



Local and National News

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The *Sojourner's* Truth

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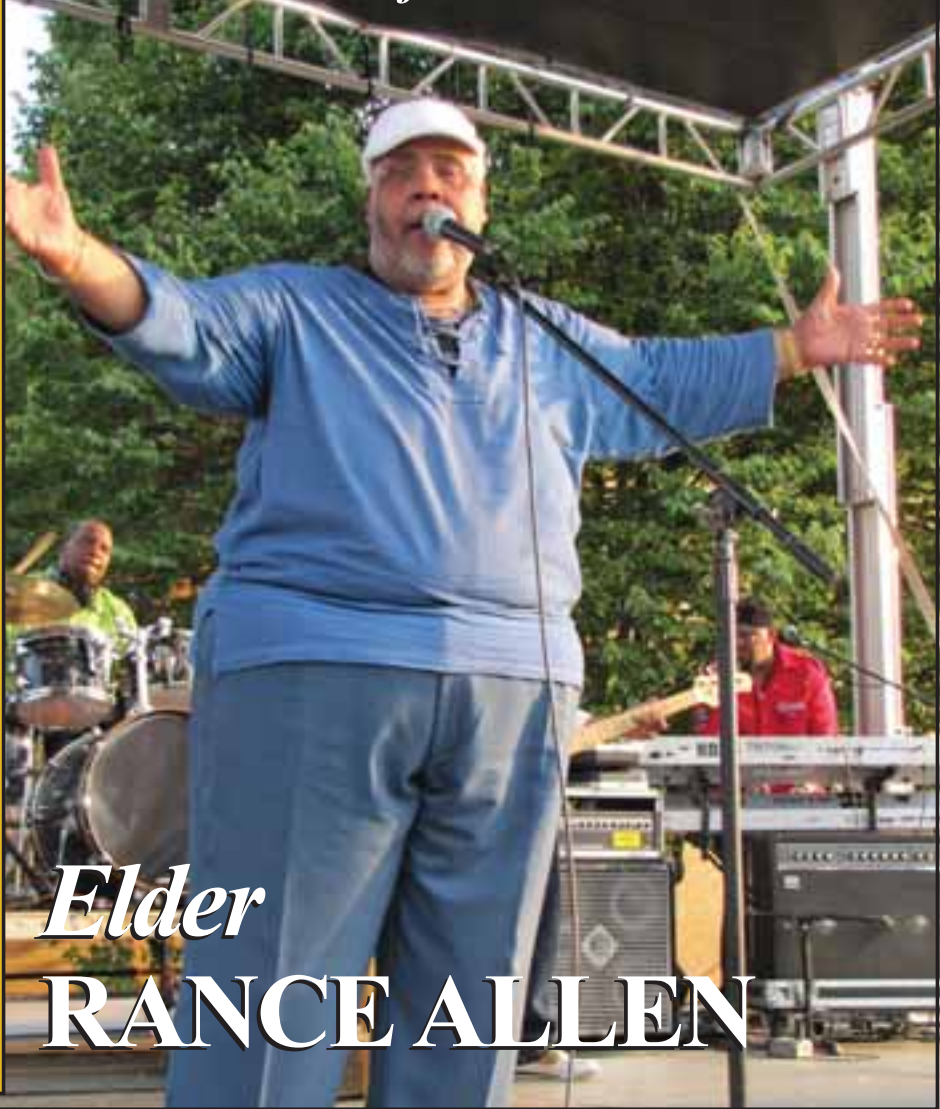
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The 7th Annual African American Festival



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Corporate Paid Politicians Are Trying to Bamboozle US

By Carter A. Wilson, Ph.D.
Guest Column



Malcolm X would say they are trying to bamboozle us again with their lies. Republican leaders, right wing pundits and tea party enthusiasts stubbornly claim that raising taxes will kill jobs and hurt the economy, that the way to stimulate the economy is to cut taxes and spending, and that they must stop President Obama at all costs from raising taxes to balance the budget.

Corporate paid politicians lie and tell us that the United States has the highest corporate taxes in the world. Then they try to balance the budget by cutting Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, and unemployment benefits. They take us for fools and insult our intelligence. The fact of the matter

is that they are trying to cut Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare and unemployment—programs that help the most vulnerable Americans—in order to give hundreds of billions of dollars to major corporations.

What these liars do not tell us is that with all of the tax loop holes, U.S. corporations paid the lowest tax rate in the world. Some paid no taxes at all and a few got tax rebates. If corporations and multi-billionaires paid the same taxes that we pay, we could solve the budget deficit problem overnight. While tax rates are higher on paper, the actual taxes paid are the lowest in the world. The federal government gives hundreds of billions of dollars in tax breaks, rebates and subsidies to major corporations.

The best and most authoritative study which documents corporations paying little to no taxes at all was put about by the Government Accountability Office about three years ago. The reference for this study is GAO-08-957, July 2008, GAO Report to Congressional Requester, Tax Administration, Comparison of the Reported Tax Liabilities of Foreign and U.S. Controlled Corporations, 1998-2005. This report noted that about 25 percent of the largest U.S. companies paid no federal income taxes in 2005 despite \$1.1 trillion in gross sales.

Another good reference is a book written by Antonia Juhasz's, The Tyranny of Oil (Harper 2008, page) Juhasz says this: "Exxon Mobil ranked seventh among all 275 companies in corporate tax breaks, receiving more than \$4 billion in tax breaks from 2001 to 2003... ConocoPhillips received tax breaks of almost \$2 billion, reducing its federal income tax by an incredible 72 percent... Valero's tax breaks were the most impressive: in 2002 the company had an effective tax rate of negative 36.3 percent. Valero not only paid zero taxes that year, but it actually received money back from the federal government (The Tyranny of Oil (Harper 2008, page 265)." Juhasz illustrates how the federal government gives these oil companies billions in tax breaks and subsidies.

During the debate over corporations paying no taxes, Senator Bernie Sanders provided a list of some of the worse cases. His list included corporations that paid a tax rate of less than 2 percent, firms that paid no taxes at all and a few firms that got tax refunds. Here are a few examples: Exxon Mobil made \$19 billion in profits, paid no taxes and got a \$156 million rebate from the IRS; Bank of America made \$4.4 billion in profits, and got a \$1.9 billion tax refund; General Electric made \$26 billion over the past five years, and got a \$4.1 billion refund from the IRS; Chevron made \$10 billion in profits, and got a \$19 million refund; Boeing got a \$30 billion contract from the Pentagon and got \$124 million refund from the IRS, Citigroup made \$4 billion and paid no taxes.

There are hundreds of tax loop holes and gimmicks that allow multimillionaires and billionaires to pay a fraction of the tax rate as we pay. Here are a few examples. Brokers earn billions of dollars in service fees for buying and selling hedge funds. Whereas this money should be treated as income, it is treated as capital gain and taxed at a fraction of the income tax rate. Chief executive officers of Fortune 500 firms are able to deduct the cost of the use of their jets on trips. If they spend a million dollars using their jet, they write off the million on their federal taxes.

There are countless examples of how major corporations, billionaires and multimillionaires pay a lower rate of taxes than the rest of us and in some cases pay no taxes at all. Closing some of these tax loop holes is the fair thing to do. Cutting Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare and unemployment so that the Bank of America could get a \$1.9 billion rebate from the government is outrageous and immoral. Claiming that closing these loop holes will kill jobs and hurt the economy is a damn lie and an insult to our intelligence. The worse thing about this is that those politicians who are crying the loudest about not raising taxes are the same ones getting the most money in campaign contributions from the corporations they are defending.

