

Volume 16, No.22

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

September 23, 2009

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"A lot of my art has some kind of social message. A lot of it is developing the social aspect of the art—encouraging others to participate in this thing we call art."

This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

Some thoughts on the September 15 primary election ...

Everything that could possibly have been wrong with an issue was wrong with Issue 2 the proposal to eliminate the six at-large councilmen and replace them with three super districts Nine Is Fine. Thank goodness the voters did not fall victim to this short-sighted appeal to save a few dollars.

The first problem with the measure was the manner in which it was slipped onto the ballot without having gone through the Charter Revision Committee. Such a procedure would have enabled close scrutiny of the issue by both city officials and the community

As it turned out, the amendment was poorly written and full of contradictions. Moreover, the very concept of doing away with at-large representatives is one that makes little sense in an era when we are beset with political parochialism at virtually every level.

We also found it to be more than a tad disingenuous that the proponents of this issue decided to place it on the primary ballot knowing that a lower turnout during September gave them a better chance to turn out their own supporters for this ill-conceived notion.

One of the more laughable aspects of the campaign for Issue 1 was the effort to cherry-pick research in order to justify the move from at-large representation to district. The proponents dug up writings that were two decades old and compared Toledo's situation to that of Urbana, IL. Urbana is a town of 38,000 with demographics that compare not at all to those of Toledo.

Surely the proponents could have performed their due diligence with a little more care than

The day after the primary, the Lucas County Democratic Party made the heroic decision in the mayoral race to endorse ... drum roll, please ... the Democrat - Keith Wilkowski. That courageous, damn-the-torpedoes-full-speed-ahead move ended all kinds of suspense.

We were equally nonplussed by the decision, several days later, when the party made its choices in the City Council races. After the primary, seven of the 12 finalists are Democrats (there are still missing ballots at this moment that might change the last place or two) but only six can win a seat. So the Democratic Party, after careful analysis and thought-provoking discussion, threw its arms around and embraced ... you guessed it, the Democrats. Yep, all seven of the Democrats ... for six seats.

We understand that the party is trying to finesse its way around these endorsements in order to avoid the embarrassment of party divisiveness that has caused such widespread grief in the past but the endorsement process has just about lost its value to those receiving the stamp of

Might be time to rethink what's happening with the party's procedures.

Mike Bell needs to take a close, careful look at his campaign strategy as he moves forward in the general election. He entered the race with a huge lead over Keith Wilkowski according to limited information from polls. He has managed to squander that lead over the past few

Last week's results in the mayoral contest showed Bell winning in central city wards but a closer examination leads one to believe that his candidacy suffers from the lack of a base of supporters. As an independent, he does not have a party base. The importance of such support was emphasized on Monday when Chris Redfern, chairman of the Ohio Democratic Party, came to Toledo to offer Wilkowski the assistance of the state party.

As an African-American candidate, Bell does not have a central city base. He finished above 50 percent in only two wards and nowhere did he do an effective job of getting out the vote.

Here's how different the impact of the central city was in 2001 when Jack Ford was running against Ray Kest: the turnout in the nine wards Bell won last week ranged from 6.8 percent to 15.7 percent of eligible voters. In 2001, the turnout in those same wards ranged from 13.3 percent

In five of those wards (6, 8, 10, 13, 14) where Bell received from 43 to 56 percent of the votes cast, Ford received from 72 to 80.1 percent of the votes in the 2001 primary

In the general election that year, it was Democrat vs. Democrat, effectively splitting the

Bell's decision to run as an independent may have been wise in a year when the party has shied away from endorsing candidates prior to the primary, but he really needs to get his message across in the central city to make up for the loss of party support.

The Sojourner's Truth

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Community Calendar

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 - Re-Dedication 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

Women's Day Service at Beulah Baptist Church: AM Preacher Min Starr Mitchell; PM Preacher Bishop Marjorie Holt

New Prospect MBC Deacon and Deaconess Association Program: 4 pm; Speaker Deacon Ernie Braswell: 419-241-2624

September 29

Monroe St. Neighborhood Center Free Computer Instruction: For adults; Open registration from 10 am to noon; Classes free: 419-473-1167

Greater Toledo Urban League, Adelante, NAACP, Thosefellas, LLC Present Toledo School Board Candidate Forum: Collingwood Arts Center; 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Libbey HS Alumni Association Homecoming Football Game Tailgate Party: Noon to 2 pm; Hawley and Western Sts. parking lot; RSVP by 9/25: 419-380-8145

Gospel Music to Feed the Soul: Presented by Millard Catchings & the Voices of Zion; Ebenezer MBC; 6 pm; The Newson Family, Anointed Sons of God, Mildred Stegall & The True Voices, The Spiritual Aires, The Gospel Twilights: 419-973-0506 or 419-531-2742 or 419-699-7839

October 4

St. Paul AME Zion 92nd Anniversary Celebration: 11 am Family and Friends Day: 419-322-5817

Bethesda Chritian Center Cathedral Pre-Women's Day Service: 5 pm: 419-277-2179

Community Forum to End Incest, Child Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence: Elizabeth House on Notre Dame Academy property; 11:30 am to 1 pm; For survivors, counselors, daycare providers, social workers, etc: 419-729-0245

Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral Fall Youth Revival: 7 pm on Fri and Sat; 5 pm on Sun: "I Want It All Back:" 419-944-0984

"Callie Lily Educators' Award:" Phi Delta Kappa, Inc Sorority's Beta Gamma Chapter of Toledo's first annual awards luncheon; Pinnacle; Honoring individuals who go beyond the call of duty to help students achieve

St. Paul AME Zion 92dn Anniversary Celebration: Fellowship luncheon: Noon: 419-

10th Annual Cancer Awareness Workshop: Presented by the African American Women's Cancer Support Group; Southern MBC; 10 am; Healthcare information, support groups, Q & Q, facts and statistics; Refreshment and door prizes: 419-535-3126 or 419-480-0122

The Sojourner's Truth

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My View

By Jack Ford The Truth's Political Columnist



Now that the primary is over in Toledo's merry politics go round, most top campaigns will take a hard look at their efforts to date and re-tool. By re-tooling I mean everything from getting a new chairman to re-aligning its "street campaign" to match the expected turn-

In retrospect, it looks like Keith Wilkowski's emphasis on working the neighborhoods paid off with a higher than anticipated return at the polls for him. In other words, Wilkowski worked the neighborhoods while Mike Bell went to events. Both are effective strategies but Wilkowski

came out slightly ahead.

And coming out ahead helps immensely with fundraising. Wilkowski can now go after statewide and national money with the imprint of being the front runner. Do people in other states care who the mayor of Toledo is in 2010? Yep, lots of people do business in Toledo and want to be friends with the mayor. There is no quicker way to become friends than to give substantially to a campaign.

So we can expect several big-ticket fundraising events for both Wilkowski and Bell before long. And people will write the checks! Which leads to another point.

People who give once will give twice and three times over. You have to keep giving to your investments

Notwithstanding Wilkowski's impressive primary victory, I still think this race is Bell's to lose. Bell has to re-tool by putting more troops in the field. He has to spend three to

four hours a day raising money. He needs to articulate his positions better in the press and in the debates. Why doesn't Bell have an "urban agenda?" Why not talk about crime against seniors? Crime against women? This is what people are concerned about.

