Trayvon Martin ~ Rest In Peace
Justice for Trayvon

By Benjamin Todd Jealous, President/CEO NAACP

Guest Column

All of last week, I was in Sanford, Florida, pursuing justice for Trayvon Martin. I listened to community concerns about the Sanford Police Department, and talked with Trayvon’s parents and 30,000 others in Sanford, a town with only 50,000 residents.

As a son, father, brother and uncle, the loss of another young black man in an avoidable, violent confrontation hit close to home. I recalled my teen and early adult years, where making it to adulthood was considered an accomplishment among my peers. I understand the fear that lies in the hearts of millions of parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles – the fear that this could happen to their own.

Despite the awful truth of February 26, Tracy Martin and Sybrina Fulton have been pillars of courage. Like Mamie Till after the brutal murder of her son Emmett, Tracy and Sybrina have stood and shown the world what hate and violence have done to their child, and the nation and the world have responded. Their leadership has resulted in a global movement for justice for Trayvon and, most recently, in the appointment of a special prosecutor to review their son’s case.

The Seminole County branch of the NAACP has played a critical role in igniting this movement for justice in Sanford. On Thursday – in light of pressure from Seminole County NAACP President Turner Clayton and the branch to step aside – Sanford Police Chief Bill Lee temporarily resigned from his post. Along with the ongoing Department of Justice investigation, it is heartening to see that the wheels of justice are in motion.

It is clear that the Sanford police badly mishandled the investigation into Trayvon’s death. The routine mishandling of similar cases by police, prosecutors and judges has eroded the Sanford community’s trust and fueled the perception that justice for our young men and boys is of little consequence to law officials. It is vitally important that the state’s attorney assigned to this case handles it with passion and an eye for justice.

Trayvon’s family, the Sanford community and the world lost a precious gift in Trayvon. Unfortunately, he is not the only young person we’ve lost to senseless violence. Trayvon’s killing and the city’s failure to bring his killer to justice exemplifies patterns of racial profiling and the devaluation of black men by law enforcement. Across the country, our precious sons and daughters are being sacrificed all too frequently, with justice arriving far too infrequently, if ever.

We won’t let it continue to happen. We will keep speaking out, and we will keep raising our voices for Trayvon and for all of our precious children. In Sanford, I saw a strong community willing to band together in the face of tragedy and raise its collective voice for justice. We need a continued national commitment to ensure that we fix the Sanford Police Department, and we need to keep the movement rolling to demand justice for Trayvon.

Upcoming Cultural Enrichment Community Events!

The Black Heritage Library & Multicultural will begin its spring “MULTICULTURAL MOMENTS” Reading Program for pre-school age children to first grade starting on April 2, 3 to 5 p.m. Families can experience a full course delicious dinner, dessert and beverage from the library or mail in the registration form.

The entry cost is $7 per adult and $3.00 for children. The event is generously sponsored by Whirlpool Corporation. All children must be registered. For more information, registration forms can be picked up at the library or mailed. A love offering will be accepted at the community program to benefit future programming for children and youth.

Multicultural Mystery Dinner and Program – April 22, 2012 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Families can experience a full course dinner, desert and beverage from a secret culture and heritage and a brief program provided by the chef! The dinner and program will be held at the Black Heritage Library & Multicultural Center at 817 Harmon Street, Findlay.

The Twilight Gospel Singers, Rising Sun Choir, Brothers of Harmony, Spirit of Truth Singers, Toledo Quartet Union Choir

“MULTICULTURAL MOMENTS” through music, display of their crafts, special readings and expressions. Light refreshments will be served directly following the program. The reading program will be held at the Black Heritage Library & Multicultural Center located at 817 Harmon Street, Findlay. There is no cost for this cultural enrichment program. It has been generously sponsored by Whirlpool Corporation. All children must be registered by April 7. Please call The Center at 419-423-4954 or Facebook at black heritage library for more information. Registration forms can be picked up at the library or mailed. A love offering will be accepted at the community program to benefit future programming for children and youth.

Multicultural Mystery Dinner and Program – April 22, 2012 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Families can experience a full course dinner, dessert and beverage from a secret culture and heritage and a brief program provided by the chef! The dinner and program will be held at the Black Heritage Library & Multicultural Center at 817 Harmon Street, Findlay. Dinner registrations must be made by April 22, 2012 by calling The Center at 419-423-4954. The donation price for adults is $10 and $6 for students. Children under seven years of age are free.

Another premier cultural enrichment program provided by the Black Heritage Library & Multicultural Center!***** Cinco de Mayo Celebration will be held on May 5, 2012 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Black Heritage Library & Multicultural Center located at 817 Harmon Street, Findlay.

The library is holding this premier cultural enrichment program in celebration of Mexican heritage and culture. The event will include food sampling of authentic Mexican cuisine, musical presentations, dance performances, art and special exhibits, games, bingo, and bi-lingual story-time and crafts for children. Information will be distributed to guests relative to the contributions made by Hispanics and Latinos in science, math and technology. “A Connect a Million Minds” exhibit and giveaways will be provided by Time Warner Cable. The entry cost is $7 per adult and $3.00 for children. The event is free for children six years of age and younger. Please call The Center at (419) 423-4954 for more information.

Community Calendar

March 29
Quit Smoking Class: Premier Care Nicotine Treatment Center free class; 6:30 pm: 419-475-2521

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 47th 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; 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, Easter Egg rolls, games

Gospel All-Stars Spring Musical: 5 pm; Worldwide Living Church; Guests include The Twilight Gospel Singers, Rising Sun Choir, Brothers of Harmony, Spirit of Truth Singers, Toledo Quartet Union Choir

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 14
Global Youth Service Day: Hosted by United Way and North Toledo Network; 9 am to noon; Friendly Center Gymnasium: 419-243-1289 ext 304

April 21
“A Holistic Workshop Focused on Mind, Body and Spirit”: 11 am to 1 pm; Featuring guest speaker LaQuinta Newton; United MBC: 419-380-1455

Global Youth Service Day: Graffiti Free Project; Hosted by United Way and North Toledo Network; 9 am to noon; Friendly Center Gymnasium: 419-243-1289 ext 304

Warren AME Second Annual Community Dental Clinic: For families; 12:30 pm; Dental screenings, skin care, nutrition and exercise clinic, budgeting for health: 419-243-2233

Take Back the Night: Community rally women’s march to end all violence against women; Collier Bldg at UT Health Science campus; 6 pm – resource center; 7 pm – clothesline project, silent witness project, bandanna day: 419-

April 22
Cookoff Kickoff: 2 to 5 pm; Gesu Sullivan Center: 419-320-4157 or avasha03@yahoo.com

April 27-29
Calvary Baptist Church Women’s Ministry Spring Retreat: 419-787-9635

The Sojourner’s Truth

March 28, 2012

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

Fletcher Word Publisher and Editor

Becky McQueen Business Manager

Brittany Jones Reporter

Torri 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

Pam  Anderson Account Executive

Torri Blanchard Reporter

Brittany Jones Reporter

Becky McQueen Business Manager

The Sojourner’s Truth

Phone 419-243-0007 Fax 419-255-7700

thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com

www.thetruthtoledo.com
Commentary

Is the Trayvon Martin Issue Uniting or Dividing Us?

