



*About 60 young ladies were taught how to greet someone with a handshake and a smile and were given tips on how to interview, look the part and how to have to right attitude in various settings.*

<b>In This Issue</b> More on EOPA Page 2	Leadership Toledo Page 5	Ask Yvon Page 7	NAMI's Outreach Page 12	Classifieds Pages 14-15
Tolliver Page 3	<u>The Economy Section</u> Brookings Report Page 6	Our Black Year Page 9	Minister on Trayvon Page 13	Cotillion Page 16
CASA Recruits Page 4	Financial Literacy Page 7	Davis on Insurance Page 10	BlackMarketPlace Page 14	

## EOPA Head Start – Transformation or Demolition

Education is the best tool for poverty prevention known to man. "Upon the education of the people the fate of this country depends," Parliamentarian Benjamin Disraeli said 150 years ago, speaking of Great Britain.

These words still ring true.

For some reason, however, learning institutions and agencies designed for philanthropic and social service do not always operate in harmony. When this happens – as it's happening here in Toledo – the educational impact on the community, especially poor and under-served residents, is sub par. Sub par educational outcomes fortify sub par professional opportunity, to further fuel the cycle of generational poverty.

Recent debates about the effectiveness of Toledo's EOPA Head Start demonstrate how competing interests often cause us to lose sight of what's at stake and leave children's lives exposed as most vulnerable.

Despite EOPA's 48-year record of providing quality preparation for pre-schoolers, several local leaders and institutions have attacked the program rather than offering resources to improve it. EOPA has devotedly and exclusively served economically-disadvantaged children and families, with a special focus on developing reading and math skills required for future success.

Has EOPA made mistakes? Yes.

Can EOPA improve "best practices," policies and procedures, in accordance with national models? Yes.

Should a leadership transition plan be developed? Yes.

Should EOPA's board and governance documents be overhauled? Yes.

Does all this mean that EOPA Head Start should be eliminated? Absolutely not!

Highly suspect is the timing of a March 6 Blade article that makes a big to-do about alleged mismanagement of funds. This non-story, almost certainly fed to the paper by an EOPA opponent, belies its own significance by reporting in the first three words that "An internal investigation ..." - one initiated by EOPA – identified the problem. It is worth noting that:

- The so-called "probe" was conducted two years ago, and solely by EOPA's leadership.

- Non-existent lots that were to be lawn-mowed using funds assigned to an EOPA neighborhoods program.

- To our knowledge, the "alleged misused" cash totaled less than \$500.

Compare this with the record of Toledo Public Schools, EOPA's rival for \$13 million in Head Start funds: leadership, administration, board and teacher disputes. Delinquent utility bills a vendor payments, a downgrade in bond rating; demolition of an historic building; over \$600,000 missing during chief Business Manager Daniel Burns' tenure; \$165,000 settlement for wrongly terminating a teacher and a recent 2010-2011 state "report card" highlighting mediocre performance.

Nice try, EOPA critics.

Let's not miss the fact that not a single word in Tuesday's article called into question the program's handling of one cent devoted to Head Start. Even with all of the issues that TPS has faced, it was afforded the opportunity to reinvent itself and rightfully so. Another Blade article recently quoted schools official Jim Gault as saying: "We took this district, turned it upside down, and started over." So why shouldn't EOPA Head Start be afforded the same chance for transformation that TPS received?

The answer is "double standard" - the same one that is typically applied when poor grassroots agencies are placed under scrutiny.

A solid transformation plan will allow EOPA Head Start to be the grantee of federal funds it has received throughout the years, while partnering with public school districts, institutions of higher learning and philanthropic and social service organizations. In this scenario, the community collectively would avoid eliminating 350 jobs, bankrupting financial support and putting the education of our children in peril.

Allegedly, a high profile community leader referred to the central city as "a service desert." If true, such a statement is insensitive toward the poor and inaccurate. Every community has a better chance of flourishing when there are philanthropic, social service organizations and institutions of higher learning willing to provide the resources and collaborative support to effectively combat poverty.

Since our community has experienced the benefits of transformation, I ask you to urge our politicians and organizational leaders to remove the double standard and champion a transformation plan for EOPA Head Start. Allow EOPA to retain its grantee status. This might not happen if separate agendas are pursued by TPS and other high-profile entities or if illusionary partnerships, like limited liability corporations (LLC's) are formed to deliberately minimize EOPA's role.

The central city must also take responsibility in this drama. We cannot tolerate mediocrity or silence when it comes to the education of our children. Again, education is the best tool for poverty prevention known to man. Academic excellence and astute institutional leadership is the goal. In the future, we must lead in transforming organizations that serve our community.

Accountability is a two-way street.

*Rev. Kevin Bedford, Toledo NAACP President*

## Community Calendar

### March 23

Josh Project Registration for Swimming Lessons: Kent Branch Library; 2 to 4 pm: 419-973-1383

### March 23 & 25

Christian Festival Choir and Orchestra Annual Concert: "Exhaltation 2012;" 7 pm on Friday, 3 pm on Sunday; Northwood High School: 419-865-5795 or 419-260-8284

### March 24

City Wide Trustee Association Meeting: United MBC; 10 am: 419-514-1052  
Fundraiser for Starlene Burkett: Sunrise Park & Banquet Center; 6 to 10 pm: 419-531-2500

Financial Freedom Workshop: "Becoming Financially Free in 2012;" Presented by Derick Gant; 2 to 4 pm; First Church of God

### March 25

Calvary MBC's 23<sup>rd</sup> Pastoral Anniversary Services: 4 pm; Guests are Bishop Jones and Agape Love Ministries of Sandusky

Jerusalem MBC Pastoral Anniversary: 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Rev. W.L. Perryman; Guest church Indiana Avenue MBC; 4 pm

End Time Christian Fellowship Free Community Feeding Day: Celebration/Worship service – 10 am; Free Community dinner from 1 to 2:30 pm: 419-472-5993

Phillips Temple CME Church Gospel Explosion: Interfaith Mass Choir and other special guests; 5 pm

### March 26

Beulah Baptist Men's Day: 4 pm; Guest preacher Clayborn Arnett of Great Harvest: 419-944-5262

### March 31

Josh Project Registration for Swimming Lessons: Kent Branch Library; 2 to 4 pm: 419-973-1383

Great Toledo Music Guild Rising Stars: Featuring concert vocalists from BGSU's School of Music; 3 pm; Spirituals, opera arias, musical theater selections; McMaster Center Main Library: 419-380-8962

### April 1

Indiana Avenue MBC 47<sup>th</sup> Pastoral Anniversary: Rev. John E. Roberts; 3:30 pm; Guests are Rev. John Williams and Eastern Star MBC

### April 7

Grace Temple #424 Easter Egg Hunt: 1 to 3 pm; Fundraiser  
Third Baptist Church Red Cross Blood Drive: 10am to 3 pm: 419-381-5954  
The Movement Church Free Haircuts: 4 to 6 pm: 419-322-1889  
Isaiah Thomas Giving Foundation Easter Egg Hunt: Wayman Palmer YMCA; 3 to 5 pm; Arts and crafts, healthy snacks, Eater Egg rolls, games

### April 8

New Covenant Church Win from Within Easter Sunday Service: Woodward High School; 11 am; Fine arts performance, flat screen giveaways, children's church: 419-481-2502

### April 11-13

City of Zion, Mt. Zion Church Toledo District Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International Intercessory Prayer Conference: 6 pm nightly; Speakers Bishop Jerome Ross, Bishop Duane Tisdale, Bishop William H. Murphy: 419-246-1850

### April 22

Cookoff Kickoff: 2 to 5 pm; Gesu Sullivan Center: 419-320-4157 or [ayeshas03@yahoo.com](mailto:ayeshas03@yahoo.com)

### April 27-29

Calvary Baptist Church Women's Ministry Spring Retreat: 419-787-9635

## The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American Owned and Operated Newspaper

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## Money ... Money ... Money!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq.  
Guest Column



Breaking News: (ANNN) This just in from the All Negro News Network.

