



Volume 19, No.13 *"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."* January 19, 2011

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Paula Hicks-Hudson
Toledo City Councilwoman, District 4

"I'm going to take this first month to really listen. If I can, I will do; if I can't, I will tell you."

A Strange Estrangement

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.
The Truth Contributor



"When Elephants fight it is the grass that suffers" - Kikuyu Proverb

"For a while, to love was all we could do. We were young and we knew and our eyes were alive. Deep inside we knew our love was true. For a while, we paid no mind to the past. We knew love would last. Ev'ry night somethin' right, would invite us to begin the dance.

"Somethin' happened along the way. What used to be happy was sad. Somethin' happened along the way and yesterday was all we had.

It has been nearly thirty-two years since the initial release of the Earth, Wind & Fire's Grammy award-winning hit single "After The Love Has Gone," written by David Foster, Jay Graydon and Bill Champlin.

Yet the song's title and lyrics are perhaps as true of the turbulent relationship between the black community and the contemporary Black Church as any other passionate affection that Verdine and Maurice White, Philip Bailey, et.al, may have had in mind as they sang.

Although African Americans, according to the Pew Forum on Religion, are markedly more religious in a variety of measures than the U.S. population as a whole, the number of persons such as young black men who have had no contact with church or Sunday school has doubled within a generation.

Many members of the black middle class, mistakenly convinced that the doors and material comforts opened to them by integration would allow them full inclusion to society, also left the Black Church.

Although many of the black middle class later returned to find a new opportunity in mega-churches to satisfy their craving for cultural and social stability, the Black Church and its leaders today find themselves in an overall decline and increasingly at the butt end of jokes and media satire.

Others, such as Princeton University's Eddie Glaude, Jr., Ph.D go even farther and claim that like King and the civil rights movement, the Black Church is dead. "The idea of this venerable institution as central to black life and as a repository for the social and moral conscience of the nation has all but disappeared," he states.

How have the fervent flames of intimacy that for so long existed between the black community and the Black Church, died out?

The answer is that each has changed. However, they have changed in ways that should have brought them together rather than grow apart.

Almost simultaneously with the intersection of the super-epidemic of crack, crime and unprecedented material poverty in the late 1970s, the Black Church lost its commitment to civil rights and began to merely spiritualize responses to social problems.

The Church's focus and appeal, according to scholar Anthony Pinn, Ph.D, was redirected to individualism as its leaders were more concerned about "cash, cars and cameras" than about "creating the structures for the liberation of the poor." The resulting prosperity theology and "Ble\$\$ Me" doctrine exaggerated the orthodox principle that God will meet needs (including financial needs) into "a legitimization of materialism."

Yet only the churches and their hyper-spiritual leaders – shouting loud about heaven or money but silent on socio-political issues – seemed to prosper, evidenced by the building of large monuments to themselves.

Many, seeing no change or a worsening of their personal situation and conditions in the community, asked appropriately, "what good is it?" and left what they perceived as a Black Church no longer relevant to their needs to seek guidance and support elsewhere.

Without question, the Black Church has many issues, faults and failures including "the sexism and heterosexism it espouses, the flawed politics of its preachers and the crazy antics and moral lapses of ministers not to mention the obscene amount of money churches pour into building grand edifices." (Renita Weems, Ph.D, 2009)

Yet Weems adds, "Outside of school, the church is the one place where poor children are likely to see and routinely interact with people who have achieved some success and who can talk to them about what it takes to escape poverty. Strengthening the safety nets around children so that they can have a chance at growing up and becoming productive citizens has been an important part of the work of the Black Church and its members."

Can Love that's lost be found?

Yes, old flames can be rekindled and fire put back into the relationship WHEN:

- Toledo pastors "stop talking about it and start being about it" and begin to work in the public sphere against injustice.
- There is interaction with inner-city residents and critical engagement to strengthen relations in the neighborhoods in which black churches are located.
- The "corrupted focus of the prosperity gospel, which breeds greed and a selfishness that sanitizes the worst aspects of capitalism and baptizes covetousness as if it is a gift from God," begins to include "a collective responsibility for dealing with the structural injustices faced by the masses" (Nathan, 2001).

And finally, when:

- Local churches sit, as did the prophet Ezekiel, "among the exiles."

This means getting beyond merely providing recreation, to also playing a role in economic revitalization of our neighborhoods, environmental justice, and prisoner reentry.

It also means ending church silence on domestic violence and HIV/AIDS, "keeping it real" and talking about sexuality, assisting young boys on how to be men and defining their proper role within the family and larger society while simultaneously ending the misogynistic and oppressive sexism practiced for too long, inside the church itself.

Then the community is likely to return to its "first love."

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org

Community Calendar

January 22

Warren AME 2011 Gospel Extravaganza: 4 pm; Calling all praise teams, choirs, praise dancers, vocalists, step teams. Drill and mime teams: 419-243-2237

Toledo School for the Arts Open House: 10 am: 419-246-8732 ext 250

Bethesda Christian Center Joshua School of Leadership: Noon to 3 pm: 419-944-0984

Sexual Abuse Prevention Awareness Treatment Healing Coalition of NOW: FUNdraiser; Seagate Center; Rockin' evening with the Glass City Rollers vs. Skee Town Skirtz; 7 pm: 419-729-0245

January 23

Greater St. Mary MBC 2nd Annual Old Ship of Zion "Candlelight Service:" 6 pm; Toledo's finest and other special guests of honor; Bro. Larry Jones "Quartermaster" of the ship; Pastor Robert Lyons

Bethesda Christian Center Men's Day: Speaker Pastor Steve Eaton; 11 am: 419-944-0984

January 25

Owens Community College Lecture Presentation: Sis. Helen Prejean, author of *Dead Man Walking: An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the United States*; Center for Fine and Performing Arts; 7:30 pm

January 29

UT/Toledo EXCEL 27th Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth: "Success or Failure: The Consequence of Choice;" 8: 30 am to 1 pm; UT's Student Union Auditorium; Featuring author Wes Moore – guest speaker: 419-530-3823 or 419-530-3820

January 29-30

Bethesda Christian Center Praise Anthem Weekend for Youth: Youth Prayer Breakfast; 10 am on the 29th; Youth Day at 11 am on the 30th: 419-944-0984

February 20

Historic Third Baptist Church Concert: Father William Cunningham Memorial Choir of Detroit: 4 pm: 419-248-4623

February 21

SA PATH Coalition of NOW: Monthly Circle; Cordelia Martin Health Center; 11:30 am to 1 pm: 419-729-0245

The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American
Owned and Operated Newspaper

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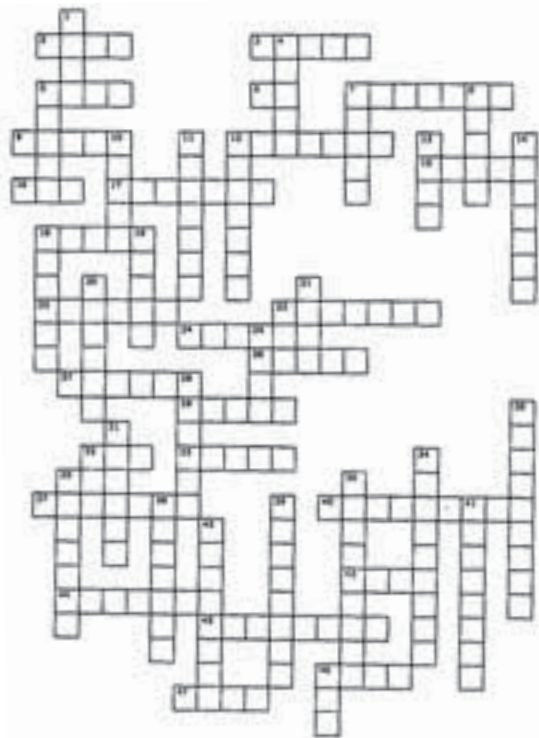
Cross Word Puzzle
By Lafe Tolliver