By Michael Hayes
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Harriet Tubman said: “I freed a thousand slaves, I could have freed a thousand more if only they knew they were slaves.”

Every cry for justice has someone trying to silence it, and someone else covering their ears.

Racists who can kill any one of us at any moment want to silence our cry for justice. Law enforcement and courts that still see us as 3/5ths human want to silence our cry as well.

But when black people suffer inhumane treatment and try to speak out for equality, the main ones refusing to listen are usually other black people.

Personally, I’ve been in so many debates and disagreements with folks in 2012 that I’m finally learning that my dad’s advice to me is as true as anything I’ve ever heard.

That is - some people refuse to use logic. It’s for- eign to them. At one point, it’s not about one opinion vs. another. At some point, there is purely what happened and what is reasonable. Having a debate or argument requires both people to have a desire to find reason, to find meaning or resolution.

Truths, some people want discord and disunity. Some people have self-logic but no grasp of what is fair or reason- able beyond their own immediate concerns for themselves.

While some black people were marching in the 60s, others were anti-progress. It is what it is. Score one for Willie Lynch.

Also, in the day and age of Facebook and Twitter, ev- eryone is his own media source.

It’s hard to rally around one ideal when you have a million different variations of the message.

So, although it may be in futility…I will try to explain the social context of this situ- ation in a way I hope can be supported by most.

Focus on the Issue. In Toledo, yes we have taken the Trayvon Martin is- sue and connected it to our own city violence.

I’ve been listening to the same speeches since I was 10 years old every time some- thing happens. Save our black youth! Get out the gangs! Get a degree instead of hanging in the streets. Etc. etc.

But none of this applies to the Trayvon Martin issue. This is not about black-on-black crime. So why are we even talking about that? This incident had one black person, and one crimi- nal. And they were not the same person.

Lumping it all together hurts our message and weak- ens the impact.

I am glad to see some posi- tive call to action. Always. But turning a conversation about a white man killing an unarmed black teen into a conversation about street gangs, drug dealers and way- ward black youth is actually distracting and may even be counter-productive.

We have to be focused on results. Punishing Zimmerman to the fullest extent, that’s the desired re- sult.

We have to have a clear message. We have to keep pushing one specific point without being sidetracked. If we are going to speak about the Trayvon Martin issue and how it affects us as a people, let’s deal with the specifics of this incident and let’s keep the black-on-black violence discussion out of it.

This is about the fact that white people can shoot us dead with no consequences from police or court.

Period.

The Hoodie As a Symbol

A white man who writes for globalgrind.com was the first one I saw to point out that a hooded sweatshirt is not something only black teens or criminals wear. He admitted he had a hoodie and that it can’t be used to profile someone…it’s clothing that is universal to everyone. And I agree wholeheartedly.

Former Michigan gover- nor, Jennifer Granholm, posted a pic of her wearing a black hoodie.

As have Muhammad Ali, the Miami Heat, led by LeBron James, and others.

The hoodie has become a symbol of the Trayvon Mar- tin issue. Because so many people wear hoodies it’s not fair to make assumptions.

Now let’s be all the way honest, if any person reading this saw someone approaching you with a hoodie on and you can’t see their face…you may be a bit uneasy.

But if your prejudice, anxi- ousness or fear leads you to over-react…you can’t blame the clothing.

In Trayvon’s case, it was a drizzly-rainy day. It was a short walk to the nearest store.

People of all races and
Task Force Calls for a Restructured Head Start Agency

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner’s Truth Editor

The Lucas County Head Start Task Force, organized by the Toledo Community Foundation, has released its report after five weeks of research and analysis. Its members have recommended structuring a Head Start agency that would look very different from the current early childhood education program operated by the Economic Opportunity Planning Association (EOPA).

The task force, charged with examining the best Head Start programs nationally, has recommended forming a limited liability corporation to serve as the fiscal agent—the recipient of the U.S. Health and Human Services Department $12.8 million grant that EOPA must now compete to retain. EOPA has managed the Lucas County Head Start program for decades.

As the fiscal agent, the LLC, would then, according to the task force recommendations, contract out services and operations to providers. Such a structure, separating the fiscal/administrative functions from the service delivery functions, would ensure the accountability of the providers, says the report.

Currently, in Lucas County, EOPA serves both as the fiscal agent and the service provider for Head Start.

In addition, the task force calls for a board of directors for the LLC whose members would not be employed by a Head Start provider, who would have experience in organizational leadership and oversight and who would have a range of experience in early childhood education, budgeting and finance, strategy and planning, evaluation and assessment or legal affairs.

The task force, which started its research in February, was comprised of 13 members from local educational institutions, industry, government, churches and service agencies including two members of EOPA’s board.

Aaron Baker, assistant vice president for governmental relations at The University of Toledo and EOPA board member, served as the task force’s chairman.

The task force identified what it considered to be eight core elements of exemplary programs—developmentally appropriate practices; research-based practices; reflective supervision and practices; emphasis on social-emotional development, language and literacy, the arts and diversity awareness; high teacher qualifications; small child-to-adult ratios; individualized family support services and an interdisciplinary approach.

There were 20 such exemplary programs that the task force examined including one in Ohio—the Cincinatti-Hamilton County Community Action Agency program. One key to the research process was to uncover the benefits of “a governance model that promotes collaboration, transparency and accountability of the funds needed to implement Head Start.”

But the task force also concluded that Lucas County has the community assets to form such partnerships.

The task force did not directly address the controversy currently surrounding EOPA.

“We did everything we could to stay as far as possible from politics,” said Baker of the commitment the task force “was in check to make sure the external environment and the external environment and the core of any discussion was at The University of Toledo.”

