



Local and National News

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"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

September 16, 2009

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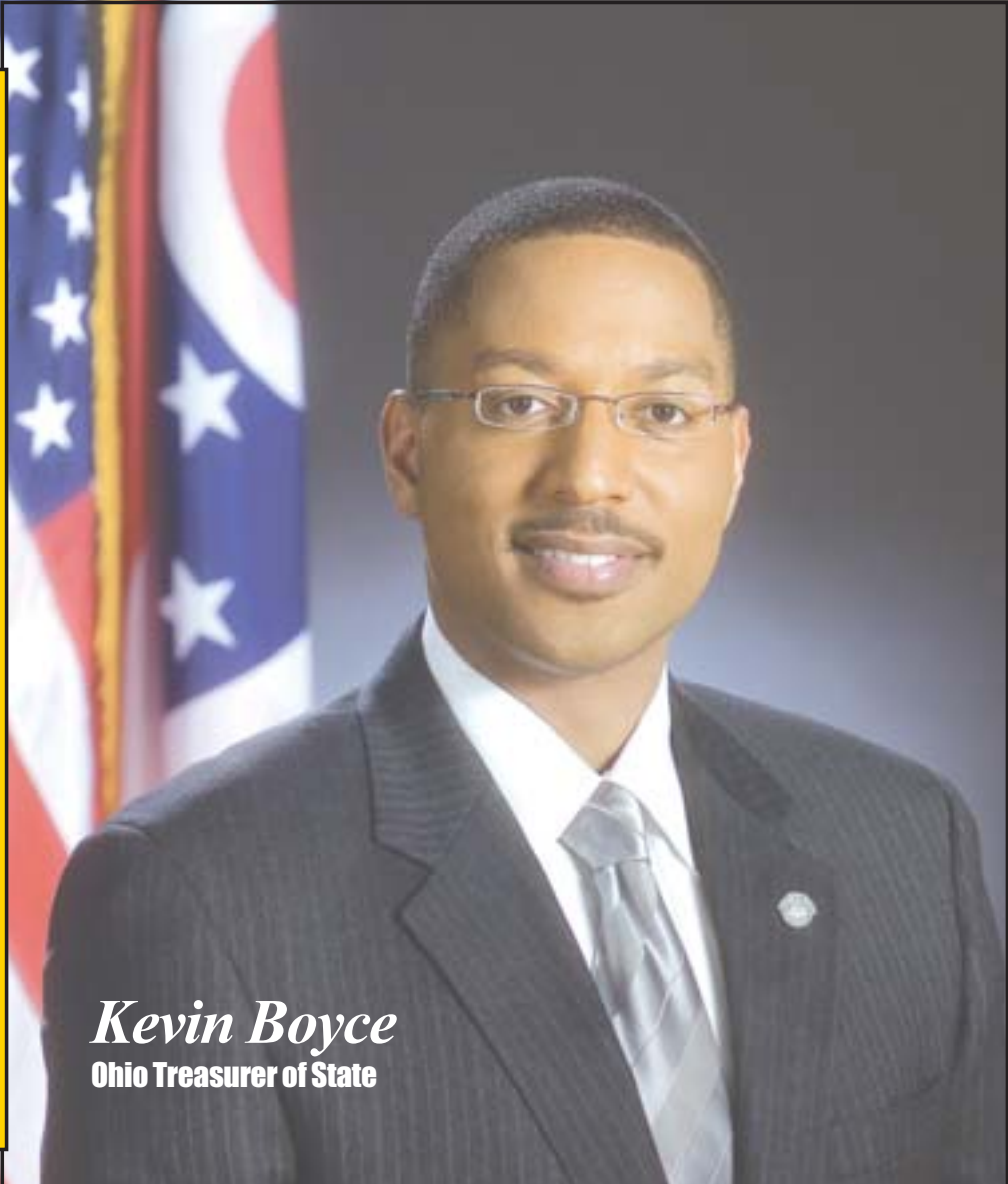
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Kevin Boyce
Ohio Treasurer of State

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This Strikes Us

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

"The LAST resort of the liberal scoundrel is the false accusation of racism," wrote a conservative scoundrel recently. A scoundrel who sees neither signs of a racist pushback against President Barack Obama nor hears the rants of those of his own ilk who have attacked Obama for being a racist.

Unfortunately, what we have witnessed recently are "birthers," those who want to "take back our country," ministers saying that Obama needs to die and congressmen forgetting their manners in totally shameful fashion. It is, of course, pretty much what we would have expected last November when the country elected its first black president.

Of course, most of this stuff is just plain silly, but a few recent incidents highlight how incredibly stupid people can be. There ought to be awards for this type of behavior.

In fact, realizing that there just have to be awards for the wing nuts among us, we have decided to hold our own. Naturally we encountered a problem naming such honors. To name awards for stupidity and disingenuousness after Sojourner Truth is simply more irony than we can handle. So we're still working on that name thing.

At any rate, to paraphrase Shakespeare, a thorn by any other name is still an uninformed politician.

Some are wondering where Republican Congressman, Joe Wilson of South Carolina, finished in this inaugural contest. After all, his impersonation of a House of Commons backbencher has garnered so much publicity recently.

We awarded Wilson third place – competition was pretty fierce after all. Wilson shouted "you lie" to Obama after Obama said that his plan would not cover undocumented workers.

Then Wilson proceeded, in the aftermath of that *faux pas*, to talk about the amendments the Republicans had offered – to a bill they will not vote for under any circumstances – that would prevent illegal residents from benefiting from the bill.

What Wilson forgot to mention is that HR 3200, in section 246, flatly states that: "Nothing in this subtitle shall allow Federal payments for affordability credits on behalf of individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States." Section 242 also explicitly limits eligibility for subsidies to individuals who are lawfully present in the U.S. Is there really a need to add more amendments to a bill that already is longer than *Gone with The Wind* and *War and Peace* combined?

Clearly Wilson's outburst is a worthy entrant and under normal circumstances would have captured the gold medal, but competition has been especially fierce ... for some reason.

Second place went to Ohio's own, Congresswoman Jean Schmidt. The Republican from the 2nd Congressional District, who once called Congressman John Murtha – Vietnam veteran and a 38-year Marine – a coward, was recently seen and heard speaking to a constituent at a fair. The woman was complaining to Schmidt that Obama was really born in Kenya, not in the United States.

Schmidt, who probably is never called upon to prove that she was born in Ohio rather than in Germany, agreed with the woman that Obama was indeed a native of Kenya.

So to heck with the evidence of Obama's birth in Hawaii – birth certificates certified by the state, newspaper announcements, witness statements, etc. What's interesting is the fact that birthers see a conspiracy in the Kenya/Hawaii issue as if a bunch of folks decided in the early 1960's that this child – one day obviously destined to be the president of the United States – should have his American birth validated so that he could later conduct whatever wickedness he could in the name of Kenya.

And by the way, birthers, the mere fact that Obama was born of an American citizen would have given him citizenship no matter where the event occurred. That appears to satisfy the Constitution's "natural born citizen" requirement for the presidency since no Supreme Court panel has ruled otherwise and since we have never questioned the citizenship of other candidates for president who were born outside of the U.S. such as George Romney (Mexico) or Barry Goldwater (U.S. territory).

First prize – and this is about as good as it gets – goes to Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins. Who votes for these idiots, anyway? The voters in these particular districts need to receive some sort of recognition.

The Republican from Kansas recently told an audience that her party was looking for a "great white hope." Then, after the predictable hue and cry was raised from all quarters, Jenkins apologized "if" she offended anyone and stated that she did not know the phrase had any racial connotation.

We have no doubt that Jenkins also uses the phrase "that's white of you" and has not a clue that such a compliment has any racial overtones.

