



If It Takes a Village, Village50 Answers the Call



Fresh Produce Available in the Central City page9

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A Hair Raising Topic...

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

I was at a local burger joint getting my no salt fries fix and other goodies when my on and off friend, Noodles, commandeered the chair in front of me and sat down

with his chicken nuggets and cola drink.

Me: Hey, Noodles, what's on the trip wire today?

Noodles: (arranging his nuggets into the shape of a 'U'). It's all good. I read your piece about the hair situation in BA (black America) and you were tight but right. I 'member

my granny frying up my sister's hair on the kitchen stove with that blowtorch of a hot

comb. That was when I realized how glad I was to be a boy.

Me: I had sisters too and

Saturday night was "sizzle and grease" at my home. My momma would set my sisters up on the stool by the stove and with the towel around their neck and fry away. You could smell burned hair even when you were in the attic!

Noodles: (finishing half of the 'U' nuggets). You know, it wasn't until I got older that I

read up on this hair frying and what a mess it did to our minds. Imagine cooking one's

hair so that the natural kink in it was destroyed... that is, until water hit it!

Me: Yeah. It was something. My sisters 'ouching' when they moved too quickly and got

nicked by the hot comb and my mother saying, "Be

still!"

Noodles: (almost finishing the last of the nuggets). What were we thinking or not thinking doing that to ourselves? I did not give it much thought until I got to college and got exposed to sistas' that let their hair go natural or the foreign students from Africa who wore the bush look.

Me: I know...I know. At that time, all of the magazines and TV commercials showed only blondes waiving their long "Clairrol" locks around like long ropes or chains and being seen as goddesses of beauty and too many impressionable black girls bought into it.

Noodles: (now slurping his cola with must gusto). You got that right! Brain-washing 101.

We saw no black men running their hands through any black woman's natural hair on TV and so we thought that somethin' must be wrong with our own natural hair so we burned

it in order to make it obey what Europeans told us was the standard of hair beauty.

Me: What about not using a hot comb and using other stuff to straighten out the "kink"?

Noodles: (now picking up the crumbs leftover from the nuggets). Well, I look at it this way.

If a woman wants to spend boo-coo bucks messing with her hair but her mind is on

straight, I am OK with it and with her. My problem are with the folks that straighten their

hair but their mind is still processed. Know what I mean?

Me: I hear you. It reminds me of seeing black women who buy blonde wigs and blond weaves and act as if it is natural and when you look at them like, "what is your problem?"

you are the bad guy!

Noodles: (now eating the ice in his cup). You know, only the Koreans and Europeans who manufacture this hair stuff for black folks are making any money. Including the Indians

and Koreans who sell their hair for those expensive weaves that can cost hundreds of

dollars. Now tell me. Who owns who?

Me: Imagine trying to sell to Irish, Swedish, Russian and Polish women Afro wigs or Afro curl wigs or Afro twistee wigs. No market. Why? They like their hair. You won't go

to a European country and spot thousands of white women walking around sporting

Afro wigs.

Noodles: (trying to sneak some of my no salt fries). You got a point. We spend billions of dollars per year on hair care and hair care products and I wonder how much of that

market do we control from A to Z. Not much I bet.

My auntie recently spent \$650.00 going to Cleveland for a weave and it was made in South Korea with hair from women from India and imported by a group out of Chinatown and sold in a few 'black' shops. Go figure! And, it took the beautician eight hours to set the weave in.

Me: Now tell me your auntie will go near anything with water in it wearing a \$650 weave!

Noodles: (still trying to get my fries!). Naw. She showers with two shower caps on and a towel wrapped around her head.

Me: Remember the times when some men would conk their hair and use that disgusting Jheri Curl mess?

Noodles: (finally gets a few fries). Remember! I was one of those jokers. My head felt like I was wearing a can of melted "Crisco" on it. I would go to sleep and wake up with my pillow

soaked with oil. Got to the point that I had to sleep in shower caps just to save from buying

new pillows.

Me: What got you out of that mental trap?

Noodles: (now munching on my fries!). A lotta of things. The turning point is when I tried to go to a swim party at my uncle's house in Cleveland. When I tried to get into the water,

everyone who was already in the water got out!

The worse time was when I went out to a buffet and my hair oils started dripping on

those protective plastic shields. My date slowly backed away from me and suddenly lost her appetite. I knew it was time to go cold turkey and break away from that foolishness.

Me: Did the girl ever come back?

Noodles: Naw...she left me for a guy who shaves his head.

Me: (pushing what is left of my fries over to Noodles). What is it going to take to break

this mental curse about hair that has an obsession with some women?

Noodles: (now smiling at his recent victory of the fry wars). If Michelle Obama was to

go swimming without a cap and Beyoncé was to be caught in a rain down pour and

neither one of them sweated their hair look, a lot of young women would re-think

about this hair issue.

Me: (still smarting from losing my fries). I think if there was an anonymous

Twitter or Facebook campaign in which white woman were found to be laughing about black women trying to get straight hair like theirs, there would be a change. Ain't nothing

like a wounded ego to make you change some habits...and especially coming from

those you are trying to imitate.

Noodles: Wow! I will leave that one alone. Well, gotta jump. Thanks for the fries!

Next time, I buy.

Me: Yeah, when water runs uphill!

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com

Community Calendar**August 15-17**

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

August 18

First Church of God Back to School Fair: Noon to 4 pm; Uniform give-away, hair cuts, voter registration, health screenings vendors

United Church of God Women Ministering to Women Breakfast: 9 am
City of Toledo District 4 Refuse Drop-Off and Recycling Event: Seaway Marketplace parking lot; 10 am to 2 pm; Yard waste, old furniture, old clothes, shoes, electronics - no TVs, tires or large appliances

Community for Change NONHRO: Gathering to embrace young people; Kent Branch Library; 10 am: 419-255-4118

All About Jesus Youth Rally: 2 to 8 pm; WPOS Christian Center: 419-360-1231 or 419-350-9195

August 19

United Church of God's Youth Recognition Day: 11 am
Beulah Baptist Church Ushers' Anniversary: 4 pm; Guest preacher Rev. Marshall Taylor of Grace & Peace Ministries

August 20

Aurora Project's 19th Annual Cousino Harris DKI Golf Classic: Toledo Country Club; Benefit for Aurora House; Registration at 10 am: 419-244-3200

Northside Family Reunion: Deadline for registration for September 21 event: 419-464-2727, 419-205-1735 or 419-535-9567

August 22-24 and 27

St. Paul AME Zion Gospel Explosion Revival: Services nightly at 6:30 pm; Sunday at 11 am

August 25

St. Paul MBC "Annual Rainbow Tea": 2 to 5 pm; Reynolds Road Reception Center; Glorified, spiritual fun experience

The Friendly Center Auditions: For Community Talent Show; 10 am to 3 pm: 419-243-1289

August 26

St. Paul MBC Annual Worship Service: Wildwood Metro Park Ward Pavilion Area

August 30-September 2

Latter Rain Conference: The Armory Church: 419-537-9736

September 14

The Friendly Center Community Talent Show: 6 pm; Youth between ages 6 - 20 - dance, voice and poetry: 419-243-1289

September 21

Northside Family Reunion: 5:30 to 11:30 pm; Sullivan Center Gesu Parish: 419-464-2727, 419-205-1735 or 419-535-9567

September 30

Friendship Baptist Church Celebrates the Recovering Community: 419-531-3242

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Children Under Siege

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



The days of coming to church for personal salvation alone are over. Today we seek not only personal salvation but social salvation as well. If we don't change the community, the community will corrupt the individual.