While the task force did not address the issues facing EOPA, it did conclude that, given the fact that the “Federal grant provides only a portion of the funds needed to implement Head Start,” public-private partnerships are necessary to achieve the quality service and to increase the quantity of children served in Lucas County. The task force also concluded that Lucas County has the community assets to form such partnerships.

“This issue of finances is at the core of any discussion about which entity will be the next Lucas County Head Start grantee. While $12.8 million sounds like a lot of money, said Baker, it probably isn’t sufficient to educate the number of children who should qualify for early childhood education here in Lucas County. EOPA currently enrolls 2043 young-sters in Head Start—the number that the HHS grant requires.

The task force members, as with many others in the community, believe that more funding is necessary.

“We need to change, period,” said Richard Jackson, chairman of the EOPA Board of directors. “We need to look at best practices to see what works. Head Start has not changed and we do need to change how we deliver services, how we train staff. That’s where collaboration comes in.”

But Jackson took issue with the task force’s suggestion that a system of checks and balances called for in the children can be enrolled by fostering partnerships. “Head Start must have other benefactors,” said Baker. “Both private and public.”

Task force members were Baker, Perryman, Amy Allen, Ph.D., assistant professor in the department of Early Childhood, Physical and Special Education of UT; Tom Brady, Ph.D., former interim dean of the UT College of Education; Romules Durant, Ph.D., assistant superintendent of TPS; Shirley Green, Ph.D, City of Toledo safety and human resources director; Rev. Otis Gordon, D.Min, pastor of Warren AME Church; Kristi Haman, Ph.D, Lucas County Family Council; Kathryn Hott, superintendent of Washington Local Schools; Cherie Mourlam, assistant superintendent of Washington Local Schools; Melissa Mourlam, assistant superintendent of Washington Local Schools; Melissa Romero, instructor in the Department of Early Education at Lourdes University; Elizabeth Ruppert, MD, pediatrician and Rev. James C. Williams, pastor of Tabernacle of Faith Worship Center.
EOPA Supporters Lash Out at Head Start Task Force Recommendations

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner’s Truth Editor

Reacting swiftly to the report released by the Head Start Task Force, EOPA supporters gathered at a new conference on Tuesday morning to announce that under no circumstances would they accept the proposals put forth in that report.

Led by former Mayor Carty Finkbeiner and Rev. Kevin Bedford, president of the Toledo Chapter of the NAACP, the group said the task force report was flawed in its proposals, in the make up of the researchers and in the timing of the report’s release.

Finkbeiner decried the effort of non-black members of the task force to wrest the program from EOPA.

Bedford also joined that sentiment and said that no one from the community directly impacted by EOPA and Head Start was a part of the task force.

“The overwhelming majority of people in these discussions are not only Caucasians but have never taught in a classroom.”

The former mayor specifically took United Way of Greater Toledo and the Toledo Community Foundation for their lack of participation in the discussions about this takeover, he said. “No Afro-Americans were involved initially in the discussions about this takeover,” he said. “The overwhelming majority of people in these discussions are not only Caucasians but have never taught in a classroom.”

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EOPA’s Executive Director Keith Burwell’s hand-picked choices and represented the interests of the Toledo Community Foundation. Burwell is the executive director of the Community Foundation.

The task force has recommended that an independent group, in the form of a limited liability corporation, should bid on the grant and then subcontract the operations of the program to distinct service providers.

EOPA did not participate on the task force,” said Gould. “The two who are on the board were Keith Burwell’s hand-picked choices and represented the interests of the Toledo Community Foundation. Burwell is the executive director of the Community Foundation.

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April Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities Scheduled

Special to The Truth

Lucas County Children Services remembers children lost to abuse, neglect or violence. Lucas County Children Services, the county agency responsible for protecting children from abuse and neglect, has scheduled several activities in April in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Blues Against Child Abuse – March 29, 7 – 10 p.m., Dégagé Jazz Café, 301 River Road, Maumee.

Local blues artists Voodoo Libido perform at this event designed to raise awareness of child abuse in our community. Tickets are $10, and include light hors’d’oeuvres. Cash bar. Please bring a personal care or school supply item to donate to children involved with LCCS. Special thanks to The Historic Commercial Building, Voodoo Libido, the Toledo Free Press and Cumulus Broadcasting for their support.

Wear Blue to Work Day – April 11, all day. Let’s unite as a community against child abuse by wearing blue to work on April 11. Take a picture of yourself and your co-workers in blue, and either e-mail it to information@co.lucas.oh.us or post it to https://www.facebook.com/events/362264103790309/.

“Wear Blue to Work Day” buttons are available to participating groups or companies by calling 419-213-3254. Special thanks to the Toledo Free Press; Fox Toledo, 101.5 The River and Cumulus Broadcasting for their support.

We Care About Our Kids: Community Forum on Child Sexual Abuse – April 18, 6:30 – 9 p.m., University of Toledo Scott Park Campus. Representatives of child safety organizations, including LCCS, will present information to educate parents, professionals and the community on the best ways to keep kids safe, and shed light on the investigative and prosecution processes. The forum is free. Information is available at 419-729-0245 or 419-244-4053, ext. 303.

LCCS Child Memorial – April 25, 11:30 a.m. – noon, LCCS offices, 705 Adams St., downtown Toledo. A solemn memorial remembering local children lost to abuse, neglect or street violence. In the period April 2011 to present, no children have been lost to abuse or neglect, but three male teens died as a result of acts of violence: Timothy Blair, 14; Deadrick Rocker, 17; and Montelle Taylor, 17.

Child Abuse Statistics

In 2011, Lucas County Children Services received 4,148 referrals of suspected child abuse involving 6,046 children. We confirmed that 587 children were abused or neglected (two-thirds of LCCS cases are addressed using the “Alternative Response” protocol, which does not involve substantiating a perpetrator or victim). Nearly half of all alleged child victims are age 5 or younger; 34 percent are school-aged; and 19 percent were teens (2 percent were age unknown). Countywide, more than five of every 1,000 children is a victim of maltreatment. On average, intake caseworkers receive 750 calls a month reporting concerns about the safety of a child.

Owens Community College to Host Regional Job Fair, March 30

Special to The Truth

Area college and university graduates and students are invited to learn about and explore various employment opportunities available throughout the surrounding region. Owens Community College serves as host to the Collegiate Employ-Net Regional Job Fair on Friday, March 30.