Community Calendar

July 16, 23, 30

Sisters Helping Everyone School Supplies Dropoff: Smith Park; 8:30 am to noon: 419-461-0123

July 11-15

Third Baptist Church Vacation Bible School: 5:30 to 8:30 pm nightly; Food, prizes, games and crafts

July 14

Central City Citizens Neighborhood Meeting: Hosting Councilwoman Paula Hicks-Hudson; 6 pm; Frederick Douglass Community Association: 419-464-9885

July 16

Isaiah Thomas Giving Foundation First Annual DAD 4 Life Conference: Wayman Palmer YMCA; 10 am to 32 pm: 419-213-0323

Calvary Baptist Church Pre-Women's Day Luncheon: 11 am; Speaker Roxanne Hammond

Jerusalem Scholarship Ministry Summer Car Wash: Corner of 20th and Jefferson; 10 am to 4 pm

Canaan Outreach Center Benefit Gospel Musical: Musical; 6 pm; Benefit for Summer Enrichment Program: 419-535-0933

July 17

Indiana Avenue MBC Music Ministry's Homecoming 2011 Reunion Concert: Seeking all former choir members: 419-535-3126

July 17-18

Greater St. Mary's MBC Revival: "Sustaining Faith;" 5 pm on Sunday; 7 pm on Monday; Revivalist Robert Lyons, pastor of Market Place Ministries

July 18

United Church of God Zoo and Park Day Outing: 10 am; Walbridge Park: 419-810-6335 or 419-729-3819 or 419-726-6750

July 21

UT Campus [Exposure: First through 12th grade students invited to spend a day on campus: 419-381-3280

July 23

201 Toledo Synergy Teen Summit: 8 am to 3 pm; Collingwood Art Center
St. Stephens COGIC Community Fest: 11 am to 5 pm; Food, games, music
Citywide Christian Trustee Association Meeting: 10 am at United MBC: 419-514-1052

July 23-24

St. Martin de Porres Food Pantry Fund Raiser: Saturday 9:30 am to 4:30 pm; Sunday 9:30 am to 12:30 pm; "Everything But the Kitchen Sink Sale;" Gently used kitchen items and small appliances: 419-729-3829

July 24

Calvary Baptist Women's Day: "Christian Women Equipping Themselves to Stand;" 10:45 am; Guest speaker Rev. April Hearn of New Prospect

July 27

Jerusalem Baptist Church Women's Day: "Christian Women: The Lord Is Calling. Are You Listening; Are You Ready?" 11 am

July 29

Liberty Ministries Church Kingdom Family Fellowship: 7 pm; Guest speaker Pastor May Dupree

July 29-31

LFC-Harvest Christian Training Center: 8 am until ...; Hilton Garden Inn; Sexual and Relationship Training Conference & Covenant Partners Retreat: 567-255-4507

The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American

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To Tell The Truth

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



For some perverse reason, we children hated those marigolds.... Perhaps we had some dim notion of what we were, and how little chance we had of being anything else. Otherwise, why would we have been so preoccupied with destruction? - Eugenia Collier

There are quite a few terms which would accurately describe the "The Marriage Vow: A Declaration of Dependence upon Marriage and Family," a pledge for candidates being advanced by a conservative group called the

Family Leader.

Ignorant. Paternalistic. Racist. Anti-woman, human and child would be a few. None, however, more precise than the word "lie."

A prominent section of the pledge, using a false reading of history to demonize blacks in the present in order to make the gall of conservative, anti-family policies more palatable, states:

"Slavery had a disastrous impact on African-American families, yet sadly a child born into slavery in 1860 was more likely to be raised by his mother and father in a two-parent household than was an African-American baby born after the election of the USA's first African-American President."

What the ... What?! Somebody needs a measure of common sense as well as a dose of TRUE history and contemporary understanding.

How can a slave "husband," who had no legal claim to his family and thus unable to legitimately demand economic resources (let alone

protect his family from abuse or exploitation), provide a wife and children with significant financial support?

The truth is: That the slave system disrespected and outlawed marriage of slaves. Therefore, black family structure differed drastically from that of European Americans. Although frequently non-nuclear, black family structure was flexible, not flawed, in response to the difficulty of slave life.

With black males frequently absent as a result of being sold for stud purposes and black women being used primarily as breeders and laborers, co-residential parenting or long-term monogamous marriages were infrequent. The slave mothers were never able to give the needs of her husband and children the priority necessary for survival in a slave system.

Thus the stigmatism of illegitimacy did not exist for those children born in this system. Shared childrearing among a number of females

and an informal adoption and fictive kinship was developed among black extended families to provide nurture, education, socialization, material support and recreation in multi-generation households (Stevenson, 1997).

Black couples, despite inevitable temporary and permanent separations due to the slave master's whim or profit motive, would "jump the broom" in illegal marriage ceremonies in an effort to "renegotiate the social circumstances to make their lives match their spiritual beliefs."

Truthfully, we do need black fathers in the home rather than filling up prisons doing extended time for what is often petty crime. Societal demands for increased parenting skills and concerns over a generation of children who are raising themselves are also valid.

But it is also true that the raising of children has historically been a communal responsibility and not just an individual or parental one.

The truth is: We do need prayer and

the assistance of clergy to solve, not only our social and economic complexities, but also the spiritual problems that plague our community.

But it is also true, that we, ourselves, are the answer to our prayers, and that we need to pray as if "everything depends upon God, but work to solve our problems as if everything depends upon us."

Finally, the truth is: That we are not saviors and cannot "save" our young people.

Although legal emancipation from slavery has occurred, the dignity and self-worth of many has yet to be liberated. The media and social systems of today continue to reinforce the message that our value lies in our deficiencies rather than our capacities.

While it is also true, that "doing for others what they can do for themselves, keeps recipients bound in a cycle of dependency,"

We don't need another "youth program." However, we do need all

segments of the community to come together to create a context where young people can feel personally connected to society, competent in their abilities and capable of making a difference in the social and economic systems in which they live.

Also, young people don't need to hear another sermon or lecture.

Yet, their distorted perspective and negative mindset is more likely to be changed by creating opportunities for them to "visualize themselves and their environment through a different lens" where they can discover their gifts, capacities, and unique contributions.

Then, establishing a place in the community where these capacities can be converted into meaningful income will lead to a sense of self-determination and meaning.

And we will discover that, not we, but young people, will have empowered themselves as well as others.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at dhperryman@consofnpchc.org

If You Got Two Cents ... You're OK?

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column



However by 2009, the median net worth for white households had fallen 24 percent to that of \$97,860 but the median black net worth had fallen 83 percent to \$2,170.

To put those figures in easy to handle hot biscuits, Austin, described the current wealth gap this way: "In 2009, for every dollar of wealth the average (emphasis added) white household had 98

cents, but black households only had **TWO CENTS**.

Now, when you pick up your jaw that just dropped to the floor and put your eyes back into their sockets, the figures will still read the same: **TWO CENTS!**

Now remember, the word median typically speaks of the average and that means there are those households that are above that average

and there are households that are below that average.

In other words, some black households had a relative wealth gap compared to white household of more than **two cents** and other black households had a wealth gap that was less than **two cents** of the average white net worth.

Either way you parse it out in speaking about averages, the average median

wealth for black households is beyond economic concern but, rather, it borders on.

For your two pennies, you can continue to hustle and struggle while you are underemployed or unemployed but hope that the national political parties will get out of their political driven deadlock and get on with the country's business and steer the state of ship away from the shoals

of a continuing recession.

For your two pennies, you can continue to educate yourself and better yourself with job training programs but once you have graduated, you find yourself sending out dozens of resumes but only to have your mailbox gather cobwebs.

For your two pennies, you can continue to listen to the (Continued on Page 13)

If you want to read some mind-numbing statistics in the manner in which the black community has practically been totally devastated in the recent period of 2007-2009

and which is now dubbed as, the Great Recession, go to www.msnbc.msn.com and read the saddening story by reporter Jesse Washington.

His report gives a lot of eye-catching data from the Economic Policy Institute (a/k/a: EPI) which is analyzing data from the Federal Reserve about the woeful financial state of Black America.

The particular eye popper that I am referring to is a quote from Algernon Austin who is the director of the EPI's Program on Race, Ethnicity and the Economy. In 2004, economists indicated that the median (average) net worth of white households was \$134,280.00 compared with \$13,450 for black households.

