

Volume 16, No.25

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

October 14, 2009

<u>In This Issue</u> The Truth Editorial Page 2

Guest Commentary Page 3

Ford Endorses Bell Page 4

Latino Leaders Endorse Wilkowski Page 5

Cover Story Shanda Gore, Ph.D. Page 6

St. Francis' African American Club Page 7

Weekend of Tatum Pages 8 and 9

Legends Luncheon Page 10

Commandress Ball Page 12

St. Paul AME Zion Celebration Page 12

BlackMarketPlace Page 14

Classifieds Page 15

Alpha Kappa Alpha Cluster Page 16





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## This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

Scandinavia has got the right wingers rockin' and reelin' these days.

First came President Barack Obama's much debated trip to Copenhagen, Denmark to try to bring the bacon home to Chicago, bacon in the form of the 2016 Olympics.

It was a politically risky move for the president, even though it was much more personal than it was political. In fact, some observers, even those on the left, thought that he never should have placed his prestige on the line without a guarantee in advance that his efforts would be rewarded.

In the event, the games were awarded to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. That is the first time the modern Olympics – 120 years old in 2016 – will be given to the South American continent that has a population of more than 400 million.

As much fun as it would have been to have the games played four hours away from Toledo, we have to ask of the Rio decision – what took so long.

By the time Obama arrived home to the bad news that his toddlin' town was the first city eliminated, the chorus of chuckles on the right was in full throat. It was obviously worth it to the conservative pundits not to have the games in Chicago or in the U.S. if it fed their ire at the man they have loathed so from the start.

See, they said, even his popularity in the rest of the world is on the downturn. His pretty speeches can't sustain him any longer, even those effete Europeans are beginning to see through him.

And, wouldn't you know it. Just as conservative glee was peaking came the word out of Scandinavia – this time from Oslo, Norway – that the once popular Barack Obama had just won the Nobel Peace Prize, only the third sitting president to do so.

As the old Danish expression goes, for the right wing this news was as if someone had 'peed on their sugar sandwich.'

And the world went topsy turvy again. In fact, it appears that Obama, much to the consternation of those who despise the man, is just as popular as ever in the rest of the world, which greeted the news with much less skepticism than did we in the old U.S. of A.

What's missing in the contortions of the right is the fact that Obama neither campaigned for the award nor knew that he had been nominated.

What's also missing is any recognition of the fact that the Novel Peace Prize committee has always been concerned with the impact of its decisions not just with the history that prompts the honoring of individuals or groups.

Examples abound in the more than 100 years of peace prize awards. One noteworthy instance is the 1978 selection of Anwar al Sadat and Menachem Begin to share the prize. If anyone deserved the award that year, it would have been President Jimmy Carter who brought the two leaders to the table, the Camp David table, and pushed and prodded the Egyptian and Israeli leaders into an accord.

But the committee was more concerned with furthering the activities of the two men rather than celebrating what had been started, so Carter was overlooked.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev won the Nobel in 1990, not because of any initiatives he had undertaken to advance peace but because the committee wanted him to continue dismantling the Soviet Union.

The truth is, Obama has been honored because he has changed or is trying to change the way America approaches the rest of the world. His opponents here at home say it is a sign of weakness to seek such respect from others. That American arrogance, that 'devil-may-care' attitude is our greatest failing as a nation.

Our second greatest failing is our collective naivete in looking at the world and assuming that everyone out there wants to be just like us and would be just like us if given half a chance. Hence our nation building efforts in Iraq.

Not everyone in America is so arrogant or so naïve. This was the American model, for instance, that President Lyndon Johnson bristled at as he kept sending more troops to Vietnam but did so nonetheless fearing the political consequences that would fall on his head if he gave in to the Communists.

So far, Obama has dealt with such political consequences with a fairly balanced stance. The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to him, at least in part, to give him a little moral courage during those long days and nights of doubt. Good choice.



## **Community Calendar**

#### October 1'

Trulight Cathedral Well-Watered Women of Faith program: "Oasis of Hope;" 11 am  $-1\,\mathrm{pm}$  : 419-537-8629 or 419-450-2950

Third Baptist Church 5th Pastoral Anniversary: Noon luncheon; Hilton Garden Inn: 419-248-4623

St. Paul AME Zion Church 92<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary: Community Fun Day: 419-322-5817 2ndAnnual Making a Difference Against Chemical Dependency Conference: St. Stephens COGIC; 10 am to 2 pm; Conference presenter Rev. William "Tony" Thomas, former Youth Authority Placement Coordinator for the state of Calif: 419-539-2696 or shr4273@aol.coc

Third Baptist Church of Holland Youth Choir Anniversary Musical: 6 pm

#### October 18

Third Baptist Church 5th Pastoral Anniversary: 11 am service: 419-248-4623 Calvary Baptist Church 80th Anniversary: "Don't Forget to Remember;" Special guest Bethlehem Baptist; 4 pm: 419-242-9173

St. Paul AME Zion Church 92nd Anniversary: 11 am and 4:30 pm services: 419-322-5817

Beulah Baptist Church Anniversary: 4 pm; Guest speaker Rev. Cedric Brock of Mt. Nebo

#### October 21, 23, 25

Worship Center Celebrates Rev. Pat McKinstry: 50 Years of Ministry, 40 Years of Marriage; 20 Years of Pastorate; Nightly at 7 pm—Family Night, Bishop/Pastor's Night/Vickie Winans, Sunday at 11 am: 419-244-2100

#### October 21

 $2009\,Annual\,Fall\,Parent\,Conference;\,Mercy\,St.\,Charles\,Hospital;\\ 5\,to\,7\,pm;\\ ``Peaceful\,Parenting-The\,Application\,of\,choice\,Therapy\,Psychology\,to\,Parenting;\\ 419-213-3603$ 

#### October 23-25

Scott High School 30th Class Reunion: 419-283-2775 or 419-514-0215

#### October 24

Demystifying Digital: Women Making Sense of Today's Technology;  $8\!:\!30$ am to 2

Pilgrim Church 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off: 2 to 5 pm: 419-478-6012

Citywide Christian Trustee Association: AIDS Seminar; 10 am to noon; Speaker Jerry Kerr AIDS coordinator with TLC Health Department

#### October 24-25

Calvary Baptist Church 80th Anniversary: "Don't Forget to Remember; Saturday at 6 pm; Sunday at 10:45 am; Special guests St. John Baptist Church of Savannah, GA and Rev. George Lee: 419-242-9173

New Prospect Baptist Church Missions and Mothers' Day Program: 4 pm; Guests Rev. Robert Curtis and Mt. Olive of Lima: 419-241-2624

Center of Hope Community Baptist Church Women's Day Celebration: 11:30 am; Min April Hearn, guest preacher

#### October 25

Mt. Zion Church 86th Church Anniversary & Mortgage Burning Celebration: Guest speaker Pastor Michael Harrison; 10:30 am

#### October 26

Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund and Central City Ministry's 5th Annual Celebrity Wait: Tip or Treat; 6:30 pm; Real Seafood: 419-244-6711 ext 220

#### October 30

Braden United Methodist Church All Saints Day Celebration: Party for children; 6 to 8 pm; Games, prizes, fodd and fun for children of all ages

## The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's *Truthful* African-American Owned and Operated Newspaper

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## MBE Frustration Also Shared by Those in Public Office

By Steven C. Steel, Toledo City Councilman and former President of the Toledo Board of Education



A few weeks ago I heard a story that has become all too familiar in my experience in public office. A gentleman shared his frustration with me, saying his small business enterprise had tried to bid on government contracts but had trouble getting through the maze set up by the Finkbeiner Administration. He showed me his credentials, discussed the specific tasks he was well qualified to perform and the contracts he believed he could be awarded. In the end, he had been turned away, putting his livelihood in jeopardy, and he turned to me for help.

He was an African-American entrepreneur, owner of a

certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and he believed he wasn't getting a fair chance to share in the American Dream.

Both the City of Toledo and Toledo Public Schools have established goals for inclusion of business enterprises with minority ownership. The problem is, there are continual barriers in the way of small business owners that put them at a disadvantage when they bid. Since my public service began on the Toledo Board of Education in 2006 I have struggled to change processes and procedures to even the playing field and give everyone a fair stake in the government contract pie. Like the dozens of business owners I have talked to, I have also become frustrated.