It has been reported (via a recent Sojourner's Truth news article) that Pastor Kevin Bedford of Third Baptist Church and who is also the current president of the local branch of the nigh-defunct NAACP has received 25 thousand dollars from the moguls who own the soon-to-be-opened Hollywood Casino in Rossford.

The donation is to be used to fund the program known as ACT-SO which provides talented local kids to go to Houston in July to compete in various categories of achievements (science, architecture, music, dance, math literature, etc...etc.).

As the regional reporter for ANNN, I was able to reach Pastor Bedford in his office while he was taking a breather from preaching on the sins of the flesh. Here is that short interview:

ANNN: Pastor, why is the local NAACP taking money from organized gambling to fund ACT-SO when in the past they raised funds from other sources including donations from the black community?

**B E D F O R D :** Money...money...money. It is all about the money. Does not matter where it comes from. It's all good!

ANNN: Pastor, do you have any qualms about taking gambling money in light of your being a preacher of righteousness and about the glory of God?

**B E D F O R D :** It is all about the money...money...money! If this money comes from crap games and slots and black-jack, I do not care.

ANNN: Pastor, what did the NAACP try to do as to raise the funds for this ACT-SO program as opposed to taking the money from organized gambling?

**B E D F O R D :** Nothing. This was low-hanging fruit and was easy money to get and we took it and ran! Didn't look back once. No shame in my game!

ANNN: Pastor, do you see any conflict between you being a professed man of God

but yet having one hand on the Bible and the other hand on a slot machine?

**B E D F O R D :** As long as one hand does not know what the other hand is doing, I am fine with that.

ANNN: Is it true that Third Baptist Church is considering installing a gaming annex in their basement that will teach the community the fundamentals of roulette, slots and black-jack?

**B E D F O R D :** If it happens, it will be closed on Sunday mornings.

ANNN: Pastor, do you see any correlation between gambling and domestic violence and other negative criminal activity?

**B E D F O R D :** No. Gaming will provide jobs and tax revenues and that is a good thing for Toledo. If there is any negative fallout, that is what the church is here for. We will pick up any human detritus.

ANNN: Pastor, do you plan to be present at the opening events at the casino and, if so, will you wear your clerical clothes?

**B E D F O R D :** Why would I want to do that?

ANNN: Well, since you support organized gambling, would you not want to be there and bless the gamblers so that they will have good luck with the god of mammon and maybe they will bring some of their gaming winnings back to Third Baptist and other black churches?

**B E D F O R D :** Hmmm...never thought about it that way. Let me give it some serious thought and I'll get my robes out of the cleaners just in case I do go.

ANNN: Pastor, will you, and the other black ministers who supported this casino, be

having any special days of prayer for the casino and its success and the success of the gamblers?

**B E D F O R D :** Glad you ask. We will consider having a 24-hour prayer chain and will use the scripture about the wealth of the wicked being laid up for the righteous and the disciples losing lots for Matthias to replace Judas.

ANNN: Pastor, not to argue with you but do those scriptures apply to encouraging people to gamble?

**B E D F O R D :** Now, now. Let's don't split biblical hairs here!

It's all good!  
ANNN: Pastor, what would you tell someone who has taken their tithes, rent money, utility payments and they lost it all on Red 22?

**B E D F O R D :** I would tell them to always bet on Black!

ANNN: Pastor, do you consider the 25 thousand dollars as a "payoff" for your early political support of the gaming casino issue that was placed on the ballot?

**B E D F O R D :** AAAAAAAH! Turn off that recorder! This interview is over!

Well, there you have it readers. Make your own decisions about this hastily concluded interview. But there is one thing I learned and that is, place your bets on Black and never look back!

Lafe Tolliver, Atty  
comments to:  
[Tolliver@Juno.com](mailto:Tolliver@Juno.com)

*Ed. Note: This is satire, readers! The facts of the donation cited in the commentary are accurate as noted in The Truth article of March 7; the interview is fictitious.*

## In Response...

'Hats off' to the Reverend Perryman for his March 14 article, "Ruffneck". I now reside in Congressional District 5 resultant from the recent 'gerrymandering' by Ohio's State government.

However, having been served by Representative Marcy Kaptur for more than 25 years, I have known her to be a "for the people" servant. The vast number of projects Ms. Kaptur has sponsored or supported that have benefited life for her constituents serves as a noteworthy legacy to this true statesman.

While Marcy has and will continue to fight for us, we carry a responsibility as referred by the Reverend Perryman. That is, "...solutions to persistent community problems lies in our ability to rethink methodologies and strategies." We cannot just sit back and complain about injustices or inequalities. It is incumbent upon us to work diligently and determinedly to improve our social, educational and economic condition.

Rev. Perryman asked Mr. Steve Fought, communication director for Rep. Kaptur, "How about fighting to revive a culture of learning in the African-American community?" In response, Mr. Fought stated, in part, "The only way to turn this around is to get everyone involved - parents, ministers, educators, the business community augmented where needed, everyone."

This, in recognition of the reality that our elected officials cannot solve our problems for us. We are obligated to work with them to the best interest of our families, our community, our nation.

Mr. Fought continued, "The loss of jobs has been devastating. But until we commit to our children, we will never prosper as a community." Rev. Perryman concluded, "...we have no more time for halfsteppin'."

I say, a commitment to our children is a commitment to our future and to theirs. When wondering what is wrong, what has to happen, we should consider Michael Jackson's "Man In The Mirror."

Ronald E. Burel

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African-American Community Members Erica Beach, Laurie Rogers, Charlene Saye and Dontia Vance Become Advocates for Abused Children

Special to The Truth

The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Department of the Lucas County Juvenile Court announces the graduation of 36 CASA/GAL (court appointed special advocates/guardians ad litem). On Thursday, February 9, 2012, Juvenile Court Judge Denise Navarre Cubbon swore in the newest class of Lucas County CASA/GAL trainees. Included in the class were members of the African-American community: Erica Beach, Laurie Rogers, Charlene Saye and Dontia Vance.

CASA volunteers are ordinary citizens from all walks of life who are trained by the Juvenile Court to advocate for our community's abused and neglected children. The CASA volunteer does an independent investigation by interviewing the child victim, parents, relatives, school officials, doctors and others involved in the child's life who may have facts about the case or the child's well

being. The CASA volunteer remains on the case, making recommendations to the court and advocating for the child until a safe, permanent home is found for the child.

This training class is filled with individuals from all walks of life, including a police officer, a University of Toledo psychology professor, several attorneys, several mothers and grandmothers, two business owners, two teachers, a construction worker, two child care providers, a social worker, two nurses, a court mediator, and several students, among others. The class works together to bring a variety of life experiences to further enhance the discussion.

Highlights of the training included presentations by Larry Hamme, Ph.D., chief clinical officer at Unison Behavioral Health Group on cultural competence; Randall Schlievert, M.D., local pediatrician and director of the child abuse program at Mercy



Dontia Vance



Erica Beach



Laurie Rogers



Charlene Saye

Children's Hospital on child abuse and neglect; Rhonda Burggraf, J.D., on the art of interviewing children; CeCe Norwood, M.A., C.D.C.A. on domestic violence; Ashley Hall, M.A., on child development; and professionals from Lucas County Children Services on safety assessment, case plans, and the agency's role in protecting children in our community. The class also received training about legal report writing, advocacy skills, substance abuse, poverty and

confidentiality. The new CASA volunteers learned about local service agencies,

attended a mock hearing, attended a Foster Youth Panel presentation, and toured

Lucas County Children Services.

African Art Has Arrived!!

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



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## Leadership Toledo's Youth Programs Assist "Blanket Toledo With Love"

*Special to the Truth*



Area high school students involved in two of Leadership Toledo's youth initiatives have offered their support to "Blanket Toledo With Love." On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in January, the 54 Youth Leadership Toledo (YLT) participants offered their time and talents to assist coordinator Judy Meek in making a dent in the organization's goal of making and donating 500 blankets to many of the organizations that assist Toledo's homeless population. Judy coordinates the program on behalf of Trinity Episcopal Church and has been overwhelmed by the energy and support offered by the students!

