

In This Issue	CBTU Banquet Page 5	Kenya Page 9	BlackMarketPlace Page 17
State Dems Question Legislation Page 3	NANBPWC Celebrates Women's History Month Page 6	Cape Cod Page 11-14	Classifieds Pages 18-19
TFD Recruitment Effort Page 4	<u>Travel Section – AFRICA!</u> Egypt and Tanzania Pages 8-10	Minister Reviews Limitless Page 16	Book Review Page 20

State Politics * State Politics

Statement of Rep. Michael Ashford on Passage of HB159



State Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) last week voted against House Bill 159, which will disenfranchise thousands of qualified voters by requiring all Ohioans to show government photo identification to cast a ballot. Following the vote which sent the bill to the Ohio Senate, Ashford issued the following statement:

"This bill would make Ohio one of only three states that request a government issued photo ID to cast a ballot and its provisions would make it stricter than Georgia's phone ID Law. HB 159 changes current election law and allows for only certain forms of government issued ID's to be

accepted for voting. The only citizens that can vote are; if you have a current Ohio drivers license, Ohio state ID, military ID or a US passport. Currently, state law allows for other forms of ID such as voter registration cards, utility bills or a bank statement. If HB 159 becomes law, Ohio will not accept college student ID, or only employee ID from the city or the county. This bill disenfranchises seniors, college student, minorities and poor from voting.

Who will this affect: 887,000 voting-age Ohioans likely do not have government issued photo ID

Twenty five percent of African Americans do not

have Government Issue photo ID

Eighteen percent of voters over the 65 nationwide do not have government-issued photo ID.

Fifteen percent of voters with income lower than \$35,000/year do not have government-issued photo ID

The bill forces citizens with limited resources to make a decision between putting food on the table or spending money to get a state issued ID. It will cost the individual approximately \$47 (\$15 drivers license, \$22 birth certificate, and \$10 state ID) to vote.

On Wednesday, March 23, 2011 during the General Assembly session the House

Republicans praised the State of Georgia and the good work that is being implemented on voting rights. YES the House Republicans want Ohio to become Georgia. It was stated that Ohio can learn something from Georgian regarding the election process.

The Ohio Secretary of State John Husted declined to come to the State Government and Elections Committee to testify for or against HB 159. At a time when the state is facing an 8-billion dollar deficit, this HB 159 will cost Ohioans \$20 million to implement. The battle for 2012 presidential election has started."

Ohio House Democratic Members from OLBC and Women's Caucus Concerned About How SB 5 Will Negatively Impact Women and Minorities Data Released by Policy Matters Shows that Women and African Americans More Likely Employed in Public Sector Occupations

Special to The Truth

Ohio House Democratic Members from the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus (OLBC) and House Democratic Women's Caucus were joined by Policy Matters Ohio at a Statehouse Press Conference last week to express their concerns over data which shows that Senate Bill 5 (SB 5), the anti-working family legislation, will disproportionately impact women and minorities.

A study completed by Policy Matters Ohio, a non-partisan policy research institute, with assistance from the Economic Policy Institute shows that taking away the rights of workers to bargain will not only hurt women and minorities, it will also hurt Ohio's economy.

Speaking on behalf of the OLBC, State Representative Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland) said, "Senate Bill 5 will harm all public sector workers and in particular the 18.5 percent African American public sector employees who are struggling to provide for their families in the wake of the economic recession and rising food and gas prices."

According to research from Policy Matters Ohio, women and African Americans are more likely to be employed in public sector jobs in Ohio. While more than 15.4 percent of all Ohio workers are employed in the public sector, the research concludes that women and African Americans are more likely to be employed in these public positions. Out

of 709,731 public sector workers in 2008-2010, 407,681 or 57 percent are women.

The study also breaks down the demographics of public sector workers and shows that women and African Americans are employed at higher percentages than typical in the Ohio labor force. In 2008-2010, 17.6 percent of working women in Ohio were employed in public sector jobs, which is nearly 15 percent higher than is typical in the Ohio workforce. Approximately 18.5 percent of working African Americans

were employed in the public sector. For working African American women, nearly 20 percent were employed in public sector jobs.

State Representative Nancy Garland (D-Gahanna), President of the Ohio House Women's Democratic Caucus added, "Public sector employees provide the vital services and essential functions needed to position Ohio for success in these tough economic times. Women, more than their male counterparts, find themselves working for the public sec-

tor as teachers or nurses or any in number of other occupations. Stripping away their rights to bargain collectively or strike in the name of balancing the state budget is irresponsible and will certainly be devastating to the livelihood of the Middle Class. In a time when Ohio should be focused on creating good-paying jobs in growing sectors of the economy, Senate Bill 5 will only move us further away from economic recovery and prosperity."

Restricting the rights of workers is likely to lead to lower wages. Lower wages

will lead to lower spending which will negatively impact Ohio's fragile economy. While these lower wages would impact all workers, women and minorities would be disproportionately harmed.

State Representative Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood), a member of the Commerce and Labor Committee said, "We cannot turn back the clock on fairness and the gender wage gap, we must not lock the door on thousands of Ohio women who serve the citizens of Ohio, our teachers, nurses, care givers, and

others to let them fend for themselves and their families."

SB 5 is currently scheduled for a vote in the House Commerce and Labor Committee this week. It is expected to be voted on by the entire House of Representatives on Wednesday. The anti-working family legislation has already passed the Ohio Senate by a vote of 17-16. It would need to return to the Ohio Senate for a concurrence vote following the vote in the Ohio House.

THIRD IN A SERIES

Letters from the Heart

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Tim, 1985

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John, 2007

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Katie, 2009

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The Toledo Fire Department Is Back in the Recruitment Business

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"Everything I've done has been to get on the job," said Aaron Hague, a newly minted firefighter—just on the job for slightly more than a year. "Dad was pushing me into electrical engineering."

But Hague always knew exactly what he wanted to do and what career made the most sense for him. So he resisted his father's entreaties to head to college for an electrical engineering degree and became a paramedic. After high school—he graduated third in his class at Rogers High School—he spent seven years working as a paramedic until the opening came along for the Toledo Fire Department.

So Aaron's dad, Tony Hague, accepted the inevitable. His son was determined to become a firefighter just like, well... just like his dad. Tony Hague, you see, has been a firefighter for 22 years. Not so much because of a lifelong dream, but out of necessity.

Tony Hague worked for 17 years at Therma Tru and then Cooper Tire before lay-offs forced him to cast about for

another profession. "Survival," he says turned him into a firefighter.

Last week, The Truth sat down with four African-American firefighters to find out just what motivated them to join the department and what they had found in the interim.

Why did David Hitt, battalion chief, join the department?

"The job found me," said

the 27-year veteran, a member of the 1984 class of 36 minority firefighters who were brought on the job as a result of a court order to fully de-segregate the force.

"I was a student at The University of Toledo studying civil engineering," he recalled. It was a turn in the road that has caused Hitt absolutely no regrets over the years.

"I can't think of anything



Firefighter Tony Hague



Battalion Chief David Hitt

else I'd want to be doing," he said. "Nothing could be more rewarding."

As Hitt noted, the job of saving lives and property is its own reward, but the tangible aspects of the job—the hours, the pay, the benefits, the retirement package—would make it appealing to just about anyone. Not that Hitt has any plans to retire anytime soon. He can't think of many other things he'd rather be doing.

"Tell me what you want and compare it to anything else," he would advise a prospective applicant to the department. "This is something



Firefighter Aaron Hague



Deputy Chief Brian Byrd

tangible."

That's a sentiment that Tony Hague, now a recruitment officer for the department can second—financial security, the opportunity to further one's education, the training one receives in the department itself—are all aspects of the job that attract candidates from far and wide, Tony Hague noted. As well he should since not only was his son Aaron completely and totally enamored of the profession, but there is also another Hague ready to get out into the field. Andrew Hague, Aaron's younger brother, is currently in the training class that started this past January.

Some feel the call from their very young days, some re-

ceive the call later—such as Tony Hague and Hitt. Deputy Chief Brian Byrd, the highest ranking African-American in the department, fits into the former category. He heard the call early and often.

"It's something I've wanted to do since I was a little kid," he said. He was a student at UT majoring in chemical engineering—engineering's loss has certainly been the fire department's gain—and working in a video store in East Toledo when he met veteran firefighter Glenn Frames. Byrd joined in 1988 and began his rise through the ranks, first, making the big leap to lieutenant and becoming excited about being a part of the deci-

sion-making process.

"When I got to the point where you can have some input into decision-making, that was more motivation for each new step of the way," he said. Byrd is one of three deputy chiefs with responsibility for EMS and communications.

Byrd was also the very first African American to finish first in a promotional test—which he did in the captain's exam.

And what does the department do for a firefighter other than the obvious—the benefits, the satisfaction of serving the community?

Being on the job, said Aaron Hague, promotes character—it instructs one on being a team player, instills discipline, gives structure, promotes selflessness and teaches awareness. "There's a clear path to becoming better if you want to take on responsibility," said the rookie—a sentiment that was quickly echoed by his three elders.

The Toledo Fire Department is actively recruiting men and women for firefighter and paramedic positions.

The first step in the process is to obtain and fill out an Interest Card at the City of Toledo Human Resources Department—Suite 1920 at One Government Center.

The next step is filling out an application. The civil service test is next and that exam will be given to applicants this summer on June 12.

After the test, those who have passed will be submitted to a background test and a physical to determine readiness.

For more information about the recruiting process, visit the Toledo Fire and Rescue Department Recruitment web site at www.toledofirerecruitment.org or call the department at 419-392-4550.

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Coalition of Black Trade Unionists' Annual Black History Banquet

By Brittany Jones
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

The end of March is here again and that brings about a long-standing tradition for the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU). This year the CBTU held its annual Black History Banquet last Saturday, March 26, at the Ramada Inn Secor.

For the event's 23rd year, the theme was "Engage, Educate and Empower."

Cenia Willis, Toledo Chapter chairman, explained that this annual banquet honors those in the community who have contributed toward matters concerning working families and labor people.

"It is our way of saying thank you for what they have done," she continued. "The reason for this year's theme is that we want to educate the community on working people issues, empower them in knowing that their votes count and engaging them to work together on issues that affect our daily living."

Wade Kapszukiewicz, Lucas County Treasurer, had the responsibility for the master of ceremonies' duties for the evening.

Next at the podium was Pierrette Talley who is secretary and treasurer of the Ohio AFL-CIO. She welcomed and thanked the guests for their support and attendance.

After more greetings from Paula-Hicks Hudson of Toledo City Council and Kevin Bedford, president of NAACP Toledo Branch, the Black National Anthem resonated through the room under the direction of Will Ann Moore, TFF Retiree Local 250 and past NAACP Toledo branch president.

Dwight Gutridge, pastor of St. Paul A.M.E. Zion, offered the invocation before dinner.