But I have never given up. After my most recent meeting with this disgusted entrepreneur I began asking questions in my new position on Toledo City Council, first informally and now formally. I know the City's goals for inclusion. I have asked to see the actual numbers on the

record, will demand they be produced, and will work from there to determine how they can be improved.

This work is not new to me. As a public servant on the Toledo Board of Education I have a record of struggling to improve fairness for small business owners, especially MBE's. The record of inclusion by Toledo Public Schools before my tenure on the Board, especially in the massive Building for Success new school building program, shows goals not met, with contracts awarded to MBE's at an alarmingly low rate. While I can not be responsible for this dismal record prior to 2006 (the building program started years before my election to the Board), the fact is that I effected change in the way TPS does business in my three-plus years in leadership, especially during my time as Board president beginning in mid-2007.

Here are the facts. During the time of my Board presidency, May 2007 to June 2009, I met with numerous individuals and groups of leaders in the African-American community, and pushed the administration to respond to their concerns. I led the effort to reject demolition contracts that had not been broken into smaller contracts to allow smaller businesses to bid competitively. I worked behind the scenes to determine how the contracts could most effectively be split up, even as the State threatened the Board that delays could jeopardize the entire building program. Under my leadership the Board rejected the contracts presented by the Administration, demanded they be broken out and rebid, and allowed for a more inclusive process, for the first time in the history of the Building for Success program. No Board, and no Board member prior to my tenure, took this bold step

Since I have moved to City Council, my former colleagues on the Board, led by President Bob Vasquez, have continued this process and contracts for new buildings are also broken up to allow for more inclusion in the bidding process. This had also never been done by any previous Board.

But my efforts, and those of Mr. Vasquez in his role as Finance chair, went well beyond the building program. We both demanded the administration provide Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) numbers from financial institutions with whom we did business. It was our firm belief that institutions receiving millions of dollars in TPS investment should demonstrate their commitment to employ all segments of the Toledo community. We met with bank officials and voiced our concerns, then enforced policy which required them to provide their numbers. This was another first in the history of TPS.

We also worked with TPS Administration to implement a Supplier Diversity program throughout the schools, meaning procedures that ensure MBEs and other small businesses are given equal access to all purchasing decisions. After investigation, including demonstration of the program used by the City of Dayton, a program was purchased for implementation shortly before I moved to City Council.

I am confident these efforts will bear fruit for the Toledo community, much as my work as chair of the Curriculum committee has led to the highest educational achievement across the District in TPS history on the most recent state report card, with almost every school in every neighborhood showing improvement.

These are not my opinions, or what I have heard. These are the facts, as demonstrated by my voting record and my record expressed in public meetings as president of the TPS Board as well as those of Mr. Vasquez. We both worked hard to push the Administration to improve their own record. I have already begun to do the same in my brieftenure on Toledo City Council with the Finkbeiner Administration

Making change in large bureaucracies is difficult, and established procedures are deeply entrenched. But my record is one of continuing to struggle forward. It isn't easy.

But it is right.



The Truth Contributor

The late African-American political genius and former University of Michigan professor Harold Cruse, during a 1989 lecture at Prairie View A&M University, was queried by a student requesting him to evaluate black leaders. Cruse responded, "What leaders? We have no leaders."

The stunned questioner then recited several names of leading national civil rights figures, congressional and municipal personalities and those of other noted incumbencies. Cruse, irritated, responded again: "Those persons are not leaders because they have no plan, no program of action and no organization to mobilize or lead blacks in a direction that will deal with their communal problems.

The fruit of the civil rights movement resulting in black progress and achievement in the City of Toledo is extensive. A variety of African-American politicians have been elected or appointed to county commissioner, mayor and city council along with an assortment of county and municipal administrators including legal professionals, a fire chief and deputy police or fire person-

The local field of education boasts of a past African-American superintendent of schools, several school board members, administrators and teachers as well as several post-secondary administrators and professors. The local business, banking, healthcare and nonprofit communities have been sprinkled with high ranking and well-paid executives and officers, all of whom were a direct or indirect consequence of the civil rights move-

It is in these achievements that the success of the civil rights movement and its leaders shines while the movement's limitations and the transcendence of its leaders are simultaneously exposed.

The goal of the civil rights movement was to integrate or open up opportunities for entry and advancement for blacks to participate alongside with whites in the larger society. However, integration wasn't the be-all and end-all that we thought.

The laws against segregation have changed, but the urban crisis has worsened. The racial-mix and representation of elected officials and public and private sector jobs has improved but the urban problems remain. The African-American middle class is now 20 to 25 percent of the black community but more than 50 percent still live in poverty and crisis mode.

While the civil rights era and other leadership (most of which do not even live in the black community) continues to devote its resourses in pursuing symbols of progress through a strategy of integration and assimilation, the core or majority of the community that they propose to lead are left behind, disconnected, segregated and isolated from society and the economy because they lack the talent, resources or luck to effectively move up or out of poverty's muck and

Who speaks for the core community during this current era of "vulgar individualism that promotes disassociation from poor blacks" even by African-Americans themselves who have abandoned their historical concept of extended family and interrelatedness?

Not contemporary black politicians or leaders who are themselves integrated, in contrast to the marginalized, segregated, impoverished and denigrated who they often purport to represent. Many of these politicians and community personalities increasingly portray themselves as leaders who "happen to be black" and are not grounded in, representative of and committed to serving low-income communities or communities of color.

Of course the African-American community is itself very diverse and there may be ideological and class differences within the community which make unity impossible. Additionally, there are forces both within and without the black community that deny that the government has a role to

(Continued on Page 4)



## Former Mayor Jack Ford Endorses Mike Bell

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Former Mayor Jack Ford endorsed the candidacy of independent Mike Bell for mayor last week during a news conference in which he emphasized Bell's competency on safety and security issues.

"He has a deep understanding of security," said Ford of the man who served as Toledo's fire chief for more than 16 years including the four of the Ford administration. "He was the leader on 9/11 simulation and training and was called upon by the White House to give advice. He has an understanding of safety and he has been a leader of men and women for about a generation and when you have that kind of extensive day-to-day leadership, that is invaluable."

Ford, a member of the Toledo Board of Education, also gave Bell's opponent, Democrat Keith Wilkowski, credit as well. "He's a very talented lawyer with a broad background in government," said Ford.

"We are fortunate to



have two talented individuals [running], but I'm saying this about Mike because he is the one I know. I'm almost in awe of Mike and his story. It's almost a myth but, fortunately, it's true."

Ford denied that his passing over fellow Democrat Wilkowski in favor of Bell was a result of any lingering hard feelings from the 2005 mayoral race. At that time, incumbent Ford was challenged by Wilkowski in the primary in an act that was perceived by many in the Ford camp as one of disloyalty. Ford would eventually lose in the general election to Mayor Carty Finkbeiner.

"This is a very big thing

for me," said Bell of the former mayor's stamp of approval. "I could not have a better endorsement. This brings to my campaign someone who understands

the dynamics of the mayor's office – it brings credibility."

While Ford keyed in on

Bell's safety and security credentials in extending the endorsement, he also noted that he had examined the candidate's economic plan. "It makes sense," said Ford of the Bell plan. "But no mayor creates jobs. He can create the infrastructure that will help to bring jobs but this idea that a mayor will create gobs and gobs of jobs is not true."

Asked if his endorsement would offset Wilkowski's Democratic Party nod, Ford said it would not. "The Democratic endorsement is powerful," said Ford. "I just wanted to say what I thought. I'm not into the party fight, we spend too much time in Toledo on that."

## **Setting Sun**

(Continued from Page 3)

play in dealing with the problems of the inner city and instead blame the poor for their own condition.

However, the cruel and misinformed tactic of pointing out the "moral" or other shortcomings of the black and working class poor camouflages the economic vulnerability of ordinary black folks who face the loss of union jobs and declining job prospects due to industrial flight and the rise of lowpaying service jobs, a foreclosure crisis, failing public schools, shrinking tax bases and a broken health care system while we reward corporations and the super-rich with bailouts and tax give-aways. The time has come for a

civil rights generation (that for too long has simply refused to sit down) to make way for a new advocacy by those who see through a new prism and who possess new ideas and an agenda that addresses the needs of the black poor who make up the majority of the community which include the pressing issues and frustrations experienced by the common person of today – such as the inequities facing children and

families, failing schools, limited job, career and business opportunities, violence, poverty and hopelessness.

