This Strikes Us …

A Sojourner’s Truth Editorial

The word is now out on what prompted President Obama to finally declare that he is in favor of equal rights for those in the lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgender community and, in his opinion, equality means that those of the same sex should be allowed to marry. The president was apparently pushed prematurely into the declaration when Vice President Biden jumped the gun and voiced his views on the subject.

However it may have happened, we applaud the president for coming out clearly and, finally, unequivocally on the subject even though he wanted to wait, it appears, until late in the campaign season. It had not been a subject on a lot of voters’ minds in this election year and we would guess that the White House could have contained the fallout from Biden’s exuberance.

The president chose not to evade the subject – one that has been “evolving” for several years now – any longer.

His pronouncement, we feel, will probably not gain him any votes that could help him to win re-election. As we glance over the political landscape, it would appear that the president’s stance will probably hurt him in several key swing states that he won the last time around such as North Carolina and Virginia, which have recently passed legislation or constitutional amendments making it more difficult for gays to attain marriage rights.

At best, the White House can hope that a certain number of voters are swayed by the courage the president has displayed in stepping out on such a controversial subject.

There are typically three arguments opponents of gay marriage forward in defense of an argument that is rapidly losing ground in public opinion.

The first is a matter of religion, God and the Bible. For some reason it is assumed by same-sex marriage opponents that this nation was founded on religious principles that dictate allegiance only to the set of laws propounded by their religion – to the exclusion of all others. This is by no means an argument based upon any set of the facts.

“We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,” reads the Declaration of Independence. The document does not say that the only persons created equal are white men or straight men. The document does not specify whether that Creator is the Creator of the Jews, the Creator of the Christians, the Creator of the Muslims or the Creator of the Buddhists.

Given the further restrictions placed on government with respect to religion – “Congress shall make no laws respecting the establishment of religion,” reads the Constitution’s First Amendment – we would suggest that religious preferences have no place in a discussion of a civil institution. That civil institution is marriage.

The second argument typically espoused by opponents of gay marriage is the tradition of “one man and one woman.” We think traditions are important in establishing society’s norms, except in cases in which they restrict rights or cause certain groups or classes of people to be oppressed by the majority. Since the dawn of time, societies have been replete with traditions that have changed – “evolved” one might even say – as times have changed, for some better, for some worse.

Tradition, on its own, does not suggest that we need to keep witholding rights and privileges simply because we have always done so.

The third argument we hear so often for excluding gays from the institution of marriage is the fact that society is much better off when a family unit is led by a father and a mother and that children are better nurtured in such circumstances.

For the heterosexual society to preach such piousness to gays is a matter of blatant hypocrisy at a time when approximately 40 percent of children in the U.S. are born out of wedlock and 50 percent of marriages end in divorce.

Moreover, consider, if you will, the practical barriers society constructs for gays by forbidding them to marry after all other rights to equality are granted. Virtually no one would assert that gays should not be permitted equal access to jobs, housing, government benefits and all the rights, save marriage, that the rest of society should be enjoying and are permitted to do so by law.

Society now permits those in the LGBT community, after centuries of oppression, to live together openly and have children – biologically or through adoption. And yet, in most states now, the line is drawn so that marriage – the institution that will safeguard financial rights of the partners and the children – eludes them.

It makes not a lick of sense to allow gays to do just about everything that the those in the straight community can do but not allow gays to marry, thus denying them and their children to right to reap the benefits and protections that the institution bestows. If we have a problem with extending membership in the “traditional” family unit to gays, we, as a society, must admit that we never should have allowed gays to slowly but surely gain access to all those other rights.

We should never have allowed them out of the closet. It’s too late now to push them back in and lock the door.

Community Calendar

May 16
First Annual Parrish Home Health Clinic: 10 am to 2 pm; Alpha Tower; Free food, gifts and raffles; Screenings for blood pressure, blood sugar, asthma and more; Information of diabetes, heart disease, diets, drug interactions, safety, nursing homes, and more: 419-389-1020 or 567-225-2331

May 17
Carolyn Goforth Memorial Art Show: Benefit for Harbor House; Hudson Gallery in Sylvania; 6:30 pm; 419-244-6300

May 18
Grace Community Center 29th Anniversary of Junior High AfroBall: 7 to 11 pm; SeatGate Center; Fund raiser for Center; For seven and eight graders from area schools: 419-248-2467
True Vine Baptist 11th Annual Pastoral Appreciation Celebration: Pastor and Lady Melvin Barnes; 7 pm; Pastor John Williams and Eastern Star MBC: 419-539-9104

May 19
My Music Is Major Art Showcase: 5:30 to 8 pm
Gospel Fest Choir Workshop: All Saints Episcopal Church; 9 am to 4 pm; Concert at 7 pm; Featuring Barbara Tucker, Philllip Hall and Obed Shelton: 419-242-1508
Business Workshop: “How to Grow Your Business through Networking and Relationship-Building;” Sponsored by the Toledo African American Chamber of Commerce; 9 to 11 am; UT Main Campus, Stranahan Hall, North Rm 1200 A/B: 419-407-6697
Cash Mob!!: Powell’s Beauty & Barber Supply; Noon to 5 pm; The only black-owned beauty and barber supply operation in Toledo: 419-407-6697
Concord United MBC Women’s Day: 9 am to 1 pm; Pickford Park Beautification Project: 419-382-0410 or 419-245-1050

May 20
Bradent United Methodist 88th Women’s Day Celebration: “Under the Wings of God” True Vine Baptist 11th Annual Pastoral Appreciation: Pastor and Lady Melvin Barnes; 4 pm; Pastor Floyd Smith and Calvary Baptists: 419-539-9104
United MBC Women’s Day Celebration: “Women Walking Worthy;” 11 am; Speaker Anita Bass: 419-242-1455
Warren AME “Missionary Day Celebration;” 10:45 am; “Fulfilling the Mission: God’s Word, God’s Will, God’s Way”
New Prospect MBC Women’s and Men’s Day Program: 11 am service – speaker Sr. Fannie Ivory; 4 pm service – speaker Rev. Sylvester Rome
Historic Third Baptist 90th Women’s Day Celebration: 10:45 am; “In the Potter’s Hands;” Speaker Rev. Ramona Bethany of First Church

May 25
True Vine Baptist 11th Annual Pastoral Appreciation: Pastor and Lady Melvin Barnes; 7 pm; Pastor A. Shears and Rossford First Baptist: 419-539-9104

May 26
Warren AME Prayer Summit: 9 am; A Call to Prayer: 419-535-1290

May 27
True Vine Baptist 11th Annual Pastoral Appreciation: Pastor and Lady Melvin Barnes; 4 pm; Bishop Duane Tisdale and Friendship Baptist: 419-539-9104
Charity MBC 31st Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor Bobby Welborn and First Lady Vickey Welborn; also, June, 1, 3, 10, 24 and July 1 – services at 4: 419-726-4975

The Sojourner’s Truth

Toledo’s Truthful African-American Owned and Operated Newspaper

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Reporter

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So, You Think It’s A “Gay” Idea?

