community support."

Those wishing to donate to the cause can take their donations directly to Clark's Barbershop. Receipts will be provided for the tax deductible donations.



## NAMI Hand to Hand Class Announced

Once again, NAMI SSW is offering an education course to help family members understand more about mental illness, treatment, & recovery. The Hand to Hand course (for any parent, caregiver, or provider) will be held at the NAMI Office, 219 S. Front St, Fremont, OH. It will be held on 9 consecutive Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30p.m. starting September 8, 2009.

This class has been a consistent force in helping parents and caregivers to understand the clinical treatment of brain disorders that present in childhood and teaches the knowledge and skills that parents need to cope more effectively.

Class topics include childhood mental disorders, medications, education law, juvenile justice, advocacy & more. There is no fee to attend.

Please call the office at 419-334-8021, toll free 1-888-582-8889, or email [dwolf@namissw.org](mailto:dwolf@namissw.org) with questions or to sign up for the classes.

## Toledo Public Schools End Adult Education Program

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Toledo Public Schools' adult education program – Adult Basic and Literacy Education – ended this year with a whimper. The program, which prepares students for the GED test, has been in existence in at least some form with TPS since 1983.

The Ohio Board of Regents

has been the funding source for the ABLE program and has in the past committed funds totaling more than \$600,000 to TPS. TPS's staff of 18 generally saw hundreds of students pass through the program annually.

As of this year, that amount for TPS has been lowered to \$140,000, or an amount

that renders such a program ineffective, according to TPS officials.

Adult education will continue on a limited basis within Lucas County – most of the programs available will be centered at Owens Community College.

### The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American Owned and Operated Newspaper

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*By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor*

Three-forty-two a.m. That's when you woke up this morning, but what are you gonna do?

Every day, you deal with mandatory furloughs, bank accounts heading toward minus, homeowner woes, and high prices against low paychecks. So when it's time to turn in for the night, you can't shut your brain off, and you know you simply can not handle this any more. You're done.

You didn't ask for this stress, but you've got it. So why not get some help dealing with it? Pick up **AdaptAbility by M.J. Ryan**, and get some smart advice about resilience.

Once upon a time, author M.J. Ryan had everything she wanted. She was the owner of an up-and-coming book publishing company with a

bestseller on its roster. She was happily married and life was good. Then, one by one, everything fell away and Ryan was faced with change she didn't see coming and didn't want.

Between then and the time she built a flourishing new career as a consultant and coach, she says that she learned a lot about change and how to deal with it.

First of all, change is perhaps the only thing you can count on in life. Good or bad, nothing stays the same and it's not "all about you". When faced with monumental change, you'll go through the classic stages of grief, but you also learn that you're more resilient than you think you are. In fact, change is not your enemy, but fear is - and in the end, your "youness"

is what pulls you through. One of the first things you'll do when change hits you - and it's natural

- is to worry yourself half to death. Ryan advises you to put the brakes on obsessing about everything all the time. Instead, give yourself 15 minutes a day to worry. Knock yourself out wringing your hands during that time, then accept what's happened, stop "milling," and move forward.

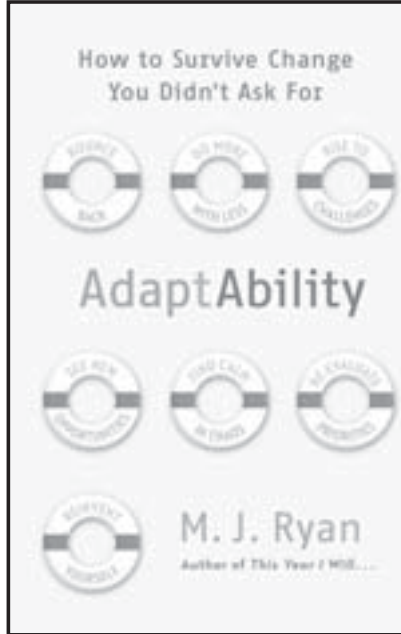
Still having trouble? Ryan says to find gratitude and look for good luck in your predicament. Try to see small gifts in your loss. Complain, but not forever. Get your Three C's in place (Challenge, Control, and Commitment). Stop being stoic and ask for help. And understand that temporarily taking an undesirable opportunity to "get by" is okay and won't last forever.

Been to the self-help section of your library or

bookstore lately? So many of the books there are happy-happy Pollyanna-ish tomes that wind up being of little help. Then, along comes a book like *AdaptAbility*...