Presented by Collegiate Employ-Net, a consortium of 18 colleges and universities in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan, the regional job fair will occur from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the College’s Student Health and Activities Center on the Toledo-area Campus. Owens is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township. Admission to the event is free and professional attire is required.

Throughout the event, individuals can meet with over 90 business and industry representatives about employment opportunities. In addition, attendees will be able to fill out applications for various employment opportunities. Individuals are also encouraged to bring several copies of their resume in preparation for any impromptu interviews.

Area employers in attendance will include Advance Staffing Solutions, Auto-Owners Insurance Co., Cedar Point, Cummins Bridgeway LLC, HCR ManorCare, Healing Arts Institute, Otterbein Portage Valley, Penske Truck Leasing, Piping Industry Training Center, Quicken Loans, Sherwin-Williams Co., The Home Depot, Ohio Highway Patrol, Toledo Zoo, Transportation Research Center Inc., Verizon Wireless and Wood Lane Residential Services Inc., among many others.

For more information, call (567) 661-7715 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 7715.

Pro-choice, Pro-life Speakers to Debate at Bowling Green State University

Special to The Truth

Anticipating abortion to be a hot topic in the 2012 presidential election, two Bowling Green State University student organizations are hosting “The Abortion Debate … You Decide” March 29 at 7 p.m. in BGSU’s Olscamp Hall 101.

Pro-choice speaker James Croft, executive vice-president of the Humanist Graduate Community at Harvard University, will debate pro-life speaker Scott Klusendorf, founder and president of Life Training Institute in Atlanta. Two BGSU student organizations, the Secular Society and Veritas, a Catholic student group, are working together to host the event.

The Secular Society chose Croft, and Veritas chose Klusendorf.

Both men were selected for their ability to articulate their positions on the issue of abortion, said Peter Range, adviser to Veritas and campus minister at St. Thomas More University Parish.

“You either believe in a woman’s right to choose, or that every child has a right to life, we wanted to create a space where both sides could learn from each other and better yet, just encounter one another face to face rather than hiding behind slogans and political rallies,” Range said.

Veritas has also invited BGSU professor Priscilla Coleman, Ph.D., to present her research on the psychological and physical effects of abortion on women March 31 at 7 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of BGSU’s Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

“Veritas is hoping to build a culture here at Bowling Green State University and beyond that will be willing to engage and debate the tough issues of our day,” Range said.

Additional sponsors of the debate include Catholic Charities, Foundation for Life, St. Thomas More University Parish and St. Jude Church. Both events are free and open to the public.

The Sojourner’s Truth March 28, 2012
A Portion of Collingwood Blvd Dubbed “Ernest C. Jones Way”

Sojourner’s Staff

On March 20, 2012, elected officials, Scott High School staff and students, along with friends and family of the late artist, Ernie Jones, gathered at the corner of Collingwood Blvd. and Machen Street, to designate a portion of Collingwood Blvd as “Ernest C. Jones Way.”

Jones was a teacher with the Toledo Public Schools for over 30 years, on the faculty of Scott for 25 of those years.

As a student at Scott, his pen and ink drawing, “Traffic on the Maumee,” was published in Reader’s Digest in April 1962.

After earning a bachelor’s degree in education from The University of Toledo, he joined TPS as an art teacher and continued to display his own art in various sites. His 20-feet high “Christ Ascending to Heaven” may be seen at Faith Way Church of God in Christ. He lectured at a variety of universities, schools and churches across the nation.

He earned his master’s of education from UT in 1976.

Jones was one of the founders of the Confederation of Black Artists (COBA) and also a founder of the Black Caucus of Toledo Teachers. He served as the activities director for the UT chapter of the National Youth Sports Program for 24 years. Jones was the founding advisor for the city-wide Afro Clubs. He helped area and city high school students create an annual scholarship dance. The “Afro-Ball” has been the crowning achievement of pride for over 20 years in Toledo.

Jones was a long-standing member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc and was a member of the Amazon Lodge #4, Order of Prince Hall Masons. He and his wife Gloria had three children and four grandchildren. Jones, born on February 14, 1943, passed away on October 26, 2010.

(1. to r.): Toledo Board Member Brenda Hill; TPS Superintendent Jerome Pecko, PhD; Councilwoman Paula Hicks-Hudson; Board Member Larry Sykes; Gloria Jones, Councilman Steve Steel; Scott Principal Treva Jeffries
In my travels I have come across many talented people from different walks of life. Every so often I meet talented individuals who are utilizing their artistry to do more than entertain the senses. One such artist I came across and became familiar with through a unique project that has garnered an international buzz even though he’s right across the state-line in our neighboring city of Detroit. I had the pleasure of interviewing him right before the debut of his People of Detroit Photo Exhibition that was held on March 15 at the Detroit Works Project home base.

Monique Ward: For those of us who may not know who you are, in your own words, familiarize us with the origins of Noah Stephens, the man, photographer and entrepreneur.

Noah Stephens: I’m a photographer, essayist, and founder of thepeopleofdetroit.com. TPOD is photo portraiture project dedicated to everyday, dynamic people in the automotive capital of the world.

TPOD’s mission is to use vivid portraiture and engaging essays to reform how people think about life in Detroit. By doing so, TPOD exists to increase Detroit-directed investment and residency.

Since its inception, the project has received a bit of national and international attention: in February 2011, a creative director in China saw the project and hired me to shoot an eight-portrait ad campaign for McDonald’s China in Shanghai.

Monique Ward: Your brainchild, The People of Detroit: A Photodocumentary, did you ever fathom that it would be as world renowned as it has become? Tell us the story of how this project came into fruition.

Noah Stephens: When I started the project, the only thing I wanted to do, was provide a counter argument to media that focused only on what is wrong with Detroit. I never thought it would turn into anything more than a personal passion project.

However, when you do something you feel strongly about, it will resonate with other people who feel the same way. I had no idea that it would grow into what it has.

Monique Ward: What was it like getting the phone call from McDonald’s Corporation in China after the initial release and positive response to your project? How was that experience?

Noah Stephens: I got a email at three o’clock in the morning with the subject line: “Would you shoot in China”. My first thought, was that it was a Nigerian email scam. I figured I’d play along: I agreed to Skype with the email sender and I’ll be goddamn if the Nigerian scam artist haven’t figured out a way to look just like pleasant looking Chinese women...

Turns out, the opportunity was genuine, and so was my Chinese host, creative director Hwee Beng Poh. She was as gracious as anyone could be. A truly great person.