SECOND IN A SERIES

Letters from the Heart

Our family was able to focus on just being with my dad, thanks to the care from Hospice of Northwest Ohio. Now, we always recommend that people consider hospice care early. *Jan, 2007*

They were the most professional caregivers I've ever seen. But my wife and I waited too long and we didn't get all of the benefits we could have received. *Tom, 1994*

Hospice of Northwest Ohio cared for both my mother and father. They relieved a lot of the worry, stress and fear. Don't wait to get them involved. *May, 2001 and 2010*

For 30 years, families have been writing to Hospice of Northwest Ohio to express their thanks. Yet they often also say, "We wish we would have started hospice care sooner." The earlier you seek our expertise and support, the more we can do to help.

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HOSPICE OF NORTHWEST OHIO
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Barbara Sears: A Republican Point of View on Recent Legislative Controversies

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"I am not hostile to unions. I grew up in a union environment," says Ohio State Representative Barbara Sears (R-Lucas County) during a discussion about a number of recent controversial legislative measures that have been introduced by the General Assembly's Republican majority.

The first matter for Sears' conversation with The Truth was Senate Bill 5 which was signed into law by Gov. John Kasich and has been the target of a repeal effort by the bill's opponents.

SB 5 would severely limit the scope of the state's public unions on a number of fronts. The legislation prohibits striking, limits what can be negotiated, requires payment of at least 15 percent of union members' health care premiums, prohibits local governments from paying any portion of an employee's share of pension contributions and prohibits unions from collecting "fair share" fees from those who refuse to join the union.

Opponents of SB5 filed nearly 1.3 million signatures last week to place the law before the state's voters in November.

The provisions that gave public unions such power



went into effect in 1983 during a Democratic-majority period, notes Sears. And since that time, she says, municipalities have added layers of changes that have greatly increased the power of public unions. Local governments could only negotiate – prior to SB 5 – what the unions would agree to put on the table.

"Local governments have not been able to be flexible and change," she says. "This bill strips away the fat from union contracts and gives flexibility to local governments to deal with other things. We need that flexibility."

As Sears notes, the Republican effort to limit public unions' power is an attempt

to gain the flexibility that the private sector enjoys. Both unions and management in the private sector have to keep in mind the bottom line of a corporation and have to understand that without profitability, a company cannot long exist.

"There is no consideration in [current] negotiations on the ability to pay," she says of the public unions negotiation strategy.

As for job security, public employees already have, says Sears, "layers of [job] protection" such as the civil service.

Sears spoke with The Truth about the controversy surrounding House Bills 159 and 194. HB 159 would essentially require voters to possess one of the following forms of photo identification: an Ohio driver's license, an Ohio identification card, a valid U.S. military identification card or a valid U.S. passport. Currently items such as utility bills are sufficient at the polls.

The Ohio Senate postponed a vote on HB 159 several weeks ago but did pass HB 194 whose main provisions shrink the early voting period in Ohio from 35 to 21 days and move the Ohio primary from March to May.

Opponents of the measures see these pieces of legislation as moves on the part of Republicans to decrease voter turnout in critical Democratic bases such as minorities and older voters. Republicans generally counter that voter fraud necessitates the

call for photo ID.

As Sears views the issue, voter fraud is certainly a possibility if not a reality.

"There's an opportunity for it," she says, "but we haven't uncovered signs of it in Ohio." Nevertheless, she likes the measure because "it locks [the voting procedures] down a little more."

And affordability, she points out, should not be a major concern for individuals who wish to exercise their right to vote. A provision in HB 159 enables those who cannot afford the cost of identification to be provided such state papers free of cost, she says. "There are lots of ways to help folks get those documents."

Of course, such requirements, whether free or not, will require those who wish to vote to make an extra effort to get to the polls. That's not an unreasonable request, says Sears, if people do want to exercise their rights.

HB 194 did gain Senate approval. Much of the rationale, says Sears, involves the cost of holding elections. "Elections are expensive."

She also notes that election statistics show that with the current 35-day period, voter turnout is typically heavy during the first and last week and fairly anemic during the middle three weeks.

The other topic Sears touched on briefly during her visit with The Truth was the two-year budget that Kasich signed into law during the previous week. That budget,

which closed a projected \$8 billion deficit gap – with no tax increases – will shift to local governments a variety of costs.

"Local governments will have to get with residents and ask for their priorities," she says. But she is proud of the steps that she and her Republican colleagues have taken to reform the way government works in Ohio. She also takes the previous administration to task for failing to foresee what would happen even as the last budget was propped up with federal stimulus funds.

As Ohio was receiving those monies, she says, it was a perfect time to implement much needed structural changes in the financial management of the state.

"Ask the Democrats what happened with that \$8 billion [in stimulus funds]," says the Republican assistant majority floor leader. "This budget will demand that reform actually occur. They say that the best time to reform is when you're in a financial crisis, well now we have to change. Unfortunately, the fallacy of the previous two years is that that \$8 billion could have been a change agent."

Sears, who represents House District 46 – western Lucas County – is in her second term in the General Assembly. Prior to being appointed to the House, she served on Sylvania City Council for 10 years, the last four as president.

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New Name for Central City Neighborhood

Special to The Truth

The neighborhood on the western end of the ONYX area has a new name. "Kwanzaa Park" was the name selected by community members gathered at The Padua Center on Thursday, July 07, 2011. Six names were submitted as part of the "Name the Neighborhood Contest" which ran from late May until the neighborhood meeting on Thursday. The winning name was submitted by George Lee.

During the meeting several participants spoke of the historic significance of "Kuschwancz" – the names given the neighborhood by the early Polish immigrants. Sister Virginia Welsh stressed that those who knew the neighborhood as Kuschwancz would continue to call it that. There is a historic marker in front of the old St. Anthony Church which mentions the Polish immigrants and the district known as Kuschwancz. The marker will remain as will the memory of this neighborhood.

Oscar Shaheer, chair of the Brighten Up Board, said that re-naming the neighborhood did not discredit the history, but the neighborhood now is predominately African American and they should be able to name the area, as had the Polish immigrants when they lived in this area.

Paula Hick-Hudson, city council representative for District 4, said that naming the area "Kwanzaa Park" offered a great challenge to the neighborhood because Kwanzaa includes incorporating into the neighborhood the seven principles known as Nguzo Saba. Those principles are: unity, collective work, creativity, faith, purpose, cooperative economics and self-determination.

The contest was sponsored by the Brighten Up Board of The Padua Center. 1416 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43606, 419-241-6465. www.paucenter.org

On the Other Hand: Local Dems Condemn Republican Budget

Sojourner's Truth Staff



Wade Kapszukiewicz and Joe McNamara

Lucas County Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz and Toledo City Councilman Joe McNamara held a news conference last week to denounce the recent two-year state budget that Gov. John Kasich

state will be cut by at least \$1 million. Kapszukiewicz said that this budget represents "the largest distribution of wealth from the middle class to the wealthiest Ohioans" in the

and investors receive and for not including a five percent salary reduction for state legislators in the budget. Following up on that theme, McNamara added that the severe cuts imposed by the Republican budget mean, for example, that the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, "whose sole purpose is to represent individuals' [utility] rates payments and advocate for residents," will be forced to curtail its services.

"We have here a coordinated strategy of shifting wealth away from the middle class, the working class and to the wealthiest Ohioans,"

signed into law last week. "We have here a coordinated strategy of shifting wealth away from the middle class, the working class and to the wealthiest Ohioans," said Kapszukiewicz who estimates that in Lucas County, government funding from the

state's history and called the legislation a "systematic ideological attack on the middle class."

The County Treasurer assailed the Republican majority for its refusal to consider eliminating the \$7 billion in tax breaks that corporations

The Office is not even a part of the general fund as he endorsed the notion that the move was "an ideological attack" on the middle class.

Kapszukiewicz said that in Lucas County residents will immediately feel a reduction in services or be forced to see an increase in local taxes.

Green Party Candidates Compete for City Council Seats

Sojourner's Truth Staff



Anita Rios and Sean Nestor

"It is time for our leaders to stand up to Washington and say 'give us our money back,'"

For the first time, there are multiple Green Party candidates in the race for Toledo City Council seats. At a news conference on Monday, Anita Rios and Sean Nestor announced their intention to run for City Council in Districts 4 and 6 respectively.

