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Scott High School Reopens January 23
Informed or Misinformed?
By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.
The Truth Contributor

...When you don’t know when you have been spit on, it does not matter too much what else you think you know. — Ruth Shays

I don’t know about anyone else, but something about the image of the black community being currently portrayed by the local media just doesn’t quite sit well with me. The disproportionate attention given to violence and black social dysfunction seems to have become a 365-day preoccupation. “If it bleeds, it leads” goes the industry adage, and nearly each and every day violence, black pathology or other negative images seem to grab the headlines. It is this overwhelming focus on the negative, which not only misleads us, but also compounds our existing urban problems and makes it more difficult to develop solutions. Misleading you say? Please elaborate.

Toledo, a town of 287,208 persons, experienced 38 tragic homicides in 2011. Tragic, because the killings are endemic of a contemporary culture where life itself is devalued and where the callous and unnecessary spilling of the sacred blood of even one individual is catastrophic beyond comprehension.

Yet Cincinnati, a city with roughly the same population as Toledo, had 66 murders during the same period. Youngstown, a much smaller community with a population of 67,008 had 23 killings while Columbus and Cleveland experienced 92 and 91 respectively.

And while the media routinely assign beat reporters to city hall or the court house, rarely do they assign to poor neighborhoods except to cover crime, fires or dysfunction. As a result, the inner-city poor are portrayed as non-deserving and Toledo as a city besieged by violence, gangs, drugs, teenage pregnancy and black single women on welfare.

To focus on the roughly 20 percent of black families who are on welfare and not the 80 percent who are not is misleading because it does not give equal coverage to poor white families who outnumber blacks on welfare rolls (and as unwed mothers). Rarely do we ever hear of black women (or men) who have studied and worked their way off welfare, who have only in-wedlock children or who are actively employed.

Scholar Robert Hill (1999) has also reported that media stories on white poor usually end on a “note of hope or optimism and identify both problems and solutions, while stories on the black poor invariably end with hopelessness or pessimism and focus almost solely on identifying problems.”

Also, where black leaders, politicians or public policies which address urban poverty are referenced, the media focus is consistently negative and slanted to suggest mismanagement, misconduct or inefficiency. Local media accounts will focus disproportionately on one or two Head Start programmatic shortcomings while omitting thousands of success stories where children would have fallen through fatal societal cracks except for the intervention of an admittedly less-than-perfect (as are all others) local preschool program.

In addition, for the first time in Toledo municipal history we have an administration led by an African-American mayor, a black police chief, an Hispanic fire chief and a safety director who is a black female.

Seldom is this positive accomplishment mentioned, nor the positive efforts of the administration and others to revitalize our city through community development block grants, subsidized housing and other programming to clean up problems of urban disinvestment created by the policies of previous administrations.

Also lacking is news coverage of the harmonious relationships of people of different racial and generational groups united and working together toward the common good.

We hear about statistics centered around violence and homicide but I wonder in 2011, how many young African Americans enrolled in college? How many serve their church or parish; their country in the military or armed forces; their community as activists or as community center workers? How many people of color or poor people are working collectively to solve the community’s problems?

One thing is certain, they exist, but they are invisible in the media. And as Dreier argued (2005), when the media continuously frames community issues in negative terms, “there is little reason for optimism that ordinary people working together can make a difference, that solutions are within reach, and that public policies can make a significant difference.”

These negative depictions of the community are also at the root of the public’s distrust of government and the suspicion of policies in our urban areas. Most importantly, the distortions fuel the toxic partisan ideological conflict and incivility which have us at each other’s throats.

But of course, behind every large and public fight lies a gifted promoter, charismatic hype person or shrewd but caustic instigator, tasked to artistically pour enough of the right incendiary mix of rhetorical fuel to convince people to despise each other.

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

Community Calendar

January 10
NAACP General Membership Meeting: 7 to 8 pm; Historic Third Baptist Church: 419-407-6488

January 13-15
Women Blessing Women Clothing Drive: Coldwater Creek at Westfield Shoppingmall; Receive 20 percent discount for donation of gently worn trousers or business jacket: 419-251-2658

January 15
Calvary Baptist Church Praise and Worship Service: Along with The Anointed Ministries of Ohio University; 10:45 am: 419-464-8238

January 16
MLK Unity Celebration: 9 am; UT’s Savage Arena; Keynote address by Hari Jones, curator of the African-American Civil War Museum

January 19
Sistas Movin’ On Speak Out: 6:30 to 8:30 pm; People Called Women Bookstore; Support and sistelry love for women survivors and co-survivors of sexual abuse: 419-729-045

January 20
Entry Level HealthCare Speed Interviewing: 10 am to noon; The Source; Speed interviews for job seekers in the health-care industry: 419-213-6353

January 21
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc Ronald McDonald House Volunteering: 3 to 5 pm

January 23
Sexual Abuse PATH Coalition of now Meeting: Cordelia Martin Health Center; 11:30 am to 1 pm: 419-729-0245

January 28
Toledo EXCEL’s 28th Annual Conference for Aspiring Youth: “Tomorrow Is Today: Choose Wisely;” 8:30 am to 1 pm; UT Student Union Auditorium: 419-530-3820

The Sojourner’s Truth
Toledo’s Truthful African-American Owned and Operated Newspaper

Fletcher Word
Publisher and Editor

Becky McQueen
Business Manager

Brittany Jones
Reporter

Tori Blanchard
Reporter

Rev. D.L. Perryman
Columnist

Michael J. Hayes
Entertainment Critic

Jason L. Lee Sr.
Layout Designer

Jennifer Retholdt
Webmaster

Kathy Sweeny
Graphic Designer

Pam Anderson
Account Executive

Kathleen Greely
Account Executive

A Certified MBE, 2009
The Sojourner’s Truth, 1811 Adams Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604
Phone 419-243-0007 • Fax 419-255-7700
thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com
www.thetruthtoledo.com
“Snitches” are Heroes!
By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

Another devastating and needless shooting occurred this past week in central To-ledo when Fanice Mac-Smith, age 81, lost her life to a senseless and cruel act of gun vio- lence.

Another stabilizing per- son in a fragile community has been silenced due to the irrational and impulsive act of a gunman who was trying to prove his manhood and thus settle a score.

