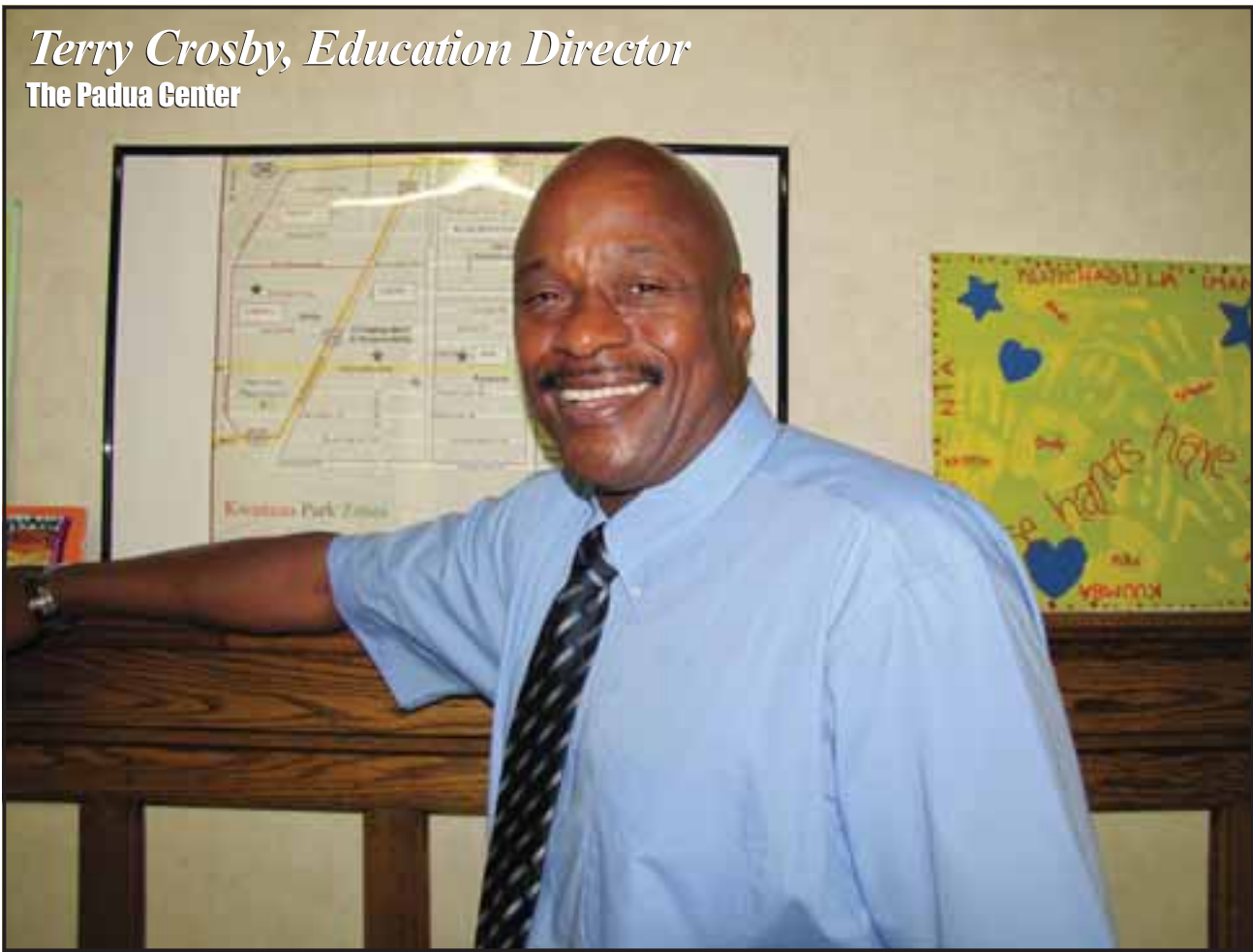




Volume 22, No. 16 "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..." August 08, 2012



Terry Crosby, Education Director
The Padua Center

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Breaking Up With Feminism

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



When the women heal, the family will heal, when the family heals, the community will heal.-Carolyn Kenny

From *Breaking Up With Feminism*, by Elaine Gale, PhD: My rift started after the miscarriage.

"Feminism and I had been together since I was a teenager. She seemed sexy and in control — powerful, energetic and eloquent. She always sounded good with her talk about social justice, equal pay for equal work.

"We were going to be liberated from oppressive women's traditions. We weren't going to just have babies and stay home. We would do it differently than our mothers and have even more choices.

"I loved all the things Feminism whispered to me at night when I couldn't sleep:

"You deserve the world on your own terms."

"I will take care of you and make sure that things are fair."

"You can have it all!"

"Meanwhile my life had a repeating narrative: professional success, romantic mess. There was Mr. Right Now, Mr. Adorable Slacker, Mr. Too Bland, Mr. Has Potential, Mr. Too Old For Me, and then Mr. Artistic But Unstable.

"Then, one day in my early thirties, I found him: Mr. Exactly Right, a guy I loved beyond anything I thought possible — and one who was OK living with me and Feminism. When we got married he was 30 and I was 36.

"My husband and I started trying to get pregnant right away, but it took 18 months. At that point, I was still on the fast track, still living to work, face down in my own ambition and achievement.

"After the miscarriage, Feminism and I had our falling out.

"The high of 'pregnancy achievement' — even conceiving new life gets tangled up in the language of achievement — was too quickly followed by the low of that awful day when spotting led to bleeding that led to my broken heart.

"I'm not special anymore," I said to my husband. I knew, for sure, that I wanted to be a mother. Instead, I was faced with the inability to do the one thing I was genetically built to do as a woman.

Community Calendar

August 8

Friendship Baptist Church: First choir rehearsal; 7 pm: 419-531-3242

August 8-11

15th Annual Holy Convocation Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral: Grand Plaza Hotel; Wed-Fri – 7:30 pm; Thur-Fri – Day sessions at 9:30 am and noon; Saturday – 10 am to 3 pm – Family reunion picnic: 614-206-4415

August 9

Latter Rain Citywide Choir Rehearsal: The Armory Church; 6:30 pm: 419-537-9736

August 9-12

Warren AME Church 165 Anniversary: Thurs – Church revival from 6 to 9 pm; Fri – Family night, Glass Bowl Lanes from 5 to 9 pm; Sun – Homecoming worship service at 10:45 am: 419-243-2237

August 10

Friendly Center 7th Annual Golf Outing: Bedford Hills; Shotgun start at 1 pm: 419-243-1289

August 11

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Open Recruitment Day: Opportunity for young women and parents to learn about the sorority's youth affiliate program – Rhoer Club; Main Branch Library; 11 am to 1 pm: 419-509-3625

United Vision Baptist Church "Community Back to School" Youth Explosion: For grades K-12; Woodrow Wilson Park; 10:30 am to 3 pm; Book bags and supplies given, blood pressure checks, gospel singing, used clothes giveaway, horseback riding, food provided: 419-720-0050

Gospel All-Stars of Toledo 24th Pre-Anniversary: 5 pm; Worldwide Living Ministry; Guests – The New Spiritualaires, The Northern Travelers, The Mighty Bros of Harmony, Nikki D and The Browns, Mindred Stegall and Tru Voices, Johnny Love and Co, The Banks Bros and more

August 11-12

United MBC Men's Day Activities: Sat – Father/Son breakfast from 10 am to noon; Sun – Services

August 12

Pre-Women's Day: 4 pm; Speaker Sis. Vera Sanders of Ebenezer MBC; "Christian Woman Are You Making a Spiritual Investment?" 419-531-1994

Books 4 Buddies Maumee Rib Off: Noon to 6 pm; Books 4 Buddies will be collecting new and gently used books

August 15-17

United Church of God Revival: Led by revivalist Levi Cyrus, pastor of Light of the World Church in Shreveport, LA

"Feminism was always going on and on about the importance of having choices. But I found my biological choice to have a child was snatched away from me while I was being liberated.

