

Hutch Daddy Dollar
Glass City Power Player

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This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

Last week we touched on a few ideas about the need for health insurance reform – long range.

But let's take a look now at a bill that is floating about in the U.S. Congress that would provide immediate relief to millions if only President George Bush would deign to sign it.

The State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) was passed in 1997 to cover the children of families who earn too much to qualify for Medicaid but cannot afford to buy private insurance.

SCHIP was, in a sense, salvaged from the rubble of First Lady Hillary Clinton's disastrous effort to forge a comprehensive health insurance plan for the nation at the onset of her husband's term four years earlier.

As of 2006 SCHIP covered 6.9 million children and an expansion of the bill has been passed by both houses of Congress, with the support in the Senate of 18 Republican Senators. The bill is expected to cost \$35 billion (the Democrats had sought \$60 million) over a five-year period.

Meanwhile, Bush has threatened to veto the spending bill and others he does not like even though he will submit a budget that calls for astronomical increases for the war in Iraq and related expenses.

Critics charge that some states – the bill grants the states a great deal of flexibility in administering the program – have exceeded the original intent of the bill which was to cover children of the working poor. New Jersey, for example, covers the children of families earning as much as \$80,000. State officials there note that because of the relatively high cost of living, the qualification levels should be higher than for most states.

New Jersey may or may not be accurate in this assessment of whom the program should cover. It should be at any rate an easy adjustment to make from Washington. But there are other considerations that critics have decided to ignore.

Researchers at Brigham Young University and Arizona State University have found that the cost to cover those children who drop out of the program ultimately cost taxpayers more because of the expenses of emergency room visits by the uninsured.

Is SCHIP the start of socialized medicine, as critics claim? As we said last week, let's hope so. Call universal health care what you will and if calling it socialized medicine plays a little better for conservatives on the campaign trail, so be it.

But if critics believe that the shortcomings of a free market economy when it comes to providing the best health care for our citizens can be solved by making the market economy even freer, we repeat what we wrote last week. A free market economy depends on the interplay between supply and demand and in the health care market place, there is no significant short-term change in the demand for health care. People get sick, sooner or later.

And, in addition, when the market place is controlled by a third party – health insurers – who have no concerns about product quality or controlling costs in any conventional manner, there is no true free market possible. Insurers can control their own costs by denying clients the access to certain types of care.

* * * * *

It's official – the Toledo Public Schools have dropped from the continuous improvement category (a C grade) down to an academic watch category (a D grade). TPS missed staying in the continuous improvement category by less than a point on its performance index.

Of course, even had the district remained in the continuous improvement category, they could have hardly been said to be continually improving by staying on the same level. We are not surprised by the news. The district barely edged into the middle category during the last two years and the subsequent changes in the district, particularly with respect to the board of education's increasing divisiveness and lack of leadership, cannot have helped the situation.

The elections of 2005 have proven to be cataclysmic for the school district given the farcical performance of the board so far. There is still one board member who was elected at that time who recently released a statement to the media regarding her "quest to seek out full financial information" from the board and administration – this from someone who was the finance chairman for a full year in 2006.

Fortunately the board has settled down in the last few months but the upcoming elections in which two seats are up for grabs will be crucial. We can elect responsible individuals who are committed to student progress or we can be seduced by those who want to grab power for power's sake. We tried the latter in recent years and we managed to halt the progress the district had been making.

The Sojourner's Truth

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Community Calendar

*August 5-26

Central MBC: Second Pastoral Anniversary for Pastor Victor Reed and First Lady Kathy Reed: 419-244-6096 or 419-450-6320

*August 13-17

Pilgrim Church Vacation Bible School: "Rescue Zone: Saved by God's Power;" 6 to 8:30 pm; Children ages four to 11: 419-478-6012

*August 16-19

St. Paul AME Zion: 90 Church Anniversary; Thursday and Friday – old fashioned tent revival at 7 pm; Saturday – a black and white gala at the Clarion Westgate at 5:30 pm; Sunday – morning and afternoon services: 419-243-1065