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

At one time, the word “gay” meant girly, fun, merri-
ment. Now the word has another altogether other
meaning, to wit: a person who is attracted to a person
of the same gender.

Sexual orientation, as one
considering him or herself a
male or female, can now be
considered passé or some-
thing that is uttered with an air
that nothing is amiss or wrong.

Increasingly (according to
which poll you believe, half
of all Americans support gay
marriages), people view bee-
ing gay as matter of indif-
ference or no consequence.

Sometimes, people even
assert they themselves are gay,
that is, one is gay at the time
of one’s birth and such sexual
preferences are beyond their
control.

The issue of choice of be-
ing gay or becoming gay is
downplayed and given short
shrift.

People who consider them-
selves gay are militant and
outraged if you suggest that
they can choose their sexual
orientation as one chooses to
wear a blue short sleeve shirt
or choose their sexual ori-
tentation as one chooses to
marry.

It was settled that if you
were born a male, you were a
male, you were a female. One
did not play musical chairs as
to whether you wanted to be
named “Steve” or “Eve.”

Gays escalated their argu-
ments of trying to be accepted
into mainstream society by
announcing that the choice of
a marriage partner, be it a
male or a female, was a civil
liberty and thus protected by
equal protection arguments.

The issue was obfuscated
by shrill psychological argu-
ments that appealed to emo-
tion and not fact.

Science was brought to in-
demonstrably show that
being gay was an accident of
birth and the person was irre-
resistibly bound to decisions
made in the womb, and such a
choice should allow them to
marry as homosexuals do so
marry.

When the crafty art of poli-

tics entered the fray, it be-
came a political football since
the issue of equal rights now
became a legal issue and coupled to that was the issue
of donated money for the per-
son or political party that
championed the gay agenda.

It soon became debatable
that if you questioned or called
a person gay, it could be con-
strued as hate speech because
the object of the speech, a gay
person, felt threatened and they
also wanted legal protec-
tion from anyone who would
challenge their claim of equal
protection in regards to the
right to marry.

During the contentious
debate, the issue became one
of what was a marriage; and for
a society that professes being
built upon a Judeo-
Christian foundation (which
previously determined thou-
sands of years ago, what mar-
riage was and who could
marry), the debate turned
intemious.

Marriage was morphed
into becoming an open-ended
relationship that could be en-
terred into by same sex parties
and such same sex parties
wanted all the benefits of a
marriage that heterosexual

couples enjoyed.

The fundamental and non-
negotiable issue was and is:
marriage is between a man
and a woman. Side issues be-
ing debated as to how mar-
rriage has changed over the
years does not negate or dis-
pate that core issue.

Politicians of both persua-
sions argue the marriage fac-
tor in order to attract voters;
to swing the polls their way,
but popularity can do much
more damage than help.

The overwhelming number
of states have passed laws af-
firming that core value and
which value is not compa-
rable to issues of property,
voting rights, civil rights or
other “soft” topics which do
not redefine what constitutes
a marriage.

Despite the fact that same-
sex couples cannot reproduce
themselves and thus maintain
populations and the original

(Continued on Page 5)

A House Divided

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

I spoke about the troubling state of class, gender
and generational disconnectedness in the black com-

munity with Professor Charles Ogletree, one of the nation’s leading

experts on race and justice issues. Ogletree serves as the director

of Harvard Law School’s Charles Hamilton Houston Institute

for Race and Justice. This article is the second segment of

Perryman: We have been discussing gaps within the black

community, socio-economic gaps. I wanted to get your thoughts

on the gender and other gaps within the community.

Ogletree: I think that’s what I’ve talked about, we’ve got
to figure out a way to make sure that we don’t lose what we’ve
already gained and that’s what’s happening right now be-
cause folks are getting further separated. As I said, for the
black community, that’s very, very shocking and very sad and
very unfortunate. We’ve got to do something to address it.
And I hope it happens sooner rather than later.

Perryman: Well, I remember in my youth we had welfare recipients and black doctors or

lawyers sitting in the same pew and serving on the same deacon board. Today, our churches

seem to be segregated along class lines. So you see institutions made up of middle class

or upper middle class or the inner city underclass. The under-privileged, also are often

kicked to the curb by many contemporary churches.

Ogletree: Well, I had a very interesting conversation with ministers from Detroit to St.

Louis who were pleading with people to come and help their cities. And I asked them where
do most of your parishioners live? And this is Reverend Charles Blake in Detroit and another

minister, in St. Louis. And they said, “Well, you know they don’t live in the city,” meaning

the St. Louis city or the city of Detroit.

They live in the suburbs but they still come and worship because their family has had links
to this church for 50 years. And that’s good and that’s also bad. It’s good because they can
continue to do it but there’s nothing in the city for them. And the question is what you can give
to folks in the city that will make them want to come back. And I think it’s very hard, it’s very
difficult.

Perryman: Talk a little bit about what you have termed, “the lynching of black women,”
speaking of the Anita Hill and Clarence Thomas black sexual stereotypes and sexual

harassment drama that was played out in prime time television and on the national stage

a while back.

Ogletree: A very classic example. I don’t know what your experience was, it’s just that
a lot of people came from the position that they couldn’t understand why there were no black
men in front and thinking “let’s just figure out what really happened.”

Perryman: I do know that sexism and patriarchy are a major challenge for the black church,
despite its religiosity. Traditionally, it has felt that a woman’s place was in the home and not
in leadership. And that’s a shame.