Reverend Cecil "Chip" Murray

Keondra Hooks, a one-year-old baby became Toledo's 21st homicide of 2012. Little Keondra's two-year-old sister Leondra, was also critically wounded from multiple gunshots fired into their apartment this past weekend.

The children may not have been intended victims. However, the violence is a low-down dirty shame and like many similar incidents, appears to fit the script of the sickening search for respect and street justice that governs and besieges today's inner cities.

But the tragedy may have additionally shone an unintended spotlight on the current condition of the community, which in many ways could also be characterized as shameful.

Most notably, the mournful incident exposed a lack of relevant leadership. The search for leadership is the missing weapon needed to curtail the culture of violence that currently reigns as 'King of the Hood' and is a challenge on many fronts.

While Toledo Police Chief Derrick Diggs has vowed to solve the latest incident, Toledo's highly-touted surveillance cameras or Community Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV) program have yet to produce the impressive outcomes anticipated in this epidemic cycle of retaliatory street violence.

Many residents and others are crying out, almost out of desperation and with sore throats, to the mayor and police chief to take back the inner city streets. Because the majority of the city's violence is geographically concentrated and primarily perpetrated by a few youthful offenders well known to the criminal justice system, others such as former mayor Jack

Ford are calling for curfews and other high-profile measures in areas of high gang-related activity.

However, sweeps, crack-downs and similar short-term interventions are rarely effective. In fact, they often merely yield a multitude of misdemeanor arrests rather than violent or gun crimes and are more likely to bring criticism from the community for what may be perceived as abusive, indiscriminate and disruptive police acts.

A more effective strategy has been shown to be a coordinated diverse set of approaches which are focused specifically on preventing the cycle of conflict among youthful street gangs. Of course this would require the strong political leadership necessary to obtain funding for a long-term campaign and the increased manpower to sustain it.

Police alone, however, are inadequate to fight the prevalent 'hood culture that "attempts to build a reputation for violence in order to deter disrespect." Rather, it takes a village effort. Therefore the need for a unified and relevant black clergy represents a greater imperative.

Few clergy in Toledo seem to have the "calling" or desire to create a violence-free culture or environment for "underclass" or high-risk youth. Instead, local clergy are beset by ministerial rivalries akin to those of the street gangs that terrorize the streets upon which their churches are situated.

Toledo's black clergy are also more likely to be not speaking to each other because of competition over

public funding or private grants and are seldom engaged in discussion of important community issues. The rare discussions that do take place among black ministers are usually angry debates over theology or media-generated subject matter such as whether or not to support President Obama because of his backing of same-sex marriage.

Further, the lack of relevant leadership from the black church is revealed by the mainstream clergy's lack of acceptance of street and other nontraditional ministries. Yet these ministries are those that are more likely to have genuine rapport with the "least, lost and left out."

Yet a more difficult undertaking, perhaps, involves creating the space for relevant inner city leaders to empower themselves.

Several grassroots groups and community organizers have appeared recently in socially-isolated high-poverty neighborhoods such as Moody Manor. Many of the residents feel that they have been socially abandoned and that they must assume responsibility for their own safety rather than rely upon the police.

The difficult task is to rebuild hope for these hopeless situations and convince residents to also assume responsibility for changing the circumstances for their own condition by voting, grassroots activism and by utilizing other nonviolent means of protest.

Finally, the black community-at-large can become relevant by collectively engaging in activities that produce real impact. We can with-

hold political support from those who drag their feet or refuse to work jointly with the community in ending youth violence and in preventing young people from getting guns illegally.

In 2008, 2,947 children died from guns in the United

States and 2,793 died in 2009 - one child every three hours, eight per day, 55 per week for two years.

Six times as many children - 34,387 suffered non-fatal injuries. One child every 31 minutes, 47 every day and 331 children every week

(Children's Defense Fund).

Our children need the help of the Church, the City of Toledo, their parents and that of a united community. It is a matter of survival.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman at dhperryman@centerofhopechristian.org

My View

By Jack Ford
The Truth Contributor



Beware of politicians trying to fix the problems of poor folks. Such is the challenge facing Black Toledo, as we grapple with the deteriorating housing stock of Toledo's inner city. The twin horns of this problem are: one, do we fix the houses up or, two, do we tear them down?

It seems to be easier, cheaper and neater to tear down blighted homes rather than fix them up. Hence, we have the concept known as the land bank program. I think the land bank program may

be this generation's "urban renewal".

You might remember urban renewal as the panacea for revitalization of the central city, in the 60s and early 70s. President Eisenhower had kicked off massive highway rebuilding in the 50s and Governor Jim Rhodes had pushed new highways throughout Ohio as an economic development initiative. The money was there, so "let's build highways" was the cry.

Well, we built new highways throughout the heart of many urban centers, including Black Toledo. In hindsight, we know the result was the loss of black entrepreneurs and neighborhood cohesion. We still suffer that loss today.

In addition to the loss of neighborhoods, what will be the likely result of massive land banking in Toledo's inner city? You can expect huge chunks of vacant land with weeds and uncut grass, running rampant, if 2012 is any guide to the future. Some of the remaining homes may be blacklisted by insurance companies, who will not insure solitary houses in urban wastelands. The loss of hundreds of homes once occupied by black and white Toledoans loom in the near future.

Land banking may work in middle class neighborhoods but may prove dangerous in poor neighborhoods where there is little incentive to buy and build. Why not a new paradigm in housing policy Toledo?

Let's consider saving abandoned houses rather than tearing them down. Let's not build so many units of new housing that we outstrip the buyers' market, as we have done in North Toledo, the TCCN neighborhood and elsewhere in the older neighborhoods.

Let's stop paying \$80,000-100,000 a year in salaries to the managers of some of the nonprofit community development corporations, when that same amount could repair five homes and place them back on the market.

By the way, we have paid \$40,000 to \$60,000 in salaries to now defunct CDCs, that had mediocre records in turning around neighborhoods, and let's live up to our mantra that was used to pass the school rebuilding program of "new schools, new neighborhoods." That means we will not let blighted homes go unrepaired right next to 11 million dollar

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The Dangers of Voter Suppression Laws and the Continuing Struggle for Democracy

By Carter A. Wilson, Ph.D.
Guest column



We all know that America was not born a democracy. It was born a republic, ruled by the privileged class and contaminated by the institution of slavery. We all know that the whole history of this country has been a struggle for democracy and for the right of every adult citizen to vote. This struggle did not end with the civil rights movement or the election of the first African-American president. It continues today.

Since President Obama took office in January 2009, there has been a nation-wide campaign to pass a series of restrictive laws designed to make voting less convenient and more difficult. In 2011

alone, over 150 restrictive bills were introduced in over 30 states.

Seventeen states introduced proof of citizenship bills. Three states—Alabama, Kansas and Tennessee—now require either a birth certificate or a passport to register to vote. Three states—Florida, Illinois and Texas passed laws restricting voter registration drives. Florida imposes financial penalties for volunteers or non-profit organizations violating new voter registration drive rules.

The League of Women Voters is suing the state primarily because of its financial penalty for turning in a completed registration form 48 hours after receiving it. A Tallahassee high school government teacher was fined for helping her senior students register to vote and turning the forms in after two days.

Several states introduced bills to reduce the early voting and absentee voting periods. Florida, Georgia, Ohio,

Tennessee and West Virginia shortened the early voting period.