"Confused, I rued the day I fell under Feminism's sway. How could I have been so naïve?

"Into this confusion came the Feminine. That powerful nurturing force in the universe, which had been sorely missing from my life, came to console me after the miscarriage. Wanting to understand more about the Feminine, and still deeply grieving our loss, I traveled to learn about plant spirit medicine.

"At one point, our guide, an indigenous elder, described a plant that only men were allowed to partake of in a sacred ritual. Why didn't women get to participate? I thought immediately. It isn't fair!

"The elder explained that I was missing something: the women don't take this plant medicine because they don't need it. Women are the containers for the power of life itself and already have it inside of them. Creation dwells in our wombs, in the center of our being. It is men who try to get closer to this spirit through ingesting the plants because they don't have that power on their own.

"I was told to go home and work on my garden, learn to feed my husband and myself, and ground myself in the fertility and magic of Mother Earth. So, I returned home to the energy of my heart, to nurturing and to my kitchen preparing the vegetables and fruits we now grow in our back yard.

"I have slowed down.

"And I am more invested in getting to know this new softer, sweeter side of myself than going after the proverbial carrot on the career treadmill. We still want a child, but after finding a state of acceptance and peace about my life and choices, I can consider adoption with a joyful heart and not as a consolation prize.

"The Feminine is teaching me so many things about life that I never learned from Feminism.

"My husband and I planted many trays of seeds this year, carefully tending to them. You can't force anything with a seed. You take good care of it and let it be. Some of the seeds just don't make it. Too much sun, too little water, too much movement.

"You often don't know the reason.

"And I have made up with Feminism.

"After the miscarriage, I stormed away in a huff. But Feminism has so many amazing qualities: I love her strength, commitment to fairness, passion for equality and social justice. I know I wouldn't be where I am today without her.

"Can you be devoted to Feminism and the Feminine at the same time? I guess you could say I've become a Feminine-ist. That extra syllable changed everything.

"When women get pregnant, it is the Feminine nurturing us and connecting us with the essential life force on the planet. But when we take a maternity leave, it is because of Feminism's hard work that we have that opportunity.

"They work toward the same principle — valuing the worth and uniqueness of women.

"Feminism works from the outside in, chipping away at old paradigms in our brains and our culture. The Feminine works from the inside out, going deep and realigning your relationship with yourself and with Earth's natural energies. They are both a contribution to women, to our essential selves and living our lives authentically, without constraints.

"Trying to 'have it all' feels like a conceptual unicorn that has galloped through the course of my adult life, distracting me from being present and a sense of balance.

"Maybe the next generation of women will understand that we don't have unlimited reproductive choices that last forever. Maybe they will stay grounded in feminine energies and wisdom as they live their lives and do their work in the world.

"I see that while Feminism didn't really understand me, I didn't really understand her either. We were both young and spunky, ready to take on anything. Now we're ready to become good friends again.

"Still, the Feminine is more fun to be around."

Elaine Gale is an assistant professor of Communication Studies and Journalism at California State University, Sacramento, a former religion reporter for the Los Angeles Times and pop culture reporter and advice columnist for the Star Tribune.

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Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min. at
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The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American
Owned and Operated Newspaper

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Odds and Ends ...

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

"Hair" we are again!!!

What is with this minor firestorm on certain "black" websites about some black woman carping and clacking about the unkempt or "nappy" hairstyle of the Olympic gymnastics two-time gold medal winner, Gabby Douglas?

Polezzzzzz! Give me a break! This gifted 16-year old child trains under Spartan conditions to win Olympic gold and instead of everyone focusing on her talents and skills, some women are solely fixated on how her hair looked on the international stage.

Talk about being small and catty. How can such pin-headed people get caught up in a teenager wearing her hair in a ponytail and she winning the gold medal...twice!

What is it about this chronic and ongoing "hair" issue that consumes some black women?

It is as if the "hair" issue was their sole focus in life as to how they look to the world and which to me shows a lack of inner confidence of who you are and what you are about.

Hair!? Ladies...come on. Give it a break. Go on to something important and meaningful like why

kids are having kids and gun violence in the inner city or the appalling rate of black kids dropping out of high school or going off to the prison system.

Those are real issues that should occupy the time of any busybody who has nothing to do but wail and bemoan about a gold medal winner not having a relaxer in her hair or who isn't showing off the latest hair styles.

I think of all of the black girls when I was growing up who dreaded the high school swim class or who

desperately opted out of going anywhere near water and why?.....silly hair issues!

Tragically, too many women have leftover nightmares of trying to look white for white folks in regards to their hair and for that hair to get, "kinky" or "fuzzy" was and is a profound moment of acute embarrassment.

You want to terrorize some black women? Simply threaten to throw a bucket of water on their hair. Until people resolve and make peace with the "kink" of their hair, they are still mentally and historically in hock to European standards of beauty.

First Lady Michelle Obama, along with the US Surgeon General, is still trying to get young kids to get in motion and exercise because everyone knows that childhood obesity leads to adult obesity; and vigorous exercise is a needed component to prevent the various ills associated with being overweight.

I know....I know....I won't revisit the issues of any black woman running around wearing blond goldilocks or expensive weaves in order to have that "Clairol" toss around hair.

Yikes! Until I see millions of European women spending mini fortunes to restrengthen their hair to look like African "kink" or bush styles, I ain't buying the argument that this is a matter of artistic freedom...yeah, right!

Anyone see the docu-

mentary, *Good Hair*, produced by comedian Chris Rock?

Rent it first and then e-mail me with your complaints.

Chicken Anyone? Let me state it upfront and clear. The few times that I force myself to go to a mall (I only shop under duress) and if I am in a mouth's reach of a Chick-Fil-A outlet, I will partake. Especially more so now that Chick-Fil-A has clearly issued their statement that marriage is to be between a man and a woman.

That position set off many in the gay community that Chick-Fil-A hated gays. That is not what was said. Chick-Fil-A simply stated their belief based upon the Bible which owns the concept of marriage and who marries whom; and which corporate belief also includes not being opened on Sundays due to Sunday being a day of rest as also stated in the Bible.

That firestorm, fanned by the media, resulted in Chick-Fil-A restaurants, across the country, racking up sales records as people pushed back against the "gay agenda" and said, in essence, "we

also support marriage being between a man and a woman.

With no evidence that corporate headquarters has ever engaged in discriminatory practices against gays (and they should not do so), this concocted display of outrage by the gay community hopefully will be short-lived.

However, it does go to show you that if you decide to push back against the gay

agenda, there are consequences if you declare that a gay lifestyle is anti-God.

Moral of this story? Eat at Chick-Fil-A and enjoy their delicious waffle fries and tell the LGBTQ

(Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer) Community to cool their heels and go witch hunting elsewhere.

ROLL CALL...PLEASE Well, what will be the outcome of the state's investigation of purported allegations that certain school districts, including Toledo Public Schools, may be shaving the records of attendees and

the test scores of mentally challenged students so that they can boost their school rankings and thus do a better sales job of their services to the public?

It is a gimme that public schools need to gather all of the bodies it possibly can in its buildings so

get the state subsidy allotted for each attending child. But, what is a tough sell, is being able to teach all of those kids, including special ed kids, to the point that their

scores do not impugn their rankings and ratings with Columbus.

So what is a principal to do? Simply, if you can, delete from your roster all of the kids who miss

X days and subtract scores from the required tests that were done by any mentally challenged

kids. That way, you wind up with a profile that says to the unknowing parent, "We are a good school..."

look at our scores, so bring your kid here!"

How long has this been going on? Would it severely impact the prior ratings and rankings of public

schools if it were found out that for decades, this was the unwritten rule for schools to jettison scores and attendance records of chronically tardy students or those that we categorize as mentally challenged?

Why is this important? Money. It is all about the money. When in doubt follow the money trail and it will provide the majority of answers to complex and baffling questions.

The public, which ap-

pears to be somewhat jaded about supporting never ending school levies

has a right to know how their tax dollars are being spent including the integrity of the internal

systems that are used to gauge and measure and weigh student achievement.