A *lagniappe* for those of you who has your hopes pinned on the nominee from the Lone Star State. We give an honorable mention to the Arlington, TX school district and its spokeswoman Veronica Sopher. The district decided against showing Obama's speech urging students to stay in school even though the district had displayed no such hesitation when President George H. W. Bush videotaped a similar speech during his term or when President Ronald Reagan used his bully pulpit to speak to students and rant about those dastardly spend-and-tax liberals.

What truly distinguished the school's district's decision was that several days later they decided to organize a bus trip to Cowboy Stadium for students to hear speeches by George W. Bush and former Cowboy Coach Tom Landry.

Said Sopher: "The distinction is it's a field trip that parents have to grant permission for students to attend."

Huh? Who could make this stuff up?

Community Calendar

September 16

Jon Hendricks 88th Birthday on 88 Keys: UT Student Union – 2nd Floor Lounge; Play along, sing along; 4:45 pm

September 17

Erie 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 Bowlothon Benefiting the MLK Kitchen for the Poor: Interstate Lanes: 734-604-7036 or emparish@hotmail.com

Phillips Temple CME Flea Market: 8 am to 2 pm: 419-242-7906

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

St. Paul MBC Annual Women's Day Celebration: "Christian Women Living in an Inefficient World, But with a Sufficient God;" 10:45 am service with Sis Cersandra McPherson; 4 pm service with Min Regena Mangrum

Praise Fest 2009: River of Life Church: Featuring Mark Williams and Psalmist, Elder Rance Allen, Sheri Moffett, Twinkie Clark; 6 pm

Indiana Avenue MBC Annual Women's Day Service: "Let Us Take Time for More Basic Training;" 10:50 am – speaker Sis Kay Jones; Afternoon speaker Sis. Rosemary Thompson of Mt. Zion MBC: 419-841-5068

Future not Funerals Youth Peace and Safety Prayer Service: United MBC; 7 pm; Speaker Bishop Wiley of New Orleans

September 21

Family Activities Club's Bundle Up Toledo Kids Winter Coats and Supplies Drive: 419-724-0888

September 22

Ambassador Fatherhood Education & Parenting Classes: Outreach Center at 670 Phillips; 6 to 7:30 pm: 419-297-3530

September 24

Mercy Cancer Centers Free Prostate Screenings: Family Care Center for 1 to 3:30 pm; Regency Surgery Center from 5 to 7:30 pm: 419-251-6376

September 26

Jerusalem Baptist Church Scholarship Ministry Deacons Display Style Show & Luncheon: Deacons from throughout the city; Noon; Phillips Temple CME Church: 419-248-2139

Citywide Christian Trustee Association Meeting: James B. Simmons Bldg; 10 am: 419-380-9477

UAW Local 14 Women's Committee Flea Market: UAW/GM Park of Jackman; 10 am to 5 pm: 419-344-4791 or 419-473-2854

September 27

Christian Community Church 50th Anniversary Celebration: Service at 10 am – Rededication Service

First MBC 4th Pastoral Anniversary: Special service for Pastor Donald Murray and First Lady Amanda Murray; 4 pm; Guests include Rev. John Roberts and Indiana Ave MBC congregation

The Sojourner's Truth

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Phil Copeland Blasts Use of Non Toledo Workers

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Phil Copeland, business manager of Local 500 Laborers Union and an at-large Toledo City Councilman, and about a dozen members of the local gathered last Thursday outside of the Commodore Perry Apartments in downtown Toledo to protest the use of non-local workers on a construction project in the building's garage.

"This is a shame," said Copeland. "We have 15 percent unemployment in Toledo and we have 12 to 15 people coming here from Michigan, non-union, doing our work."

The Commodore Perry's project, according to Copeland, is in the garage area of the building. The union leader was particu-

larly incensed because the City of Toledo is the primary bondholder for the property yet failed to provide oversight to see that the work performed was done by local workers.

"Outside contractors have been doing work we can do," said Copeland. "I

really believe that Toledo can make a comeback, but the first thing they need to do is to put Toledo first. These guys have been here all their lives, paying taxes and now they are out of work. The City has a responsibility to at least talk to people about this."



The Commodore Perry is managed by Assets Plus, a Texas firm. The garage in question, however, is managed by Kwik Parking which is based in Toledo.

Both the Commodore Perry staff and Kwik Parking declined to comment when asked questions about the construction project. Attempts to speak with repre-

sentatives of Assets Plus and the construction firm, Mark 1 of Howell, MI, were unsuccessful by the time The Truth went to print.



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FUTURES NOT FUNERALS

Dear President Barack Obama,

THE UNITED PASTORS for SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT of Toledo, Ohio are FEDUP with GUN VIOLENCE in our community and we must hold our local, state, and federal governments accountable for their role in preventing future tragedies locally as well as nationally.

During your historic run to the White House, you challenged us to act within the urgency of the moment and urged us to be the change that we wished to see in the world. As you most certainly know, we live in a very urgent time in our country. The loss of jobs, the loss of homes and the instability of the stock market have made times troubling for all Americans.

But there is a problem that most people have overlooked. Our children are dying at highly alarming rates, but not due to swine flu or due to other diseases like pneumonia. Our children are being killed by another epidemic-scale disease known as gun violence.

This is a preventable illness, but we are doing all that we can as parents, as community activists, and as faith leaders. We are "being the change" that you asked us to be. But, Mr. President, we need you to act in the urgency of the moment. There is not a minute to waste. We are now faced with the fact that our children are no longer being killed solely by bullets, but by the unwillingness of others to act on their behalf. It is not enough for us to rely upon the personal responsibility of our citizens. It is also the legislative and executive responsibility of our government. With that being said, our coalition is asking for the following initiatives from your administration:

- 1) Re-instate the Federal Assault Weapon Ban as a permanent law.
- 2) Call a national summit to address the national gun violence epidemic, highlighting problems and possible solutions to the problems.

3) Call for a federal agency to collect, track and disseminate national data on firearm violence to youth.

4) Require universal background checks.

5) Mandate gun registration (similar to vehicle registration).

We do not have any time to waste. Every three hours in the US, a child is killed by gunfire. We need federal intervention. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said that the ultimate measure of a human being is not where that person stands in times of comfort and convenience, but where that person stands in times of great challenge and controversy. Thank you for your consideration. We need your vision, we need your support, but we also need your action.

UNITED PASTORS FOR SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT, Toledo Ohio

- Rev. Dr. Donald Perryman, Center of Hope Community Baptist Church
- Rev. Benjamin Green, New Covenant Baptist Church
- Rev. Gerald O. Fletcher, New Light Baptist Church
- Pastor Jerry Boose, Second Baptist Church
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Grace Presbyterian's Salutes Art Tatum

By Robert Smith, African American Legacy Project
Special to The Truth

When the legendary Art Tatum was 10 years old in 1919, his parents, Art and Mildred Tatum, Sr. joined like minded individuals and collectively founded Grace Presbyterian Church. Because of the special distinction held by the church, Grace – led by its Women's Auxiliary – will mark the 100th birthday of Art Tatum, Jr. in the church which helped nurture and forward his early religious preparation.

On Sunday, October 11, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. Grace and its community partner – The African American Legacy Project – invites the entire community to celebrate the genius of Tatum with a special Sunday morning service held in the church's sanctuary located 1171 Oakwood Avenue, Toledo, Ohio.

Tatum's exceptional talent was developed and discovered at an early age and – even as a youth – his voice on the piano had already begun to gel. According to church elder and former educator Delores Penn: "We wanted this service to be inspirational on many levels, and we decided to give voice

to several talented young pianists to both stimulate and celebrate!"