Over 36 states have introduced laws requiring a photo ID to vote. Bill Moyer did a special on this practice as he interviewed two representatives from the Brennan Center for Justice (<http://billmoyer.com/wp-content/themes/billmoyers/transcript>) (tp://billmoyer.com/wp-content/themes/billmoyers/transcript). He began the interview with a sincere question from one of his staff members: "I have to show a photo ID when I get on an airplane and fly, why shouldn't I be asked to provide a voter ID when I go to vote?"

These laws do not affect the majority of voters. They impact the most vulnerable: the elderly and the poor. A Brennan Center report indicated that 18 percent of senior citizens over 65 and about 25 percent of African Americans do not have state photo IDs. (http://www.brennancenter.org/content/section/category/voter_id)

A voter suppression report provides case studies of how these laws impact real people ("Voter Suppression 101: How Conservatives are Conspiring to Disenfranchise Millions of Americans," by Scott Keyes, Ian Millhiser, Tobin Ostern and Abraham White,

www.americanprogress.org/issues/2012/04/voter-suppression.html)

Thelma Mitchell, a 94 year old Tennessee resident who had cleaned the Tennessee Capitol Building for 30 years and who had voted for over 70 years, could not vote because she was delivered by a mid-wife in Alabama in 1918 and there was no record of her birth certificate.

Ruthelle Frank, an 85 year old Wisconsin resident and former elected official who had been voting for over 60

years, could not vote unless she paid hundreds of dollars in court fees to correct her birth certificate. The attending physician at her birth misspelled her name.

Dorothy Cooper, a 97 year old Tennessee resident who had been voting for over 70 years, was turned away when she attempted to obtain a state identification card because she did not have a copy of her marriage license. She said that as a black woman, she never had this much trouble trying to vote during the Jim Crow era.

Paul Carroll, an 87 year old World War II veteran and Ohio resident who had resided and voted in the same place for over 40 years, was turned away from the voting booth because his photo identification card from the Department of Veterans Affairs did not include his address. According to "Voter Suppression 101," "Around 3 million Americans tried to vote in the 2008 presidential election but could not, due to voter registration problems.

According to the latest research, the voter ID requirement has a marginal impact on elections. This requirement reduces voter turnout (the percentage of eligible voters who actually vote) by about 2.4 percent. Although they impact both Democrats and Republicans they shift elections in favor of Republican candidates by about 1.8 percent.

A more substantial practice of suppressing the vote has been the disenfranchisement of ex-felons, a practice more common in the Deep South. As Michelle Alexander has demonstrated in her recent book, *The New Jim Crow*, this practice is most effective because of the dramatic increase in the incarceration of black males as a result of anti-drug enforcement that targeted black areas.

Today, according to the Center for American Progress report, as a result of this policy, more than 20 percent of the black voting aged

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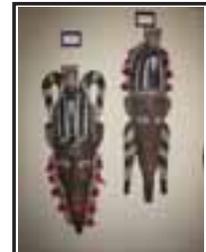
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The Dangers

(Continued from Page 4)

population of Florida, Kentucky and Virginia are barred from voting.

According to the Sentencing Project report, "State-level Estimate of Felon disenfranchisement in the U.S. 2010," "Nationally, an estimated 5.85 million Americans are denied the right to vote because of laws that prohibit voting by people with felony convictions." "Felony disenfranchisement...results in an estimated 13 percent of black males who are unable to vote." (http://www.sentencingproject.org/detail/news.cfm?news_id=HYPERLINK "http://www.sentencingproject.org/detail/news.cfm?news_id=1334&id=133">http://www.sentencingproject.org/detail/news.cfm?news_id=1334&id=133">HYPERLINK "http://www.sentencingproject.org/detail/news.cfm?news_id=1334&id=133">HYPERLINK "http://www.sentencingproject.org/detail/news.cfm?news_id=1334&id=133">HYPERLINK

Other voter suppression practices include improper voting roll purges; that is, eliminating large numbers of legally registered voters. In Florida according to the NAACP report, "Defending Democracy: Confronting Modern Barriers to Voter Rights," Florida is purging

12,000 people illegally, 70 percent of whom are African American or Latino. This practice is done in the name of scrubbing the election rolls of people who have moved out of state, died or registered illegally.

Like supporters of voter suppression laws 200 years ago, supporters of these laws today claim to be fighting voter fraud and corrupt elections. They claim that these laws improve the integrity of elections and insure that only qualified people vote.

In March, a Wisconsin judge struck down that state's voter ID law. The judge stated that after extensive investigations by several police organizations and intensive efforts, none of these investigations or efforts had produced a prosecution of voter fraud that would have been prevented by this law. The judge pointed out that the law would prevent 300,000 Wisconsin citizens who have been voting for years

from voting.

The judge added, "Although the legislature and Governor Walker have the power to enact laws to regulate elections, they had exceeded their constitutional authority by eliminating the right to vote for certain eligible voters." He added, "A government that undermines the very foundation of its existence—the people's inherent, pre-constitutional right to vote—imperils its legitimacy as a government by the people, for the people..." (March 13, 2012 www.postcrescent.com/HYPERLINK "http://www.postcrescent.com/viewart/20120313/APC010401/203130427/Wisconsin-voter-ID-law-struck-down-by-second-judge"/viewart/20120313/APC010401/203130427/Wisconsin-voter-ID-law-struck-down-by-second-judge)

Several civil right groups and the Obama campaign have recently brought suit against the state of Ohio over voter laws. The Obama campaign has sued the state over HR194 (which eliminated early voting) and SB5 (enacted to modify HR194 and to stop the statewide campaign to put a referendum on the November ballot to completely repeal HR194). The Obama campaign is trying to restore the number of days for early voting.

Ohio civil rights groups are challenging a law that would require the state not to count provisional ballots casted in the wrong precinct, even if the voters were directed to the wrong precinct by a poll worker. In support of this law, Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted (who had introduced the law while in the Ohio Assembly) suggested that these votes should not count because the voters who cast them seem to lack the qualifications for voting (See Robert Barnes' article, "In Ohio and Elsewhere, Battles Over State Voting Laws Head to Court" in The Washington Post, August 5, 2012).

One hundred years ago the same thing was said about people who failed to pay the poll tax or pass the literacy or character tests.

Because this campaign to suppress voter rights does not affect most of us directly, many young people cannot understand what all the fuss is about. This campaign affects

us indirectly three ways.

First, this campaign substantially weakens the powers of this nation's first African-American president. The disenfranchisement of millions of African Americans means the election of fewer members of Congress supporting a progressive agenda. It means increasing the election of members of Congress committed to undermining the Obama presidency.

Second, it enhances the political powers of the privilege class. This class already wields substantial powers by contributing hundreds of millions of dollars to election to influence who gets elected and hundreds of millions of dollars in lobbying campaigns to influence government directly. These laws further weaken the political influence of the most vulnerable.

Third, these laws erode the gains of the civil rights movement and threaten the foundations of our democratic society. These are the dangers of voter suppression laws.

The struggle for democracy and voting rights continues at all levels.

On the national level it is being fought by the Congressional Black Caucus, Al Sharpton and his National Action Network, the ACLU, Attorney General Eric Holder, NAACP leaders and many others.