I lived in Shanghai for three weeks. It was one of the most exciting three weeks of my life.

Monique Ward: What major social, economical or political results have you witnessed as a direct result of your People of Detroit project?

Noah Stephens: A high school kid in Melbourne, Australia blogged about the project on his tumblr account. He said that the project showed him what the people of Detroit “were really like” - which is exactly what I always hoped TPOD would do. It’s about changing how people think about Detroit.

Monique Ward: What is next for the creative mind of Noah Stephens?

Noah Stephens: I have a plan to take further increase the profile of TPOD. It’s going to be awesome. That’s all I can say for now.

For those of you who missed the first showing of The People of Detroit: A Photodocumentary, Stephens will be having an encore but more intimate showing on March 31 from noon to 2 p.m. At 2929 Russell Street at the headquarters of the Detroit Works Project.
PRIZM Opens Sixth Annual Juried Show, Art-A-Fair 2012

PRIZM Creative Community’s sixth annual juried art show ART-A-FAIR 2012, opened Saturday March 10 and continue through Thursday May 10, at the Fifth Third Center at One Seagate, 550 North Summit Street, Toledo. The show featuring 45 PRIZM Artists includes a variety of visual and literary works, and is free and open to the public. Gallery hours will continue through May 10, Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and weekends, Saturday-Sunday 12 noon to 6:00 p.m. at the Fifth Third Center. Art Judges for Art-A-Fair 2012 will be: Diana Attie, professor emeritus, College of Visual and Performing Art at The University of Toledo and Jerry Gray, artist and owner of Bozart’s Gallery on St. Clair St. in downtown Toledo. Since its opening Bozarts has shown a variety of local talent including solo artists and groups. Since completing her education, Elizabeth Irvin, freelance writer and editor, B.A. University of Toledo in Communications.

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Diana Attie received a B.S. from Case Western Reserve University and a M. A. in Painting and Drawing from the Cleveland Institute of Art. She has been a favorite art professor at UT, as well as involved in the development of community arts programming. Jerry Gray has been involved in the local arts scene in Toledo for over a decade. He operates an art and production studio called Quest for Fire with friend Kerry Krow in the downtown Secor Building. Since July of 2009, he has also developed and curated Bozarts Gallery on St. Clair St. in downtown Toledo. Since its opening Bozarts has shown a variety of local talent including solo artists and groups.

Art-A-Fair 2012, juried artist awards are for outstanding works created in the spirit, style or techniques of famous artists: Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Georgia O’Keefe, Vincent Van Gogh, Edgar Degas, Mary Cassett, Michelangelo, Auguste Renoir, Winslow Homer, Ansel Adams, Leonardo DeVinci, and Louis Comfort Tiffany. Literature awards are named for the following authors: Robert Frost, E. E. Cummings, Raymond Carver, William Blake, Mark Twain and Dr. Seuss.

Annually as part of Art-A-Fair PRIZM members can elect to participate in a Creative Challenge. Announced at the beginning of each New Year the Creative Challenge theme inspires members in the area of Art and Literature. This year’s theme is BEST DAY EVER! Artists are invited to focus on what would the best day ever look or feel like. All Creative challenge Pieces will be flagged in the exhibit, but three Art Works and three Literature Works will also be chosen to receive a ribbon and be featured as outstanding pieces.

Co-Chairmen for the 2012 Art-A-Fair are Jake Lee Ziolkowski & Randy Bennett. Many other PRIZM volunteers participate in preparing the posters, postcards, programs, literature readings, food and fine details of the annual Fine Art and Literature Exhibit.

While Art-A-Fair 2012 remains an excellent opportunity for PRIZM members to display their work and the community to enjoy PRIZM’s talents, it is also an occasion for others to learn of creative opportunities available to all local artists from novice to professional. PRIZM Creative Community is a 501 (c.) (3) Nonprofit organization currently receiving partial funding from the Ohio Arts Council, Toledo Community Foundation, local businesses, and many generous individuals. For more information on upcoming PRIZM educational workshops in the visual and literary arts visit the PRIZM website @ www.myprizm.com, email prizm@bex.net, or call 419-931-8732.
In life, there are so many reasons to sing. You lift your voice to God at church, or to your teacher at school. With your friends, you can harmonize or improvise pretty much anywhere, singing along with your favorite music, adding words or background. Maybe you’ve figured out how to play the song on guitar or piano.

So many songs and not enough time to sing them, right?

For Sunday Tolliver, music wasn’t just fun, it was a way to make a living. Sunday was Epsilon Records’ newest sensation, but in the new novel *On the Flip Side* by Nikki Carter, too much drama made Sunday sing the blues.

Throughout her whole life, there were two things Sunday Tolliver set her eyes on: becoming a singer and becoming an entertainment lawyer. The first one was easy. As soon as the fabulous Mystique heard Sunday’s voice, she took Sunday under her wing and nurtured her career. As a mentor, Mystique was the best, which is why she signed Sunday on at Epsilon Records.

The second goal, well, Sunday was working on that one. She was just starting her freshman year at Spelman College in Atlanta, and it was going to be great. Her roommate, Gia, was funny and they’d met other dorm-mates who seemed nice. For real, there was gonna be some sisterhood there.

The only bad thing about it all was that Sunday’s boyfriend, Sam, was in New York City. He’d been her producer on her #1 record and Epsilon needed him to do his magic on other tracks in the Big Apple. Long-distance relationships were hard and Sunday missed Sam terribly. Still, there were a lot of distractions to keep Sunday from thinking about her boo too much. She was working on a video and the dancer she performed with was a hottie. Studies took up time, and bonding with her sister-friends was important.

Then there was the drama with her cousin, Dreya, and that wasn’t disappearing any time soon. Going to college was supposed to mark the end of silly drama for Sunday Tolliver. But when Epsilon was taken over, when Dreya was haterating, when Sam was caught cheating, and when Mystique got all mysterious, Sunday realized that the drama had only just begun... Think all your troubles will end when you’re rich and famous? Not so much, as you’ll see in the latest in this teen series. Author Nikki Carter doesn’t just sprinkle drama in *On the Flip Side*. No, it’s slathered there like peanut butter on bread and it’s just as tasty. Aside from the story—which is easy to get into and easy to stick with—I liked that the characters talk and act like real teens. You won’t find profanity here, either, which is refreshing.