Back in 1992, Carty Finkbeiner was losing to mike Ferner and then there were some serious high profile crimes. Finkbeiner talked tougher than Ferner did and slipped by him with a razor-thin win at the last moment.

Does Toledo have a policy on budgeting that is set down in black and white? No. If there is, then no one is talking about it. Why not?

After crime, the number one issue is the budget. Why don't Wilwkoski and Bell talk about this issue?

In the race for City Council, Polly Taylor Gerken won a spot in the top six in the race for atlarge seats. But watch out! Taylor Gerken finished ahead of Louis Escobar years ago in a similar fight for City Council but Escobar slipped ahead of her in the general election. He would go on to become president of City Council.

Adam Martinez, finished

behind Taylor Gerken by less than 1,700 votes. He is an excellent candidate and I would expect to see a big push on his behalf. I can see Martinez possibly moving into the final six and

pushing out Steve Steel or Taylor Gerken. The voting formula changes from the primary to the general election.

Ready...Aim....Fire....!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq. Guest Column



If you are carefully monitoring the national mood of certain right wing wacko groups who are seemingly able to capture the media and the blogs on the Internet at will, your personal alert level should now be raised from mildly cautious to highly guarded regarding the life threats on President Obama.

If one takes a pulse of the public venting and rage at President Obama, and irrespective of how you feel on the issue of revamping national health care, you may see a chilling emergence of hyper speech that is coupled with negative images that are linked to Obama.

When political zealots place the president in the same camp as a murderous Hitler and tag Obama with Nazihate literature and indicate that he should be "buried along with the Kennedys," hate speech is venting its spleen.

The purveyors of this political slime want you to believe that they are simply being vocal and energetic in their rights of free speech but again, free speech does not allow you to yell, "FIRE!" in a crowded theatre when there is no fire.

The demagogues who are energizing or "juicing up" their base constituency to roll in the muck and mire of hate speech do not check the excesses of their followers

but rather spin the bottle of contempt and predatory speech and, wherever it stops, they presume indifference to the consequences.

Nor can one write off these media excesses as being of the fringe element for, as we know, all it takes is a single person or a group, wrapped in the flag, to sniff the air and assume that their cause is right and just; and the political culture is giving them permission to act.

To act in a senseless way as to push the political discussion envelope to the point that someone will seem themselves as saving the democracy from the imagined tyranny of an Obama presidency.

When Rush Limbaugh & company are ecstatic over Congressman Joe Wilson calling the president a liar during the recent joint session of Congress and Joe Wilson is made the new darling of the

(Continued on Page 12)

Primary Election Results Are In Ward Thanks Supporters and Congratulates Candidates

The primary election results are in, and we now know who is advancing to the general election.

First, I would like to thank God for giving me peace that sustained me throughout this campaign. I would like to thank my wife and family for their support, as I worked long hours on the campaign trail. I thank those who endorsed my campaign: The Toledo Journal, Midwest Urban, Attorney Lafe Tolliver, former Mayor Jack Ford and Owens Community College Professor and former Sylvania Police Chief Wayne Seely. A special thanks to all my supporters and the 3,717 people who voted for me.

I entered the race for City Council for that factory worker who lost his job; for that single-parent mother who is struggling to raise her children; for that homeless man eating out of the trash; for that child afraid to play in the neighborhood park.

Toledo needs a change, as government solely exists to serve all people. This campaign has been about redefining politics and giving people a voice again. While I did not win the election, I am encouraged and I want the citizens to know that I will continue to work on your behalf. I will continue to work to ensure that everyone is represented in government decisions regardless of gender, regardless of race, regardless of social status.

I dream of the day when we can live in peace, be able to be safe in our homes and have equal rights to economic opportunity and education. We must create a community for all people, and this requires a servant leadership approach to government. The greatest leader forgets himself and attends to the development of others.

Congratulations to the mayoral and council candidates who are advancing to the general election: Keith Wilkowski, Mike Bell, Rob Ludeman, George Sarantou, Joe McNamara, Phillip Copeland, Steven Steel, Polly Taylor-Gerken, Adam Martinez, Kevin Milliken, Constantine Stamos, Terry Shankland, Tricia Lyons and Terry Biel.

To all the mayoral and City Council candidates: each one of you please hold your head up high. It takes a special person to want to run for public office. It shows that you are passionate and committed to the city. Each one of you has something to contribute, and I thank you for your efforts and willingness to serve.



Toledo's Primary Election Results – Not Many Surprises This Time Around

By Fletcher Word Sojourner's Truth Editor

The September 15 primary election answered some questions, set the stage for the mayoral general election and opened the door for a handful of newcomers to Toledo City Council. Yet once again, the primary illuminated two common aspects of Toledo city politics: off-year elections don't generate a whole lot of voter enthusiasm and a wellknown political name is the gift that just keeps on giv-

This year, only 18.45 percent of eligible voters made it to the polls in Lucas County, down from 22.24 percent during the 2005 primary. Central city wards, however, never hit that figure. Half of the central city wards, in fact, had a turnout of less than 10 percent of eligible voters.

Two mayoral candidates and 12 City Council candidates will be moving on to the general election on November 3. Attorney and former city Law Director Keith Wilkowski and former Fire Chief Mike Bell finished in the top two places in the mayoral contest swamping the other four candidates.

Wilkowski received 30.9 percent of the total compared to Bell's 29.0 percent. A total of less than 700 votes separated the two former classmates at Woodward High

Now the battle is joined for that 40 percent who voted for Republican businessman Jim Moody, independent City Councilman D. Michael Collins, Democratic Lucas County Commissioner Ben Konop and prophetess Opal

Bell finished first in Wards 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14, 15, 17 and 19. It would appear that his

challenge to win this contest faces two hurdles with respect to the central city black vote. First, he needs to gain ground among those who did turnout and, second, he needs to get that segment of the vote out.

In only two central city wards - Ward 8 and Ward 14 - did Bell finish with more than 50 percent of the vote. Those two wards had voter turnouts of 8.3 and 10.8 respectively. Generally speaking, Bell did best in those wards with the lowest voter turnout.

In the City Council race,

as expected the incumbents moved on easily to the general election. This year's 23 candidates were vying for 12 positions. Of the 12, six will win seats in November.

Incumbents George Sarantou, a Republican, and Joe McNamara and Phil Copeland, both Democrats, finished second, third and fourth, respectively.

Former District 2 Councilman Rob Ludeman finished in the top spot and rounding out the top six were Steven Steel, the former Toledo Board of Education member who was appointed

to council to fill the seat vacated by Mark Sobczak, and Polly Taylor-Gerken, wife of Pete Gerken, president of the Board of Lucas County Com-

Taylor-Gerken's vote total - 9382 - was substantially higher than that of the seventh place finisher, Adam Martinez-7724. Given that margin, it would seem to be a formidable task for anyone finishing below sixth place to edge out one of the top six finalists.

Milliken, Constantine Stamos, Terry (Continued on Page 5)





Steve and Katherine Steel w/ Barbara and Keith Wilkowski





Jeff Johnson Returns to The University of Toledo

By Artisha S. Lawson Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Journalist, social activist and political commentator Jeff Johnson returned to his alma mater, The University of Toledo, on Tuesday, September 15 to announce a new scholarship and discuss his newly released book, Everything I'm Not Made Me Everything I Am.

Over 150 current students, alumni and staff of the university, along with local media and friends of Johnson, filled the student union. Interim Director of Africana Studies Rubin Patterson welcomed the guests and introduced Johnson.