But I also know that none of our national organizations - NAACP, National Urban
League, SCLC or CORE, with perhaps a very brief exception, has been led by a black woman.
Liberation and leadership for the community has almost always been identified with black
manhood.

Ogletree: Right. So black men refused to speak out against black women’s oppression or

harassment in these Supreme Court confirmation hearings. They said, “Well, you know these
things happen. We can’t discuss all that. This is our brother.” I said, “Well, it matters in a big
way.” And it’s changed. But in 1991, I was really surprised to see so many folks with this
different view about issues of race and gender. And I think that we’ve changed because you

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The Sojourner's Truth

May 16, 2012

Collingwood Manor Apartments Razed

Sojourner’s Truth Staff

The Collingwood Manor Apartments, two structures built during the early 1930’s as “premium new modern apartments,” had sat empty for years on a choice piece of real estate in the Old West End. The buildings, which entered foreclosure in 2006 were finally struck by the demolition ball last week.

“It’s the sad end of an historic building,” said Toledo City Councilwoman Paula Hicks-Hudson, a resident of the Old West end. “We want to honor the past but there is also a need to further develop this area.”

The razing of the Collingwood Manor Apartments came about as a result of a partnership between the Lucas County Land Bank and the City of Toledo. The cost of the demolition was borne by both parties – the Landbank for $73,000 and the City of Toledo’s general fund for $50,000.

The Land Bank, established in 2010 by the State of Ohio, was able to seize the property – back taxes amounted to approximately $250,000 – according to Lucas County Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz. “This will enable us to move forward,” said Kapszukiewicz. “There has been a spiral of disinvestment here. Value was bleeding out of the neighborhood. By demolishing the property, we can stop the erosion of value in this neighborhood and, if only the demolition happens, it’s still a win for the neighborhood.”

The property had been on the demolition list since 2007 and until recently there were no funds to start the project. The buildings, which had 44 units in each structure, had exteriors which were no longer stable due to “freeze-thaw” damage.

Toledo City Councilman Steve Steel, another resident of the Old West End, noted that while the Land Bank in this particular case could do no more than see to it that the buildings were demolished would have the opportunity in the future to save such properties rather than take them down. “We have a tool to preserve,” said Steel.

There are not yet any plans for future development on the site although both the city and the county are seeking help in that direction.

“We are asking partners to come and help prepare this area for the next use,” said Hicks-Hudson.

A House Divided

(Continued from Page 3)

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Green Military Vets Would Benefit Urban Cities

Simone Lightfoot
Special to The Truth

May 16, 2012

Inspiration was the feeling that followed my recent trek to George Washington University in D.C. where I serve as an instructor for their Veterans Campaign program - training military personnel and veterans how to run for public office.

During instruction, soldiers acknowledged that the impacts of climate change threaten our nation’s security. Correlations were made between the adaptation, impact and vulnerability of US cities to those learned rebuilding and preparing to exit urban areas of the Middle East.

When it comes to climate change impacts, US cities in general and post-industrial urban centers specifically, shoulder a large portion of the human, infrastructure and economic assets most at risk. These cities concentrate key residential, medical and government facilities that include headquarters for many area services (public transportation, water and sewage, sanitation, jail, police, fire, courthouse).

Additionally, these cities face high population density, aged buildings and infrastructure, abandoned and vulnerable housing stock, first responder reductions and a high number of senior and low-income residents.

Amidst budget deficits, cities such as Cincinnati, Cleveland and Gary have multiple green needs while many veterans possess practical, green skills, for example, thwarting the disruption of services, reducing disaster-risk, and emergency response overload.

Veterans understand the process of addressing, planning and managing aged and destroyed systems such as drainage and wastewater infrastructure, storm and surface runoff and protecting drinking water.

Soldiers have expertise addressing the impacts of concentrated heat on human health, food supplies, infrastructure, ecological (grasslands, wetlands, rivers, lakes) and imperious surfaces (roads, sidewalks, driveways and parking lots covered by materials like asphalt, concrete and brick).

Cities like Detroit, Indianapolis and Toledo increasingly require a mounting response to known climate change threats exacerbated by other municipal stresses (state takeovers, public education, service delivery, budget shortfalls, city layoffs, legacy costs). Trained soldiers have a heightened sensitivity to systems vulnerability and degree of impact. They are familiar with both long and short-term work-intensive assignments that emphasize hands-on, transitional projects. Veterans are used to both long-range planning and quick turnaround as they have worked through heat waves, cold snaps, heavy precipitation, drought, storms, winter weather, and floods.

With a focus on human health, improved outcomes and sustainable development, our military could help Great Lakes urban centers reduce climate change risk for individuals, infrastructure and enterprise.

In other words, we as a country have invested great resources and comprehensive skills building into our military personnel. Now with a large exiting force, we have a rich opportunity - as well as the degree of obligation - to integrate their meticulous work ethic, leadership and technical training into sustainability and conservation efforts that benefit our communities most in need.

“Gay” Idea?
(Continued from Page 3)

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@Juno.com
Salute to Scholars: TPS Celebrates Learning with Foundation Awards

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner’s Truth Editor

Fifty-six students and educators were honored at the 2012 Toledo Public Schools Foundation’s annual Awards Banquet on Tuesday, May 8, at the Premiere Banquet Complex. Along with the dozens of scholarships handed out by Toledo companies, organizations and individuals, the graduating seniors also received words of advice from one who preceded them four years ago. “Believe in yourself,” Keynote Speaker Brian Terrell told the young scholars in his audience. Terrell, a 2008 graduate of Phoenix Academy and now a student at Lourdes University, is a past recipient of the Lourdes University Scholarship.

Terrell proceeded to list the keys to success for any student who strives to reach his or her potential: “be ambitious … have a plan … distance yourself from distractions … surround yourself with positive people … be consistent … be humble and use the resources [available to you] … be a blessing [to those around you].”

After the keynote address, the awards ceremony went quickly. Four teachers were recognized for their accomplishments: Hugh Acosta of Waite High School for his Cinco de Mayo In-school program; Sherri Frazier of Toledo Elementary Alternative Meta School for her Core Content-Based Learning Opportunity; Anita McMann of East Broadway Elementary School for her iPad, uPad, weRead program and Randy Nissen of Toledo Early College high School for his Video Documentary Workshop.

The Foundation handed out approximately $100,000 in scholarships this year.