Rather than attempting to speak through this 21st Century Joshua generation, the previous generation should instead be directly involved in the critical task of developing new leaders while allowing them to speak and lead for themselves.

The most important piece of advice from experience that should be passed along?

Take the time to obtain 21st Century leadership skills. Often African-Americans have only been in positions to shout demands and draw attention to grievances. In order to take advocacy to another level and obtain positive results, it requires learning how to become savvy negotiators and diplomats. Only a few can "put down the hammer that got them to the table, pick up the pen and negotiate with those in power."

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 Analysis of The Innovation Group Study, May 2009;
 University of Cincinnati Economics Center for Education & Research Economic Study, June 2009









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## Wilkowski Endorsed by Latino Community Leaders

Mayoral Democratic candidate Keith Wilkowski received the endorsement of more than a dozen Latino political and community leaders in an announcement last Thursday, October 8, during a press conference at the candidate's headquarters.

"We think it's important to have a man of Keith's ability and experience," said Baldemar Velasquez, president of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC). "We think he's the best option to provide leadership for the problems the city is

Wilkowski, in thanking the Latino leadership for their support, noted that he was looking forward to working with the leaders to "revitalize our economy, strengthen our neighborhoods and create greater opportunity for all Toledoans.

He said that his campaign's commitment was to ensure "that Toledo is an open place, is a welcoming place."



'Today the issue that faces us all is jobs," said Wilkowski. "I am so proud to have the backing of those standing behind me. Everyone standing here has played a role in the community. My administration will be as diverse as the City of Toledo is."

Several other candidates, all Democrats, were among those gathered to show their support for Wilkowski including City Council candidate Adam Martinez and Board of Education President Bob Vasquez who is running to retain his seat.

"As a new candidate. let me say how supportive Mr. Wilkowski was to my campaign when no one else was," said Martinez. "I support him 110 percent."

"Keith and I agree that the Toledo Board of Education is an important part of the city and an important part of the economy," said Vasquez. "Keith and I have come to agreement on a number of things and I am very pleased to be part of his campaign."

When asked about the percentage of Latino voters in Toledo, Virginia Ortega, former director of the Aurora Gonzalez Community Center and a longtime civil rights advocate. responded that such numbers were unimportant.

"We have enough voters to make the difference in this campaign and in Adam's [Martinez] campaign," said Ortega. "The percentage is irrelevant. Keith Wilkowski has demonstrated a history of inclusiveness. We want to be represented throughout [the administration] and Keith has demon-strated that commitment."

Both Keith Wilkowski and his opponent, independent Mike Bell, participated in a candidate's forum earlier in the week presented by the Northwest Ohio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Gary Johnson, president of the chamber, spoke of Wilkowski's commitment to small businesses as evidenced by that discussion.

"Many times the small business owner is wearing many hats and doesn't have time or the resources to jump through all the hoops and regulations at city hall," said Johnson. "Keith has demonstrated that he understands the need to simplify government red tape for small businesses and that is why we are supporting him."

The Latino community leaders supporting Wilkowski include: Velasquez; Vasquez; Ortega; Johnson; Martinez; Lucas County Auditor Anita Lopez; President of the Civilian Police Review Board Lisa Canales; Latino Democratic Caucus members Marisol Ibarra and Olga Martinez; attorneys Angelita Cruz-Bridges, Arturo Quintero and Lourdes Santiago; Sofia Quintero Family Center Director Joe Balderas and Hernan Vasquez, president of Mandell-Vasquez, Inc.



# LARRY SYKES Toledo Board of Education

I have been involved in our children's education and Toledo Public Schools (TPS) for the last 36 years. I served on the Board of Education for

Foundation in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 each.

10 of those years, twice as the Board President. During that term, TPS went from a rating of academic emergency to continuous improvement. We became the leading urban school district in the State of Ohio in academic achievement.

While I was president of the Board, we adopted a policy of school uniforms and created nationally recognized innovative programs such as:

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Under my leadership, innovative programs including Project STAR and Freshman Academy were

My passion for impacting the lives of children in the community I grew up in is demonstrated by my commitment to Toledo and I will bring back institutional knowledge that is not currently present on this



Larry Sykes

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Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section

## Shanda Gore, Ph.D.: Enhancing Educational Opportunities for Others at UT

By Fletcher Word Sojourner's Truth Editor

Shanda Gore, Ph.D., recently appointed vice president for Equity and Diversity at The University of Toledo, has her hands full these days. The major reason for all of these responsibilities, she stresses, is that she was given an opportunity to receive an education. Now she is taking advantage of the opportunity she had to ensure others have the same.

Now in her seventh year at UT, Gore has her hands in virtually every aspect of the university's efforts to develop and implement strategic plans, policies, programs and operating procedures related to campus-wide diversity.

In her former role as the UT College of Medicine's director of Diversity, Student Recruitment and Retention, Gore oversaw the creation of the CARE (Communications-Acceptance-Response-Excellence) program that includes a one-to-one recruitment strategy for minority students. In addition CARE includes a mentoring initiative, an alumni relations enhancement element and a component that brings an overall awareness of health science majors and careers to underrepresented minority student populations.

Now she is everywhe



on the campus. She leads a number of campus-wide, diversity enhancing committees, serves as the chairman for the President's Lecture Series on Diversity and facilitates the President's Committee on African American Recruitment, Retention and Scholarship Support for the Health Science Campus.

Gore arrived at this point, she says, because she had full scholarship opportunities at Bowling Green State University. Without that, a college education may not have been possible.

Gore, a Bay Village, OH native who attended high School in Maumee, was a 50 Men & Women Scholarship recipient and one of the first two nationwide winners of the Alex Haley Scholarship. BGSU matched her 50 Men & Women Scholarship.

She earned a bachelor's of communications there and, later, a master's of communications with an emphasis on minority communities in the greater Toledo area.

And earlier this year, Gore became Dr. Gore when she completed her doctorate of education from BGSU. Her research area was involvement behaviors and minority medical student retention.

Education, her own and others, has been Gore's vocation and avocation.

"Education is necessary and has been necessary on a number of levels," says Gore. "With education comes opportunities that would otherwise not be possible."

Thence comes the commitment to others' efforts.

Currently Gore develops diversity plans, assists the Medical College and the hospital in working with the diversity portion for their accreditation bodies, is involved with higher learning courses in diversity and will be in direct charge of the newly established minority business enterprise incubator which is situated on the

UT Scott Park Campus of Energy and Innovation.

"The incubator offers another opportunity for the minority community to advance," says Gore. "It provides a connection between UT and the community."

As Gore explains, the university's position is that it is an integral part of the community and the success of either is reflected in the success of both.

"We have a commitment (Continued on Page 7)

## Old West End Restaurant

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Quarter Pounder - \$1.50Combo for 2 - \$5.99

Partial 85 Cent Menu

Fries \* Nuggets \* Wingdings \* Chicken Strips Chicken Strip/Wingding – 40 cents each Corner of Collingwood and Delaware 419-210-4680

## Actors Present Classic by Author Toni Morrison

Special to The Truth

Literature lovers and fans of one of America's most revered authors are invited to enjoy a special presentation by New Works Writers Series at 7 p.m. Oct. 15 at the Ground Level Coffeehouse, 2636 West Central Avenue in Toledo.

Actors performing with New Works, under the direction of Dr. Imelda Hunt, will give a dramatic reading of Nobel and Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*, which examines racism and incest in middle America. A discussion will follow the exclusive presentation.

"As one of Toni

Morrison's most controversial books, *The Bluest Eye* is a story that easily lends itself to a theatrical reading," says Hunt, founder of New Works.

So bold is the novel's plot that it has been the target of restrictions from some public school libraries. *The Bluest Eye* was selected for Oprah Winfrey's prestigious "Book Club" in 2000.

In its second decade, New Works Writers Series is Northwest Ohio's oldest independent black theater and performance arts organization. A 501(c)3 non-profit, New Works has presented plays and workshops within the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library system, at the Toledo Museum of Art and Detroit's Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, to name only a few venues.

Admission to the Ground Level Coffeehouse reading is \$5.

"We promise a moving performance of this outstanding author's work," adds Hunt. "We also expect to enjoy a lively discussion."

Formore information, contact Dr. Imelda Hunt at (419) 380-8464 or via e-mail at: dieco@newworkswijesserissore.