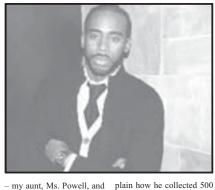
"We're glad to have Jeff on his first official day of releasing his book," said Patterson. "Some of you are familiar with his work. He was a campus leader, it's unusual to have an impact on a campus of this size, but because of his abilities he helped this entire campus. He understood that education wasn't given to anyone, you had to take it'."

During his time at UT, Johnson was president of the Student Government and the Black Student Union. "This is the most important event I will do, if for no other reason then to talk on this subject as my book hits the shelves. Had it not been for this university, none of the other things would have happened," said Johnson.

After Johnson graduated, he went on to become a commentator on "Tom Joyner Morning Show," the senior advisor for Media and Outreach for People for the American Way, the National Director of the Youth & College Division of NAACP and the vice president of the Hip Hop Summit Action Network after being appointed by Russell Simmons.

He has been awarded NABJ Salute to Excellence Award 2008 for BETs Life & Death in Darfur, a Jeff Johnson report series and he became Managing Editor and Chief Correspondent for The Truth with Jeff Johnson. And now comes a book.

Johnson thanked people in the audience who kept him on the path that eventually led to his career. "I want to recognize two amazing and beautiful, intelligent women



my aunt, Ms. Powell, and said Jackie Johnson," Johnson. "Also Shaun Tucker, another student leader at UT at the same time that I attended; and Dave Young who was my first organizational advisor. I also want to thank Dr. Patterson; he never knew he was the first man outside my family to invest in me. There were late night phone calls, frustration when I wasn't listening and belief in students - not because he got paid, I am very thankful," said Johnson.

During this talk with the audience, he went on to ex-

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dent Union, won the election, and the controversy that arose when the Nation of Islam featured Minister Farrakhan at the university. "There were 25 committee

"There were 25 committee chairpersons that showed up weekly that made our events happen – it wasn't just me. I didn't know what I was getting into when the Nation of Islam came to UT; I received death threats at my home. I couldn't believe people were truly threatened by a man's words," said Johnson.

Johnson also announced a scholarship to be launched in fall semester of 2009. The \$5,000 scholarship will be available to students majoring in green economy and/or environmental justice.

"I want to see you all become successful," he told the students. "I am no different than anyone in this room. Some of you will become teachers, or business owners. There are all kids of gifts that are given to you at birth."

Johnson's book tour is making stops at Jackson State University, Howard University and Southern University in September and October. For further information visit Jeff Johnson's official websity if the book of the book of

Primary

signatures on a Friday after-

noon to run for Black Stu-

(Continued from Page 4)

Shankland, Tricia Lyons and Terry Biel rounded out the top 12.

As to the questions answered, and with some degree of finality, the two issues on the ballot – Issue 1 sought to grant the mayor and City Council more flexibility in using funds raised by the ¾ of one percent income tax and Issue 2 sought to reduce the size of City Council from 12 members to nine – both were defeated last Tuesday.

The defeat of Issue 1 - 54 to 46 percent – may have come as a bit of a surprise given the message of "safety first" that proponents employed to push the measure. The proposal had the support of a number of City Council members and virtually every media outlet – with the exception of this newspaper – that published endorsements.

Union members, notably AFSCME, rallied behind the push to defeat Issue 1 since dollars going to safety forces would come at the expense of other city employees.

On the other hand, Issue 2, which would have replaced the six at-large councilmen with three super district representatives, was endorsed by virtually no elected or former elected official and no media outlets.

That issue, proposed and



supported by council members, Democrat Lindsay Webband Republican Tom Waniewski, along with former candidate for council, Republican Dave Schulz, garnered the support of 47 percent of voters last Tuesday.

The general election will be held on November 3 will present voters with choices formayor, city council, various judgeships and several state issues including Issue 3 – the measure that proposes four casinos to be built in Ohio including one in Toledo.





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NHA, Mt. Zion Ministries and Xinos Kick off First Annual Sickle Cell Walk

Ry India Santos Special to The Truth

The bees were buzzing Saturday, September 12, at Walbridge Park. Even more abuzz was the energy of the excited participants of the First Annual Sickle Cell Walk. Registration began at eight in the morning with Toledoans, ranging in age from the stroller to senior citizens, "fired up and ready to go" to raise awareness for Sickle Cell Disease.

Sickle cell is a serious disease in which the body makes sickle-shaped red blood cells. "Sickleshaped" means that the red blood cells are shaped like



a "C." The clumps of sickle cells block blood flow in the blood vessels that lead to the limbs and organs. Blocked blood vessels can cause pain, serious infec-

tions and organ damage. According to the Ohio

Sickle Cell and Health Association, one in every 1.000 babies born in the United States is afflicted with sickle cell disease. It is the number one genetic disorder in the country, affecting nearly 80,000 people. Furthermore, more babies are diagnosed with sickle cell disease each year than with cystic fibrosis or spina bifida and the disease affects people of all races and creeds.

hand the reality of sickle cell and the need for awareness. Their daughter, Nia Gabrielle, was the beautiful face of the awareness billboard advertising the walk.

The Thomas family's desire to promote awareness of this disease was catipulted into reality by Kortney Weber, project director for the Sickle Cell Project of Northwest Ohio. Weber currently manages about 80 cases of families with forms of the disease

From birth through adulthood, the Sickle Cell Project offers and coordinates various services to those affected by an abnormal hemoglobin type. A few of the varied services include:

1Newborn hemoglobin screening / follow-up

2Genetic and Prenatal Counseling

3Group and Individual support to persons affected by Sickle Cell Disease

4Education Programs for

professionals, consumers, families and the community.

Participants walked the Walbridge Park trail to cheers and ice cold water provided by the Beta Gamma Xinos. BG Xinos is an all-girl youth organization sponsored by the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa. Of their many platforms, Sickle Cell disease awareness is one of the most important.

Once learning of the walk, the young ladies asked "What is a walk without a cheering station and water?" The girls immediately sprang into action, providing the water station and the much needed encouragement for the walk-

The Sickle Cell Project works in conjunction with the Neighborhood Health Association (NHA) which, for over 30 years, has provided affordable, quality primary health care to communities in need.





Forces to Assist GEAR UP

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The campaign to take over the 22nd Floor of One Government Center is well under way but this past weekend, the candidates called a truce in order to knock on doors in the Woodward High School area and encourage parents to become involved in their children's education.

Independent Mike Bell and Democrat Keith Wilkowski, both members of the Woodward High School Class of 1973 spent part of Saturday touting the benefits of the GEAR UP program at Woodward.

GEAR UP volunteers were knocking on doors to ask students and their parents to attend College Night at $Woodward on October\,7\,from$ 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) is a program that works with students and their families to have high expectations, stay in school, study hard and take the right courses to enable them to go on to college.

"Involving parents in their children's education is a key component to helping students move on to college." said Debbie Frison, an advisor with GEAR UP. "That's is why we will be asking parents to invest two hours in their



children's futures and attend College Night"

"One thing we can agree on is that education is important," said Bell at a press conference last week announcing the door knocking campaign. "Parents have to be involved and it will make it a lot easier to help those in this program.'

"We are on the same page," said Wilkowski. "We

want to emphasize the impor tance of high school students preparing for college."