The TPS high school students who received the awards were: Ibrahim Iwad, Benjamin Ballew, Benjamin Bayly, Darrell-Kellie Bell, Jennifer Brasher, Robert Cagle, Dylan Cliftur-Lorton, Kayla Cornell, Catherine Craig, Diamond Crumbly, Shaun Davis, Tyler DeVaul, Trevor Dixon, Desiree Ellison, Kyle Gable, Ellicia Garces, Delanie Garman, Kayella Henderson, Michaela Ishell, Amanda Ivan, Shella Jackson, Lora Jefferson, Jessica Kendall, Brittaney Khceynski, Dana Knowles, Jamie Luster, Whitney Maddox, Trayvone Mathis, Magic Morehead, Kyle Murray, Morgan Newton, Kristina Norris, Ashley Erin Parks, Rayshe’ona Patrick, Shaketa Peoples, Stuart Plath, Deshawn Portillo, Elaine Quisenberry, Matthew Reny, Jordan Roy, Deveny Russell, Rogelio Sanson, Tyler Seybold, William Shaff, Megan Smith, Major Smith, Kourtney Sherman, Christine Stoekey, Nicole Wagner, Alexander Warner, Ettel Williams, Isiah Woodard.

The elementary students honored were: Gerardo Perez of Sherman, Aiyona Brownlee and Ciayarriya Reed of Ella P. Stewart Academy for Girls.
Joint Universal Life Insurance: Coping with Death

By Vince Davis, State Farm Insurance

Guest Column

Keeping things together after the death of a spouse or business partner in a closely held family business requires some careful planning. The partners in a business partnership have some very similar characteristics. If you take the love and intimacy out of the marriage, then it is all business. The partners in the relationship depend on one another to do his or her share of the work. Business or marriage takes hard work to flourish. How can you use a life product for continuation of the business in the relationship when the insurance does not continue? Permanent insurance continues. Term insurance does not.

If you have a business or a marriage it might be a good idea to purchase life insurance to help the business or marriage to continue if there is a death of one of the partners. A marriage is as much if not more of a partnership as a business partnership. More is at stake, too. The result of the loss of one of the partners might be college for the kids, a home for the family, etc. It might be beneficial to have a joint universal life insurance policy. Such a policy would be purchased because the cost of purchasing two separate policies might be too expensive. Rather than taking out two separate policies the price would be lowered by purchasing a joint universal life policy. Universal life is a form of permanent insurance. Permanent insurance is preferable over term insurance for cash value accumulation and continuity. Properly funded, untaxed universal life insurance contracts and whole life insurance contracts stay in force as long as the premiums are being made. The price stays level and the death benefit stays level. Rated universal life insurance policies, and UL policies that are heavily borrowed against perform poorly. Otherwise, UL policies and whole life policies have the characteristics of the price being the same as the day you bought it and the coverage can stay the same also.

Two individual term insurance policies might be sufficient to protect the interest of two young business people or a young married couple. However term insurance is more of a remedy for temporary protection needs. Most term insurance policies never actually pay a death benefit. That is because these policies are very inexpensive when you are young. When you get closer to your statistical end of your life the policy gets so expensive that you could no longer afford it. Eventually most people who make it to wind up cancelling their term policies because they cannot afford to keep the policy into old age. Term insurance usually gets more expensive as we age. There are variations from policy to policy. When we get to the ages in which we are more likely to pass away, term insurance policies quadruple in price. Most term policies expire between ages 85-99 of the insured. Additionally term insurance traditionally does not have any cash value. Therefore term insurance policies might be a good option for business continuation that results in the death of one of the principals in the early years of the marriage or business. Joint universal (JUL) is a flexible premium life insurance policy with the death benefit payable at the first death of two insured lives. Structurally based on our existing universal life policy, JUL shares some of the same features. However, JUL is designed as a unique product targeted at dual-income families where income needs and the desire to meet liabilities exists regardless of who dies first. JUL is also designed for the business continuation market, providing funds in the form of a death benefit upon the first death which can be used to meet business obligations.

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Why Veterans Are Choosing Career Colleges

After serving their country, many veterans are returning home to another kind of battle: the struggle to find a job in a recovering economy. A recent study by the Department of Labor found that “young male veterans (ages 18 to 24) who served during Gulf War era II had an unemployment rate of 29.1 percent last year, higher than that of young male nonveterans (17.6 percent).” For many of these veterans, the problem is the lack of a college education. Fortunately, a generous 9/11 GI Bill allows vets to pay for college. The bill covers traditional colleges but it also covers institutions known as career colleges. These colleges train students for a specific career, trade or profession—such as nursing, graphic design, medical technician, culinary arts, fashion design and media arts. There has been some debate about the value of such schools and some critics have said that many of these schools target veterans because they have government-backed tuition money—and then don’t deliver a quality education.

Yet many veterans insist that career colleges address their unique needs. According to the Association of Private Sector Colleges and Universities, individuals who have served their country select these institutions for many reasons, including career focus, flexible schedules, smaller class sizes, concentrated program offerings and other attributes that make institutions military friendly.

One group has come together to address the concerns. Saving Our Student Veterans is a coalition of Veterans Service Organizations, career colleges, and college admissions officials who have proposed a solution that would protect a veteran’s choices but make sure that veterans are not taken advantage of.

One example is Military Families United, a national coalition of Gold Star and Blue Star families, veterans and other Americans who share an appreciation of our military, which has partnered with proprietary colleges to provide opportunities in education.

“Our organization was looking to do something for military spouses—the people who stayed home during the long deployments and cared for the children and kept the family in order,” said Robert Jackson, director of Military Families United. “Our military families chose The Art Institutes because they offer a curriculum focused on getting a job with lots of flexibility, so we were thrilled when they decided to create a new scholarship partnership.”
Maumee Bay Club Assists Job Seekers

Any help given to increase the chances of obtaining a gratifying career is greatly appreciated, especially in preparation for today’s ever-competitive workforce. No matter what age, one must be on her toes to land a beneficial job and two lucky ladies were given the opportunity to make their mark in the world.

The Maumee Bay Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women Clubs, Inc. (NANBPWC) presented two students from Westfield-Mays Avenue School with a “Job Preparedness” makeover on Wednesday, May 9, 2012.