Thanks to YLT in January and additional efforts from almost 20 YIPEE (Youth In Philanthropy Encouraging Excellence) leaders in March, the cur-

rent inventory has swollen to more than 260 Blankets with many months yet to prepare! The blankets are offered to such organizations as St. Paul's Community Center, Beach House, Mom's House, the YWCA, Sparrow's Nest, Tent City, and others. "Trinity has been involved with Blanket Toledo With Love since the early 2000's," she commented. "For quite a while, there were just a few volunteers who worked hard to help meet the growing need. I just can't get over how energetic and efficient these students have been - I wish we had a lot more volunteers like them!!"

According to David Schlaudecker, executive director of Leadership Toledo, "What makes the Leadership Toledo experience meaningful for our youth is that we talk about the challenges that exist in

our community and offer opportunities for them to become part of the solutions. Whether making blankets or engaged in other service, we always overhear the kids talk with each other about other potential solutions. Then, when they return to their schools, they use their knowledge and talents to lead new efforts that bring attention to the needs of others. I think this adds an important new twist to the 'pay it forward' philosophy and it is really working."

Those seeking additional information on Leadership Toledo should contact Kristina White, director of community impact, at 419.241.7371. Those seeking information on Blanket Toledo With Love should contact Judy Meeks at 419.350.3223 (mobile).

## Women's Empowerment Summit to Be Held March 27

*Special to The Truth*

A new University of Toledo tradition brings together women from across the UT community for inspiration and community during Women's History Month.

The 2nd Annual Women's Empowerment Summit sponsored by the President's Lecture Series on Diversity and the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women will take place in one week, Tuesday, March 27, at the Toledo Hilton on the Health Science Campus. The event begins at 8:30 a.m. with breakfast and concludes at 1:30 p.m.

The keynote speaker is Ohio Supreme Court Justice Yvette McGee Brown. McGee Brown was the first African-American woman elected to the Franklin County Common Pleas Court and became the first African-American woman to serve on the Ohio Supreme Court in 2011. She will speak during breakfast on this year's theme, Healthy Personal and Professional Relationships.



After breakfast, attendees will have the option to join two breakout sessions: Workplace Aggression, led by Dr. Lisa Kovach, associate professor of education at UT, and Healthy Relationships, led by Fatima Pervaiz, program coordinator in the Office of Multicultural Student Development at UT.

After a lunch break at noon, attendees also can attend the final breakout session, How to Get What You Want, led by Margaret Hopkins, Ph.D, associate professor of management at UT.

"This is such a powerful event," said Emily Harcastle, interim community outreach coordinator at the Eberly Center. "We have speakers from such different experiences helping provide women tools to have better experiences."

The Women's Empowerment Summit is part of the President's Lecture Series on Diversity, which includes a number of events taking place across campus to celebrate diversity.

Transportation to and from the Toledo Hilton will be provided with shuttles from Main Campus at 8 a.m. and 9:10 a.m. and to Main Campus at 9:40 a.m. and 1:40 p.m.

*The event is free and open to the public, but an RSVP is required.*

To RSVP,  
e-mail [plsd@utoledo.edu](mailto:plsd@utoledo.edu) or (419) 530-7232.

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FREE calendar of events will be available after 3/31/12 at [www.mh.kabla.gov](http://www.mh.kabla.gov)



# The Truth ECONOMY

Page 7

Tackling Tough Times

The Economy...Tackling Tough Times • The Economy...Tackling Tough Times • The Economy...Tackling Tough Times • The Economy...Tackling

## Toledo's Exports, the New Economy and You...

By Taron Cunningham, Urban Planning consultant  
Special to The Truth

Brookings Institute released its Export Nation report, Thursday March 8, showing positive economic signs for both the Toledo metro area and the Midwest region as a whole. From 2009-2010 a 17 percent export growth rate, ranking third among the nation's 100 metropolitan areas, by population, places Toledo in a strong economic recovery position.

What does that mean for Toledo's New Economy? Well, I guess that depends on one's perspective; at whatever vantage, I believe, there's something in the New Economy for all toward America's growing prosperity.

New Economy characteristics—export-driven, innovation, clean energy and egalitarian (opportunity-rich)—out-

line the definition of how Toledo's economy and its people will help shape the region's 21<sup>st</sup> Century economy, following a near-decade of staggering economic losses.

Overall, in 2010, Toledo's metro area (Fulton, Lucas, Ottawa, and Wood counties) exports totaled \$4.1 billion in value. Rounding out the top 10, Toledo's export share at 15 percent of its GDP is on par with 10 other metros, an exception among the top 100 metros, projected to double by year 2015. As such, 2010 exports accounted for 11,000 thousand direct-jobs and supported 26,000 thousand other jobs.

Manufacturing at 43 percent of Toledo metro's exports leads the resurgence in export growth. In particular, transportation equipment comprised a

hefty 24 percent of the metro's exports, according to the report. Toledo area also stood out among the metros at number nine in value of vehicle sales to China, as the mayor's administration extends our Toledo-China relations beyond vehicles, with the selling and hopefully development of the Marina district to Chinese investors.

Federal policies from the Obama administration, such as the National Export Initiative and mirroring State Metropolitan Export Initiatives (Minneapolis-Saint Paul and Syracuse) the report touts as contributing factors, not only for export increases altogether but, also, catalyzing innovative manufacturing products and processes the industry produces. Even as the region and Midwest understand the need

to diversify economies, manufacturing remains core to the new economy.

Innovation, as part of the new economy, derives predominantly from research and development which occurs at our area's major universities and colleges and businesses. Innovation and technology transfers, from concept to markets, include research and product developments that have occurred and are continuing at The University of Toledo's Clean and Alternative Energy Incubator and Bowling Green State University's Center for Research and Development, among the several initiatives each of the universities have which impact innovation and growth expansion in the area.

Other innovations stem from our community colleges (at some stage in concept, process, or product), outfits like Center for Food Innovation Technology, and other alternative energy technology businesses and groups in the area. Lest we forget, other types of innovation happens in our daily conversations among colleagues, neighbors and friends about how we can improve our individual lot and our collective area for the better or do things otherwise and then trying them.

Export Nation reports travel and tourism industry as the fourth largest growth industry at 6.2 percent share of metro Toledo's exports. I'd make the connection that a substantial share of that travel is tied to the

area's outstanding universities and specialized medical facilities, known as "Eds & Meds," by foreigners and visitors outside the region.

Eds & Meds generate not only service-sector demand, but professional services too. A local study I conducted on "Eds & Meds" anchor institutions showed, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis in the 2010 fourth quarter, Lucas County's "Eds & Meds" alone posted a location quotient of 1.02 and 1.09, respectively.

Location quotient is an economic measure of exportability, any number greater than 1 means the region specializes in that particular area over the nation. Despite the reported 2010 education industry's \$13 million in value loss, the industry remains robust, but may serve as a warning signal for state and local policy support.

As the new economy relates to low carbon (clean-energy demands), petroleum and coal products were number two in the area's growth in gains, value and percentage of exports. Gains in value for petroleum and coal products were up by \$72.4 million from 2009-2010, accounted for 17.5 percent of area's export share, and valued at \$730 million.

I'm curious to learn more about the area's clean-energy efforts and methods to help both our environment and business growth strategies in the new economy? With such gains and growth, expect more

weigh-in from the petroleum and coal industry and those with interest in the direction of the new economy.

Lastly, the new economy's opportunity characteristic. A strong indicator of an area's economic strength is its citizens' education attainment. Furthermore, education combats poverty as a tool to loosen its vice, in Toledo specifically, as problem-solvers address the challenge of one of the nation's highest poverty-ridden cities. Education is an opportunity to advance the economic climate the new economy is ushering. Educational access and means (ie. affordability) to metro citizens, at all age spectrums and education levels, seem to be more available throughout the area.

Workforce training programs in these growing and retooling industries and sectors are a part of this education preparedness also. Citizens must be skilled and possess the credentials to attract, retain and fill the positions new economy jobs are requiring.