Though this story is mostly set at college, I think anyone 13-and-up will enjoy spending time with Sunday and her crew. If that’s you and you’re looking for something decent to read, then *On the Flip Side* is a book that’ll make you sing.
### Top 2012 Scholarships For Black Students


(Continued on Page 12)
Area Community Leaders Share Business Savvy at Lourdes Leadership Summit

Special to The Truth

This spring, the Lourdes University Alumni Association is hosting its third annual Leadership Summit. This year’s event is titled “Partnering for Better Communities: How Local Nonprofits and Corporations Work Together” and features presentations from Stephanie Cihon (ProMedica), Mark Makulinski (Lockrey Manufacturing) and Mike Szuberla (Toledo Botanical Gardens).

Stephanie Cihon – Community Relations Director for ProMedica

Stephanie’s 10 years with ProMedica, her role has evolved from communications into advocacy and public affairs. She is responsible for ProMedica’s community partnerships, including the obesity prevention initiatives and hunger-free community efforts. Stephanie has spoken at regional and national professional conferences to share the work ProMedica has done in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan.

Mark Makulinski – CEO of Lockrey Manufacturing

Lockrey Manufacturing is a local company with $15 million in sales and 80 employees. This employee owned company supports community service in a generous way. From 2002 to present, it has allocated 5% of the bonus pool toward community service activities which has amounted to upwards of $24,000 per year. Mark is personally involved in many of the education related charitable programs supported by Lockrey and is the chairperson of Toledo Rotary’s community service committee.

Mike Szuberla – Manager of Toledo GROWs

Mike manages the principal outreach program of Toledo Botanical Garden – Toledo GROWs. In this capacity, he helps to coordinate services to over 150 community gardens in northwest Ohio. Additionally, he helps to employ over 100 adjudicated youth a year through a collaborative job-training program with the CITE program of the Lucas County Juvenile Justice Division.

The Leadership Summit will be held in the Franciscan Center on April 11, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Light refreshments will be served. $10 per person and free for Lourdes alumni. For more information, contact Alumni Relations Officer Erin Hafner at 419-517-8971 or email chaffiner@lourdes.edu.

Top 2012 Scholarships For Black Students

(Continued from Page 11)

Delta Scholarship

For students who excel in chapter and campus involvement, community service, academics, and more. Tylenol Scholarship

For students pursuing a career in health care who can demonstrate leadership and academic qualities. United Negro College Fund Scholarship

Administers 400 different scholarship programs so low-income families can afford college, tuition, and books. U.S. Bank Internet Scholarship

For high school seniors planning to enroll or college freshmen, sophomores, and juniors already enrolled. USDA/1890 National Scholars Program

For students seeking a Bachelor’s degree in agriculture, food, or natural resource sciences and related majors.

Vanguard Minority Scholarship Program

Provides merit-based scholarships to minority students studying business, finance, economics, and more.

William B. Ruggles Right To Work Journalism Scholarship

Available to undergraduate and graduate students who are majoring in journalism or a related field. Writers Digest Short Story Competition

For first-time and experienced writers. For academic high-achievers in science, engineering, and related fields. Thurgood Marshall College Fund Scholarship

Provides merit-based scholarships to minority students studying business, finance, economics, and more.

Hill Avenue from 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

Tuesday, April 9 at Oregon Center, 570 Bayshore, from 10:00-11:30 AM

Monday, April 2 at Zablocki Center 3015 Lagrange, from 10:45 AM-12:15 PM

Monday, April 2 at Zablocki, 3015 Lagrange, from 9:30-11:00 AM

Thursday, April 12, at Blessed Sacrament, 4227 Bellevue, from 7:30-11:30 AM

Tuesday, April 10, at Kahle Center, 1315 Hillcrest, from 12:00-1:30 PM

Monday, April 9 at Oregon Center, 570 Bayshore, from 10:00-11:30 AM

Tuesday, April 10, at Kahle Center, 1315 Hillcrest, from 12:00-1:30 PM

Tuesday, April 10, at Providence Center, 1205 Broadway, from 2:00-3:30 PM

Monday, April 2, at Zablocki, 3015 Lagrange, from 9:30-11:00 AM

Monday, April 2 at Zablocki Center 3015 Lagrange, from 10:45 AM-12:15 PM

Tuesday, April 3, at Providence Center, 1205 Broadway, from 2:00-3:30 PM

Tuesday, April 10, at Zablocki Center 3015 Lagrange, from 9:30-11:00 AM

Tuesday, April 10, at Kahle Center, 1315 Hillcrest, from 12:00-1:30 PM

Tuesday, April 10, at Providence Center, 1205 Broadway, from 2:00-3:30 PM

Wednesday, April 11, at Mayores Center, 2 Aurora Gonzalez Drive, from 10:00-11:30 AM

Thursday, April 12, at Blessed Sacrament, 4227 Bellevue, from 7:30-11:30 AM

Saturday, April 14, at Wesley United Methodist, 2934 Stickney Avenue, from 9:00-10:30 AM

Tuesday, April 17, at Keno Library, 3101 Collingwood, from 1-2:30 PM

Wednesday, April 18, at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hill Avenue from 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

Wednesday, April 18, at Waterville Library, 800 Michigan, Waterville, from 1-2:30 PM

Thursday, April 19, at Hunt Center, 2121 Garden Park Pkwy, from 12:00-1:30 PM

Tuesday, April 24, at Maumee Center, 2430 S. Depot, from 10:00-11:30 AM

Tuesday, April 24, at Providence Center, 1205 Broadway, from 2:00-3:30 PM

Tuesday, April 24, at Our Lady of Lourdes, 6135 Hill Ave, from 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

Thursday, April 26, at Point Place Library, 2727 17th Street, from 1:00-2:30 PM

Assistance with Completing Food Stamp Application

A representative from Toledo Area Ministries’ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, in partnership with Lucas County Job and Family Services, will be at the following locations to assist eligible clients with completing food stamp applications:

Monday, April 2, at Zablocki Center 3015 Lagrange, from 10:45 AM-12:15 PM

Tuesday, April 3, at Providence Center, 1205 Broadway, from 2:00-3:30 PM

Tuesday, April 10, at Zablocki Center 3015 Lagrange, from 9:30-11:00 AM

Monday, April 9 at Oregon Center, 570 Bayshore, from 10:00-11:30 AM

Tuesday, April 10, at Kahle Center, 1315 Hillcrest, from 12:00-1:30 PM

Tuesday, April 10, at Providence Center, 1205 Broadway, from 2:00-3:30 PM

Wednesday, April 11, at Mayores Center, 2 Aurora Gonzalez Drive, from 10:00-11:30 AM

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Tuesday, April 24, at Our Lady of Lourdes, 6135 Hill Ave, from 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

Thursday, April 26, at Point Place Library, 2727 17th Street, from 1:00-2:30 PM

Owens Community College to Host Regional Job Fair

Special to The Truth

Area college and university graduates and students are invited to learn about and explore various employment opportunities available throughout the surrounding region as Owens Community College serves as host to the College Employ-Net Regional Job Fair on Friday, March 30.