They were awarded an interview makeover which followed a creative game comprised of questions from the workshop handouts. The students were 15-year-old Maia Colvin, a freshman, and 16-year-old Tanesha Jennings, a sophomore.

The Maumee Bay Club collaborated with Just My Styl, and Toledo Area Ministries Suitably Attired to complete these awesome makeovers.

The girls were given the princess treatment by a team of makeover professionals. Roxanne D. Jones (hair stylist) donated services to create hair masterpieces. Jamie Harris of Toledo Area Ministries -Suitably Attired so generously provided the interview clothing, which the ministry received through donations from the community.

The Maumee Bay Club extended their sincere appreciation to everyone for their generous donations of time and service.

These Job Preparedness Workshops are a collaboration of various programs that focus on bridging the gap for young people seeking to enter into the world of employment. The topics covered during these sessions include the following: how to juggle school/work/family, how and where to find employment, how to budget your income, how to prepare for employment and best answers during an interview.

The organization has provided these workshops once a month for a total of five months, each of which focused on a different topic. This information was presented to approximately 20 female students. A special acknowledgement is extended to the following members of the Maumee Bay Club for another job well done. They are Sheray Hall, Anika McCants-Brown, India Springs, Sakee Johnson and Sylvia Temple. Accolades are also given to Tiffany Hairston and Dionnica Gaston for their support of the program.

The president of the Maumee Bay Club is Gwendolyn Wilson-Banks. The Vice President over Club Programs is Pattie Poston.
May 16, 2012

The Sojourner’s Truth

I Got My Dream Job and So Can You by Pete Leibman
c.2012, Amacom $15.95 / $18.95 Canada 246 pages, includes index
By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

So what are you gonna do after college? That’s the question that’s irritated you for the better part of eight months. Everybody’s been asking you and if you knew, you’d tell them.

The thought of taking a job just to have a job makes you feel awful. You can’t imagine getting up Monday through Friday to do something you hate while other people are doing jobs you’d kill to have. So, short of violence, how can you get a once-in-a-lifetime position?

Read the new book I Got My Dream Job and So Can You by Pete Leibman, and you might find out.

What would you do with five million minutes? Work. That’s the answer because 40 years of work equals around five million minutes on the job, maybe more. And now that you know that, you can understand why it’s worth taking a few minutes now to ensure that you enjoy every one of those five million.

Author Pete Leibman says that the key to getting your dream job is simple: S.I.M.P.L.E. But first, you need to learn to smile and nod and disregard most of the career advice you get from family and friends, because it’s wrong.

Then, Start. Quit making excuses, stop blaming the economy and understand that you can do something or do nothing. Choose wisely and act accordingly.

Know what you want by identifying your dream job. Start with the big picture and ask yourself some important questions. Figure out where you want to be.

Get yourself a Makeover. Learn to stand tall and confident. Pay attention to personal details, polish your look, and be sure you don’t reek of cigarettes or cologne.

Plan where you’re going by networking and asking for referrals. Look for your dream job because it’s not like pizza: it won’t be delivered to you. Use your contacts, networks, LinkedIn, and know who not to approach.

Finally, Execute your plan. Do your homework before an interview. Know the deadly sins of interviewing. And once you land the job, B.E.P.R.O.

Think the end of college means you have to take whatever job comes along? Not so, says author Pete Leibman. In I Got My Dream Job and So Can You, he explains – among other things - how he landed his own fantasy position amid an economic downturn.

I found a lot of interesting observations in this book, and tips that would be extremely useful for any job-seeker. On the other hand, there are a lot of basic, common-sensical instructions that you’ll probably already know if you’ve ever held a job, and that may test your attention span.

Still, reminders are good - especially when you absolutely, positively need to stand out and shine.

Meant for new college grads, I think this book also makes a nice gift for work-bound high school graduates or for adults who are sick of the daily grind and want more from their work lives. If that’s you, then reading I Got My Dream Job and So Can You is what you need to do.

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You may think you’re invincible.

But all it takes is one bad decision. Don’t drink and don’t get in a car with someone who has been drinking.

Live to celebrate another day

Unison Behavioral Health Group
Social Security – Questions and Answers

**GENERAL**

Question:
I’m getting married later this month and plan to change my name. What documents do I need to apply for a new Social Security card with my new name?

Answer:
To change your name for any reason in Social Security’s records, and on your Social Security card, you’ll need to provide proof of your U.S. citizenship (if you have not previously established it with us) or immigration status. You’ll need to show us evidence of your legal name change by showing us documentation of your old and new names. Such documents could include a court order for a name change, marriage certificate, divorce decree, or Certificate of Naturalization. Finally, you’ll need to show us proof of identity. All documents submitted must be either originals or copies certified by the issuing agency. We cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies of documents. Visit our website about your Social Security card and number at www.socialsecurity.gov/samnumber where you can get more information and fill out your application. Or call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Question:
Recently, I was told I shouldn’t be carrying my Social Security card around. Is that true?

Answer:
We encourage you to keep your Social Security card at home in a safe place. Do not carry it with you unless you are taking it to a job interview or to someone who requires it. Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in America, and the best way to avoid becoming a victim is to safeguard your card and number. To learn more, visit our Social Security number and card page at http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber.

**RETIEMENT**

Question:
I just started my first job and my paycheck is less than I expected. Why am I paying for retirement benefits when I have a lifetime to live before retirement?

Answer:
Besides being required by law, you are securing your own financial future through the payment of Social Security and Medicare taxes. The taxes you pay now translate to a lifetime of protection, whether you retire or become disabled. And when you die, your family (or future family) may be able to receive survivors benefits based on your work as well. Aside from all the benefits in your own future, your Social Security and Medicare payments also help today’s retirees. To learn more, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Question:
My father receives Social Security retirement benefits, and I will be in charge of his estate when he dies. Should that occur, do I need to report his death to Social Security or will benefits automatically stop?

Answer:
When your father dies, please notify Social Security as soon as possible by calling us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). Another person, such as a spouse, may be eligible for survivors benefits based on his record. Also, we might be able to pay a one-time payment of $255 to help with funeral expenses. We suggest reading a copy of our online publication, How Social Security Can Help You When A Family Member Dies, at www.socialsecurity.gov/npub/10008.html.

Question:
I’ve been getting Social Security disability benefits for many years. I’m about to hit my full retirement age. What will happen to my disability benefits?