The Export Nation reports a sound economic glance for what's ahead; we must prepare and connect the many assets, goods and services, capital, and people from varied walks to the area's growth outlined by the new economy.

The full report can be read at: [brookings.edu/exportnation](http://brookings.edu/exportnation)

Taron Cunningham, Urban Planning Consultant, can be reached at [taroncunn@aol.com](mailto:taroncunn@aol.com)

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**Social Security Column**

**FORGET SPRING CLEANING; SCRUB DOWN YOUR BUDGET INSTEAD**

By Phil Walton  
Social Security Manager in Toledo, Oh

Spring is officially here. That means it's time for spring cleaning! People everywhere are shedding the effects of fall and winter. But what about dusting off your long-term financial plan? April is National Financial Literacy Month — the perfect time to spring into action when it comes to planning your financial future. And if you already have a plan, this is a great opportunity to take another look.

According to a 2011 survey by the Employee Benefit Research Institute, more than half of workers report they've put away less than \$25,000 in total savings and invest-



ments; a whopping 29 percent have less than \$1,000 saved for the future.

If you haven't started already, now is the time to be-

gin saving for your retirement — no matter what your age. If retirement is near, you'll want to jump into the fast lane right away. If you're

younger and retirement seems a lifetime away, it's still in your best interest to begin saving now, as compound interest will work to your advantage. Experts agree that saving when you're young will make a world of difference when the time comes to draw on your retirement savings.

Don't take our word for it. You can check out the numbers yourself. A great place to start figuring out how much you will need for retirement is to learn how much you could expect from Social Security. You can do that in minutes with Social Security's online *Retirement*

*Estimator*.

The *Retirement Estimator* offers an instant and personalized estimate of your future Social Security retirement benefits based on your earnings record. Try it out at [www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator).

We encourage saving for retirement, but there are reasons to save for every stage of life. A great place to go for help is [www.mymoney.gov](http://www.mymoney.gov). MyMoney.gov is the U.S. government's website dedicated to teaching Americans the basics about financial education. Whether you are planning to buy a home, balancing your checkbook, or

investing in your 401(k) plan, the resources on [www.mymoney.gov](http://www.mymoney.gov) can help you. Another excellent resource is the *Ballpark Estimator* at [www.choosetosave.org/ballpark](http://www.choosetosave.org/ballpark). This online tool takes complicated issues, like projected Social Security benefits and earnings assumptions on savings, and turns them into language and numbers that are easy to understand.

Spring into action! Get started right now at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

**ASK YVON**

**Are You Discerning the Heads Up on the Economy?**

By S. Yvon Harper, CEO, Focus on Finance, LLC  
The Truth Contributor



mented economic collapse plans.

The states of Utah, Virginia and North Carolina have fully implemented their disaster plans. While currently Wyoming's state senate is reviewing an economic collapse plan, which is expected to pass. More states will be sure to follow their lead.

One resource that is a part of these state's plan is the ability to utilize commodities such as gold and silver for commerce. This is an important note for each of us to recognize. It effectively supports that in a time of economic disaster fiat or paper currency will be all but worthless.

While gold for many is overpriced at approximately \$1,700 per ounce, silver is still readily within reach for most. The current spot price of silver is around \$35 per ounce. Many financial economists feel that at this price it is extremely undervalued and will certainly appreciate in value during a global collapse. I agree, because unlike paper currency silver is a useful commodity used in industry for a variety of consumptions, which secures its value. Check out [www.Ampex.com](http://www.Ampex.com).

Other items to consider before a financial disaster include food and water.

These valuable resources will become scarce. A recent study indicates a significant increase of home gardens to address the expected food shortage. Plan now to accumulate a storehouse for your family, which should include vegetable seeds, bottled water and can goods.

One controversial step is the need to purchase a hand gun or rifle for protection. I have always steered clear of this debate, but finally my husband and I discussing the possibility. This actionable step was brought to the forefront for me when a client revealed that his business was being sus-

tained by their gun sales. Which means, even if you are not armed the potential that others will be is highly likely and during an economic collapse may be of concern.

Surprisingly, many people will still be caught off guard when the economy shifts downward. But why should you be one caught in the crossfire? If this is not the handwriting on the wall for you to finally begin to plan your own economic contingency plan than what will it take?

Remember time is always your friend when it is in front of you and your enemy when it passes you

by. Sit down today to take account of what you have verses what you need to weather any impending economic storm.

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**Ruby's Daily Features**

**TUESDAY**  
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Ruby's Meatloaf - \$9.59

**THURSDAY**  
Pork Neck Bones - \$9.99  
Pigs Feet - \$8.59  
Oxtails - \$12.59

**FRIDAY**  
Ruby's Ribs (Half Slab) - \$10.99  
Oxtails - \$12.59  
Pork Neck Bones - \$9.99

**SATURDAY**  
Ruby's Ribs - Rib Dinner - \$11.99  
Rib Tips - \$8.59  
Beef Short Ribs - \$15.99  
Pigs Feet - \$8.59

**SUNDAY**  
Beef Short Ribs Dinner \$15.99  
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## “Cash Mob” Coming to Toledo Black Community

Sojourner's Trth Staff

Coming soon, to a black-owned business near you... “Cash Mob.”

Everyone knows about “flash mobs.” Flash mobs are getting to be a fairly common event in just about every

place in the nation. Cash mobs are a new phenomenon on the scene. Instead of breaking into song or dance, participants swarm to a local business and break open their wallets in a show

of support.

Fred Cottingham, a financial services professional with Mass Mutual, is planning, with the assistance of the African American Chamber of Commerce, to bring



Buffalo, NY as a way to help small, local businesses during the recent economic downturn.

It's an opportunity for prospective consumers to see what the local community has to offer.

Cottingham's suggestion is to start the evening at a locally-owned restaurant such as Ruby's Kitchen and then move the crowd to a retailer so that people can spend about \$20 each at the store.

“We can help established black businesses and supplier groups,” Cottingham said of the purpose of the cash mobs.

Eventually, he said, such efforts can assist black-owned distributors and suppliers as well as those in the manufacturing sector.

The first cash mob is tentatively scheduled for April 12. Keep an eye on these pages for more information.

cash mobs to the local African-American community and get folks into black-owned businesses.

Black Americans, it is estimated, have almost \$1 trillion of buying

power but only a fraction of those dollars circulate in the black community. Only two percent of every dollar spent by black consumers goes to a black-owned business, according to statistics.

Cash mobs started in

### Parent Night to Address Bullying, Anti-bullying Behaviors that Start at Home

Special to The Truth

Parenting styles are connected to kids being bullies or bullied in schools. Learn how to raise your children in a way that builds confidence and an anti-bullying attitude at the “Bulling and Anti-Bullying Behaviors: They Both Start at Home” parent night 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 22 in Rocket Hall Room 1520.

“Parents who bully their children can result in them bullying their peers and a lack of parent involvement can lead your child to be a victim of bullying,” said Lisa Pescara-Kovach, Ph.D., University of Toledo associate professor of foundations of education and author of *School Shootings and Suicides: Why We Must Stop the Bullies*. “It’s important for parents to think about their style of raising children and how it can influence their child’s relationships. We hope this parent night will help raise awareness and increase a culture of anti-bullying in the home as we continue our efforts to erase the behavior in our schools.”

In addition to the discussion on parenting styles, Oregon Police Sgt. Tony Castillo will provide information on the new ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) procedures to follow if an assailant enters a building or classroom.

The “Bulling and Anti-Bullying Behaviors: They Both Start at Home” parent night is a component of the Toledo-Lucas County Anti-Bullying Campaign to address bullying and harassment in our community. The campaign teams together UT, local government, school districts and law enforcement to raise awareness about the negative impacts of bullying and to create an anti-bullying culture in the area.

Last week the Lucas County Commissioners and Toledo City Council passed resolutions in support of the campaign, which also will include bullying prevention school assemblies, the signing of an Anti-Bullying Pledge by faculty, staff and students, and other events.