GEAR UP has been active at Woodward for the past four academic years. During that time, the percentage of Woodward graduating seniors moving on to post secondary education has increased, said Frison, from 15 to 70 percent.

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Kortney Weber (center), Pastor Thomas to her left and

members of the BGXinos

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Arts Section • Arts Section

Terry Burton: A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man

By Fletcher Word Sojourner's Truth Editor



"A lot of my art has some kind of social message," says Terry Burton. "A lot of it is developing the social aspect of the art - encouraging others to participate in this thing we call art."

Burton, whose collage-

style paintings will be on display at the MMK Gallery at 20 North St. Clair St until October 8, uses paints and material, such as fabric, to create his art. His paintings are invariably large, vividly colored, socially-conscious

about any setting.

But as Burton says he is not just a painter, he is an artist. And as one looks at the breadth of his activities, one finds that he is not just an artist, he is also a social

works that stand out in just

artist, he was off and running - poetry, painting, short films and music. He entered The University of Toledo to study studio art but the most important influences in his development as a painter has been the networking he has con-

activist.

A Toledo native, Burton

is a graduate of Springfield

High School. He attended

Owens Community College

for several years with the

intention of studying busi-

ness but found art instead.

the first time in the form of

"Part of the curriculum

was to take courses in the

humanities," says Burton.

He won a poetry award and

then entered a painting in a

juried art show in Mansfield

in 2002. "That gave me the art bug," he recalls. As an

a poetry contest.

ducted with other artists. Aminah Robinson, for

example, who combines art materials with found objects such as buttons, twigs, shells and cloth to create two and three-dimensional works of art has had a huge impact in Burton's progress as an artist.

Jack Johnson, a Detroit artist whom Burton has described as a "visual culturalist" has provided another influence.

"I think, or at least I hope, that [Johnson's] point was that art is a conversation, a conversation with yourself and the world. Nothing else matters but 'this thing called art' because we are a learned people, dating all the way back to the pyramids of Africa, Art 1 asking you the question, 'where is your imagination." So wrote Burton about Johnson in an article in The Truth more than three years ago when Johnson's art was on display here in Toledo. Yes, he's a part-time journalist as well.

"It's the collage method of making art, a sort of modern folk art," says Burton offering a self-description of his own efforts.

In the short period during which he has been an artist, Burton has had his work on display in a variety of locations in the Toledo and Detroit areas including a number of solo exhibits. He has designed logos, posters and murals; has had a painting commissioned by the Lucas County Commissioners and has sold numerous paintings at auctions for various causes.

His community involvement, however, is at least as impressive as his artistic accomplishments.

Burton has organized or produced a number of exhibits and projects with the purpose of aiding community events such as: "Artist as Citizen;" "Community Murals#1 and#2 Projects;' "Sub-America: 1984;" " Mind over Social Matters;" "Our Social Innovations Project #1.

Burton obviously has his hands in quite a few artistic media but he has no intention, at least at this point in

(Continued on Page 8)

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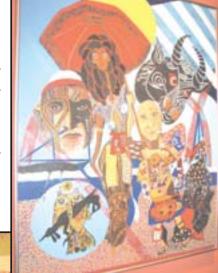
Arts Section · Arts

Season Ending Third Thursday Art Walk

Sixteen art galleries in the warehouse, downtown and uptown areas participated in the season's last Art Walk last Thursday, September 17.

Terry Burton opened a new exhibit in the MMK Gallery titled "Confessions of an Art-a-holic;" 20 North Gallery featured the works of local, regional and international artists who have been the core of past exhibitions at the gallery and Sur St. Clair showcased the Western Americana paintings of Dave Wisniewski.

Paintings, drawings, stained glass, jewelry, glass work, sculptures and photography abounded for those who took the time to



stop by at least some of the galleries that stayed open until 9 p.m.

In addition to the inside displays of art, music rang out on St. Clair provided by The Fritz and the Toledo School for the Arts Chamber

The Art Walks will return

in the spring of 2010. Until then, the Arts Commission will sponsor Meet and Greets - free gallery bus loops. The held on October 16. For de-



Terry Burton

(Continued from Page 7)

his young life, of limiting the possibilities of growth. His goals are quite simple, "to continue making art." And, of course that could mean sculptures, computer art, mixed media or literary

go anywhere," says Bur-





Arts Section · Arts Section

STORYBOOK STARS:

AWARD-WINNING ILLUSTRATIONS FROM THE MAZZA **COLLECTION**

Special to The Truth

A new exhibition featuring approximately 75 enchanting original illustrations for children's books opens Oct. 9 at the Toledo Museum of Art.

Stars: Storybook Award-Winning Illustrations from the Mazza Col-

lection will be shown through Jan. 31, 2010 in the Works on Paper Galleries. Admission to both the Museum and the exhibition is free.

The new exhibit features works produced over the past 50 years by such celebrated artists as Maurice Sendak, Eric Carle, Arnold Lobel and Theodore Geisel (Dr. Seuss).

All of the works have been honored with wellknown (as well as lesserknown) honors, ranging from the Hans Christian Andersen International and Caldecott medals to the Coretta Scott King and Ohioana Book awards.

All but three illustrations were selected from more than 3.000 works in the collection of the Dr. Jerry J. Mallett Institute's Mazza Museum at the University of Findlay. Founded in 1982, the Mazza is the largest teaching museum devoted to literacy and the art of children's picture books. The three illustrations not from the Mazza Museum are by artist Mo Williams, who loaned his works for display.

Edward T. Hill, together with Benjamin E. Sapp, director of the Mazza Museum, and Jerry J. Mallett, curator and founder of the Mazza Museum, took on the daunting task of choosing which award-winning book illustrations to include.

Hill, the works on paper assistant at the Toledo Museum of Art, said the organizers sought to present culturally diverse stories, a variety of artistic styles and techniques, and something about the process involved in creating art for books.

He noted, "In addition to the original art, examples of many of the published books are part of the exhibition. This gives visitors an opportunity to compare the artists' original work with the final rendition," he explained.

Along the same lines. Hill said the exhibit includes some storyboards and a dummy book (a workup of the final book before printing) to show the progression of work leading up to publication.

Because the exhibit is expected to appeal to all ages, the illustrations are hung slightly lower than normal, making them somewhat easier for children to view, he added.



New Art Tatum inspired Sculpture unveiled in **Downtown Toledo!**

Special to The Truth



Northwest Ohioans and jazz enthusiasts gathered to witness the unveiling of the new art work inspired by Toledo's own "The Great Art Tatum"!

The artwork, erected in the heart of downtown Toledo, was partially funded through Toledo's one percent for the Arts Fund and through private donations.

This year, in honor of the 100th birthday of Tatum, and the indelible impact he left upon the music industry, the sculpture was finally presented for public viewing.

The monumental artwork stands 27 feet high and, similar to a standard piano, has 88 black & white panels or "keys". The artwork spirals up into the sky to reflect the way Art Tatum was known to twist and bend a melody like none other.

 $The \, artwork \, also \, incorporates \, beautiful \, blue \, LED \, lights \, in \, between \, each \, panel \, to \, illuminate$ the night sky. The artwork can be found in front of the new Lucas County Multi-Purpose Arena near the intersection of Superior and Madison streets.

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

AFRICAN AMERICAN LEGACY PROJECT

Arts Section · Arts Section ·

Detroit vs. Toledo Music Nite @ The Listening Saturday September 26 9 PM Truth Art Gallery 1811 Adams.