No one wants to be waylaid by a system that is suspect or capricious of how they treat

the students whose collective numbers, causes the state subsidies to flow to the coffers of the school districts.

You can only hope that the end results of this investigation will not reveal a Trojan's Horse

of duplicity and misconduct that will further malign the integrity of any school board.

Public education is too important to too many people for it to be held captive by disingenuous methods of cooking the books in order to make the steak sizzle.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@Juno.com



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State Rep. Michael Ashford Appointed to the Local Government Innovation Council

Special to The Truth

State Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) has been appointed to the Local Government Innovation Council. Rep. Ashford brings nine years of local government experience which will assist him in helping to improve local economies.

"I am extremely honored and humbled to receive this appointment," said Ashford. "This council will be doing an incredible amount of crucial work for local governments. The decisions made by this body are expected to facilitate enhanced business environ-

ments and encourage community attraction. I look forward to working with my colleagues on this council."

This council works with the Ohio Department of Development to award grants and loans to political subdivisions for planning and imple-



menting projects that create more efficient and effective delivery of government services. The program intends to promote efficiency, collaboration, merger, and shared services among local governments. This \$45 million program was created by the Ohio state

legislature, who saw a need to support local government during tough economic times. Ashford and the other council members are expected to meet quarterly with the next meeting being sometime in the fall.

Lucas County Treasurer Blasts Romney over Tax Proposals

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Continuing the local Democratic Party elected officials pattern of taking Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney to task for his out reach to the wealthy, Lucas County Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz held a news conference last week and spoke against the Romney tax proposals.

"Mitt Romney wants to raise taxes on the middle class so people like him can get a tax cut," said Kapszukiewicz

standing in front of Scott High School and surrounded by several Toledo Public Schools employees who would also speak against the Romney proposals.

"We went from an environment where we were losing hundreds of thousands of jobs per month to where we are gaining hundreds of thousand of jobs," said Kapszukiewicz.

The treasurer provided statistics showing that prior

to Barack Obama's ascension to the presidency the economy was hemorrhaging jobs.

In September, 2008, the economy lost 432,000 jobs, Kapszukiewicz said - and 489,000,803,000, 661,000 and 815,000 respectively from October, 2008 to January, 2009.

"The private sector has created jobs for 29 straight months," he said of the accomplishments of the Obama

administration. "Things are moving in the right direction, we can't go backwards."

Lynn Smith, a TPS employee, also addressed the issue of the Romney tax proposals. "President Obama believes in an economy built from the middle out," said Smith. "Mitt Romney believes in a trickle down economy."



African Art Has Arrived!!

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Ohio Women Gain Access to More Preventive Healthcare Services Senate Democrats Applaud Latest Benefits of Affordable Care Act

Special to The Truth

The women of the Ohio Senate Democratic Caucus today praised the latest benefits of the Affordable Care Act, designed to improve the health and well being of millions of women. Beginning today women will have guaranteed access to preventive services without paying more at the doctor's office.

About 47 million American women will benefit from the expanded coverage—a requirement for health insurance policies renewed on or after August 1, 2012. The eight new additional women's preventive services that will be covered without co-payments include:

- Well-woman visits.
- Gestational diabetes screenings that help protect pregnant women from one of the most serious pregnancy-related diseases.
- Domestic and interpersonal violence screening and counseling.
- FDA-approved contraceptive methods, and contraceptive education and counseling.
- Breastfeeding support, supplies, and counseling.
- HPV DNA testing, for women 30 or older.
- Sexually transmitted infections counseling for women.
- HIV screening and counseling for women.

Members of the Senate Democratic Caucus issued the following statements in support of the additional preventative coverage:

Sen. Nina Turner (D-Cleveland):

"Today is a great day for women all across America, who will now have greater access to critical preventative care without co-pays. Because of these and other provisions in the Affordable Care Act, women will no longer be treated in a substandard manner because of their gender. The increased availability and decreased cost of wellness visits, contraception,

and domestic violence screening and support is good not just for women, but for their children, families, and country too."

Sen. Capri S. Cafaro (D-Hubbard):

"Women's health is family health and it is absolutely imperative that we protect women and their families by providing them with affordable preventative care. This is why I am the Senate sponsor of Prevention First legislation, which emphasizes the importance of education and prevention in promoting women's health and safety. The coverage that begins today will ensure that there are more healthy moms and babies and that more cases of chronic diseases such as HIV and breast cancer are caught at an earlier stage. Preventative health is an economic issue that is particularly important in my district of Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties, which have been severely hit by the economic recession. I applaud this commitment to preventing unnecessary health risks and expenses for women."

Sen. Shirley Smith (D-Cleveland):

"As the senator whose district includes the Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, and MetroHealth, I am proud to announce that, beginning today, millions of Ohio women will have guaranteed access to preventive services to improve their health outcomes. These services include gestational diabetes screening, breastfeeding support, and domestic violence counseling, all of which will not cost any additional fees and will reduce health disparities for women. We should take pride in these and other provisions in the Affordable Care Act that promote women's health."

Sen. Edna Brown (D-Toledo):

"Making preventative health services available with no cost sharing to women throughout their lifespan is one of the most welcome aspects of the Affordable Care Act. This recognizes the integral role of women in the lives of their families, communities and the nation at large."

Sen. Charleta B. Tavares (D-Columbus):

"President Obama cares for the 47 million women in the U. S. and knows that healthy and well-women translates into healthy babies and healthy communities. Prevention and early intervention equals reduced illness and disease, provides cost savings and most importantly, saves lives."

Senator Brown Announces Critical Repair Grants in Lucas County Sixteen Adult Care Facilities in Lucas County will receive grants directed towards structural improvements

Special to The Truth

State Senator Edna Brown (D-Toledo) announced today that the Ohio Department of Mental Health has awarded between \$2,000 and \$10,000 in grants to 16 Lucas County Adult Care facilities. These funds are a part of the Adult Care Facility Critical Repair program and will go towards structural repairs aimed at maintaining and improving safety and comfort for residents at these facilities.



most vulnerable members of our society and that is something we can all support."

The Ohio Department of Mental Health identified four categories for funding requests: structural defects, heating and plumbing defects, electrical hazards and safety features. These repairs will help preserve the structural integrity of the facilities. The chosen projects from Lucas County and across Ohio will be submitted to the state Controlling Board for approval.

"Adult care facilities provide an invaluable service here in Lucas County by delivering room, board, and personal care to those in our

community that require day-to-day assistance due to disabilities." Senator Brown said, "These grant funds will go towards improving the quality of life for some of the

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UT@TPS Supports Adult Learners with Family Responsibilities to Pursue GED or College Degree

Special to The Truth

Adults in the Toledo area are participating in the fourth semester of a program designed to support their learning needs. UT@TPS, a program within the University of Toledo College of Adult and Lifelong Learning, provides continuing education opportunities designed for Toledo Public School parent-guardians, but open to any interested adult in the community.

Though the adult students directly benefit, their children and the children in the host school benefit as well. They have strong role models for staying in school and pursuing postsecondary education. And when they get to college themselves, as second-generation college students they will be

much more likely to complete degrees.

The program takes a holistic approach that helps the parent-students coordinate their educational efforts with their family responsibilities, and provides social services advising including life skills information and access to resources.

UT's Workplace Credit Program (WCP) is responsible for providing classes located off-campus, and WCP scholarships 22 percent of tuition costs and the General Student Fees. That means students pay considerably less than they would on campus, but still have access to all campus resources, like the libraries, computer labs, football games, and the student recreation center, and can be-

long to all student groups. Currently, students who qualify for federal student aid (Pell grants) can attend college through the program, parttime, without incurring any student loan debt.

GED classes are absolutely free of charge, with all materials provided and individualized work according to individual students' needs.

Toledo Public Schools contributes the meeting space and computer lab access. Through state grants, Penta Career Center contributes the GED coursework, which the program calls "pre-college," even though students aren't obligated to go into the college classes.