*August 17

Fish Fry: Amazon Lodge No. 4; 11 am to 5 pm: 419-531-7079

*August 17-18

Devilbiss High School Reunion: 1980's plus 1990 and 1991; Fri. – tour of DHS 3 to 5 pm; Fri – Meet and greet from 6 pm at Navy Bistro; Sat – Reunion at Erie Street Market from 7 to midnight, cash bar, prizes, entertainment by DJ Darryl Brown: 419-215-3727 or 419-205-4692

*August 17-19

Northwest Ohio Retrouvaille – A Lifeline for Marriages: A program designed to help troubled marriages regain their health: 1-8470-2230 or 419-874-1914

*August 18

Josh Project Fundraiser: Indiana Avenue MBC; 3 pm; Nonprofit organization which teaches adults and young people how to swim; Speaker John Cruzat of Colorado Springs, diversity specialist for USA Swimming; Gospel music, food and fun: 419-255-0326

Toledo CDC 2nd Annual Back to Saloon – Community Health Awareness Fair: 10 am to 4 pm; Phillips Temple CME Church

*August 20

Third Baptist Church of Holland: 10th Annual Community Fun Day; For residents of Spencer Township; Sponsored by Odis McGee Agency, Toledo Urban League Young Professionals and Minority Counsel of 5/3 Bank; Free food provided by Ribs D Lite; 1 to 4 pm: 419-243-1980

Latter Rain Reunion Choir: Rehearsal at St. James COGIC the Armory; 7 pm; Open to all Sons and Daughters of the Latter Rain: 419-537-9736 or 419-261-0556

*August 22-26

Mt. Sinai Pentecostal Church in Jesus Name: Annual Pentecostal feast; Nightly services at 7 pm; Sunday service at 11:15 am; Bishop Harold Wilson from Chicago on Sunday: 419-377-3093 or 419-255-8577

*August 25

"Showcase of the Arts:" Kent Branch Library; 1 to 4 pm; To promote quality of life and appreciation of the arts; Over 40 visual and performing artists from 3rd grade on up: 419-531-5646 or 419-360-0399

Indiana Avenue MBC: Choir formation for youth and young adults of the Northwest Ohio Missionary Baptist Association; 5 pm: 419-320-7441

*August 30

Healthy Relationships: Tips for having a better connection with your partner; 4 pm; James C. Caldwell Community Center; Free/Snacks served: 419-729-4654 ext. 209

The Sojourner's Truth

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My View

By Jack Ford
The Truth's Political Columnist



Jack Ford

City Councilman Frank Szollosi is right to call on Democrats to band together and elect a Democrat as president of Toledo City Council. However, Szollosi appears to be ignoring the key point in council presidency politics under the Carty Finkbeiner administration – the mayor is the key.

The mayor will control how Councilmen Wilma Brown and Phil Copeland vote on most things including the vote for president. If Brown backs Carty, the mayor will threaten to stop or slow down redevelopment in her area. If Copeland gets enough pressure from labor groups close to Carty, Copeland will vote with labor.

To further complicate a

united Democratic vote, the vote of Councilman Mark Sobczak is heavily influenced by labor interests, particularly those of the Teamsters who support Carty. So three of the eight Democratic votes are pushed by influences beyond “Democratic” loyalty.

It appears that candidate Lindsay Webb has a great campaign effort underway. She is plastering her name all over north Toledo and reaching into the little cul-de-sacs – which most candidates ignore – for yard sign placement. She is not letting any votes go unchallenged. She seems to have the same level of vitality and effort that State Senator Teresa Fedor displayed when she first started campaigning several years ago.

Speaking of Fedor, whom I helped recruit into politics, she is well poised to succeed U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur when Kaptur moves on. Fedor has developed a strong statewide presence as a confidante of Gov. Ted Strickland and an unabashed supporter of public education. She is now more than just the Senate minority leader. Much more.

Based on community buzz in South Toledo, nobody is putting the door-to-door work in like Joe Kidd. The newly self-anointed “inde-

pendent” Republican is working his tail off, full tilt, day after day, precinct by precinct.