Another family and a cor- ter of friends are now weep- ing and lamenting over such a stupid loss of a productive life and yet we have people who still hold to the narrow view that being a “snitch” is a community taboo.

Imagine if you will, people who think that when they see criminal activity, that turn- ing your head or closing your eyes or acting like a deaf mute is admirable or is worthy of emulation.

Imagine if you will, that some people hold to the credo that if you report on negative criminal behavior you are “betraying” your “people” and that you are a nitwit for the white man.

Imagine such ignorance and stupidity that people will sear their conscience and thus think that they are in sync with their community or that they are striking back against the “system.”

But that is what we are faced with when anyone takes it upon him or herself to al- low criminal thugs to reign and rule in neighborhoods.

Such miscreants thrive and depend upon such tom- fooley to protect their evil acts and to remain hidden in shadows and to intimidate you to bite your tongue and accept their hellish reign in your community.

Note: being black is not defined by aligning yourself with criminal elements in the community or neighborhood!

Are these the numskulls that you would look up to and have your children ad- mire and respect?

We are not talking about jail house snitches who may be paid for false testimony for the promised hope of a break in their own pending sentencing.

We are not talking about people who make up lies for purposes of malevolent pur- poses or to gain an undue advantage.

We are talking about ev- eryday people, who know of a tip or any information that will reign in some thug or molester or vandal or drug king who has shown by their acts that they have no respect for you or your property.

There is no shame in re- porting to the authorities, es- pecially in an anonymous manner, the parasites and vampires that parade under the guise of being your “brother or sister” and yet will prey upon you and commit bodily harm again you.

There should be no re- morse or regret in turning in criminals who have no re- gard for your life or safety and will rip you off as so much as to look at you.

Are these the types of people that we want to cover or protect from their nefari- ous acts?

Understand, the people that hurt and harm you and steal from you and cause grandmother and teens to go to early graves are not your friends.

They are your sworn en- emies and they have declared war against you because they know that they can run up the flag of that misguided urban legend that being a snitch is a low life or a turncoat.

They are the lowlifes.

They are the ones that inflict emotional and mental an- guish upon the innocents.

They are the ones that hurt, harm and slash the commu- nity with their willful acts of burglaries, mayhem, vandal- ism, mugging and assaults and murders.

Is this the type of vermin that we should coddle and protect from being brought to justice to account for their despicable acts against you and your family members?

Never ever let the word “snitch” deter you from doing the right thing and report- ing criminal activity when you see it or know of it.

Report it to Crime stop- pers and know that your act of saying NO! to acts of crime will benefit you and community.

Do not give these rats any sewer to run into. They have no respect for you. You are only an object by which they can rip off or hurt or maim. And they chuckle to them- selves after they do their dis- tardly deeds because they are relying upon you being bam- boozled by that stupid notion that standing up for your com- munity and for what is de- cent and right is being a trait- or to your community.

That good person is not a “snitch” but rather is a hero.

Dear reader, don’t be a fool for this type of mental tyranny. A “snitch” in time can save a life and save a lot of grief or put a human para- site behind prison bars.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tollverter@lafet.com

Congresswoman Kaptur Welcomes Jobs Report, Urges Greater Focus on Hard-Hit Areas

Ohio Rep Pushes for Creation of a Modern-Day Civilian Conservation Corps

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-9), welcom- ing the latest report showing 200,000 new jobs last month, this morning urged Congress and the Obama Administra- tion to redouble efforts to address the jobs crisis in hard- hit areas such as Ohio.

“The economy added 1.6 million jobs last year, but we still have a long way to go in Ohio and other hard-hit ar- eas of the country,” said Kaptur.

Kaptur said House Speaker John Boehner and Congressional Republicans have focused petty partisan battles such as opposing un- employment benefits rather than working together to cre- ate jobs. “I urge Congres- sional leaders to put partisan politics aside and focus on putting Americans back to work,” she said.

Congresswoman Kaptur renewed her call for congres- sional leaders to take up her bill (H.R. 494) to create a 21st Century version of the Civilian Conservation Corps. “A modern-day CCC could put millions of Ameri- cans to work within a matter of weeks, restoring our natu- ral resources and reforesting our environment, demolish- ing vacant homes and devel- oping new economic opportu- nities in both rural and ur- ban areas,” she said.

Kaptur said her CCC bill gives preference to unem- ployed veterans and unem- ployed Americans who have exhausted their jobless ben- efits. The measure currently has 20 co-sponsors, includ- ing Congresswoman Marjorie Fudge and Congressman Tim Ryan of Ohio.

The U.S. Labor Depart- ment reported this morning that the nation’s unemploy- ment rate dropped to 8.5 per- cent, its lowest level in al- most three years.

“President Obama walked into a real mess,” Kaptur said. “Slowly but surely, we’re digging our way out. But we have to keep our fo- cus on creating jobs for the 13 million Americans who can’t find work.”

NAACP Statement on Newt Gingrich Comments

NAACP President and CEO Benjamin Todd Jeal- ous last week gave the fol- lowing statement on com- ments about the NAACP by former Speaker Newt Gingrich.

“IT is a shame that the former Speaker feels that these types of inaccurate, divisive statements are in any way helpful to our coun- try,” said Jealous. “The majority of people using food stamps are not Afri- can-American, and most people using food stamps have a job.”

According to Talking Points Memo and other sources, Gingrich was quoted as saying, “I will go to the NAACP convention, and explain to the African- American community why they should demand pay- checks instead of food stamps.”

“We invited Speaker Gingrich to attend our an- nual convention several times when he was Speaker of the House, but he de- clined to join us,” Jealous continued. “If he is invited again, I hope that he would come, with the intention to unite rather than divide.”

“Gingrich’s statement is problematic on several fronts, most importantly be- cause he gets his facts wrong.”

The NAACP does not en- dorse or oppose candidates for public office. For over 100 years the organization has decried offensive racial rhetoric wherever and whenever it occurs.
Former Mayors to Current Mayor: “Reduce the Death Penalty ... Act Like a Man”

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner’s Truth Editor

Former Mayors Carty Finkbeiner and Jack Ford held a press conference on Monday to urge Mayor Mike Bell to reverse his decision to fire former Department of Neighborhood Director Kattie Bond and Housing Commissioner Mike Badik.