Classes take place at



Samuel M. Jones at Gunckel Park Elementary School, on the corner of Nebraska and Collingwood and are all held during TPS hours and following the TPS schedule. That means that if the K-12 students have a snow day, their parents have one, too, and it means that their parents' break weeks match TPS's.

College students have two routes open to them. They can take core coursework at Jones, and then work with UT advisors in the College of Adult and Lifelong Learning (CALL) to pursue the degree of their choice on the UT main campus. Or, they can pursue an Associate Degree in Business Management, and take

all their coursework at the Jones site.

For more information or to start the admissions process, contact the UT College of Adult and Lifelong Learning at 419-530-3126 or visit the website at www.utoledo.edu/call/ut_tps.

UT@TPS is a collaboration of the University of Toledo College of Adult and Lifelong Learning, Penta Career Center, Toledo Public Schools, The Padua Center, and Toledo-Lucas County Public Library—Mott Branch. It has received additional support from the Toledo Community Foundation, the Dean's Innovation Fund of the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science, and Human Service.

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Toledo Educators Pick Up 10,000 Free Books for Their Students

Local Teachers and Paraprofessionals Travel to Detroit For Book Bank Event Presented by National AFT Union and First Book Organization

Special to The Truth

Members of the Toledo Federation of Teachers picked up more than 10,000 books at an event in Detroit today that they will give to their students at no cost.

The free books were provided to Toledo teachers and paraprofessionals as part of a project involving the American Federation of Teachers, AFT Michigan and First Book, a national nonprofit that has distributed more than 90 million

books to children across the country over the last 20 years.

TFT President Kevin Dalton was among the Toledo educators participating in the book trip today. "This is a great project," he said. "Our teachers, paraprofessionals and some of their children went to Detroit to bring back thousands of books for other kids who would not be able to afford these learning resources. TFT

members are so excited to be able to work with First Book to get books into our students' hands."

In addition to the books picked up at the warehouse by the Toledo group and by Michigan educators, First Book and AFT volunteers shipped more than 400,000 books around the country from the book bank operated here this week as one of the activities leading up to the AFT's national convention at Cobo

Center, July 27-30.

"When children have books of their own they are so much more likely to develop the love of reading that is important to life-long learning," said AFT President Randi Weingarten. "That's why AFT members around the country are working with First Book to get books into the hands of children who otherwise cannot afford them. We want to level the playing field so that all kids can have books of their own."

This week's book bank was organized by First Book and AFT Volunteers

from Detroit-area AFT locals helped fill orders and load book cartons for those who came to the warehouse in Romulus, Mich., to pick up books.

"We're taking a stand with our friends at the AFT to make sure kids in Detroit and many other communities around the nation get the help they need—from all of us—to succeed," said Kyle Zimmer, First Book's president. She and other First Book officials will be participating in events at the AFT national convention next week.

"For AFT Michigan

members, this is just the beginning of what we hope will be a permanent relationship with First Book," said AFT Michigan President David Hecker, who is an AFT vice president. "As we move ahead toward a new school year and beyond, we believe the partnership launched this week will enhance learning for our students for years to come."

More than 20,000 of the books distributed this week will go to kids in the Detroit area and other Michigan communities.

Ombudsman ... Still Listening

Sojourner's Truth Staff

After a brief hiatus, primarily due to budget cuts, Rev. Cedric Brock is back in place as the ombudsman for Toledo Public Schools and still doing what he has done since the program's inception at the start of the 2004-2005 academic year.

"My job is to listen," said Brock who estimates that he handles around 1,500 inquiries over the course of the school year and averages about four hearings a week.

And just what is an ombudsman?

According to TPS information, an ombudsman is a "person who investigates reported complaints that have not been resolved at the building level, reports findings and helps achieve equitable settlements."


Brock, who has been pastor of Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church for 19 years and is president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA) is a part-time employee at TPS but he acknowledges that the hours he spends on the job are hardly limited.

"I can get call from a parent at night or a parent could come to the church on a Sunday," said Brock. "Parents take these things seriously, especially when they don't get answers from the school. I act as a sounding board and a negotiator. I try to bring closure to a parent and try to mediate difficult situations."

Frequently, the resolution to such difficulties takes time, always in short supply for a part-time employee. "Proper customer service isn't easy," he said. "You don't want to give a decision in a rush."


Brock's most difficult situations occur when the child's interest and the rulebook prescription for discipline come into conflict. He is an employee of the district and he has no problem recognizing the fact that the school system operates for the benefit of the children.

Nevertheless, circumstances do happen, said Brock, in which the administration "has followed the rules of the land rather than the rules of grace." At such times, it is Brock's obligation, he said, to point out to everyone what is in the best interest of the child.



TOLEDO FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

Kevin Dalton, President



Back to School Tips

- Make appointments for doctor (immunizations), dental checkups and physical exams (sports & extra-curricular)**
- Gather all copies of health records, proof of residency and emergency contact information**
- Start now and gradually return to early bedtime, early rising and meal routines**
- Check with the school for supply lists and buy them early**
- Call and set up a visit to your child's school and request a meet and greet with the teacher and principal**
- Review routines for checking and emptying backpacks daily with your child**
- Set up a location for homework and establish a routine for when it will be completed**
- Play some learning games that review basic skills that will build confidence and ease your child into the learning process**
- TPS dress code: Any solid color dress shirt, polo, oxford, or turtleneck with black, gray, navy, brown or khaki pants. Girls may wear skirts and jumpers of the same color. For more specific information on dress code, contact your TPS school.**

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Terry Crosby: Passionate about Teaching and Helping Those in Need

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"I think the Padua Center's Padua Possibilities Program has set a standard for other operational alternative suspension programs especially since it was one of the first and is now long established," says Terry Crosby of the program he directs at the Nebraka Avenue non-profit agency.

That program, Padua Possibilities, was started four years ago when the Padua Center's director, Sister Virginia Welsh, came up with the idea after wondering, says Crosby, "what do kids do when they are suspended from school?"

The Padua Possibilities Program, an alternative to suspension for grade school children, was born of that idea. Now the Padua Center contracts with several inner city schools – MLK Academy for Boys, Pickett and Robinson elementary schools and, quite possibly, Jones Elementary this upcoming academic year—to send their

suspended students to Padua.

When the kids are there, Crosby, as the Center's educational director, leads the kids through their school work and guides them through an enhancement program by helping to "restore their individual power," as Crosby explains it.

"We identify to children that they have the power to make certain choices and decisions in their lives," he says. "It's about social skills, hygiene, controlling anger and conflict resolution."

The Center also has a social worker available to meet individually with the kids for individual assessments.

How can such a program be evaluated for effectiveness? It's always a difficult proposition to estimate effectiveness in such circumstances but the statistics from last year—2011-2012—break down as follows: a total of 166 kids were referred to the Center by the aforementioned public schools for a total of

306 days of suspension.

Of that total, 76 percent never returned for a second visit; 13 percent did come back for a second visit, while only eight percent returned for a third and only three percent for four or more visits.

Crosby, who has been the education director at the Center for just over a year, is thrilled with the results so far and eager to enhance the effectiveness of the Padua Possibilities Program as well as the other offerings of the Center.

A Toledo native, and prodigal son, Crosby, a two-sport standout athlete at DeVilbiss in the mid-1970's, returned to his hometown a year ago after three decades in Great Britain. The first 14 of those years were spent playing basketball. During that time he settled in—became a British subject in 1988 and followed his passion to work with those less fortunate.

"I have always worked with lower income families



Sister Virginia Welsh and Terry Crosby

as an emotional health and well-being coordinator dealing with the full spectrum of mental health disorders," he says of his years as a counselor in Manchester, England. He returned home last year because of the failing health of his mother, Dorothy, but the transition was anything but an easy one for him, he acknowledges.

After 30 years in another part of the world – save for the infrequent return trips – "I found it more difficult than I could imagine being back in Toledo—but I'm getting used to it," he says.