He is serious about this campaign and has a very committed team with him day in and day out. My sense is that candidate Ed Cichy is working his day job at Kroger and Karen Shanahan is meeting with folks in small groups at community gatherings. But this points out the opportunity to campaign for those who do not have eight-to-five job requirements, somehow or another Kidd has managed to work around his job requirements.

This pattern will accelerate in the early fall when it gets dark earlier and candidates simply begin to run out of time to campaign in the evenings. In addition, we soon will see the plethora of candidate rites – football games and other gatherings.

Councilman Michael Ashford won his case regarding the “endorsed” comment on his yard signs (See page 16). Ashford, as with any good politician, took advantage of his “victory” by then having a press conference to highlight the win. Ashford then took the high road by saying that he would not even use the signs anyway.

With this maneuver, he took away any advantage Thomas Meinecke might

have gained in response. By the way, I'm voting for Terry Shankland for Mr. Grumpy. The guy scowls more than I do. And that is saying a lot.

City Council members might want to check the projections on the budget for the rest of this year and for calendar 2008. That garbage fee that got passed is going to be ratcheted up next year to help out on the shortfall. Let's hope that this year's last

quarter does not whack the city too much. Maybe Toledo will catch a surplus as did the Toledo Public Schools. I would bet that Carty would love to have an additional \$10 million windfall.

I am getting ready to take a leave of absence from this column in the very near future. I must thank Fletcher Word for allowing me this opportunity. It has given me

an opportunity to “talk” with some folks unlike anything I have experienced before.

One person even e-mailed me to say that she thinks that just maybe I have a slight sense of humor. Just a slight one! But this column has given me a chance to connect some dots for you who read The Truth.

Contact Jack Ford at jack@thetruthtoledo.com.

Taking the Steps Toward Institutional Change

As a new member of the Toledo community and a new employee at The University of Toledo, I was very interested in the recent article “Diversity at The University of Toledo: Creating a New Culture” by Linda M. King. Serving as the recently appointed senior director of The Office of Multicultural Student Services at the University of Toledo, I am committed to: (1) developing services and programs that promote human understanding, shared values, and respect for individual differences, (2) providing support services to help students of color achieve academic success, (3) setting goals for increased retention of students of color by orienting them to the institution and promoting their personal identity, intellectual, cultural, social, spiritual, and physical development, and (4) offering services that collaborate with others at the university and the broader community.

The mission of the Office of Multicultural Student Services is to create a campus environment for African American, Asian American, Latino American, Native American, Multiracial, International and LGBT students that is conducive to learning by providing programs and services that meet the needs of these students. The programs and services are intended for the benefit of the entire university community in an effort to foster understanding, acceptance and cross-cultural communication.

I believe that these goals and mission will enable the Office of Multicultural Student Services to take the lead in helping to create a campus environment which affirms our common humanity, values each individual and respects the expression of others' points of view. In terms of addressing the question posed in the article, “How do you take an institution that has been in place for more than a century, steeped in tradition and turn it around to create an atmosphere that is both conducive for learning and welcoming to all?” please allow me to discuss some key elements in addressing this challenge. In order to be successful in improving the institutional climate for diversity we should direct our efforts towards the following:

- Strategically implementing efforts to enhance college access and success for underrepresented students;
- Recruiting and retaining a compositionally diverse student body, faculty and staff;
- Adopting the philosophy that diversity must be perceived as a process toward better learning, not just an outcome to check off;
- Transforming curriculum, co-curriculum, and pedagogy to reflect and support goals for inclusion and excellence.

By implementing these goals, the overall institution's functioning in regards to diversity will be strengthened and will enable us to link the institutional climate for diversity with the learning environment to devise a holistic approach to student development.

The Office of Multicultural Student Services will work toward facilitating student involvement and mentoring opportunities, developing cultural-specific programs so that all students in the academic community feel welcomed and valued, and linking diversity initiatives to the core tenets of the mission that are focused on positive affective, cognitive, and behavioral student development outcomes.