Labor and political guests were in attendance that night such as UAW Local 14 President Raymond Wood and Judge Myron Duhart of Lucas County Common Pleas Court. Michael Alexander, UAW/AFL-CIO Labor Liaison, had the privilege of introducing those dignitaries and others.

This year honorees were Jackie Brown (political achievement) for her outstanding work with the Lucas County Democratic Party; Jean Overton (community activism) for her continuous involvement with the community through the Neighborhood Association of North Toledo and being a Block Watch Area Leader. Also honored were Wayne Blanchard (trade unionism) who currently is a UAW Staff International Representative,

fighters for the betterment of union and non-union workers and The Josh Project which was the recipient for the Community Action Award.

Introducing the evening's keynote speaker, Nina Turner, was Ohio State Representative, Teresa Fedor.

The Ohio Senator of the 25th District (Greater Cleveland Area) spoke words of encouragement and urgency towards the continuous fight for working and middle class men and women, especially African Americans.

She mentioned Martin Luther King and his launch of the Poor People's movement to ensure that the country created opportunities for poor people in terms of economic development and housing.

"The pressure is on," she stressed. "I feel that now, in the 21st Century we are fighting that same battle— economic justice, social justice and workers' rights. We have to unite and be vigilant to



(Seated) Cenia Willis, Sen. Nina Turner, Cheryl Tyler Folsom (event chairman)
(Standing) Members and officers of the Toledo Chapter CBTU



Jean Overton (seated), Community Activist Award; Jackie Brown, Political Achievement Award; Wayne Blanchard, Trade Unionism Award

make sure that we continue to have a middle class."

She mentioned the detrimental effects of Senate Bill 5. She stated that if it passed, all workers will be affected so people must come together to have their voices heard.

Turner also talked of fighting to maintain the quality and accessibility of education.

"If education is the great equalizer, then we as a state have an obligation to make sure that all folks have access to higher education so that they can pursue the American dream," she said. "College is no longer an option, it is mandatory."

She insisted that citizens need to be informed and to know what is going on locally and nationally. They should also join other like-minded

people to rally and petition because "they have the power."

"There still are people that care about whether or not the community has the opportunities to aspire to live the American dream, we have to unite ourselves and fight," Turner continued.

Wrapping up the banquet was a scholarship raffle by Cerssandra McPherson, chairman of Jim Watkins Scholarship, and remarks and benediction by Gutridge.

"Keep the faith," he said. "We are going to have to work for it, but people of good consciousness of all ethnicities are going to unite and make sure that we leave this world a better place for the next generation, just as our forefathers and mothers did for us."

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Negro Business and Professional Women's Club Celebrates Women's History Month

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Toledo Chapter of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.

Celebrated Women's History Month on Saturday, March 26 by recognizing three local day care providers and presenting a special tribute to one of their own.

The luncheon event, held at the Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church's Stephenson-Roberts Fellowship Hall, was organized by members Phyllis Dunbar, chairman, and Sharon Green-Gaines, co-chairman. This year's theme was "Our History Is Our Strength."

Honored at the event were Catherine Clayborne of Ms. Cathy's Daycare and Learning Center; Shawana Davis of Tiny Tot Daycare Center and Doris J. Thomas of Granny Thomas Family



Club members and Honorees

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Learning Center. Toledo City Council President Wilma Brown, a long-time member of the local club, was presented with a tribute – a photograph of her native Birmingham, AL

McPherson, who in her acknowledgement of the daycare honorees, noted that such providers not only have a calling to do so but also enjoy such service immensely. The mission of the NANBPWC is to promote and protect the interests

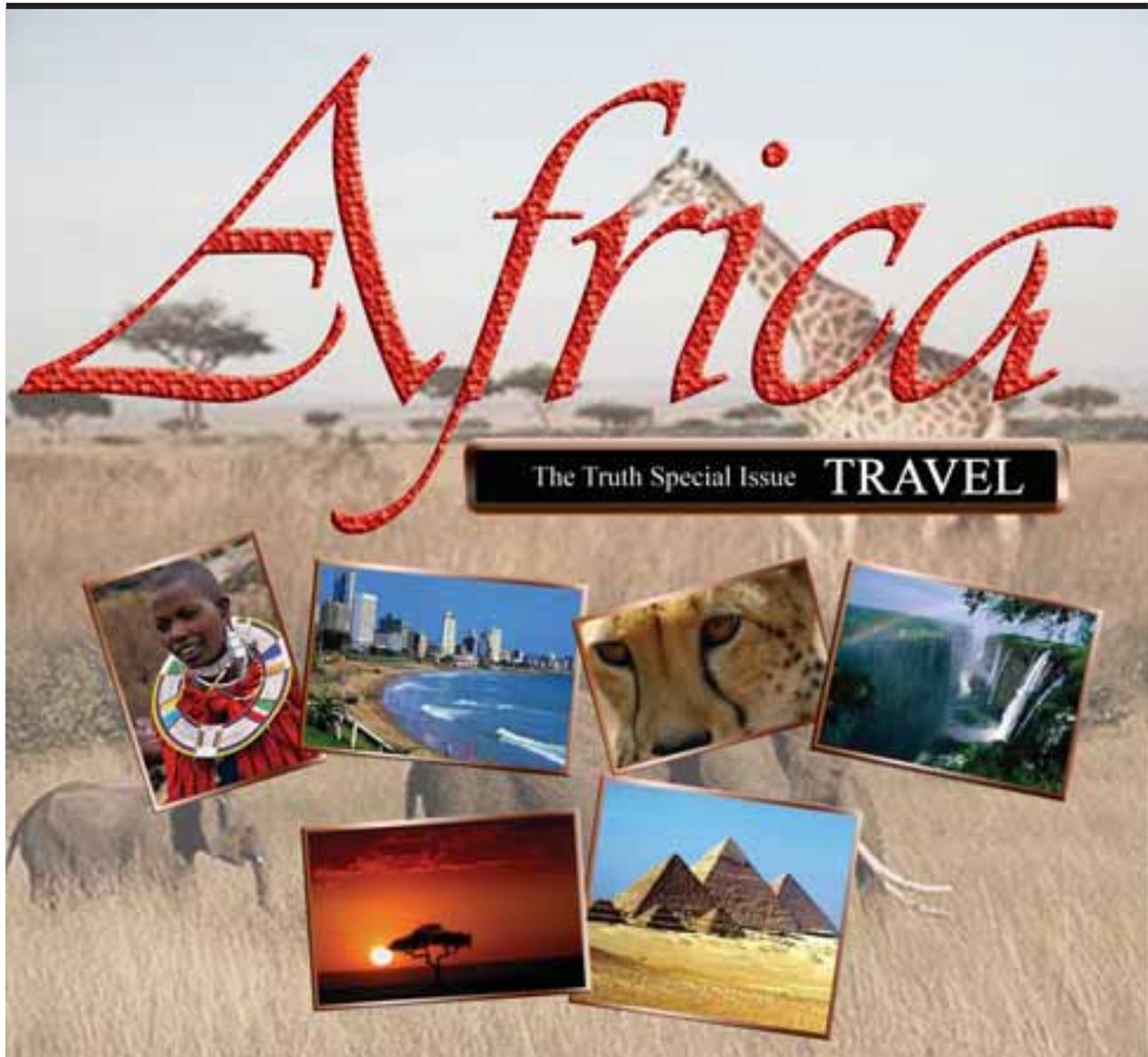
of African-American business and professional woman; to assist youth seeking to enter business and the professions; to improve the quality of life in communities and to foster good fellowship.

Wanda Terrell is the president of the Toledo Club; Barbara Tucker is the North Central District Governor. Also serving on the Women's History Committee were Dee Bates, Clara Brank, Denise Cardwell, Donnetta Carter, Leola Haynes, Barbara Tucker and BJ Tucker.

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Welcome to the Motherland ...

*By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor*

And welcome to The Truth's Travel Section, our first such section. What better way than to start with a focus on the motherland – Africa – widely regarded to be the place of origin of humans.

Africa is the world's second largest and second most-populous continent—after Asia in both instances. There are 54 sovereign states on the continent – and counting. Southern Sudan will gain independence this summer.

For our first travel section, we asked a variety of local residents to tell us about their trips to Africa in recent years. Fortunately, there is no shortage of such wanderers. We wound up with articles and photographs on a variety of locales within the conti-

nent as you will see for yourselves.

The Truth will be publishing a travel section four times a year. Our next section will focus on Asia and will appear in late June on the fifth Wednesday of that month.

Many thanks to all of our contributors for their help with this inaugural section but special thanks to Ardenia Jones Terry, who has been to every place on the planet Earth—several times, it seems. Ardenia suggested the travel section several months ago and we were more than excited about the opportunity to travel the world through her eyes and those of our other contributors.

Welcome to the Motherland!!



Music and Memories: The Time of My Life

By Lee Ann Song



The standard response to "How was your trip?" usually consists of "Fun! Awesome!"

Amazing! But I'm not sure how to respond to the question, "How was your trip to Tanzania?" The standard answer suddenly feels too vague and unfitting for an experience that is still so real and tangible to me.

At first, when we look back, we think Africa meant: painfully long plane rides, bumpy bus rides, turbulent boat rides, dirty facilities, making sacrifices, eating bony chicken and rice for dinner every night, ice cold showers, being bitten to death by mosquitoes, toilets consisting of a hole in the ground which we fondly dubbed "squat-potties," and people living in dismal poverty.

But if we dig just a little deeper, Africa was also: warm and hospitable people, hopeful smiling faces, quaint straw huts, sweet mango juice and tart passion fruit juice, beautiful beaches, lush forests, playful monkeys, inside jokes, late night card games, family, and most of all, a home away from home. It's amazing what squatting over the same dirty toilet, sharing the same precious bottled water, and sleeping on the same thin mattresses

will do to bring a group of 20 kids together...

First of all, I can tell people what they expect to hear: that Africa is nothing like home.

It's also much more real than the pictures we see in National Geographic. I liked it there, though, and I didn't miss home at all because I loved sharing such a new experience with all my peers from the Toledo International Youth Orchestra. We never stayed in any one place for too long, but I can safely say that everywhere we went, we touched the hearts of the people there... just as they touched ours.

There are a few parts of the trip that I will resonate in my memory. The first was the concert in Zanzibar. My first impression of the island was so different from my impression of the dusty, bustling capital city, Dar es Salaam. Zanzibar was warm, serene and naturally inviting. From our breakfast café, we could see colorful boats floating on crystal blue water, giant palm trees swaying with the breeze, and white houses with red roofs dotting the shoreline.

Our concert took place at the Mtoni Palace, a dilapidated yet magnificently dignified stone structure. Within the cavernous walls, we set up wicker chairs, lit

torches and incenses, and performed for an audience under the light from a full moon, twinkling stars and, of course, our faithful flashlights.