After his stellar career at DeVilbiss where he played both football and basketball and was named first-team All-Ohio in both sports his senior year (he was also first team All-Ohio in basketball in his junior year), Crosby spurned the Big Ten offers and ac-

cepted a scholarship to the University of Tennessee to play basketball. He did so well enough to be drafted by the Kansas City Kings (now the Sacramento Kings) in the third round.

He was cut after four games and headed overseas several years later where he would stay to play basketball for a decade and a half, start a family – he has a 21 year-old son who just graduated from the University of Liverpool, and a 12-year-old daughter who lives with her mother. Crosby also has a 38 year-old daughter – a special ed teacher in Columbus, OH – from a high school relationship.

In addition to his duties with the Padua Possibilities Program, Crosby wears many hats at the Center. There is a summer youth program, an after school tutoring pro-

gram, an Emerging Young Ladies Program along with plans to introduce several new programs, including one using chess to enhance analytical skills.

How did his current occupation attract his attention years ago?

Crosby, who earned a degree in sociology from Tennessee, felt the impact of having been mentored at an early age and has always felt the urge to pay it back.

"I've always been passionate about trying to teach what I've been taught," he says. "I had some influential mentors and advocates helping me along the way. I had big brothers around who protected me. In turn I feel I want to represent young people. I'm passionate about teaching and helping those who are most in need."



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Toledoan – Central Catholic Grad – Wins University of Notre Dame Scholarship

Sojourner's Truth Staff



was a member of the Gospel Choir at Central, a member of the National Honors Society, a member of the African American Club and the after-school STARS tutoring program and served on the school's Spiritual Committee.

Shells was nominated for the Leadership Scholarship by Samuel Giglio, assistant dean of the Notre Dame Mendoza College of Business who praised her "enthusiasm for life, learning and her fellow man." Giglio spoke particularly of Shells creation of a mentorship program for South Bend's inner-city teens called BeaUtiful which includes a speaker series for girls in the ninth and tenth grades.

Shells started the BeaUtiful project during her freshman year at the university.

The Leadership Scholarship was established by Mike Harper in 1995 and the criteria for the award are demonstrated by "leadership in residence hall

programs, spiritual activities, community service, student government organizations, student activities, entrepreneurial programs, interhall sports or any combination of these or other activities in the area of student life.."

Shells, who is an accounting major, will be graduating in the spring of 2013 and plans on continuing her education in order to earn an accounting masters degree. This summer Shells has been serving an internship in the Chicago offices of Ernst & Young, one of the "Big Four" accounting firms.

Is a career with a firm such as Ernst & Young in Shell's future? Quite possibly. How about a career starting and leading other such projects as BeaUtiful? Again, quite possibly.

Or both, perhaps!

Jasmine Shells, a rising senior at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, IN, has been awarded the annual Lou Holtz Leadership Scholarship award by the university. The academic award – Shells is the sole recipient of the honor - will cover just under \$45,000 in tuition and expenses for this upcoming academic year.

The Lou Holtz Leadership Scholarship was established in 1995 to encourage scholarship recipients to develop their own leadership qualities which are so exemplified by the former football coach of the Fighting Irish. Holtz led the team to its last national championship in 1988.

The award came as a complete surprise to Shells who had not applied for the scholarship and had not known she had been nominated for the coveted prize.

Shells, a Toledo native and 2009 graduate of Central Catholic, was the first winner of the Buckeye CableSystem TV One Scholarship in her senior year at Central. During her years in Toledo, Shells

ABLE The stop may be at the pharmacy on Conant, but the destination is to remain independent.

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African Americans Need To Be Counted In Alzheimer's Disease Research: How To Get Involved

Studies show that every 69 seconds, another American develops Alzheimer's disease (AD), the No. 6 killer in this country and the only one without a way to prevent, treat or cure the disease. African Americans, particularly the elderly, are twice as likely to develop the disease than any other demographic-but we don't know why. In addition, many members of the African-American community are often misdiagnosed and still others go untreated.

"It is critical for the well-being of the African-American community that we know more about Alzheimer's disease, and how it affects all populations, including people of color," said Dr. Karen Bell, clinical professor of neurology at Columbia University and former director of minority recruitment efforts for the National Institute on Aging (NIA)-

funded Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study. "We must think about our children and grandchildren, and learn enough now about Alzheimer's to develop treatments or a cure that can make their future brighter than our own."

The Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI) has been helping to identify the earliest signs of AD, when brain damage begins and when treatments offer the greatest promise for slowing down the progression of the disease. ADNI is not testing experimental drugs but rather using scans like MRIs to follow normal individuals, people with mild cognitive impairment and those diagnosed with Alzheimer's to monitor changes in their brains that can lead to clues about how Alzheimer's works. Perhaps no other study has contrib-

uted as much to the field of Alzheimer's research as ADNI but more African Americans need to be represented in this study to reflect the real burden of the disease.

Chances are that you or someone you know is affected by AD. Perhaps you are one of the 14.9 million caregivers who provide unpaid care to a patient or maybe you have watched a friend trying to juggle her job, her kids and taking care of her mom who is getting ever more forgetful.

"If we all work together, we can find the answers we need to eradicate this disease," said Dr. Bell. "I believe it is possible to stop Alzheimer's in its tracks, but it will take our community coming together, and our nation coming together, to succeed."

ADNI is currently seeking volunteers to participate in its groundbreaking AD research studies. Anyone between the ages of 55-90 who is healthy, diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment or has Alzheimer's disease is encouraged to apply.

To volunteer or to learn more about the study, contact the Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral (ADEAR) Center at (800) 438-4380 or visit www.adni-info.org.



Dr. Karen Bell

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.

Provisions of the Affordable Care Act give people with cancer and their families better access to the care they need, when they need it. For example:

- New insurance plans in every state give coverage to those who have been uninsured for six months or more and have a pre-existing condition such as cancer.
- Health plans can no longer set lifetime dollar limits on coverage that can suddenly force a patient to pay out of pocket for lifesaving care.
- Annual dollar limits on coverage are limited for most plans and will no longer be allowed as of 2014.
- Coverage is guaranteed and out-of-pocket costs have been eliminated in new insurance plans for proven prevention and early detection services such as mammograms, colonoscopies and Pap tests.
- Health plans can't deny coverage to children up to age 19

with pre-existing conditions such as cancer and, after 2014, plans won't be allowed to deny coverage to anyone with pre-existing conditions.

- Children can now stay on their parents' insurance policy up to age 26.
- Health plans are not allowed to drop people from coverage because they get sick.
- Lifesaving preventive services are free to patients in Medicare, who can also get a free annual wellness visit and a personalized prevention plan.

"Before these provisions became law, many cancer patients, survivors and their families were forced to choose between saving their life or their life savings," said Christopher W. Hansen, president of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN). "Now, critical provisions of the law are helping many Americans with cancer or at risk for cancer gain access to lifesaving care."

The law will also help people and populations who face challenges getting health care by:

- Funding community health centers in places where getting health care can be difficult, so more people can get the care they need.
- Improving the way information on race, ethnicity, sex, primary language and disability status is found and used. This is needed to learn more about the health gaps and challenges some groups face and find the best ways to reduce them.

- Expanding Medicaid coverage to adults whose income is less than one-third over the official federal poverty level beginning in 2014, so more people can get preventive care and treatment.

Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Groups

Special to The Truth

The Alzheimer's Association, Northwest Ohio Chapter is hosting Caregiver Groups in the following locations and times:

Thursday, August 2, 2012
6 p.m. (for men only)
Alzheimer's Association
2500 North Reynolds Road
Facilitator: Bob Hausch
For more information, call 419.537.1999

Saturday, August 11, 2012
1:30 p.m.
Scrambler Marie's
570 Dussel Drive
Facilitator: Karen Decker and Sue Blevins,
419.385.3958
Respite Available
Complimentary lunch provided by Foundation Park
Alzheimer's Care Center

Tuesday, August 21, 2012
1:30 p.m.
Alzheimer's Association
Wheeling Street Adult Day Center
131 North Wheeling St., Suite 2
Facilitator: Traci Holland, 419.720.4940

Wednesday, August 15, 2012
6 p.m.
Alzheimer's Association
2500 North Reynolds Road
Facilitator: Beth Wong
For more information, call 419.537.1999

Thursday, August 16, 2012
10 a.m.
Alzheimer's Association
2500 North Reynolds Road
Toledo, OH
Facilitator: Bob Hausch
Respite available
For more information, call 419.537.1999

Wednesday, August 22, 2012
Noon
Alzheimer's Association
Parkcliffe Community, Building #2
4226 Parkcliffe Lane
Facilitator: Jenny Bucher
For more information, call 419.381.9447

Alzheimer's disease is the **sixth-leading cause of death** in the United States and the only cause of death among the top 10 in the United States that cannot be prevented, cured or even slowed. More than **15 million Americans provide unpaid care** valued at \$210 billion for persons with Alzheimer's and other dementias.

These caregiver groups are free and open to the public. Registration is not required. However, it is suggested that you contact the facilitator of the group you plan to attend for the first time to confirm the time, place and date of the meeting. For more information on caregiver groups or other programs of the Alzheimer's Association, Northwest Ohio Chapter, call 419.537.1999 or 1.800-272.3900.

The Northwest Ohio Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association serves 24 counties: Allen, Ashland, Auglaize, Crawford, Defiance, Erie, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Huron, Knox, Lucas, Mercer, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, Wood and Wyandot.

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The Last Hunger Season by Roger Thurow

c.2012, PublicAffairs

\$26.99 / \$30.00 Canada

273 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

You probably shouldn't have ordered the super-size fries.

That's what you were thinking after you finished the last of your double cheeseburger-add-bacon. When you ordered, fries sounded good - although maybe not so many. And your soda, well, the word "small" needs redefining.

Nothing worse than cold fries, so you wadded them up with your sandwich wrapper, slurked the rest of your drink, and threw everything away.

You'll think twice about that next time, once you've read The Last Hunger Season by Roger Thurow.

Andrew Youn is a man with seemingly unlimited energy.

Journalist Roger Thurow met the "skinny, bespectacled... geek from Minnesota" during a snowstorm in Chicago, where Youn told Thurow

about the farmers he'd met in Kenya in the early 2000s. Youn explained that Kenya's use of ancient farming traditions led to wanjala (hunger time) and starvation because of lack of access to modern methods of planting.

Youn, an MBA student, had been pondering this, and he had an idea. Thus as born One Acre, a non-profit program that helps sub-Saharan farmers reap higher yields from their shambas through education, seeds, and fertilizer.

Thurow, who'd also seen poverty and starvation in Africa, was intrigued. He asked Youn if he might follow four farmers for a year, through wanjala and beyond.

As a village elder, Leonida Wanyama needed to set a good example for others, which is why she joined One Acre. She was amazed the

first year at the bounty she reaped, but it wasn't enough. Her husband, Peter, was ill and their son, Gabriel was away at school. School was very expensive: \$255 a year.

Raso Wasike was so pleased with One Acre that she inspired several others to join. But that wasn't Rosoa's only endeavor; she was lucky to find other employment so her wanjala wasn't quite so severe.

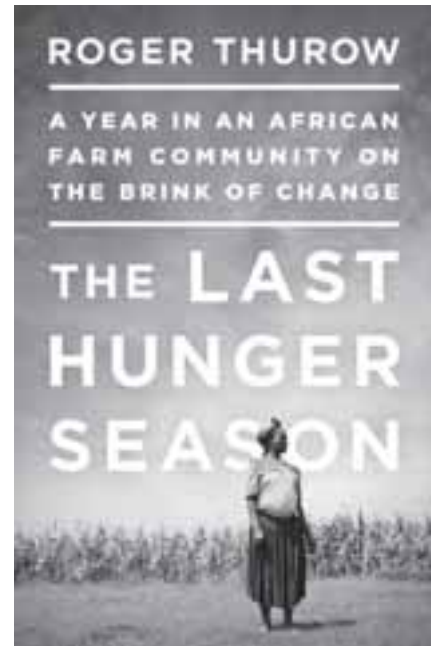
Zipporah Bikiti had jeered at neighbors who used the One Acre methods, until she saw their lush, bountiful maize fields. She was determined that this wanjala - a particularly long, terrible one - would be her family's last.

Francis Mamati and his wife had a vision. They had three acres and their son, who owned a nearby cafe, had a small plot, too. A shamba like that, properly farmed, could create dreams.

So why, you're asking, should you read a book about a bunch of miniature farms half a world away? Maybe you won't want to... but I was blown away by it.

The Last Hunger Season is, indeed, about four Kenyan farmers and the last time each had little more than tea to feed their families from January through June. But in telling their stories, the politics behind fixing what's wrong, and the triumph of success, author Roger Thurow also gives his readers a huge lesson in gratitude: chances are you have food, and this book never lets you forget that.

I think you're going to like The Last Hunger Season, just don't be surprised if it makes you a little uncomfortable. Still, if you want some-



thing that's sobering, glorious, and thought-provoking, this book is super-sized.

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Lucas County Commissioners Proclaim August 2012 as Child Support Awareness Month

Special to The Truth

Each year, the State of Ohio and Ohio counties proclaim August as Child Support Awareness Month to recognize that receipt of regular support payments assists in ensuring children grow up safe and healthy and that children stay out of poverty. At their July 31, 2012, meeting the Board of Lucas County Commissioners proclaimed August 2012 as *Child Support Awareness Month*. Honorary co-chairmen of Lucas County Child Support Awareness Month are Pete Gerken, Lucas County commissioner, and Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min, pastor of Center of Hope Community Baptist Church in Toledo. This year's theme is "Support Your Children – Support Their Dreams."

"Our Division of Child Support collects over \$84 million annually for families in Lucas County," said Lucas County Job and Family Services Director Deb Ortiz-Flores. "As a result of the work of our dedicated employees there are over 55,000 children receiving financial support. In addition, Lucas County leads other Ohio counties in the establishment of paternity and child support orders," she added.

"According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 24 million children in America...one out

of three...live in biological father-absent homes," said Commissioner Gerken. There is a "father factor" in nearly all social issues facing the United States today, such as poverty, crime, incarceration, teen pregnancy, drug and alcohol abuse, and educational attainment.

"The annual public cost of absent fathers to the federal government has been estimated at nearly \$100 billion," said Gerken. "This is an important issue and I am proud of the Fatherhood Connections program we are piloting in Lucas County to engage young non-custodial fathers in the lives of their children and to take responsibility for their child support obligations."

"Today, half of all children, and 80 percent of African American children, can expect to spend some of their childhood living apart from their fathers," said Perryman. The Center of Hope is part of supportive services being provided through the Fatherhood Connections program funded by Lucas County Job and Family Services.

"We are providing the nationally recognized *Nurturing Fathers Program* to young dads who have experienced barriers to successful fathering," said Perryman.

The goal of the Father-



hood Connections program is to intervene early by targeting young fathers between the ages of 18-24 who are in violation of their child support order, and providing them with comprehensive supportive services that lower barriers to employment or other obstacles that may prevent them from engaging in the care and development of their children. This program is a partnership among the Lucas County Child Support Division, the Lucas County Juvenile Court, the Network Division of Zepf and the Center for Hope.

The \$100 Billion Problem

According to a 2008 study released by the National Father Initiative, the annual cost to American taxpayers of father absence adds up to nearly \$100 billion. These federal

expenditures include thirteen means-tested programs such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid, food stamps, school lunches, and public housing. In addition, the majority of the federal funding for child support agencies goes toward enforcement of payments from absent fathers to custodial mothers.