ACROSS

- 2 Can dress up like a sheep
- 3 Name of one of the two local black newspapers
- 5 Incumbent mayor who lost to Carty
- 6 Symbol for the element Lead
- 7 Hand thrown explosive device
- 9 Local civil rights organization
- 12 Middle name of first African-American president
- 15 Former home of Duvalier
- 16 First name of Toledo jazz piano legend
- 17 Crude behavior
- 18 Downtown Greek restaurant
- 22 Famous black church at Lawrence and Monroe Streets
- 23 Famous artist who uses collages
- 24 Tight as a _____
- 26 Greek storyteller
- 27 An afternoon nap
- 29 A type of onion
- 32 Suspect faith doctrine
- 33 Mentally ill person shot four times by police officer
- 37 A type of bean
- 40 Golf course on Dorr Street
- 43 The square root of sixteen
- 44 Early civil rights leader in Toledo
- 45 He crossed the Alps on elephants
- 46 Line dancing Toledo mayor
- 47 Old name for margarine

DOWN

- 1 Singing by oneself
- 4 Local soul food eatery
- 5 A talent or aptitude
- 7 Hot breakfast cereal
- 8 He committed sin when he viewed Bathsheba bathing
- 10 Disney cartoon character
- 11 The sunshine state
- 12 Used to "fry" hair
- 13 Landlocked African country
- 14 A depository of books
- 18 A variety of wine
- 19 Likes wearing ten gallon hats
- 20 Style of wearing your pants to show off your underwear
- 21 Church benches
- 25 Second book in New Testament
- 28 First black male greek lettered fraternity
- 30 Nickname for Toledo
- 31 Short pointed chin beard
- 34 Goes with greens
- 35 A person who desires to be left alone
- 36 No two are alike
- 38 US president during Civil War
- 39 A small sum
- 41 Getting rid of a tenant
- 42 First black man to sit on US Supreme Court
- 46 A type of window



(Answers on Page 14)

Rep. Ashford Receives Ohio House Committee Assignments



State Representative Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) today was assigned to serve on four standing committees of the Ohio House of Representatives. He will be a member of the Finance Committee, the Public Utilities and Insurance Committees, as well as the Financial Institutions, Housing and Urban Development panel.

I am honored to serve on these committees and pledge to work hard for the citizens of Lucas County and all of Ohio's citizens," said Rep. Ashford. "These assignments will allow me to get right to work on common sense solutions to the challenges we face here in Ohio. We must never lose sight of the

great opportunities we have to improve the lives of all residents of the state. My pledge is to move Toledo as well as all of Ohio forward."

Ashford and the Public Utilities Committee are scheduled to meet on Wednesday mornings, the Insurance panel's regular sessions will be Tuesday afternoons and the Financial Institutions Committee will meet on Thursday mornings.

Ohio House committees began meeting this week, and testimony on legislation is expected to begin shortly.

The University of Toledo, TOLEDO EXCEL

The Joint Committee and Sponsoring Organizations
Presents the

27th Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth

inviting (all Toledo-area 7th - 12th grade students,
parents and community)



"Success or Failure: The Consequence of Choice"

Saturday, January 29, 2011
8:30 a.m. (sharp) to 1:00 p.m.

at
The University of Toledo,
Student Union Auditorium
Doors open at 7:30 a.m.

-----Free Admission and Lunch-----

Guest Keynote Presenter:

Wes Moore

Youth Advocate,
Army Combat Veteran,
Business Leader and as seen on Oprah - author of

"The Other Wes Moore One Name, Two Fates"

with a book signing after the presentation

Advance reservations strongly suggested but not required:

Thursday, January 20 thru Thursday, January 27, 2011
10 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

Register online at www.utoledo.edu/utlc/excel or by calling
(419) 530-3823, 3820

Ten Years of Unity Celebrated at MLK Event

Sojourner's Truth Staff

"All hope is not lost in minority youth," said St. Francis de Sales senior Keon Pearson on Monday morning, January 17, as he opened his keynote address to those attending the 10th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Day celebration at The University of Toledo.

Pearson, the presumptive valedictorian of the St. Francis Class of 2011, used his time at the podium to ask adults in the audience to "reach out personally to youth" and serve as role models and mentors. "One-on-one consistent mentorship," he noted, will forge positive relationships.

Pearson, who will be heading to Harvard College in the fall to study molecular biology, used his own sometimes challenging childhood as an example of how a variety of committed adults can make a difference and impact a young person's life.

He spoke of how poverty can prevent a community from becoming unified but he also noted that poverty is not simply a lack of access to money, it can also be a lack of educational attainment or a dearth of positive relation-



ships.

The MLK Unity Day celebration began 10 years ago as an idea to bring the City of Toledo together on that day. It has become one of the area's largest community events.

The celebration opened with remarks by the master and mistress of ceremonies, Larry Whatley and Schylar Meadows, followed by a professional of community leaders—elected officials, clergy,

education representatives and agency heads.

Then came a drum performance by JJ's Express, then an honor guard comprised of members of the U.S. Armed Forces and a presentation of colors by the Toledo Fire and Police Departments.

High school student Portia Bills sang the national anthem and the Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir opened with

the first of their three gospel selections.

Dr. Lloyd Jacobs, president of UT, was the event's first speaker and he explained, with reference to King's "I Have a Dream Speech," why some dreams change the world—the dreams that are both selfless in character and that have lives that extend well beyond those of the dreamers.

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, referencing recent events, spoke of King's desire to put an end to violence. "Hate begets hate, violence begets violence, toughness begets a greater toughness," she quoted King, adding that it takes faith and courage to remain nonviolent when faced with violence.

Toledo Mayor Mike Bell urged the audience to start right here in Toledo. "Let's worry about what we can do right here in Toledo," said Bell. "It's about unity; it's about taking Dr. King's dream and putting it into ac-

tion." He urged his listeners to get involved and not fall prey to the notion that others could effect change.

Then came Pearson who presented to the adults in the audience the challenge of working directly with young people if they were interested in eliminating a poverty of human interaction.

Members of the Student African American Brotherhood /UT Chapter read King's "I Have a Dream Speech," followed by more gospel music from the Mass Choir.

(Continued on Page 16)



African Art Has Arrived!!

Hundreds of wood carvings from Ghana have recently arrived at The Truth Gallery – masks, statues, village scenes! All at unbelievably low prices!



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The Truth Gallery 1811 Adams Street 419-242-7650

Paula Hicks-Hudson: District 4 Representative Committed to a Collaborative Effort

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor



Shortly after the recent November general elections, Paula Hicks-Hudson had some decisions to make. As the chief legal counsel for the State of Ohio Office of Budget and Management, Hicks-Hudson would soon be out of that Columbus job with the inauguration of a Republican governor. It was time to return home to Toledo and move on to the next phase of her life in public service.

Almost immediately, the one-time candidate for judgeship threw her name in the hat for an appointment to the Lucas County Court of Common Pleas to fill the seat being vacated by Judge Charles Doneghy. However, before that selection could be made,

Hicks-Hudson reached a different conclusion about the next step in her career.

The long-time Old West End resident looked at an opportunity to lobby for an appointment to the Toledo City Council District 4 seat that had opened with the election of Councilman Michael Ashford to the Ohio General Assembly and decided that she wanted to take a more active approach to public service.

"I initially wanted to seek Judge Doneghy's seat but in talking to people about District 4 and my skill set, I saw an opportunity to do more," she says. "You don't really do less as a judge, but you do it differently. My skills, my desires, who I am as a person might

have been stifled in a judgeship. I'm an advocate. You have to lose that advocacy role as a judge so I can use my skills better here [in Council]."

That decided, Hicks-Hudson, to the surprise of a number of observers of the political scene, withdrew her name from consideration for the judgeship and sought the Lucas County Democratic Party's recommendation for the council seat. She received that nod early in January and was approved by City Council in an 8-3 vote on January 11.

Now come the challenges, she says, of representing a district with an unusual mix of neighborhoods.

"District 4 has the city's oldest neighborhoods, and

different types of neighborhoods, such as Lagrange, Vistula, Old West End," says Hicks-Hudson.