Perhaps it was the glow from the fire, or the breeze that fluttered our sheet music and filled our nose with the smell of incense, or the bats that flew overhead while we played—but something about that concert was truly magical.

If there's one thing I learned from all the TIYO trips I've taken, it's that the cultural exchange with other students is always the best part. Whether it was China, Canada, Germany, or Poland, there were always new people to meet and friendships to forge. Africa was no exception.

Each time I meet new people in new places, I am always surprised by their genuine warmth and excitement. Over 400 kids had returned to the Toledo Secondary School during their summer break just to meet us. The school and TIYO planted a ceremonial mango tree together, which was a symbol of our blossoming friendship. The students greeted us with

song and smiles, treating us all like celebrities.

From there, two TIYO members were paired to speak for a classroom of African students. They asked us questions about our lives, our music, and took us on a tour of their campus. As we walked around their classrooms and courtyards, they showed us the plants they had grown, the fields where they played soccer, and pointed in the direction of their tribal homes.

It was overwhelming and heartwarming to make so

(Continued on Page 9)

See Magnificent Egypt... The Cradle of Civilization

By Ardenia Jones Terry

Egypt is the land of pharaohs, the cradle of civilization and an African country. Egypt is part of the motherland and as African Americans you are at home on Egypt's soil. The recent uprisings in Egypt have subsided and with the return to normalcy, tourism will rebound. For Egypt is one of the most tourist-driven countries in the world.

When tourism returns, book your tour for you will want to see awe-inspiring Egypt-the magnificent. There are 75 million+ Egyptians living close to the Nile waiting for you to visit.

"Must see" sights provide ancient history, intriguing places, mysterious temples, and cultural experiences. I traveled to Egypt with a group of African Americans from around the United States. It was a trip of a lifetime. For I found that if you are looking for an enchanting fusion of the old world and the modern world, look no further than Egypt.

Cecil C. Smith of Toledo, Ohio, a member of the group that traveled to Egypt said, "You cannot go to Egypt without seeing the pyramids and the Sphinx or leave without seeing the Cairo Museum which has the largest collection of mummies in the world. I was also impressed with the Valley of the Kings. You must go into the Tomb of King Tut and the Tomb of Ramses IV with the vibrant colors, hieroglyphics, and sarcophagi." Several of the amazing highlights and "must sees" from the trip to Egypt are:

The Pyramids of Giza (Cairo)

The Pyramids of Giza represent one of the greatest architectural sites made by man. The last surviving member of the original Seven Wonders of the World, the Great Pyramids of Giza are one of the oldest tourist attractions and the reason most people visit Egypt today.

Often pictured as being in the desert, the Pyramids of Giza are located in the urban area of Cairo surrounded by residential and commercial buildings. There are three main Pyramids in Giza, the Great Pyramid of Khufu (or Cheops), the Pyramid of Khafre and the smaller Pyramid of Menkaure. There are narrow entrances to the three pyramids which enable you to see firsthand the massive slabs of limestone and granite that were used to construct the pyramids. The question people most often contemplate when viewing the pyramids is how did the Egyptians build these pyramids? Of all the Wonders of the World, there really is no other Wonder like them. The Pyramids of Giza have all other destinations in the world beat.

The Sphinx (Giza/Cairo)

In front of the Giza Pyramids lies the Sphinx. The Sphinx was named from its similarity to a mythical Greek creature with a lion's body and a woman's head. The construction of the Sphinx remains unknown. Tourist view the Sphinx from a viewing platform. From the platform, it appears as if you could reach out and touch the Sphinx's head although policy does not allow visitors to touch the Sphinx.

Solar Boat Museum (Cairo)

After viewing the Pyramids, visit the Solar Boat Museum which is located next to the Pyramids of Giza. The solar boat was built for Pharaoh Khufu and was intended to be the boat he used in the afterlife. Built 4500 years ago, extraordinarily, there are no nails in the boat. The boat is held together with special grass ropes that shrink when they become wet. The grass ropes once wet then pull the cedar boards of the boat together making a water tight seal. Brilliant. This historic relic was unbelievable for it was built without modern machinery.

The Egyptian Museum (Cairo)

Usually, the first stop people make when traveling to Egypt is to the Egyptian Museum and rightfully so. You will not be disappointed with the museum. The museum houses artifacts and displays portraying ancient Egypt. You can see mummies of Egypt's Pharaohs preserved for thousands of years, sarcophagi, and King Tutankhamen's treasures. King Tut's treasures were fascinating and a must see. The treasures include such objects as his golden jewel chest, wooden statues of King Tut, a golden Ankh, rings, bracelets, sandals, Golden Viscera Coffin, Gold Throne, Gold



(Continued on Page 10)

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Kenya: An East Coast Combination of Savannas, Forests, Mountain Ranges

By Msimbi Shuman

Jambo! Hello!
Welcome to Kenya, one of the most well-known travel destinations in all of Africa. Every summer tens of thousands of tourist from around the world arrive to visit Kenya's safari programs.

Historically, Kenya has been known as the cradle of humanity. The East African country is famous for its extraordinary wild life and breath taking Indian Ocean beaches. The port of Mombasa is one of the finest ports on the entire east coast of Africa and serves as a port of call for U.S. naval vessels. It is strategically located for shipping and cargo handling.

And this deep ocean harbor is considered to be the sea gate to Africa.

Mombasa receives goods destined for all the surrounding countries of east Africa. It serves other nations as a source of transportation and trade.

Kenya became an independent republic in 1964 after being under British rule for many decades. Jomo Kenyatta became the first president of an independent Kenya. Today Kenya is a democratic nation with president Mwai Kibaki and Raila Odinga as the prime minister.

The official languages of Kenya are Kiswahili and En-

glish. The geographical background of Kenya is rather unique in that the equator divides Kenya exactly in half. The country is blessed with a wide variety of landscapes from savannas to forests to mountain ranges, Kenya has it all. The country is well known for its African safaris that feature viewing hundreds of thousands of wildebeest, antelope, zebra, giraffe, and other exotic animals. Mount Kenya is the highest mountain peak in the country

The city of Mombasa, on the east coast, is rather hot and humid with temperatures averaging around 90 degrees.



Music

(Continued from Page 8)

many new friends so quickly! I hope that I can stay in touch with my friends in Africa because I always cherish the friendships I have with people from all over the world. There's so much to share and learn with them; though it was hard to leave them that day, I know that their hopeful faces will always resonate in my memory.

The last part of the trip was what we all expected to be the most fun: Serengeti National Park, a safari in Arusha, near the border with Kenya. The experience definitely went above and beyond our expectations.

We loaded up in our jeeps and drove dangerously fast along a bumpy, dusty road. Our first close encounter with wildlife ended up being the funniest. Brandi, our journalist, had left the door of our jeep open. Big mistake. In jumps a monkey and before any of us have time to react, it steals a whole bag of Skittles and Starbursts from the seat pocket then jumps

out! We didn't know whether that was scary or simply hilarious as we watched the monkey and her baby cleverly rip off the paper packaging of our candy and taste "the colors of the rainbow." The other jeep evidently had no candy, so a monkey peed right on their windshield for that slight. Personally, I think we were luckier.

We saw elephants, baboons, zebras and wildebeests grazing, hippos bathing, giraffes, termite mounds, and once, a lion woke up just for us.

Whether you are an outdoors person or not, you just can't miss the sight of the Ngorongoro Crater. After the two-day tour, including one night of camping, I was tired and caked with red dust, but it was an experience I know I could not have gotten anywhere else.

From the lush islands to the natural grandeur of the safari, we next visited a very different scene. Being one of

the few students to visit the medical mission site, I feel extremely privileged. Though we only stayed a short time, I really learned to admire the dedication and selflessness of all the doctors who volunteered their time to help others.

We went on the medical mission's fifth and last day in the village. I expected maybe a slow trickle of patients as it was their last day after all. Instead, 500 sick patients stood lined up in front of primary schools which had been transformed into makeshift clinics. It was saddening and frustrating for us all to think that hundreds of people would not receive treatment that day. I cannot even begin to express my admiration for all the doctors who worked so hard to help all those sick people.

This trip has impacted me profoundly in many ways, but most of all, it has helped me realize exactly what I want to do when I grow up. My

(Continued on Page 11)

Nairobi, the nation's capital city, is located midway between east and west national boundaries in the southern part of the country. The city's name means "cool" in Masai language. Because it is located among foothills, the mornings and evenings can be a bit chilly. The average temperature is around 72 degrees.

Kisumu, near the western border with Uganda, is situated on Lake Nyanza, one of the great lakes of east Africa. It has pleasant temperatures year round. The area is well known for a great variety of seafood.

Kenya has even been called the "garden of Eden" due to its beauty and anthropological research by Dr. Leakey. Because of the many ancient fossils unearthed by the famous anthropologist, Kenya is considered the likely birthplace of mankind. To-



Shuman and villagers

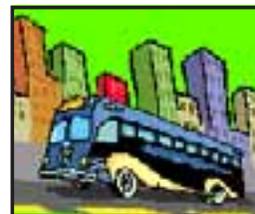
day, Kenya still plays host to a large number of social and physical scientists who are still uncovering new evidence in the Great Rift Valley regarding man's earliest history.

The republic of Kenya is home to one of the largest concentrations of wildlife in

the world. The beauty of Kenya speaks for itself. There are magnificent pink flamingos at Lake Nakuru, and exotic animals such as lions, elephants, gazelles, cheetahs and leopards just to name a few. Some of the things you can enjoy are handmade arti-

(Continued on Page 11)

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Egypt

(Continued from Page 8)

Ecclesiastical Throne and the solid gold funeral mask.

Alabaster Mosque/Mosque of Mohammad Ali Cairo

The Alabaster Mosque (Mosque of Mohammad Ali) is a grand structure located atop the highest point in The Citadel of Saladin. The mosque is named after the Ottoman ruler Mohamed Ali who laid the foundation for the modern nation of Egypt. It is also called the Alabaster Mosque because of the alabaster stone that was brought in to cover the exterior walls. It was built between 1830 and 1848. Due to its size and Ottoman style, the mosque may be seen all over Cairo from various advantage points. The domes of the mosque appear to glisten in the sunlight. As a result of its grandeur, our group picture was taken on the grounds with the mosque in the background. Your trip to Cairo will not be complete without seeing this mosque.

Step Pyramid/Pyramid of Djoser (Sakkara/Saqqara)

The Step Pyramid was Egypt's first pyramid. The earliest Egyptian pyramids were all step pyramids. The architect Imhotep built Egypt's first step pyramid, the Pyramid of Djoser, known as the "true pyramid." The Pyramid of Djoser (Zoser) was built during the 27th Century BCE. The Djoser Step Pyramid is astounding to see and similar in form to the Chichen Itza Pyramid in Mexico.