Cecelia Adams, Ph.D., AALP board member and retired educator and administrator, agrees. "Part of The AALP's mission is to collaborate with existing organizations and to foster the creative process," says Adams. "The Tatum celebration at Grace Presbyterian is a wonderful example of bringing our entire community together!"

This special Sunday morning service will precede a Sunday evening Tatum tribute performance at Owens Community College by Toledo native Stanley Cowell.

Four young and talented individuals will pay tribute to Mr. Tatum and share their promising musical talents with a community that understands the magnitude of Tatum's accomplishment. Tatum was known, not just for his piano prowess, but also for his infectious smile. We can only imagine him beaming broadly at the thought of young pianist honoring him in song and...



Jane and Phil Anosike, Jr.

in a sacred place.

The performances will be integrated into Grace's regular Sunday morning service. Sania Iman Bauswell, one of the youth performers, is a 13 year-old, eighth grade pianist attending St. Patrick of Heatherdowns School. Sania has been studying piano for five years and has successfully completed her certificate requirements as prescribed by the Royal Conservatory of Music.

Even at 13, jazz is one of her favorite genres. She has

also studied dance for seven years and has been involved with the Children's Theater workshop for five years. She is the daughter of. Maya Stone-Bauswell.

Isis Darks is a senior at Start High School and a TOLEDO EXCEL Group XVIII scholar. Isis is involved in numerous academic and extra-curricular activities at Start, including the Afro American Club, orchestra and band. She has played piano, violin, and participated lyrical ballet for more

than seven years. She is a long-time member of Toledo International Youth Orchestra. After her study at the Forte School of Music, she aspires to be a classical musician, but she also is interested in a professional career as an accountant. Frances Collins is the guardian of Isis, who is the daughter of Alexii Collins and Sean Darks.

Jane Anosike and her brother Phil Anosike are music majors. Jane graduated from The University of Toledo with a double major in voice and piano. In 2005, she was the winner of the Toledo Symphony's Young Artists' Piano Concert competition. Jane's artistry has been described as one with vitality, sensitivity, and brilliance. She is currently taking coursework at The Ohio State University.

Phil Anosike is noted for his precision and enthusiasm as a pianist. He is also a student at OSU. In 2004, Phil was the winner of the Junior Monday Musicales and the winner of his elementary jazz competition in 2000. They are the chil-

dren of Mr. and Mrs. Philemon Anosike.

Years from now, we hope these four young people and those attending will remember this Sunday morning as one morning when the community celebrated a single individual who, through his music touched the soul of man. This Sunday morning, four young people will musically embrace Toledo native Art Tatum, often called the world's most profound jazz pianist; grab on to his hopes, cling to his dreams, and make his legacy their legacy. It is our hope they will be forever graced by this moment.

There is no fee associated with this event, however persons desiring to attend should RSVP by September 28, 2009 to the church by calling 419-241-8857.

Correction

Our article last week on Lil'D inadvertently implied that she was still working for Hot 97.3. She is no longer with the radio station.

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Jennifer Brunner Revs Up 2010 Campaign, Unveils Urban Policy

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

Although we still have seven weeks to go in the 2009 political campaign season, Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner has gotten an early jump on her 2010 bid to claim the U.S. Senate seat currently held by Republican George Voinovich. Voinovich has announced plans to retire when his second term ends in early 2011.

The Democratic candidate, who is facing an intense struggle for her party's nomination against Vice Gov. Lee Fisher, gave a major speech in Cleveland two weeks ago at the Cleveland City Club in which she outlined what she called the "cornerstone of my tenure as Ohio's next United States Senator." That mission she described as one of "help[ing] renew our cities to reach their full potential once again, and help our state build a newer, firmer foundation for the future."

In her urban policy

agenda speech, Brunner called for a three-step approach to renewing Ohio's urban areas: a fundamental long-term revamping of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), immediate measures to shore up the automotive supply chain and the protection of Ohio's supply of fresh water.

"HUD must re-emphasize its urban development mission without short-changing its housing mission," said Brunner about the major changes she would like to see at the 44-year old department that evolved out of President Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society" programs.

Brunner suggested that HUD begin using community development block grants (CDBG) to promote economic development. "Rather than spend the money in mainly low- and moderate [income] neigh-



borhoods, HUD must allow the grants to help large-scale development projects that can transform and re-invigorate an entire region," said Brunner.

Using the Cleveland area's high concentration

of world-class medical facilities and colleges as an example, Brunner said that HUD could re-position itself by "promoting economic development around anchor institutions."

Brunner noted several examples around the state where cooperation between cities and institutions could

spur greater economic development especially with help from HUD's CDBG monies such as The University of Toledo "which has developed one of the most respected solar technology programs in the country."

As for HUD's mission of providing housing, Brunner said she does not

want to provide stimulus funds "to launch a loan guarantee fund for suppliers." That will alleviate the difficulty that even viable suppliers have in obtaining loans given today's credit crunch, said the Secretary of State.

Third, Brunner wants to put her foot down with respect to the Ohio water supply. "We should not allow

"Ohio needs a strong voice in Washington who can work with other Great Lakes states to protect one of our greatest assets."

want to see that goal abandoned. "These proposed changes are not intended to take away resources from the needy but to use resources more wisely to create or enhance significant urban development that will provide jobs and financial security while at the same time create more vibrant cities where people want to live, work and play."

Second on Brunner's list is shoring up the automotive supply chain, a project she said will address immediate challenges. "Automakers can't make autos without auto parts, and our supply chain is dangerously close to collapse," said Brunner.

As she noted, Ohio ranks second in auto parts suppliers behind Michigan. She called for the federal gov-

ernment to provide stimulus funds "to launch a loan guarantee fund for suppliers." That will alleviate the difficulty that even viable suppliers have in obtaining loans given today's credit crunch, said the Secretary of State.

The next step in the Brunner candidacy is her upcoming Ohio Innovation Trail tour during which she will highlight American innovation that occurs in Ohio, meeting particularly with small business owners and entrepreneurs.

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Correction

Last week we reported that Fairview Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center received funds from the United Way. That is incorrect. Fairview is a for-profit organization and receives no funds from United Way. Fairview does help to raise funds for United Way during that agency's annual fundraising drives.

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Ohio Treasurer Kevin Boyce Opens ECO-Link Program in Toledo

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

Ohio Treasurer Kevin Boyce held a news conference last week in Toledo to introduce a new state program designed to aid consumers with the financing of energy-efficiency improvements to their homes. The program—Energy Conservation for Ohioans (ECO-Link)—has allocated an initial \$50 million, generated from state deposits, to launch the program.

ECO-Link will permit homeowners who are buying appliances, adding insulation or installing solar panels, for example, to receive a three percent interest rate reduction on qualifying bank loans for up to five years. Ohioans eligible for the program and the reduced interest rates include those who are owners of an existing single family home, those who are approved by eligible banks for qualifying loans, those who are making energy efficient improvements to their homes using Energy Star rated products and those using Building Performance Institute (BPI) or Residential Energy Service Network (RESNET) contractors certified to perform weatherization installations.

"We're launching this in Toledo because Toledo has really been the leader in Ohio in terms of energy conservation and energy efficiency," said Boyce last week. "This program will be available statewide, but we're going to focus our efforts right now just in Toledo because we know that's where the interest exists."

Boyce also emphasized the potential for job creation through the ECO-Link program as he discussed the loss of manufacturing jobs around the state.

"Jobs are being lost at a staggering rate," said the Treasurer. "Five hundred thousand have been impacted by the implications of the auto industry. We had 11 percent unemployment for the month of July. Meanwhile scientists are wary of the cost of consuming fossil fuels at our current rates. We are in an incredible crisis but with undeniable opportunities to spur development, save the environment and create jobs that are non-export-



able."