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## Our Black Year by Maggie Anderson with Ted Gregory

c.2012, Public Affairs \$25.99 / \$29.00 Canada 299 pages, includes notes

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

The bag might as well be made of gold. That's because what's inside cost you dearly: groceries mostly, a little milk, pasta, spinach, those chocolate bars you like and two apples. That'll last you today. Tomorrow, you'll have to go get another golden bag and buy some more.

And if you're author **Maggie Anderson**, you'll drive 20 miles to shop even though there's a grocery store around the corner. For Anderson, it's not *what* she bought but *where* she bought it, and in her new book **Our Black Year**, you'll see how careful purchasing might change a community.

It started with a five-star restaurant. As Maggie Anderson and her husband were celebrating their anniversary, they started talking about how blessed they were. The Andersons were both educated, had great jobs and lived in a better Chicago suburb. On that night, they were the only black people at the restaurant, which spurred them to talk about "the discouraging status of blacks in America."

As usual, they discussed some kind of action. They knew that black Americans have nearly \$1 trillion of buying power, but that each dollar spent in an African-American business circulates for only 20 minutes before it ends up outside the community. They knew that just two percent of every dollar spent by black Americans goes to a black-owned business.

They were always going to do something, but life got in the way. Then, five years and two daughters later, the time was right: throughout 2009, the Andersons decided they would only buy black.

It would end up being a long year.

The name they chose for their endeavor conflicted with that of a major magazine which threatened to sue. Publicity and financial support were initially shaky. Black-owned grocery stores were scarce and black-owned clothing stores were few. Finding what the Andersons needed for their growing family often meant long drives or visits to iffy stores in bad neighborhoods. Businesses seemed to close before their eyes.

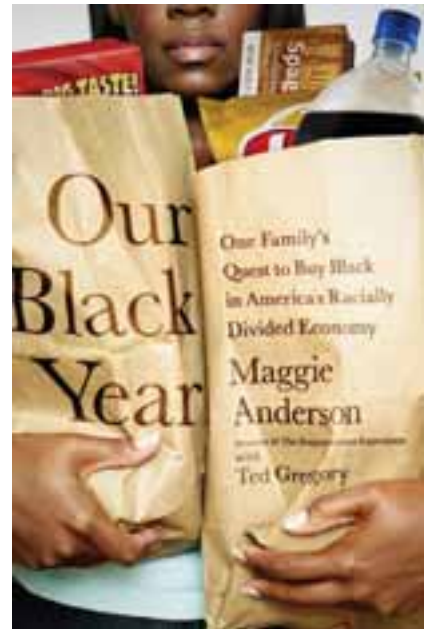
Then, a surprising thing happened: Anderson began to change some minds. Meanwhile, her experiment changed her.

Gotta be shoppin' til you're droppin'? Then you might want to drop a few dollars on *Our Black Year*, but there are some things you should know first...

Author Maggie Anderson is incredibly detailed in her story, so much so that she includes over 80 pages of notes at the end of this book. That's good, but what's not-so-good are incessant street-by-street, corner-by-corner descriptions of her search for black-owned businesses. To know that she's looking is important. To know exact streets, for most readers, is not.

I also wondered why Anderson felt the need to re-hash the ugliness of critics. I think most readers would easily believe there were haters; to add their comments, verbatim, detracted from the well-meaning goodness of her experiment.

And that goodness is why I ultimately recommend this book: in the end, *Our Black Year* is a (mostly) do-able, interesting challenge for African Americans everywhere. Yes, this book has its bumpiness, but I'd say bag it up soon.



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# Long Term Care Insurance Is More Important than Life Insurance as We Age.

By Vince Davis  
Guest Column

As we get older or as a result of an accident, because of the ensuing frailty or severe cognitive impairment such as Alzheimer disease, some of the things that we did before become more difficult to do.

Your health insurance does not pay for providing you help to do the daily activities of normal living. Long-term care insurance pays you when you need help performing the activities of daily living such as preparing meals, moving about your home, using the bathroom facilities to relieve yourself, using the bathroom facilities to bath yourself and maintain cleanliness, to mention a few.

Clients with diminished capacity to cook for themselves or eat their food without help are prime candidates for long-term care benefits. Life insurance takes care of financial obligations or is used for estate settlement purposes, final expenses, pension maximization, etc.

When we get older a great number of our financial obligations are handled. What we now need is the type of insurance that handles some of the cost of care needed when our health insurance no longer pays.

Unfortunately you cannot get the benefits without first having a policy. You have got to get the policy while you are moving, and using your own faculties. As with most insurance, you have to get it before you need it so that it will help you when you need it.

You can't wait until you are just about ready to get into a car accident before you buckle your seatbelt and purchase car insurance. You can't wait until the doctor tells you that you need to have a hip or knee replaced or that you need to have around the clock care before you get long-term care insurance. (LTCI) Quite frankly they will not sell you a policy if you are already sick or infirm.

Preferably you will get your LTCI while you are in your 40s, 50s and early 60s. If all other things are equal, the younger and healthier the applicant the lower the monthly premium. Even if you waited until you were old to get the policy, it is far better to pay premiums then to pay \$30,000 a year for an in-home care giver or \$80,000 a year in a facility.

The foundation of your financial plan should include long-term care insurance. Long-term care insurance helps families stay together. No one knows how difficult it is to care for a sick loved one without any outside help. Normally a family member has to postpone everything in his or her life to care for a sick family member. Not being able to button a shirt or cook a meal might seem to be a small matter but if one cannot perform the activities of daily living, one cannot live in his own world.

There are several types of facilities that a senior or non-

senior injured or impaired person might consider. There are facilities that provide almost seamless assistance called assisted-living facilities. The name tells the story. Then there are facilities that provide 24/7 around the clock care and supervision. Quality care could run as much as \$74,000 to \$100,000 a year. At those rates with just a little inflation a millionaire could be broke in as few as seven years. That is because while your loved one sits or lies

there and is unable to do for themselves, life goes on.

I will write another article about long-term care insurance because it is a complicated subject. If you have assets that you want to keep for your heirs, get long term care insurance. If you are broke or near broke don't worry about it. The government will continue to take care of you, if they still have the money. Just ask Native Americans how well the government takes care of people.

If someone in your life is sick or dies and on top of that you have preventable money trouble too, then that is devastating. You can take care of some of life's unexpected challenges by expecting them! You can't take the love out of it but you can take the devastation out of it.

Contact Vince Davis at Vince Davis Insurance Inc, 3344 Secor Rd suite a102 Toledo, Ohio 43606, 419-244-2904 or [vinceadavisinsurance.com](http://vinceadavisinsurance.com)

## Catholic Charities Offers Life and Home Management Workshop

Special to The Truth

Catholic Charities is offering a free four-day financial management workshop 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 19 to 22 at the Diocese of Toledo's Catholic Center at 1933 Spielbusch Ave., Toledo. The Life and Home Management Workshop is designed to help Toledo-area residents who are struggling to manage household expenses.

Participants will learn skills to avoid getting behind on housing payments or utility bills and to prepare for financial emergencies. Participants will also learn:

- To establish and maintain a balanced life to move to the next step of financial stability.
- To strategically manage income to prepare for emergencies and to enjoy life debt-free.
- To evaluate thought patterns that lead to non-productive spending decisions.
- To manage time and to prioritize tasks.

The workshop is part of Catholic Charities' Community Emergency Services program and is open to the public. To register or for more information, please contact Brian Rome at 419-244-6711, ext. 424 or 425. Funding for the workshop is provided by United Way.

Catholic Charities serves more than 31,000 people of all backgrounds in the Diocese of Toledo annually by providing food, shelter, prescription and emergency rent assistance as well as adoption services, jail and prison ministries and guardianship services to the elderly.

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## Easing the Pain at the Pump for Ohioans

By U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown  
Guest Column



With the average price per gallon of gas in Ohio topping off at \$3.85, small business owners and families are eager for economic relief. Daniel Jarvis, who owns his own independent trucking company in Ohio, recently joined me at a gas station in northeast Ohio because he's siphoning off more and more money to afford record-high prices at the gas station.