Statue of Ramses II & the Alabaster Sphinx (Memphis)



Memphis was the capital of the Old Egyptian Kingdom. In Memphis, the group viewed the gigantic statue of Ramses II which remains in the same place it was discovered. The grand size of the statue makes ordinary people standing beside it look like miniature people or ants. This enormous statue of Ramses II is sheltered in a pavilion which allows visitors better viewing. The last remaining Alabaster Sphinx was also found amongst the ruins of the Memphis Temple.

The Nubians (Aswan)

When we arrived in the Aswan Airport, a young

Nubian man in his 20's looked at members in the group with darker hues and said, "Nubian" and I smiled. Later that day while on an Aswan City tour, an elderly Nubian man dressed in traditional African clothes looked up as I passed him and said, "Nubian" and I replied, "Yes, I am."

The Nubians are a group originally from northern Sudan and southern Egypt. In ancient times, Nubians were depicted by Egyptians as having darker skin. The Greeks described them as "the people of the burnt faces." Ancient Nubians were famous for their wealth, their



trade, their skill and precision with the bow, their 23-letter alphabet and boatmanship. Nubians were the early rulers and pharaohs of Egypt. Nubia was the source of gold for the region. When the Aswan High Dam was constructed in the 1960s, much of Nubia was flooded, destroying archaeological sites and displacing most Egyptian Nubians.

Nile River Cruise-The Temples (Aswan, Kom Ombo, Luxor)

Travel on the world's most well-known river up the Nile to explore the ancient temples. There are a number of ancient temples to visit in Egypt. You can see most of these on a Nile Cruise which the group took. Here are a few of the most famous ones to see:

Deir el Bahri (Luxor)-The temple of the female pharaoh, Queen Hatshepsut.

Luxor (Luxor)-A spectacular temple built largely by Amenhotep III and Ramses II around 1400 BC. Its main purpose was to celebrate the festival of Opet. It was a place of worship for Christians and later Muslims.

Kom Ombo (Luxor)-This is an miraculously preserved temple dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek.

Isis-Philae (Aswan)-The Temple of Isis is the largest structure on the island of Agilkia, accessible by boat.

Karnak (Luxor)- The temple is an enclosure containing a vast collection of temples, halls, statues and a number of temples.

Horus (Edfu)-The last big temple to be built in 237 B.C. and finished a 140 years later. The interior walls are covered in reliefs that tell the story of the birth of Horus and picture the rulers of the country making offerings to the gods.

The Valley of the Kings (Luxor)

The Valley of the Kings is another well-known archaeological site. This historic landmark is where most of the Egyptian Kings or pharaohs were buried. As you approach the

valley, it looks desolate, barren, and uninhabitable, exactly as the Egyptian rulers wanted it to appear. For the rulers did not want people to find the tombs. The tombs tourists have access to are the Tomb of Tutankhamen, Tomb of Memphat, and the Tomb of Ramses IV which I personally explored and was fascinated with the detailed hieroglyphics on the tomb walls. The preservation of the tombs was stunning, an absolute must see.

Valley of the Queens (Luxor)

If you see the Valley of the Kings, you must visit the Valley of the Queens. The Valley of the Queens was the resting place of the queens, princesses and other royal women. In the Valley of the Queens, the group viewed the recently renovated

Temple of Queen Hatshepsut (Deir el Bahri). The works represented at the tomb were beyond amazing. The Temple of Queen Hatshepsut is dedicated to the Sun God. Queen Hatshepsut was regarded as one of the most successful pharaohs. On site sculptures inside the tomb depict the history of the first female pharaoh which is often thought to be Queen Hatshepsut but Egyptian history documented other women pharaohs before her. The Tomb of Queen Nefertari is also open for viewing.

Colossi of Memnon (Luxor)

The Colossi of Memnon is a couple of stone statues weighing 700 tons each created sometime in the 14th Century. The statues are all that remain of the Temple of Amenhotep III. The statues, es-Salamat and el-Colossat are in seated positions facing visitors as they approach. The sheer enormity of the statues is hard to believe unless you see them.

Every Day Egyptian Life

Many travelers to Egypt find that in addition to the ancient sites, "must sees" exist in every day Egyptian life. Carolyn Smith, of Toledo, Ohio, one of the travelers in the group, indicated there were additional "must sees" beyond the historical sites, she stated "the

traffic on the highways was something to see with donkeys, camels, and horses meandering on the highway alongside automobiles, buses, bicycles, and flatbed trucks. The flatbed trucks were crowded with Egyptians getting on and off the trucks as they proceeded down the highway. The traffic seemed chaotic but orderly at the same time." Also, to her, "all the different women were a must see. The women were wearing a variety of clothing, some were wearing traditional Muslim clothing and some women were wearing western clothes. You saw many bright, bold, multi-colored garments as well as the traditional black garments. Some women's faces were covered with berqas, other women's face were not covered. Some women wore head coverings/scarves (hijabs), others did not. Many women wore make-up and Henna paintings. The Egyptian women were not monolithic. Their approach to life varied just like women from other parts of the world." A trip to Egypt would not be complete unless you experience the following:

-Take a 3 or 4 day Nile Cruise

-Ride a camel to the Pyramids of Giza,

-Attend the Pyramids of Giza light show at night then walk a half block to the Hard Rock Café and purchase a t-shirt,

-Visit a carpet school where students learn to make rugs and carpets and sell them,

-Have dinner at a restaurant overlooking the Pyramids of Giza, and/or

-Purchase a cartouche, perfume oil, or papyrus paper.

As African Americans, the group was often greeted by Egyptians as "cousins" or they would call out "Obama" to us. It was humorous but also a piece of home. Go home... See amazing Egypt... you will not regret it.

Ardenia Jones Terry, Ph.D., is a former associate vice president of Student Life at The University of Toledo



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Music and Memories

(Continued from Page 9)

sincerest hope is that 20 years from now, when I have become a medical doctor, and I have made further musical endeavors, that I can take a medical mission of my own, as well as a music group back to Tanzania so that we may heal not only the bodies, but also the souls of our Tanzanian friends.

On this trip, I have touched the hands of young street vendors and the ancient walls of the Mtoni Palace, *seen* the colorful Massai village and the crystal ocean waters, *smelled* the atrocious toilets as well as the fragrant tropical flowers, and *heard* voices singing African song. I have learned to love Tanzania.

Visiting Tanzania will undoubtedly change the way you look at the world. It is

easy to make assumptions and generalizations about other people, but it isn't until we experience their culture that we realize just how interconnected and fundamentally human we all are. You simply can't miss swimming

with the dolphins off the island of Zanzibar, the splendor of Mount Kilimanjaro, or the magnificent Ngorongoro Crater.

But I also encourage and challenge you to get to know the *people*. When you're at



Lee Ann with African Students



Group safari

Kenya

(Continued from Page 9)

facts and learning the customs of the country.

When traveling to Kenya, like any other foreign destination, it's important to consider the do's and don'ts and things and actions that are considered proper and traditionally acceptable or unacceptable. I suggest you do some homework ...read, ask questions or get information from the Kenyan Embassy. Proper documents such as visa and passport as well as immunization health records are required. Your travel agent can also be helpful in giving tips. As in any foreign destination, do not overly expose your money or valuables.

The American Embassy is located in Nairobi, if you should need it. Preferably, try to establish some local con-

tacts before leaving. Kenyans are friendly people, willing to assist visiting foreigners. A local tour guide will be best for a real experience. Being aware of your surroundings and using common sense is your safest bet. Many Americans prefer to drink bottled water, although in the major cities the water supply is safe and more than adequate for drinking and bathing.

While in Mombasa, you may want to see The Roman Catholic Cathedral and Star of the Sea famous international high school that I attended. If you are on the east coast please be sure to visit Malindi. Its coast is just breathtaking and it is home to many exotic marine animals. And for those who love it, excellent snorkeling is avail-



Msimbi Shuman

able.

I hope this information will inspire you and ignite your desire to visit Kenya, land of a very proud and hardworking people. Please tune in next time when I talk about safaris and share with you my recent trip to Kenya where I provided leadership training programs to women in various parts of Kenya through a missionary project sponsored in part by Third Baptist Church of Toledo, Ohio.

My missionary work was very well received in Kenya. Stay tuned!

Kwaheri (goodbye)

Msimbi Adira Shuman, a native of Kenya and a Toledo resident since the mid-1970's, is the executive director of Kenyan American Missionary Connection. The foundation provides various services such as orientation, Swahili language and information regarding the opportunities that exist for volunteers and donors.

the safari, take time to visit the Massai village surrounding the Ngorongoro Crater or visit the tribe called Ngongo as my orchestra did, where a young musician named Msafiri Zawose taught us traditional African and Tanzanian music.

Long after you have forgotten the sights and smells of Tanzania, you will remember the people and all that they have taught you. Visiting Tanzania has changed me and I sincerely hope that you, too, will have...the time of your life.



Lee Ann with the Toledo International Youth Orchestra and a senior with the Toledo International School where she will be the valedictorian of her graduating class this year at Southview High School.



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Welcoming Me Home Through the Heart of Cape Town

By Rhonda B. Sewell



(Cape Town, South Africa)

It was the trip of a lifetime. In December of 2008 I would board a plane with my twin daughters, then age 8, and travel some 22 hours to the country of freedom fighter Nelson Mandela. . . a place still stained with remnants of apartheid coupled with the handy work and rich beauty of God's paintbrush. It would be my first trip to Africa and my daughters' first major international journey.

During my early 20s, I studied international journalism at the City University of England where my classmates and I covered Bishop Desmond Tutu at a 1988 anti-apartheid rally near London's Marble Arch. I was blessed to venture to China in 1995 for the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, during the release of human rights activist Harry Wu, who exposed the violations of his mother country.

In the late 1980s my former employer sent me to France, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, and The Netherlands for personal enrichment and writing assignments. All of these rich international experiences were amazing, but my "bucket list" dream trip remained venturing to the continent of Africa, the homeland of my ancestors.

Although many African Americans' ancestors hail from West Africa where they ar-

rived to this country in chains via the Middle Passage, for me, a trip *anywhere* in the continent equaled a direct connection to a lineage filled with both pain and pride. And what makes the continent so unique is that it is the birthplace of all civilization, our collective motherland.

It became a year-long mission to prepare for my young daughters (who will turn 11 this April) and me to step foot in a continent that held so much weight on my soul. I would meet up with some 70 family and friends from the United States who boarded planes in the dead of winter storms that December to experience South Africa, where summer occurs from December through March. For some of us, the mere thought of visiting this massive continent for the very first time called for many moments of ponder, reflection, excitement, prayers and even tears, the kind that streamed silently and slowly.