Last week's announcement was held at Owens Corning's downtown world headquarters. Owens Corning makes house wraps, home insulation and shingles, among other products. Approximately 25 percent of the company's revenues come from insulation products.

Also present at the announcement were Lucas County Commissioner Tina Skeldon Wozniak and Key Bank's Northwest Ohio District President Jim Hoffman. Key Bank is one of the banks that has already become eligible for the program.

Boyce was appointed to the Treasurer's office last

winter by Gov. Ted Strickland. He is filling a vacancy created when former Treasurer Richard Cordray was elected to the office of the Attorney General. He had served on Columbus City Council for the previous 10 years. Prior to that, Boyce served as chief of staff for the Ohio House of Representatives' Democratic Caucus under Minority Leader Jack Ford and was executive director of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus. He will be running for election in 2010 to retain the Treasurer's position.

Boyce, a Columbus native, is no stranger to Toledo. He earned his bachelor's degree in politi-

cal science from The University of Toledo and directed youth programs for the City of Toledo under Mayor Carty Finkbeiner. He earned a master's in public administration from Central Michigan.

The primary function of the Treasurer's office is to manage the money entrusted to the state government by tax payers. The office makes decisions about where to place the money the millions of dollars in order to maximize the return on those investments. Safeguards in the statutes normally require that such investments are both low risk, which also means low return.

The volatility of the economy is Boyce's biggest challenge, he told The Truth several months ago in a conversation before a campaign fundraiser at the Toledo Club. "It's a level of volatility that the last generation, or the last two generations, have never seen."

The ECO-Link program, Boyce said last week, will help in at least one aspect of the economic crisis. "Homeowners can save against plummeting home prices," he said. "This program will provide a firewall against reduced prices."

While the program opens in Toledo, Boyce anticipates conducting a listening tour around the state in order to gauge interest in the program elsewhere.

Neighborhood Health Association Promotes Literacy

The Neighborhood Health Association has launched a Book Drive to help promote literacy. The book drive will be held from September 14—September 30 during National Literacy Month.

"One child in four grows up not knowing how to read and that child's chances of dropping out of school, being incarcerated or living in poverty grows exponentially," said Doni Miller, CEO of Neighborhood Health Association. "Literacy is one of the most significant predictors of a child's future success, and the biggest obstacle to literacy is the scarcity of books and appropriate reading material"

Books collected will be used in Neighborhood Health Association's pediatric clinic waiting rooms for children to read as they wait for appointments to help encourage reading success.

Neighborhood Health Association is accepting new or gently used books for children ages two through eight. Books can be dropped of at:

The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union at 1339 Dorr Street

Cottage Inn Pizza & Grill at the Oasis 3303 Dorr Street

Daisy Smith Pediatric Clinic 430 Nebraska Avenue
NHA Pediatric Health Center 1 Aurora Gonzalez Drive

Neighborhood Health Association – Administrative Office 313 Jefferson Avenue

The Neighborhood Health Association has provided health care to Toledo residents for over 40 years. Our mission is to put health within reach of all community members, regardless of ability to pay, through equal access to quality medical care and educational and support services essential for the well-being of body and mind.

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The Truth ECONOMY

Tackling Tough Times

Page 7

Labor Learns Long-term Lesson on Loyalty: Siding with Environmentalists over Employers

By Rubin Patterson, Ph.D.
The Truth Contributor



say that labor didn't have an immediate economic stake in siding with environmentalists against colossal industrial polluters. But, once again, there is progress: labor and environmentalists are now becoming unified to create more and better jobs (green jobs) and a healthier environment.

Unions historically have been situated on the spectrum between employers and environmentalists. Labor has tended to align itself closer to the employer end of the spectrum than to the environmentalist end. Employers, using the reliable weapon "environmental job blackmail," have managed to keep labor from asking for too much in terms of relief from occupational health hazards and contamination of communities.

Reporting on progress is indeed refreshing – so long as the discussion doesn't creep into false happy talk. The progress that I have observed and will discuss is the strengthening coalition between labor and environmentalists.

In past decades, organized labor regularly sided with corporate polluters against environmentalists. We probably aren't too surprised by this fact since big industrial unions helped to deliver higher wages and better working conditions in some of the dirtiest industries, such as the auto, steel and chemical industries.

That is, employers would cavalierly say, "Hey, if we can't use this particular chemical or process – which may be toxic or carcinogenic – in whatever way we choose, then the company will either collapse or be forced to relocate."

Figuring that immediate economic disaster is worse than the slower, long-term erosion of the health of workers and the

environment, labor tended to side too often with needlessly excessive polluting employers to protect declining numbers of high-wage industrial jobs.

However, as I said, progress is currently afoot on this front.

But before I explain that progress, let me say this: I continue to be amazed at how well industrialists, Wall Street and Washington have managed to turn Americans against organized labor, even here in the industrial heartland. Many anti-union workers basically shout some version of this sentiment: "I am a strong, intelligent, self-reliant individual; I don't need some union supporting me."

I always found such statements interesting since no major employer is without a "corporate union." More specifically, I mean that all major corporations belong to unions, but they are simply called "trade associations." These corporate giants can claim to be strong, intelligent and self-reliant, too, but they all see value added from being in a corporate union.

Some of the corporate union memberships are Exxon-Mobil in the American Petroleum Institute, Owens-Illinois in the Na-

tional Manufacturers Association, DuPont in the American Chemistry Council and JP Morgan Chase in Financial Services Roundtable.

Anyway, another reason behind the previous labor-environmentalist rift is the social class differences. Historically, organized labor has been mostly comprised of laborers with an education ranging from less than high school to some college. Traditional environmentalists, on the other hand, have tended to be highly-educated professionals.

For instance, a study conducted at the time of the founding of the Environmental Protection Agency revealed that nearly 60 percent of environmental volunteers held college or graduate degrees. Hence, the divergent priorities of trade unionists and environmentalists kept them from uniting their movements.

Fortunately, the labor-environmentalist dynamic is radically better in 2009 than it was in 1979 or even in 1999. Labor and environmentalists are now talking a common language and are experiencing something of an identity consolidation. The so-called blue-green coalitions – where blue represents labor and green obviously environmentalists – are not just marriages of convenience but are becoming concretized for the long haul. With industrial unionized jobs drying up, it is not surprising that labor would be siding increasingly with environmentalists, both of whom envision new employment prospects centering on renewable energy, reduced pollution and energy efficiency.

The collective identity of labor, environmentalists and social justice advocates was taken to another level over the past few days when they launched a new campaign to help pass a clean energy bill. The new group is known as Clean Energy Works, and it is comprised of unions, environmental organizations, social justice organizations and other progressive entities committed to finally help America develop a framework and detailed strategies for building a greener economy. As a group, Clean Energy Works isn't just about labor issues or environmentalist issues; instead, it is about both and so much more.

If you were shocked and even repulsed at the aggressiveness of the

health insurance corporate union (a.k.a., "America's Health Insurance Plans") this summer in town-hall meetings in efforts to defeat health care reform that would benefit American workers, wait until later this fall when Washington takes up clean energy.

Foul tactics will be similar to that witnessed today with health care reform. The American Petroleum Institute, the National Association of Manufacturers, the US Chamber of Commerce and other corporate unions are going to come out with a take-no-prisoners approach to preventing or at least crippling our progress toward cleaner energy and a greener economy.

Labor and environmentalists know that they must work together with a consolidated identity and unity of purpose to defeat the organized corporate unions that are determined to hang onto a fading industrial era.

Rubin Patterson, Ph.D., is professor of Sociology and the interim director of Africana Studies at The University of Toledo. He may be contacted at rpatter@UTNet.Utoledo.edu

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\$5 Million Grant Links Science Education to Economic Development

Special to The Truth

As the northwest Ohio economy transitions toward one driven by alternative energy, a new \$5 million grant from the National Science Foundation will help The University of Toledo, Toledo Public Schools and several supporting partners prepare today's K-12 students for jobs in the new work force.