"The City of Toledo has been taking it on the chin for a long time," said Rios during her opening statement. "It is time for our leaders to stand up to Washington and say

'give us our money back,'" "I've been interested in politics for a long time," said Nestor. "I'm running because there's a lot of things we need to challenge." Nestor referenced both the economy and the lack of attention focused on the local youth culture as issues he will address during his campaign for office.

Rios serves on the Central Committees for both Lucas County and Ohio Green Parties and is president of the

Toledo chapter of the National Organization for Women.

Nestor is a systems administrator at Seymour & Associates MassMutual and is an instructor at Owens Community college.

Both candidates will be facing Democratic incumbents in their races. Rios will be competing against Paula Hicks-Hudson in district 4 and Nestor against Lindsay Webb in District 6.

FROM THE FAMILY OF JAMES L. GANT

A Special Note Of "Thanks"

The family of James L. Gant would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone that expressed acts of love and kindness through your phone calls, gifts, cards, visitations, prayers and resolutions during the Home Going of Deacon James Lein Gant.

We also express a very special thank you to Mayor Michael Bell, a longtime family friend.

Justice Yvette McGee Brown Tours Toledo on Get-Acquainted Mission

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Ohio Supreme Court Justice Yvette McGee Brown visited the Glass City for a few days last week for a get-acquainted tour and did just that—she got acquainted with a host of prominent Toledoans.

Brown, only the third African-American to serve on the Supreme Court—and only the eighth woman—spent Tuesday evening at the home of Laneta Goings. Goings hosted a reception to honor both Brown and Andrea Price, president and CEO of Mercy Health Partners' Northern Region. The theme of the event was "Women Hold up Half the Sky."

More than 40 community leaders, all women, gathered to celebrate the accomplishments of Brown and Price and to dine on a soul food spread prepared by the hostess and a few friends.

On Wednesday, the downtown law firm of Cooper & Walinski hosted another reception for Brown. Community leaders and local attor-



neys gathered to listen to Brown speak about her insights on the Supreme Court and what she has experienced during her short tenure.

Brown, a Democrat who ran for lieutenant governor with then-Gov. Ted Strickland in November 2010, was appointed by Strickland to the Court in his waning days in office.

She is the only Democrat on the Court.

Brown, however, emphasized that contrary to the advice she received before joining the Court, she has not found the environment to be either political or combative.

"I had been told, 'you gotta be tough,'" she said. "Nothing could be further from the truth."

No justice, said Brown, wears a "R" or "D" emblazoned on his or her robe. In fact, although she is the only

Democrat, Brown describes herself as being fairly moderate and certainly not the most liberal member of the Court.

Brown, a native of Columbus who was reared by a single mother, earned her undergraduate degree from Ohio University and a law degree from The Ohio State University. Prior to being selected to run on Strickland's ticket, she had served as president of a non-profit organization—the Center for Child and Family Advocacy, a full-service agency Brown founded in 2002 to focus on treatment and prevention of child abuse and domestic violence.



Brown had earlier served on the Franklin County Court of Domestic Relations and Juvenile Court. of Common Pleas Division of

AJI CHOOSE GREEN

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Website: www.drjwilliams.org

Dr. John W. Williams, Pastor

William Lucas
also known as KING KEYSER
www.kingschampions.com

St. Francis Knight Life: A Chronicle The Last Part

By Keon Pearson
 Sojourner's Truth Reporter



Happy June, readers! As you are probably well aware, this is my last entry in the chronicle of my senior year at St. Francis de Sales. Let me tell you this: I've never had a better year! Starting with band camp, then marching band, then traveling to Cambridge and D.C., then speaking at The University of Toledo, then applying for scholarships, then getting into Harvard, this year has certainly been eventful for me.

Much of what has happened to me has been recorded in this chronicle. But for my last entry, I do not want to write about myself. I want to offer some hard-learned advice to the young people who are reading my column, in hopes that they may have successful high school careers. Then, I'll give you information about all of the college scholarships that I've seen, which will certainly prove to be worth your time to investigate.

1. You are going to cure AIDS, cancer, and solve world hunger. I know- this isn't the typical form of advice given to students. Nevertheless, it is the most important piece of advice I can give, because it encompasses the successful student's frame of mind. In order to be successful at anything, you must approach it with confidence and clear ambitions.

I've never met a successful student who didn't have confidence that he or she could overcome the hardest challenges. Confidence in what you can accomplish does not mean arrogance, though, and you should never boast your accomplishments in front of others.

This piece of advice has great nuance. All of the world's big problems are going to be solved by highly creative and intelligent people. They will have immense knowledge about several aspects of life, not just science, math, and politics. They will be well versed in history, literature, finance, and myriad other subjects.

Once heard about a pharmaceutical company that used origami folds to design drugs that cured diseases. Origami! And we all probably know about Sherlock Holmes, who used his encyclopedic knowledge of tobacco varieties and soil specimens to solve crimes. Remember these examples when you are in class thinking "This stuff is pointless. I'm never going to use it!" because in reality, solutions are going to arise when you apply out-of-the-box thinking to real-world problems.

2. Stop watching idle TV. Think about it: when a person watches a reality TV show or some other "entertaining" program, he normally pays close attention to what's going on for 12 minutes, and then a commercial break occurs, and he loses focus for 90 seconds. This cycle repeats over and over again: focus for 12 minutes, break for 90 seconds. What do you think is happening to his attention span when he subjects it to such mind-numbing treatment.

He is conditioning his mind to focus only for short stretches of time, which eradicates any chance he has of excelling in school. The simple fact is that intense focus is no longer expected out of you. Defy the expectations, and develop the patience and the willpower needed to learn your materials. And you'll have a lot of time to learn if you cut TV out of your schedule completely!

3. Nice will suffice. Everyone has heard the phrase "It's not what you know, but who." This cliché has not been weakened by over use - it's truth cannot be denied. When you are in school, you are developing a network with students, teachers, administrators, other parents, and other professionals who

care about your education. These people may be able to help you on your path to success, so it makes no sense to alienate any of them. Earn a reputation for being a genuinely nice and honest person, and you will have no problems in your interactions with others. Simply put, be nice, always and everywhere!

Now for the scholarships:
1. 50 Men and Women of Toledo- <http://www.50menandwomen.com/bio.html>- \$1,500 per year over four years

2. Jackie Robinson Scholarship- <http://www.jackierobinson.org/apply/application.php>- \$7,500 per year over four years

3. Gates Millennium Scholarship- https://nominations.gmsp.org/GMSP_App/- All unmet need is covered by this scholarship.

4. Ron Brown Scholarship Program- <http://www.ronbrown.org/Apply.aspx>- \$10,000 per year over four years. This is the scholarship about which I wrote in March. I got it!

5. Toledo Community Foundation (e.g. Jamie Farr, Buckeye Cable/Television Network, BCSN Student of the Month/Year) <http://www.toledocf.org/main/scholarships/>- amount varies by scholarship

6. Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation- up to \$20,000 over four years

7. Prince Hall Freemason scholarships- <http://www.phmesf.com/>- up to \$8,000 over four years

8. Jack and Jill of Toledo- <http://www.jackandjillfoundation.org/scholarships/>- up to \$2500 per year

9. Elks National Program- <http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvs.cfm>- up to \$15,000 per year for four years. There are also local, district, and state-level scholarships

10. Zeta Alpha Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.- The Best of the Class- <http://www.zetaalphaomega.com/scholarship.htm>- Amount varies

And there are many others out there! Keep in touch

with your guidance counselors, and they should be able to direct you to more scholarship dollars.

It's been a great year, reader, and I'm incredibly fortunate to have been able to share my story with all of Toledo. Who knows: maybe I'll return to writing in the future!

I've enjoyed this so much, and I truly do thank Fletcher Word and The Sojourner's Truth for granting me this wonderful opportunity!

Ed. Note: Keon Pearson will be entering Harvard College in the fall and although this is his last column of the year, we are hoping he will be a frequent contributor in the years to come.

Congresswoman Kaptur Announces Interest Rate Cut To 3.4 Percent on Student Loans

Special to The Truth

The interest rate on subsidized student loans was cut today to 3.4 percent, according to U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (OH-9). The new rate will save thousands of dollars for students throughout Northern Ohio.