## Martinez

Democrat for Toledo City Council
- ProBusiness, Pro Neighborhoods, Pro Toledo -



Adam Martinez

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

Paid for by the committee to elect Adam Martinez 1232 Broadway, Toledo, OH 43609, Arturo Quintero, Treasurer Education Section \*Education Sec

## Gore

(Continued from Page 6)

to the community," says Gore. "And we have a number of resources that the community can tap into."

The incubator's mission is to foster an environment that offers assistance for minority-owned early stage firms. The incubator will offer space that will include conference room access, furniture, security and other office requirements. Even more important than the physical space available are the business services - what Gore calls the "second tier" - that UT can offer: financial review, mentoring, business development services, access to university research and technology transfer services, among others.

The incubator can effectively house about a half dozen businesses. These will be, according to Gore, businesses that have already started but are ready for the next step.

"They should not be in the 'I have a dream' stage," says Gore. "They need about two to three years of experience, perhaps they are working out of their home but they have clients already and have a concept of where the business is going.

"We are not duplicating services," says Gore. "There are a number of agencies out there for the beginner, such as ASSETS Toledo."

And why the emphasis on minority-owned businesses?

'We have a number of incubators here," she says. "But there is such a need in the minority community." Gore reports to Larry Burns, vice president of External Affairs and interim vice president for Equity and Diversity. They both just this year added on the campus-wide responsibilities for diversity. When they assumed those duties, says Gore, they asked a number of internal and external observers what was needed on campus and they all-too-frequently heard the cry for assistance for MBE's. They also heard that request from general contractors,

From those conversations come some of the far-reach-

ing goals of the incubator. "Our goal is to provide an opportunity and get [MBE's] the ability to bid on jobs—to get the financing and bonding in place—and become viable competitors in the bidding process."

The incubator already has one client – Oona Temple and her Cosine Group, LLC – and is examining two other companies for possible acceptance. The goal, as Gore says, is not to rush to fill the slots but to do so in an appropriate manner.

Gore's efforts at enhancing educational opportunities are not confined to the campus. Just recently she was invited to present her research on minority student recruitment to the Association of American Medical Colleges in early November in Boston. She has already presented similar research to the Student National Medical Association (a minority student group).

It's all part of the process that has distinguished her as a student, mentor, educator and administrator.

## ProMedica Announces Second Scholarship Program to Address Childhood Obesity

Special to The Truth

ProMedica Health System (PHS) has announced the opportunity for area high school students to win a \$5,000 college scholarship. The Fields of Green scholarship competition is open to students in grades 10 - 12 in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan.

Students will be challenged to form teams of two to four students and design a health and fitness program for elementary school children, including nutritious snack options. This is PHS' second high school scholarship program designed to address childhood obesity. Last year, PHS awarded \$42,000 to area students and schools through a program called Lunch 101: Foodfor Thought, which challenged area high school students to create an affordable and nutritionally-balanced elementary school lunch program

For this year's scholar-ship program, each member of the winning team will receive a \$5,000 college scholarship and the school where the students attend will receive a \$1,000 cash award. Additionally, the winning entry will be a pilot program in several local elementary schools. The deadline to submit a program entry is Dec. 1, 2009. Program guidelines and entry forms can be found

on www.promedica.org. President and Chief Executive Officer Randy Oostra states, "As the leading health care provider in the region, we feel that our role in encouraging healthy lifestyles, solid nutrition and exercise habits will have a lasting positive effect on those individuals and families we are privileged to serve. We want Fields of Green along with

other health and wellness programs to be part of a journey that leads to healthier kids and families."

The Fields of Green scholarship program is part of a larger, comprehensive PHS initiative encompassing a variety of health and nutrition programs designed to combat the local obesity epidemic. Also this fall, PHS will introduce a new program called the Healthy Kids Conversation

Map® Program which will be led by PHS employees trained to teach a series of 30-minute interactive sessions in various community settings. The sessions will focus on establishing healthy nutrition and exercise habits in children and adults.

For more information about Fields of Green, visit www.promedica.org.

## Afro Club in Session at St. Francis de Sales

Special to The Truth



"The Afro-American Club at St. Francis de Sales is a place where everybody can go and feel welcomed and get help," according to Dwayne Dotson, this year's president of the club. "We, the upperclassmen, are mentors to the new freshmen and sophomores in every area from their grades to their social life."

Keon Pearson, a junior and secretary of the club states: "The club's purpose is to encourage and empower the Afro-American students at St. Francis. Our goal is to have 100 percent retention of

our students and equal representation in all areas of the school, from academics to athletics. We, Afro-American students, represent 12 percent of the student body and we want to be well integrated into the climate of the community."

Under the supervision of their moderator, Lincoln Kynard, the group is planning a day trip to tour Wayne State University with a side visit to the Charles H. Wright Afro-American History Museum.

Dotson explained, "With

this trip, we hope to learn more about our historical view of the world. The trip should also reinforce for us the idea that education is very important and that hard work and good grades can translate into scholarship money for college."

The other officers of the club this year are Stephen Houston as vice-president and Shannen Wesley as sergeant-at-arms. "We have a lot of big things we art trying to do this year," said Dotson.



## Weekend of Toledo Native Art Tatum Music Soothes Many a Body and Soul

By Fletcher Word Sojourner's Truth Editor



in the movie Ray, and Stanley

"Music hath charms to soothe a savage breast," wrote William Congreve more than three centuries ago.

Music's charms, particularly the charms of Art Tatum's music, were on full display over the weekend in Toledo as two of Tatum's most accomplished protégée/students came to town to help celebrate their mentor's 100 birthday.

Johnny O'Neal, Detroit resident who played Tatum Cowell, Toledo native and currently professor of music at Rutgers University, made Tatum's music come alive while admitting that their exceptional interpretations were no match for the original.

O'Neal was the featured

O'Neal was the featured performer on Saturday evening at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library's "Art Tatum: Celebrating 100 Years of Toledo's Jazz Great." The event, at the Library's main branch, was organized under



the direction of chairmen Dorcel Dowdell, Faith Hairston and Joan Harris and also featured a diamond raffle by Harold Jaffe Jewelers, a VIP reception with the music of Charles McDaniel and Jim Gottron and an array of photos of jazz greats.

Toledo's own Ramona Collins served as the mistress of ceremonies for the evening and also shared the stage with O'Neal for a few jazz classics. Collins and O'Neal have been friends for more than 30 years since they met while performing at Rusty's Jazz Café.

O'Neal, who was celebrating his own birthday on (Continued on Next Page)



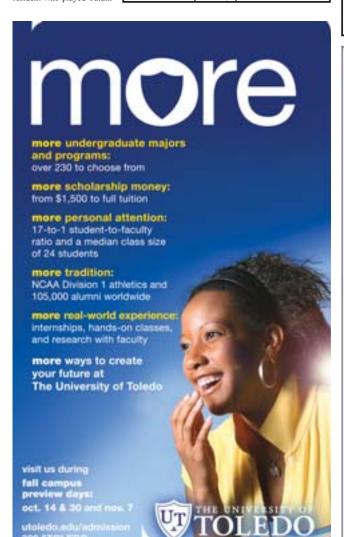


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Keon Pearson St. Francis class of 2011



DeVeaux Junior High Graduare

Modal winner for having the highest grades in English, Science, Social Studies, and
highest grade point average in the junior class.

## Weekend

(Continued from Page 8)



Saturday, is also an accomplished singer as he demonstrated during the evening.

The audience may not have known that O'Neal's interpretations of Tatum's music were not just like the originals, but O'Neal himself admitted that he fell short. "Ev-

ery time I spar with Tatum's [recording], I get beat," said O'Neal.

On Sunday evening the Tatum activities continued at Owens Community Collegeas the African American Legacy Project (AALP) presented "Stanley Cowell's Tribute to Tatum." Unlike Saturday's rather informal event at the Library where O'Neal and other performers played for and mingled with guests, Cowell's appearance was a good deal more traditional in presentation.

After remarks by AALP

founder and director Robert Smith, comments by event Chairman Jon Richardson and a touching introduction by Judge Charles Doneghy, who knew Cowell when the pianist was a child, the musician played the Tatum selections that had had such an impres-



sion on him when he was studying the master years ago. Those days when his mother would shake her head and say "that man just plays too much music."