Ohioans like Daniel deserve relief from high gas prices.

While there's no single silver bullet, one way to help lower them is to address speculation. As Ohio families struggle to afford gas, Big Oil companies and Wall

Street investors are getting rich. Every time there's an outage in a pipeline, or a fire at a refinery, or turmoil in the Middle East, oil companies and Wall Street speculators use it as an excuse to spike the price of oil.

Speculation occurs when prices are driven by investor activity, rather than traditional market forces. And it's costing Ohioans a lot of extra money at the pump.

A recent report in Forbes magazine showed that reckless Wall Street betting adds a \$0.56 premium to every gallon of gas. If you are driving a sedan, then that is nearly \$10 extra you're paying each time you fill up your gas tank. If you are driving a truck, it's close to \$15. Over the course of weeks, months, and years, Ohioans are losing hard earned money at the gas pump because some Wall Street banker gambles to make millions at the expense of average Americans.

How does Wall Street oil speculation affect prices for businesses and citizens who

buy and sell gas? Basically, multi-millionaire and billionaire investors – hedge funds and foreign financial companies with no legitimate business interests that are affected by gas prices – place bets on the price of oil on “futures

for the oil they buy now, which means higher prices at the pump.

For truckers like Daniel – Americans who ensure we can buy basic necessities in grocery stores and gas stations – high gas prices jeopardize their ability to con-

and then, I have to pay for fuel surcharges.

One estimate put the total cost of speculation to the trucking industry at \$29.1 billion. For most small business owners, high gas prices don't mean high profits.

And higher fuel costs get

struggling to make ends meet.

That's why, last week, I asked U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder about the work of a Justice Department task force charged with fighting oil speculation.

And it's why we must fully enforce the bipartisan 2010 Wall Street reform law. This law empowers federal watchdogs to enforce stronger consumer protections that not only help consumers, but also ensure a stronger economic recovery. I'm now asking this watchdog group, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), to enact and enforce those long-overdue consumer protections.

While we've seen 24 consecutive months of private sector job creation, our fragile economic recovery could be undermined by high gas prices. We cannot afford to sit idly by while Wall Street and Big Oil get richer and Ohio's families and small business owners foot the bill.



exchanges” and unregulated “swaps” markets. When they bet on what oil prices will be three months from now, retailers are forced to pay more

to continue operating. As another Ohio trucker recently told me, “when oil prices go up, the price of tires go up, it costs more for an oil change,

passed along the production line, ultimately making food at restaurants and super markets more expensive at a time when working families are

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## City of Toledo Launches Spring Sweeps

### Code enforcers to partner with private Businesses and community agencies to Improve neighborhoods

*Special to The Truth*

Toledo Mayor Michael P. Bell this week helped launch the city's Spring Sweeps initiative with the directors of the city's Inspection, Neighborhoods and Public Service departments in the Library Village neighborhood of West Toledo.

The initiative is a joint effort by the city and the private sector to improve the city's housing and commercial building stock by enforcing the city's property maintenance code and linking property owners with assistance programs administered by the city, the Lucas-County Port Authority's Better Buildings initiative and Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity. The departments will target tipping point neighborhoods already the focus of federally funded Department of Neighborhoods programs for further improvement.

The effort will begin March 20 and conclude June 20. Staff will work in groups beginning in the Library Village neighborhood and will move to Arlington/Burroughs; Secor Gardens; Oakdale/Ravine Park and North Toledo/Point Place.

"This is an opportunity to target improvement of some of our city's historically solid neighborhoods that have been adversely impacted by the economic downturn. Now is the time to improve them before the slip into further disrepair," said Bell. "We can inform our citizens of the programs available to help them maintain their property to the benefit of the neighborhood and the community at large."

In addition to linking property owners with programs available, staff will also work to educate citizens about the importance of using licensed contractors and securing proper

building and mechanical inspections for the health, safety and welfare of residents and visitors.

"We're working to take a positive, proactive approach to nuisance abatement and property maintenance," said Chris Zervos, director of Inspections for the City of Toledo. "This will not only help maintain the value of individual properties, but also the collective value of the neighborhood. We're appreciative that the block watch members, district council representatives and business community have seen the value in that."

Promotional assistance for Spring Sweeps has been provided by The Andersons, Byrne Paint, Home Depot-Behr Paint Co., Lowe's Home Improvement Center, Menards, Modern Builders Supply, Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority.

## NAMI of Greater Toledo reaching out in support of the Minority Community

### Support Group held every Wednesday, United Church of God 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.



NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) of Greater Toledo is associated with NAMI National and NAMI of Ohio.

NAMI is a grass roots, family-oriented support, advocacy and education organization. The goal is to improve the quality of life for children, adolescents and adults who suffer from mental illness/psychological problems and to enable them to support their families.

NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness. NAMI has over 1,100 affiliates in communities across the country who engage in advocacy, research, support and education. Members of NAMI are friends, families, and people living with mental illness such as major depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, obsessive compulsive (OCD), panic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and borderline personality disorder.

Please join us at United Church of God- located at 1122 Bronson Street, Toledo, Ohio 43608. EVERY WEDNESDAY from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

No Pressure, No Committee, No Reason to be alone in a difficult time. One out of three people are suffering from mental illness, it affects us all. Join NAMI for support, advocacy and education on dealing with a loved one that is suffering.

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**Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY12-096,**

(Project # 1020-12-798) for Parking Lot 25 Improvements 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 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 3, 2012. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$50.00 will be charged per set.

Any further information may be obtained from Rick McGuckin of DGL Consulting Engineers at 419-535-1015. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at 10:00 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: \$2,237,000.00; Breakdown: General Const: \$1,916,000.00 and Electrical: \$321,000.00.

**Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY12-095,**

(Project # 1010-12-810) for UT Gateway - Dorr/Secor Primary Feeder Relocation 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 43606 before 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 3, 2012. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 3:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package.

A cost of \$30.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Craig Kohring of MDA Engineering at 419-893-3141. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at 11:00 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: \$350,000.00; Breakdown: Electrical: \$350,000.00.

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Justice: Sanford Florida Style

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Toledo thugs, y'all need to go down to Florida and find George Zimmerman.

I tried to write a sensible article about this.

I've tried to use whatever professional graces I can think of to tie up the outrage we all feel.

I've tried to look at this from a gun owner's angle, a community angle, a strictly legal angle, a self defense angle and all kinds of ways yet none of them do justice.

So, I have no choice to but to be as unapologetic and extreme as the situation itself.

I feel that George Zimmerman should be arrested, convicted and sentenced to death.

His life ended.

Usually, I am not a supporter of capital punishment. Evidence is shady, wrongly convicted people spend lifetimes on death row, and what does killing solve really?

However, at least a death row inmate has at one point been in police custody for their alleged crime. George Zimmerman shot an unarmed person in cold blood and has not been arrested. If we are not going to do away with the death penalty, if we are allowing it to remain a part of our so-called justice system... let's put it to good use then.

Okay, now how can I in good conscience support any human being be slain?

Trayvon Martin wasn't anyone I knew; I've never even been to Florida.

So why go that far? Is it merely the archaic notion of "an eye for an eye"?

No. It's not.

It's a message that needs to be sent.

For all the black men, women and children lynched in public rituals throughout the South earlier last century whose killers not only went free, but lived full lives

collecting memorabilia of the times they tormented their victims...

For all the innocent, non-criminally involved black lives lost at the hands of so called law enforcement...murdered by the system that is supposed to protect them as citizens.

For all the times I walked to the damn convenience store in my teens...

George Zimmerman should be arrested, convicted and sentenced to death for the crime of manslaughter.

Why do we use the term "manslaughter" if not all of us who fall under the code of law are not even seen as human by the law?

Three fifths of a human being, 3/5ths of a human being... it was at one point written in the U.S. Constitution that black people are to be considered only 3/5ths of a human being.

And now in 2012 we would be lucky if we receive 3/5ths of the justice we are due.