"Making higher education more affordable must be a top priority," said Kaptur, who supported the College Cost Reduction and Access Act back in 2007. "Education is the key to getting a good job in today's labor market.

"We have now cut the interest rate in half over a four-year period. As a result, the typical student borrower who will graduate from college next year will have save \$2,750 over the life of their loan."

Congresswoman Kaptur said the interest rate on a subsidized loan was 6.8 percent when Congress passed the Act, which lowered rates annually: to 6.0 percent on July 1, 2008; 5.6 percent in 2009; 4.5 percent last year; and 3.4 percent this year.

"Making college more affordable is one of the most important things we can do to invest in our nation's future and build a stronger middle class," Kaptur said. "Millions of students and their families take out subsidized loans each year and this legislation effectively lowers the eventual debt load for students with subsidized loans."



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Law and Leadership Institute Reaches out to Urban Students

Sojourner's Truth Staff

"Work hard, be well prepared and you will usually prevail," said Jacqueline Boney, an attorney with Cooper & Walinski as she addressed a group of rising high school freshmen who are participating in a program called Law and Leadership Institute, LLC (LLI).

LLI is a collaborative program funded in part by the Ohio State Bar Association, eight of Ohio's law schools as well as the Ohio Supreme Court, local bar associations and the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education.

The LLI's summer program is now being offered in Ohio's six largest cities – Cleveland, Cincinnati, Columbus, Toledo, Dayton and Akron – with a special emphasis on reaching out to minority students.

"We are looking to improve diversity in the legal profession and looking at under-served communities," said Marilyn Preston, director of the Toledo LLI and a professor of Legal Writing at The University of Toledo College of Law.

LLI, a four-year college preparatory program that starts with instruction in



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criminal law and court procedures, is intended to serve as a vehicle to assist students gain critical academic skills in studying and test-taking. The program focuses on developing students' ability to write and express themselves, thereby building self-confidence, positive peer group relations and excitement about a professional career.

The Toledo LLI began three summers ago. There are currently 24 rising high school juniors, 22 sophomores and 20 in the current freshman crop.

The freshman students undergo five rigorous weeks during the summer and the upperclassmen have a four-week summer program. In addition, all students commit to spending 12 Saturdays a year during the school year.

As students advance through the program, they will participate in law-related seminars and field trips, a law debate competition with other LLI sites, a four-day paid summer internship with a law firm or government agency, college visits, college admissions counseling and instruction and preparation materials for college entrance exams.

Last week, the first-year students had an opportunity to tour the offices of Cooper & Walinski under the guidance of partner Pariss Coleman who has been involved in the program over the past few years.

They were addressed there by Boney who has been with the firm for more than 30 years. Boney, who earned both her undergraduate and

law degrees from UT, regaled the students with her experiences of serving on a special master's team (Vincent Nathan) that was assigned in the early 1980's to investigate inhumane conditions in the Texas prison system.

As Boney explained, a one-year assignment ultimately turned into a sprawling 10-year adventure that was successful in moving the State of Texas into revamping their corrections' procedures.

She detailed for the students her initial reluctance, the difficulty of getting inmates to volunteer information and the triumph of getting the state to comply.

"Texas finally admitted that the [United States] Constitution applied to them," she said.

Alpha Phi Alpha Chapter Offers Financial Aid to College-Bound Men

By Brittany Jones
Sojourner's Truth Reporter



With colleges and universities raising admissions standards and tuition steadily increasing, any help offered is greatly appreciated—especially on the financial side.

On Sunday at the Black Pearl, the Alpha Xi Lambda Alumni Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated imparted their annual financial hand to three young men who are college-bound this fall.

The reception was an opportunity for the scholarship recipients to be recognized by family, friends and mem-

bers of the fraternity. Nathaniel Young, director of education activities and chairman of the event, emphasized the importance of scholarship, which is the main thrust of the organization. "We hope that they will be successful, well-rounded young men, who get their degrees," he said. "Once they get those, we hope they make a successful contribution to society."

The program began with welcomes by Young and a history overview of Alpha Phi Alpha by Vice President Robert Langford III. Following were remarks by the sponsor and partner of the organization, United Way African American Initiative, represented by Keith Jordan.

"We know that the African-American male population always finds so many disabilities that help them not

succeed," Jordan said. "We need to do whatever we can to keep our young black men educated making sure they become self-sufficient."

The African-American Initiative donated \$1000 to the scholarship fund.

Finally, it was time for the recipients to have their spotlight.

This year, Cameron Glover (Central Catholic High School), Os' Sad Shaheer (Robert S. Rogers High School) and Deandre Hamilton (E.L. Bowsher High School) were chosen for the 2011 scholarships.

Glover will receive \$1,500 towards his tuition at The Ohio State University where he will major in electrical engineering. Shaheer was awarded \$1,000 and will also attend OSU where he will study chemical engineering. Hamilton, who wants to

study pharmacy, was awarded \$500 for The University of Toledo.

With a push from his teacher, Shaheer applied for the scholarship and was proud of his decision.

"I feel good to get this award because I need the money," he said. "I plan on staying focused, working hard and keeping on top of things."

He aims to get his masters after college.

Closing the reception was President Michael Stubblefield, who gave his congratulations and praises for the positive young men.

"Often times in the media, you see negative images of our young men, but it does me proud to see young men who are trying to succeed," he commented. "God speed, congrats and reach for the stars."

Toledo-Lucas County Public Library's Virtual Branch

By Rhonda B. Sewell, Library Media Relations Coordinator
Guest Column



technology. We've recently introduced a Library QR code to direct you to our amazing virtual branch at toledolibrary.org.

And we're so proud to announce that toledolibrary.org had more than 6 million page hits last year! Thank you for your visits to our Web site.

With these exciting technology announcements and features, we want to let you and your children know about our latest library exclusive! On **Monday, July 18** our system will debut its Playaway VIEW™, the first self-playing, pre-loaded video player exclusive to libraries.

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For more details on Playaway VIEW™ please contact Main Library's Audio Visual department at 419.259.5285.

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Fact Finder Report Short on Solutions

By Steven Flagg
Guest Column



The recent agreement between the Toledo Federation of Teachers and the Toledo Public Schools as documented in the Fact Finder's report is probably the best that could be expected given the fact finding process, the financial condition of TPS, the current policies and practices and the adversarial and sometimes myopic stance of the TFT toward proposals to improve student outcomes.

Thirty years of the Toledo Board of Education ceding control of the public education system to the TFT through dilution of management prerogatives is not something that can be reversed overnight. Still one has to wonder why the TFT and others such as the Toledo Association of Administrative Personnel (TAAP) continue to resist the kind of reforms needed to improve ac-

countability and spur advances in student outcome.

TPS leadership, local leaders, the press and others all seem to be trumpeting the success of the process when the real issues on the table that would improve student outcomes were brushed aside by the Fact Finder in reaching his conclusions. It appears that the major objective of public education—providing educational opportunities and instruction so that all students can reach their potential—was not a major factor in the process.

TPS leadership staked out some tough and apparently unrealistic positions at the start of their negotiations. TFT leadership was equally unrealistic in their efforts to maintain the status quo even though the financial situation facing TPS would have necessitated massive layoffs in order to maintain existing levels of compensation and benefits. Initial negotiating positions always seem to be established at polar extremes where each subsequent counteroffer is little more than a retreat from the opening position and each party digs in with hopes of extracting greater concessions with the next counteroffer.

It is very difficult for TPS leadership to claim much of a victory when they retreated

so far from their initial position as publicly disclosed by the TFT. And none of the major TPS proposals such as seniority and pay for performance—which has great promise for improving student outcomes—were supported by the Fact Finder.

TFT leadership recommended approval of the Fact Finder's conclusions despite major financial concessions. However, they did maintain contract language that will threaten financial stability and inhibit needed reforms in the future.

Obviously neither side believed its opening positions were tenable, still both sides claim victory and proclaim their satisfaction. Negotiating by starting with untenable positions on both sides only exacerbates the mistrust between TPS administration and union leadership and leads to more of the same in the future.

The conclusions in the final report and lack of action on key operational changes should be disturbing to the taxpaying public.