Author M.J. Ryan uses her own story and those of her clients to illustrate how changing a few mindsets can help you deal with "change you didn't ask for". While some of the exercises seem simplistic and a few are downright goofy, even the most down-in-the-dumps reader can take a stab at the things that Ryan gently suggests doing to shake the badness that can come with unwelcome change.

If you're drowning in worry, stop treading water and read this book. *AdaptAbility* may just be the lifeline you need.



**Dear Agricultural, Commercial, and Residential Property Owner,**

As you may be aware, our office is required under the law to issue a new value for your property, reflecting the current market conditions. Under this law, we reviewed the market sales that have occurred over the past three years (2006, 2007, and 2008, with the most emphasis on 2008 sales).

The Lucas County Auditor's Office is responsible for determining the value of your property. We are striving to make sure that the values are as accurate as possible and we need your feedback. **If you feel that your property value as issued is TOO HIGH or TOO LOW, please contact our office at (419) 213-4406.** MOST IMPORTANTLY, if you think your value is accurate, you do not need to contact us.

At this time, most Lucas County property owners should have received their Value Change Notices. You may have information that we did not receive about your property. If you have information that may adjust your value, we want you to share it with us so we can get the most accurate value possible. Your participation is essential. **The deadline for receiving your feedback on the value changes is Friday, October 2, 2009.** We must submit all value changes to the State of Ohio for approval as soon as possible.

As part of my promise to make government transparent, I would like to let you know that we have added three new tools to our web site [www.co.lucas.oh.us](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us) to answer citizens' most common questions:

1. Where do my tax dollars go? The tax distributor tells you dollar for dollar where your property tax dollars go based on current tax values and levies.
2. How much will a levy cost me? The levy estimator displays the cost of proposed tax levies on your next tax bill.
3. What sales are used to influence value? The sales report displays information about recent sales within your neighborhood. Sales are sorted by sale date or total living area.

Additional property review meetings are available for you to review your information in-person, please see the table below for locations. Attend an optional meeting by scheduling an appointment during the dates and times listed below. For questions or to set up an appointment, call the Education and Outreach Department at (419) 213-4406. You may also contact us via e-mail from our web site at [www.co.lucas.oh.us/auditor](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/auditor).

Sincerely,



Anita Lopez, Lucas County Auditor

LOCATION	ADDRESS	DATE	TIME
Ottawa Park Nature Education Center	2201 Kenwood Blvd., Toledo	Sept. 8 & 9	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Mayores Senior Center	2 Aurora Gonzalez Dr., Toledo	Sept. 14	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Frederick Douglass Community Association	1001 Indiana Ave., Toledo	Sept. 14 & 15	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
University of Toledo - Scott Park Campus	2225 Nebraska Ave, Toledo	Sept. 15, 16, 17	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Jerusalem Township Hall	9501 Jerusalem Rd. Curtice, OH 43412	Sept. 16 & 17	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Kent Branch Library	3101 Collingwood Blvd., Toledo	Sept. 21	1 p.m. - 8 p.m.
		Sept. 22	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sylvania Township - Administration Hall	4927 Holland Sylvania Rd., Sylvania	Sept. 21, 22, 23, 24	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Toledo Lucas County Public Library - Main Library	325 North Michigan St., Toledo	Sept. 29 & 30	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Maumee Branch Library	501 River Rd., Maumee	Sept. 29 & 30	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.



**Office of Anita Lopez, Lucas County Auditor**

Real Estate Division  
One Government Center, Suite 670  
Toledo, OH 43604-2255

Phone: (419)213-4406  
E-mail: [outreach@co.lucas.oh.us](mailto:outreach@co.lucas.oh.us)  
On the web: [www.co.lucas.oh.us](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us)

# Lil D

(Continued from Page 9)

And he's the ultimate hustler. Music, clothes, phones, real estate, etc. He did it first. And he's still rich.

3. Eminem- He made it cool to be a poor white kid from a trailer park. It was okay to be white and be poor. He poured his soul into his records. And he can spit!

4. Andre 3000- One half of the most successful hip hop group ever. Totally left field of any other rapper. Same guy who made "Prototype" got on the "Walk it Out" remix and killed it! One of the best lyricists in the game.

5. Lil Kim- She's falling off now, and I didn't agree with the overtly sexual image, but Kim was the first to do it. She wasn't afraid to tell you how good her sex was. And if Biggie wrote her lyrics, he died in '97, and her album in 2005 was hot, so...she holds her own.