Whether it was the call of my ancestors that conjured these diverse feelings, or the opportunity to dispel myths about the land titled as the beginning of all civilization, I was so excited for the mere privilege to visit South Africa that at times I felt that my heart would escape.

As a single mother, it was an absolute blessing to take my daughters to Africa with their "mommy," grandparents, aunts and uncles and many family friends. I wanted to frame the moment when at the airport in Johannesburg, a South African custom agent decorated my twins' passports with "temporary residents of South Africa" stamps. "Are we really here?" one of my daughters would ask me in wonderment. "Yes baby, you are here in

Africa, welcome home," I told them with bold assuredness.

We stayed in South Africa nearly two weeks, but a piece of my heart would be forever changed.

During the more than 20 hours it took to fly to Cape Town, populated by 3.5 million – the second most populous city in South Africa and one of the most multicultural, I had so many moments to reflect on what I was about to experience in between moments of sleeping and witnessing how much fun my daughters were having watching numerous in-flight kids' movies and playing their iPods.

During the long plane ride over I selected a movie about Nelson Mandela's life. The actor who played Mandela was the man now famous for his assuring Allstate Insurance commercial voice (actor Dennis Haysbert). I quickly reflected back to 1990, the year former political prisoner Nelson Mandela was released after serving a 27-year sentence.

A majority of Mandela's years were spent serving a life sentence in Robben Island Prison, now an island tourist site located off Cape Town surrounded by the endless Atlantic Ocean. I recalled clearly that I was in Detroit watching the news with a friend and crying uncontrollably when Mandela walked out of prison – I knew then that his release would forever be a hallmark moment, similar to the joy I felt when Barack Obama was inaugurated as the 44th president of the United States. Sheer pride.

Our flight to Cape Town included three plane rides – from Chicago to New York; New York to Dakar, Senegal

(Continued on Page 13)

Cosmopolitan Cape Town Features Gourmet Delights and Sublime Scenery

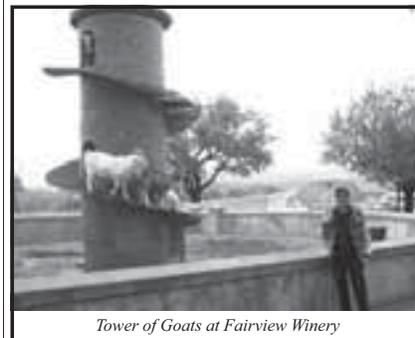
By Michael P. Marsh

Some people have a passion for travel. I am one of those people, and when my parents invited me to join them on a trip to Africa, I didn't hesitate. My Dad is an avid hunter, and his lifelong dream was to hunt big game in the motherland. While he shot with guns, I shot with my camera and loved every minute being on safari. Prior to exploring the African bush, we got our feet wet in the cosmopolitan city of Cape Town at the bottom of the African continent in the country of South Africa.

My adventure began on Friday, June 13, 2008, with a direct, overnight flight from



Shopping for art at Hout Bay



Tower of Goats at Fairview Winery

Detroit to Amsterdam, where I spent three days before flying to Johannesburg. On the plane, I watched *Out of Africa* on my computer, and they showed *Bucket List*. Ironically, a trip to Africa was on my personal bucket list! After spending the night in Jo-Burg, I flew on to Cape Town to meet my parents for four days.

We stayed at the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront (V&A) at the Commodore Hotel, which is upscale but comfortable with impeccable service. It features American-style rooms with spacious bathrooms. My first night I had dinner at a Portuguese Restaurant at the V&A, where I had a delightful avocado salad and South African lobster. The wine and food in Cape Town is so reasonable (quite juxtaposition compared to Europe, where the Euro remains high). Wine is only about \$2-\$4 per glass (My bill for two glasses of wine in this beautiful hotel with tip is roughly \$4.80 American) in Cape Town. My parents arrived at the hotel that first night.

On our first full day in Cape Town, the three of us had breakfast in our hotel restaurant. We went shopping at the most enormous mall on the V&A Waterfront. I bought gifts, including handcrafted wooden letter openers in the shapes of African animals. I bought some beautiful handmade placemats at the crafts bazaar.

We stumbled upon the African Trading Port, located in the Old Port Captain's Building at the V&A. An impressive,

four-story building overflowing with beautiful handmade African art, I admired the beautiful furniture and African masks.

When we booked the trip, we knew that it was winter in Africa. We knew that mornings and nights would be cold (30's-40's) and that daytime temps would reach the 60's and 70's. What we didn't realize, however, is that June and July are the rainy season in Cape Town. It poured down rain with heavy winds most of the time. It was so overcast that Table Mountain remained hidden during much of our time there.

The next day featured a tour of the winelands with a private driver. The wines were delicious at our first stop, Seidelberg Wine Estate. I liked their Sauvignon Blanc and Viognier for whites and the Un Deux Trois and Roland's Reserve Merlot for reds. At Seidelberg, we watched them making glass art. They had the most beautiful pieces on display.

Then to another tasting at Fairview. They had a delicious Pinotage Viognier mix. We also tasted good cheeses. They have goats that climb this tower out front, and some of their labels feature the tower with the goats. Then to the old, quaint town of Franschoek for lunch at the French Connection bistro—very good chicken salad. Then another tasting at Graham Beck, which was very beautiful inside. I didn't care for their wines, but I did like their Brut sparkling wine very much.

We drove through the old town of Stellenbosch, which was a very nice little town with a university. We got out and walked through a small outdoor market with stands of souvenirs. Then we drove to see some animals along the way—wildebeests, ostrich, and zebras, along with some other animals of the antelope-type, such as impalas. We also stopped at Spier Wine Estate, where they have cheetahs. Then we finished with a stop at Moyo Winery, which is the most visited winery in the Cape. I didn't get to try wines there, as that portion was closed. We did get to see them setting up under a large tent for a dinner buffet with entertainment.

That night we were excited to try a restaurant called La Colombe, which is supposed to be one of the top ten restaurants on the entire continent of Africa. Oprah Winfrey has eaten there, and we saw a framed autograph from her on the wall. La Colombe is located at a winery in the Constantia region called Constantia Uitsig. You drive in through the vineyards. The grounds have beautiful old pine trees – probably the oldest in the Southern Hemisphere – as well as the most enormous palm trees I've ever seen.

La Colombe was one of the best restaurants at which I've ever had the pleasure of dining. I ordered a five-course meal paired with wines. I started with a warm prawn salad with cucumber, semi-dried tomatoes, peanut and mango served with Thai style shellfish butter. It was scrumptious and paired with a Sauvignon Blanc. Next was supposed to be a grilled butterfish, but they were out so they substituted a Cape trout, which was a bit strong for my taste. Then I had a slow cooked lamb shoulder, served with rosemary cream, raisin, pine nut and caper salsa, complemented with a Bordeaux. It was the best lamb I've ever tasted in my entire life.

We asked how it was prepared, and our waitress informed us that it is slow roasted in a bag for 48 hours and 50

(Continued on Page 14)

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Michael and Rhonda's "A List" Recommendations when visiting Cape Town:

· **Robben Island** – This famous World Heritage site located in Table Bay, some 12km northeast of Cape Town, is where Nelson Mandela and his contemporaries were imprisoned. To tour the rocky island, where a museum stands, a ferry begins at the Clocktower at the V & A Waterfront.

· **The townships** – Township life gives American visitors to Cape Town a quick reality check of how more than half of Cape Town's population truly lives and that the city is not all 5-star hotels. The aftermath of apartheid is real in the townships, which are sometimes difficult to take in, yet proof of how resourceful South Africans are. We don't recommend taking a tour due to the disrespect of peering into impoverishment as a sport, however, if you happen to pass a township – don't look away. Take it all in and give thanks.

· **Cape Point** – Cape Point Nature Reserve is part of the Table Mountain National Park. It's at the end of a beautiful scenic drive along the Peninsula. Enjoy one of South Africa's most spectacular coastal drives through the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve. Wind your way to Chapman's Peak from Hout Bay.

· **The Cape Winelands** – You can't leave Cape Town without a wine tour. The Winelands stretch for miles and are divided by area – here are the winelands closest to Cape Town: Constantia, the original vineyards; Durbanville, a newcomer to the scene; Stellenbosch Wine Route, named for Simon van der Stel and the most extensive route; Paarl, home to golf estates and historical buildings, and Franschhoek, named for its French origins. Stop by Joseph's Beverage in Toledo and let them recommend a good bottle of South African wine – the store carries a view varieties.

· **The Victoria and Alfred Waterfront** – This working harbor is a welcomed tourist trap, with re-purposed charming old buildings as storefronts, and plenty of shopping at every price point. The V & A as SA residents and cab drivers refer to it, is one of the most visited locations in all of South Africa. Here, tourists can catch a bite to eat or drink, shop, see a live

performance, sightsee and take in the shipping activity. For youngsters, the Aquarium and The Scratch Patch are must-sees!

· **African Penguins at Boulders Beach** – You traverse a boardwalk along the sea to visit these charming creatures. **Boulders Beach** is the best-known of the series of little beaches and inlets along the coastline just south of Simon's Town. It is named after the clusters of large granite boulders that shelter these little beaches from the stormy seas and roaring winds.



boasts two points of interest really, the **Cape of Good Hope** and the more southerly and a bit higher situated **Cape Point**. Both the Capes are situated in the 7800 hectare Good Hope section of the Cape Peninsula National Park, 13 kilometers behind the entrance gate. In the National Park there are many beautiful bays with hiking trails and picnic spots. Popular is **Buffels Bay**, with a stunning beach and a protected tidal pool.

· **Table Mountain** – is a flat-topped mountain forming a prominent landmark overlooking the city of Cape Town in South Africa, and is featured in the flag of Cape Town and other local government insignia. It is a sig-



nificant tourist attraction, with many visitors using the cableway or hiking to the top. The mountain forms part of the Table Mountain National Park. Elevation is 3,558 feet.

· **Red Hot Glass at Seidelberg Wine Estate** – Any visitor from the Glass City of Toledo will be enchanted by the breathtaking collection of glass art. Red Hot glass is one of the very few Venetian-style glass blowing studio's in South Africa. Artists Liz Lacey and David Jackson amaze and delight visitors as they create magnificent glass art, demonstrating their mastery of one of the oldest crafts on earth.

· **La Colombe** – La Colombe, one of Cape Town's most well-loved and awarded restaurants, has achieved an impressive 12th place in the San Pellegrino 50 Best Restaurants of the World Awards 2010. Having moved up 26 places and into the hallowed Top 20, this bastion of contemporary French-meets-Asian fine dining thereby also clinched the Acqua Panna Best Restaurant in Africa and Middle East Award. The restaurant boasts Oprah Winfrey among its world-renowned patrons.