The goal of the Leadership for Educators: Academy for Driving Economic Revitalization in Science (LEADERS) partnership is to improve K-12 science education and make it more interesting to students by incorporating hands-on, or Project-Based Science linked to the renewable energies industry and its environmental impacts, which are vital to the economic development of the Great Lakes region.

"Project-Based Science contextualizes learning so that it is interesting to students," said Charlene Czerniak, Ph.D., UT professor of curriculum and instruction and a co-investigator on

the grant. "Often the curriculum is based around a driving question, such as 'Is water in Lake Erie safe to drink?' Then lessons about invertebrates, sustainable energy and climate change are tied back to answering that question."

Over the duration of the LEADERS project, 24 teachers from four school districts (two each from elementary, middle and high school levels) will take two-and-a-half summers of graduate courses in physics, chemistry, environmental science and engineering. UT scientists and science educators will partner to teach the courses and blend the content with Project-Based Science activities that the K-12 teachers will then implement in their classrooms.

The project will launch in summer 2010 with Toledo Public Schools and Toledo Diocese Schools. Akron City Schools and Monroe County Intermediate School District teachers will begin training in summer 2012.

"It is critical that our students learn the skills that will be expected of them in the workforce," said Jan Kilbride, chief academic officer of Toledo Public Schools and a co-investigator on the project. "This project will allow teachers to improve their content expertise and better relate their lessons to events to which the students have a connection."

During the first summer, the K-12 teachers will take courses in Physical Principles of Energy Sources for Humans, Principles of Solar and Wind Energy, Problem-Based Science and Leadership.

Upon returning to their districts, the teachers will assume the roles of teacher leaders and work with their colleagues so that the whole district is impacted.

"We have a history of teacher leaders playing a role in curriculum development and this is another great step," said Kilbride.

Dr. Kevin Czajkowski, UT associate professor of geog-

raphy and a co-investigator, says the LEADERS project can revolutionize the way the community views and provides education.

"In addition to enticing students to pursue careers in alternative energy, I hope we can improve the general

population's science knowledge and the acceptance of renewable energy," said Czajkowski.

The LEADERS project links national science standards with the expected skill sets of science practitioners, resulting in K-12 lessons that are not only challenging, but also relevant.

"Linking Project-Based Science to economic development challenges the paradigm that teachers simply follow state and national standards," said Czerniak. "If a curriculum leads to kids getting a job in the community, that is economic development. We want K-12 teachers

to begin thinking of the role they play in our changing economy."

By its conclusion, an estimated 86,000 K-12 students are expected to benefit from the LEADERS program.

Supporting partners in the LEADERS project are Akron area schools, Toledo Diocese Schools, Monroe County Intermediate School District, Monroe County Community College, Toledo Science Center, TechniGraphics, Blue Water Satellite, the Wright Center for Photovoltaics Innovation and Commercialization and the Great Lakes WIND Network.



Ohio Foreclosure Counseling Agencies to Receive \$1 Million

Cordray to Distribute Countrywide Funds to Eligible Nonprofits

Special to The Truth

Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray last week opened the competitive application process for \$1 million in foreclosure counseling grants. Cordray is urging nonprofit organizations across the state to apply for foreclosure prevention funds online at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/HousingCounselorGrant. The available funding is the result of last year's settlement with Countrywide Financial Corporation. "As foreclosures continue in Ohio at unprecedented rates, we're beginning to identify what works best in the fight to preserve our

homes," said Cordray. "Community-based housing counseling and outreach services have proven to be one of the most effective means to combating the foreclosure crisis. Consequently, we hope to target these organizations with supplemental funding." Eligible agencies must be certified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and must have an 18-month track record of providing foreclosure assistance, including established relationships with mortgage servicers. The deadline for submissions is October 9, 2009 at 4 p.m. Recipients will be announced in

early November. The \$1 million is part of a \$4.39 million Countrywide settlement which resolved allegations that Countrywide used unfair and deceptive tactics in its loan origination and servicing activities, and that borrowers were often placed in structurally unfair and unaffordable loans. While \$1 million was set aside to fund foreclosure prevention efforts, the remainder of the settlement is being distributed to Countrywide borrowers in Ohio who have lost their homes to foreclosure.

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Book Review

“The Green Business Guide” by Glenn Bachman

c.2009, Career Press

\$15.99 / \$18.95 Canada

287 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

One night last week, you saw something you'd never noticed before.

You happened to stay after work for an hour for some catch-up and the office cleaning crew came in before you left. You watched, dumbfounded, as they hauled away bag after bag of trash. Paper, discarded cups, empty soda cans, empty printer cartridges, all to the Dumpster.

You've been doing all you can at home to be greener. So why can't you do the same at work? You can and it won't be easy, but with *The Green Business Guide* by Glenn Bachman, corporate greening is more do-able than ever.

Bachman says there are three trends that affect going green in your business: a global economy defined by “relatively free exchange of goods,” a change in the health of the planet and a

growing world-wide population. Within the next 20 years, it's projected that there will be eight billion people on Earth.

One of them—you—could make a difference.

Becoming a green enterprise will take planning, without a doubt. Bachman points out that not every business will need to implement everything in this book. Depending on the size of your corporation, not everything he mentions is practical to do.

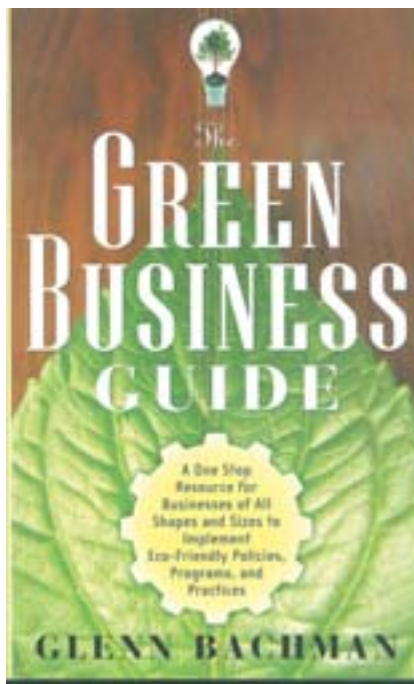
To get started, embrace an ecodesign, both in the product you put out and the products you use. Ecodesign is “a meld of art and science that creates ecologically benign and economically viable products and services,” which pretty much sums up what you're about to do.

Designate a person within your corporation

whose responsibility is to make sure your materials procurement strategy is ecologically sound. When shipping your product, know what kind of packing you need and don't overuse. If you're thinking about building, be sure your contractor is in agreement about Earth-friendly materials.

Inside your building, make use of settings to avoid running appliances when they're not needed. Take a hard look at your automotive fleet and the transportation needs of your staff, including all business trips of all lengths. Consider telecommuting. Make a goal of becoming a certified, green enterprise.

Looking for a light-hearted, fun way to go green at work? You won't find it here. *The Green Business Guide* means business, in more ways than one.



There's no “dumbing down” in this book and nothing cutesy. Author Glenn Bachman uses technical terms and (gasp!) advanced math-based concepts to help you find the best and most efficient ways to make your corporation greener.

Some of the ideas are new but common-sense (let shareholders know what's in it for them), some seem to be grumpy (if someone sends you a document, single-sided, call and request that they not do it again) and some feel nit-picky (use only narrow-ruled notebooks). Still, there's nothing saying you can't pick and choose your ideas to do what feels right for your business.

If you're a greenthusiast, a greenback, or a sprout just starting out in business, pick up a copy of *The Green Business Guide*. With the help of this book, you can make a noticeable difference.

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ASK YVON

Want to Lower Your College Tuition Bill? Go Shopping!