Cowell started the evening with the Tatum version of Cole Porter's "Begin the Beguine," then segued into Fats Waller," 'An't Misbehavin'," Tea for Two" from No, No, Nanette and Dvorak's "Humoresque."

He introduced the famous "Tiger Rag" with apologies about trying to emulate the Tatum recording. "This is the record that makes pianists want to cut their hands off," said the student of the master.

Cowell finished the first act

with "Body and Soul" and then with a performance of one of his own compositions, a piano concerto in homage to Tatum that had been commissioned in the early 1990's by the Toledo symphony.

While the weekend held plenty of activity for Tatum enthusiasts, the celebrations are far from over. On October 25, the party continues at the Toledo Museum of Art's Peristyle Theatre when the Area Council Lake Erie West and Jazz Around the World, in partnership with the Museum and the Toledo Symphony, present an "Art Tatum Centennial Celebration."



## African American Legacy Project Honors Local Legends

With more than 300 luncheon guests in attendance, the African American Legacy Project (AALP) once again acknowledged the contributions of local legends on Saturday October 10 at the Toledo Club.

The AALP's Sixth Annual Legends Luncheon honored Doris Bryant, Eddie Cole, Jean Overton, John Scott, Ph.D., and Nikki Taylor, Ph.D.

The afternoon's activities were opened with a musical interlude by Gerald Foster and a welcome by the Master of Ceremonies

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, who also had a seat at the head table, congratulated the honorees and commended the AALP for its efforts in preserving local history.

Bryant, who was born in Toledo in 1921 and graduated from Libbey High School in 1939, has had a very active life in the Glass City. She has served as a member of the NAACP, the



Girls Reserves, Advancing Teens and the Co-Ed Club

in her youth.

During World War II, Bryant worked for the National Youth Administration and later for Essex Wire in Detroit, assembling wires for airplanes used in the national defense. She helped establish the La Quincena Club in 1944 to provide community service.

Later she worked at King Elementary School. A lifelong member of Third Baptist Church, Bryant is past president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Toledo chapter of the Postal Alliance and a member of Jack & Jill of America

Cole is a native of Greenwood, MS. He attended Tougaloo College and graduated from The University of Toledo in 1947

after military service during the war. He earned his law degree from UT in 1951 and was admitted to the bar in the same year.

Cole has served as chairman of the NAACP Legal Redress Committee and has been at the forefront of changing hiring practices, social indiscretions and educational maladies impacting this community.

A longtime member of Braden United Methodist Church, Cole practiced law in Toledo for more than 50 years and has received numerous awards from every local lawyers association.

Overton was born in Woodruff County, AR. She studied journalism at St. Louis University and came to Toledo in 1949. In 1952, she became the first female African-American broadcaster in northwest Ohio.

In 1975, Overton was appointed to the Public Health Council by Gov. John Gilligan and served as the first female chairman. She is the founder of the oledo Sickle Cell Anemia Association and has had a park in Toledo named in her honor

Scott is professor emeritus at Bowling Green State University and is currently a tenured professor at Jackson State University. Playwright, author of three

(Continued on Page 14)







Jean Overton and son Tunnell



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2658 Merrimac Blvd, Toledo, OH 43606 Paid for by Green for School Board Committee - Venice Haynes, Treasurer STOP BEING SO SUPRISED

## Harlene Mitchell Joins **Destination Toledo, Inc.** Team

## **Appointee Charged with Bringing Diverse Convention and Meetings Business to the Region**

Destination Toledo, Inc. is pleased to announce the appointment of Harlene Mitchell as Convention Sales Manager.

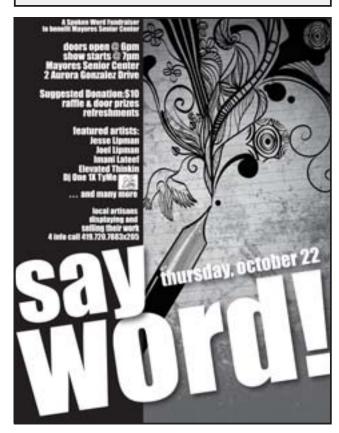
Mitchell most recently was senior account manager for Cumulus Broadcasting where she received local and national sales awards and recognition. Her strong background in sales and business to business client relations and service will make her a valuable asset to the convention and visitor's organization. She has a marketing degree from The University of Toledo.

"Harlene will make an immediate, positive impact on this area's meeting and convention industry," Dave Nolan, president of Destination Toledo, said. Mitchell will work to grow the multi-million dollar multi-cultural meetings market and will also represent Destination Toledo in the significant State Association market in Columbus. Mitchell has already positively impacted a decision



for bringing the Kappa Alpha regional conference which confirmed Toledo and the Holiday Inn French Quarter as site for their annual

The Destination Toledo, Inc. offices are located in the Seagate Convention Centre in Downtown To-



## **North Carolina Minister Group Battles for FLOC**

Rev. Nelson Johnson, pastor of the Faith Community Church of Greensboro, NC, stopped in Toledo early in October to attend and address the 2009 Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) triennial convention, the result of a partnership formed between the primarily Latino farm union and a group of African-American ministers in North Carolina.

Johnson's group, the Southern Faith Labor and Community Alliance, is comprised of Baptist ministers - one of whom is the president of the North Carolina state convention - whose mission is to work for "comprehensive social justice in its many dimensions," Johnson during his weekend visit.

The collaboration between FLOC and Johnson's alliance began when FLOC, under the direction of President Baldemar Velasquez, began to target Reynolds Tobacco and tried to organize the company's field workers.

Reynolds would not deal directly with FLOC but they did agree to meet with the ministers when Velasquez asked the alliance to intercede on behalf of the farm workers.

The major problems, said Johnson, are the working conditions for the tobacco laborers. The toxins from tobacco leaves can be deadly. "Nicotine enters the skin through contact," said less than 50 miles from



when temperatures are in the 90's. There is no protection from nicotine poisoning and until recently it wasn't even acknowledged. It is acknowledged now by Reynolds."

In addition, the labor camps which house the field workers are described by Johnson as "subhuman, slave camps with deplorable conditions."

The mostly Latino workers, said Johnson are "relatively isolated in a hostile environment with no records of hours worked." He said the modern day camps are "really a replacement of the company store worse than the company

Much of this tobacco field work is occurring

Johnson. "Especially the state capital of Raleigh, said Johnson but "the public doesn't know or experience what it means to be treated like

> Reynolds is still not speaking to FLOC or any other representative of the workers save the ministers, according to Johnson. He has no doubt. however, that they eventually will. In the meantime, the brunt of negotiations and getting the word to the general public about the unfair working conditions falls squarely on the shoulders of the Southern Faith Labor and Community Alli-

> "As religious leaders, we have to bring this message into our churches, it's our duty," said Johnson.



## **Commandress Honored at Annual Daughters of Isis** Ball

By Artisha S. Lawson Sojourner's Truth Reporter



Mecca Court No. 73 Daughters of Isis held their 46th Commandress Ball and honored their Illustrious Commandress, Daughter Mary A. Wilkins, on Saturday, October 10, 2009 at Central Park West Facility.

The annual social dinner and ball is a standing tradition of the Mecca Court, which allows various chapters and lodges the opportunity to pay tribute to their local court leader in Daughters of Isis. This event also raises money and awards a scholarship to a student of a Toledo area high school.

"Every year a ball is held to honor our illustrious commandress, a scholarship is also awarded because we are a charitable organization," said Dt. Charlesena H. Smith, Imperial Commandress.

Guests were welcomed into the facility by a digital slide show featuring community service pictures and social event memories on a repeating loop in the main lobby. These projects included diabetes prescreening, school supplies for Toledo Public School students, Thanksgiving

Christmas baskets and donations to Sparrow's Nest and Holly Glen.

As guests entered the large high-ceiling room, candle light and decorated table cloths filled the area, while several 10-feet tall columns were placed along the center of the facility creating a row for which the honoree walked through during the procession portion of the ball.

This year's scholarship recipient was Ka'Tra Grinter, a graduate of Rogers High School. She is currently enrolled at The University of Akron, pursuing a bachelor of science in nursing degree. Her ultimate goal is to become an obstetrican/gynecolo-

While attending high school she was active member of Daughters of Promise and Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church. Since Grinter is busy studying at school, her mother Kimberly Grinter accepted the scholarship on behalf of her daughter. "She's a hard worker, sweet daughter, straight honor roll student while in high school and has great plans for her future," said Grinter.