A discussion by the Fact Finder about the need for a levy based upon the information provided and the limited number of issues addressed would seem inappropriate and appears based upon a narrow interpretation of the issues

provided by the two negotiating parties. The Fact Finder does not have the background, tools or information to determine how best to deploy available assets to meet the mission of TPS not to mention their efficacious use. Are better ways of doing business resulting in cost savings less attractive than increased taxation to fund school operations?

Major changes in operational policies such as the ability to deploy teachers as best needed by the students and performance evaluations including merit pay were dismissed as too much for the

employees to swallow given the financial concessions they will be required to make. The Fact Finder implies that the only way to win such concessions is to “bribe” employees with fatter paychecks. In truth, merit pay was the only way that teachers and other employees were going to see increased compensation during the term of the contracts.

Both sides played their hands from the traditional zero sum game approach and the Fact Finder ignored issues that had the greatest opportunity to improve student outcomes. And through it all

the public is left to pay the bill, while the critical effort of educating our children languishes.

Watching this process unfold and considering the ineffectual results as documented in the Fact Finder's report provides ample reasons why SB-5 was proposed, passed and will be before the voters in a statewide referendum this fall.

Steven Flagg has been actively involved in education reform for more than 15 years and is a member of the Urban Coalition.

Pointers for Parents School Breaks Offer Learning Opportunities

One of the best times to help your child reach his or her full learning potential may be during school vacation.

“Whether your children find schoolwork too challenging or not challenging enough, vacation offers opportunities that parents can use to help them nurture their critical thinking and comprehension skills,” said Dr. Mary Mokris, education specialist at Kumon Math and Reading Centers.

She offers the following tips to help parents boost their children's learning during school breaks:

- Expand their horizons. Day trips to zoos and museums offer the opportunity for kids to learn more about the world around them and to discover and cultivate new interests. There's a museum for every kind of interest—whether it's trains, planes, art or dinosaurs.

- Interact with nature. Take children for a walk in the woods or on a trip to the beach. Point out flora and fauna along the way. Take pictures of plants and animals you see and later identify them and learn about their habits. Collect seashells at the shore and research their origins. Nature walks also provide an opportunity to learn to use a compass and calculate distance.

- Visit the library. Vacation is a great time for reading, whether your child likes to read alone or be read to.

Reading helps even the youngest children develop a sense of the rhythm and pattern of language. Reading aloud builds listening skills. Be sure to talk about what you are reading and answer any questions your child may have.

- Enroll your child in an enrichment program. For example, Kumon's academic enrichment program individually tailors the curriculum to help children reach their full potential. Students develop at their own pace, progressing according to their achievement and not by age or grade. Once solid math and reading skills are mastered, students begin to advance and solve materials above their grade level in school. Even 30 minutes of this type of work every day allows children to nurture their critical thinking and comprehension skills.

For more information, visit www.kumon.com or call (800) ABC-MATH.



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Owens Community College and Clear Channel Radio Partner to Provide Free College Education

Special to The Truth

Owens Community College and four Clear Channel radio stations are partnering in a contest to award a free college education to four area residents, with two winners receiving the grand prize of two semesters of free Owens tuition.

The promotion is airing on radio stations 92.5 Kiss FM, 104.7 WIOT, 101.5 The River and 103.7 CKY and is open to area residents until 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, July 20.

"Thanks to the generosity of Clear Channel Radio, four individuals will be able to experience a quality higher education for free at Owens Community College," said Gary Corrigan, Ph.D., Owens director of Marketing and Communications.

Individuals can enter the contest by logging onto any of five websites - www.owens.edu, www.925kissfm.com, www.wiot.com, www.1015theriver.com or www.1037wcky.com - clicking on the "Tuition is Right"

and correctly answering the entry question.

Applicants also can enter by completing a paper entry form, which is available at the Owens Community College Toledo-area and Findlay-area campuses as well as at The Source Learning Center in downtown Toledo and the Arrowhead Park Learning Center in Maumee.

All qualifying entrants will be eligible to attend the first final on Tuesday, July 26 at 3 p.m. at the Community Education and Wellness Center on the Owens Findlay-area Campus in Findlay. One grand prize of two semesters of free tuition and one runner-up prize of one semester of free tuition will be awarded by random draw.

All qualifying entrants who do not win a tuition prize July 26 will be eligible to attend the second final on Wednesday, July 27 at 6 p.m. at the Student Health and Activities Center on the Owens Toledo-area Campus in Perrysburg Township. The

second grand prize of two semesters of free tuition and final runner-up prize of one semester of free tuition also will be awarded by random draw.

The finals also will feature other valuable prizes drawn at random as well as free food and games.

Andy Stuart, vice president & market manager of Clear Channel Radio Toledo/Findlay, looks forward to a ninth tuition promotion with Owens Community College.

"Our stations entertain thousands of listeners daily, but it's these types of partnerships that are really satisfying," he said. "The Tuition is Right positively impacts the lives of the four winners and encourages all individuals to strive for a higher education and a better life."

Open to residents 16 years of age or older, the contest marks the 10th time since 2003 that Owens has partnered with Northwest Ohio media and offered a tuition contest.



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Book Review

Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention by Manning Marable

c.2011, Viking

\$30.00 / \$34.50 Canada

594 pages, includes notes

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

You are many people. To your friends, you're supportive, funny, and solid. Your boss sees you as someone who gets the job done. Your kids think you're authoritative, with a wallet. And your family knows the you with warts.

You're a person with many faces; some public, some private, but never the same. In the new book *Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention* by Manning Marable, you'll get a (supposed) peek at a complex man with several personae.

Born in 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska, Malcolm Little was raised with the notion that blacks were "a mighty race." Both his parents were fierce supporters of Jamaican activist Marcus Garvey, whose "Pan-African perspective..." would become... crucial for Malcolm later in life."

Malcolm was smart, but a drop-out, and his siblings remember him as lazy, with

a streak of leadership. He "drifted through a series" of girlfriends and "menial jobs" as a young man, but couldn't stay out of trouble.

In jail, he was intrigued to learn about Allah, and it wasn't long before he joined the Nation of Islam and converted. In his single-minded zeal, Malcolm wrote daily letters to Elijah Muhammad - the NOI's leader - and Muhammad soon accepted the earnest young man into his inner circle.

Malcolm, who changed his surname to X (to reflect NOI beliefs), quickly rose in the organization's ranks. In less than a year, he was a full minister in the Nation of Islam, and one of the movement's most influential figures.

But it didn't last.

While on a trip to Egypt and a hajj to Mecca, Malcolm observed that Muslims overseas were "colorblind," which surprised him and led him to

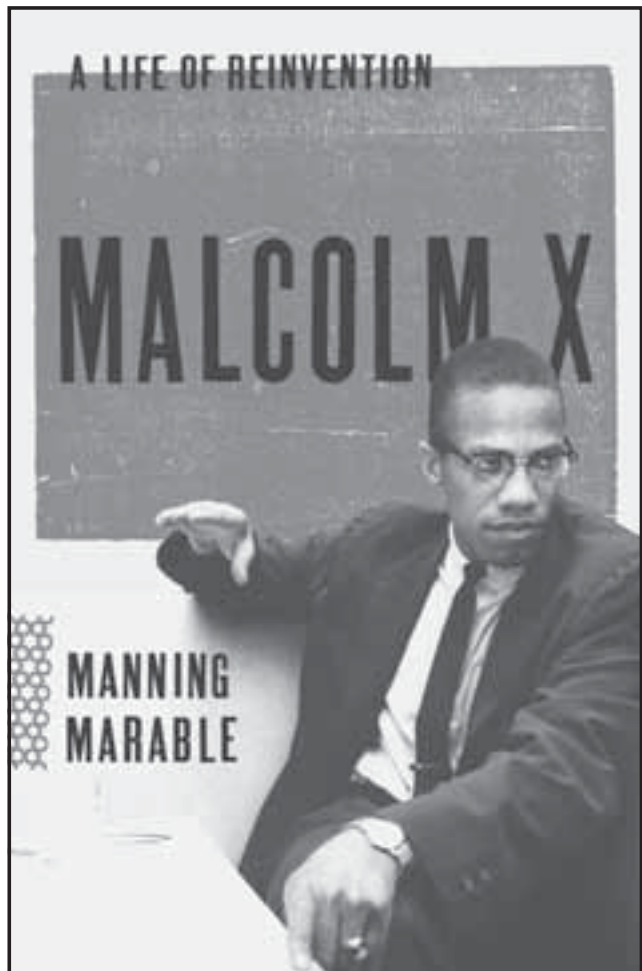
question the teachings of Elijah Muhammad and the NOI. Following an inner scandal that rocked the Nation of Islam, Malcolm bluntly defied Muhammad's orders and was banned from the NOI.