By: S. Yvon Harper, CEO
Focus on Finance, LLC



Kim, an Ask Yvon reader, recently made an inquiry for suggestions on what she could do to make up for the losses taken by her child's education account. Kim asked, "How do I find money to best supplement my child's future college education?"

In the stock market turbulence Kim's child education account drastically drop more than 50 percent in value. Even with the recent market rally she has serious doubts that the account will recover enough to totally support her child's college tuition in less than four years. What is Kim's answer? "Diversify and look for less conventional opportunities to lower tuition costs."

With today's college tuition rising faster than inflation, as reported by the College Board for public and private colleges, parents like Kim and their students must stay up to date on available college payment options. Not only is putting away money for college necessary, but also keeping a close eye on other cost requirements like the ACT/SAT testing, college tours and school application fees. These additional costs are ones that students will face before a school even says yes to their application. But

there are still opportunities to lower overall tuition costs. Included are tips for both new and continuing students.

Tips for College Goers:

1. **Know your deadlines** – Right now, in the fall of each year, is the time that most schools are looking to determine bursary awards, which are the schools' internal grant awards, based on application requests. The key is to apply early, because when the funds are gone the awards for the school year are done. This also applies to federal student aid awards. Contact your school of choice to find out about deadlines for these applications today. Missing deadlines is one of the costliest mistakes a student can make.

2. **Your SAT test may be paid for** – By the National School Lunch Program that provides free or low-cost lunches. So, if your child currently qualifies for the FDA Free Lunch Program at school they may also be eligible to take the SAT, college entrance exam, for free. Check with your school's guidance counselor for more information.

3. **Upromise Account** – I've been a member of Upromise for several years and this option is excellent for the shopaholic at heart. Upromise offers the ability to shop at participating online and local retailers for everyday items while earning cash rebates deposited to a student's 529 plan account. It also allows additional rebates from purchases made by family and friends too. Also, there is no cap on the grade level or age to use the

Upromise benefit. Go to www.Upromise.com for more information.

4. **CLEP Courses** – A great college resource I used in college, but not often talked about. The College Level Examination Program (CLEP) is a study program that gives



you the opportunity to receive college credit for knowledge you've acquired through independent study, on-the-job training, professional development, cultural pursuits, or internships. The total cost for each exam is around \$90 for any of their 34 examinations. Not a bad price to pay to receive college credit for up to a four credit hour course. Check with your school's admissions or academic office to see what CLEP credit they accept. For more information about CLEP go to www.CollegeBoard.com/student/testing/clep.

5. **Make it a family affair** – The saying "It takes a village to raise a child" is especially true when looking for assistance for college. Ask those who are invested in your child's wellbeing to help them successfully attend college. The cost of them paying for even one college

textbook or course will do wonders to offset your tuition bill's bottom line.

6. **Tutoring Anyone?** – Lastly, but certainly not least. Invest now in strengthening your child's education in math, science, and language arts. This investment

will greatly pay off when your child sits for either the ACT/SAT tests by positioning them to earn higher test scores. Many colleges use these scores to determine student entrance approval, academic scholarships and grant awards for incoming college students. The stronger the placement scores the better the options your student will have to choose from the college of their choice. To stay on top of ACT/SAT deadlines, visit collegeboard.com and actstudent.org.

Whether a new or continuing college student there is no one option in the fight to lower tuition costs. The key is to invest time to do the research to find available

options. Don't forget to ask others about methods they are using in this fight. Time is always on your side when you start early. In the end your student and budget will benefit. As always, keep getting personal with your finances.

Ask Yvon © 2009 is a written by S. Yvon Harper for Focus on Finance, LLC - (513) 383-0427. All rights reserved. Contact us at www.FocusOnFinanceOnline.com. Questions can be submitted online at www.AskYvon.com. Readers are strongly urged to consult with a qualified legal or tax advisor to analyze your specific financial situation before application of any advice from this column.

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
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Joint Utility and Social Services Schedule Event at Erie Street Market to Share Information on How and Where to Get Assistance

Special to The Truth

The Northwest Ohio based Joint Utility and Social Services Committee (JUSSC) offers an Information Assistance Fair to help families find assistance for many areas of life.

The program is scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2009 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Erie Street Market, 237 South Erie Street. The program is free and open to the public.

With many across northwest Ohio struggling in the current economy, the JUSSC Information Assistance Fair will offer suggestions and recommendations for individuals looking for help with utility bills, housing, real estate taxes, foreclosure prevention, home repair and weatherization, home purchasing, rental assistance, food, medical assistance, legal aid, employment and many more.

A June event drew more than 3,000 to the Erie Street Market, leading organizers to

expand the scope of the event.

"So many in our community are at a time of need, without a sense of where to turn or where to go for help," says JUSSC Chairman Walden Wilson.

"People should not expect to come to this event and have their bills paid. Instead we will provide information on where the help is and how to go about securing help, because help is out there and available."

The JUSSC is a collaboration of local support agencies and area utility companies who meet regularly to share information and pool assistance resources for Northwest Ohio.

More than 25 local agencies are scheduled to participate, including:

- ABLE/Legal Aid
- AIDS Resource Center Ohio
- Area Office on Aging
- Care Source
- Catholic Charities

- City of Toledo
- Columbia Gas of Ohio
- EOPA
- Fair Housing Center
- Farmers Insurance Group
- Feed Lucas County Children
- Great Food For All
- Lucas County Auditor
- Lucas County Child Support Enforcement Agency
- Lucas County Children Services
- Lucas County Jobs and Family Services
- Lucas Metropolitan Housing Association
- Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity
- Neighborhood Health Association
- Neighborhood Housing Services of Toledo
- Northwest Ohio Development Agency
- Ohio Benefit Bank
- Salvation Army
- Society of St. Vincent DePaul
- The Source
- Toledo Edison
- United Way of Greater

Toledo 211

Each organization will have a representative available for one-on-one discussions. Several agencies will be accepting applications for assistance programs.

Fair participants will be

eligible for raffle prizes, including free food boxes and free rent assistance. A free hot lunch for children 18 and under will be provided from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. by Feed Lucas County Children, Inc.

Additional outreach pro-

grams are scheduled for 2009 and 2010 to help address and assist as many Northwest Ohio residents as possible.

For more information, please call 419-213-8930 or visit www.jussc.org.

Owens Community College Offers Free 'QuickStart to College' Program

Special to The Truth

Area residents are invited to explore career options and gain advice on making the first steps toward a college education as Owens Community College presents a free "QuickStart to College" program, Sept. 28 - Dec. 6.

The free 10-week program, which is designed for first generation college attendees, low wage workers, underemployed and undereducated adults in mind, will take place on various days and times on the Toledo-area and Findlay-area campuses, as well as at the College's Learning Center at The Source, which located on Monroe Street in downtown Toledo. Owens' Toledo-area Campus is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township, while the Findlay-area Campus' location is on Bright Road in Findlay. Additionally, "QuickStart to College" classes will occur at Rogers High School, which is located on McTigue Drive in Toledo.

Owens' free "QuickStart to College" comprehensive program features an array of

educational initiatives, including academic preparation, coaching and embracing the expectations of college-level studies. Additionally, students will participate in activities designed to promote enhanced learning and develop necessary study and life skills for college success. Individuals will also learn and obtain an in-depth understanding of the language, culture and resources of Owens through the program, as well as receive information specific to the financial aid process and academic placement testing. Free math, reading and writing tutorials are also offered to program participants.

In addition, each attendee will be provided an Owens Student Success mentor to assist them throughout the "QuickStart to College" program. Each student will also receive three college credit hours toward an Owens education upon course completion.