The ball was organized by Mecca Court No. 73 Commandress Ball Committee Chairman Dt.

Danielle Shockley, PC: Co-Chairman Ct. Debbie Dean-Mitchell; Co-Chairman Dt Charlene Miller: and members Dt. Arianna Banks, Dt. Delores Bates, Dt. Teronica Betts, Dt. Che' Couch, Dt. Lisa Fails, Dt. Carla Fitzgerald, Dt. Jeanna Harris, Dt. Pamela Hopkins, Dt. Ruth Henderson, Dt. Crystal Jones, Dt. Peatra Jones, Dt. Lanaya Madaris, Dt. Lena Madave, Dt. Shelley Mara, Dt. Vivian McGee-Carroll, Dt. Tanya Roach, Dt. Sharron Robinson, Dt. Jamesetta Royster, Dt. Roxanne Royster, Dt. LaVera Scott, Dt. Delores Shorter, Dt. Jacqueline Stevens, Dt. Stacey Thomas, Dt. Gloria Tisdale, Dt. Natasha Wedley and Dt. Carol Williams-Blanchard.

Historically, Daughters of Isis are a branch of Prince Hall Mason affiliation, which includes Shriners Order of the Eastern Star and Order of Golden Circle. Prince Hall affiliation first arrived in the U.S. over 200 years ago, and is recognized as the Father of U.S. Black Masonry with more than 4,500 lodges and 300,000 Masonic members.

## Church Celebrates 92<sup>nd</sup> **Anniversary with Fashion Show Luncheon**

By Artisha S. Lawson Sojourner's Truth Reporter



St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church has been a religious cornerstone in Toledo for 92 years. The congregation decided to celebrate this milestone with a luncheon fashion show on Saturday, October 10, at the Ramada Hotel & Conference Cen-

Church members, local clergy and residents gathered dressed in their finest clothing and to watch a show which featured local retailers and congregants as models. Guests were welcomed into the main room through the hotel lobby to enter the fashion show luncheon with an orchestral trio of Denise Buenger on harp, Danielle Buenger on violin and Diania Buenger on flute.

"We welcome all of you here to fellowship during this luncheon and fashion show. I see the women in their fabulous hats and men in their best too. In the magnificent magnifying name of our blessed Lord and Savior over all, I welcome you here today and hope you enjoy," said Chairman Teresa Quinn.

Following Saturday's event, festivities will continue on Saturday, October 17, with a community day sponsored by the church at 954 Belmont Ave, and that Sunday, October 18, with a 4:30 p.m. service.

"During the community day clothing and hair cuts

or hair styles will be given out, also food. We have several vendors planning to give banking account information and other providing health screening. If the weather is like today, we'll be in the church parking lot, if not the event will move to the Frederick Douglass



building on Indiana Avenue. The guest speaker on Sunday is a bishop from Buffalo, New York," said Rev. Cordell A Jenkins, pastor of St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church.

Featured soloist Marcia Jones opened the event singing an inspirational rendition of a Yolanda Adams song. The first fashion scene - "Hatitude" - featured committee members Quinn, Dorothy Arnold,

Deloris Coleman, Tracey Gordon, Angela Jordan, Monica McCain, Charlotte Robinson, Geraldine Scrutchins Jackie Simmon Rose Tobias, Liz Watson and Betty Williams in different hat styles.

These selections included: short and red, black and white with a matching feather, bejeweled with rhinestones, cream color with southern style, black and peach color with large matching bow, tan with feathers, wool fabric and black with long rim.

Local retailer Toledo Fur sponsored the second scene called "Fall in Fashion." Mink, fox and beaver furs in various styles and coat lengths were modeled by church members. Two additional scenes followed titled, "Called into Style," which featured several inspirations for church related activities and "Let Every Step You Take Be a Milestone," with featured local retailer Milestone Footwear and Accessories for Men and Women.

"The purpose of this luncheon fashion show was to continue to unify as a church body, just as regular people outside of the church - rather than just during rehearsals and meetings," said Jenkins.







## Standing on the Shoulders of Thore Who Came Before Us

Minister of Culture



I had told myself I wasn't going to do another music related article just yet.

Until I talked to Markeith Johnson a/k/a Big Black

Funny how one conversation can conjure up so much, spark so many thoughts.

Some of you may remember that last October I did an article about all the

rappers, producers, singers, labels, D.J.'s, promoters etc. that

Mt Pilgrim Baptist Church.

Willis, Pamela Wilson

campaign the prices are as follows:

I could think of who comprise Toledo's urban music scene.

And even though that article earned me a few enemies at the time, and challenged some acknowledged others and all of that ... one glaring fact about that is ... TOLEDO HAS A MUSIC SCENE.

On any given weekend, you have nearly 20 spots you can go to and hear

young, urban music...maybe even catch a performance.

This past weekend.. rap legend E-40 was in Toledo, Grand

Yung Dro was in Toledo and comedian Bill Belamy was in Toledo.

If Toledo was boring, that type of weekend would not ex-

And if Toledo had no urban entertainment scene ...well, you see my point by now.

We do have something here. Yeah, I know, when you

The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union

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

Dorr Street. If you are interested in purchasing a "Brick" as a part of the

\$ 50.00 for each "Walkway" brick

\$100.00 for each "Vestibule" brick

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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, R.C. Olmstead, Inc., 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. 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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Martinez, Ed Phillips, David Smith, Frances Smith,
Community: Eve Allen, Jewyana Anderson, Eric Baldwin, Mira Banks, Dale
Barnhill, Queen Esther Barringer, Mr. & Mrs. Tony Bivens, Arlene Bond, Henry Boyd,
Anita-Hackett-Braswell, Charsena Braswell, Carol- Jean Brazzel, Drenda Brooks,

Gwen Brown, Leona Brown, Michael A Cancel Sr., Ernestine Carter, John Chapman, Russell Chapman, Lamont Chenault, Leona Chenault, Rufus Coffey, Charlest Coley,

Reginald Coley, Dennist 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, Jeanette Davis, 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, Gertrude

Green, Ralph Green, Harriett Hardy, Yvonne Harper, Corene Harris, Doreen Harris, Victoria Scott-Hayward, Patti Henry, Sylvia Hewitt, Aviance Hill, Mozell Hill, George

Johnson, Jacqueline Luckett-Johnson, Jamie Johnson, Lee Johnson Jr., Anthony Q Jones 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,

Chaires Rowal, Ocessa Rowal, DeLies Stillinions, Scala Sillinions, James Snipson St, Chris Smith, Shirley Smith, Virginia Haywood-Smith, Wanita Smith, James Snodgrass St., 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

Hillard, Gloria Hillard, Gabrielle Hinton, Roy Holloway Sr., Holly Hodge, Albert J Hunter, Lucile Hutton, Thomas Hutton, Martin Jarret, Elaine Baker-Johnson, Gary

campaign to raise funds for the new building at Detroit Avenue at

think of how many rappers you know it feels suffocating.

Trust me I know. For years, me and my part-

ner avoided having our own "record label" because everyone claims to be a

'CEO" of some start up something or other.

Which only means that for every two or three wanna bee CEO's, there are probably

10 or 12 wanna be rappers. It's a tired cliche. Which is why our label focuses on R&B, to be different.

But aside from what some would call a worn out path, Toledo's current musical landscape presents more opportunity for a variety of businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs than ever before.

All of the party/concert promoters you know

All of the D.J.'s you know. All of the producers you know... every person who is actively engaged

in having a career in hip-hop or R&B music based in this city...we take for granted

HOW exactly we became so spoiled.

Spoiled?

Yea, maybe just a tad. Yes it's true, none of us can

get our songs on local radio. It may be true that there's far too much ego, pettiness and clique-ish-ness

But even with all those ills. we have THREE different FM frequencies

playing urban music at all

We have hundreds of recording studios in Toledo that are owned/operated

by minorities doing young music

Young is a relative term, I guess, but you've once again got to look at generations.

The generation above me is

That's Michael Jordan, President Barack Obama, Jay Z, Run DMC, Salt N Pepa etc.,

those people who are currently 34 years old to about 48 years old.