Benjamin Jealous, CEO of the NAACP said, "America hasn't seen a coordinated attack on voter rights of this scale in over 100 years" (http://www.naacp.org/news/entry/naacp-civic-engagement-campaign-announced-in-atlanta/www.naacp.org/news/entry/naacp-civic-engagement-campaign-announced-in-atlanta). At the NAACP Annual Convention in Houston, Texas, July 9, 2012, Jealous said that these are "Selma and Montgomery times."

At the local level the fight is being waged our local NAACP, Rev. Kevin Bedford and many other community leaders. The struggle continues.

Carter Wilson, Ph.D., is a professor in The University of Toledo's Department of Political Science and Public Administration

My View

(Continued from Page 3)

middle schools or forty-one million dollar high school, like Scott High.

Why do we pay over some years, millions of dollars, for Department of Neighborhood program monitors if no one reads their reports? Obviously, no one on the 22nd floor or the 21st floor has read the program monitor reports of the CDCs. If they had read them, would that not have served as an early warning signal on the demise of the half dozen CDCs that rose and fell in the past decade? Why pay for staff if we do not pay close attention to their work?

Toledo City Hall has spent over \$700 million in federal monies in the past generation to overcome blight. The net result is worse housing today, than we had 30 years ago. To keep following a policy that does not work is insane behavior. But a severe, blighted, unrepaired neighborhood costs us more than the loss of housing units. It adds to the opportunity of crime, it stifles neighborhood pride of those who live in the remaining homes. Blighted neighborhoods become a key ingredient in the plethora of many other social problems.

There are thousands upon thousands of dollars in the land bank kitty. Right now, it's earmarked to tear down homes. Why not use some of this money to repair homes and keep neighborhoods stable? Even if we sell repaired homes for a token amount, we still end up ahead on both tax income and neighborhood stability. We really need to change our thinking about this epidemic.

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The Community Calls for Moody Manor Arrest

By Artisha S Lawson
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr, PhD, stated "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." In that spirit community leaders and residents of Moody Manor are calling for arrests, witnesses and proactive police presence since the senseless Hooks girls shooting. One-year old Keondra died from her injuries and two-year old Leondra is listed in critical condition at St. Vincent's Hospital.

Rev. Randall Parker III, of New Order of National Human Rights Organization, stood beside, Rev. Cedric Brock of Mt. Nebo, Shawn Mahone of Young Men and Women for Change calling for prayer and immediate community mobilization. "Enough is enough, we're choosing to speak up and make changes starting today," said Parker.

Tamatha Hamilton, the Hooks girls' aunt, tearfully provided insight into the recent condition of the family since the murder. "It's ridiculous and senseless, and whoever you are, you will be caught. They took someone that matters so much to me, it hurts. If you know something then say something."

The Hooks girls' grandmother, Lasandra Lucas still finds it difficult to believe what happened to her grand-



daughters and demands Moody Manor close permanently. "Regardless if she was 2 or 22 years old, any-

one who takes a life is a coward. Stand up for your actions. This could have been your family, my baby

is gone. Moody Manor needs to be shut down, the property manager needs to answer for this, my baby is gone.

Michael Ashford, Ohio House of Representatives, wants more police presence. "This neighborhood has been tough for years and residents live in fear. Chief Diggs is doing his job, but we need more police presence," said Ashford.

Former Mayor Jack Ford, along with Michael Ashford and Larry Sykes, member of the Toledo Board of Education, stood in support of curfews for areas in Toledo known as hot spots due to rise and consistence in criminal activity. "The city needs

to impose a curfew, rolling stop or check points in white and black hot spots and stop white and black groups. Moody Manor is a hot spot," said Ford.

Sykes suggested a new method for crime tipster identification and called for community leaders to step

or whatever, they can call the police.

Immediately following the press conference, the community pastors led a prayer vigil for the family and community in front of the Hooks shooting.

According to Toledo Po-

"Enough is enough, we're choosing to speak up and make changes starting today,"

lice Department Crime Stoppers website, anyone with information regarding an unsolved crime or assist in re-identification. We are community leaders, the people standing here today need to put up their money for support and time to actually meet with residents. I have \$1,000 today for someone who turns in names related to the Hooks case, accident

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LMHA Markets the Dorr Street Brownstones

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Dorr Street Brownstones are back in play. The six units on the corner of Dorr and Smead were constructed several years ago with the aid of city dollars and the friendly financing of local lending institutions.

In spite of the priced-

to-sell approach, however, tough economic times kept buyers at bay. Only one unit to date has been sold.

Now the Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority has been given the task of moving the luxury units. Still available are two townhomes and three flats.

The townhomes are three-story, four-bedroom units with two baths, central air and heating, enclosed private yard, garage and nine-foot ceilings. The price for these 1,800 square foot units is \$95,000 and the buyer also receives a 12-year tax



abatement.

The flats are comprised of three bedrooms and two baths. As with the townhomes, stainless steel kitchen appliances and washer and dryer are included. These 1,480 square foot units are selling for \$90,000. Buyer also receives the 12-year tax abatement.

For more information on the Dorr Street Brownstones, call 419-259-9549



We're making a difference.
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Lucas County Children Services salutes the hundreds of foster families in our community. They have opened their hearts and homes to children who have suffered abuse or neglect.

We need you to join them and become foster parents yourselves. LCCS currently need foster parents for children of all ages, especially groups of brothers and sisters. Foster parents can be married or single; own or rent your home or apartment, and just need to earn enough to support yourself.

Our next session of free information and training classes is **June 18 - 23, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.** at LCCS, 705 Adams St. in downtown Toledo. To learn more, call 419-213-3336, or visit us at www.lucaskids.net.





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Farmers' Market

Sojourner's Truth Staff



The Toledo Farmers' Market returned to the parking lot of the Lucas County Job and Family Services on Wednesday August 8, 2012 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. much to the delight of Job and family services clients, employees and neighborhood residents.

"I thought it was

very important to partner with the Farmers Market to bring fresh local produce to our clients, the workforce and the community," said Lucas County Commissioner Tina Skeldon Wozniak.

In addition to fresh produce, vendors also brought in homemade goods such as bread and Big C's BBQ Log Cabin offered lunch for the shoppers.

The fresh food experience which first arrived at the Monroe Avenue site in July, will be repeated on September 12.

The vendors accepted cash, credits



Commissioners Tina Skeldon Wozniak and Carol Contrada with Congresswoman Marci Kaptur

cards and food stamps/ SNAP for their products. Those using food stamps were able to use Double Up Food Bucks and receive

twice the value for their money.

"We're excited, the farmers are thrilled and all citizens have access to good, healthy food," said Skeldon Wozniak on Wednesday. The customer turnout, in fact, forced the farmers to open early, at 10:30 a.m., rather than the scheduled 11 a.m.

After being deluged with customers in July, virtually all of the vendors brought extra goods for the anticipated turnout this time around.#



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Johnson's Produce Market Serving the Central City

Sojourner's Truth Staff



In the heart of the city, Nebraska Avenue at Pulaski, stands a sight not common in inner-city neighborhoods anymore – a produce market. Johnson's Produce Market.

In a newly constructed building, David Johnson and his staff sell fresh produce to individuals and a number of retailers. Some of those products are now grown in



the fields adjacent to the market.



David Johnson, center, with summer interns - Wilber Scott, Akila Miles, Salina Garcia and Michael Hull

Johnson, who constructed the building at 524 Pulaski just over a year ago, has been doing business on that corner for years, primarily from under a gazebo. He started bringing in produce to the area in 1988 in a pickup truck – loads of watermelons imported from Georgia that he would sell to places such as Monnette's and would retail himself at stalls in the Farmers'

Market and on the inner-city corner.