Also in the district, as she notes, are huge swaths of an impoverished central city as well as the downtown commercial areas.

Her primary challenge, she says, is to get the district, as a whole, to forward and she hopes to do so by fostering more collaboration between neighborhoods and bringing to her constituents a realization that there are, in fact, more similarities than differences.

She points out the economic issues that so many residents of District 4 face but there is also, among her challenges, the need to improve the quality of life for constituents. As she points out, for example, residents, no matter their income level, generally have to leave the neighborhood to shop.

"District 4 needs what other neighborhoods have," says the councilwoman.

So Hicks-Hudson's stated goal is to spend some time

taking a look throughout the district to see what works well and then using her office to help facilitate the discussion for all residents.

She is particularly impressed with the energy and commitment to improve a neighborhood that she finds in the Lagrange area—or ONE Village as that area has now been dubbed. An energy and commitment she would like to see replicated throughout her district.

"I'm going to take this first month to really listen," she says of the process she will employ and promises to be as straightforward as possible.

"If I can, I will do; if I can't, I will tell you," she says. That's how she describes being a servant/leader—trying to facilitate everyone's efforts to solve the community's problems—economic, safety, quality of life.

But as Hicks-Hudson facilitates, she also has to politic.

Coming soon in rapid order are a special election in May, a primary election in September and a general election in No-

ember to hold on to the appointed seat. Quite a gauntlet for the newly-minted councilwoman. In the special election in May, she will probably face off against many of the same names who sought the Democratic Party's stamp of approval.

"I didn't choose to do this lightly," she says. "If I do my job as a councilwoman, that will, in part, speak for itself."

She also sees this time as an opportunity to help get the message out of District 4's revival. It's not all about crime and boarded houses, she says of the community she represents, and she hopes to spend some time putting a different spin on the old neighborhoods.

Hicks-Hudson moved to Toledo in 1982 after graduating from the University of Iowa Law School. She spent two years at the Toledo Legal Aid Society, then five as a prosecutor with Lucas County.

She has served as legislative director with Toledo City Council and director of the Lucas County Board of Elections.

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Ohio Events Celebrate Black History Month

Plan your weekend celebrations at DiscoverOhio.com/Multicultural

Special to The Truth

Ohio can trace the legacy of great African-American leaders through its many museums, musical celebrations, theatrical performances and links to the Underground Railroad. February is the perfect month to plan a trip around Ohio with family and friends to learn more about African-American heritage. Following is a wide array of both month-long and one-time family activities for commemorating Black History Month in Ohio.

Central Ohio

February Family Films: Books-To-Movies, King Arts Complex, Columbus, month-long

At 6p.m. on Thursdays in February, the King Arts Complex will host a film in the Pythian Theater. After each film, community facilitators and/or local media personalities will lead discussions. Tickets are \$20 for a family four-pack (includes popcorn and beverage), and individual tickets are \$5 for adults, and \$3 for students and senior citizens. Call

(614)645-KING for information.

Black History Month at the Ohio Statehouse, Columbus, month-long

The Ohio Statehouse celebrates Black History Month with free exhibitions and a tour of the George Washington Williams Room, which memorializes Ohio's first African-American legislator. The month-long celebration also includes living history programs featuring portrayals of historical African-Americans on Tuesdays at noon. Soul Food Wednesdays at the Capitol Café begin at noon throughout the month.

Northeast Ohio

The Trip to Bountiful, Cleveland Play House, Feb. 4-27

The Cleveland Play House produces the deeply emotional and uplifting American classic play by Pulitzer Prize- and Academy Award-winner Horton Foote. This is the world-premiere performance of the play by an all African-American cast. The result is an

unforgettable meditation on the idea of home and its power to sustain us. Tickets start at \$10.

Call (216)795-7000 for information.

Black History Month Film Festival, Historic Fort Steuben, Steubenville, Feb. 19

A free series of films depicting the efforts of African-Americans in various fields will run from 11 a.m. - 5p.m. The featured film, *What Does Trouble Mean?* follows the journey of a black laborer and his unexpected evolution into a charismatic leader who forced integration of Pittsburgh's construction trade unions in the late 1960s. Dr. Rex Crawley, Assistant Dean and Chair of the Department of Communications at Robert Morris University, will lead a discussion on the film.

Freedom Songs, Akron Civic Theatre, Feb. 20

The Akron Civic Theatre celebrates Black History Month with a music program featuring traditional African-American spirituals at

2:30 p.m. Audiences will develop a new appreciation for these "freedom songs," and the persistence of those who originally sang them. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 on the day of show. Call (330)253-2488.

Cleveland Jazz Orchestra's Lift Every Voice, Playhouse Square, Cleveland, Feb. 26

The Cleveland Jazz Orchestra will perform a Black History Month concert at 8p.m. in the Hanna Theatre. The performance also will feature the Voices of Victory gospel choir and a guest orator. Tickets start at \$20. Call (216)241-6000 for tickets.

Northwest Ohio Black History Month 2011, Bowling Green State University, month-long

Bowling Green State University celebrates Black History Month with numerous events, including a lecture series, musical performances and conferences. A highlight of the month's events is the 12th Annual Black Issues Conference on

Feb. 12 from 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Aminah Robinson: Voices That Taught Me How to Sing, Toledo Museum of Art, through Feb. 27

The Toledo Museum of Art presents a free exhibit of Ohio artist Aminah Robinson's work in the Glass Pavilion. Her work combines traditional art materials with everyday objects to create two- and three-dimensional masterpieces. Recurring themes of the exhibit include her memories of growing up in Columbus' Poindexter Village and her experiences traveling through the African Diaspora.

Southwest Ohio Visual Voices Art Exhibit: Dayton Skyscrapers 2011, Schuster Performing Arts Center, Dayton, month-long

A part of the KeyBank African-American Arts Festival, the free exhibit, open daily from 9a.m.-5p.m., features African-American "skyscrapers," women and men who stand tall as role

models in the Dayton community. Curated by Willis "Bing" Davis, *Visual Voices* is presented in partnership with EbonNia Gallery and will feature the work of dozens of Dayton-area African-American artists.


Roland Martin Speaks, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Cincinnati, Feb. 3

The award-winning journalist, political commentator and author will discuss the historical context of civil rights and how all people can take steps to freedom in their own lives. The program is free and begins at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are preferred, but not required. Call (513)333-7705.

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- Main Library, 325 Michigan St.
- Lagrange Branch Library, 3422 Lagrange St.
- Mott Branch Library, 1085 Dorr St.
- Toledo Heights Branch Library, 423 Shasta Dr.

* Kent Branch Library is expected to open in 2012.

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The Truth ECONOMY

Tackling Tough Times

Page 6

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Unrestrained Greed and Predatory Lending, Not Generosity to Black Communities, Precipitated the Current Crisis in the Financial Market

By Carter A. Wilson, Ph.D.



It's time to dispel a popular but dangerous myth about the near collapse of the financial market. The myth is that current economic crisis was caused by the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 and other liberal do-good government policies led by Fannie Mae (the Federal National Mortgage Association) and Freddie Mac (the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation).

Allegedly, these policies and government agencies pressured banks and mortgage companies to give loans to financially risky families, particularly those in low-income black communities. The story ends by concluding that these sub-prime loans contributed to the massive foreclosures that caused the current crisis in the financial market.

Promoting this myth, the new Speaker of the House John Boehner says this: "This eye-opening report details how government mortgage companies played a pivotal role in the financial meltdown by handing out high-risk loans to families who couldn't af-

ford them."

This myth distracts public attention from the real causes of this financial crisis and lays the foundation for the repeal of the Community Reinvestment Act and other important government regulations.

ment agency and was transformed into a private, stock-owning government sponsored enterprise in 1968.

It was established to support the mortgage industry, to issue mortgages and to buy mortgage loans from mortgage companies.

changes in the economy.

Deregulation was a major factor contributing to the crisis.

Many federal regulations that were put in place after the 1929 Stock Market Crash to prevent another crash have been weakened

Prime bank loans had dropped to 4.25 percent.