“We are asking respectfully to consider the scales of justice,” said Finkbeiner during the joint press conference.

“I hope they will reduce what I call the death penalty,” said Ford. “If they are not involved with moral turpitude or theft, they should be given a second chance.”

Afterwards, Bell held his own press conference to respond to his predecessors’ criticisms. “I lost faith in their ability to pursue their jobs,” said Bell of the two fired city employees.

For Finkbeiner and Ford, who had held the office of mayor for the 16 years prior to Bell’s current tenure, the issue of the dismissals was two-fold. First, argue the former mayors, employees who committed the alleged wrongdoings are the ones who should be dismissed, not the supervisors.

In the case of this current Department of Neighborhood scandal, former Housing Manager Jody Prude and Rehab Specialist Toni Thomas, who are suspended without pay and have been demoted to positions in the Department of Public Service, are alleged to have participated in wrongdoing. Finkbeiner and Ford stated that they believe Bell has taken the easy way out by firing at-will employees – Bond and Badik – rather than pressing the case against union-protected employees. According to Ford, Bell made such a move to relieve himself of outside pressure.

“I applaud The Blade for ferreting out such issues,” said Ford of the role played by Toledo’s daily in bringing light irregularities within the City of Toledo’s administration of housing matters.

“But I think [imposing] the death penalty was in part to pacify The Blade,” he continued.

Secondly, both Finkbeiner and Ford spoke of the long and honorable service Bond and Badik have rendered over the years.

“I’ve known Mike Badik for 40 years,” said Finkbeiner. “An honorable man ... an honorable family. Kattie Bond has [performed] her job with dignity. These two individuals are very, very good people.”

“I’ve known Kattie Bond and Mike Badik for a long time,” said Ford. “I’ve never known either to have a dishonest bone in their body.”

Ford further disputed the notion that any issue of dishonesty within the city administration could be a problem solely within the purview of the Department of Neighborhood. Given the complexity and controls in city government, said Ford, and the method of payment that would necessarily involve the Finance Department, the former mayor stated that he found it impossible that employees in the Department of Neighborhood could divert monies for their own benefit.

In addition to their criticism of Bell for the abrupt dismissal of the two long-serving city managers, both former mayors added other criticisms of how Bell has addressed certain issues during his tenure and announced (Continued on Page 5)
Katherine Broka, president & CEO of the Toledo Fair Housing Center, issued the following statement last week in anticipation of President Obama’s recess appointment of Richard Cordray as director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

“The President has courageously sided with Ohio’s residents and strengthened our nation’s financial marketplace by making a recess appointment of Richard Cordray to lead the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Former Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray is an exceptionally qualified nominee who has the intelligence and honesty to protect everyday Americans from the abuses that led to our current housing and financial crises. Mr. Cordray will fairly oversee the nation’s financial institutions to help restore our nation’s economic well-being.”

“While Mr. Cordray enjoys bipartisan support nationwide, many Senate Republicans continue to oppose his nomination despite our nation’s travails. They still side with Wall Street even though more than 2.7 million Americans who received mortgage loans between 2004 and 2008 have lost their homes to foreclosure. These high foreclosure rates are more a function of risky features of home loans that were made than any characteristics of the borrower.”

“Wall Street disproportionately targeted communities of color for toxic mortgage loans. African-Americans and Latinos are 75 percent more likely to experience foreclosure. As a result of foreclosures creating depreciation in nearby properties alone, African American and Latino communities are expected to have lost more than $370 billion in wealth by year’s end. We need a tough ‘cop on the beat’ and we’ve got one in Richard Cordray. Congratulations to Mr. Cordray and to the American people.”

Former Mayors

(Continued from Page 4)

He pondered whether or not in response to those questions, “someone on the 22nd floor said ‘just make it happen.’”

He added that he wouldn’t raise the question unless he knew the answer.

Finkbeiner took Bell to task for what he perceives to be Bell’s continual reference to the problems he inherited from his predecessors, particularly the “$48 million deficit” he faced upon assuming the job on the 22nd floor of Government Center.

Finkbeiner disputed the deficit total and suggested that Bell change his approach the way he handles himself in public office.

“It’s time for Mike to be a man and take responsibility for what’s happening on his watch,” said Finkbeiner.

Bell bristled upon hearing of that remark, reported to him during his press conference in response.

“As the mayor, you have to take a leadership position,” said Bell. “I’m not a status quo type of mayor. Those are the things that have gotten us into trouble.” Bell then noted that when he became mayor he inherited a “$48 million deficit.”

“As mayor, you are the coach of a team,” he said. “And you have the option of taking players out. I like Kattie Bond and Mike Badik. I felt we needed new leadership. If you lose faith in what a director is doing, you have to make a change.”

A change was necessary, said Bell, not only because of the issue of a perceived failure to eliminate unacceptable practices but also because of the perception that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) might have about the city.

“Federal HUD funds are most important to ensure the survival of these programs,” said Bell. “They’re entitled to their calls, but we feel everything we’ve done … is appropriate.”

As for the former mayors, both made it clear that they will not be sitting mute on the sidelines in the future when they have disagreements with the way the current mayor is running the City of Toledo.

“This is not the last time you will be hearing from former mayors Ford and Finkbeiner,” said Finkbeiner.
Library’s Cybermobile Scheduled to Take to the Road on
Monday, January 23!

By Rhonda B. Sewell, Library Media Relations Coordinator

The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library welcomes its latest technology treasure – Cybermobile, a mobile branch of the system. The Cybermobile is a state-of-the-art mobile technology center, complete with broadband Internet access. This “classroom on wheels” is scheduled to take to the road on Monday, January 23, and is a first for the Library and a new concept in the delivery of Outreach services.

The Cybermobile was funded as part of a $2.2 million federal stimulus grant, which also provided for the new Kent Branch Library @CCESS Center, 3101 Collingwood Blvd. The mobile technology center, operated by the staff of the Library’s Outreach Services, will provide access to technology and programs to high-need neighborhoods and individuals.