Eventually he brought in goods from Indiana, then those that were locally grown. Last week, he received his first locally-grown shipment of watermelons, in fact.

How important is

such a market to the neighborhood?

There is nothing much like it for miles around with such regular hours. The nearest locations would be Krogers on Monroe or Seaway Market on the corner of Cherry and Bancroft. For

those without an automobile, that's quite a trek.

Johnson's Produce Market is open from April through December, Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m.



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Connecting Veterans with New Employment Opportunities

By U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown
Special to The Truth



Ohio is home to more than 890,000 veterans, making our state the nation's sixth-largest population of veterans.

Despite their service, an unacceptably high number of veterans struggle to find work. Just as we invest in our service members while they're on the battlefield, we should do the same when they return home.

That's why it's imperative that we do a better job of connecting veterans with the support resources they deserve.

Among them is the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP), a joint Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Department

of Labor training initiative that is a component of the recently passed VOW to Hire Heroes Act. VRAP provides unemployed veterans between the ages of 35 and 60 the opportunity to pursue training for new careers in high demand occupations. From welders, to paralegals, to teacher's aides, VRAP offers wide ranging opportunities for veterans seeking work.

However, as the program is limited to 99,000 participants through March 31, 2014—and with the first wave of enrollment closing at the end of September—it's crucial that Ohio's veterans apply quickly for these vital benefits. It's our duty to Ohio's heroes that we spread the word to all eligible participants.

Eligible veterans must be at least 35 but no more than 60 years of age; unemployed, received an other than dishonorable discharge; not eligible for any other VA education benefit program; not receiving VA compensation

due to being unemployed; and not enrolled in a federal or state job training program.

Veterans can also find work through the Justice Department's new initiative, "Vets to COPS" (Community Oriented Policing Services). This program, which is a component of the Department of Justice's Cops Hiring Program (CHP), requires that all new officers hired through the program must be military veterans that have served at least 180 days of active military service, any part of which occurred on or after September 11, 2001.

While too many police departments across our state have had to lay off police officers due to budget challenges, too many recently returned veterans have struggled to find work.

These men and women who fought to keep our country safe shouldn't have to fight for a job when they come home.

"Vets to COPS" is a critical investment in the people who devote their lives to protect-

ing Ohioans—both as members of our Armed Forces and as law enforcement officers.

Finally, it's crucial that word spreads regarding the U.S. Department of Transportation and VA's new websites designed to help military veterans find jobs in the transportation industry.

The websites will link to the Veterans Transportation Career Center, where veterans can enter their specific military work experience and see how it translates to jobs in the civilian transportation industry.

The site will guide veterans to jobs in five positions from aviation pilot, aviation maintenance technician, air traffic controller, commercial motor vehicle driver, and emergency medical services. Veterans seeking work can find what training and certification is needed for civilian jobs, determine what career fits best with their background, and search for available jobs in their field. The portals are available at www.dot.gov and www.va.gov.

Our service members and veterans deserve our nation's

full support. And at the very least, they deserve elected officials who are willing to put partisan battles aside to ensure that returning veterans have jobs to ease their transition into civilian life.

My constituent services office—which you can reach by calling 216-522-7272—stands prepared to help Ohio veterans receive the support they need. As a member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I'm committed to ensuring veterans have the tools they need to find employment.

UT's Fourth Annual Internet Marketing Conference Set for Oct. 2

Special to The Truth

Registration is now open for The University of Toledo College of Business and Innovation's Fourth Annual Internet Marketing Conference scheduled for Oct. 2, from 7:30 a.m. until noon in the UT Student Union. "This conference follows the three very successful Internet Marketing Conferences conducted by the UT Interactive Marketing Initiative in 2009 -2011, and is intended to build upon and expand the knowledge areas addressed in previous years," said Iryna Pentina, Ph.D., co-director of the UT Internet Marketing Initiative "The simple truth is that Internet marketing techniques are now a requirement for business success," she continued. "This conference brings together Internet marketing experts and practitioners and offers exclusive networking opportunities, featured speakers, an exhibition area, and break-out sessions. The goal is to have participants leave this half-day conference with the game plan and ideas they need to take positive action to advance their businesses in today's digital age." The keynote address by the nationally known marketing expert Joe Pulizzi of Content Marketing Institute will focus on digital marketing strategies from the perspective of storytelling. Other topics and speakers at the conference include: Social Media Marketing Segmentation, by Jeff Rohrs of ExactTarget; Mobile Apps Development, by Jason Therrien, President of thunder.tech; Using Video to Market Your Business, by Kelley Hynds, President and Executive Producer, Hyndsight Productions; Marketing Automation, by Derek Grant, of Pardot. The presenting sponsor for the 4th Annual UT COBI Internet Marketing Conference is TOAST.net, a nationwide Internet service provider and hosting company. Companies and individuals interested in attending this year's event are encouraged to register soon, as previous conferences have sold out and seats for the 2012 program are limited. Group discounts are available, and exhibitor opportunities have been expanded.

Registration and exhibitor information can be found at utinternetmarketing.info HYPERLINK "http://utinternetmarketing.info/home"/###

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Book Review

Clearly Invisible by Marcia Alesan Dawkins

c.2012, Baylor University Press \$29.95 / \$30.50 Canada 259 pages, includes notes

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

Nothing in life is ever as it seems.

The package of potato chips feels full, but you find twelve chips inside when you open it up. It appears that you've got plenty of money for vacation, then you actually get there. The party sure seemed fun, until the next morning. Your new co-worker was nice, before his first temper tantrum.

Things – and sometimes people – can be something they're not. They "pass" for various reasons and in the new book *Clearly Invisible* by Marcia Alesan Dawkins, you'll find out why it happens and how multiracialism will change that.

"Generally speaking," says Marcia Alesan Dawkins, "passing refers to the means by which non-white people represent themselves as white." Judg-

ing by literature and firsthand accounts, it's nothing new, it's not going away, and it waxes and wanes. We care, then we don't, or we have "guess-my-race encounters."

But why do people – and not just black people – attempt it? Dawkins believes there are several main reasons.

People pass as white or black for "persuasion" when social or political reasons make doing so beneficial. Dawkins uses as an example a theoretical case of interracial dating, and a "clairvoyant" who keeps the pass a secret.

Passing can be "powerful" by "bending conventional boundaries of... culture." To illustrate, she cites a fascinating case of two married slaves who devised a brilliant way to escape: the wife, who was very light-

skinned, passed as a young white man, while the husband "passed" as the young man's slave. Surprisingly, during their daring journey, the darker-skinned husband was accused of passing, too.

Dawkins also says that passing-as-power works for gender as well as race, citing Afghan girls who pass as boys to escape death.

When Homer A. Plessy boarded a train bound for Louisiana, he used passing as "property" to challenge current laws, creating what became the Supreme Court's first case of identity theft.

Passing can be unintentional (when people caught under the "one drop" law are unaware of their ancestry); it can be a "pastime" (in the movies); and in one astounding case, it can be a "paradox": Dawkins writes of a man who "entered

prison as an angry black man and exited as a white supremacist leader."

As a Visiting Scholar at Brown University, Marcia Alesan Dawkins writes with authority. Her impressive education shows in her research and in what she shares with readers in *Clearly Invisible*. The problem comes in understanding it all.