Answer:
When you reach “full retirement age” we will switch you from disability to retirement benefits. But you won’t even notice the change because your benefit amount will stay the same. It’s just that when you reach retirement age, we consider you to be a “retiree” and not a disability beneficiary. To learn more, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME**

Question:
My 15-year-old sister has been blind since birth. I think she should apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), but my parents think because she’s a minor, they’re responsible for her and she won’t qualify. Who is right?

Answer:
To qualify for SSI, an individual must meet certain income and resource limits. Since your sister is a minor, some of your parents’ income and resources will determine whether your sister is eligible for SSI. Once your sister turns 18, their income and resources won’t be considered when deciding her eligibility and payment amount. Tell your parents they can check at any Social Security office to see if your sister qualifies. To learn more, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Question:
I’m on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and live with my two brothers in an apartment. My SSI payment is cut by one-third because the Social Security office says I don’t pay enough of the household expenses. How much of the expenses must I pay in order to get the full SSI rate?

Answer:
Under the rules of the program, you must be paying an equal share of the expenses. Because there are three of you in the household, you must pay one-third of the expenses. If you are not paying an equal share of the rent, utilities, groceries, and other household expenses, your SSI payment must be reduced. To learn more, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

**MEDICARE**

Question:
I can’t find my Medicare card and I need a replacement. Do I need to come into the office?

Answer:
You can get your Medicare card replaced without leaving your home. Just go online to http://www.socialsecurity.gov/medicarecard/ and get your new Medicare card sent to your home. Simply fill out the requested information and you’ll get your new Medicare card within 10 days; it will be mailed to your address on record. If you need temporary proof of Medicare coverage, call our toll-free number at 1-800-772-1213 to request a letter and you will receive it in the mail within 7 to 10 days. If you need immediate proof of your Medicare coverage, please visit your local Social Security office.
Women and African Americans Hit Hardest by Job Losses in State and Local Governments

While the private sector has experienced some job growth since the Great Recession officially ended in 2009, the public sector has continued to shed jobs. In fact, in 2011, state and local governments experienced the worst job decline on record. That decline is the topic of a new report, The public-sector jobs crisis, released last week by the Economic Policy Institute, which finds that public-sector job losses have been particularly damaging for women and African Americans.

The public-sector jobs crisis: Women and African Americans hit hardest by job losses in state and local governments, by EPI experts David Cooper, Mary Gable, and Algernon Austin, explains the particular importance of public-sector jobs for women and African Americans. As a result, state and local governments have made in reducing wage and employment disparities, and how cuts to state and local budgets have disproportionately hurt these groups.

Key findings of the report include:

- Historically, the state and local public sectors have provided more equitable opportunities for women and people of color. As a result, women and African Americans constitute a disproportionately large share of the state and local public-sector workforce.

Overall, the wage gap across genders is similar in the state and local public sectors and in the private sector. However, it is smaller for highly educated women employed in state and local government. State and local public-sector workers of color face smaller wage disparities across racial lines, and at some levels of education actually enjoy a wage premium over similarly educated white workers.

- The disproportionate share of women and African Americans working in state and local government has translated into higher rates of job loss for both groups in these sectors. Between 2007 (before the recession) and 2011, state and local governments shed about 765,000 jobs. Women and African Americans comprised about 70 percent and 20 percent, respectively, of those losses. Conversely, Hispanic employment in state and local government jobs increased during this period (although most of that increase likely occurred in the lowest-paid jobs).

Job losses in the state and local public sectors stand in contrast to the jobs recovery in the private sector. From February 2010 (the month the labor market “bottomed out”) to January 2012, the United States experienced a net increase in total nonfarm employment of more than 3.2 million jobs, while state and local government employment fell by 438,000. Over this period, every major sector of the economy experienced net growth in jobs except the public sector.

“The federal government needs to step up its funding for infrastructure and school-modernization projects and target job-creation programs in hard-hit communities,” said co-author Mary Gable. “Such programs would go a long way in assisting women and African Americans.”

Department of Development Minority Business Presentation

Dozens of minority contractors attended an Ohio Department of Development Minority Business Presentation on Friday, April 20 organized by State Representative Michael Ashford at the Mott Branch Library.

Sessions were presented by the Department of Development, the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, The University of Toledo, The Toledo Lucas County Port Authority and the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce.
Believe Center Inc. will be celebrating the children of our community with an Agency Fair on Saturday May 19, from 11 a.m.–4 p.m. During this time the public is welcome to view the new agency, sign up for programs and bring donations. The event will be held at the organization’s headquarters located at 1 Aurora Gonzalez Way in Toledo, OH (former Boys and Girls Club).

As the organization is always promoting family unity there will be something for the whole family to enjoy. The event will have live entertainment from local performers, a free hot meal provided by partnering agency Feed Lucas County Children (FLCC) and raffle prizes. Guest speakers at 12:30 p.m. include: Lourdes Santiago (Department of Neighborhoods), Tina Wozniak (Lucas County Commissioner), and Anita Lopez (Lucas County Auditor) following the Old South End recognition award.

Believe Center would appreciate any donations that could be made to support their mission. Any new or gently used board games, toys, books, art or school supplies would be wonderful for the school age children who will participate in the after-school activities at the center. Any shelves, dining tables, conference tables, desks, chairs or other office equipment would come in handy for the office.

“We are so excited to be able to help the children in the Toledo area. A lot of children from ‘Old South End’ will benefit from the programs that we have to offer,” said Tonya Duran, director at Believe Center. “We are thankful for the community’s continued support and hope to continue to have even more programs for children in the next few months.”

Along with donations of equipment and supplies monetary donations are also welcome. All of the proceeds from the drive will go towards the programs for families and children. Donations will directly support the upcoming 2-week Summer Camp that will be free to children in the community. The agency also plans to host after school activities and family event nights. FLCC, an equal opportunity provider, will serve free balanced meals to youth all summer at Believe.

The Believe Center is located on the corner of Anthony Wayne Trail and South Street. The goal of the center is to provide children of the Toledo area with a safe and fun environment that prepares them for higher education and career achievement with a family first motto.

Please preview the agency to get more information on upcoming programs or inquire about hosting your special event in one of the classrooms or full court gym.

If you need to make arrangements for donation pick-ups or have any questions regarding items for donation please contact Assistant Director, Anita Duran at 419-699-0658.