Minister of Culture

A few weeks ago two of our artists performed at Detroit's Hard Rock Cafe and that was just one of the many $times\,U.G.E.\,has\,rocked\,in\,the$ D this year. We have a few contacts in the 313 that have shown us love, but one in particular reached out to us to come down to Toledo to do a show. So we formulated the Detroit vs. Toledo Music Nite @ The Listening.

Singers and Rappers from the Motor City who will be featuring include:Dollah Jones, Jay Michaelz, D'Nay, and Kendrick Hardaway and possibly a few others.

Repping Toledo will be U.G.E.'s own: Big Marc Da General, T. Diamond, Aye Dee & Leigh Ashley.

We reached out to a few artists outside of our roster but there's a lot going on in Toledo that day and peeps are busy already but we might have some surprises in store.

Most of the Detroit artists are under the same management company: S.O.U.L. Camp Music Group. Even though U.G.E. is not a management company (and we are NOT managers), our two companies have enjoyed a healthy collaborative spirit and even our artists will tell you this: DETROIT IS WAAAY DIF-FERENT! THEY ACTUALLY WORK TOGETHER!

At least it seems so with the part of the D's music scene we've worked the closest with thus far. Here in Toledo... the hatred is intense, people are quicker to work against you than with you and the ego is out of hand for no damn reason. In Toledo there is such a lack of understanding on how to conduct business fairly. Just because we all do music, and are in/from Toledo doesn't mean we all have to make one another feel low to make ourselves feel high. We have no vibrant music scene because we have no team spirit, no humility. So to be honest we've just started to be more guarded with who we align

I am happy to mention that many people here in the Glass City DO want to turn things around and have a more cohesive scene...which benefits everyone. I mean... we all want to win, and I'm not saving we should all sit around campfires holding hands but there is much to gain if we at least mutually support each

The Roots, Jill Scott, Erykah Badu, Jazzy Phatnasties, Bilal, Jaguar Wright and many of the producers behind the Neo Soul movement of the late 90s all grew from The Black Lily in Philly, a place where likeminded artists would gather and unite. Mos Def, Common, Talib Kweli, Supernatural, and many other conscious/back packer Hip-hop heads popularized The Lyricist Lounge in Manhattan, which grew to have major label sponsorship, T.V. shows, major releases etc. All...from an open mic night.

All...from humble beginnings like what we're trying to to with The Listening.

Even Detroit's hip-hop movement centered around a weekly night at St. Andrews Hall...and the artists spawned from that collective succeeded at every level of the Hip Hop industry.

There are many powerful independent companies in Toledo... (Go Get It Records, O.P.M. Project 360, Flip NFlex, Hustle Hand, Glass Factory/ Mally&Chief, Embrace Ent. Lyte House..etc. etc. etc. to name just a few) U.G.E. started The Listening to serve as an intermediary between those in our area doing it big already and those trying to get to that level.

We started The Listening for artists of various levels of expertise to have a place to perfect what they do and learn from fellow artists.

We started The Listening for all the like-minded people who do music to come together and politic with each other. Special mention to Chief Alone and Gutta Dave.

The three of us sat down with a shared vision of supporting each other's movements (and others) so we can build a platform in Toledo where our local industry can thrive to a point where it can support us all. Those brotha's, as well as Waymon Farmer, another positive cat D.J. Reese and as always Hutch & T.J., D.J. Kausion, Tracy, Flow, etc. (and many others) That's how you take a fragmented scene and make it gel, its about mutual respect and creating unity.

Detroit Vs. Toledo Music Nite @ The Listening Live R&B/Rap Performances from artists from the 313 and the

Truth Art Gallery 1811 Adams Saturday Sept 26th 9 -11:30 p.m. and YES...YES... DONATIONS ARE EN-COURAGED!! (been doing this for free for a year plus,

y'all can throw us something

OFFICIAL PARTY BY D.J. KAUSION/ FAMOUS ENDORSE-MENTS AT THE BLUE PRINT!

Also that day:

Chief Alone and his Swagga Boy fam will be hosting a FREE SCHOOL SUP-PLY GIVEAWAY KENT BRANCH LIBRARY 2pm. (GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY, THAT'S A GOODTHING!)

Tempest, Big P.I., Young Spade and other Hustle Hand members rockin at Mickey Finns... Lagrange & Huron.

We NEED fold up chairs... if you got me, email/text/ facebook me:

glasscitytruth@yahoo.com

The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union

has just launched their "Brick Campaign". The TUFCU 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 TUFCU 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

Constitution Conjugary, Monwest Urban rewspaper, who s Market, Nabi'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., Minster Charles E. Chandler, Pastor Robert A. Culp, Rev. Dr. Dandel Burgang Bay Dr. John E. Debett B. Debett Butter Theorem. Part to Tour 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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Phillips, David Smith , Frances Smith

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Queen Ester Barringer, Mr. & Mrs. Tony Bivens, Arlene Bond, Henry Boyd, AnitaHackett-Braswell, Charsena Braswell, Carol-Jean Brazzel, Drenda Brooks, Gwen Hackett-Braswell, Čharsena Braswell, Čarol-Jean Brazzel, Drenda Brooks, Gwen Brown, Leona Brown, Michael A. Cancel Sr., Ernestine Carter, John Chapman, Russell Chapman, Lamont Chenault, Leona Chenault, Rufus Coffey, Charlest Coley, Reginald Coley, Dennis Conley, Gloria Conner, Branden Mykal Cook, Manhattan Michelle Cook, Barbara Corggens, 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 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, Larnzy McClelland Sr., Theressa McClendon, Donald H. McCreary, LueDell F. Martin, Pamala 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, Cornell Talley, Pierrette Talley, Mattie Taylor, Monique Talley, Lillie Watkins, Charles B. Welch, Twyla Lorraine Wheaton, Evangelia White, Anderson N. Whitt, Vincent Wiggins, Edith Williams, Felesha, Williams, Jane Williamson, J.T. Williamson, Dorothy Willis, Edward Willis, Pamela Wilson

Crawdaddv Passes

By Michael Hayes Minister of Culture

A local blues legendpassed away this weekend.

I admit, I dont know much about Crawdaddy and if his family or friends are reading this if you would like to email me more information about his entire career I will be sure to include in a later article. I'm not sure how he passed.

I only know via text messages and facebook.

However, my father (drummer/musician Michael L. Hayes) has always had me in the clubs/bars with him during gigs since I was..well. very young. I don't remember how long ago but on one such gig I was introduced to Crawdaddy.

Now..my father and I share a similar trait in that being artists we are somewhat hard to please so when my dad speaks highly of an artist (which he does often) I really know this person must be amazing at what they do. My pop told me how Crawdaddy was an amazing performer with fans near and far Hetold me how the Blues world rarely has a breakout talent..but that Crawdaddy's personality and artistry just



made him a household name in many circles in this region. At various performances over time, I would see him and we would speak. This past spring I remember going to Mix95.7/Hot 97.3's free premier of Bevonce's movie and Crawdaddy hosted the give-away portion and even with everyone there to see a movie...his persona and humor damn near stole the show! A recent member of the Mix 95.7/

Hot 97.3 family, Crawdaddy will be missed by thousands and thousands of people. I know this isn't much of an honorable mention, but even though I don't know much more about him I felt I just had to say something. Like I said, family and friends please reach out to me so we can represent his career accurately. Peace

glasscitytruth@yahoo.com

Arts Section · Arts Section ·

Comedy Showcase - Night of 100 Stars Opens

Presenting Arts Season at Owens, Sept. 25

Special to The Truth

Side-splitting comedy of three nationally-recognized impressionists and entertain-ters, as well as over 100 of their celebrity personalities, will invade northwest Ohio as Owens Community College's Center for Fine and Performing Arts unveils its 2009-10 presenting arts season with a Comedy Showcase-Night of 100 Stars on Friday, Sept. 25.