Funding for Owens' academic initiative is being made possible through a three-year \$522,200 grant from the Lu-

mina Foundation for Education, which is an Indianapolis-based private foundation dedicated to expanding access to and success in education beyond high school. Owens is one of only three academic institutions statewide to receive funding in 2008 for the program. The other two colleges are Rhodes State College in Lima and Zane State College in Zanesville.

In order to be eligible for the free "QuickStart to Success" program, individuals must have obtained their high school Diploma or GED. Enrollment is limited and area residents must register prior to Sept. 21. Mandatory orientations detailing the program will take on Sept. 14 and 17 (Toledo-area Campus), Sept. 21 and 24 (Learning Center at The Source) and Oct. 1 (Findlay-area Campus). For more information about the new "QuickStart to College" program, call (567) 661-7777 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 7777, or (567) 429-3509 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 3509.

LEGENDS WEEKEND

Celebrating the History of Northwest Ohio's African American Contributors

1:00 pm, Saturday, October 10, 2009
The Toledo Club - 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

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The Lima Truth

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The Sojourner's Truth

September 16, 2009

Living For Destiny

By Sharon Guice
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Two women joined by the blood of Christ and the blood of their fathers, Winifred Long and Richard Long, came together as one with the same purpose, to encourage other women through their struggles of pains, wounded spirits, and sins of life.

Two first cousins, Sharetta Smith and Tonya Long Alexander, born and raised in Lima, Ohio, saved and delivered by the spirit of God at different times in their lives, were drawn to each other by the spirit of God and close family ties and learned about four years ago that they had a purpose in life together.

Each one knew they were destined to do great things and make an impact in others' lives. Deciding they would make a mark on this world that can not be erased, in 2005 the Purpose Power & Destiny Ministry was born.

This passionate ministry exists to do the Lord's will and finish His work by restoring souls unto the Kingdom of God. Although this multifaceted, spiritual endeavor's core is evangelism; it speaks with a prophetic voice of deliverance, healing, and restoration.

Smith moved from Ohio about five years ago landing in Chattanooga, Tennessee and Long, living about two hours away in Forest Park, Georgia for the past 19 years, are also very close friends.

Smith is an outgoing friendly person who loves sharing her testimony of how God has blessed her and favored her continually in spite of life's struggles.

Anytime you see Alexander, she is continually praising God for his goodness and giving you a word of encouragement thanking you for your support, no matter how small or large as she shares her own testimony.

Evangelist **Tonya Alexander & Minister Sharetta Smith**



Three years ago the cousins held their first four-day ladies conference in Lima at Christian Convention Center under the leadership of Pastor Steve and Verna Wash.

Local speakers, as well as speakers from Alexander's home church Spirit of Christ in McDonough, Georgia, rocked the house with the bringing of the Word, prayer and words of knowledge for the women in attendance.

This conference ignited a spark in these women of God along with a strong kinship bond that quicken them to thirst for more. A spirit of pursuit for the destiny that God has in store for them arose upon them that have kept pushing the two to do more to help other women discover that passion for purpose of destiny in their lives.

They have continued to grow seeking the direction for which the Holy Spirit would direct their path encouraging and speaking the power of God into each other daily, talking by phone or email, and texting several times a day.

On May 2, 2009, Purpose Power & Destiny International hosted "The King's Daughter's Women's Day Luncheon" in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The event, which was attended by about 30 women, featured speakers from Georgia and Tennessee.

what this ministry is about - that each and every one of us has a purpose in God to be used for His Glory and

that this ministry is an inclusive body ministry showing that each part is valuable."

"I could feel the power of God throughout the whole building," said Lurrone "Coach" Jennings, Executive director of the Bethlehem Center, a local non-profit that ministers to urban youth that sponsored and served as the location for the spirit filled event.

At this meeting, the "Living For Purpose" newsmagazine was revealed to those in attendance stating that it would be a quarterly or bi-monthly newsmagazine.

The first issue of "Living for Purpose" newsmagazine was published in June with articles from Smith, Long and a close ministry friend, Antoinette Hart of Perry Geor-

gia. The articles described how each author had missed the mark in their life but faith had brought them through many times to stay in the game and press on through the giftings and talent bestowed upon them to let their lights shine for the glory of God.

The magazine included a section on domestic violence stating approximately 1.3 million women are physically assaulted by an intimate partner each year. The National Domestic Abuse Hotline may be reached at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) OR TTY 1-800-787-3224. The hotline is open 24 hours a day.

The second issue, "Living For Destiny," was published on August 22, 2009. The contents page lists articles about faith, style, finances, parenting, and health. In every issue you will find articles from the editors, club destiny, connecting young women of destiny,

inspiring women of purpose, and the secret place.

The magazine encourages its readers to focus on the ministry behind the message and live for destiny.

If you are interested in being published in Living For Destiny, please write a query letter that explains your story concept, proposed story length, possible experts (if it is a reported piece) and why this idea would appeal to the readers. Query letters should be no more than one page in length, and should be addressed to the editor at purposeanddestiny@hotmail.com. Be sure to include a daytime telephone number and e-mail address.

You may also write to *Living For Destiny*, P.O. Box 16878 Chattanooga, Tennessee 37416. The magazine also takes ads for each issue.

Each came with a message of exhortation, inspiration, and encouragement for today's Christian woman.

Each woman came with a portion, said Alexander, event coordinator and founder of Purpose Power and Destiny, International. "God gave me a vision that each woman had a message to be release to the body of Christ," said Alexander. "That is part of

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Album Review:

Jay Z Blueprint 3

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



Why do you spend \$10-\$15 bucks to cop a CD from millionaires like T.I, Beyonce and Jay Z ?

A CD you will only feed to your computer and possibly be done with after a week.

When we buy music what is the real transaction?

In my opinion... not as a writer but as an artist first, it's about a connection.

We need to feel something from the art that we purchase.

To a certain degree we need to buy into the people whose music we purchase.

Buying into Jay Z means buying into his own greatness, point blank.

And is that such a bad thing?

JAY Z IS THE MOST SUCCESSFUL RAPPER ON THE

PLANET.PERIOD.

TALENT.
In my own label/crew... half of us find ourselves using a Jay Z quote damn near daily.

Not because he's a rapper but because like any great writer. Whomever you feel is a great writer, Shawn Carter has consistently given us words that resonate in a way to adapt higher philosophy in every day life.

I just had to quote Jay Z dealing with haters I had.

"A wise man once told me never argue with fools, cuz people at a distance can't tell who is who"

Word play, metaphor and lyrical imagery is what you are supposed to be judging.

Flow, concepts, vocabulary and references that expand your cache of knowledge (like how cats didn't know about the Robb Report at first) ... that's what you are supposed to be judging.

In all of those categories... this one artist has consistently delivered top notch ratings across all those parameters. And he's done it every time out. Since 1996.

He is in an elite realm of lyricists and has influenced everyone to come after him.

SALES.

Eminem, Tupac and a few others may have more sales (slightly).

But 40 million or so sold worldwide in total career sales for a rapper who is still current ... that's legendary status.

POWER.

Came in the game executive-producing his own albums each time out, nearly single-handedly designed the format for rapper-as-mogul career platform.

Running a label as a boss, while running the game as an artist.

Beefed with Nas, then gave hip-hop one of it's greatest moments when they united and worked together.

Outside of hip-hop, he is living music history period as a record holder for most number one albums sitting as the lone rapper in the company of The Beatles and Elvis. **PERSONALITY.**

The cocky humor, the regret of past demons and the constant raising of the bar.

How many of us have hopped out the bed and turned our swag on by thinking of how Shawn Carter approaches his b.i.?



In videos, in interviews, on record... we have understood his aura and adopted it as someone who embodied the very best example of how we can better ourselves. Biggie had it too, but fate allowed Jay to bless the world with his for over a decade. And it has made one lasting impression, like Jordan.