Presented by College Employ-Net, a consortium of 18 colleges and universities in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan, the regional job fair will occur from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the College’s Student Health and Activities Center on the Toledo-area Campus. Owens is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township. Admission to event is free and professional attire and a resume are required.

Throughout the event, individuals can meet with over 90 business and industry representatives about employment opportunities. In addition, attendees will be able to fill out applications for various employment opportunity opportunities. Individuals are also encouraged to bring several copies of their resume in preparation for any impromptu interviews.

Area employers in attendance will include Advance Staffing Solutions, Auto-Owners Insurance Co., Cedar Point, Cummins Bridgeway LLC, HCR ManorCare, Healing Arts Institute, Otterbein Portage Valley, Penske Truck Leasing, Piping Industry Training Center, Quicken Loans, Sherwin-Williams Co., The Home Depot, Ohio Highway Patrol, Toledo Zoo, Transportation Research Collection Inc., Verizon Wireless and Wood Lane Residential Services Inc., among many others.
Trayvon Martin: Under The Hood

What Happened – A Deeper Look

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Tracy Martin and his fiancée, Brandi Greene, went out to eat after spending some quality time with both of their children. Trayvon Martin, Tracy’s son, was visiting from Miami. While left in the house alone, Trayvon and his soon-to-be younger step-brother settled in to watch the NBA All Star game.

Deciding to make a quick run to the 7 Eleven store just outside the Retreat at Twin Lakes gated community, Trayvon steps out in the light rain wearing a hooded sweatshirt. Leaving the store with a box of skittles for his soon-to-be younger step-brother and an iced tea for himself, Trayvon winds his way through the development on his way back home while on the phone with his girlfriend.

Watching and following him with a handgun is George Zimmerman. Zimmerman is not on official duty as neighborhood patrol, because the gated community has never appointed him as such.

Once Trayvon notices he is being followed by a potentially dangerous stranger, he tells the person he is on the phone with that he is going to put his hoodie on and walk faster.

Trayvon, who just recently turned 17, has never had a run in with law enforcement. George Zimmerman however, has. Domestic disputes, “battery of a law enforcement officer” and obstructing justice are all on his record. Zimmerman has been known to not only call 911 repeatedly to report what he felt was suspicious behavior but to also chase down and confront people.

Some of his reports over the years include such trivial instances as “children playing in the street” or people having “open garage doors.” George Zimmerman’s father is a state magistrate in Virginia, which probably gives him an edge in legal loopholes. George Zimmerman does not possess any legal authority to police, follow, apprehend or confront anyone.

The police officer who arrived on the scene also has a history of racial profiling and instead of asking witnesses what they heard (an open ended question), he tells them… although he wasn’t on the scene yet, that who was screaming was George Zimmerman. That, is corrupt police work.

Even though Trayvon Martin was killed in the same neighborhood of his father’s home, even though normal procedure would have been to use his cell phone to find his relatives… local authorities let a lifeless body sit without identifying or notifying anyone.

It’s been a month. The Sanford, Florida police still won’t arrest or charge George Zimmerman. Two of the legislators who wrote Florida’s “Stand Your Ground” law have gone on record saying it does not apply to Zimmerman because he was the obvious aggressor once he followed someone.

George Zimmerman and the entire police department in that city all need to be held accountable. Punished to the fullest extent.

The proof is abundant. The evidence is there. End of story.
Is the Trayvon Martin Issue Uniting or Dividing Us?

(Continued from Page 3)

ting for the Trayvon Martin case can be scary. No one wants to be the next Trayvon Martin.

To cynical or divisive-minded people, no cause is more organization. The Trayvon Martin case is a rainy day… you should wear a sweatshirt on a dreary, rainy day… that's different.

If you wear a hoodie, but support for Trayvon is not only support for Trayvon Davis, but support for common sense. If you wear a hoodie to a job interview, or in line at the bank… that's different.

But if you want to walk around your neighborhood dressed in a hooded sweatshirt on a dreary, rainy day… you should have the right. And so did Trayvon Martin. Be Organized When Organizing.

To people who don’t want change, the clamor of outraged voices looks scary. To cynical or divisive-minded people, no cause is ever worthy of their support for one reason or another. Personally, I don’t support every social upheaval that comes along. When you find yourself in another city having court proceedings, or getting pepper sprayed by cops in D.C. or protesting for your beliefs… you learn to only dig in to a cause when you notice it keeps you up at night.

I spent a few of my college and post college years organizing and demonstrating against the Bush presidency. I learned that moderating public discussions are important. I learned that knowing the law is extremely important. And most of all, I learned that there are different types of social action.

What was the overall point of Occupy Wall Street?

What did the national support for Troy Davis accomplish? Now that we are all talking about Trayvon Martin, if we assemble… what do we do next? There’s no right/wrong answer but you should have an answer. This is how you have to look at things. I’m not discouraging people from doing what they feel.

But I am reminding you that the outrage you feel is emotionally charged energy. It has to be funneled to a direct and clear goal or else nothing changes. You will find yourself all hyped up about something and months later you haven’t made any changes with yourself and the outcome of the situation didn’t pan out and you will be less motivated to raise your voice the next time. It’s true. Some people are followers. They have very little understanding of the specifics.

They talk loud, put on a good show, come off as positive and informed but deep down are fronting. But even they serve a purpose. Remember how we all felt when Barack Obama got elected? That’s that energy, connecting everyone while others resist it or try to kill it.

We are powerful. A mass of people united with a common purpose can do anything. That’s why sports games, and even parties can sometimes feel like the air is electric.

A crowd of people all united for any one thing takes on a life of its own. Our thoughts, our intentions, our focus on a particular subject creates change. Whether its good change or bad change, depends on how we have organized what we do. If you are progressive minded and want social equality, add your voice to the call for justice.