Deeper than a canyon and more highbrow than an Ivy League conclave, this is a book filled with 10-dollar words and hypotheses to accompany them. In fact, if you're unaccustomed to the terms Dawkins uses, you'll be lost in short order. Yes, there are some interesting anecdotes but they're buried deep in the "rhetoric" that Dawkins so often mentions.

I think if you can devote the very considerable time needed to grasp the ideas here, you'll understand why this social action may "progress from passing to

passed." For readers looking for a curl-up-this-weekend book, though, *Clearly*

Invisible seems awfully scholarly.



UT Minority Business Development Center Expands Incubation Spaces

Special to The Truth

The University of Toledo Minority Business Development Center (UTMBDC) has announced the expansion in the number of incubation spaces available to minority-owned businesses. While the initial incubation spaces accommodate 10 local businesses, UTMBDC Interim Manager, Erik Johnson, looks forward to the 29 additional spaces becoming available at their center, which is located in the Faculty Annex on the Scott Park Campus. "The new spaces are much more accessible and conducive to entertaining our members and affiliates customers," said Johnson. Through center partnerships with local, community-based business professionals, incubation spaces provide businesses with an economical office space, professional development services and access to networking resources through the University community. To apply for an incubation space, UTMBDC requires minority-owned businesses to have the following: Executive summary and/or business plan; Four to six months of working capital; Service oriented, light manufacturing or general construction trades; Potential to produce significant revenues in for to six years; Intent to remain in the Toledo business community

Interested businesses can apply for the remaining spaces through the UTMBDC website at utoledo.edu/incubator/mbdc/index.html. The center will then review all submission materials and require the applicant(s) to participate in an interview process in order to determine their acceptance.

For more information, contact Erik Johnson, interim manager of the Minority Business Center, at 419.466.0337 or at erik.johnson@utoledo.edu.

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What Black Americans Need To Know About Heart Disease

Black Americans may need to take the latest heart disease research to heart.

More than 40 percent of black adults living in the U.S. have high blood pressure, a risk factor for heart disease. For Black Americans, high blood pressure tends to be

more common and more severe—it's a major reason why Black Americans are more likely to suffer from heart failure and die at an earlier age.

Fortunately, there are lifestyle changes you can make to lower your risk. The

first step is to understand which risk factors affect you and what actions you can take to lower the risk you can control.

For example, the risk is higher for anyone who has a family history of heart disease or diabetes. Increasing age is another risk factor. Women are at a higher risk when they reach 55 or become postmenopausal. Men

are at a higher risk when they reach age 45. These are risk factors you cannot control.

Risk factors you can control are diabetes, smoking, blood pressure of 140/90 mmHg or higher, and total cholesterol over 200. If you don't exercise, that's also a risk. Being 30 pounds or more over your recommended weight and having a waist measurement of 40 inches or



over for men and 35 inches for women are also risk factors.

"It's important to take action to minimize the risks that you can control, especially if you are a black woman, since nearly half of all black women living in the U.S. have some form of heart disease," said Dr. Mark Jenkins, spokesperson for Close the Gap, an educational initiative sponsored by Boston Scientific. Close the Gap encourages people to be responsible for their heart health by following these tips:

- If you smoke, quit.
- Aim for a healthy weight.
- Get moving. Make a commitment to be more physically active. Every day, aim for 30 minutes of moderate-intensity activity such as

taking a brisk walk, raking, dancing, lightweight lifting, housecleaning or gardening.

• Eat for heart health. Choose a diet low in saturated fat, trans fat, sodium and cholesterol. Include whole grains, vegetables and fruits.

• Know your numbers. Ask your doctor to check your blood pressure, cholesterol (total, HDL, LDL and triglycerides) and blood glucose. Work with your doctor to improve any numbers that are not normal.

To learn more about heart disease, visit YourHeartHealth.com and facebook.com/CloseTheGap, twitter.com/YourHeartHealth and youtube.com/YourHeartHealth.

Lucas County Children's Services Offers Foster/Adoptive Parent Training

Tuesday/Thursday and Saturday sessions available this fall.

Special to The Truth

To help ensure that there are enough foster and adoptive families

in Lucas County for all of the children who need them, Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) is inviting couples and single adults to attend one of the two training sessions scheduled this fall.

The agency is offering a Tuesday/Thursday session between September 4 and October 11, from 6 to 9 p.m., as well as a Saturday series of classes that run October 13 to November 17 from 9 a.m.

to 4 p.m. To register for the classes, which are required for anyone seeking to become a foster or adoptive parent, call 419-213-3336 or visit www.lucaskids.net.

The agency needs adults and families who can provide loving and stable homes for babies, young children and groups of three or more brothers and sisters.

Qualifying to be a foster or adoptive parent is easier than you think. You...

- Must be at least 18 years of age to adopt; 21 to become a foster parent
- Can be married or single
- Can own or rent your home
- Can work outside the home
- Don't have to earn a lot of money, just enough to support yourself
- Need a safety inspection for your home
- Agree to a background check
- Receive free training
- Receive financial support, based on your child(ren)'s needs

About Lucas County Children Services
The mission of Lucas County Children Services is to lead the community in the protection of children at risk of abuse and neglect. This is accomplished by working with families, service providers and community members to assess risk and coordinate community-based services resulting in safe, stable and permanent families for children.

Donations Requested from the Community

Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union is now taking donations for the expenses of one-year old Ke'Ondra Hooks and two-year old sister Le'Ondra Hooks. Both toddlers were shot during a senseless shooting on the evening of Thursday, August 9, 2012, while sleeping on the floor of their own home.

Donations can be made at:

Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union
1339 Dorr Street
Toledo, OH 43607
Phone: 419-255-8876
Fax: 419-255-4390
Email: syourturn@aol.com

About the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union:

Toledo's first community development credit union, *The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union* opened its doors to serve the central city community on July 21, 1996. They envisioned the need for our community, like all others, to gain control of the economic dollars circulating within our community.

Chief Executive Officer Suzette Cowell is available for more information on this drive and cause. You may reach her by phone at 419-255-8876, by fax at 419-255-4390, or by email at syourturn@aol.com

Frederick Douglass Community Association Moves into the Future, Honors the Past

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Nine months ago, the venerable, but financially strapped, Frederick Douglas Community Association started down a new path. Karl Parker was named president of the board of directors and he and his fellow board members initiated a wide array of projects and programs designed to bring the long-time non-profit back to relevance.

The FDCA, founded in 1919, is trying to create an empowerment zone and hoping to re-focus its clients' attention on education — particularly science and technology, entrepreneurship, job creation and the arts, says Parker.

Already established is an Urban Center of Excellence for Sustainability and Renewable Energy that will create urban gardens, a solar academy, nano-technology and foster entrepreneurship.

A Parents' Academy will be starting in the fall.

Over the past decades, FDCA has seen thousands of young people walk through its doors in search of recreation, education and relief from the pressures of day-to-day life in the inner city. This Saturday, FDCA which has established an Alumni Association and Hall of fame, will be hosting a luncheon to celebrate five of those alumni — Judge Myron Duhart, Ronald Jackson, Olivia Holden, Rev. Chester Trail and Rose Bonhart Ellis.

The luncheon will start at 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 18 at the Association. For tickets or more information, call 419-244-6722.

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Interview with Shawanda Johnson aka Spyda

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

I am not a music critic. I am a music producer trying to get in the game, so like many of you I'm involved in this area's music scene.

Being involved in the entertainment community here means that when I do an interview with someone it's usually because I can vouch for them, I know them, I have dealt with them.