The Comedy Showcase – Night of 100 Stars performance will begin at 8 p.m. in the Mainstage Theatre. Owens' Toledo-area Campus is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township.

"Owens Community College is proud to kick off its 2009-10 presenting arts season with an evening of unforgettable comedy, music and entertainment by three masterfully-talented impressionists and entertainers," said Barbara Barkan, Owens Operations Manager for the Center for Fine and Performing Arts. "Bethany Owen, Pete Peterkin and David Born have dazzled audiences nationwide with their amazing impressions and comedic parodies of some of the world's most legendary ce-



lebrities. Attendees will be amazed by their versatility and hilarious antics as they bring such celebrity likenesses as Stevie Wonder,

Cher and Robin Williams to the College's Mainstage Theatre."

Impressionist Bethany Owen-knownasthe "Woman

"My children earned a firstclass education in Toledo Public Schools, the University of Toledo, and the MCO. Now my grandson is entering kindergarten here.

We all need our schools to succeed, giving our children and grandchildren the skills necessary to compete in the changing economy."

- Brenda Hill

For our kids, our schools, our future...



of for by Friends of Branda Hill, Carolyn Robinson Trassurer, 2002 Willowhill, Toledo, OH 4301



of 1001 Faces and Voices" celebrates the zany and funny side of celebrity personalities through the use of comedic parody, musical vocal tributes and quick costume and wig changes to some of the world's most famous female superstars of today, including Cher, Madonna, Tina Turner and Barbara Streisand, among many others. The two-time recipient of the Best Female Voice Impressionist Award by the International Guild of Celebrity Impersonators and Tribute Artists. Owen has amazed audiences worldwide with her one-person show to include tour stops throughout India, the Caribbean and the United

Musical impressionist Pete Peterkin will bring more than 100 celebrity impressions, more than 20 musical instruments and an array of dance styles to life during his critically-acclaimed performance. Among his more famous stage characters are Sammy Davis Jr., Stevie Wonder, Ray Charles and President Barack Ohama.

Additionally, Peterkin's talents include writing songs with such musical legends as the The Four Tops and The Temptations, as well as for several made-for-television movies on NBC, CBS and HBO.

David Born is a professional film, television and stage actor with more than 30 years of experience. An expert improvisational and stand-up comedian, Born is recognized

nationally for his impersonation of Robin Williams. In addition tohis improvisational talents, Born has appeared in more than 50 television commercials and has had roles in television shows such as "Friday Night Lights" and many others.

Tickets for the Comedy Showcase-Night of 100 Stars performance are \$32 for floor level seating and \$28 for raised level seating for the general public and \$15 for Owens employees and students. To purchase tickets, visit www.owens.edu or contact the College's Box Office. For more information about this event, contact the Center for Fine and Performing Arts at (567) 661-2787 or 1-800-GO-OWENS. Ext. ARTS (2787).

Meet The Photograph: Edmondson To Open Exhibit At Photo Center

Special to The Truth

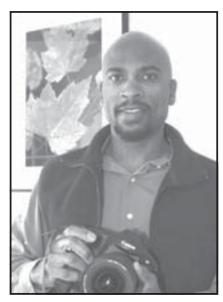
The public can meet nature photographer and author Dudley Edmondson at the opening of a new exhibit of his work Friday, September 25 at the National Center for Nature Photography inside Secor Metropark. Admission is free and light refreshments will be served.

A digital exhibit of 50 photographs, "Images Celebrating Wilderness, Wild Things and the Human Spirit," will remain on exhibit at the center during normal hours, noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, through November 1. It is one of several exhibits currently on display at the center, which also offers educational programs and workshops.

Edmondson, of Duluth, will be in town to present at a September 24 conference, Diversity in Outdoor Recreation, presented by the Back Swamp Bird Observatory and Metropark at the Wildwood Preserve. For details about the conference, visit www.bsbobird.org.

"Nature without question is for everyone. It knows no race, creed or gender and it's cheaper than any therapist you could ever hire," Edmondson said.

About The Photographer



Dudley Edmondson has spent the last 15 years photographing nature and wildlife subjects around the country for natural history publications in the U.S. and Europe. He carries on a family tradition started by his great-grandfather Monteith Vance, a portrait photographer issued a photography license by the state of North Carolina in 1919.

Four years ago, Edmondson began work on a book, "Black & Brown Faces in America's Wild Places," in an attempt to find other African-American around the nation who shared his love for nature and the outdoors. He found several, many of whom he now considers friends. Not until 2005 had he ever been on an outdoor adventure entirely in the company of African-Americans; he called it a life-affirming experience that he will never forget.

Visit Dudley Edmondson's website, www.raptorworks.com.

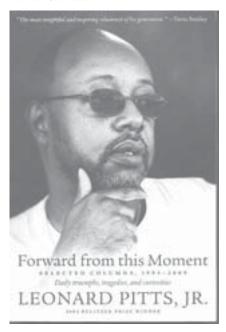
Book Review

"Forward from this Moment" by Leonard Pitts, Jr.

c.2009, Bolden Books

\$17.00 / \$22.95 Canada 349 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer The Truth Contributor



So, what do you think? Go ahead. Spill your mind. You have something to say about the economy, politics, local infrastructure, road conditions, today's youth, TV programs, the weather, your favorite team's quarterback, some guy overseas, troops overseas and the music that's on the radio. You might as well just speak your mind because it seems, these days, ev-

And some of those opinions are so moving, so dead-on mindful that you can't help but be stunned by their commonsenseness. Read Forward from this Moment by Leonard Pitts, Jr., and you'll see what I mean.

erybody has an opinion.

Fifteen years ago, Leonard Pitts, Jr., who was the music critic for the Miami Herald, tired of his job. He asked for a reassignment and — to his surprise — they gave it to him by making him a general interest columnist, which means "they pay me to write about whatever happens to be on my mind at any given time," Pitts says.

This book, a "labor of guilt" for not having compiled those columns already, is his cumulative result. And over the years, there was plenty on his mind...

In hoping for a child's future: "You want so much for your kids. Possibility renews itself through children. You see things in their eyes ... As a parent, you are the guardian of all that. It's hard to imagine a more daunting responsibility."

On perceived "disrespect" and African-American young men: It is, they'll tell you, an issue of respect and they guard that respect to the point of extreme behavior... [But] They don't get it. The cold fact is, the world does not operate according to the mores of hard streets. If one seeks to get ahead, one adapts to society, not the other way around."

"You want respect? Real respect? Bump the dumb stuff. Keep your eyes on the prize."

On "colorblindness:" "I can appreciate the frustration of white Americans whose only desire where race is concerned is to know what's OK, what's allowed..."

On gay rights and African-Americans: "How can we of all people, we who know the weight of American oppression better than almost anyone, stand in the path of those who seek simple equality?"