Check out the Cybermobile’s features:

* Equipped with 12 desktop computers and a large screen Smartboard for instruction and literacy programs.
* All PCs will have 2010 Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access).
* Two adaptive workstations will have enhanced audio and larger keyboards. Both PCs will be set up with ZoomText magnifier, along with SARA Scanning capability.
* Wheelchair accessible
* Classes offered include:
  a) Computer Basics
  b) Internet Basics
  c) Windows Basics
  d) E-mail

NOTE: For additional information and for a complete Cybermobile Route Schedule from January thru March 2012, please visit toledolibrary.org, or call 419.259.5350.
The students of Scott High School, housed for the past two years in the old Devilbiss High School while their old site was undergoing a $42 million renovation, were introduced to the new facility on Tuesday morning as Scott staff and faculty conducted a tour of the premises.

“Ooohs and aahs” filled the hallways of the updated facility, particularly from those seniors who were freshmen when the renovation started two and a half years ago.

“I like it,” said senior Shawntea Flower who will be heading to North Carolina for college next year. “It’s new and so much better.” Not to mention much more convenient for most of the students.

The students and staff will be moving into the building on January 23, said Principal Treva Jeffries.

Tuesday’s students tour started in the cafeteria. From there the students were divided into small groups for the tour. And after the tour, the students were taught the school’s new dance – the Bulldog Hustle.

Scott High School was built in 1911. The five-story structure measures 259,000 square feet. The renovation project which began in April 2010 included the installation of energy efficient windows, a new electrical system, state-of-the-art classrooms with updated technology systems and many other student-centered amenities.

On the academic front, the changes are even more momentous, said Jeffries last summer in anticipation of the move back to the original building. During the transition, the school abandoned the “small schools” format of the previous years and returned to a traditional curriculum.

Scott students will also be able to avail themselves of honors classes and advanced placement courses which were not available before the move to Devilbiss.

Also available now are the AVID program – Achieve Via Individual Development – for mid-to-high range students and the CTAG program – Closing the Achievement Gap – for those students who need extra guidance, said the principal.

In addition to those programs, a graduation counselor has been added to the staff and the Scott teachers now have the opportunity to attend a greater number of job enrichment programs to heighten cultural, social and curriculum development.

Although this week’s tour was limited to the staff and students, the general public is invited in for tours in February and March, said Jeffries. On the first and third Saturdays of each month, from 9 to 10:30 a.m., the school will be open. Interested parties can register for such tours by calling 419-671-4000.

O’Brien is the child of a black Cuban mother and white Australian father, and her mixed-race heritage informed every step of her personal and professional voyage, one that took her from an isolated suburban Long Island childhood to the catbird’s seat at CNN’s anchor desk. Acknowledging the distinctive sensibility she brings to her coverage of the day’s most divisive and dramatic events, O’Brien chronicles her early years in broadcast journalism as well as her present position as one of cable news’ most respected correspondents.

To reveal how her story affects her approach to the people and subjects she covers, O’Brien shares a world view that is rooted in diversity and communicated with compassion.

By breaking down cataclysmic events such as hurricanes, tsunamis, and earthquakes into individual episodes of suffering, strength, and survival, O’Brien swiftly transforms the overwhelming into the understandable. Impassioned yet intimate, O’Brien’s electrifying memoir demonstrates her instinctive responsibility to present each crisis as a sacred opportunity to illuminate and educate her viewers.

*Source: Carol Haggas, from Booklist*

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**NANBPWC, INC. - Toledo Club-New Membership Induction**

The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Club Incorporated inducted six new members this quarter. Mary Beal, Laura Poon, Karen Jarrett, Timiko Kiner, Alexii Collins and Angela Brown-Rivers were inducted into the Toledo Club of NANBPWC, Inc. and are already sharing their ideas, energy and skills with the Business Women.

These ladies are ready and dedicated to continue their service to the community as well as the businesses that they are so involved in and the community. Some areas of interest with the new inductees show how important the call to service is.

Mary Beal is the president and founder of the Isaiah Thomas Giving Foundation, Laura Poon and Timiko Kiner have done numerous hair shows in the Toledo area where proceeds have gone to support breast cancer research.

Alexii Collins has worked with large multi-family complexes and low-income tax credit projects. Angela Brown-Rivers supports education at Herzing College as an administrator and Karen Jarrett is a retired educator.

NANBPWC is proud of its many accomplishments in helping build stronger communities and future leaders, while giving back in service to our communities. The Women’s Club members are strong advocates of excellence in the areas of membership, programming, financial stability, professional development and sisterly unity. The Toledo Club director of membership is Donnetta Carter.

This Professional Women’s Club is a non-profit organization. The Toledo Club of NANBPWC, Inc. has 30 current members under the direction of Denise Black-Poon who is the current Toledo Club president. Other Club members are Wanda J. Terrell - first vice president and NCD secretary; Frances Collins, PhD, second vice president and NCD Ohio Youth assistant; Donnetta Carter, director of membership; Sharon Green Gaines - corresponding secretary and parliamentary; Denise Cardwell - recording secretary; Ethel Scott - financial secretary, Wilma Brown – treasurer, Clara Brank - chaplain and assistant secretary, Delores Bates, Karen Brank, Brenda Brooks, Deborah Carlisle, Catherine Clayborne, Mary Dawson , Phyllis Dunbar, Edith Gholston, Dorothy Gray, Leola Green Hayes Prescilla Brown-Hutchens, Mary L. Oakes, Brenda Price, Sherry Reed, Donna Todd, Beverly Tucker, BJ Tucker and Lillie Watkins.

Other areas of focus are leadership, entrepreneurship, technology, service, health, education, economic development, etc. The Education Committee Chairman Clara Brank continually donates belts, school supplies, hats, gloves and scarves to two local schools on an annual basis. Collins is youth chairman and teaches the youth to develop powerpoint presentations, conduct workshops, as well as other leadership training activities and skills.

The organization’s national mission is: “To promote and protect the interest of African American business and professional women; to serve as a bridge for young people seeking to enter business and the professions; to improve the quality of life in the local and global communities and to foster good fellowship.”
The Toledo Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Clubs, Inc. met on Saturday, January 7 at Ruby’s Kitchen (one of the Cotillion corporate sponsors) to begin planning for the 48th annual Debutante Cotillion. The Cotillion Ball will be held on Saturday, May 26, 2012 in the Great Hall of the Stranahan.