And then, Toledo, I think of you.

I can't help but think of Trayvon Martin, then almost immediately think of Toledo, Ohio.

There's a difference.

Young black males who are involved in criminal activity, carrying guns, using or selling drugs and just basically living foul and doing foul stuff.

Young black males who are involved in school or church or community, carrying books, being responsible and basically living just trying to get somewhere in life.

All the shootings in Toledo carried on by young black criminals, why don't y'all hop on I-75 go down to Florida... find George Zimmerman and shoot him. Claim it was self-defense.

It'll be a win-win for everyone. We will have less violence on Toledo streets and those of you who (probably aren't even reading this) but who want to commit acts of gun violence can aim all that hostility at a deserving place. And here's the bonus, George Zimmerman wants to meet you. Bad.

You heard the 911 tape, he says "these assholes al-

George Zimmerman's work. I want that name to stick in your mind, Toledo.

George Zimmerman. I've re-written this article so many times until I'm blue in the face and that name sticks in my soul like it burns. George Zimmerman.

February 26. The same day I celebrated my 34th birthday. George Zimmerman made sure a

back in his dad's house where he was expected to return. Would never even finish the phone call he was on, talking to a 16-year-old female who told him to "run" when he told her that he was being followed by a man he didn't know.

If you think this homicide was in self-defense, you need not say anything to me. You can take your ass

ganize, and all those years of putting powerful and honorable black men and women in Congress and other positions starts to truly be tested... the eyes of the world are on Sanford, Florida. A place not even a 3/5ths the size of Toledo (yet slightly more black, percentage wise).

Toledo, I think of you. The guns, the violence, the killings, the crime.

The ease in which police officers and court systems crush themselves down upon young, black men involved in violence yet can't seem to stamp out black on black violence.

George Zimmerman shot and killed an un-armed human being in cold blood, with witnesses and 911 dispatch as his audience.

No arrest.

Toledo, I think of you.

TPD, I think of you.

Trevor Casey, I think of your memory.

I don't know how much of this article my editor will even let go to print.

But I do know this.

A black persons life ain't worth much in the United States of America.

Not to white people.

Not to black people.

Not to George Zimmerman and those who protect or agree with him.



It was at one point written in the U.S. Constitution that black people are to be considered only 3/5ths of a human being.

ways get away".

Hell, actually... he shouldn't even call you an asshole because if you are out here killing young black men you are and this racist are basically on the same team.

Yes, I said it.

I mean it.

Who cares if his guns are legal and yours aren't.

Who cares if he claims to be some sort of neighborhood watch patrol and you are just some local gang member/block dweller/street hustler.

Every young black male raising his gun at another young black male is doing

young black boy would never see 34. Would never become the aviation mechanic he was planning to become. Would never walk

down there with Zimmerman along with the gun-toting young black thugs I'm suggesting go as well.

As our black leaders or-


Advertisement for GamesavvyOnline.com featuring a group of people and text: 'STOP BEING SO SURPRISED! WATCH GAMESAVVY LATE NIGHT EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT 10PM-12AM'.

Advertisement for iLoad music service: 'introducing... iLoad Music loaded to your PHONE, MP3 PLAYER or IPOD! DJ KEITH SUCCESS 419-917-1156'.

Advertisement for 93.1 FM radio show: 'Welcome to Toledo's Hottest Urban Alternative... Jam Packed Magazine HIP HOP & R&B Radio Show'.

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**INTERESTED BIDDERS:**  
**TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – Old Orchard, DeVeaux and Woodward Phase 2  
Site work and General Trades Packages**

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until **1:00 p.m. on Wednesday April 4, 2012**, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers' Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor, material and supervision necessary for Old Orchard, DeVeaux and Woodward Phase 2 Site work and General Trades Packages, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by The Collaborative, Inc. and SSOE and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

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

Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting **March 16, 2011** which may be purchased from **Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615, phone: (419) 385-5303. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.**

A **PREBID CONFERENCE** will be held on **March 23, at 8:30 am** at Toledo Public Schools Board Room, 420 East Manhattan Blvd, Toledo, Ohio 43608.

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

Bid Item No. 1 – Old Orchard Site Work	\$ 610,000.00
Bid Item No. 2 – DeVeaux General Trades work	\$ 425,000.00
Bid Item No.3 - Woodward General Trades Work	\$ 375,000.00

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

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Lots of potential with your improvements  
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Office 419.350.7514

# CLASSIFIEDS

March 21, 2012

Page 15

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY TOLEDO, OHIO

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** by the Board of Directors that Sealed Bids will be received by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority for: **REPAIR WEST END BAK-12/14 AIR-CRAFT ARRESTING SYSTEM**

**OANG PROJECT NO. WYTD052007 - TOLEDO EXPRESS AIRPORT**

This contract is for all construction services necessary for the above-referenced project at Toledo Express Airport, Swanton, OH 43558, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications, for the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority at One Maritime Plaza, Toledo, OH 43604. Bids will be received at the Port Authority's administrative offices at One Maritime Plaza, Toledo, OH 43604 until Thursday, April 19, 2012, at 3:00 PM, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. The work scope includes the complete installation of one (1) new, replacement BAK 12/14 Aircraft Arresting

System at the West End of Runway 7-25 at Toledo Express Airport. This project will be bid as a Base Bid and three (3) Optional Bid Items. The basis of Award will be the Base Bid, and the Optional Bid Items will be awarded at the sole and complete discretion of the Owner. The Engineer's estimate is \$1,297,019 for the Base Bid, and \$1,336,884 for the Base Bid and all three (3) Optional Bid Items combined.

Plans, Specifications, Instructions to Proposers, and Forms of Proposal and Contract are on file, and may be obtained by either (1) obtaining hard copies from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, OH 43615, phone 419.385.5303, during normal business hours, or (2) ordering and paying through Becker Impressions' plan room at [www.beckerplanroom.com](http://www.beckerplanroom.com) at a non-refundable price of \$100.00.

The entire advertisement may be viewed at: <http://www.toledoportauthority.org/PublicNotices.aspx>.

### Van Needed

Trulight @ 950 Prouty 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

### NORTHGATE APARTMENTS 610 STICKNEY AVENUE

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### Alpha Towers Apartments 525 E. Woodruff

Now accepting applications for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments.

Mature adult community for persons 62 and older. Rent based on income. All utilities. Appliances. Blinds. Service coordinator on site. Call 419-246-1258 for details



## CALL FOR YOUNG ARTISTS AT WORK YOUTH APPRENTICES

The Arts Commission is sponsoring for a 19th year, the Young Artists At Work (YAAW) program, a six-week summer employment opportunity that provides youth ages 14 -18 with an intense exposure to the arts: fostering self-expression, quality work ethic, and the development of important vocational and employable skills. In this program, youth enter into a paid apprenticeship while learning several artistic disciplines under the direction of professional artists and/or instructors.

The 2012 YAAW program is scheduled for June 25th through August 3rd. Applications may be downloaded from our website or will be available at The Arts Commission offices (1838 Parkwood Avenue, Suite 120, Toledo, Ohio, 43604) through March 30, 2012.

All applications must be postmarked or hand-delivered by Thursday, April 5, 2012.

For additional information please contact The Arts Commission at 419-254-2787 or visit our website at [www.theartscommission.org](http://www.theartscommission.org)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**  
Thursday, April 5, 2012

## Legal Notice

Bid packets will be received by Lucas County Workforce Development Agency (LCWDA) until **4:00 p.m., April 6, 2012** for the selection of a Provider to provide **One-Stop Operator including Core Services**. Submitted bid packets must be completed according to the specifications and provisions outlined in the Request for Proposals (RFP). The contract period will be from approximately **July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013**.

No bids will be accepted after **4:00 p.m. on April 6, 2012**; bids that are submitted via any method other than that described in the RFP will not be accepted.