I'm not going to just promote anyone to you because I have a responsibility.

Pursuing a career in music and entertainment while still on this level can be difficult.

There are a lot of sharks, fake people, egomaniacs and talent-less hacks trying to seem important. And THAT'S just Toledo. So when I turn you on to someone, consider it more than just words on paper...it's a stamp, a seal. It means I have seen them in action, I have done business with them to some extent and I support them.

Shawanda is someone I've known for a long time, and I can tell you straight up that she is one of the hardest working people you will meet. From her work at Owens to my company's openmic night and more, she and I have collaborated in a few ways over the years as business professionals.

Artistically, my partner and I have produced a handful of songs for her and a certain slow song we just did with her is going to be her follow-up single for her current release. But all of that is to say that I can vouch for her, she's the real deal. But for anyone who doesn't know, get to know Shawanda Johnson aka Spyda!

Michael: People know you for different artistic pursuits, from dancer/choreographer to now singer.

Explain to our readers about all your passions and your overall goals in enter-

tainment.

Spyda: Thank you. I am a well rounded person and have been since I was a little girl doing hair, on drill teams, in school plays, and of course singing and dancing. My passion is the arts period! I love music, art, theater, literature, photography, dance—to name a few. So I have always given my passion, my love to all forms of the arts whether I was a part of it or just showed support. My overall goal is to be a well-rounded entertainer. I never look to limit myself but master my talents that God has blessed me with, not a lot of people can say they can do the things I do and I can't say I can do all the things others can but if you put me up to it, I will try hard!!

Michael: House of Adonis – how did it start...how were you able to take it so far?

Spyda: House of Adonis started in 1995, under the direction of Bridget Hanson and Sherry Burden in the Lucas County Metropolitan Housing authority (Elmdale courts) working with at-risk youth, especially young males looking to keep them off the streets and doing something positive such as rapping, dancing, drawing, whatever they could find interest in—giving them that option.

In 1995, they decided to do their first talent show at the Macomber-Whitney building where I took part in with my singing group "somm special" and winning first place! Ever since that day as an 8th grader I have been a part of the House of Adonis as my outlet. Growing up in the projects and taking care of myself along with my three brothers I needed that outlet. I became program coordinator and choreographer of House of Adonis along the way and have gained a lot of exposure for the group and



myself as well out of town connections!

Michael: The new dance studio, tell our readers everything they need to know.

Spyda: F.A.M.E.D. Studios is my studio I have opened up here in Toledo, Oh at 1822 Reynolds Rd. in the Reality plaza. F.A.M.E.D. stands for fitness, acting, modeling, etiquette and dance, which are all the services we offer!

F.A.M.E.D. is not your average studio as I have worked in studios all around and this one is on a different level. Here we train dancers, singers, models and actors in the field of professional work and fast exposure. Gaining knowledge, training, on-going exposure for a comfortable rate of \$30 a month per training class (or style dance).

The classes begin as young as infant age teaching "mommy and me" classes for toddlers, cheer and dance, fitness classes for adults, ballet, hip hop, modern, jazz, praise dance, contemporary/lyrical and so much more for all ages and levels.

I'm excited to offer my services and my phenomenal staff to the community: Brad Hashim, Tyree Bell, Dominique Glover, Chardae Snowden as well as Bridget Hanson co-director.

Open House is Sunday, August 19 2-6 p.m. at 1822 Reynolds Rd. Toledo, Oh 43615. Classes begin August 27.

To be a part of the compe-

When it comes to Toledo's entertainment scene, what are we doing wrong and what are we doing right?

Spyda: The Toledo entertainment scene needs to think outside of the box! When you see me do a show I will never be the same or come on a low level of entertainment, I aim to please and I think a lot of artists stay so close minded and think they don't have to grow or bring their A game to local events and to me "every performance is a practice and every practice is a performance" is my motto!!

Toledo has been known as a copy-cat city and I feel if we create our own box others outside of it will look to do as we do, create our own style, demand attention where ever it is your performing and just do what it is you claim you love to do, and be good at it!

Michael: That motto is dope, we try use a similar train of thought in developing our acts too.

So, what's next for Spyda as a singer?

Spyda: I am currently working on my album to be released Oct 27th, 2012 my b-day titled Dance, Life, Love. I recently dropped my first single "Paper Chase." That song was produced by Pay Per Flave and written by both him and me. My video can be seen on my Youtube page at www.youtube.com/

Michael: I would like to first thank God who is the head of my life. My daughter Johnnah who has been my inspiration to give her what I was not able to have in life and so much more. My grandmother has been my backbone when things were rough and all ways there if I need, close friends and family and also those who have doubted me, this is for you!

Michael: I would like to first thank God who is the head of my life. My daughter Johnnah who has been my inspiration to give her what I was not able to have in life and so much more. My grandmother has been my backbone when things were rough and all ways there if I need, close friends and family and also those who have doubted me, this is for you!

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419spyda. My music can be bought and listen to at www.reverbnation.com/spyda419 .

My twitter is spyda419 as well for those who would like to follow me :)

Michael: Any advice for aspiring dancers and singers?

Spyda: My first advice to anyone pursuing their dream is to dream big, never give up, be persistent, and never listen to someone who always surrounds you and never do anything with themselves. Listen and follow in the same direction of those striving to do something in life and get something to show for it! My second advice is train, train, train! Stay in classes, venture out of the city and perform, take classes, lessons by known people in the business that can help motivate you and give you a dose of motivation.

Now that's giving you the business, for real.

Be sure to look out for more big things from Spyda.

Readers, I thank you all for rocking with me... I've got at least one more credible Toledo-based artist to interview before the summer comes to a close.

Speaking of the summer ending, my company debuted our new website and we have a vote going on right now... check it out: www.ugemusic.com

Advertisement for The Warren-Sherman Festival on September 1, 2012. It features Eric Brian King and King Law Offices, a car show, a radio concert series, food vendors, and a runway challenge. The background shows a cityscape at night with a bridge.

Advertisement for Gamesavy.com featuring a group of people and the text 'STOP BEING SO SURPRISED!'. It promotes a 'WATCH GAMESAVY LATE NIGHT' event.

Advertisement for 93.1 FM Jam Packed Magazine Radio Show. It lists the show's broadcast times (Monday-Saturday 6pm-12midnight) and features three hosts: Devin, Tyre, and J. The background shows a radio studio.

CLASSIFIEDS

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August 15, 2012



Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for a Human Resources Associate. The selected applicant will support the day-to-day operations of the Human Resources office and staff including recruitment, employment, benefits and HRIS. Candidate will provide administrative support to the HR team; serve as the primary contact for new employees; maintain employee records and documents; assist with routine HR events such as Benefits Open Enrollment; and support key strategic HR initiatives and projects as assigned.

Candidate must have a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources or related field. 3-5 years HR experience in a high growth environment, preferably in a manufacturing environment is required. Experience with a HRIS and ADP is preferred. Candidate must have experience with Microsoft Office Suite and have the ability to insure integrity and work with confidential information.

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.



Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for a Scheduling Administrative Assistant. The selected applicant will be responsible for filling hourly shift vacancies for Operations, Lab and Firehouse based on union contract language. Candidate will generate weekly schedules; update overtime and fill vacancies on the schedules; track vacations and holidays; maintain documents and records; order supplies; and backfill for other Administrative Assistants as needed. Hours of work for this position are 11:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Candidates must have a high school diploma or GED and the ability to interpret contract language and make decisions in a high stress, fast paced environment. Previous scheduling experience and work with union contracts is 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.



Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for a Procurement Manager. The selected candidate will provide on-site management in the execution of Materials Management and Procurement functions which is responsible for procurement of equipment, materials, chemicals, catalyst and service contracting to support the Operations and Maintenance departments of the refinery. The selected candidate will direct and participate in the negotiation of local material and service contracts, as well as corporate contracts; oversee the warehousing and distribution functions; organize and control the procurement function to supply all goods and services for the refinery; and design and analyze controls to promote warehouse integrity.

Candidate must have a Bachelor's Degree in Materials Management or related field as well as a minimum of 8 years' experience in Materials Management including purchasing, contracting, warehousing and distribution. Knowledge of refinery terminology, processes, equipment and materials is 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.

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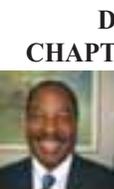


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CLASSIFIEDS

August 15, 2012

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PUBLIC NOTICE

LCCS is seeking proposals from non-profit and for-profit agencies or entities that have unique information, knowledge and experience working with children and adolescents ages 6-17, who exhibit behaviors that place them at risk of disrupting from their home or substitute care placement. Request for proposal materials will be available from August 15, at 9:00 a.m., through August 28, 2012, 4:00 p.m., at 705 Adams St., Toledo, Ohio, 43604. To make arrangements to pick up an RFP packet, call 419-213-3658. The RFP is also available via the LCCS website, www.lucaskids.net. An applicant information meeting regarding the RFP will be held on Tuesday, August 28, 2012, at 9:00 a.m., in room 913, 705 Adams St.

The deadline for submitting completed proposals (NO FAX) is **Monday, September 17, 2012, 4:00 p.m.** No proposals will be accepted after that deadline.

By: Dean Sparks, Executive Director
Lucas County Children Services

"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!"

ADS POSTED ONLINE AT:
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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
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Fax 419.936.7574
Email: hr@unisonbhg.org

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Renal Services of Toledo has an opening for a **Nephrologist** to work in the **Toledo area (Lucas County)**. The Nephrologist will diagnose and treat kidney-related disease or illness. Will evaluate patients and order dialysis as necessary. Consult with patients to determine appropriate course of treatment. Will prescribe and administer treatment, therapy, medication, and other specialized medical care. Will take call and round as necessary. Applicant must have an M.D. Degree or the foreign academic equivalent (MBBS), 3 years of Residency training in Internal Medicine, and 2 years of Fellowship in Nephrology. Must have or be eligible for Ohio Physician's License. *Applicants submit resumes to Office Coordinator; Renal Services of Toledo, 2702 Navarre Avenue, Suite 201, Oregon, Ohio 43616 or fax, 419.698.8570.*

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419-244-6463 from 9 am to 10 pm
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Request for Proposals Bed Bug Treatment and Inspection Services RFP #12-R018

The Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive proposals for Bed Bug Treatment and Inspection Svcs. Received in accordance with law until Tuesday, September 4, 2012, 3PM ET. Pre-Proposal Conf.: August 23, 1PM ET, 425 Nebraska Ave. For documents: www.lucasmha.org <<http://www.lucasmha.org>>, 419-259-9446 (TRS: DIAL 711) or 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604. Proposers required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. Section 3 Compliance Applicable.



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Attention Seniors: house for rent
Two bedrooms, one level, just renovated
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Electrician

The City of Toledo, Department of Public Utilities, is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Electrician. The minimum requirements for this position are: High school graduation or equivalent and possession of a journeyman's card in the electrical trade or possession of a City of Toledo Journeyman Electrician's License. Experience in industrial panel wiring and installation, motor controls, and troubleshooting electric machinery preferred. Starting salary \$33,895/ yr. To obtain an application, email your request to: toledo.humanresources@toledo.oh.gov or pick up an application in person at the Department of Human Resources, One Government Center, Suite 1920, Toledo, OH. The City of Toledo is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Minorities, females and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

For Rent

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Two bedrooms, one level, just renovated
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Representatives Needed

Work from home. Part time and Full time positions open. Income based on hours. Call 608-963-5241 or inquire at: www.joannefinn.mywildtree.com

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.

Teacher Wanted

The Padua Center is seeking a teacher to work in the Padua Possibilities Program, an alternative to suspension for children from selected TPS schools. The ideal candidate will possess a Bachelor's degree with teacher certification for elementary school. This is a part-time position; 24 hours a week.

Send resume, and references by August 27, 2012 to:

Search Committee
The Padua Center
1416 Nebraska Ave.
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If It Takes a Village, Village50 Has the Formula

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"Our mission is collaboration so that the entire community benefits," says Lawrence Tribble, president and co-founder of Village50.

"We are not experts at certain things, adds Albert Earl, co-founder and vice president. "But through collaboration, we can get those who are experts and bring them to the table."

Tribble, Earl and co-founder Matthew Coleman, started Village50 two years ago in an effort to provide families and youth with the resources to help them be productive.

Tribble, a native of Cincinnati who first came to northwest Ohio on a football scholarship with The University of Toledo where he earned a degree in communications, started working with youth directly out of college. He helped found the House of Emmanuel for troubled youth and then started a chain of group homes for inner-city, at-risk youth, he says.

After a number of years, he realized that his passion to change the youth culture could not be accomplished through a one-man effort.

"I'm one person and a lot of kids' issues are so extreme, they really need a village," he says. "I felt I was doing a disservice opening group homes."

The liability issues, staffing issues and lack of structured assistance forced Tribble to accept that he could not go it alone.

He became, and remains, a treatment foster parent. Then came the vision for Village50. He and his co-founders gathered around them those who could pitch in and not be overly concerned with financial gain — many of them entrepreneurs

who had the time and the drive to volunteer their services. To date, Village50 has operated without funding from outside sources.

The mission of Village50 is "to educate, empower and improve the quality of life of at-risk youth and families living in economically disadvantaged communities in the greater Toledo area," according to the non-profit's web site.



Brian Hayward, Prudence Allen, Mark Robinson, Julian Cunningham, Deborah Allen, Walter Williams are those who have served either on the board or the executive staff. And a range of volunteers have pitched in such as Anthony Garrett, James Mann, Shawn Reid, Lionel Maddox, Tommy Byrd, Khary Carson, Dorian Hooker, Kevin Houston and Keith Mothershed.

In its brief tenure as a force in the inner city community, Village50 has implemented tutoring and mentoring programs, intervention and prevention programs, academic interventions and parenting workshops. The group has participated in the collaborative community effort at

Robinson Elementary School and facilitated a safe passage program in that area. They have conducted community town hall meetings and developed a strategic plan to address neighborhood concerns.

Next on Village50's agenda, says Tribble, is to establish a school community hub in the Rogers High School feeder pattern.

The logic of heading out to Rogers came about when United Way implemented community hubs at schools in the inner city, says Tribble. What the group realized was that a number of families, particularly those displaced by the recent razing of the LMHA housing projects, were settling in the Rogers

community, necessitating the effort by Village50, or some like-minded group, to reach out to those newcomers.

Tribble hopes to that the group can obtain outside funding to assist in this project but he emphasizes the good works will continue whether or not Village50 elicits such aid.

"It's not about money but that will help build resources," he says.

And where does he see the group headed over the next few years?

"I see that we have a formula and a franchise that we can use from city to city," says Tribble. "There is no need to re-create the wheel. We believe we have that formula."



Lawrence Tribble

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