**Hayes:** What are your overall goals in radio/music?

**Lil D:** I plan on getting to a top 20 market, being number one and using my popularity and education to start a non-profit organization for girls. It will focus on self-esteem, sex, boys, peer-pressure, and all the other things girls go through but are afraid to talk about. If I can help one girl realize she's beautiful, before a boy who only wants one thing, does, my mission is accomplished. My music is used only to help create my street presence and maintain my ratings. I don't need a record deal or a Bentley; I need to help little girls who need a positive female role model, so the children of the next generation will have MOTHERS, not BABY-MAMAS. No disrespect to any single mothers. If you are a mother, that wasn't geared toward you.

**Hayes:** When you look at the hip-hop industry these days...what are your thoughts??

**Lil D:** I think it's funny. You know how your parents say, "Back in my day...?" That's how I feel



about music. Back in my day, there was room for everything. We could party with Beastie Boys, think with Tupac, get on the block

"D.O.A." was a good song, but then he came out with "We Ain't On That," saying that he's not on the things rappers currently

they are and stick to that image. Work on public relations, such as doing interviews and responding to constructive, and not-so-

**I do anything in my power to help anyone I see trying to help themselves.**

with Biggie, and let the top down with a No Limit Record. Now, it seems that if you're not dancing, you're not selling, unless you established yourself back when music was more diversified. I'm all for anyone making money from music, but I miss the 90's. I just want Master P, Tupac, and MC Lyte to come back. But today, they probably wouldn't sell.

**Hayes:** If you could name person that should never put out another record ever again...who would it be??

**Lil D:** Nationally: Jay-Z. I know everyone will hate me for this, but Jay-Z is past his prime. He's reaching, and trying to hate on what everyone else is doing to achieve success.

talk about. Okay, Jay-Z, we get it! He's not rapping about what he raps about; he's dissing everyone else so people will jump back on his bandwagon. Snore...

**Locally:** Any Toledo artist who was mad at my response to any previously asked question. If you can't handle the truth, give up and go to college.

**Hayes:** What can artists do differently to succeed in the music business???

**Lil D:** Just that: something different. Each new musical phenomenon did something different. Master P sold albums out his trunk. Rappers from Houston stuck together and looked out for each other. Soulja Boy took the internet over. The next big artist will do something that hasn't been done. In the meantime, artists can figure out who

constructive, criticism. Work on themselves; once an artist knows exactly who he is, that thing that only he/she has will have to come to the surface, and that will be the thing that gets them signed, and helps them sell records.

**Hayes:** What projects are you currently working on??

**Lil D:** I'm working on a new album, called *It's Not Hard to be a Rapper*. It's dedicated to every artist on his own sack that has been doing music for years, yet still hasn't gained any popularity. It's a little like a how-to guide for failing rappers. My first single will be called "Give Up and Go to College." Seriously. You think they hate me now...?

**Hayes:** Any last words you want the people to know about Lil D??

**Lil D:** I'm not a bitch. I'm not even mean. I cry when I see homeless people on the street, or old people riding the bus. I do anything in my power to help anyone I see trying to help themselves. My main goal in life is to see my younger siblings succeed, and help in any way I can. What I did on the radio was create an image. It's called On-Air PERSONALITY for a reason. It was my job to be a personality. Some hated me, some couldn't get enough of me. But the point

is, you knew me. And ratings don't lie. So when you see me, you don't have to hate me, or mumble mean things about me. We can probably help each other in some way. Just have the self-esteem it takes to approach me and find out.

Doesn't get any more real than that does it?

Glass City thank you for reading me again this week.

Please support all of your Toledo artists nominated at the Ohio Hip Hop Awards taking place in Cleveland this month.

D.J. Lyte N Rod... I'm urging ya'll to vote for a true founding father of Toledo's urban music scene and make sure he brings home some hardware.

[WWW.CHHHPAWARDS.COM](http://WWW.CHHHPAWARDS.COM) and click Vote and present all the local talent.

I don't have a completed list of all the Glass City's nominees.

But here's what I remember: Cuntry, Yung Prof, D.J. Big Lou The Mayor, Tempest, D.J. Lyte N Rod, Cris Siega, Cheri Dennis, Jay Rush,

Hutch Daddy Dolla, D.J. One Tyme, B. Wills, Tisha Lee, and many other area favorites in all respective fields.

Go log on and show support.

[glasscitytruth@yahoo.com](mailto:glasscitytruth@yahoo.com)



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**Proven leadership we can count on.**  
 Paid for by Citizens with Steel, 6144 Rolland Dr., Toledo, OH 43612.  
 Karen Poore, Treasurer.

# Kroger

(Continued from Page 5)

Cook's Department Store, liens on the building prevented any further development on that site, he says. Furthermore, Ashford states that he was informed of the liens by the Lagrange Development Corporation itself (now part of United North).