The consequences of absent fathers:

- **Criminal Activity**
 - o The likelihood that a young male will engage in criminal activity doubles if he is raised without a father and triples if he lives in a neighborhood with a high concentration of single-parent families

- o Boys whose fathers were absent from the household were twice as likely to be incarcerated
- o 70 percent of youth in juvenile detention are from fatherless homes

- 63 percent of youth suicides are from fatherless homes

- 85 percent of all children with diagnosed behavior disorders come from fatherless homes

- 63 percent of youth suicides are from fatherless homes

- 75 percent of kids who abuse drugs and alcohol are from fatherless homes

CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH SPECIAL EVENTS

There will be special events in August to provide help for parents who are clients in the child support system. These include:

Fast Track Fridays

On each Friday in August, Child Support case managers will be available in the lobby of 701 Adams Street in downtown Toledo from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. to assist persons with child support orders who may have questions or concerns, including:

- **Child Support Payments** - child support should be consistent with current income. If someone feels their financial situation has changed since the last time support was calculated, they may be eligible for a Review and Adjustment. Child Support staff will be available to see if the obligation may be adjusted to be more in line with current income.

- **Administrative Arrears Forgiveness** - available to a parent who wishes to request that the support arrears owed to them be forgiven and permanently removed from their case. This can be done to promote reunification of families and encourage cooperative parenting.

- **Driver's License Suspension** - information will be available to assist people to get their license reinstated.

Wednesdays at the Library

Every Wednesday in August, Child Support staff will be available from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Toledo-Lucas County Main Library located at 325 North Michigan Street in downtown Toledo. Child Support staff will also demonstrate the new Self Service Web Portal that allows clients instant computer access to their case informa-

tion.

Free Legal Clinic

A "Pro Se" clinic is held between the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of every month for residents of Lucas County with Child Support or other issues with the Juvenile Court and who do not have an attorney. The clinic is run by local attorneys who will people fill out any court forms needed for their case. The clinic is held at the Juvenile Justice Center located at 1801 Spielbusch Avenue in downtown Toledo.

The Lucas County Child Support Agency was formed on January 1, 1988. It became a division of the Lucas County Department of Job and Family Services in January 2012. The Child Support Division is charged with the collection and enforcement of child support payments, and is part of a federal, state and local effort to collect child support from parents who are legally obligated to pay support. Child Support is under the direction of the Lucas County Commissioners.

Child Support staff assist children and their families by providing the following services:

- Establishment of paternity
- Location of absent parents
- Establishment of a child support or medical support order
- Modification or enforcement of existing child support or medical support orders
- Education and outreach about the child support program and available resources

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September 18, 2012 10:00am-4:00pm Jessup W. Scott High School/Field House 3400 Collingwood Blvd.



Eat More Chikin, Marry Fewer Gays!

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Incident: July 18
Dan Cathy, President of family-owned Chik Fil A Restaurants, says on record: "I think we are inviting God's judgment on our nation when we shake our fist at Him and say 'we know better than you as to what constitutes a marriage'..."

"Chik Fil A is Anti Gay!" -an accusation, a call to arms.

My initial response was, "no big deal". In fact, it made me want some waffle fries.

Even though I am much more liberal than conservative, I still didn't quite understand the seething outrage over these remarks. But it wasn't over.

Dan Cathy stuck to his point in the days afterwards and the entire country chose sides.

Backlash ensued. The LGBT community cried foul. The conservative Christian community backed Dan Cathy.

It affected business instantly as corporate partnerships such as The Jim Henson Company (that's right, The Muppets... hey, can't piss off the artsy folks!) began to sever ties.

Politically the response caused several mayors of large cities to react as though they had been personally accosted by Chick Fil A. (remember all those governors and mayors who have come out of the closet recently? Well, they mad.)

I STILL didn't feel it was that big of a deal.

I am proud to be a pro-

gressive, but I keep my liberal leanings from interfering with plain common sense.

Common sense at that point was:

1. No gay customers had been denied service.

2. No gay employees had suffered discrimination. As a business person, if Dan Cathy wants to lose a large part of his consumer base over a needless remark that's on him. But there was no apparent legal issue so I felt people were somewhat taking it far too seriously. Which means a lot coming from me, a person who takes many things quite serious.

But slowly and surely, the evidence came forth.

This wasn't Chik Fil A's first time in a heated national debate concerning this topic.

In actuality, Chik Fil A donates millions of dollars each year to "faith-based" organizations that have been sued for practicing discriminatory measures against the gay community. "Pray Away The Gay" and other initiatives have come across as innocent, but have also been brought up on hate crime charges, all with Dan Cathy helping out with the bankroll. The right-wing, conservative side of the debate

upped the ante not only by using Dan Cathy's comments as a beacon for the "traditional marriage" argument, but they took it one step further. At the slightest mention (really just internet rumbblings) of a Chik Fil A boy-

cott to be carried about by those supporting equal marriage rights, the right-wing Christian response was to organize a nation-wide 'appreciation day'. Across the United States, Chik Fil A did record numbers as people flocked to the restaurant chain not only to support with their money but also to take a stand for the belief that the Biblical version of marriage is the only view worth having.

Various business and political ties are being forged and broken with Dan Cathy's family-owned company all across the board from fortune 500 companies, to law firms, promotional partners and more.

All in the name of being for or against who can or can't marry.

MY THOUGHTS & PERSONAL VIEWS ON GAY MARRIAGE & HOMOSEXUALITY

Why are couples "issued" a "marriage license"?

Why do you usually need state identification in order to get married?

Don't think about love, families or weddings... just take a second and think about the document. It's a legal document, regulated and handed out by a legal jurisdiction.

Telling a tax paying citizen he can't obtain a marriage license is like telling a tax paying citizen he can't obtain a driver's license or a birth certificate.

I support equal marriage

rights. Anyone who wants to marry, should be allowed to marry.

Because a marriage is a legal entity, and legally speaking... anyone who pays taxes to a state or country should have ALL the rights afforded to citizens of that state or country.

Period. Now, aside from PUBLIC policy... my own personal philosophy on the matter is complex.

As a heterosexual male that will likely one day marry a heterosexual woman...

I do have one recurring concern about openly gay/lesbian couples in our society:

If I have a son one day and my wife and I take him to the park to play, what kind of families will his impressionable eyes behold?

What imagery and input will he be taking in at an age where he is not yet able to process complex things?

Will he see two dads coupled up, affectionately playing with each other while they watch over a child they co-parent but did not co-create?

Will he see two grown women openly kiss each other the way I kiss his mom?

And if he sees either of those, will it be any better or worse than him seeing a bunch of single parents at the park with no partner of any gender to be found?

No matter what explanation his mom and I may have on hand, what sense will he be able to make of this? How will it affect his own sexuality and gender identity in his formative years?

I do believe that a male and a female were created to mate.

The same way an apple contains seeds that can produce more apples, this was the grand design for our species to exist and reproduce.

It's spiritual (not religious) but it's also scientific. I also recognize that the ONLY thing nature and science agree on is change.

Who knows what our family dynamic will have evolved into generations from now.

Who knows where our society would be if we had accepted gay and lesbian people decades earlier.

I am comfortable with my beliefs, and I am comfortable with your beliefs... if we could tolerate each other and allow our differences I'm sure there would be less to fight about.

Public policy CAN NOT reflect personal religious belief.

There are approximately 280,000 citizens of Toledo, Ohio.

That's more than a quarter of a million human beings.

That means a certain number of Christians, a certain number of Muslims, a cer-

tain number of Buddhists, a certain number of Hindus and throw in some Wiccans, black Israelites, Jews, atheists and you've got yourself a typical city in America.

If we were going to pick one single religious belief to hold over all these citizens, which religion would it be? Exactly.

There's no way to pick just one and be fair to all, so the only option is none.

For your personal beliefs, everyone can do as they please.

But in matters of government (which marriage is, which is why it is called a marriage license)... the only fair way to treat each citizen is to not give any preference to one religion over the other.

At the point we have people showing up to Sunday service waving bags of Chik Fil A as if it were some spiritual statement, its clear that our failure to agree has given way to absurd.

This is an election year people!

And the Batman massacre was likely staged (more on that later). Stay woke.