By the end of 2003 money had become plentiful and cheap. These record low interest rates made it extremely profitable to loan money, even to risky customers. Financial companies, mortgage companies and banks began to engage in risky, reckless and unethical financial practices.

By 2003 mortgage companies became more aggressive in issuing mortgages and engaged in two types of problematic practices. First, these companies engaged in predatory lending. Expanding their market beyond affluent low-risk families, mortgage companies targeted high-risk families and offered high or adjustable interest mortgages. They balanced the risks of foreclosures against the probable gains from high interest rates, higher fees and rising housing prices.

Second, financial institutions contributed directly to the housing bubble, grossly inflated housing values and prices. In the past, mortgage companies had relied on honest assessments of the real value of a home, because they used the home as collateral for granting long-term mortgages.

The companies held on to the mortgage and made money off the interest. However, by 2003 mortgage companies made money not from holding on to the mortgage, but from selling the mortgage on a secondary market.

Mortgage companies made more money from higher assessed value for homes. Assessors made money by overvaluing the homes. This process accelerated the inflation of housing prices and contributed to the housing bubble. Mortgage companies did not have to worry whether families could afford the high-priced homes and the high-priced mortgages. These companies sold the mortgages and passed on the risks to the buyers.

Financial companies bundled mortgages and credits. That is, companies took thousands of high-risk mortgages and put them together in a package. These companies did the same thing with credit card debts.

Companies sold the bundles for profit. They also used the bundles as collateral to borrow money and to purchase stocks and bonds.

The use of these practices, often referred to as

(Continued on Page 10)

For decades, banks had denied loans to black families even if they had the same income, level of savings and credit ratings as white families.

The Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 was designed to protect black families and communities from redlining, the practice by banks of drawing a red line around a low-income black community and denying loans to families residing in the encircled area.

For decades, banks had denied loans to black families even if they had the same income, level of savings and credit ratings as white families. At the same time, these same banks took the deposits of black families and used the money to finance community development in affluent suburban areas.

This practice contributed to the economic decline of black communities.

The Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 prohibited redlining and encouraged banks to make sound investments within the communities in which they resided.

Fannie Mae was established in 1938 as a govern-

ment agency and was transformed into a private, stock-owning government sponsored enterprise in 1968. In 2004 anti-predatory lending rules that prevented the issuing of high risk, high interest loans were suspended. Fannie Mae joined private mortgage companies in engaging in predatory lending. Fannie Mae issued sub-prime loans and high-risk loans from other mortgage companies. Although this practice pushed Fannie Mae to the brink of bankruptcy, it was not serious or pervasive enough to produce the crisis in the financial market.

The financial crisis was the result of several factors: 1) deregulation, 2) wild fluctuations in interest rates, 3) reckless, risky and unethical financial and banking practices and 4)

or repeated over the past 20 years.

The Glass-Steagall Act of 1933, which separated commercial banks (consumers) from investment banks (speculators), was repealed in 1999.

Restrictions on bank consolidations across state lines were eliminated.

The cap on borrowing was raised from a 12-to-1 loan to asset ratio, to a 30-to-1 ratio.

Fluctuating interest rates was another factor contributing to the crisis. Federal Reserve interest rates fluctuated wildly between 2000 and 2008. In 2000 the rate was 6.5 percent. By 2003 it had dropped to 1.2 percent. During the first few months of 2004 it was 1.0 percent.

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A Sustainable Economy Is Impossible Without Social Movements and Political Organizing

By Ruben Patterson, Ph.D.
Guest Column



The level of environmental sustainability is proportional to the level of social movement and political organizing around environmental sustainability. Perhaps you could call this the Patterson Principle. (Not really.)

The point is simply that social movements and political organizing can change public policy, which consequently would change public and private sector investment, and thus would change the direction of technological innovation, in this case, regarding sustainability.

The social movement and organizing in association with the 2008 presidential election were large enough to sweep into office an environmentally progressive president, but not large enough to sweep into office sufficient numbers of environmentally progressive senators – senators who would subject major polluters of greenhouse gases (GHGs) to stiff taxes.

If the progressive movements and political organizing in 2008 were large enough and strong enough to get a green Senate in addition to a green White House and a green House of Representatives, then large power plants, factories and refineries would be preparing to significantly reduce their GHGs. Such facilities emit hazardous pollutants that we all pay for in terms of diminished health and a ruined environment while the owners of these facilities retain the profits.

This practice is known as externalizing or projecting

much of the costs onto others while privatizing all of the profits. These externalities would have been dramatically reduced through legislation if the Senate had become sufficiently green right along with a green White House and a green House.

When the costs to large fossil fuel producers and intensive users are stiff and unavoidable, they seek cleaner technologies to avoid such costs. However, principal owners of companies (e.g., the Kochs of Koch Industries) and industry trade associations (e.g., the National Petrochemical & Refiners Association) find it much cheaper to simply underwrite conservative fossil fuel-supporting think tanks (e.g., American Enterprise Institute), bankroll political organizations (e.g., Americans for Prosperity and the Tea Party), hire lobbyists in Washington, DC and throughout the country to protect fossil fuel as if sacrosanct (Bracewell &

Giuliani), and fund elections of senatorial and congressional candidates, and then reward them with businesses when they leave office (e.g., Trent Lott, John Breaux, and Richard Gephardt).

Investing money in this way to maintain the externalizing costs borne by the rest of us is cheaper for company owners than for them to be forced through legislation to bear the full cost themselves. Since major GHG-producing companies lost the White House and failed to retake the House of Representatives in 2008, they needed only 41 Senators to prevent any legislation from significantly taxing their climate-altering GHG emissions.

Fortunately, as of January 2, 2011, President Obama has directed the Environmental Protection Agency, under the Clean Air Act, to regulate and reduce carbon dioxide, methane, and four other GHGs in the interest of public health and welfare. Coal-fired electric facilities, refineries, and large factories that emit over 25,000 tons of carbon dioxide annually will finally be hit with a charge on behalf of the public. The EPA estimates that nearly 14,000 such facilities – accounting for well over half of US carbon dioxide emissions – will be affected by the enforcement of this provision of the Clean

Air Act.

The new regulatory enforcement calls for these large facilities to deploy the “best available control technology” when either building new facilities or refurbishing existing ones. This EPA enforcement route is the second best outcome: a federal statute from the Congress imposing a tax on all GHG emissions from large facilities is the more effective approach.

However, that is not what the public won in 2008. Progressive social movements and political organizations in 2008 *only* won a green White House and a green House of Representatives. They needed to have won also a sufficiently green Senate, that is, more than 60 reliable votes for enthusiastically taxing GHGs.

Again, social movements and political organizations focusing on the environment can affect public policy, which in turn would affect investments and technological innovation. Environmentalists, for example, have been successful in helping to turn coal-fired electric plants into an untenable business model. Consider Deutsche Bank, which is but one global financial institution predicting sharp declines in coal as a major source of US electricity.

Currently, the United States derives about 47 percent of its electricity from coal facilities, but its share is predicted by Deutsche Bank to plummet to 22 percent by 2030. As a result, proprietors of coal facilities are finding it difficult to impossible to secure financing and insurance for new facilities. Therefore, environmental public policy and industry practice are being influenced in step with environmental public mobilization.

Sooner rather than later, environmentalists want coal (the dirtiest form of fossil fuel energy) to account for less than 22 percent of our electricity and for renewables to account for more than 50 percent. However, getting to that desired, more sustainable state requires dramatic public policy shifts, which would engender investment and technological shifts – both from more harmful to less harmful fossil fuels (i.e., from coal to natural gas) and from fossil fuels altogether to renewables.

All you have to do is help build social movements and political organizations sufficient to win a green White House, a green House of Representatives, and a sufficiently green Senate to overcome the economic, lobbying, and public misinformation muscle of fossil fuel industries and their agents. Piece of cake? Perhaps not. But we can do this!

Ruben Patterson, Ph.D., is professor of Sociology, chairman of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and director of African Studies at The University of Toledo.