As to the matter of promises made during the campaign, Ashford denies making such promises. "That is a totally inaccurate account," says Ashford. "No one could commit to that."

According to Ashford, he and the Lagrange Development Cor-

poration initially had a falling out over the opening of a convenience store in the Greenbelt area. "I stood against Lagrange and for the poor folks of Greenbelt who wanted the convenience store. Lagrange told them they could walk the eight blocks to Seaway [Grocery on Bancroft and Cherry] or start growing a garden. I have extended the olive branch to Lagrange on several occasions."

Following the press release, Ashford supporters handed out a four-page packet containing reasons why Ashford should not be held responsible for Kroger's de-

cision to close. It detailed that the Lagrange Development Corporation receives over \$200,000 in funding annual and should develop a plan of action and that Kroger's is located in Councilwoman Lindsay Webb's district, not Ashford's.

Also included in the packet was the press release copy mentioning the LVC's planned attendance at the September 4, 2009 City Council Meeting and personal information about Christina Yambrisak, including her lack of a voting record in city council elections, a picture of her home

and address.

After LVC held its press conference last week, another group of citizens held its own - to denounce Kroger but also show their support for Ashford.

"I'm calling for a boycott," said Olivia Holden, community activist and director of ASSETS Toledo. "If Martin Luther King could do it, so can we. This is absolutely wrong, this is corporate greed and they are no better than Enron."

Speaking after Holden, Jimmy Gaines, director of ONYx, a community development corporation

in the central city, countered the LVC claims about Ashford.

"I've called Councilman Ashford numerous times over the years and he has never failed to be supportive," said Gaines.

The day's drama on the Kroger/Ashford matter continued during the ensuing City Council meeting as Council departed from its usual policy of not allowing public comments during its meetings. Webb introduced a resolution expressing support for keeping the store open and also gathered enough council votes to allow a member of LVC to speak

on the resolution.

Yambrisak took the floor and instead of addressing the Kroger issue, she attacked Ashford. She was cut short by Councilman Mike Craig and then the council reversed its decision allowing public comment.

LVC held another press conference on Friday in front of the Kroger Store to announce that a meeting has been scheduled with a Kroger representative, Bruce Maccauley, on September 10 at the Zablocki Senior Center.

# Black Market Place

**Homes For Sale!!!**  
**Grant Money & Tax Credit Funds Available!**  
 1347 Craigwood, West Tol, \$99,999, 3 beds, 2 Car  
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 Down Payment Assistance Available for Income Eligible Applicants Call Toledo Community Development Corporation 419-255-7500 And more!!

**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 [tulu.com/content/5743710](http://tulu.com/content/5743710) for only \$5.00**

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# CLASSIFIEDS

September 09, 2009

Page 15

## INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority is seeking bids from qualified, prime contractors to furnish all labor, materials, and equipment to replace **228 doors and frames** for the following:

JOB NO.: 29074  
PROJECT NAME: Replacement of Doors at Birmingham Terrace  
WALK-THRU DATE: Tuesday, September 1, 2009 @ 10:00am  
BID OPENING DATE: Friday, September 11, 2009 @ 11:00am

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room on the dates shown above, in the Modernization Department, at 201 Belmont Street. Contract documents and technical specifications/drawings will be available from the Modernization Department, and will be provided upon request. The entire bid package can also be downloaded from our website at [www.lucasmha.org](http://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.

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  
MODERNIZATION DEPARTMENT

## INTERESTED BIDDERS: TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – NEW WALBRIDGE ELEMEN- TARY SCHOOL

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until **1:00 p.m. on October 1, 2009**, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers' Room, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor, material and supervision necessary for the New Walbridge Elementary School, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by MacPherson Architects and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

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

Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting **September 2nd, 2009 which can be purchased from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Rd., Toledo, Ohio 43615, phone: (419) 385-5303. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.**

A **MANDATORY PREBID CONFERENCE** will be held on **September 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm** at Toledo Public Schools Board Room, 420 East Manhattan Blvd, Toledo, Ohio 43608.