Agree or disagree, you'd have to go a long way to

find a book that makes you fall in love with words and ideas more than does Forward from this Moment. Author Leonard Pitts, Jr. speaks his mind eloquently and quite often with tenderness but, overall, to heck with anyone who's rankled.

Politicians, ignoramuses, world leaders, and heroes are all up for examination in Pitts' world, and it's abundantly clear that he means exactly what he says. And in case there's any doubt that Pitts is a man of conviction, he includes several columns that reply to and answer his detractors their puthim-on-the-spot comments.

Forward from this Moment is a book to find and to savor and it should be on the bedside table of every thinking person. In my opinion, it's one of the finest books you'll read this year.

Ready

(Continued from Page 3)

right wing Republican Party, we have a problem. A problem that leads to an escalation of vitriol that

is nourished by a residue of latent racial anathema against a black man being the top dog in America.

When people attend gatherings with guns on their hips and steely looks in their eyes about Obama leading the country to socialism...there is a clear and present danger.

When politicians can say without rebuke or state without facts that Obama has a deep seated hatred of whites, that political gibberish is fuel for a gun nut to be a hero and attempt to take out the president.

When Obama is denigrated to the point that even his children are called stupid and his wife is vetted as being a terrorist...there is a clear and present danger.

This approach is all too common when an enemy wants to deprecate a foe, they will usually reduce the object of their contempt to a "non-human" entity and thus justify their contempt or hatred or even extermination on that basis.

Need examples? The near extermination of the American Indian as viewed as a "savage." The Jew, gypsies and the homosexuals during the reign of Hitler in Germany as being non humans

The African slave being brought to America in chains as being viewed as a descendant of apes.

All of those characterizations makes it easier to salve the conscience and easier for the executioner to pull the trigger or adjust the lynching rope or turn up the heat in the ovens because what he or she is doing is being done to someone who is "not like them" or "not one of us."

When the likes of Michelle Malkin, Ann Coulter, Bill O'Reilly, Glenn Beck, Rush Limbaugh, Pat Buchanan and even Alan Keyes can rant and rave about Obama being a foreigner, and even a Muslim foreigner at that, despite solid evidence to the contrary...there is a clear and present danger to the president and his family.

American political discourse has taken a near falling off of the rails and is careening towards an apocalypse that will be bitter, ugly and of lasting damage.

To his credit, former President Jimmy Carter, a southern white male, issued a statement that this virulent environment of hate speech against Obama has its roots in white America not being at ease with a black man being president and its refusal to give him his "propers" as they would do so to a similarly situated white president.

What is now needed is more white Americans who have "face value" in the media to come forward and condemnthis growing darkness that can shroud the light of American democ-

Would I characterize all this dissonance as being racial in nature? No. But when good people lose their voice and allow apostates to hijack the political discourse, their vocal absence is taken by default as being in compliance with the fear mongers.

Earlier, I noted in this column space that with the Obama presidency, he will be assessed all things bad that happens to America regardless that the genesis of this near economic meltdown and the costly wars in Iraq and Afghanistan happened during the terms of Republican George W. Buch

Be that as it may, unless Americans on both sides of the political aisle begin to denounce and repudiate all extremism and call to task those who blithely continue to engage in vituperate commentary against the persona of this president, American democracy will be forever tainted as being a system that was unable to adjust to a black man being both the head of state (political) and the head of this country (leadership).

America has elected a black man as president. Get over it!

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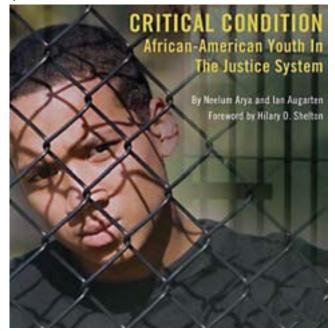
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Working Toward More Equitable Treatment In The Justice System

Special to The Truth



A new campaign hopes to reverse a disturbing trend, a trend that predicts that one in three black males born today

can expect to spend time in prison during his life-

According to the Campaign for Youth Justice, historic discrepancies within the justice system's treatment of African-American and white youth need to be addressed

"Critical Condition: African-American Youth in the Justice System" explains how African-American youth are continually faced with unfair criminal justice policies that result in a high rate of incarceration in juvenile and adult correctional fa-

Although there is no national system that collects data on youth transferred to the adult system, researchers estimate that as many as 200,000 youth are prosecuted as adults each year. Evidence suggests that African-American youth are disproportionately affected by these laws.

"It is well documented that African-American youth are treated more harshly by the justice system than white youth for the same offenses, at all

tem," said NAACP Washington Bureau director Hilary O. Shelton.

Key findings include:

- While black youth constitute only 17 percent of the national youth population, 43 percent of all youths detained in iuvenile detention centers are African-Ameri-
- Of all youth who are prosecuted in the adult system, 62 percent are African-American.
- Black youth are nine times more likely than white youth to receive an adult prison sen-
- Black children were seven and a half times more likely than white children to have a parent in prison.
- Recent estimates are that 20 percent of all black children have a fastages in the justice sys- ther with an incarcera-

tion history.

The results of questionnaires about crime and drug use answered anonymously by a large cross section of the youth community are chilling with respect to the racial disparities in the justice system, Overall, African-American youth do not engage in more delinquent behavior than white youth. While white youth are significantly more likely to use and sell drugs, black youth make up 60 percent of the young people detained for drug trafficking. Many black youth end up in adult court for drug offenses; 87 percent of those charged with drug offenses in adult court are African-American.

To download a copy of this report or to learn more, visit:

www.campaignforyouthjustice.org

Adam

Democrat for Toledo City Council

ProBusiness, Pro Neighborhoods, Pro Toledo -



"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."



Wilkowski Receives Ohio **Democratic Party Endorsement**

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Chris Redfern, chairman of the Ohio Democratic Party, was in Toledo on Monday, September 21, to announce that the state party has extended its endorsement to Democrat Keith Wilkowski. who finished first in the Toledo mayoral primary the previous week. Redfern added that the assistance to Wilkowski's campaign will take the form of "paid staffers from Columbus," although he declined to offer specifics about those staffers.

"My appearance here is not something new, we have been supporting local candidates in the last four years since I have been chairman.' said Redfern. "Electing strong leaders like Keith Wilkowski is important to electing strong candidates like Ted Strickland and Barack Obama. Democrats have to be engaged at every level and by supporting Keith, we will be able to do that."

As to the specific resources that will be made available to the Wilkowski campaign, Redfern said: "We understand that he is running against someone who has embraced the notion of tax increases. We need to invest in consumers."

Redfern pointed to Wilkowski's plan for eco-



nomic development as one of the issues that would set him apart from independent Mike

"We will not stop at any lengths to help Keith get elected," said Redfern. "And we will build on that success [throughout the state]." Redfern noted that 19 of the most heavily populated 21 urban areas in Ohio have Democratic mayors.

Redfern, whose hometown is Port Clinton, has represented parts of Lucas County during his years in the Ohio General Assembly. Prior to becoming chairman of the state party, he was

minority leader in the House of Representatives.

"Keith is one of the ablest candidates I've worked with,' said Redfern of his history with the candidate.

Wilkowski spoke of his pride in the accomplishments of recent campaigns. "We tried to turn Ohio 'blue' on behalf of the presidential campaign and that's the kind of approach we are using as a mayoral candidate," said Wilkowski. "We must have a mayor who understands economic development and job creation. I am glad to be working with Chris Redfern in bringing that message.'