FB search: Michael Mercury Hayes. Peace.



Advertisement for 'The Power in Teams' e-book by J.D. Jones. Includes text: 'THE POWER IN TEAMS: HOW TO BUILD, SUPPORT AND SUSTAIN TEAM PROGRAMS' and 'Check it out on Amazon!'.

Advertisement for 'GAMESAVVYONLINE.COM STOP BEING SO SURPRISED!' featuring a group of people and the text 'WATCH GAMESAVVY LATE NIGHT'.

Advertisement for '93.1 FM Jam Packed Magazine' featuring 'Broadcasting Live on Location & The Central City Monday - Saturday 6pm - 12 midnight' and photos of hosts.

CLASSIFIEDS

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August 08, 2012

Invitation for Bids Concrete Replacement - McClinton Nunn Homes IFB #12-B008

The Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive bids for Concrete Replacement. Bids received in accordance with law until Thursday, August 30, 2012, 11AM ET. Pre-Bid Conf.: August 14, 10 AM ET, 425 Nebraska Ave. IFB documents available at LMHA, 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604, 419-259-9446 (TRS: Dial 711) or www.lucasmha.org. Bidders required to meet the Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. Section 3 compliance applied.



AOD Clinician

Opportunity is available for experienced AOD professional to provide chemical dependency treatment and case management services.

Candidate must possess a Bachelor's degree, a minimum of six months experience working with adults with mental health and chemical dependency issues and be at minimum a CDCA. Dual licensure as either a PC or LSW preferred.

Send resume or apply to:
Human Resources - AODC
Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
1425 Starr Ave.
Toledo, OH 43605
Fax: 419-936-7574
Email: hr@unisonbhg.org
EOE

Account Executive

The Truth is seeking qualified candidates for advertising sales positions. If you have sales experience, are organized, can work successfully by setting your own hours, call us at 419-243-0007

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Attention Seniors: house for rent
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Immediate occupancy
Call 419-708-2340 - Demetria

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

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Office 419.350.7514

CLASSIFIEDS

August 08, 2012

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Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for a Security & Emergency Response Shift Supervisor. The selected applicant will be responsible for the overall security of the plants, material, equipment, and personnel at the refinery. Candidate will manage the development and implementation of emergency action plans for fire, leaks, spills, releases, and threats against the assets and/or the refinery personnel. Other duties include but are not limited to coordinating and supervising the activities of the contract security force and refinery fire marshals under both routine and emergency situations.

Candidates must be EMT certified as well as have a minimum of 6 years of security, law enforcement, and/or emergency response experience. Knowledge of current technology, MTSA, CFATS, OSHA standards, Ohio Fire Codes, and government regulations including 1910.120 are required. Candidate must also be familiar with fire protection, suppression, detection systems, fire apparatus, hose evolutions, breathing equipment, and other fire service tools and appliances. Advanced fire training, emergency medical technician, hazardous material technician level training preferred. An Associate degree in a Fire Science or Law Enforcement discipline is also preferred.

All interested candidates may apply by going to www.pbfenergy.com and selecting the Career tab. Once on the career page, candidates can view our current job opportunities and apply to desired position.

COMMUNITY PSYCHIATRIC SUPPORTIVE TREATMENT CLINICIAN

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc. is seeking full-time Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment Clinicians to provide community support services to adults with serious and persistent mental illness. Duties will include assessment of client needs, assisting in the development of the treatment plan, coordination of the treatment plan, crisis management and stabilization, advocacy and outreach, education and mental health interventions addressing the mental illness.

Bachelor's degree in social work or a Master's degree in counseling, valid Ohio LSW or PC license and a valid driver's license required. Experience preferred.

Send resume or apply to:
Human Resources - CPST
1425 Starr Avenue
Toledo, OH 43605
Fax 419.936.7574
Email: hr@unisonbhg.org

EOE

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Community Project Coordinator

Local non-profit organization is seeking qualified candidates to serve as a project lead for community outreach and housing development activities in targeted neighborhoods.

Duties will include but not be limited to: preparation of cost estimates; evaluation of bids; monitor contractor performance; conduct consumer satisfaction surveys; identification of program eligible consumers.

Qualifications include: Bachelor's degree in planning, construction management, business or urban studies; minimum of two years experience working as part of a team to initiate and manage community outreach activities.

Interested applicants should forward a resume to: Community Project Coordinator Position, P.O. Box 8125, Toledo, Ohio 43605 by C.O.B. August 13, 2012. NHS is an equal opportunity employer M/F.

"Do you enjoy working with people of all ages? Are you good at organizing people?"

Toledo CDC is looking for a Community Organizer. Anyone interested in this position, please go to www.toledocdc.org, select the contact us button and complete the contact form. Please be sure to put in the message box that you are interested in community organizing and briefly list your experience. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!"

Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY13-17,

(Project # 5017-12-1724) for Anatomy Sim. Cntr. - Interprofessional Immersive Simulation Center - Phase II 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 Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 21, 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 Rd., Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$50.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Jennifer Fuller of BHDP Architecture, Inc. at 614-486-1960.

One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, August 14, 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: \$1,142,035.00; Breakdown: General Const: \$1,142,035.00.

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Food Service, Clerical, Janitorial, Bus Driver and Para-Professional.
Information will also be provided on applying for substitute teaching vacancies.

It is the policy of Toledo Public Schools to afford equal opportunity to qualified individuals regardless of their race, color, national origin, creed, ancestry, gender identity, sex, religion, or disability in its selection, access to, treatment in, treatment or employment in all programs and activities.



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Chuck Cohen's 21st Annual National Invitational

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Chuck Cohen National Invitational Golf Tournament, as are all golf tournaments, is subject to nature's fickleness. This past weekend, nature kept everyone associated with the tournament in suspense as rain on Sunday morning delayed the start of the second day of competition.

Once the skies cleared and the African-American high school golfers teed off, most of the suspense ended, primarily due to the play of Chase Johnson. Johnson, a rising high school junior at

Darnell Ellis of Reynoldsburg, OH finished third.

Among the women, Tiana Jones of Alliance, OH, was almost as dominant as Johnson was in the men's group. She won by 12 strokes - 145 - over her closest competitors. A group of three - Sierra Everson of Reynoldsburg, Micaa Thomas of Bowie, MD and Nicole West of Upper Marlboro, MD - all finished with a two-day tally of 157. Everson took second in extra holes and Thomas finished third.



Charles Cohen and Joe Journey



Chase Johnson and Don Harbaugh



Eleanor Harbaugh and Tiana Jones

up to 20 each year, Cohen and his fellow instructors work with the youngsters through the winter months, providing everything they need to receive proper instruction - including clubs and shoes.



Barberton, Ohio's Walsh Jesuit High School, competed in the Men's Championship flight and almost lapped the field. After the rain let up on Sunday, Johnson, who had shot an improbable 66 during Saturday's opening round, went out on the course and shot ... another 66. His two-day total of 132 was 21 shots better than that of the second-place finisher.

The beauty of the Chuck Cohen National Invitational, however, is not who wins but who competes. This year 30 youngsters from all over Ohio and from other locales such as Maryland, Michigan, Indiana, Florida, Tennessee and Georgia competed at Detwiler Park Golf Course in the tourney started by Cohen and his group, the Toledo Minority Golf Association (TMGA), years ago. As always, the event was sponsored by the Harbaugh family.

Johnson, who will be attending Kent State on a golf scholarship, made it clear after his Sunday round about his plans for the future. When asked if he intended to become a professional golfer, he smiled about as broadly as possible and said: "yes, sir!"

Finishing second in the championship flight for men was Eric Perry of Detroit.

In the Men's First Flight, Joe Journey of Detroit captured the top prize while Kenneth Crowder of Fisher, IN and Benjamin Allen of East Pointe, GA finished second

and third, respectively. Cohen and about 20 other adults started the non-profit TMGA to coach and guide minority youth from the ages 10 to 17. Selecting a group of

Eric Brian King and King Law Offices Present
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