Welcome

(Continued from Page 12)

and on to Johannesburg, and the last leg was from Johannesburg to our final destination of Cape Town. We landed around 10 p.m. on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2008 and one of the first faces we saw was Leslie, a family friend from Chicago. She had arrived earlier and stood in a crowd of drivers holding up signs of family names to take passengers to hotels and villas and homes scattered throughout Cape Town.

Leslie jokingly held up a sign of her own as if she were a driver and the laughter that erupted set the stage for the good time our family and friends would have during this most memorable trip.

During our stay in Cape Town, my family, daughters, and I resided in a three-bedroom ultra-modern villa in the Camps Bay area of Cape Town, situated off of Victoria Road. This section of town was riddled with restaurants, night

spots, and beach area. My first impression was the strip in Miami Beach – this was nothing like what I had envisioned South Africa to look like. To me, many areas in Cape Town with its mountainous landscapes and winding streets reminded me of San Francisco.

Where were the townships, the children in uniforms, and people in mass numbers speaking Xhosa with the click-sounding consonants or Afrikaans? My *Sarafina* ignorance was dispelled the day after my arrival, on Christmas morning, when I walked onto our main balcony and witnessed the breath-taking mountains, clear blue skies, vacationers of every hue, numerous umbrella trees and trendy restaurants.

What I would eventually experience would be a blend of all of my stereotypes and new experiences. I was an apparent victim of the media's images over my lifetime of what Africa would look like and feel like.

Cape Town, coupled with its impoverished townships and lush wine country, is a perfect storm of everything that is beautiful and tragic about the motherland.

I used my myriad of emotions to learn as much as I could about Cape Town in order to teach my daughters everything I could about what this trip really meant for our family. With each cab trip from our villa off Victoria Road to the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront for shopping trips, I would wear my journalist hat and informally interview each driver about everything under the sun from their feelings about the African National Congress and apartheid to where the best night spots are and how they felt about Obama (at the time, our U.S. President had not yet been formally inaugurated).

I urged my daughters to keep a daily journal and write down everything they saw and experienced in South Africa so that one day they could share their writings with their offspring.

An innocent walk across the street from our villa crossing Victoria Road to the beach, on this day very windy with sand flying about, would become an historical lesson for my daughters about segregation. I explained to them, on an eight-year-old level, that some 20 years earlier the three of us would not have been allowed to be on that particular beach due to the color of our skin.

My daughters thought this was quite unfair and in beautiful poetic justice, my daughter Savannah replied in a prideful manner a phrase that I shall never forget, "Well, we're here now, mommy."

"Yes, babies, we are here!" I told my girls joyfully in the city of Cape Town, where Coloureds make up nearly half of the population, followed by Black Africans, Whites and Asians. With all of Cape Town's tourists' attractions and developed infrastructure, it is hard to believe that apartheid was so recently a chapter in our world's history books.

Our family's Cape Town experience would encompass wineries, tours, shopping, a safari, Christmas – Boxing Day and New Year's celebrations, a moonlight cruise, great restaur-

ants, hair braiding near the World Market, encounters with seals and penguins, new foods and drinks (Appletiser, one of South Africa's most popular soft drinks, was among our favorites), South African soap operas, township life, and so much more.

Still, the real beauty of our journey remained setting foot in beautiful Cape Town, a city located in the continent of Africa, with my daughters Sarah and Savannah, and other family members (Dad, step-mom, sister and others). I felt as if my

(Continued on Page 14)

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AFRICA

Page 14

Cosmopolitan

(Continued from Page 12)

minutes at 64 degrees Celsius. Then when you order it, they heat it for the last 10 minutes. It is cooked with salt and pepper, olive oil and garlic. For my fourth course, I had the grilled rib of beef with port, black pepper, and truffle sauce. It was sliced and served with the sauce over green beans. This course was served with a Cabernet Sauvignon. Finally, I had a warm chocolate fondant (a chocolate cake with a warm, liquid center) with Mineola ice cream.

Last night on the way to dinner, our driver, Abdila, told us some interesting history, which relates to fair housing. He said that around 1957 or 1958, the Group Areas Act was passed with the intention of keeping different races and colors of people in separate living regions. The theory was that the only way for people to get along was for them to live with the same kind of people and not co-mingle. This law was in effect until 1986! This is particularly interesting to me



Author and parents at Cape of Good Hope

because the Federal Fair Housing Act was passed in 1968 in America with the intention of desegregating our neighborhoods. Another law he mentioned was the Immorality Act, also passed in the late 50's and in effect until 1986. This law banned interracial marriages.

The next day we had a private photo tour of the Cape. The first photo stop was at a beautiful area overlooking a beach. It

was called Camps Bay, and we drove through a high end residential area with high rises and private residences. One street over, which was parallel to the coastline road, used to be the main street with boutiques before the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront opened. Today it is experiencing a rebirth, due, in part, to the increase of female parliament members, according to our driver. We continued to drive

along the coastline, which was mesmerizing with the giant rocks and rough waves, which some were brave enough to try to surf. This part of the journey was along the Atlantic Ocean.

Next stop was Hout Bay, where we decided not to take an hour-long boat ride to see seals. There was one seal on the shore, and I took pictures of my Mom and Dad with it. There was a little outdoor market at which we shopped for some African treasures. My Dad bought me a painting on a canvas that now hangs above my fireplace. It's quite colorful with stylized African women in bright dresses. My parents bought some wood carvings that display the Big Five—lion, leopard, Cape buffalo, elephant, and rhinoceros, and I bought some malachite bracelets for my friends. We got to the Chapman's Peak area, but, unfortunately, we had to turn around because the road was closed due to fallen rocks. We drove back through the Constantia region and visited the La Colombe Restaurant at the Constantia Uitsig Winery again to take some photos during the day.

After leaving Constantia, we reached the shoreline along the Indian Ocean (we drove along False Bay, which is so named because long ago ships used to mistake the area for the Cape). We saw a pretty shore town called Muizenberg, where there were many surfers. We drove through the towns of Fish Hoek and Simon's Town. Both were charming. Then we stopped at Boulders, where they have the African Penguins. According to the brochure, because of their donkey-like braying, they were previously named the Jackass Penguin. Since several species of South American penguins produce the same sound, the local birds have been renamed the African Penguins, as they are the only example of the species that breed in Africa. In order to view the penguins, you traverse a boardwalk along the beach. We got to see a large display of adult and chick penguins. They had some more African art for sale, and my Mom and I got ostrich eggs carved with the Big Five.

After the penguins, we stopped for lunch at the Black Marlin Restaurant along False Bay. My Dad and I had the Kingclip on a spit (on a shishka-bob skewer) that was hung from a metal hanger above the plate. The fish pieces were wrapped in bacon and skewered with green pepper, complemented with a lemon butter sauce. It was delicious. Then

we drove through Smitswinkel (Blacksmith) Bay on our way to Cape Point and the Cape of Good Hope. The views all day were breathtaking with the mountains, clouds, vegetation, ocean, beaches and towns. Cape Point involved a ride up a funicular. Once at the top, my parents climbed the steps up to the lighthouse for more impressive views. I stayed below due to my fear of heights, but I also managed to snap some impressive photos.

Cape Point is the area where the Atlantic and Indian Oceans meet. While driving from Cape Point to the Cape of Good Hope, we encountered ostriches along the road. What a surprise! At the Cape of Good Hope, they have a sign designating it as the southwestern most point on the continent of Africa. Just outside of the park on the way back from the Cape Point and Cape of Good Hope, my Dad spotted some baboons. My Mom and I were thrilled. My Dad snapped a few pictures from the window, but we had to be careful, as our driver had explained that it is not unusual for the baboons to get into the cars through open windows, or to even open the car doors themselves. They love to snatch backpacks and run away with them in hopes that they contain food.

On our last day in Cape Town, it was still cloudy with some rain. We checked with our hotel to make sure the cable car going up to the top of Table Mountain was operating. The agent at the travel desk told us the cable car was operating, but the view was poor. We decided

to go anyway because it was our last chance. We were all so glad we did. The hotel taxi took us there, and there was very limited visibility at the bottom. When we got to the top, it cleared up a bit, and you could see all the way down the mountain. We walked the entire top of the mountain, and we were literally in the clouds. My hair was wet from the mist. When we took the cable car down it really started to clear up, and we got some lovely photos.

We made our way to dinner at Baia, a seafood restaurant. My Dad had the Kingclip with crayfish (lobster) on top, with thermidor sauce, and my Mom and I split a shellfish platter that consisted of three prawns, three langostines (from Mozambique), and a baby lobster. We had never had the langostines before, and they were outstanding. The entire meal was wonderful, and a delicious South African Sauvignon Blanc from the Constantia region, complemented it beautifully. We rounded out the night with gelato at San Marco.

I love Cape Town. It is so cosmopolitan there that it doesn't seem like what you would picture Africa to be. The Cape was so majestic and impressive with the oceans meeting the land. What beautiful country God has created, and I feel so lucky to have been able to see Africa!

Michael Marsh, CFRE, is vice president of development and public relations at the Fair Housing Center

Welcome

(Continued from Page 13)

ancestors were smiling during the entire duration of our stay in South Africa, welcoming us all home through the heart of the Western Cape. Teaching us lessons of peace and fellowship through each encounter and experience.

Sewell works as a Toledo journalist and public relations/marketing professional and has traveled to nine countries outside of the United States, including China, Belgium, Italy, France, and Switzerland.



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Reel Review

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



Last year was a crappy movie year.

I don't care how much money *Shrek* and *Toy Story* made, besides a few exceptions (Oscar winners *Social Network* and *Inception*, maybe a few romantic comedies) it surely was not a year of successive must-see events.

Recession and unemployment can't stop Hollywood.

Hell, not even the fact that bootleg DVD sales seem to be the only expanding market is hurting Hollywood. History shows us that even during and immediately after the Great Depression, Americans still found a way to pay to take the family to the movies.

Maybe it's escapism. Maybe it's the whole "art imitating life" thing.

Either way, we love a good story and we love even more when you tell it to us in a way that not only piques our interest but also involves our emotions.

From the first 15 seconds of the preview for *Limitless* I've been looking forward to

this film. I'm talking about damn near three months ago. I've been super geeked about this.

A man who has found a way to use that massive untapped brainpower we all have stored away but can't readily access? A man who uses this vastly enhanced mental acuity to amass fortune and demolish competition? You know I was hooked off rip.

But still, going to see this movie with such high expectations is a gift and a curse.

Take *Inception* for example.

I hadn't the slightest clue what I was in for, it just looked like the most interesting film of the summer. But when such a sublime plot layering unfolds with effortless graphics, score and cinematography ... you end up with a masterpiece.

Imagine whatever your favorite song as mere pieces of music and words but then seeing it all fuse together, films such as this have the same impact.

It's a daring concept, so daring you wonder "how will they pull it off?"

Well, in the case of *Limitless* they waste no time in the shock and awe campaign on your senses willing into submissive understanding that this film will be just a tad bit epic.