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Alfred Baker Elected to Fifth Third Bank Board of Directors

Special to The Truth



Alfred A. Baker has been elected to the Board of Directors of Fifth Third Bank (Northwestern Ohio), according to John S. Szuch, Chairman. Baker has 38 years of

executive, managerial and board experience. He retired from Owens-Illinois as Vice President, Director of Human Resources, O-I Glass Containers, North America.

In the community, Baker serves on the University of Toledo President's Athletics Advisory Board, Medical Advisory Council, and Board of Trustees Audit Com-

mittee; he also serves as President of Alpha Phi Boule'. He is a past Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Medical College of Ohio and University of Toledo; and was a

board member of the University of Toledo Foundation, Medical College of Ohio foundation and Toledo Employers Association. A resident of Sylvania,

he is a graduate of the University of Toledo and was inducted into the University of Toledo Athletics Hall of Fame.

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How Does Self-esteem, Relationships, and Sexual Health, Effect Perinatal Health?

SESSION 1:
Wednesday, February 9, and Wednesday, February 16, 2011 from 12 am - 4 pm

SESSION 2:
Wednesday, March 9 and Wednesday, March 16, 2011 from 12 am - 4 pm

Location:
River East Community Health Center

NHA Perinatal Outreach Workers (POW) in collaboration with SASI (a division of COMPASS) will be holding two four-hour sessions to educate African American women on topics related to the empowerment of their sexual health. Groups are limited to 6 or 8 women each.

For more details contact Michelle Smith-Wojnowski at 419-691-1322, ext 332

Greed

(Continued from Page 7)

collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs) and collateralized debt obligations (CDOs), exploded from 2003 to 2008.

Many of these practices involved fraud or deception. Companies pressured accounting firms and rating agencies to give their CMOs and CDOs AAA ratings. These ratings gave potential buyers the impression that the bundles were low risk and high yield.

These practices were investigated by the Attorney General of the State of New York and the Securities Exchange Commission. Some of the companies investigated included Citigroup, Merrill Lynch, Lehman Brothers and Bear Stearns. The investigations led to indictments and fines.

In 2007 the Federal Reserve Board increased interest rates sharply, up to 5.25 percent. With this increase loans became more expensive and difficult to obtain. The economy slowed down. People lost their jobs.

Home sales and prices dropped. The number of foreclosures skyrocketed.

The value of CMOs and CDOs crashed. The financial market tanked.

Many financial companies had borrowed more than 30 times their assets. Many had invested heavily in mortgages. With over five million foreclosures in one year, CMOs tanked. Companies like Goldman Sachs,

Merrill Lynch, and Bear Stearns with heavy investments in CDOs and CMOs teetered on the brink of bankruptcy. One of the oldest investment firms in the nation, Lehman Brothers, collapsed and disappeared. This excessive borrowing pushed the financial sector over the edge of insolvency.

Another factor that contributed to the crisis was the change in the economy that impacted most families. During the first decade of the 21st Century income insecurity – as measured by the percentage of families that experienced a 50 percent drop in income – increased.

This percentage had increased from just a few to 20 percent by 2008. Family budgets were strained by rising costs in health care, educa-

tion, day care and credit interest. Credit card debt and home equity loans increased precipitously. The percentage of family income spent on debt retirement increased dramatically.

When mortgage interest rates increased, families with adjustable rates went from having affordable monthly payments to having a mortgage that they could no longer afford. Families that could once afford their mortgages began to default. As unemployment rates and home mortgage interest rates increased, foreclosure rates rose.

Financial institutions had taken advantage of American families. These institutions made trillions of dollars off of both credit card and home mortgage loans. Deregulation allowed these institutions to engage in risky behavior.

The problem was not that “government mortgage companies played a pivotal role in the financial meltdown by handing out high-risk loans to families who couldn’t afford them.” The problem was not the Community Reinvestment Act, Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac.

The problem was complex and multifaceted. It included deregulation, wildly fluctuating interest rates, predatory lending, overpriced homes, grossly overrated and overvalued CMOs and CDOs, deceptive financial practices, and excessive borrowing. The problem was the unrestrained

greed and unethical behavior of financial institutions.

Deregulation and risky behavior among financial institutions had the consequence of redistributing wealth upward and shifting the costs of risks downward. That is, people at the bottom

paid dearly for the risky and unethical behavior of the financial companies, while those at the top made great fortunes.

Carter Wilson, Ph.D., is professor of Political Science and Public Administration at The University of Toledo



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– Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



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Social Security Column Claim Those Tax Deductions: Social Security Numbers for Kids

By Phil Walton
Social Security Manager in Toledo, OH

There's good news for tax filers in 2011. The due date for your 2010 Federal income tax returns is Monday, April 18, 2011, instead of the usual date of April 15. As you prepare your tax documents, don't forget you'll need Social Security numbers for your children if you want to claim them as dependents on your return.

In most cases, parents request a Social Security number for their child when applying for a birth certificate. The state agency that issues birth certificates shares the child's information with us and we mail the Social Security card to you. However, if you didn't apply for a number at the hospital, you must apply at a Social Security office or by mail. To do so you will need:

- A completed Application For A Social Security Card (Form SS-5);
- Original documents proving your child's:
 - o U.S. citizenship;
 - o Age; and
 - o Identity; and
- Original documents proving your identity.

After you apply, we will verify the child's birth record and mail your child's Social Security card to you. If you do not get a Social Security number for your child before the April 18 tax filing deadline but you still need to claim the child as a deduction on your tax return, you can:

- File your income tax return without claiming the child and then file an amended income tax return when the child has a Social Security number; or
- File with the Internal Revenue Service to extend the deadline for filing your tax return.

Parents can claim their adopted child for tax purposes while the adoption process is still pending. You will need to contact the Internal Revenue Service for Form W-7A, Application for Taxpayer Identification Number for Pending U.S. Adoptions. We can assign your adopted child a Social Security number before the adoption is complete, but you may want to wait. Then, you can apply for the number using your child's new name, with your name as parent.

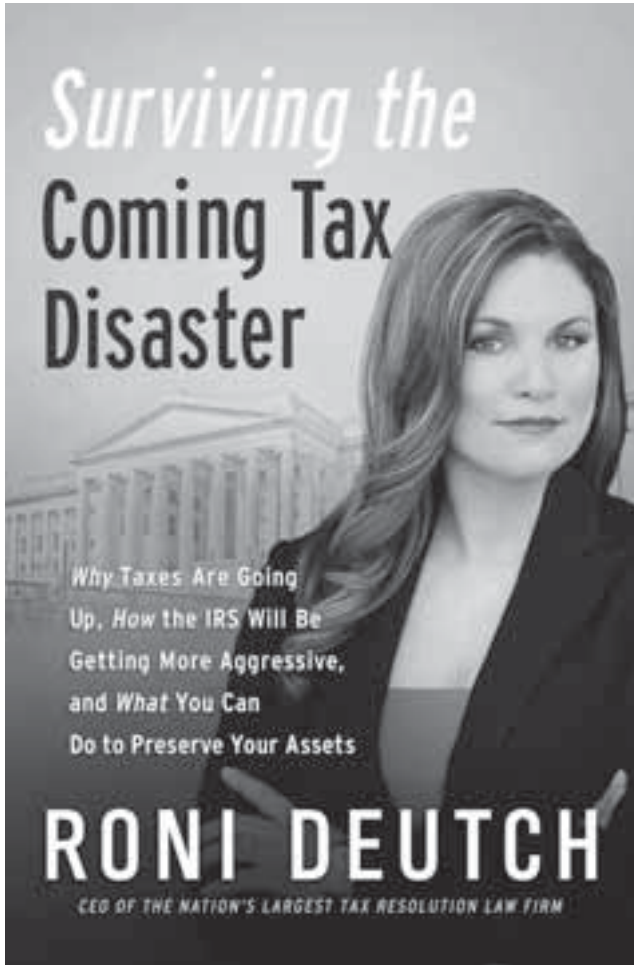
Remember, a Social Security number is not just for taxes. Your child also may need a Social Security number for government benefits or other reasons, such as opening a bank account or obtaining medical coverage. If you need to apply for your child's Social Security card and number, now's the time. To learn more, read our online publication, *Social Security Numbers For Children*, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10023.html.