The now Educational and Social Cotillion began in 1964 after the Toledo Club revived it from its previous sponsor, the Bronze Raven Newspaper, which had sponsored it as a subscription campaign for the newspaper.

The club’s Cotillion has presented thousands of young ladies to society and awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships and, for the last few years, in University of Toledo scholarships. The club also presents Mr. Escort with a cash award.

The program is an eight month project that starts in October of the previous year with recruiting qualifying junior and senior class girls from the northwest Ohio community. School counselors submit the names and invitations are sent to the girls in December inviting them and their parents to the Introductory Tea in January.

Participating schools this year are: Bowsher High School, Cardinal Stritch, Central Catholic, Toledo Early College High School, Maumee Valley Country Day School, Notre Dame Academy, Rogers High School, Scott High School, Start High School, St. Ursula Academy, Springfield High School, Sylvania Southview, Toledo School for the Arts, Waite High School, Whitmer High School and Woodward High School.

Cotillion committee members are: Wilma D. Brown, general chairman; Deborah Carlisle and Beverly Tucker, co-chairmen and talent chairman; Leola Haynes, Debs-in-Waiting chairman (Oscar Haynes, assistant); Donnetta Carter, Introductory Tea chairman; Phyllis Dunbar, Escorts and Presenters Tuxedoes; Sharon Green-Gaines and Sherry Reed, Mother/Daughter Luncheon chairman; Denise Cardwell, etiquette seminar/luncheon and extra activities; Karen and Dennis Jarrett, rehearsal assistants.

Denise Black Poon is the Toledo Club President; Wanda Terrell, the second vice president-programs and Barbara Tucker is the North Central District governor.

For information on the Cotillion, contact Wilma Brown at 419-531-3660.
UT, YMCA Sign Collaboration Agreement to Enhance Healthy Living Initiatives

Special to The Truth

Now the community has a greater opportunity to achieve a healthier lifestyle. The YMCA and JCC of Greater Toledo and The University of Toledo are partnering to strengthen healthy living initiatives available to the community to promote wellness and maximize the amount of resources going to those seeking healthy living services. The YMCA and UT have identified a shared staff position to manage the Healthy Living initiatives, which include worksite wellness programs, diabetes education, executive health assessments, the YMCA’s Kids In Motion program, weight management and other health-related programs. “The YMCA believes collaboration and partnerships are the best way to address the critical needs of our community including healthy living. The YMCA is pleased to open its doors to the University, as it positions us to better deliver programs and services by adding the resources of the University and clinical expertise from UTM,” said Todd Tibbits, president and CEO of the YMCA and JCC of Greater Toledo.

“The YMCA is an outstanding resource for northwestern Ohio, southeast Michigan and The University of Toledo is proud to expand its strong partnership with them,” said UT President Dr. Lloyd Jacobs. “The YMCA’s efforts to improve the health and well-being of our community through exercise, healthy habits and preventative medicine mirrors much of the University’s work in these areas and a closer relationship just makes sense.”

Already the YMCA manages its South YMCA location at the Morse Center on UT’s Health Science Campus. Officials say that by working collaboratively, the community will have improved access to initiatives that will focus on the prevention of chronic disease and educates and services that integrate wellness for the whole family.

Additionally, the partnership will offer relevant internships and professional experiences for University students studying in health and wellness fields. Also UT and the YMCA plan to work to create more scholarship and education opportunities at UT for YMCA staff and will strive to find mutual research and grants relative to community health and wellness.

American Society of Women Accountants Partners with Herzing University

Special to The Truth

The American Society of Women Accountants (ASWA) is pleased to announce a new partnership with Herzing University. Through this strategic partnership, Herzing University will provide ASWA with educational content and extend discounts on educational resources to ASWA members and professionals in the accounting and finance professions.

“The American Society of Women Accountants is pleased to partner with Herzing University – a woman-owned enterprise – to provide educational resources to members pursuing their degrees in accounting and finance, as well as professional development and continuing education opportunities,” said Monika Miles, CPA, ASWA National President. “Providing access to Herzing University’s educational resources is a valuable benefit that helps ASWA members advance their careers.”

The American Society of Women Accountants is the only organization that solely represents the interests of women in the entire accounting and finance community. Women compose over half of accounting graduates in the United States so it is imperative for organizations like Herzing University to stay connected with ASWA members to ensure the availability of resources needed to succeed in the industry.

“We are thrilled to be working with the American Society of Women Accountants and helping to advance the careers of female accounting professionals through our many degree and continuing education programs in accounting, finance and business,” said Renee Herzing, president and an owner of Herzing University. “Our flexible learning options that enable students to attend classes on campus or online are especially attractive to busy professional women, and we believe they will appreciate the ability to continue their education from an associate degree to a master’s degree with a single higher education institution.”

As part of this partnership, Herzing University will waive the enrollment fee and extend a five percent tuition reduction scholarship to ASWA members. In addition, ASWA members whose businesses and organizations participate in the Herzing Enterprise Learning Program will be extended an additional five percent tuition reduction scholarship for a total of 10 percent.

Robinson Elementary Parent Power Hour

On Tuesday, January 24, 2012 From 9-10:45am (report to the cafeteria)

All parents will receive dress down passes for their children and raffle prizes!!!
The Sojourner’s Truth

January 11, 2012

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is currently accepting applications for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) projects across Ohio.

The program provides federal funding for projects that will make it safer and more appealing for children in kindergarten through eighth grade to walk or ride their bikes to school.

“The goal of Safe Routes to School is to combine health and fitness with safety,” said ODOT Director Jerry Wray. “It’s an opportunity to work closely with schools and communities to create a healthy lifestyle for our children.”

The program has funded approximately $31 million in 400 projects since it began in 2004. Projects have included education, planning, sidewalks, pedestrian and bike paths, crosswalks, traffic calming, and bike racks.

SRTS is federally funded through the Federal Highway Administration, which means state and local applicants are not required to match funds.

A minimum of 10 percent and a maximum of 30 percent of Ohio’s allocation must be used for education, enforcement and encouragement. This year, ODOT rolled out its “Every Move You Make, Keep It Safe” educational campaign. The campaign’s purpose is to educate Ohio’s 1.2 million, their families, teachers, and school officials about appropriate safety practices for walking and bicycling to school.