"By the fall of 1964," says Marable, "rage against Malcolm infected every part of the Nation..."

In February, 1965, that rage spilled over...

Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention is a doorstop of a book, more scholarly than not. If you're willing to endure a long slog through its pages, though, you'll be rewarded with some gasp-worthy (albeit inflammatory and contentious) moments.

Author Manning Marable challenges Malcolm's *Autobiography* and he claims that Malcolm was under surveillance more than he knew. His work also upends some scandalous stones in this biograp-



phy, indicating that Malcolm X was not entirely the man followers thought he was, and suggesting that the men arrested for his murder might not have been the killers.

Accusations have, of course, been denied, but their main subjects -

Malcolm, Betty Shabazz and, indeed, the author of the book - are dead and unable to comment, which leaves things in a curious and uncomfortable state of unfinished.

Can I recommend *Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention*?

Not really, but it depends on what you want from it: X devotees will be outraged, X detractors will wonder what's true, and readers just looking for something light will want to X it off their reading list.

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Perception Rules the Day Here in Toledo

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



You whined, moaned and complained that Toledo never gets any real rap concerts.

For years you said if our city got a major event with the same people you hear on the radio, that you would attend. Not little club spot dates and radio promo stops, but an actual major concert with platinum selling urban artists.

So, what happened?

Hell, before I question all of you out there let me ask myself what a lot of y'all have asked me: "Michael, are you going to Summer Jam with Young Jeezy?"

The answers are simple.

Those ticket prices were a bit too rich for my pockets (nearly \$90 for nosebleeds).

Yes, I may be a member of the entertainment media in this area but I couldn't get in on those credentials alone so I didn't

have any tickets. But I still supported it and encouraged everyone I knew to attend. Promotion wise, this event did everything right.

The timing was perfect, the right money was spent in the right places.

Summer Jam 2011 at Huntington Center was being talked about all over the city even if most people were admitting they didn't have the money to go.

Another question I was repeatedly asked is why didn't I have any of my artists on the bill as openers for Summer Jam. The answer is quite simple, we aren't at that level yet.

We tried to get on, but the people who did get on completely deserved their spots.

Cuntry, B Willz, and Jay Rush are all household names in this area who have had great success in and out of Toledo. Are all polished and industry ready performers.

My company, we are getting there but not there yet especially in terms of fan base.

So, yea, didn't really have the loot and didn't have any inside connects so I wasn't able to attend. In an arena built for nearly 10,000 people not even 2,000 showed up for this show. And that, Toledo, is a problem.

What's the reason for the low attendance for such an expertly promoted event?

Is it the recent violence in the news? Are the same people who complained about wanting this type of event now profiting the type of people who GO to this type of event?

As far as I know, Summer Jam 2011 was incident free.

So I hope it wasn't this perceived threat of impending mayhem.

Hip-hop culture is really in trouble if now the very fans who drive the genre are starting to assume that the culture only produces chaos and catastrophe.

I don't want to assume that everyone feared the worst.

Finances were probably the real reason. Times are tough.

But the deepest issue I see with the lack of attendance is: PERCEPTION.

In entertainment, perception is reality often times.

This is the reason companies have entire budgets dedicated to generating the right kind of buzz but controlling the flow of information to sculpt perception.

Even with me doing this article.

Someone had an incorrect perception about what I do that was easily proved false with simple facts (I always go with what is provable).

The perception the industry has had of Toledo for years is that we don't support shows.

It's not about "Toledo is too small" or any such nonsense.

Major shows and tours go to cities smaller than this one.

The perception is that people here don't support what is here.

Our proximity to Detroit is a blessing and a curse, but overall it's about money.

If Toledo came out to support what is already going on IN Toledo, then more opportunities would come to Toledo. Period.

For those wanting to get into the music industry, it's even more important to hold your city down in whatever ways you can.

Even if you don't have the money to support everything that comes through here, it's also about the attitude and mindset you have towards your city.

Do I think that Toledo will one day have its day of ruling the urban music world like Miami, St. Louis and Chicago? I don't know about all that.

But can we get on and put on? Yes.

However, there won't be any opportunities to get on if we don't stop the self hatred for the place we call home. What you say about Toledo creates Toledo.

If you're not saying enough positive things, you really are boxing yourself off from the opportunities you say you want.

The next big event that comes here, I just want you to do it big.

Give the industry reason to pay attention to us.

Give ourselves reason to be proud of each other.

Why do you really think all this violence is happening?

We need to place more value on what is positive.

Sure, it sounds cliché as hell.

But it is the truth.

Place more value on the people you come across, place more value on those we share this space with. Don't lie to yourself like everything is all sweet because it's obviously not. But you need to consciously become the change you want to see.

Be different, be supportive.

Until next week, peace.

FB search: glasscitytruth@yahoo.com
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Two Cents...

(Continued from Page 3)

national GOP candidates vow to make President Obama a one term president while at the same time they hold on to their holy grail of no tax cuts for the super wealthy since they apparently worship at the temple of mammon.

For your two cents, you can see minority communities go deeper and deeper into hopelessness and despair and watch teenage unemployment skyrocket with no end in sight but yet congressional bills for a Works Progress Administration type of relief are rejected by Republican congressional leaders because continuing unemployment in fact works for them since that will work to making sure that President Obama becomes a one-term president.

For your two cents, you can continue to tighten your already Spartan food bill and gas bill and hope that the local Dollar Stores stay open and more churches start up Free Food Nights for families with kids.

For your two cents, you can wonder why you have only two pennies to work with while your white counterpart has 98 cents to work with. Guess who can do more with 98 cents than with two cents?

Let me know who is able to do more or work with more with the following issues:

(1) Medical care: do you feel welcomed in a medical facility once they know that you are one of those "two cents" people?

(2) Shopping: what is carefree about shopping these days if the best you can do is to go into shopping centers knowing that the best that you can do is bargain with two cents!

(3) Family gatherings: still feel like a big shot when it comes to the family members passing the hat around to do a communal event and the best that you can throw down is a lousy two cents into the kitty?

(4) Kids and stuff: how do you stretch two cents when the kids or grand kids come by

and want a double scoop of ice cream or need a hundred bucks to cover their car insurance or even a twenty now and then to take in a movie and a cheap dinner?

(5) Investments and savings: Go ahead. Tell yourself that your two cents counts when you need to buy stock or bonds or to save up for those upcoming "rainy days." Maybe your two cents will cover the mayonnaise jar that you and your spouse can use together to put your dentures on the bedroom side table.

No, my friends, the wealth gap between black and white has never remotely been closed

nor will it ever close since both the raw income and access to information and favor that

white society has taken for granted for hundreds of years is blocked to the overwhelming number of minorities

Of course some minorities by the stint of their determination and education and boldness will crack the two cents barrier and like the "Jeffersons...move on up!" but

the large mass of the black population will be stymied in being two per centers (or slightly better in good economic times) and will have to make do with a little in order to spend on less because greater economic parity in this country is not a high value or priority.

So, the next time when you are at a checkout counter and someone asks what is the matter with you when you are short a few dollars, simply finger those two-penny coins in your pocket while they exalt in their 98 cents and you will then know the partial meaning of that biblical phrase, "money answereth all things!"