The Economy ... *Tackling Tough Times* • The Economy ... *Tackling Tough Times* • The Economy ... *Tackling Tough Times* • The Economy ... *Tackling***Book Review****Surviving the Coming Tax Disaster by Roni Deutsch**

c.2010, BenBella Books

\$16.95

241 pages, includes resources

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

There are, as they say, two things you can't escape: death and taxes.

You try to avoid both as much as possible. The former

is so distressing, so intimidating. It's the Great Unknown, a hidden surprise that could be painfully unpleasant, and that's just frighten-

ing. Come to think of it, that very well describes the latter, too.

You'll never elude death,

Fifth Third Bank Is Host Site for Free Income Tax Preparation for Working Families Eligible for Earned Income Tax Credits

Special to The Truth

Again this year, Fifth Third Bank will participate as a host site for free Income Tax preparation for working families in Lucas County who are eligible for Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC).

Fifth Third Bank locations, dates and times:
Swayne Field Banking Center, 3053 Monroe Street
Tuesday, February 8: 6 - 8 p.m.
Saturday, February 12: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Lagrange Banking Center, 3028 Lagrange Street
Thursday, February 24: 6-8 p.m.
Saturday, February 26: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Appointments are required and can be scheduled by calling United Way at 211 or 1-800-650-4357.

"Families could be eligible for up to \$5,666 in earned income tax credits in conjunction with their 2010 tax filing," said Linda Ewing, vice president for Community Affairs, Fifth Third Bank (Northwestern Ohio). If your income was less than \$49,000* in 2010, you may qualify for the earned income tax credit.

The Earned Income Tax Credit, established in the early 1970's, is a refundable federal income tax credit for low to middle income working individuals and families that brings federal resources back into pockets of hard working Lucas County residents.

but you may escape the Tax Man, according to **Roni Deutsch**. In her new book *Surviving the Coming Tax Disaster*, she tells you how to survive April 15, the IRS and a visit from your favorite Uncle.

Although nobody likes to pay taxes, we know that civilization would cease without them. We wouldn't have roads, police protection, public libraries, or any of the hundreds of things we enjoy. Life truly is easier, thanks to our taxes.

Which doesn't make them any easier to pay, but...

But what if you can't pay? What if you lost your house in foreclosure or disaster, closed your business, had quintuplets, got divorced, widowed, hurt, killed or were otherwise pockets-inside-out broke?

Don't expect the IRS to care, says Deutch. Times are tough, and the government will do everything to get their money, even if you don't have

anything to give. They can – and will – take your paycheck, car, home, savings, business, and they can ruin your credit for a long, long time if you don't comply. So what can you do, particularly if you get an ominous letter from your favorite Uncle?

First of all, says Deutsch, don't put the letter in the drawer and sprinkle fairy dust on it. The IRS won't just go away, and they're perfectly willing to ramp up the pressure. Time is of the essence in this situation. Don't waste any.

Understand that a tax professional is worth *more* than his or her weight in proverbial gold, and that person may mean the difference between keeping your assets and losing them. If you're self-employed, don't *ever* hide anything – like Santa Claus, the IRS knows when you've been bad. Know your options – Uncle Sam does offer some – and (did we say this?) consult a tax professional.

Finally, take tax-paying seriously. You can bet the IRS does.

Are you addicted to thrillers? You'll throw rocks at those fake-scary things when you read this book. Seriously, "Surviving the Coming Tax Disaster" is the stuff nightmares are made of.

Author Roni "The Tax Lady" Deutsch doesn't beat around the bush. She's matter-of-fact here, explaining how the economy got to this point, why the government is doing more audits and why the IRS is so aggressive in getting its money. But she also offers lots of ideas on how to lower your tax bill, and what to do and not to do when it comes to paying what you owe the government.

Even if you're meticulous about your taxes, you're still going to want to spend an evening or two with this sobering book. What you learn in *Surviving the Coming Tax Disaster* might still scare you to death.



I Know You Think You Heard What You Thought I Said... (The Proposed Restructuring of Lima City Schools)

By Vickie Shurelds
Sojourner's Truth Reporter



Keyword: Fiscal Responsibility.

It's the new catch phrase and as in most cases has a different meaning to everyone who uses it, depending on his or her agenda.

Lima City Schools has been searching for the past several years for a way to reduce their projected budget deficit while maintaining the quality education they have set as their goal for students.

They have utilized all the traditional methods of bringing money into the district:

levies, grant writing, sponsorships and partnerships. They have held open forums, focus groups and made administrators available to speak at neighborhood associations, churches and community service groups telling the stories of student needs, progress, and successes – but the deficit remains.

Last week, the Lima City School Board released a draft/proposal of an option for restructuring. First presented to the union, then to principals, then to teachers – then a huge glitch as 'someone' leaked the draft to local media who released the information to the general public slapping the unprepared students and parents squarely in the face and raising immediate dissension and resistance.

LCS Superintendent

Karel Oxley went into immediate diffusion mode and set up individual group meetings to answer questions and offer personal assurances the proposal was not written in stone but was meant as a piece of literature designed to open dialogue and ideas about what the 2011-2012 school year could look like for staff, students, and community.


The ideas that went into the proposal came from feedback her office has been getting over the past few years. Some items became recurring themes, and it seemed logical that those ideas would at least be considered if a change were inevitable.

The draft has, as a major component, an offer of a buyout for teachers who have reached an impressive number of years with the school. Based on a percent-



"Time Flies When You're Having Fun"

That quotation has proven true for Cynthia and Jack Ford during the last 90 days!




The couple got on board with a pro-health company, Visalus Sciences, and took the Body By Vi Challenge on May 1, 2010. They took the challenge with 12 friends to make health a larger priority in their busy lives.

Jack set a goal of losing 80 pounds to become eligible for placement on the kidney transplant list. Cynthia took the Body By Vi 90 Day Challenge to get fit, increase energy level and show support for Jack.

They are thrilled with the results! Jack has lost 54 pounds in 90 days! Cynthia has changed two dress sizes and no longer munches granola bars and diet soda to get through the day. Now that they have achieved success without stress, they want to invite YOU to join them on the Body By Vi Challenge, too!

Jack Has Just 26 pounds to Go!

If you, or someone you care about, are interested in a weight loss transformation before the holidays begin or if you are interested in joining their team of positive and dedicated professionals, Jack and Cynthia invite you to join them beginning in August 2010.



Website – www.donney.bodybyvi.com
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age of acceptances, nearly half the needed budget reduction could come from that one action alone. This has been presented to the teachers through the union, and is in discussion right now, with the hopes of general positive feedback which would then open the door for detail negotiations.

The proposed statement for the buyout states: "The Board will be working with the unions to offer a buyout option to employees. The buyout program provides a monthly stream of income to the employee or their beneficiaries for a fixed number (five to eight) of years. The employee agrees, during a 45 day window period, to terminate service on a common date determined by the employer. This program is not part of STRS/SERS and does not purchase service credit at either retirement system."

Draft Redesign of Lima City Schools

- * K – 8 Arts Magnet at Liberty
- * 5 – 12 or K – 12 SparTech Academy (NewTech) @ South
- (Note - This includes students in the middle school Science Technology Magnet and the Lima Senior High Progressive Academy. New Tech refers to an instructional program currently under review for the Progressive Academy.)
- * Grades 7 - 8 at Lima West Middle School

- * Grades 5 - 6 at Lima North Middle School
- * Emerson Alternative Program relocated to LSH Adult Ed wing.
- * West Central Learning Academy relocated.
- * Dr. Earl McGovern Education Center staff relocated to various district buildings.
- * Academy of Learning staff relocated to various district buildings.
- * Small School concept remains intact at Lima Senior with the high schools moving to a common bell schedule.