Ohio’s First Lady, Karen Waldbillig Kasich, who serves as ambassador for Ohio’s SRTS program, and the “All-Ohio Safe Routes to School Show Choir” produced a music video titled “Be Safe Out the Door” to promote the benefits of walking and biking to school. The video can be viewed at: www.dot.state.oh.us/saferoutes

“I believe that active kids are healthy kids,” said Waldbillig Kasich. “Biking and walking are activities that children can do that not only provides them health and fitness benefits but it has also been shown that physical activity before and after school improves their academic performance.”

Likely applicants will be state, local and regional agencies including nonprofit organizations.

Friendship New Vision Inc.

Providing Free Basic Computer Training to Adults through Connect Ohio’s Every Citizen Online Program

Connect Ohio is pleased to announce Friendship New Vision (FNV) Inc. is a partner in the statewide Every CitizenOnline (ECO) broadband training project and is providing free basic computer training to adults at the Friendship Technology Center.

The free training helps adults learn to connect and communicate online in ways many people take for granted.

“This partnership was an ideal opportunity for Friendship to serve the community in bringing technical training to individuals who otherwise may not have access to the technology,” said Tina Lawrence, director of systems development for FNV, Inc. and program coordinator. “Or more importantly, may not have had access to skilled instructors.”

“I think the classes were very informative for beginners,” said Audra Wilson, recent ECO training participant. “There was a wide range of subject covered, and it was worth my time. I was able to pick up some valuable information on basic computer maintenance, security, and social networking.”

The coursework includes three, two-hour courses covering computer basics, an introduction to the Internet, and Internet applications.

“The teachers were very patient with me and attending class has been very exciting,” said recent ECO participant, Myrtis Owens. “It has been worth my time and I will continue to attend future classes.”

January registration is now open. Participants can register for the free training by contacting the library at (419) 534-5437.

Below is a list of Friendship New Vision’s January class schedule:

Session 1
January 17 from 5:30pm – 7:30pm
January 19 from 5:30pm – 7:30pm
January 21 from 10am – 12pm

Session 2
January 24 from 3pm – 5pm
January 26 from 3pm – 5pm
January 28 from 3pm – 5pm

ODOT to Accept Applications for Safe Routes to School Projects

Special To The Truth

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It’s amazing how, sometimes, old words have new meaning.

Take, for example, a classic play or novel. Take, for example, a favorite poem that great-grandfather tucked away in a family Bible, a story set in another era, or a letter written by a long-gone ancestor.

The words inside it might seem quaint and stiff. The format may not be familiar to you at all. You might not have known the writer but though the times are different, verses and thoughts put to paper 100 years - or even three generations – ago still shout their meaning.

And in the re-released book *The Trumpet of Conscience* by Martin Luther King, Jr., new foreword by Marian Wright Edelman, you can hear some of them all over again.

When, in 1967, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation asked Martin Luther King, Jr. to present a series of Massey Lectures for their listeners, King was told that he could speak on any topic that interested him and that was relevant to anyone in the world who might be listening.

He, of course, chose topics that were closest to his heart: nonviolent protest, civil disobedience, human rights for people of all races and his dismay over the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War.

In his lectures, Dr. King explained to his Canadian listeners what Canada meant to black Americans. Spirituals, he said, so widely sung in American fields were made in code, and slaves sang of heaven.

“Heaven,” he said, “was the word for Canada…”

In thoughts that seem to reach out to protesters today, King explains youth as he saw it nearly 40 years ago, lauding those who participate in nonviolent protest.

“…we must begin now to work, urgently, with all the peoples, to shape a new world,” he said prophetically.

On the Vietnam War, King spoke of travesty:

“And so we have been repeatedly faced with the cruel irony of watching Negro and white boys on TV screens as they kill and die together for a nation that has been unable to seat them together in the same schools.”

First released in 1968, *The Trumpet of Conscience* is moving and powerful, a nice reminder to an older generation who grew with King’s words in their ears.

The thing to remember is that people of a younger generation will need guidance with this book, mostly because parts of it are barely relevant to them. King discusses youth of the 1960s, as well as the Vietnam War, which was five years from ending when he gave these lectures. That information is good, but it may be lost on youngsters.

Still, these words are Almighty and it’s hard not to hear King’s voice behind them. The good news is that that voice is on the accompanying audio CD, which makes this a great package for reflection and teaching.

If you’re looking for something to mark Dr. King’s birthday, this is just about perfect. Despite its age, *The Trumpet of Conscience* is still laden with meaning.
Now that hip-hop/rap music has evolved out of the mind-numbing idiocy of the last five years with consistently great musical output by a number of artists, there’s still civil unrest within our own ranks.

But it’s not about East Coast vs. West Coast this time.

It’s not about the underground vs. mainstream this time.

It’s not the intellectual hip-hop vs. the living embeddiments of Thugnificent this time.

It’s Wayne’s. Jay Z, Nikki Minaj vs. Lil Kim and Drake vs. Ludacris/Common and etc.

Unnecessary pettiness and over-sensitivity plays a role here, but this isn’t your typical play to boost q ratings and sales.

Since so many legends and veterans of the 90s have NOT fallen off yet, the game is crowded if you think about it. And what it is stake boils down to more than just a percentage of the fans, because most of these artists have loyal fans who can’t be swayed and that is how they’ve lasted so long.

This is about principle. This, for once….is becoming a legitimate feud over ideology.

Paying respect where it’s due, historical accuracy and the right to regale the genre. It’s damn near better than the political debates. Here’s a break down of each side.

In one corner of the ring you have truly legendary artists who are STILL relevant even though their careers took off prior to the year 2000.

They have done the impossible by being “this hot for this long” vs. whomever.

For what they’ve accomplished, they could get lifetime-long props for their status alone.

But these aren’t old has beens, these are people still currently dominant in many ways.

These are their major points to beef about:

1. Money talks repect. If you aren’t giving them a check, they don’t owe you any out the way gesture to show their respect. If they are succeeding and getting paid, they don’t owe anyone anything.

2. They’re not feeling being reprimanded by the veterans in the game, no matter if they are still hot or not. They want freedom to do things their way.