The Request for Proposals will be available on **March 20, 2012**. It will be available for potential bidders to download by going to the site: <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

An Electronic Question & Answer (Q&A) process will be from March 20, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. to March 26, 2012 at 12:00 p.m. **PARTICIPATION IS OPTIONAL, BUT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED**. Questions for the Q&A must be submitted in writing and received via email, by Michelle Niedermier at [niedem@odjfs.state.oh.us](mailto:niedem@odjfs.state.oh.us) by March 26, 2012 at 12:00 p.m.; the posting of the Q&A will be on March 28, 2012. If any changes are made to the RFP as a result of the Q&A, an addendum to the RFP will be posted on the website address (noted above).

This notice is posted, as of **March 20, 2012**, at <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Pete Gerken - President

Tina Skeldon Wozniak - Commissioner

Carol Contrada - Commissioner

Bid: 48-13-RFP/WDA-01

## Interim Pastor

Looking for Interim Minister and Pastor for New Prospect MBC, 1425 W. Delaware Ave. Toledo OH 43606. Please send resume to above address in C/O Search Committee

## Bus Driver

School Bus driver needed. Must be able to work with students K-8 and submit to a criminal history check. Must have appropriate credentials (certified CDL Class B; passenger endorsements and Airbrake). Send resume to the attention of Dr. Samuel Hancock, CAO Star Academy of Toledo 1850 Airport Highway, Toledo, Ohio 43609.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Underrepresented minorities and women are encouraged to apply

## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on **Pearson Metropark Packer Hammersmith Center Improvements, Oregon, Ohio** will be received; opened; and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537 **Friday, March 23, at 4:00 p.m.** Local Time.

**PRE-BID WALK-THROUGH:** Bidders must attend a mandatory pre-bid walk-through meeting held on-site, Monday, March 19, 2012, from 10:00-11:00am.

THE SCOPE OF WORK consists of interior park shelter renovations, repairs and site-work. General construction includes select demolition, rough and finish carpentry, concrete, electrical, plumbing, dry-wall, floor coating, HVAC, and paint. Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents and plan-holder's list through Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, Ohio 43604 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (check made payable to Newfax Corporation) or via the Newfax Digital Plan Room at [www.newfaxcorp.com](http://www.newfaxcorp.com). Newfax can be contacted at 419-241-5157 or 800-877-5157. A non-refundable fee of \$20 is required for each set of documents obtained. For additional information, please contact Jon Zvanovec @ 419-360-9184, [jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com](mailto:jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com).

EACH BIDDER MUST FURNISH either (1) a bond for the full amount of the bid or (2) a certified check, cashier's check or irrevocable letter of credit in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid with its bid. The successful bidder must furnish a 100 percent (100%) Performance Bond and a 100 percent (100%) Labor and Materials Bond.

No bidder may withdraw its bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in bidding.

By order of the Board of Park Commissioners

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA

Catherine S. Marinelli, Interim Director

## Wanted to Buy: Diabetes Supplies

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

## Part Time Maintenance Person

For medical equipment maintenance of power wheelchairs and power scooters  
Part-time  
Call Ken at 419-865-0089

**NANBPWC, Inc. Toledo Club Cotillion Etiquette Workshop**

Special to The Truth



The Toledo Club of the National Association of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. presented an etiquette seminar for this year's debutantes and debs-in-waiting. The young ladies gathered at Indiana Avenue Baptist Church, Saturday March 17, 2012 for a



two-hour informative session entitled "Between Us Girls".

Denise Cardwell, instructor and Toledo Club member, taught this class. About 60 young ladies were taught how to greet someone with a handshake and a smile and were given tips on how to interview, look the part and how to have to right attitude in various settings.

The art of introduction was demonstrated as they attempted to get to know each other. Throughout the workshop the young ladies were encouraged to sit properly, walk correctly and what not to wear that included hair and

make-up. A working lunch was provided and debutantes and deb's in waiting got a chance to interact with each other and share ideas.

This year's seminar included former scholarship winner and Debutante Tessa Scott who came to share her Cotillion experience. Scott won Ms Congeniality, the tal-

ent competition in 2010 as well as Ms Debutante. She congratulated each young lady for taking part in the Cotillion and encouraged everyone to embrace the process and enjoy each aspect of it.

Wilma Brown, Cotillion chairman, spoke of the scholarships provided through The

University of Toledo and provided other helpful hints and information. This is the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Cotillion and Brown has been instrumental in its success.

This year's Cotillion - Debutante Ball will be held in The Great Hall at the Stranahan on Saturday, May 26 at 7 pm.

**Negro Business Women Celebrate Founders' Day**

Special to The Truth



The women of NANBPWC, Inc. Toledo Club celebrated its 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Founder's Day/Women's History Celebration, Friday, March 16, 2012 at Indiana Baptist Church with this year's theme of "Honoring Women In Law Enforcement"

The honorees were Rachel Y. Ridley, Patricia A. Tatum, Floella A. Wormely and Felicia

Y. Pettaway

Chairman Clara Brank, Co-chairman Delores Bates and the committee have designed a program that centers around the importance of paved the way and have given back to help others with a devoted commitment to serve and still carry a strong belief that there is always work to be done.

These women have been honored because outside of the hard work they already do each day, they have also shown a commitment to help others in public speaking, security, participating in educational programs, seminars, etc. they always find a way educate the community.

Clubs are required to celebrate Founders' Day annually to recognize the shoulders on which the club stands and the role and responsibility members have to prepare young people for the future. This observance is the occasion to present the Sojourner Truth award to an outstanding African-American woman. This is the highest award given by the Association and presented by a local club. The award was established in 1948.

In 1996 the Convention adopted the Women's History program as the nationally-recognized program selecting the theme "Women's History is Our History Too!" The first Saturday in March is designated as NANBPWC, Inc. Women's History Day. The purpose is to focus on the many contributions made by African-American women who have and are instrumental in advancing education, business, professions, technology, family, and community.

Denise Black-Poon President of the Toledo Club of NANBPWC, Inc. Said that she feels that it is very important to honor these women because besides doing their jobs with law enforcement, they are always busy, hard workers with long days that continue on with their families, schools, friends, churches, etc. These women are sometimes overlooked for their abilities and volunteerism.

NANBPWC, Inc. founded in 1935, emerged as a national non-profit organization in light of the need to promote and protect the interests of women business owners and professionals.

The importance of education and economic development through entrepreneurship was emphasized as women sought to support women through community service and social activism. The NANBPWC, Inc. through its national leadership, regional districts and local clubs provides opportunities for women to increase their leadership skills, experience governance and parliamentary procedures, and enhance their educational awareness of issues impacting the black community through volunteerism.

The NANBPWC, Inc. encourages youth and young adults to achieve economic independence by joining the rising tide of young people in business today. Our International Affairs Division operates in Africa, the Caribbean and the global community building socio-economic relationships between women. The members of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. understand that we can make a difference by sharing our blessings.

The founders were Emma Odessa Young, Ollie Chinn Porter and Effie Diton of New York City; Bertha Perry Rhodes, Josephine B. Keene and Adelaide Flemming of Philadelphia; and Pearl Flippen of Atlantic City.

**Toledo Club officers and members:**

- Denise Black-Poon** – president
- Wanda Terrell** – first vice president & NCD recording secretary
- Frances Collins, Ph.D.** – second vice president & NCD Ohio Youth Assistant
- Donnetta Carter** – director of membership
- Sharon Green Gaines** – corresponding secretary and parliamentarian
- Denise Cardwell** – recording secretary
- Ethel Scott** – financial secretary
- Wilma Brown** – treasurer
- Barbara Tucker** – NCD governor
- Clara Brank** – chaplain & assistant secretary

*Delores Bates, Mary Beal, Angela Brown, Deborah Carlisle, Catherine Clayborne, Alexii Collins, Mary Dawson, Phyllis Dunbar, Edith Gholston, Dorothy Gray, Leola Haynes, Prescilla Brown-Hutchens, Karen Jarrett, Timiko Kiner, Cerssandra McPherson Laura Poon, Brenda Price, Sherry Reed, Geraldine Scrutchins, Donna Todd, Beverly Tucker, BJ Tucker, Lillie Watkins*

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