Director Neil Burger calls it a "fractal zoom" but it feels like a perpetual lens that zooms through the entirety of NYC's Manhattan island just to prove a point: *Limit-*

Limitless

less is not just a movie title, but also the directorial modus operandi.

Okay, I'm getting ahead of myself.

You know what it's about, you know I love it, and I have the suspicion that you know you are at least intrigued by what the film hints at.

It's not without its flaws however.

The scope of film and story arc are somewhat confined considering the main character's awesome abilities. Also, it always feels less authentic when a film delves into a complex scientific (i.e., medical/pharmaceutical) foray for two-thirds of the way and then magically sums it up with ease in the final 20 minutes.

But, forgivable offenses overall because this film manages to do the unthinkable. It works on two levels at once.

Far out concept but the real world application and character motivations are so easily relatable it feels like this entire film is just some story someone told you at work.

It's extra-ordinary, yet pleasingly ordinary at the same time.

My advice. GO SEE THIS MOVIE.

Bradley Cooper goes H.A.M.I., and the you will like seeing Robert DeNiro as an almost antagonist.

The true grade for *Limitless* is B+

ABLE and LAWO File Federal Complaint On Behalf of Ohio Premature Infants

Special to The Truth

On March 28, 2011, Advocates for Basic Legal Equity, Inc. (ABLE) and Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc. (LAWO) filed a federal court complaint on behalf of premature infants in Ohio. The complain alleges that the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) illegally and arbitrarily places exclusions on federally mandated Medicaid coverage for the physician-recommended treatment for preventing illness caused by the Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). The Complaint was filed in the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio Western Division. Federal law requires Ohio's Medicaid program to cover Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) services for Medicaid-eligible children and youth. Under federal law, EPSDT must include "necessary health care, diagnostic services, treatment, and other measures ... to correct or ameliorate defects and physical and mental illnesses and conditions discovered by the screening services...."

The premature infants – and plaintiffs in this case – were born between the 32nd and 35th week of gestation and have either social or environment risk factors for developing RSV. Their treating physicians prescribed Synagis to correct or alleviate the risks and complications that may result should these children contract RSV. These complications include serious pulmonary complications requiring hospitalization, the onset of asthma, and, in some of the more serious cases, the possibility of death.

"Synagis is the only recognized and approved treatment by the FDA for the prevention of RSV for prematurely born infants when there is a medically accepted indication," says ABLE attorney and lead counsel Robert A. Cole. The drug is used to reduce the risk of an RSV infection or to make the infection milder. "The coverage denials by the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services are based on a policy and not on whether or not Synagis is medically necessary, violating federal law and basic due process protections," adds Cole.

ABLE and LAWO are co-counseling the case with the National Health Law Program (NHeLP), a national public interest law firm. According to Jane Perkins, NHeLP's Legal Director, "The federal EPSDT provisions require developmental and health problems and risks to be detected and addressed as soon as possible so that costly hospitalization and chronic problems can be avoided and minimized. Because it participates in the Medicaid program, Ohio must adhere to these federal requirements."

RSV is responsible for the hospitalization of nearly 125,000 infants, and 177,000 adults age 65 and older and the deaths of approximately 14,000 persons in the U.S. In infants ages 0 to 23 months, the rate of emergency department visits for RSV was 64.4 visits per 1,000 children. Known risk factors for contracting RSV include premature birth, congenital lung or heart disease, low birth weight, higher density living conditions (including the presence of older siblings in a household), day care attendance, family history of asthma, contact with tobacco smoke, multiple births and exposure to environmental pollutants. Some evidence suggests that African Americans and other minorities may be at greater risk for contracting RSV.

The Plaintiffs seek prospective declaratory and injunctive relief ordering the Defendant to adhere to federal Medicaid requirements so that they and other Medicaid-eligible premature children will be able to obtain medically necessary Synagis coverage to prevent or reduce the risk of an RSV infection.

A Good Gimmick ?

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



Chris Brown gets aggravated by line of questioning on Good Morning America and has a semi-violent melt down in his dressing room on the show the day his album drops. Already projected number one on iTunes the night before the chair throwing/window smashing incident... Chris Brown's fourth album entitled

F.A.M.E. goes on to sell a hugely impressive 250K in its first week.

Every year critics and detractors say the talent on American Idol gets worse and worse and yet the viewers reach higher and higher into the tens of millions. Season after season we have seen this show turn into a circus that no one expects to produce a

household name much less credible talent, but yet season after season we watch. Not only do we watch but many times we are also proven wrong.

This season so far only has one or two breakout talents in the top 12 contestants. But during elimination last week, a singer who is by far the judges' favorite fell into the bottom three.

Casey Abrams, someone I feel is one of the best artists I've EVER seen in Idol history, has wowed judges every time out with his mix of musicianship, vocal ability and originality.

However, when the voting gets turned over to the American public it becomes obvious that whoever is calling and texting at Ryan Seacrest's command doesn't care much for ac-

tual artistry or talent.

Casey was voted off the show.

However, the rescue was some of the best TV I've ever seen (youtube Case Is Safe).

Randy, J. Lo and Steven Tyler used their ONE JUDGES' SAVE of the entire season (with many weeks left) to keep Casey Abrams' Idol dreams alive.

I know many of you stopped checking for American Idol by now but I like to keep tabs on it because it's like a resource for those of us who have to develop an act.

But let's not be so deep with it.

If we look at Chris Brown's melt down, then his record sales, then the yo-yo-ing of emotions on American Idol eliminations and then their ratings... it may strike you that a good

gimmick seems to be at the epicenter of a successful endeavor in this industry.

But is having a gimmick so bad?

I never believe the hype, but without any hype whatsoever no art would ever become entertainment.

At the end of the day, isn't that what is fueling all of this anyway?

Art?

When I look at whom TMZ calls "celebrities" I see simply people who are artists and became successful doing what artists do (except for talentless wack jobs famous for no reason, ala Paris Hilton etc) Everyone from Breezy to Charlie Sheen, these are artists.

Will Smith, Tommy Davidson and even Miley Cyrus...these are artists.

Regardless of whether or not you like their art,

many of the most successful actors and musicians in our society were at one point exactly where I personally am. Someone with a dream, trying.

Sometimes it takes a gimmick or two, but as long as the artistry is still there that's a necessary evil we just might have to live with.

Because from what I hear, that Chris Brown album is amazing.

So, before you hate on a good gimmick just think about the place where art and entertainment meet in the middle.

Oh yea, and stop hating.

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George Hicks
Administrator
2469 Maplewood Ave, Toledo, OH 43620
Cell: 419.870.2335, Phone: 419.243.9175
Fax: 419.243.9174
E-mail: gkick3@msn.com * hicksdaycare.com

CLASSIFIEDS

The Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority is seeking bids from qualified contractors to furnish all labor, materials, and equipment for the following project(s):

Project Comprehensive Renovation4350 Deerwood, Toledo OH 43615
Project Number 210157
Walk-Thru Date Tuesday, April 5, 2011 @ 10:00am at 4350 Deerwood
Bid Due Date Friday, April 22, 2011 @ 11:00am at 201 Belmont Modernization Department

Bids will be opened and reviewed in the Modernization Department, at 201 Belmont Avenue, Toledo Ohio 43604, on the date shown above. Please direct questions regarding this project to, Jeff Nowak (419) 259-9487 or email jnowak@lucasmha.org. These documents are available at the following web address: www.lucasmha.org and selecting procurement, open solicitations. Copies of the plans and specifications for this project are also available for purchase from: City Blueprint of Toledo, 3455 Briarfield Boulevard, Suite D, Maumee, OH 43537, (419) 243-7271 Fax (419) 243-6418 or Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, OH 43697, (419) 241-5157, Fax (419) 241-2018

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



Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for a Security & Emergency Response Shift Supervisor. The selected applicant will be responsible for the overall security of the plants, material, equipment, and personnel at the refinery. Candidate will manage the development and implementation of emergency action plans for fire, leaks, spills, releases, and threats against the assets and/or the refinery personnel. Other duties include but are not limited to coordinating and supervising the activities of the contract security force and refinery fire marshals under both routine and emergency situations.

Candidates must be EMT certified as well as have a minimum of 6 years of security, law enforcement, and/or emergency response experience. Knowledge of current technology, MTSA, CFATS, OSHA standards, Ohio Fire Codes, and government regulations including 1910.120 are required. Must also be familiar with fire protection, suppression, detection systems, fire apparatus, hose evolutions, breathing equipment, and other fire service tools and appliances. Advanced fire training, emergency medical technician, hazardous material technician level training preferred. An Associate degree in a Fire Science or Law Enforcement discipline is also preferred.

For confidential consideration, please submit your resume via email to dayna.brown@pbfenergy.com

EOE/M/F/D/V

INTERESTED BIDDERS: TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – OLD WOODWARD HIGH SCHOOL DEMOLITION

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until 1:00 p.m. on April 13, 2011, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers' Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor, material and supervision necessary for the demolition of the Old Woodward High School, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by The Collaborative, Inc. and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

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

Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting March 30, 2011 which can be purchased from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615, phone: (419) 385-5303. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.

A pre-bid conference is scheduled for April 1, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Old Woodward High School, Located at 600 East Streicher Street, Toledo, Ohio 43608. A site walk-through at the Old Woodward HS will directly follow the pre-bid meeting.

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

Old Woodward High School Demolition:
Bid Item No. 1 Old Woodward High School
Building Demolition \$ 1,151,529.00
Total \$ 1,151,529.00

Classifieds are posted online at
www.thetruthtoledo.com



Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for a Maintenance Contract Administrator. The selected applicant will be responsible for developing work scopes and executing work based on need for the assigned area with a primary focus on safety, environmental compliance, improved plant reliability, and cost control. Candidate will issue SPO's for ongoing contracts and bid packages as well as analyze bids. Other duties include but are not limited to: working closely with Materials Management to administer contracts, supervising contractors in assigned area, and validating timesheets as well as work performed.

Candidates must have at least 5 years of Maintenance, Estimating, and Materials Management experience. Maintenance craft knowledge and building trades' jurisdiction are also required. Some college coursework preferred.

For confidential consideration, please submit your resume via email to dayna.brown@pbfenergy.com

EOE/M/F/D/V

Special Notice RE: Examinations for Journeyman Wireman

Applications for the Journeyman Inside Wireman test will be accepted April 11-15, 2011 at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 8, 807 Lime City Road, Rossford, Ohio between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The qualifications to be eligible for this examination are:

1. Must be 18 years of age or over.
2. Must live in the jurisdiction of Local 8 for one year prior to application.
3. Must have proof of 4 years employment in the commercial/industrial electrical construction industry.

Wanted to Buy: Diabetes Supplies

Earn up to \$12 per box of 100 test strips
Must expire after Jan. 2012.
Leave labels on boxes.
We remove and shred.