In music... those were hiphop pioneers. People who in the 1980's were older teens or early 20's... young enough to be revolutionary vet just getting old enough to create a

If you talk to these people... if you learn your history (not that Gen X are our elders, they are really our older cousins/ brothers/sisters)...if you chop it up with them you will

understand that their work created the foundation we currently stand on right now.

Before we could have all these labels in Toledo, all these

all these club nights, all these rappers/D.J.'s/singers household names. SOMEONE had to do all the

Because at one point, there

was no black music on FM radio in this city.

At one point there were no black clubs or clubs that would play rap in this city.

At one point there was no place you could go in Toledo and experience

rap culture, see and hear the sights and sounds of the greatest musical revolution since rock and roll... if you talk to the people who built this framework in Toledo you will understand that at one point... it did not exist.

There will be much ... MUCH more in-depth discussion and interviews and

acknowledgment on this in my column in the future.

But I'm one of those people doing it in the here and now.

I'm one of those people standing on the shoulders of those who laid groundwork before me... hoping I can take my movement, and my music and my city further.

Most of us are the children of the Baby Boomer generation... of which my mom and dad belong and that old school mantra of giving respect where it's due still lives in all the teaching they gave/give me.

So I'm moved to pay homage to the following:

Keith Success, Russell, J. Roc, Kaj Boogie, D.J. Lyte N Rod, Charles Welch,

T.Mix, D.J.Mix, (R.I.P.), the whole United Soul Brothers, Scharren Studios, WVOI, Markeith Johnson,

Frank Wright, Lodeana's Lounge, Latin Quarter, Sunshine Sweatshop (I met

M.C. Hammer there when I was in 5th grade!), and many, many, many

more. I promise there will be more added to this later. Keith Success & Reed

Russell... publicly, I have to pay respects to y'all because you have always supported

U.G.E. and shared your wisdom with me for years.

Lyte N Rod, congrats on your award at the OHHA's (still ready to do story).

But yes... during the 1980's while I was watching Sesame Street..and half the artists on my label were in diapers or not born yet... the above mentioned people were

the ones grinding in all aspects of rap/urban entertainment ..building an foundation

that wouldn't have existed without them.. I just wanna say: Thank You!

More to come on this. SPECIAL ANNOUNCE-

VIDEOCASTINGCALL OCTOBER 25TH 2009

"HATERZ GET MAD' VIDEOSHOOTGOESDOWN

If you support us, U.G.E., T. Diamond, or just local music

you have an open invitation to join us and get on camera and rock out.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25TH 1:PM. @ THE BLACK CHERRY

1420 Cherry (near Bancroft & Cherry..near the Quality).

This location is for crews, supporters, fans, friends, artists whoever to just come and be in the video..

6:PM@THEBLUEPRINT 1919 Monroe St.

This location is for the club/ performance scene.. still casting for following roles:

about two "haters" will be needed and about three "ladies" will be needed

and we need a DJ still .. LOL. U.G.E. L.L.C. will be requiring everyone to sign a waiver granting us permission to include them in this music video.

(Yes, it will be tasteful... no gangs, no nearly nude women. no foolishness)

email me for more info: glasscitytruth@yahoo.com

Also...Sweetest Seranade Listening...hosted by Tracy.

Featured performances by: Bobby Lucas, Flow, Darron Scott, Aye Dee & Tracy.

This upcoming Saturday at The Truth Art Gallery ... 1811

10/24/09 - T. Diamond's Diamond Life" mixtape release

At The Listening.. official After Party at The Blueprint.

## MOTIVATIONS SALON OF BEAUTY

## FRIDAY SPECIALS



Shampoo & Style Relaxers Weaves - Full Waxing Lashes Manicure

\$20 (Reg. \$40) \$45 (Reg. \$65) \$100 (Reg. \$150) \$10 (Reg. \$14) \$18 (Reg. \$25) \$23 and up Nails with Designs

### **Booths Available**

Tuesday Appointment Only Wednesday - Saturday 9 - 6 pm

4476 Monroe Street Across from Value City Furniture, Kroger, Best Buy 419.531.3321

Visa, MC, Student Discounts

## \_egacy Project

(Continued from Page 10)

books, creator of BGSU's first ethnic studies program (now a department), founder of BGSU's African-American student newspaper, the Obsidian, Scott has compiled a remarkable record of achievement - both academically and in the arts. He has used his savvy, his pen and his passion to help build lives and opportunities for numerous people in this com-

Taylor earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and her masters and doctorate degrees from Duke University. She has held several fellowships including Fulbright, Woodrow Wilson and Social Science Research Fellowships.

Tayylor joined the Department of History at the University of Cincinnati in 2005. Her current research projects include a biogra-



phy of Peter H. Clark, a 19th Century activist and educator and a history of the Jezebel stereotype as it has been applied to African American women.

Taylor is the youngest person to be so honored by the AALP.

Robert Smith, founder of the AALP, delivered the keynote address this year and explained to the audience how and why the organization began.

This year's luncheon committee was comprised of Harris, Sarah Swan, Shirley Ware and Essie Wiggins. Volunteers included LaTonya Brown, Chelsea Catching, Monica Edwards, Nyelie Pargo and Opal Shaheer.

The performing artists included Robert Greenlee and Shirley Lyons along with musicians Calvin Hughes and Gerald Foster.

## Black MarketPlace

Homes For Sale!!!!

Grant Money & Tax Credit Funds Available! 1347 Craigwood, West Tol, \$99,999, 3 beds, 2 Car 1127 Fernwood, Central Tol, \$24,999, 3 beds, 2

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Emory Whittington, III 419.392.5428

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ment Corporation 419-255-7500 And more!!

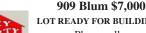
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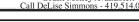
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3 beds, 2 full baths with double lot. Totally remodeled!!







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Seaway Asset Management

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Wiring - Plumbing - Kitchen and Bathroom Remolding



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4522 Oak Creek \$84,500 3 BDRM brick/vinyl ranch home 2.5 baths and Master Suite. Large LR/DR with updated kitchen 2.5 car attached garage and inground pool. Subject to lender approval.

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Well maintained 3 BR, 1 BA home with newer furnace & hot water tank. Full basement & 1 car detached garage

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Woodley Court - \$259,000 6 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, 3488 sq. ft.-Custom-built home. Must see to believe. Located in the quiet Trail Acres subdivision. Built

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**Hillandale - \$92,000** Ottawa Hills condo. 1440 sq. ft., 2 full baths. Location, location, location. Bright home, new carpet, newly painted. Spacious one floor, Lots of storage, private garage, One great unit,

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### 2-3-4 Bedroom HOUSES FOR SALE

1303 Grand \* 1044 Lincoln \* 234 Maumee \* 851 Oakwood \* 1027 W. Woodruff Down payment and closing cost assistance available for income eligible. Lease-Purchase option available. Call Toledo Community Development Corporation at (419) 255-7500 or Julia Bryant, Key Realty at (419) 320-0909

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## **CLASSIFIEDS**

October 14, 2009

Page 15

#### **Our First Love**

Professional 24-hour educational center. Now enrolling – first, second, third shifts. Ages six weeks to 12 years. Why trust your loved ones to just any one? Give us a call. We offer three convenient locations ... and more

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124 W. Bancroft – 419-241-1042 2704 W. Central – 419-474-5978 522 E. Broadway – 419-720-6820 ODJFS Accepted

### **FAMILY VISITS MANAGER (Part-time)**

Oversees and facilitates visitations between parents and children. 21 hrs/wk (hours will vary with evening & weekend work required). Position starts at \$12.38/hr. w/benefits. REQUIREMENTS: HS diploma/equiv.; valid driver's license, ins., and reliable auto. See complete position requirements at <a href="https://www.lucaskids.net">www.lucaskids.net</a>. Send resume to Human Resources, LCCS, 705 Adams St., Toledo, OH 43604 or fax to 327-3291 by 10/ 19/09. EOE-Valuing diversity.

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

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





### **APARTMENTS**

Abundant Life of Perrysburg is a subsidized independent housing facility for those 62 or older. We are located in a beautiful, quiet residential setting in Perrysburg. Abundant Life offers one bedroom garden apartments with private patios, in-

door mailboxes, reserved parking and busing to local grocery stores. Applications are now being accepted. Call 419.872.3510 or 419.874.4371



#### **Mechanic Position**

The factory mechanic will be responsible for maintaining equipment in all areas of the plant. The mechanic will perform daily routine work assignments such as troubleshooting breakdowns, adjusting equipment to improve production efficiencies, performing basic and complex maintenance work on equipment and actively participating in preventive maintenance procedures and programs.