INFLUENCE ON CULTURE.

Yea.. Cash Money gave us the word "bling" but Hov has started countless trends.

Motorola damn near cut him a check for how he put everyone up on two-way pagers.

Rappers getting shoe deals ? That was Hova and

Reebok! History.

Button ups and getting your grown man on ? That was Hov.

The first *Blueprint* album redefined urban music and production for this millennium.

The sound of that album changed how rappers/producers approached music and that was not his first time sending us all back to the drawing board.

Streets Is Watching DVD, *Fade To Black* major motion picture release and

Austin Powers 3 remember that?

When Dr. Evil rapped his way out of jail...who wrote that verse? Jay Z.

Mass appeal so powerful he took Oprah to the projects for that interview this summer.

That's influence. **WEALTH.**

Hey, it's the music *business*.

He's not a businessman He's a **BUSINESS...MAAANN!!!**

Millions off his own albums sold, with crazy points on the back end.

Millions sold from his roster.

Millions paid to him for co-writing/ghost writing.

Movie money. 40/40 Club money.

Roc-a-wear money, NBA ownership money, I mean...this is the dude who made his own version of the color blue and sold it to General Motors.

He had enough paper to just buy out his final album from Def Jam and take it to the trinity (Lyor, Kevin, Julie) and jumped ship to Atlantic/WMG.. (as evidenced on track number seven where he spits: " I don't get dropped, i drop the label").

Where most rappers got tour per diem, show money and hope to see something from the album and most moguls have millions but still depend on sales...

Jay Z has spent millions just to release the album at the label of his choosing.

That's bread, like he said "what you call money, I pay more in taxes" when he put all the ballin' rappers in their place a few years ago.

You would think I could just review this album without reminding people of who Jay Z is, but nope.

I had to take time to put this in perspective for some of you.

"I'll never be done, I'm so ra-re"

That is a line on "Hater" that might just slip past you... you have to see the genius.

That track alone can unite all hip-hop heads from 15 to 45.

I mean, look at that, never before in history has hip-hop had 45 year olds.

Never have we had someone rule the game into their 40's (Jay Z and shouts to Jamie Foxx too).

Everything about the game is upside down, everything you think you know about how the industry is, I say just re-think it.

That is what *Blueprint 3* is about. Redefining, moving ahead but with familiar quality.

When I listen to "Thank You," I get chills.

When I listen to "A Star Is Born" and watch someone give props to all who have earned their place in the pantheon of our hip-hop culture... to me that is a huge moment!

It is vastly important that someone return the artistry and culture to the art and the culture that raised other artists. See, Jay Z is part of the fabric of this culture now.

And our current mind-numbing void of quality and overall attention deficit have created the perfect place for legacies to be misplaced and details to be overlooked.

Eff that, can't even allow

(Continued on Page 14)

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Blueprint 3

(Continued from Page

that yo. *Blueprint 3* is an EVENT ALBUM!!!

We needed this like hell.

This is bigger than an album release by a rapper, this is an event.

Is it perfect?

Close...there are only two songs I don't care for, but I won't even tell you which ones.

I mean, I hated "Beach Chair" at first but good music can grow on you.

But out the

gate...Blueprint 3 is amazing.

Futuristic, throwback, simple, advanced - back-packer, grown, emo, all at once.

Favorites: "Thank You," "Off That," "Already Home" - and those three are lightyears ahead of whatever you are cranking...trust me.

Jay Z has given music lovers a gift that we so desperately needed.

I was scared for a minute.

If there was anyone pow-

erful enough to make an entire industry stop relying on studio gimmicks for entrance to the game...I mean, who but the self proclaimed "audio equivalent of brail (cuz they feel me...) who else could do that?"

But his rhymes on "D.O.A." and the way Kanye out paced him on "Run This Town," had me worried this album might be like Jordan putting on that Wizards uniform.

A heartbreak.

But nope, it's a breath of fresh air with that reliable excellence we expect.

The fact that musical risks were taken just makes it all the more compelling and he says: "can't be scared to fail in the pursuit of perfection".

Lyrical content and flow ("What We Talkin About"), substance ("Empire State Of Mind"), concepts ("Venus Vs. Mars"), reaching beyond boundaries (the last three

joints all together, which he normally does)... this is the best hip-hop album in what feels like ages.

Go and support it.

We buy music because we need the experience, we need the feeling of connecting.

We need to have an exchange, we need our mind turned on... we need to zone.

This album is that.

The true grade for *Blueprint 3* is A-

glascitytruth@yahoo.com

FACEBOOK: Moni, Mario and Lisa, I see you!

I put up a few updates about having my FB friends help me review this album.

If you want... pick a song on BP3 and email me your take on it, maybe it will end up in next issue.

Celebrate great music, people!

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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 tulu.com/content/5743710 for only \$5.00**

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CLASSIFIEDS

September 16, 2009

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- Must have at minimum a GED within 1 year of acceptance into the program.
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For further information, please call: EMP Electrical Academy 419-508-5981.

EMP Electrical Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its admission policies, educational policies and other administered programs.

Applications can be obtained at www.EMPElectricalAcademy.org or calling 419-508-5981

Hurry class is forming now and space is limited. Please fax or mail to:

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Classifieds are also posted online at www.thetruthtoledo.com

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER INDEPENDENT CONTRACT

CBS Corridors Coalition seeks to contract with an individual(s) to mobilize residents/business owners in the TOTCO, Warren Sherman and Uptown neighborhoods to take an active role in obtaining resources and solving problems. First priority will be given to neighborhood residents.

Send resume/proposals to CBS, c/o UN, 3106 Lagrange Street, Toledo, Ohio 43608.

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Youth mentoring agency seeks case manager/coordinator for pregnant/parenting teens at Polly Fox Academy. Applicant must have good computer, oral and written communication and leadership skills, able to work with groups, manage multiple priorities, and flexible hours (evenings, weekends). Submit resume with references to:

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INTERESTED BIDDERS:

TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – NEW BIRMINGHAM K- 8 SCHOOL

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until **1:00 p.m. on October 8th, 2009**, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers' Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor, material and supervision necessary for the **New Birmingham K-8 School**, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by Munger, Munger & Associates, Inc 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 10th, 2009** which can be purchased from **Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, 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** is scheduled for **September 28th, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.** at Toledo Public Schools, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608

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

Sealed bids will be received for:
Estimates

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Data Entry Operator needed on a part-time basis (20hrs/wk) to perform data entry of clinical and billing information. This position will also provide back-up support for Billing.

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.

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Neighborhood Health Association Promotes Literacy

The Neighborhood Health Association has launched a Book Drive to help promote literacy. The book drive will be held from September 14 – September 30 during National Literacy Month.

“One child in four grows up not knowing how to read and that child’s chances of dropping out of school, being incarcerated or living in poverty grows exponentially,” said Doni Miller, CEO of Neighborhood Health Association. “Literacy is one of the most significant

predictors of a child’s future success, and the biggest obstacle to literacy is the scarcity of books and appropriate reading material”

Books collected will be used in Neighborhood Health Association’s pediatric clinic waiting rooms for children to read as they wait for appointments to help encourage reading success.

Neighborhood Health Association is accepting new or gently used books for children ages two through eight. Books can be dropped

of at:
The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union at 1339 Dorr Street
Cottage Inn Pizza & Grill at the Oasis 3303 Dorr Street
Daisy Smith Pediatric

Clinic 430 Nebraska Avenue
NHA Pediatric Health Center 1 Aurora Gonzalez Drive
Neighborhood Health Association – Administrative Office

313 Jefferson Avenue
The Neighborhood Health Association has provided health care to Toledo residents for over 40 years. Our mission is to put health within reach of all com-

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