New Law Is Improving Access To Health Care

The new health care law includes provisions to make it easier for people with cancer and those at risk for cancer to get quality, affordable care. The law also takes important steps to help improve the health care system for African Americans and others disproportionately affected by cancer. About 50 percent of cancer deaths are preventable, yet many uninsured and underinsured people delay or skip screening tests because they can’t afford them. American Cancer Society research has shown that the uninsured are more likely than those with insurance to be diagnosed with late-stage cancer and to die from the disease. Improving access to quality, affordable health care will help ensure that everyone can get the care they need.

The Sojourner’s Truth

Special to The Truth

Opening of the Believe Center with Agency Fair, Toy and Furniture Drive to Benefit Children of Toledo Community

May 16, 2012
Port Authority Provides Local Business SBA Loan Creating Jobs Animal Emergency and Critical Care Center

Special to The Truth

Port Authority will join employees of the Animal Emergency & Critical Care Center for the ground breaking on Friday. The Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority announces funding received as a SBA 504 loan to assist in the purchase and renovation of a facility located at 2921 Douglas Road in Toledo, Ohio. This new, larger facility provides the ability to expand the business, offering more services with new state of the art equipment. Animal Emergency & Critical Care Center was established in 2002 by Dr. Kittsen McCumber. In 2006, the center received an American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) accreditation - the second animal hospital in the area to receive this honor. The center has a total of 20 employees and this project will create seven new jobs. The Port Authority will join employees of the Animal Emergency & Critical Care Center of Toledo for the groundbreaking on Friday.

The Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority administers the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 Loan Program throughout Ohio. The SBA 504 Loan Program provides fixed asset funding to for-profit businesses with a net worth not exceeding $15 million and net after-tax profit of not more than $5 million. A typical transaction consists of 50 percent bank financing; 49 percent SBA 504 Loan and 10 percent equity. The SBA 504 Loan Program takes a second collateral position. The funding can include up to 40 percent of project costs for any for-profit business. The maximum loan amount is typically $5 million; however, loans are also available for up to $5.5 million for manufacturers. Loan terms are either 10 or 20 years and only a 10 percent equity injection into the project is required. Long-term fixed interest rates are available. It is the mission of the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority to continuously focus on job creation by leveraging our strategic geographic economic development efforts.

Tips For High School Graduates

School may soon be out if you are a graduating senior, but that doesn’t mean you don’t have homework. Here are some tips to help you navigate the new responsibilities in your life:

1. Discuss your career goals with counselors, teachers and family and ask their advice.
2. Gather information on careers that interest you. Talk with people who are working in those occupations and find out what it takes to succeed.
3. Create a résumé to use in job application and create a list of admission requirements for schools you would like to attend.
4. If you are a young man, register with the Selective Service System.
5. You can register by mail, at the U.S. Postal Service or online with a smartphone or computer. Simply log on to www.sss.gov and click on the registration icon.
6. Remember, men must register to remain eligible for Pell Grants, College Work-Study and Guaranteed Student/PLUS Loans, federal job-training programs and federal jobs.

2012 Conference on Tourism Recognizes Best in Industry

Special to The Truth

Tourism Impact winner and the hospitality employee of year honored

The 4th Annual Celebration of Tourism held at the Toledo Zoo on May 10 celebrated the tourism industry as a major contributor to the local economy and special recognition was given to key people. Close to 100 members of the hospitality community in Northwest Ohio turned out to hear the latest tourism news from keynote speakers including Amir Eylon, Ohio’s State Tourism Director, Melinda Hunley, Interim Executive Director of the Ohio Travel Association, and Dr. Anne Baker, Executive Director of the Toledo Zoo.

Patrick Czarny, general manager at Maumee Bay Lodge and Conference Center, was awarded the Tourism Impact Award for 2012 for his dedication to the tourism industry and the generous assistance he offers Destination Toledo, Inc. on a regular basis. “Patrick has been a great partner of Destination Toledo for many years,” says Richard Nachazel, president of Destination Toledo, Inc. “Patrick always goes the extra mile in helping us out with membership events and in any way he can”. The “best of the best” in the hospitality industry were also honored. Billy Peterson, employed for 17 years by Park Inn by Radisson, took top prize as Hospitality Employee of the Year for his exemplary service. The Runner Up award went to Sheri Wenzelman, with the Hilton Garden Inn, for her dedication and hard work. Destination Toledo is the driving force behind the tourism experience in Northwest Ohio. Amir Eylon, State Tourism Director, reported the most recent tourism statistics for Northwest Ohio were $4.7 billion in sales, $1.3 billion in wages, $641 million in taxes and employed 63,000 workers. In Lucas County, tourism generated $1.6 billion in sales, $421 million in wages, and $208 million in taxes and supported 19,000 private sector jobs. 2011 figures for Northwest Ohio will be available this summer.

http://www.epa.gov/gltno/image/vbig/160.jpg

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ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Office of Multicultural Affairs
Bowling Green State University

Provides guidance and leadership for the retention and assessment efforts of the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Supervises data management and oversees the generation of reports to assign staff caseloads, coordinates staff student outreach, office appointments, provides leadership for tracking at-risk-students, and other necessary functions to oversee retaining diverse student populations. Supports areas of diversity education and multicultural programming by coordinating the Latino Issues Conference, leading diversity workshops, and other initiatives and programs sponsored by the department.

For a complete job description & instruction on how to apply for this position (L-2) visit http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/page11137.html

Or contact the Office of Human Resources at (419) 372-8421 or ohr@bgsu.edu. BGSU is an AA/EEO employer/educator.

Counselor – Minority Business Assistance Center

Full time position responsible for providing technical assistance to start-up businesses and existing small businesses through one-on-one client counseling. Counselor also assists with the planning and marketing of training seminars for the center’s clientele.

Qualifications: B.A. in Business Administration and/or five yrs. experience in business ownership/management. Understanding of general business principles, excellent communication skills and ability to develop and provide training. Strong organizational, customer service and computer skills required.

Please send resume by June 7, 2012 to TRCC, 303 Madison Ave., Ste. 200, Toledo, OH 43604
ATTN: Executive Vice President. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to hiring a diverse and talented workforce. EO/EEO/D/V

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.