Note: In this draft proposal, buildings closing include Emerson, the Academy of Learning and the Educational Center.

Each building would have Special Education services and students with special needs would be offered all accommodations and necessary adaptations to assure success in their day to day learning.

Besides offering the best quality education in the most creative and accessible learning experiences to its current students, LCS would like to offer additional unique opportunities that will encourage the return of students who may have used vouchers in order to attend other schools within the districts borders, and beyond.

The Magnet experiences in both the Arts and Technology fields have long been established as the premiere offerings in education. Part-

nerships with local colleges that allow high school students to earn college credits by taking classes at Lima Senior High School, taught by college professors without incurring costs at the college offers wins all around.

Lima Seniors small schools offer other unique opportunities as well; students now have Mandarin Chinese as a language choice, and the opportunity to choose a school that has a philosophy that best suits a student's learning style. Efforts by administrators, faculty, staff and students are being reflected in the state scores which at one time were inconsistent enough to cause concern, but are now on track and moving in an upward direction according to the latest state information readily available on the school's website: www.limacityschools.org.

There will still more than likely be a reduction of the staff across all levels and associations and there are still plans for a **Permanent Improvement Levy**. The Lima City Board of Education will review a proposed 1.9 mill Permanent Improvement Levy for the May 2011 ballot. This levy is necessary even with the reductions. The Permanent Improvement Levy is estimated to raise \$595,750 a year and cost the owner of a \$50,000 home \$29.09 a year.

Book Review

Jay Z Decoded

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



At the end of 2010, while Wayne's release from prison, Nikki Minaj's debut and the usual Kanye-mania kept the rap news world on fire... a quiet yet profound event occurred.

Yes, of course, Shawn Corey Carter is not the first hip-hop heavyweight to release a book but whereas other rappers seem to be just diversifying their portfolio of enterprises, one of the most mogul-est of moguls actually pens a shockingly introspective expose on his own life and rap music itself.

Think about what you have said about Jay Z in the last year or two.

You said he fell off then *Blueprint 3* did numbers, killed the charts and served as a landmark moment in artistry and executive ownership.

I mean, lyrically I would choose Hov's last album over all the cameos he's done since.

And let's not even get into the whole Def Jam buyout corporate move, talk about power broking your own album release...this man took a \$5 million hit just to put the album out on a different label. This why it kills me when people say he's all about money, so much proof to the contrary if you have studied this business.

But I digress.

You hated Jay Z in 2010.

Even with all the accolades, the 40/40 ventures venturing into airports and the successful launching of Roc Nation with J.Cole, Alexis Monroe and Willow Smith.

Still, all you could talk about was the last youtube video you saw.

Then, the guy names his book: *Decoded*.

Oh, man!

The marketing plan, genius level-ish and who would expect anything less than Jay Z's lyrics cut into riddles and spread all across NYC from project rooftops to Manhattan billboards. But even with all of that, how do you get one of the most intriguing figures in hip-hop to actually get hip-hop listeners to pick up a damn book?

I have a contact in NYC that got me a phone call with one of the editors of The Source magazine last year and she told me how the magazine business is doing so bad they might be next on the bailout list. Worldstarhiphop.com is how rap lovers get their dosage of articles. Even though Kanye and Diddy can twitter all day and it's something like a diary, that is still a far cry from sitting down and digging through your own soul for memoirs.

The original blog, people, a book.

In the same way Generation X people used to listen to Big Daddy Kane when they came of age or went to high school in the 80s, my generation, Generation Y (the younger sibs of X), came up on Jay during our teens, pre teens and down.

This dude has been a fixture in my life since before I was old enough to vote.

Can you imagine how interesting this should be for rap fans of both generations?

I mean anyone under 18 now is an entirely different gen and Jay Z hasn't been as relative to their experience as people like T.I. or Wayne. But for those of us who came into our teens in the 90s, this is pure gold in *Decoded*.

Forexample:

Jay Z has two rituals when recording an album.

1. He lets his hair grow all the way out.

2. Every time he steps in the booth he rocks Biggie's actual Jesus piece.

Now, if you can respect some dude pouring out liquor for his fallen homie...surely you can appreciate the gravity of one King of New York paying homage to the King that preceded him. If not, you're just trying... like really trying to find reasons to hate dude.

But besides factoid type info, this book deals with much more than just Jay Z's habits.

Hip-hop itself is being decoded.

Peep this excerpt:

"It's been said that the thing that makes rap special, that makes it different both from pop music and from written poetry, is that it's built around two kinds of rhythm.

The first kind of rhythm is the meter.

In poetry, the meter is abstract, but in rap, the meter is something you literally hear: it's the beat. The beat in a song never stops, it never varies.

No matter what other sounds are on the track, even

if it's a Timbaland production with all kinds of offbeat fills and electronics, a rap song is usually built bar by bar, four beat measure by four beat measure. It's like time itself, ticking off relentlessly in a rhythm that never varies and never stops.

When you think about it like that, you realize the beat is everywhere, you just have to tap into it. You can bang it out on a project wall or a 808 drum machine or just use your hands. You can beatbox it with your mouth."

After that paragraph he goes on to describe how the second element of rhythm in rap music is the FLOW of lyrics by the person rapping.

He speaks about how the flow creates its own beat with its own in and out of pocket time signature and how it lays on the actual beat of sound he just described.

Then, he pulls on the metaphor of Flow and Beat a raps basic tenets of duality in rhythm and how both need each other and he flips that into the need for rap music itself to tell the stories of hustlers in the street and how they needed each other in rap's early days.

All of this, and it's not even the page 20 yet.

The stories of how Memphis Bleek got to be in the coveted position Jay Z refers to on the *Diamonds Are Forever (Remix)* and even the unexpected controversy of him wearing a Che Guevara shirt with a platinum chain at the same time—all those stories are decoded.

Even the incident leading to the trial he faced, and how Puffy's trial was going on at the same time and a block away from a terrorist trial but the media chose to focus on "another rapper in trouble."

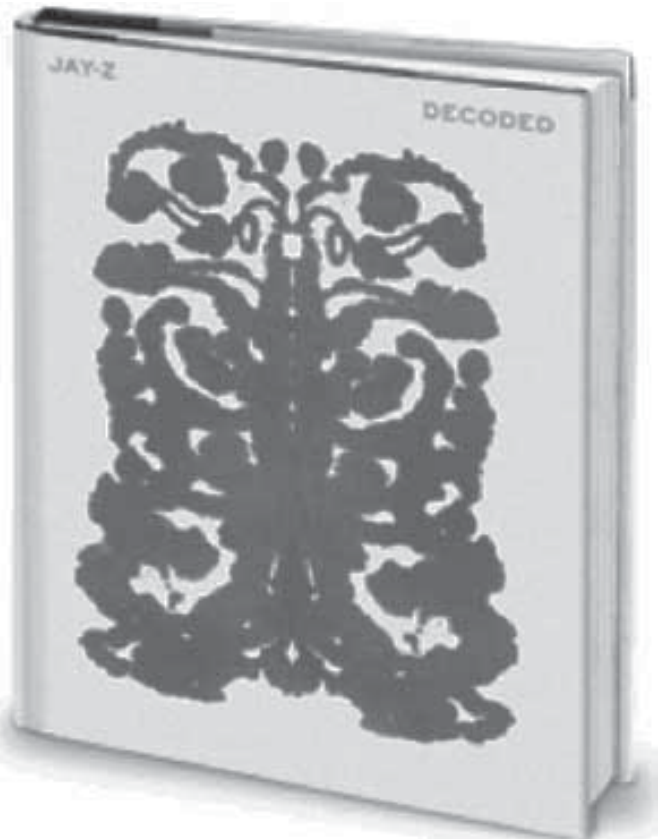
I don't know about you, but I'm proud that hip-hop can create moguls not only because I need a blueprint for how I want my career to go but also because it gives us the power to finally speak for ourselves.

Maybe you've forgotten, but we as minorities and we as the entire hip-hop generation haven't had that luxury for very long.