Trick-Or-Treaters Scare Up Ways To Help Charity

For children participating in a program called Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, Halloween isn't just a time to help themselves to candy-it's also a time to help others. In fact, as one of the country's most recognizable Halloween traditions, Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF has raised over \$144 million over its 59-year history. Since its inception, the program has helped reduce the unnecessary deaths of children. According to UNICEF, 24,000 children die every day of preventable

For many of its young participants, the initiative has represented a first taste of volunteerism. As an educational and fundraising initiative, the program provides U.S. children, along with their parents and teachers, the opportunity to learn about their peers worldwide who are truly in need.

While carrying the orange collection box door to door is still one of the most popular ways to contribute to Trickor-Treat for UNICEF, partici-

pants can also host bake sales and car washes or text the word "TOT" to UNICEF (864233) to donate \$5 on their mobile phone. Other ways to get involved include hosting a Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF Halloween Party; just register at www.unicefusa.org/ Halloweenparties to receive a party kit.

Collection boxes are available online and at retail locations, including select Baskin-Robbins, Hallmark Gold Crown stores, and Pier 1 Imports. Boxes can also be

ordered by phone at (800) FOR-KIDS. Donations can be made via credit card or check, or through over 12,000 participating Coinstar Centers?, found in supermarkets, drugstores and mass merchants nationwide.

Coming Together

Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF owes its success over the years not only to the children, parents and educators who have taken the initiative to participate, but also to a wide array of companies and organizations that serve as

Last year, for instance, Key Club International raised over \$700,000 for the cause. This year, funds from the group will support Operation Uruguay: Protecting the Rights of Children. In the South American nation of Uruguay, more than half a million children and adolescents live in

New this year, Procter & Gamble will double the impact of donations made by viewers of a Halloweenthemed prime-time television

special airing on HGTV on Sunday, October 18 and Saturday, October 24 at 8 p.m. ET/PT. P&G will match all donations made via HGTV.com from October 18 through October 31, 2009, up to\$100,000.

In addition, the U.S. Fund for UNICEF is pleased to announce that American Airlines, Baskin-Robbins and HGTV have joined as new supporters of this year's cam-

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CLASSIFIEDS

September 23, 2009

Page 15

TRAINING CENTER CLERK (Part-Time)

Provide training center clerical support. 21 hrs/ week (days & hours will vary with evening & weekend work required). Position starts at \$13.79/ hr. w/benefits. REQUIREMENTS: HSdiploma/equiv.; 1 yr clerical/office exp + type 55 wpm. See complete position requirements at www.lucaskids.net. Send resume to Human Resources, LCCS, 705 Adams St., Toledo, OH 43604 or fax to 419-327-3291 by 09/25/09. EOE-Valuing diversity

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Dreams of Tomorrow Learning Center, Located at 1007 N. Summit St.,

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HEAD START JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Head Start Director

- -\$30.54/hr(post-probation);
- 40 hrs /wk; 52 wks /yr
- Bachelor's Degree required (Master preferred) in Early
- Childhood Education, Business, Social Services or related field
- -Seven (7) years experience
- working in government funded programs

 Minimum five (5) years experience in
- -Minimum five (5) years experience in Program Administration
- Application deadline: Friday, October 2, 2009.

Human Resource Director

- -29.90/hour (post-probation);
- 40 hrs /wk; 52 wks /year
- -Must have Bachelor's Degree
- in Human Resource Management -Five (5) years of Human Resources
- and three (3) years supervisory experience
 Application deadline: Friday, October 2, 2009.

Family Service Worker I

- -\$14.18/hour (post-probation); 40 hrs / wk; 44 wks /year
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- or related field required
- One year experience in Social Services delivery Application deadline: Tuesday, September 29, 2009

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

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EOE
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INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority is seeking bids from qualified contractors to furnish all labor, materials, and equipment for the following project(s): There are four (4) jobs being bid:

| Job# | Description Walk-Thru Date | Bid Opening | Date |
|----------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 29086 | Renovation of #8 Birmingham Ten | race 9/24 | /09 10:00am |
| 10/07/09 | 11:00am | | |
| 29081 | Tree Trimming of West Region Si | tes 9/22 | /09 10:00am |
| 10/02/09 | | | |
| 29082 | Tree Trimming of East Region Sit | es 9/22 | /09 10:00am |
| 10/02/09 | 11:00am | | |
| 29083 | Tree Trimming of Central Region | Sites 9/22 | /09 10:00am |
| 10/02/09 | 11:00am | | |

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the 2nd 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.

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

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

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

LUCAS METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY MODERNIZATION DEPARTMENT



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Preferred Properties, Inc. is accepting applications for 2 bedroom apartments. Monthly rent is \$415 + electric. A portion of gas utility will be paid by owner. Section 8 vouchers accepted. Applicants

must be 18 or older and meet income eligibility. Applications will be taken at the model apartment on Friday, October 2, 2009 between 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Application fee is \$25. For more information call (419) 389-0361.



Accepting Applications

John H. McKissick Senior Apartments are accepting applications for 1 bedroom waiting list for elderly housing, 62 years or older. Rent will be based on income. Applications will be taken on a FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS on Wednesday, September 30, 2009 from 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. at 1030 Brookview Drive, Toledo, Ohio. For further information. call (419) 389-0361. M.F. 8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.



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Patricia McLemore Celebrates 60th Birthday With Friends and Family

By Artisha S. Lawson Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Sixty years ago, Patricia Branford McLemore was born into a family that would include six other siblings and has since become a mother of three, grandmother to 13 and greatgrandmother of one. On Friday, September 18, 2009 over 100 friends and family filled the Bethlehem New Life Center on Bancroft Street to celebrate her life and those six decades.

"I wanted everyone to come out and just enjoy themselves. I organized my 50th birthday, and saved up for this party because I wanted it to be perfect," said McLemore.

The celebration came at a depressing time for the family, because McLemore's mother has just passed that week. Her brother Keith was happy to celebrate with his familv. "It was a hard time for us, with my mother passing, but this party will defi-



nitely uplift our spirits."

Red and white balloons and decorations filled the banquet hall, family members said Patricia was a joy as a child. "She's a beautiful person, she was the youngest child and was always a loving and caring person," said her brother Gene Branford.

For over 39 years she has been married to Dan McLemore and raised three children - Kevin, Shawn and Alanna. She has worked for the City of Toledo's Division of Building Inspection for over 41 vears, has volunteered as a



Girl Scout Leader for 10 years, is a faithful member of Cornerstone Church. has been an avid bicyclist participating in 14 Multiple Sclerosis Bike-to-the-Bay rides and is famous for her signature 7-Up Cake. "I've baked for other people, especially for family reunions. They always email me for that cake," said McLemore.

Patricia first signed up for Bike-to-the-Bay because a close friend has multiple sclerosis. "My good friend, Barbara Allen, has MS. It's a challenge and when I saw the bike ride announced in the newspaper, I decided to sign up," said McLemore. "I know it would be a challenge, but I knew I could do it. Now 14 years later, my other friends have joined me. It's a worthy cause."

Along with the music and catered food, a board displaying a lifetime of pictures of Patricia McLemore was featured inside the hall. The pictures included portraits of Patricia, family reunions, family memories, kids and grandchildren snap shots, recitals, formal occasions and Bike-to-the-Bay with other bicyclists.



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