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EVERYBODY HATES DRACIE, STILL!

If you search the Internet you will find a million stories on who started it, but this latest Anti-Aubrey tirade by Common leaves a bad taste in my mouth.

Not because Common is too conscious to engage in a good ol rap war (let’s not forget, he’s the only rapper to ever match wits and win against Ice Cube). But because attacking Drake is chiseled these days.

If you hate on Drizzy because he’s the bandwagon wagon right now, it doesn’t help you cause to hop on the “every-one against Drake” band-wagon either.

Common’s song “Sweet” takes aim at Drake and others that the Chi Town veteran feels are watering down his beloved genre. As I pointed out earlier, that is part of the entitlement that comes with having last 15+ years in the game. The same way if you’ve lived in a good neighborhood for years and you own your home there you feel the right to personally object when someone new moves in whose carelessness threatens to send property values downwards.

It’s understandable, in theory.

But picking on Drake isn’t making the bullies look tougher, it’s making them look desperate.

Now LUDA, he needed to give Drake that history lesson.

That was a well-deserved ass kicking. which is why Drake nor Big Sean never replied.

Still, if airing out Drake is the most popular way to prove your rap manhood these days then none of these styles should get any stripes whatsoever.

If I’m a football player who thinks only real men play football, what do I gain from beating up a drama geek or math nerd? Nothing. It actually diminishes toughness.

I’m not coming to Drake’s defense as much as I am trying to put rap toughness in its proper light. Is Drizzy ill on the mic? Yes, quite. Has he changed the game? Yes, totally.

He has the numbers, wealth, endorsements and actual skill level.

If he wants to talk about or make songs for girls, let him. His recent tough talk isn’t helping much.

But some of this Drake Hater is about Drake, and some of it is about something more.

Are they veterans really hatimg on the young boy’s success?

Are they jealous? Or are they just trying to school him?

WHAT’S SAGE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

When Lil Kim had that more years… Lil Wayne will be able to say he’s been killing the game for an entire decade.

And Nikki Minaj is international thanks to her pop sound, so it just might be possible she could one day catch or maybe eclipse Lil Kim.

Generation X is everyone currently ages 36 to 49/50 (Lil Kim, Common, Jay Z, etc.)

Generation Y is everyone currently ages 22 to 34/35 (Drake, Wayne, Nikki, etc.)

So it’s not like old fogies trying to make the kids respect their elders.

It’s more like older siblings trying to maintain their position.

Two sides divided by different ideology and honor systems.

One that demands a certain level of respect and reverence, and another that isn’t going out of their way to get anyone’s respect because they’re too busy getting a check.

The truly remarkable thing is that there seems to be room for everyone.

Artist who have been giving us great music for over a decade, and the artists who were raised on that music and now want to run the game themselves.

See you all next week, Peace.
Local Spades and Bid Whist Champions

was inspired by the need for social and recreational opportunities for African American youth in Toledo. Since then, it has expanded its role to impact the lives of all youth through its mission of strengthening and enriching the lives of individuals and families through its many activities and services in the Family Resource & Enrichment Center, Youth Development & Sports and Childcare Services.

Potholes Pose Plenty Of Problems

They lurk on rural highways and city streets, ready to cost you time, trouble and money. They’re potholes, and they occur when water permeates the pavement—usually through a crack from wear and tear of traffic—and soften the soil beneath it, creating a depression in the surface of the street.

While most drivers know immediately when they hit a pothole, what they often don’t know is if their vehicle has been damaged in the process. To help determine if hitting a pothole has hurt your vehicle, watch for the following warning signs:

• Loss of control, swaying when making routine turns, bottoming out on city streets or bouncing excessively on rough roads. These are indicators that the steering and suspension may have been damaged. The steering and suspension are key safety-related systems.

Together, they largely determine your car’s ride and handling. Key components are shocks and struts, the steering knuckle, ball joints, the steering rack and box, bearings, seals and hub units, and tie rod ends.

• Pulling in one direction, instead of maintaining a straight path, and uneven tire wear. These symptoms mean there’s an alignment problem. Proper wheel alignment is important for the life span of tires and helps ensure safe handling.

• Low tire pressure, bulges or blisters on the sidewalls or dents in the rim. These problems will be visible and should be checked out as soon as possible as tires are the critical connection between your car and the road in all sorts of driving conditions.

“Hitting a pothole can cause plenty of problems—damaging tires, wheels, steering and suspension, wheel alignment and more. If you’ve hit a pothole,” said Rich White, executive director, Car Care Council, “it’s worth having a professional technician check out the car and make the necessary repairs to ensure safety and reliability.”

Hillandale - $87,000/REDUCED

Octavia Hills condo. 1440 sq. ft., 2 full baths. Location, location, neighborhood with easy access to UT bike trail. Call Alma 419.297.2301 today for a showing.

Duplex for Purchase or Lease

Great investment property! Both units in ready for owner or tenants. Both units contain newer furniture, hot water tanks, new windows, updated electrical systems. Both consist of large living areas and lots of storage space. W/CWI. Mow and care for lawns. Easy access for showings. Seaway Asset Management Call Kimberly Brown - 419.889.7097

Houses For Rent

Everything New: Paint, Carpet, Stove, Refrigerator. Section 8 OK MVP Property Management 419-244-8566

DEBT RELIEF?

CHAPTER 7 BANKRUPTCY

$650.00 plus court costs FREE ADVICE ATTY. LAFE TOLLIVER 419-249-2703 a debt relief agency per the bky code

Woodley Court - $259,000

6 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 3488 sq. ft. Custom built home. Must see to believe. Located in the quiet Trail Acres subdivision. Built for entertaining or large families. Easy to show and ready for buyers. Seaway Asset Management Call Kimberly Brown - 419.889.7097

Good Credit or Bad

Need a Car?

New or Used

Call JP the Stork

He Delivers 419.320.0863

Wanted to Buy: Diabetes Supplies

Earn up to $12 per box of 100 insulin strips Must expire after August 2012. Leave labels on boxes. We remove and shred. Call 419-740-7182 and leave message.

GRANTS AVAILABLE!!