As they say, the people… united… will never be defeated. And I believe that. Shout out Bianca Harris, Tia Boykin and any others behind the Ottawa Park event this past Saturday in honor of Trayvon Martin. Shout out D.J. Kausion and any others who have something planned.

March 28, 2012

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The Sojourner’s Truth

T H E

BLACK MARKETPLACE

Hillendale - $87,000/REDUCED

Ottawa Hills condo. 1480 sq. ft., 2 full baths, location, location, location. Bright home, new carpet, newly painted. Spacious one floor. Lots of storage, private garage. One great unit.

Seaway Asset Management

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Great urban opportunity! Includes both units. Move in ready for owner or tenants. Both units contain newer furnace, hot water tanks, new windows, updated electrical systems. Both units of large living areas and lots of storage space. WCRI Motivated seller. Easy access for showings.

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Everything New: Paint, Carpet, Stove, Refriger. Section 8 OK

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May include other incentives if required. Unique two-story brick home located Old South End. Totally remodeled Over 1,900 sq. ft. Home furnished with appliances. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, one full bath up, large bedroom, large kitchen. Extra loft for entertainment. Must see!

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Traci Banner dakotahb@yahoo.com, 419.346.8160

CHAPTER 7 BANKRUPTCY

$650.00 plus court costs

FREE ADVICE

ATTY. LAFE TOLLIVER

419-249-2703

a debt relief agency per the byk code
Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY12-100, (Project # 5016-11-1387) for COB-1(N) Class-rooms - RCLC-Ph 2 (Resource & Community Learn- ing Center - Phase 2) for the University of Toledo Health Science Campus. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping contain- ers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Main Campus, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 17, 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 ob- tained from Becker Impressions, 4464 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an ap- pointment to pick up bid package. A cost of $100.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Jerry Voll of Duket Architects Planners at 419-255-4500. One Pre-Bid Confer- ence will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the Health Education Building, Room 105, at the University of Toledo, Health Science Campus, 3000 Arlington Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43614. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 10%. Project Estimate: $800,000.00. Bids 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 17, 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 ob- tained from Becker Impressions, 4464 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an ap- pointment to pick up bid package. A cost of $45.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from David Desjardins of JDRM Engi- neering at 419-824-2400. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 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 Esti- mate: $800,000.00; Breakdown: Electrical: $800,000.00.

CALL FOR YOUNG ARTISTS AT WORK YOUTH APPRENTICES

The Arts Commission is sponsoring for a 19th year, the Young Artists at Work (YAWA) program, a six-week summer employment opportunity that pro- vides 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 YAWA program is scheduled for June 25th through August 3rd. Applications may be down- loaded from our website or will be available at The Arts Commission oces (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

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Thursday, April 5, 2012

Place Your Ad Today! CALL PAM @ 419.243.0007

Special Notice RE: Examinations for Journeyman Wireman

Applications for the Journeyman Inside Wireman test will be accepted April 9-13, 2012 at the Interna- tional Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 8, 807 Lime City Road, Rossford, Ohio between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The qualifications to be eligible for this examination are:

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

Part Time Maintenance Person

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

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 Air- port Highway, Toledo, Ohio 43609. We are an equal opportunity employer. Underrepresented minorities and women are en- couraged to apply.

Facilities Director

Lucas County Facilities Department has an opening for a Facilities Director.

For more details, please visit our website at www.co.lucas.oh.us and click on the “Apply for a Job” link to review the job description, minimum requirements, salary and to apply online.

Please submit employment applications by Fri- day, April 6, 2012.

Finish Drywall and Painting

Residential and commercial
Patch and match existing textures
References upon request
419-280-2967

Abundant Life of Perrysburg is a sub- sidized independent housing facility for those 62 or older. WE are located in a beautiful, quiet residential setting in Perrysburg. Abundant Life offers one bed- room garden apartments with private patios, indoor mailboxes, reserved parking and busing to local grocery stores. Applications are now being accepted Call 419-874-4371

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

NAMi of Greater Toledo Minority Support Group

Held Every Wednesday from 6-7:30p.m. at United Church of God -1122 Bronson Street , Toledo, Ohio 43608
NAMI Sponsors : Soup and Sandwich Fellowship. Please join us EVERY WEDNESDAY for (FREE) soup and sandwich, followed by : Support Group from 6-7:30 p.m.
With 1 out of 3 people that suffer from Mental Illness this affects us all.
No Pressure, No Commitment, No Reason to go through this alone.

WANTED: Bus Driver

Wanted to Buy:Diabetes Supplies

Earn up to $12 per box of 100 test stripsMust expire after September 2012. Leave labels on boxes. We remove and shred.Call 419-740-7162 and leave message.
“Shaping the world one life at a time,” is the motto of New Covenant Baptist Church of Toledo, and explains the honoring of nine congregational leaders on Sunday, March 25, 2012.

Rev. Benjamin L. Green acknowledged the past and recent accomplishments of the congregation’s leaders. “I wanted to acknowledge the leaders within these church walls, these individuals have positively influenced my life and made me a better husband, a better father and better man, period.”

Ronda Proctor is retired New Covenant Baptist Church Honors Leadership
By Artisha S. Lawson
Sojourner’s Truth Reporter

police officer, current mission worker, usher board member and Toledoans United for Social Action (TUSA) member. Earl Barry, a retired police officer, is also a member of TUSA, usher board and men’s ministry. Leona Barry, a retired U.S. Probation officer, is the Christian education director and member of Northwestern Ohio Re-entry Coalition. Tammy Wooten, current music minister, is organizing a performing arts ministry that will be open to the community this spring. Langston Bannister, PhD, is a former University of Toledo professor; also former pastor of Third Baptist Church and Grace Presbyterian. Bannister is a faithful member of the men’s ministry and mentor to Green. “It’s truly a blessing to receive this from my pastor,” said Bannister.

John Norwood, who travels regularly from Saginaw to Toledo to attend services, is a retired assistant superintendent of the Saginaw school district. Norma Vaughn is known as the congregation’s knitter, and prepares knitting crafts for various congregation activities. First Lady Gladys Green is owner of both Little Generation Day Care and will celebrate 25 years of marriage to Pastor Green in August. “I’m honored my husband and pastor thinks highly of me,” said First Lady Green. Each of the nine honorees received a warm thank you from their pastor and certificate of appreciation. The congregation welcomes guests to visit for Sunday worship starting at 11:00 am, and Wednesday Bible studies at 5:30 pm, the church is located at 3864 Jackman Road in Toledo.