Call 419-740-7162 and leave message.

NORTHGATE APARTMENTS 610 STICKNEY AVENUE

Now Accepting Applications for 1 and 2 Bedroom Apartments
Mature Adult Community for Persons 55 and Older. Rent Based on Income. Heat, Appliances, Drapes, Carpeting Included.

Call (419) 729-7118 for details.
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



Mixed Company Home & Gift Shop Grand Opening

April 1-3, 12-5pm
18 Hillwyck
Near Hill and Reynolds
Art, candles, wall decor, much more!



Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for a Maintenance Equipment Coordinator. This position is responsible for all rental equipment within the refinery which includes: heavy equipment, cranes, tools, a fleet of approximately 110 pickup trucks, and all scaffolds. Using vendor support, the candidate will ensure equipment is in good repair and available when and where needed. Work with vendors to maximize value and minimize costs. Other duties include but are not limited to: working with Maintenance Execution Supervisors to ensure material is available to perform work, liaison with the uniform vendor, and ensuring the in-house fuel supply is properly maintained. Must be able to perform on-call duties as assigned, and work extended hours when required.

Candidate must have a minimum of 5 years working in an Industrial setting. Vocational training or some college coursework is preferred.

For confidential consideration, please submit your resume via email to dayna.brown@pbfenergy.com

EOE/M/F/D/V

CLASSIFIEDS

March 30, 2011

Page 19

COMMUNITY PSYCHIATRIC SUPPORTIVE TREATMENT CLINICIAN

Unison is seeking full-time and part-time Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment Clinicians to provide community support services to adults with serious and persistent mental illness. Duties will include assessment of client needs, assisting in the development of the treatment plan, coordination of the treatment plan, crisis management and stabilization, advocacy and outreach, education and mental health interventions addressing the mental illness.

Bachelor's degree in Social Work or Psychology and a valid driver's license required. Ohio counselor or social worker license and experience preferred.

Send resume or apply to:
Human Resources - CPST
1425 Starr Avenue
Toledo, OH 43605
Fax 419.936.7574
Email: hr@unisonbhg.org
EOE

AOD THERAPIST

Unison Behavioral Health Group Inc. is seeking an experienced AOD Therapist to work with adults, children or adolescents providing individual, family and group counseling, case management and prevention services.

Candidate must possess a bachelor's degree, a minimum of two years experience working with children and adolescents with chemical dependency issues and one of the following Ohio licenses – LSW, LISW, PC, PCC, LCDC II, LCDC III or LICDC. A Master's degree and dual mental health /chemical dependency licensure preferred.

Send resume or apply to:
Human Resources Director -AOD
Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
1425 Starr Ave.
Toledo, OH 43605
Fax: 419-936-7574
Email: hr@unisonbhg.org
EOE

COMBINED NOTICE NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS March 29 2011

City of Toledo
Department of Neighborhoods
One Government Center, Suite 1800
Toledo, Ohio 43604
419-245-1400

On or about **April 15, 2011** the City of Toledo will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to release Neighborhood Stabilization Program 3 (NSP3) funds for the following eligible activities:

PROJECT: Neighborhood Stabilization Program 3 funds will be used to acquire and rehabilitate abandoned and foreclosed properties that might otherwise become sources of blight in the City of Toledo. The funds will be used in specific targeted areas in the City of Toledo. The eligible uses listed below, must benefit persons and families whose incomes do not exceed 120% of Area Median Income (AMI). It is important also to note that at least 25 percent of the NSP3 funds will be used to provide housing for individuals and families whose incomes do not exceed 50 percent AMI.

PURPOSE: NSP3 funds will be used to

- Purchase and rehabilitate homes and residential properties that have been abandoned or foreclosed upon and sell or rent to qualified families and individuals. Twenty five percent of the acquired and rehabilitated housing units will be set aside to address the housing needs of families and individuals whose incomes do not exceed 50% AMI

- Demolish blighted structures
- Redevelop demolished or vacant properties

LOCATION: Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. The properties are not site specific at this time.

HUD GRANT: \$3,591,715.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

It has been determined that the proposed NSP3 eligible activities will have no significant impact on the environment. Therefore, the City has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Although individual project locations have not been identified at this time, as they become known, environmental reviews will be conducted prior to any physical action at the project sites. Activities under NSP3 will be reviewed for compliance with federal laws and authorities as listed in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Volume 24, Part 58. The Environmental Review Records for NSP3 are on files at the Department of Neighborhoods, One Government Center, Suite 1800, Toledo, OH 43604 and may be examined or copied weekdays between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:00 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

All interested individuals, groups, or agencies disagreeing with this determination may submit written comments for consideration by the City to the Department of Neighborhoods. Such written comments should be received at this department on or before **April 14, 2011**. All comments received will be considered by the city prior to authorizing submission of a Request for Release Of Funds and Certification to HUD.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The **City of Toledo** certifies to HUD that the **Mayor of Toledo** consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the city to utilize federal funds and implement the program.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will consider objections to its release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is one of the following bases: (a) that the Certification was not executed by the chief executive officer or other officer of applicant, (b) the **City of Toledo** has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the **City of Toledo** has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the program is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58), and may be addressed to HUD at U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Columbus Office, Region V, 200 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43215-2499. HUD will not consider objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above, and HUD will not consider any objections received after **May 4, 2011**.

Michael P. Bell, Mayor
City of Toledo
One Government Center, Suite 2200
Toledo, OH 43604

Come Catch The Spring Fling Tour!
APRIL 7, 2011
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 A FUN filled day with tours, refreshments! and prizes!

Income Based Housing for those 50 and older!

The tour will start at either of the two following pick-up sites:

Area Office On Aging of the City
 2215 Arlington Avenue
 Toledo, OH 43608

OR

Frank Tate Senior Center
 1220 Division St.
 Toledo, OH 43603

The tour will include the following stops:

- Stable Court Project**
 3630 Southpark Blvd
 Toledo, OH 43614
- Personal Apartments**
 2125 Parkwood Ave
 Toledo, OH 43602
- Gateway Towers**
 140 22nd St.
 Toledo, OH 43604
- Midway Homes**
 633 Clark St
 Toledo, OH 43604

The tour will end at either place where LHMHA will take applications. Please bring your Picture ID, Social Security Card, and Proof of Income with you. A fee will be placed on applications.

LMHA
 The Low Income Homeowners Mortgage Assistance Program

CALL 419-239-3447 FOR TENTATIVE SCHEDULING

SEATSBY BEFORE SEATS FULL UP!!!

Book Review

Concierge Confidential by Michael Fazio with Michael Malice

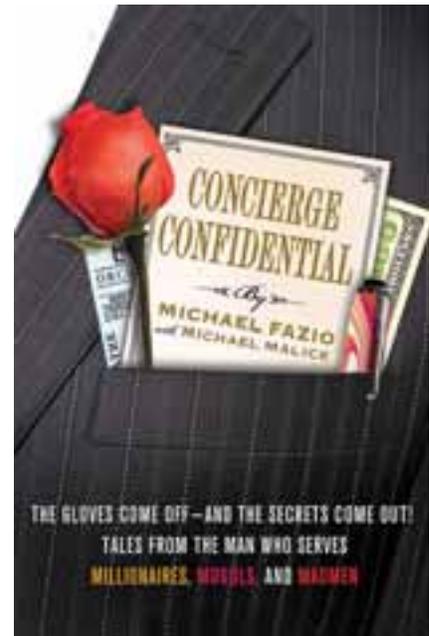
By Terri Schlichenmeyer
 The Truth Contributor

Some people, well, you'd do anything for them.

The sweet older lady next door calls for a favor and you go running. Your nephew bats those baby blues and you'd buy out the toy store for him. If she asked, you'd dig ditches for a beloved former boss, and all your mom has to do is crook her finger for you to be at her service.

Is serving what you do best? Could you do it for a living? Read the new book *Concierge Confidential* by Michael Fazio (with Michael Malice) and you'll think twice before answering.

When Charlie Sheen called and asked if the boss was in, Michael Fazio was barely fazed. Fazio figured it would be a small step from



agency assistant to "the next big Hollywood movie mogul" and a good mogul isn't impressed with fame.

But Fazio's job at The Liberty Agency didn't so much include hob-nobbing with the stars as it did taking care of his boss, Glennis. He soon learned that keeping her happy meant plugging in her curlers and making coffee before she got to work. Caring for her was, oddly, something Fazio enjoyed doing.

After another brief assistant's job and a gig playing piano on a cruise ship, Fazio and his partner, Jeffrey, moved to Manhattan. Though Fazio was initially unemployed, he quickly found a job at the InterContinental Hotel on 48th Street, where he learned that his unique strengths would best be put to use as a concierge.

A good concierge, like a good business person, has lots of contacts to call upon for favors. He (or she) excels at making the impossible possible. Though celebrities and millionaires are the concierge's typical clients, anyone staying at a hotel with a concierge can use the services offered.

Fazio writes about finding yachts for his clients, as well as tickets to sold-out concerts, reservations to jam-packed restaurants and night clubs, and yes, even

the unconventional. He writes about good tippers, bad eateries, ugly situations, and how he survived them all.

Going on vacation this summer? Check this book out before you leave.

Concierge Confidential includes the dishiest stories of wealth and celebrity, as well as a wealth of tips on star treatment and getting the best results from your hotel stay.

Authors Michael Fazio and Michael Malice don't stop there, though. They explain what a concierge does, where you'll find one, and how to get what you need (hint: being a jerk won't impress anybody). In between lessons, you'll be regaled by tales of Hollywood and Broadway, challenges and chefs, businessmen and bubbleheads, hissy-fitting stars and hustling scammers, and the rich and famous.

And then, if your hotel doesn't have a devoted concierge, you'll learn how to schmooze tickets, reservations, and admission on your own.

It's hard not to love something that so effortlessly entertains, and *Concierge Confidential* does just that. If you're heading for holiday, or if you're just up for a light, fun, privy look at leisure and luxury, you should do anything to get this book.

WE GET OUR STUDENTS

... Involved

At STAR Academy of Toledo, we get our students involved through a hands-on approach that connects with them on a personal level. We'd love to get your child to thrive, too. Visit us and discover the difference it makes when a school plays to your child's strengths, and gives each student a sense of purpose.

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- Hands-on Personalized Learning
- Paragon! — an engaging, discovery-based, humanities and social studies curriculum
- Integrated Technology- computers and interactive whiteboards to enrich learning
- Extended day and year
- A safe, nurturing environment for students to learn, grow and thrive
- Afterschool enrichment program

SCHEDULE A PARENT TOUR TODAY. Call: (419) 720- 6330
 Visit us at: www.staracademyoftoledo.org

STAR ACADEMY OF TOLEDO
 1850 Airport Highway
 Toledo, OH 43609