P O I N T E R S TO B E W A R E O F:

Potholes Pose Plenty Of Problems

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**January 11, 2012**

**Toledo Refining Company**

Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for an Area Inspector. The refinery Area Inspector is responsible for the internal and external inspection of all types of fixed equipment including, but not limited to, structural steel, heaters, pressure vessels, heat exchangers, tanks, boilers, piping, and miscellaneous equipment, both during routine maintenance periods and during shutdowns/turnarounds. Coordinates inspection activities within the Area Business Team and is an integral team member, resolving issues involving several types of damage mechanisms experienced within a refinery setting. Develop and execute inspection plans for fixed equipment based on its service, design, condition, jurisdictional requirements and inspection history.

The qualified candidate shall possess 5-10 years of refinery experience as an area/unit inspector or equivalent and shall have a strong understanding of certification in all applicable codes including, but not limited to API 510; API 570 and API 653, ASME B31.3, Section VIII and NBIC. Training and certification in API 580/581 is preferred. Current ASNT SNT TC 1A certifications or verifiable NDE experience is desired, especially in PT, MT, and UT. Current CWI certification is also a plus. Candidates must have strong interpersonal skills and be proficient in Microsoft Office products, mainframe systems. Experience in RBI methodology and RBMI is a plus. A college degree, preferably in engineering or other technical discipline is desired.

For confidential consideration, please submit your resume via email to TLR.HiringManager@pbfenergy.com

**EOE/M/F/D/V**

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**Accessing Applications**

Accessible Country Trail, Inc. & II, Brook View Gardens, Inc., Ottawa River Estates and Woodside Village Inc. are accepting applications for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments for persons with physical disabilities, mobility impairments and/or developmental disabilities. Rents will be subsidized by HUD under section 811. Applications and/or developmental disabilities. Rents will be subsidized by HUD under section 811. Applicants must be 18 or older to be eligible. Applications will be taken on a FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS on Wednesday, January 18, 2012, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Lott Industries, 3350 Hill Avenue, Conference Room A, Toledo, Ohio. The Fair Housing Act makes it illegal to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status and national origin. For further information, call (419) 389-0361, M-F 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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**CAREER OPPORTUNITY**

Looking for a fascinating 2012 career opportunity? Have you thought about radio advertising? Toledo’s heritage urban stations, WIMX Mix 95.7 and WUJE Hot 97.3, have openings for Marketing Executives, who will work with local businesses to help them attract new customers. If you enjoy learning about other people’s businesses and consulting them with creative ideas, this is worth investigating. URBan Radio Broadcasting has the latest marketing tools and expert training to insure your success. You must have successful sales experience, and be enthusiastic about building strong customer relationships. Get ready to call and learn more about being a part of the exciting radio advertising industry. Call John today at 419-244-63-54. That’s 419-244-63-54. Or you may submit your resume* to John Guzan by e-mail to johnguzan@urbannradio.fm. URBan Radio is an equal opportunity employer.

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**Wanted to Buy:**

Diabetes Supplies

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

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**Van Needed**

Trulight @ 950 Proudy is in need of a donation of a passenger van or bus for our growing church. Bishop Greg Early and Pastor Sheila Early

Contact: Dale 419-283-7585

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**Office Manager – Part-Time**

Part-time – 15 to 20 hours – office manager wanted to assist small business in a variety of tasks. Knowledge of Excel and Quickbooks a plus. Call 419-242-7650

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**Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY12-063,**

(Project # 1020-12-776) for Main Campus Switchgear Cleaning for the University of Toledo. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up package. A cost of $45.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Roger DeBelly of JDRM Engineering at 419-824-2400. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at 7:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 10%. Project Estimate: $270,000.00; Breakdown: Electric: $270,000.00.

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**Classifieds are posted online at www.thetruthtoledo.com**

**Abundant Life of Perrysburg** is a subsidized independent housing facility for those 62 or older. WE are located in a beautiful, quiet residential setting in Perrysburg. Abundant Life offers one bedroom garden apartments with private patios, indoor mailboxes, reserved parking and busing to local grocery stores.

Applications are now being accepted Call 419-874-4371

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**Section 3 Compliance Coordinator**

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA), located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for a Section 3 Compliance Coordinator position. For complete details of the position and application information, visit our website at www.lucasmha.org or call our jobline at (419)259-9537. Please note on your submittal if you are a LMHA Public Housing resident or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. This is a Section 3 covered position and HUD recipients are encouraged to apply. All materials submitted must be received at LMHA not later than 5:00 P.M. on Friday, January 20, 2012.

**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.

**Van Needed**

Trulight @ 950 Proudy is in need of a donation of a passenger van or bus for our growing church. Bishop Greg Early and Pastor Sheila Early

Contact: Dale 419-283-7585
On Friday, December 30, 2011 the Frederick Douglass Community Association (FDCA) held its first ever Tournament of Champions Holiday Card Party Fundraiser. Competition was held in the Spades and Bid Whist categories with the winning teams each receiving a trophy and being crowned the champion.

The tournament was not only an opportunity for teams to show their card playing skills but was also a fund raiser for FDCA, which included music, a flat screen TV raffle, delicious fish dinners, and even dancing. “FDCA is in the midst of transforming, revitalizing, and renewing the relevancy of the organization as we focus on becoming an Epicenter of Hope and Empowerment for the community,” says Karl Parker, newly elected board President.

“We had a good turnout, and I anticipate that it [attendance] will increase as the word spreads about this event,” he further adds.

Both Karl Parker and Executive Director Shantae Brownlee addressed and thanked the numerous attendees of the tournament. Brownlee went on further to mention many of the new and exciting programs the community can expect in 2012 such as Parent University and the Entrepreneurship Institute to name a few.

The fund raiser was a double elimination card tournament and many of the participants were quite animated as they competed against other teams. A husband and wife team, Wayne and Pat, were crowned the spades champions, while Edone Parker and Dave Holman were crowned the bid whist champions. These teams may not be able to hang on to their titles very long as FDCA plans to hold additional card tournaments throughout the year with future events to include Tunk. There are plans for domino tournaments, fashion shows, raffles and other events as well. Cathy Clark of Imlay City, Michigan won the raffle for the flat screen TV.

FDCA (a 501c3) was started in Toledo, OH by Albertus Brown in 1919, who

(Continued on Page 14)