It's a cold winter, go to Borders at the mall, cop this book and sit up and learn before you hate.

Peace.

Facebook search or email:
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CLASSIFIEDS

1, 2011

15

CLERICAL SPECIALIST

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA), located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for its Clerical Specialist position. This position performs a variety of clerical and secretarial tasks to assist with the efficient operation of various program areas. **Requirements:** Completion of secondary education (high school or GED), supplemented by coursework in typing, general business, and the operation of business office equipment, plus two (2) years general business office experience, or equivalent; must meet all pre-employment job related testing standards. Hourly rate is \$13.94. We do background checks and this position is subject to drug and alcohol testing. Please note on your submittal if you are a LMHA public housing or Section 8 resident. This is a Section 3 covered position and HUD recipients are encouraged to apply. Send cover letter and resume, specifying the position for which you are applying to: LMHA, PO Box 477, Toledo, OH, 43697-0477, Attn: Eleanor L. Gore. **All materials submitted must be received at LMHA not later than 5:00 P.M. on Friday, January 28, 2011.**

NO PHONE CALLS

Visit our web site at www.LucasMHA.org, for a detailed job description or call our job line at (419) 259-9537 for a complete listing of employment opportunities.

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- Must be able to use and read tape measure, micrometers, calipers, depth gauges, ect.
- Experience with predictive maintenance tools (vibration analysis, thermograph, ect) a plus.

The qualified candidate will be required to perform daily maintenance duties to support the reliability of the factory assets and to ensure that production requirements are met daily. These activities include PM's, corrective work, project work, lubricating and cleaning of equipment, set-up and change over, and completed daily work log and work orders in the CMMS.

Resumes will be accepted by mail only until February 12, 2011.

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Heinz North America – Fremont Factory Electrical Maintenance/Electronic Specialist

- Responsible for supervising processes relating to electronic systems, instrumentation, PLC's, and the repair, maintenance and installation of electronic equipment and systems.
- Acts as the facilitator between vendors, service technicians, programmers and Engineering, maintenance and IS personnel concerning design, troubleshooting, installations, etc.
- Responsible for training maintenance employees concerning electronic systems, instrumentation, and PLC's.
- Optimize Production Maintenance effectiveness through utilization of the CMMS system through planning and scheduling maintenance activities.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

- Ability to apply knowledge of electrical/electronics principles as it relates to troubleshooting equipment and installing, programming and upgrading equipment (preferably in a food manufacturing facility); in compliance with OSHA and the National Electrical Code.
- Exceptional technical problem solving skills and the ability to strategically plan work and development and implement solutions for equipment.
- Working knowledge of high speed processing and packaging equipment, industrial controls and robotic equipment preferably in the food processing industry.

KNOWLEDGE/EXPERIENCE/COMPETENCIES:

- Minimum AS degree in electrical/electronics engineering technology or systems, or accredited apprenticeship program in the electrical/electronics field.
- 5 to 7 years proven experience in electrical/electronics, hydraulic and pneumatic fields are required.
- Knowledge and understanding of USDA, FDA, ODA, OSHA and other State/Federal requirements a plus.
- Working Knowledge of NEC a requirement.
- Working knowledge of personal computers, PLC's and IS systems (Allen Bradley platforms and software beneficial).
- Working knowledge of instrumentation, measurement and metrology systems
- Ability to multitask and work in a team oriented fast-paced environment.

Resumes will be accepted by mail only until February 12, 2011.

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Remembering Wil Clay



Wil Clay, graphic designer, illustrator, painter, sculptor and storyteller, passed away on January 13, 2011, in Toledo, Ohio, at the young age of 72.

He is survived by his six children, more specifically five from his marriage to Ruth (Cureton) Clay, namely, Michael Clay (of Houston, Texas), Christina Clay Polite, Alecia Clay Cole (Patrick), Melinda Clay Reyes (Curtis), and Tamorah Clay Lopez (Alejandro); and one from his subsequent marriage to Glenna V. Parkinson, namely, Donato

Jide Clay (of Los Angeles, Ca.). He also has four grandchildren: Michael DuWayne II, Tamika Michelle, Elena Madison, and Trystan; and two great grandchildren: Alex and Nathan.

Wil was a lover extraordinaire of art, illustration, graphics, and children's books.

Wil was a graduate of Macomber Vocational in Toledo, Ohio. After graduation, he entered into military service with the Navy, and was honorably discharged in 1962. He studied art at The American Academy of Art in Chicago and the Vesper George School of Art in Boston and University of Toledo in Ohio. He further attended the University of Toledo, and was just a few credit hours shy of receiving his Bachelors Degree.

Wil was self-employed, having owned his own art and graphic design business since shortly after his discharge from the Navy. He concentrated on corporate design in his Providence, R.I. studio for seven years before moving to Texas, where he headed a multifaceted graphic arts business for 17 years. In 1987, Mr. Clay returned to his hometown of Toledo, where he devoted most of his time to fine arts painting and sculpture. In 1988, he opened his studio at the Common Space Center for Creativity, where he also taught figure drawing.

Among Wil's recent successes is "Radiance", a six-foot bronze and stainless steel sculpture that honors the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Wil was a primary designer and sculptor of the work, which became the "run-away favorite" in an invitational competition sponsored by the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo. "Radiance" features four strongly modeled heads of Dr. King mounted on a highly polished steel sphere. Viewers' reflections are a reminder that we are all one people. The work was dedicated in downtown Toledo in September, 1989.

In 1990, Wil traveled to Cameroon, Africa, for three months of independent study in conjunction with his art history and sculpture studies at the University of Toledo. Working primarily with the Bamileke people of the south and the Fulani people of the north, Wil did drawings, paintings and studied the relationship of art - including woodcarving, metalsmithing, beadwork and painting - to tribal festivals and dances.

Paintings, sketches and sculptures by Wil Clay are represented in private collections in California, Colorado, Washington, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Louisiana, Texas, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Washington, D.C. in the United States, and in Canada, England, Jamaica, Sierra Leone and Cameroon, Africa.

In 1993 Wil's book, Little Eight John received the Coretta Scott King Honor Award for Illustration. During the school year Wil Clay enjoyed visiting elementary schools, libraries, colleges and professional organizations. At each venue he always promoted the importance of reading. His audiences enjoyed his animated way of storytelling. Words and characters just seem to come alive. Older students delighted in his sharing of the creative process in producing a picture book. Younger students couldn't wait to try out secret drawing techniques learned during an assembly. Others would get excited about writing their own short story. It was a most rewarding time for Wil Clay to see students display enthusiasm for reading and illustrations. He often quoted the expression that one picture really is worth more than 10,000 words, and enjoyed seeing that reflected in the people he influenced.

Wil will always be loved by countless family and friends, especially those in the art community who he revered. Amongst other places, he was a longtime patron, supporter and exhibitor at the Toledo Museum of Art. He will live on in our hearts and through his art.

A Wake Service and viewing will be held Friday, January 21, 2011, from 5:00pm until 9:00pm, at the Dale-Riggs Funeral Home, 572 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43604. Ph. (419) 248-4254.

Memorial and Celebration Service will be held Saturday, January 22, 2011, from 1:00pm until 5:00 pm, at the Toledo Museum of Art, 2445 Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio 43620. Ph. (419) 255-8000. Website: www.toledomuseum.org.

In honor of Wil Clay, the family is requesting that, in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to the Toledo Museum of Art, in the name and memory of Wil Clay.

Unity

(Continued from Page 4)

UT students Nathaniel Wilson and Raphael McCloud were presented with the annual MLK scholarships to the tune of \$4,000 each and Robert Smith, director of the African American Legacy Project received the Toledo Unity Award.

Smith accepted the award, he said, for all those people who have worked with him over the years in establishing the Legacy Project, dedicated to preserving the history of the local African-American community.

The star of Monday's celebration, however, was undoubtedly Pearson who received a standing ovation

before his speech for his many accomplishments to date and another after his remarks.

"That Keon's a beast,"

one community leader remarked as he exited the field house at the conclusion of the event.



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