- 5 yeas experience in a production setting.
- · 3 years experience in a food packaging facility preferred
  - · Must possess some electrical knowledge
  - · Must have strong trouble shooting skills
- Must be able to work all shifts and weekends
   Ability to dismantle, assemble and maintain
- standard equipment requiring skilled fitting and alignment
  - Ability to operate motorized equipment
- · Capable of reading machine drawings and all instruments that read in the thousands of an inch (micrometers, calipers, depth gauges, etc.)
- Experience with predictive maintenance tools (vibration analysis, thermograph, etc) a plus

Resumes accepted through October 23, 2009 Heinz NA – Fremont Factory Charlene Hutchinson Human Resources 1200 N. Fifth Street Fremont, OH 43420



#### Director of Philanthropy and Legacy Gifts

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality (ABLE), a non-profit law firm that provides high quality legal assistance to eligible low-income residents of western Ohio, seeks a Director of Philanthropy and Legacy Gifts. The position is based in Toledo and has responsibility for philanthropy leadership within 32 counties of western Ohio for ABLE and ABLE's partner, Legal Aid of Western Ohio (LAWO).

The Director of Philanthropy and Legacy Gifts is responsible for the development and execution of the overall ABLE and LAWO philanthropy vision and strategy in all markets. He or she has the unique opportunity to lead a new team of development professionals and secure the highest possible level of performance from the staff under his or her supervision. Individual must be committed to ABLE and LAWO's mission and the principle of equal access to justice and must have a passion for fundraising. He or she must be able to motivate and support Board members, staff, volunteers, and donors to reach targeted annual fundraising goals.

This is a major leadership position in the firm with significant responsibilities for external donor relations, personnel supervision, financial goal attainment, and other aspects of program administration. The individual will play a key role in ABLE's leadership team. Significant experience in growing an annual fund, stewarding major gifts, managing capital campaigns, and establishing planned giving programs is desired. The ability to cultivate key relationships, be held accountable to productivity standards, and successfully solicit major gifts is essential.

The Director of Philanthropy and Legacy Gifts must demonstrate excellent leadership and management skills. He or she must possess a high level of initiative, sound judgment, and public speaking and interpersonal skills. The Director must be highly skilled at working effectively in a collaborative team environment in which decision making is often shared.

Abachelor's degree is required; a master's degree is preferred. Law degree or experience is a plus. A minimum of 5-7 years' verifiable fundraising/development experience and/or related field experience is required. Regular travel, including occasional overnight and evening hours, throughout the service area, is required. A very competitive salary is available, depending on qualifications, including an excellent benefits package. Send resume electronically as soon as possible, in Microsoft Word format only, to:

Email: jobs@ablelaw.org
Subject: Director of Philanthropy and Legacy

Applications will only be accepted by email. Position will remain open until filled. Equal access to ABLE's office is available. Applicants requiring accommodation to participate in the interview/application process should contact the email address listed above. **EOE** 

### For Rent

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



### **Annual Fund and Events Manager**

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality (ABLE), a non-profit law firm that provides high-quality legal assistance to eligible low-income residents of western Ohio, seeks an Annual Fund and Events Manager. The position is based in Toledo and has responsibility for leadership within 32 counties of western Ohio for ABLE and ABLE's partner, Legal Aid of Western Ohio (LAWO).

The Annual Fund and Events Manager is responsible for the creation and supervisory implementation of a new Annual Campaign in the Toledo and regional markets. He or she will provide hands-on leadership and execution of a comprehensive annual fund strategy in the Toledo market, and will provide active and accountable support in the customization of similar plans for the Dayton and key regional markets. This includes volunteer engagement, solicitation, direct mail, online giving, and relevant social media applications.

Additionally, the Annual Fund and Events Manager will be responsible for the creation and supervisory implementation for all priority fundraising events in all 32 markets. This includes a concerted "friendraising" program, targeted prospecting and stewardship activities.

The individual must be committed to the missions of ABLE and LAWO and the principle of equal access to justice, and must have a passion for fundraising. He or she must be able to motivate and support Board members, staff, volunteers, and donors to reach targeted annual fundraising goals. Experience with growing an annual fund, direct mail, event management and donor stewardship is desired. The ability to identify key relationships and assist in the cultivation process is essential.

The Annual Fund and Events Manager must demonstrate excellent leadership and management skills. He or she must demonstrate a high level of initiative, sound judgment, and public speaking and interpersonal skills. The Manager must be highly skilled at working effectively in a collaborative team environment in which decision making is often shared.

A bachelor's degree is preferred. A minimum of 2-3 years' verifiable fundraising/development experience and/or related field experience is required. Regular travel, including occasional overnight and evening hours, throughout the service area, is required. A very competitive salary is available, depending on qualifications, including an excellent benefits package. Send resume electronically, as soon as possible, in Microsoft Word format only, to:

Email: jobs@ablelaw.org
Subject: Annual Fund and Events Manager

Applications will only be accepted by email. Position will remain open until filled. Equal access to ABLE's office is available. Applicants requiring accommodation to participate in the interview/application process should contact the email address listed above. **EOE** 

### **Help Wanted**

Servers, cooks, dishwashers wanted. No calls please. Apply in person. Old West End Restaurant – corner of Collingwood and Delaware.

Fri between 10 am and noon

## Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc - Cluster Meeting

Special to The Truth

Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. hosted the 29th Northern Ohio/ Western Pennsylvania (NO/WP) Cluster Meeting at the Hilton Hotel/Dana Conference Center on October 9-10, 2009.

The Cluster was formed December 8, 1979 and held its first meeting in Toledo, Ohio at the Commodore Perry Motor Inn where Ann C. Battles, former Great Lakes Regional Director, first Ohio Cluster Coordinator and member of Zeta Alpha Omega presided. The Toledo Chapter has had the honor of having two members from their chapter lead this Cluster – Ann C.



AKA Sorors (l.to r.) Felicia Dunston, Lisa DuBose, Schylbea J. Hopkins, Clara Petty, Terry Mann, Cheryl Slack

AMERICA'S #1 FUNDRAISER

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This was our easiest fundraiser and in the fundraiser

Battles and Clara L. Petty.

The Great Lakes Region is made up of Michigan, Ohio, Western New York, Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia and the NO/WP Cluster is one of five in this region.

This one-day leadership Cluster Meeting provided leadership training and development to its members; cluster, regional and national member representatives were present. Petty, the Northern Ohio/ Western PA Cluster coordinator, was elated that her home chapter, Zeta Alpha Omega, was the host for this meeting. The NO/WP Cluster consists of cities in Ohio and Penrisylvania: Cleveland, Sandusky, Toledo, Akron, Lima, Youngstown, Steubenville, Pittsburgh and Erie. Representatives participated from all the aforementioned cities.

Lisa E. Dubose is the president of Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter and noted that on Friday, October 9, 2009, Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter hosted a Meet and Greet event for the Regional Director, Schylbea Jean Hopkins, a Toledo native. This amazing Friday night event was graciously co-sponsored by the local graduate chapters of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Dr. Michael Stubblefield, president, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Howard Brown, president. Various organizations were on hand to greet Hopkins and welcome her back to the City of Toledo.

On Saturday morning Petty presided over the meeting along with Hopkins and Dubose. Over 150 members of Alpha Kappa Alpha were registered for this meeting and the information provided fostered the purpose of the organization, which is to provide service to all mankind.

The sorors were pleased with the increased number of participants this year, said Felicia Dunston, vice president and cluster chairman. "When we extended our invitation during the 2008 Akron Cluster Meeting, we ensured our cluster an enjoyable educational event and we are delighted with its success," said Dunston.

Dubose said: "The efforts of the hardworking members of this chapter and our undergraduate chapters are to be commended as months of planning and preparation are necessary to make this Cluster Meeting a great success. I offer a special thank you to our Great Lakes Regional Director and the NO/WP Cluster Coordinator for allowing us to serve as the host chapter for the fifth time: I commend our Cluster Chairman, Cluster Committee, Chapter and Cluster members, and local dignitaries for sharing in this auspicious event.'

For more information about Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. go to www.aka1908.com or www.zetaalphaomega.com.