2 & 3 BR Homes City Wide!
Traditional financing & lease w/option available for some.
Call Montalena @ 419.320.5224 and follow me...
Your Guide To Home!!

Hillandale - $87,000/REDUCED
Ottawa Hills condo. 1440 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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2-Car Garage

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Everything New: Paint, Carpet, Stove, Refrig. Section 8 OK
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Bowling Green State University

Provides guidance and leadership for the retention and assessment efforts of the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Supervises data management and oversees the generation of reports to assign staff caseloads, coordinates staff student outreach, office appointments, provides leadership for tracking at-risk-students, and other necessary functions to oversee retaining diverse student populations. Supports areas of diversity education and multicultural programming by coordinating the Latino Issues Conference, leading diversity workshops, and other initiatives and programs sponsored by the department.

For a complete job description & instruction on how to apply for this position (L-2) visit http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/page11137.html

Or contact the Office of Human Resources at (419) 372-8421 or ohr@bgsu.edu. BGSU is an AA/EEO employer/educator.

Counselor – Minority Business Assistance Center

Full time position responsible for providing technical assistance to start-up businesses and existing small businesses through one-on-one client counseling. Counselor also assists with the planning and marketing of training seminars for the center’s clientele.

Qualifications: B.A. in Business Administration and/or five yrs. experience in business ownership/management. Understanding of general business principles, excellent communication skills and ability to develop and provide training. Strong organizational, customer service and computer skills required.

Please send resume by June 7, 2012 to TRCC, 303 Madison Ave., Ste. 200, Toledo, OH 43604
ATTN: Executive Vice President. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to hiring a diverse and talented workforce. EO/EEO/D/V

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Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY12-126, (Project # 5004-11-1605) for University Medical Center PCR/ Molecular Diagnostics Lab 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 containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Main Campus, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations Building, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 5, 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 $60.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Lance Mushung of SSOE Group at 419-255-3830. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, May 29, 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: $200,000.00; Breakdown: General Const: $50,000.00; Plumbing: $30,000.00; Fire Protection: $60,000.00. Project Estimate: $1,276,406.00; Breakdown: General Const: $50,000.00; Plumbing: $30,000.00; Fire Protection: $60,000.00; HVAC: $30,000.00; & Electrical: $60,000.00.

INTERESTED BIDDERS: Purchasing Building DEMOLITION project

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until 1:00 p.m. on May 23, 2012 at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers’ Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor, material and supervision necessary for the demolition of the Purchasing Building as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by Marpleherson Architects and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

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

Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting May 4, 2012 which can be purchased from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615, phone: (419) 385-5303. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.

A PREBID CONFERENCE is scheduled for May 11, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. at the Purchasing Building, 443 East Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608.

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

STEVE MADEWELL, Director

Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY12-127, (Project # 5005-11-1625) for Medical Mall, Phase II Exterior Shell Package 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 containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Main Campus, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations Building, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 5, 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 $70.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Brandon Andrzeiczak of The Collaborative Inc. at 419-242-7405. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on, May 29, 2012 at 11:00 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: $1,276,406.00; Breakdown: General Const: $1,276,406.00.

St. Martin de Porres parish is seeking a part-time accountant, 12-16 hours a week. Proficiency in QuickBooks and Microsoft Excel, a must. Experience in a church setting, a plus. Associate degree in accounting is required. Send letter of inquiry and resume, with references, to Search committee, St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, 1119 W. Bancroft Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43612. Email: virginia.welshosf@gmail.com. For more information call 419-241-4544.

PUBLIC NOTICE

LCCS is seeking proposals from non-profit and for-profit agencies or entities capable and willing to provide Educational Support and Enhancement Services and Alternative School Suspension/Expulsion Services to families/children. RFP materials will be available from May 9 at 9:00 a.m., through May 22, 2012 at 4:00 p.m., at 705 Adams St., Toledo, Ohio, 43604.

To make arrangements to pick up an RFP packet, call 419-213-3658. An applicant information meeting regarding the RFP will be held on Tuesday, May 22, 2012, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 913, 705 Adams St.

The deadline for submitting completed proposals (NO FAX) is Thursday, June 7, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. No proposal will be accepted after that deadline.

By: Dean Sparks, Executive Director
Lucas County Children Services
Wanda Butts, founder of The Josh Project (TJP) was recently named a CNN Hero by the national Cable News Network (CNN). Butts was nominated for this prestigious award and completed filming of the Hero segment last month. The segment began airing May 10 on CNN.

Butts is being highlighted because of her contributions in providing lifesaving skills in water safety. “I save lives by providing swimming lessons and water safety skills,” Butts told a CNN crew of her non-profit organization the Josh Project.

The month of May has been designated “Water Safety Month” in Ohio by Governor John Kasich. Last year, Toledo Mayor Mike Bell issued a proclamation designating May 28 Water Safety Day in Toledo. Tuesday May 15th marks the inaugural celebration of International Water Safety Day and TJP will participate by visiting area schools with their message of water safety and provide hands on life jacket demonstrations and dissemination of information.

City of Toledo Council members will be joining TJP for their visit to Scott High School. Duplicate presentations will occur at 8:00 and 8:50 a.m. Councilman Tyrone Riley will accompany them to Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy for Boys for a 10:00 a.m. presentation. The final stop on their International

Water Safety Day Tour will end at Grove Patterson Academy where the presentation will begin at 1000p.m.

The CNN Heroes Segment can be viewed on CNN’s website.

About The Josh Project
The Josh Project was founded in memory of John-Joshua Butts (Josh) who never had a swimming lesson and could not swim. He drowned on August 6, 2006 at the age of sixteen. The Josh Project (TJP) is a 501(c)3 charitable organization that has been serving the Toledo area for more than five years. TJP organization prides itself on providing affordable swimming lessons and water safety training to children and their families. The organization’s mission is to teach and strengthen basic swimming skills and develop knowledge of water safety in an effort to save lives. The Josh Project has helped more than 1,000 children in Ohio learn to swim. TJP is a local Make Splash Partner with USA Swimming and the Greater Toledo Aquatic Club, and a recipient of the National Water Safety Congress & Letter of Commendation. http://www.joshproject.org/welcome.html

CNN Hero was created by CNN to honor individuals who make extraordinary contributions to humanitarian aid. Over the course of a year, viewers can nominate and vote for the heroes they want to nominate for recognition.