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

Bid Item No. 1 - Site Work	\$ 332,834.00
Bid Item No. 2 – Concrete Paving and Curbs	\$ 41,980.00
Bid Item No. 3 – Asphalt	\$ 90,321.00
Bid Item No. 4 – Landscaping and Grass	\$ 43,265.00
Bid Item No. 5 – General Trades	\$ 3,099,171.00
Bid Item No. 6 – Metal Studs and Drywall	\$ 64,976.00
Bid Item No. 7 – Acoustical Ceilings	\$ 72,897.00
Bid Item No. 8 – Painting	\$ 59,456.00
Bid Item No. 9 – Flooring	\$ 161,800.00
Bid Item No. 10 – Fire Protection	\$ 94,800.00
Bid Item No. 11 – Plumbing	\$ 382,700.00
Bid Item No. 12 – HVAC	\$1,184,500.00
Bid Item No. 13 – Electrical	\$ 732,200.00
Bid Item No. 14 – Technology	\$ 439,135.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,800,035.00</b>



Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority  
435 Nebraska Avenue  
Toledo, Ohio 43604  
September 4, 2009

### Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Financial Advisory Services RFQ Number: 09016

Statements of Qualifications will be received until September 30, 2009, for providing services described herein. Responses received after 3:00p.m. (EST) on the above date will be deemed non-responsive and will not be considered. Facsimile or e-mail responses will not be accepted.

Request for Qualifications information may be obtained from LMHA's website ([www.lucasmha.org](http://www.lucasmha.org)) or picked up at: Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority, 435 Nebraska Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43604.

Point of Contact:  
John Conway  
LMHA  
435 Nebraska Avenue  
Toledo, Ohio 43604

### Special Ed Teacher

Caring and knowledgeable Special Ed teacher needed for a small community school. Fax resume to 419-535-5915

Classifieds are also posted online at [www.thetruthtoledo.com](http://www.thetruthtoledo.com)

### School Nurse

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### DATA ENTRY OPERATOR

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Qualified candidates must have good communications skills, be attentive to detail, must be proficient on computers utilizing programs such as Excel, Crystal Reporting and XAKT. Experience in data entry of billing information and working with individuals with mental illness is preferred.

Position will be located at our Starr location but must be able to travel between sites to collect information. Work hours will be daytime, Mon- Fri.

Send resume or apply to:



Human Resources - DEC  
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Toledo, OH 43605  
Fax 419.936.7574  
Email: [hr@unisonbhg.org](mailto:hr@unisonbhg.org)  
EOE

### Need a tutor?

Professional, in-home tutoring offered in math, science, Spanish and more!  
Pre-K thru college. Call 419-708-0447 or visit [www.tutoringinyourhome.com](http://www.tutoringinyourhome.com)

### For Rent

Beautiful remodeled East Side Section 8 approved two-bedroom home for rent. \$550/mo. fenced yard, quiet neighborhood on a dead end street. 2620 Norwalk off of wheeling, in the Birmingham district. Call 419-410-7193

### Education Director

Non profit mental health advocacy organization seeking a Director of Education and Support programs. Qualified applicant will have a Bachelors Degree in social services, ability to work with a large and diverse volunteer base, experience in mental health, competence in program design, outcome monitoring and implementation. Hours require some evenings with the ability to be flexible in schedule and job functions. Send resume by September 21st to NAMI of Greater Toledo 2753 W. Central Ave, Toledo, Ohio 43606.

### NORTHGATE APARTMENTS Now Accepting Applications 1 AND 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS

Mature Adult Community for Persons 55 and Older or Mobility Impaired. Rent Based on Income. Heat, Appliances, Drapes and Carpeting Included. Call Call (419) 729-7118 for details.



# Need More MJ?

The Peacock Café sponsored a tribute to Michael Jackson on August 29 at the Erie Street Market.

Several hundred visitors stopped by to watch Jackson wannabes channel the spirit of the late King of Pop.



## LEGENDS WEEKEND

*Celebrating the History of Northwest Ohio's African American Contributors*

1:00 pm, Saturday, October 10, 2009  
The Toledo Ohio - 235 14th Street, Toledo, OH 43604

**Ms. Doris Peoples Bryant - Community Service**  
*"Leadership is action, not position." Donald McGannon*

**Eddie M. Cole - Law**  
*"Always stand on principle, even if you stand alone."  
"John Quincy Adams"*

**Mrs. Jean Overton - Community Service**  
*"If you worry about who is going to get credit, you don't get much work done." Dorothy Height*

**Dr. John S. Scott - Arts & Education**  
*"Life and Art ain't far apart." Langston Hughes*

**Dr. Nikki Taylor - History & Education**  
*"Every human being has, like Socrates, an attended Spirit; and wise are they who obey its signals." Lydia M. Child*

2009 LEGENDS WEEKEND

AFRICAN AMERICAN LEGACY PROJECT

### Old West End Day Care Center

2700 Monroe Street  
419.244.8431

**We Come**

**We Learn**

**We Grow**

**\*Now Accepting**  
**Infants \* Toddlers**  
**Pre-schooler's**  
**&**  
**School Age**