Contact Lafa Tolliver at tolliver@Juno.com

CLASSIFIEDS

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July 13, 2011

Meadows to Enter District One Council Race

Special to The Truth

Schylar Meadows, radio and television personality is collecting signatures to get on the ballot for the open seat on Toledo City Council, District One. The district borders Jackman and Tremainsville, Detroit and Bancroft, stretching to Hill and Reynolds. District One also includes the Main Campus of the University of Toledo. Meadows feels the next District One Councilperson needs to be an experienced and vocal advocate, passionate about working on the issues and concerns of the people.

"The district is diverse, as are its challenges. We need vocal and experienced leadership to help citizens find solutions to problems.

Primary among those concerns is safety. From the beginning of June thru July 4th, 29 shootings occurred over 34 days. Something has to change. Along with more jobs, there need to be more positive activities available in the city for youth to participate in. As a district council person I would welcome the opportunity to help make those activities a reality."

The Meadows Plan is a citizen-centered approach to deal with issues and concerns in District One. The plan, which will be released in full in the near future, includes:

1. Working with citizens to increase safety in

the district.

2. Establishment of a District One Business Development Task force bringing small business owners, entrepreneurs, and business leaders together to strategize on how to improve the business climate in the district.

3. Finding resources for youth and young adults to have more positive activities to participate in.

4. Establishing a District One Internship and Public Service program. High school and University of Toledo students would work with Meadows on service projects in District One - while completing their required community service hours or college internship hours.

Schylar Meadows is a past member of the Ottawa Community Development

Corporation Board in District One, and previous chairman of the Toledo

Lucas County Commission on Minority Health.



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July 13, 2011

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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

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HR Assistant

Lucas County Children Services is seeking candidates for a HR Assistant. Education and experience requirements can be viewed at www.lucaskids.net. Send resume and salary requirements by 6-29-11 to: LCCS, 705 Adams St., Toledo, OH 43604 Fax: 419-327-3291 No Phone Calls Please EOE valuing diversity

Request for Proposals Maintenance, Painting and Janitorial of Vacant Units RFP #11-R026

The Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for Maintenance, Painting and Janitorial of Vacant Units. Proposals will be received in accordance with law until **Monday, August 1, 2011 at 4PM EST. Pre-Proposal Conference held on July 18, 2011 at 10AM EST, 201 Belmont.** RFP documents are available in the LMHA offices, 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604, 419/259-9438 and LMHA's website at: www.lucasmha.org. All proposers required to meet the Affirmative Action requirements and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246.



E.O.P.A. Employment Opportunities

TRANSPORTATION MANAGER-\$21.72/hour (post-probationary), 40 hours/week; 48 weeks/year. Please visit <https://home.eease.adp.com/recruit/?id=736041> to view job summary and to apply.

FAMILY SERVICE WORKER-\$14.43/hour (post-probationary), 40 hours/week; 43 weeks/year. Please visit <https://home.eease.adp.com/recruit/?id=563232> to view job summary and to apply.

DISABILITIES ASSISTANT-\$10.07/hour (post-probationary), 32 hours/week; 33 weeks/year. Please visit <https://home.eease.adp.com/recruit/?id=572090> to view job summary and to apply.

CUSTODIAL WORKER-\$9.39/hour (post-probationary), 20 hours/week; 36 weeks/year. Please visit <https://home.eease.adp.com/recruit/?id=736071> to view job summary and to apply.

SUB BUS DRIVER-\$9.50/hour (post-probationary), 20 hours/week; 33 weeks/year. Please visit <https://home.eease.adp.com/recruit/?id=736121> to view job summary and to apply.

Application deadline: **Tuesday, July 19, 2011.** For more detailed information, please visit www.eopa.org. EOE.

The Lucas County Land Bank Program Manager

The Lucas County Land Bank seeks an attorney licensed in Ohio to support our mission and operations as Program Manager. Must have at least one year of experience in real estate and public sector practice. To read more about the position qualifications and to apply, please visit our website at www.LucasCountyLandBank.org and click on "Job Opportunities." The Lucas County Land Bank is an equal opportunity employer.



Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for an Environmental Engineer. The Environmental Engineer will assist the refinery in maintaining compliance with environmental regulations which include: communicating with regulators, neighbors, and employees. Candidate will be required to perform duties that are legally required such as regulatory inspections, waste characterization, oversight of waste shipments, developing procedures, data collection, and reporting. Candidate will also be responsible for regulation evaluations and making recommendations for compliance programs. Environmental Engineer will evaluate MOC's, project environmental check sheets, and FELs to ensure that permitting issues are identified and addressed. Candidate will contract with vendors to provide inspection services for USEPA and State required third party inspections. Other duties include but are not limited to: ensure compliance with Title V, develop indicators of performance, identify trends, conduct investigations to determine cause of nonconformance, and support the refinery in meeting environmental objectives and goals.

The qualified candidate shall possess a BA/BS in Engineering or Environmental Science. A minimum of 3 years related work experience and regulatory knowledge. Experience in LDAR and Consent Decree is preferred.

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

EOE/M/F/D/V

Wanted to Buy:

Diabetes Supplies Earn up to \$12 per box of 100 test strips Must expire after May 2012. Leave labels on boxes. We remove and shred. Call 419-740-7162 and leave message.

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TheTruthToledo.com

Coordinator of Faith Formation

St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church is seeking an enthusiastic person with experience and leadership abilities to direct its Faith Formation Programs. This position will be part-time (24 hours) with an adaptable schedule. The Coordinator of Faith Formation, who will be a practicing Roman Catholic, will have a degree in Religious Studies, Theology, Education or have experience in the field. The Coordinator will be able to work in a multicultural situation, and creatively adapt to various teaching styles and schedules. Complete job description will be furnished upon request. EOE. DEADLINE to apply is July 30, 2011. TO APPLY: Send cover letter, and resume or inquiries to Search Committee, St. Martin de Porres Parish, 1119 W Bancroft St., Toledo, Ohio 43606 or email: stmartin@totalink.net

LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN

Be a voice for those who need you the most

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), a non-profit law firm that provides free, high-quality legal assistance in civil matters to low-income individuals and groups in northwest Ohio, seeks an Ombudsman for its Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. The Ombudsman will receive, investigate, and work to resolve complaints filed on behalf of consumers of long-term care services, primarily in nursing homes. The Ombudsman will also support our volunteer program, provide community education, and systemic advocacy related to long-term care. Candidate must have a Bachelor's Degree in a related field. Commensurate experience may be considered in lieu of Bachelor's Degree. Candidate must possess excellent communication and human relations skills, and a demonstrated commitment to advocacy on behalf of consumers of long-term care facilities. Candidate must have the combined qualities of excellent interpersonal and administrative skills. Computer proficiency highly preferred. Daily travel in Northwest Ohio required. Position is based in ABLE's Toledo office. Salary based on relevant experience. Excellent benefits.

Resumes will be accepted until July 24, 2011. Email cover letter, resume, and list of references, in Microsoft Word or PDF format, to:

jobs@ablelaw.org

Subject: LTCOP Position

Equal access to ABLE's office is available.

Applicants requiring accommodation to the interview/application process should contact the email address listed above. EOE

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The Seventh Annual African American Festival

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Zapp band and the Rance Allen Group headlined this year's African American Festival at The University of Toledo's Scott Park Campus as thousands of visitors partook of food, entertainment, rides and games during the July 8-10 weekend.

The annual event, hosted by Suzette Cowell and the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union began with a prayer breakfast on Friday morning at St. Martin de Porres Church.

This year's service was held in memory of Marcella

Boldon, Barbara Corggens, Gladys Mitchell and Marjorie Welch and was attended by well over 100 people.

On Saturday morning, the parade began at 10 am at Mt. Pilgrim Church as onlookers thronged Dorr Street to catch glimpses of cars, marching

bands and an occasional elected official or candidate for public office.

The festival invites families to come out and celebrate African-American culture with the community. The event features, as always regular concessions and soul

food, a variety of music from gospel to Motown, vendors and free rides for children.

The festival opened at 2 p.m. with Athena Johnson, followed by Teresa Harris, The Bluesman Bobby G and Friends, Jesse Coleman with the Jamm Band, Enchant-

ment and Saturday's headliner, Zapp.

On Sunday, the First Church of God Youth Choir opened the entertainment, followed by The New Spiritualaires, The Difference, First Creation and Rance Allen.