Certainly, institutional change is a slow process that requires careful planning, commitment, and investment from senior level administrators. As the new senior director of the Office of Multicultural Student Services, I am honored to serve the University of Toledo in this capacity. I am confident that the university has a proactive commitment and the administrative management structure as well as the individuals in who will affect and improve the campus climate to be successful in positively impacting our students, faculty, staff, and the greater community. Thank you for this opportunity to express my thoughts and I look forward to partnering with other campus and community members to deliberately cultivate a campus climate and culture that provides the best education, services, and life experiences for all students at the University of Toledo.

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Brownstones on Dorr Street – Project Delayed but Still Very Much Alive

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

When Toledo City Councilwoman Wilma Brown first ran for council 11 years ago, she promised that Dorr Street would be "reclaimed." She just didn't know, until about four years ago, how it would happen.

Over the years, Brown has labored mightily to turn her vision into reality. And according to at least one observer who helps provide funding for economic development projects in the local area, no district councilman has been as effective as has Brown in shepherding development projects to completion.

She has initiated small projects such as twisting the arms of Dorr Street business owners into cleaning up and beautifying their operations. She has overseen the development of larger projects such as clearing the way for Walgreen's on the far west boundary – Reynolds Road – and the Library Plaza, just to the east of Reynolds, which is just about fully occupied now.

Much of Dorr Street has been repaved during Brown's tenure and as a direct result of her lobbying on behalf of the all-important corridor to downtown.

Brown has worked with The University of Toledo to preserve land to maintain the residential integrity of the area around the university and has worked with the UT Foundation to purchase and lease property for small businesses.

A new strip mall at Westwood and Dorr came about as the result of Brown's efforts to promote economic development as has a super

service station at Monroe and Auburn.

But for all that, as Brown steers her last campaign for City Council in November – unopposed as usual – she is still focused on the one goal that will be her legacy, the continued reclamation of Dorr Street.

The Brownstones on Dorr Street, which promises to be the project having the greatest impact on the corridor's turnaround, has been a Brown dream for several years now. But the project has not been without its obstacles.

The finished product, at least the first phase of the finished product, will consist of six units that will sell for between \$87,000 and \$95,000. There will be two single-storied flats of three bedrooms with two baths, two two-storied townhouses with three bedrooms and two baths and two three-storied townhouses with four bedrooms and two baths. The homes will range in size from 1,400 to 1,650 square feet.

One year ago, a groundbreaking ceremony was held at the site and developers Jackson McDaniel of the Four Seasons Housing Corp. and Toledoan Roosevelt Gant were confident that construction would begin within weeks. City financing was in place with assurances of \$270,000 in HUD funds, the lot was ready and the city's Plan Commission had green lighted the project.

Area banks, however, were not quite so prepared to provide their end of the financing. Key Bank was the original lending institution

that the developers approached and all systems seemed ready to go until a change in personnel put a damper on a potential agreement. As the developers sought out other possibilities,



Councilwoman Wilma Brown and Roosevelt Gant

ties, there surfaced the first discussion of a new requirement from the banks – presale of units.

"We thought it was a pretty simple deal, notwithstanding all of the current risks of the housing market," recalled Gant last week during a conversation with Brown and this reporter.

The developers are currently working with Fifth Third Bank which, for a financing package of around \$800,000, is asking that two units be presold.

So it was back to the drawing board for the principals. Fortunately, the Brownstones project had sparked others to move forward with their own ideas about turning the corridor around. The Dorr Street Coalition, spearheaded by Suzette Cowell, CEO of the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union; Charles Welch, founder and president of The Juice radio station and Rev. Raymond

Bishop, pastor of Mt. Pilgrim's Baptist Church at Dorr and Hoag Streets, started reviving community interest in Dorr Street.

"The Brownstones is what everyone is zeroing in on,"

to take a look at the Brownstones.

Currently, said Gant, about four to six potential buyers are going through the pre-approval process. "Once they've done that, they can look at what level of unit they want to purchase," said Gant.

And Gant, in spite of the roadblocks presented by the bank, has not lost his enthusiasm for the potential of the project.

"We clearly see the market being there," he said. "There are so many renters in the neighborhood and they can afford to buy at these prices."

And Gant sees no end in sight once the first six units are underway. "Our plan and this is just phase one ... the market and the demand will dictate phase two. If we have a waiting list that will naturally trigger getting control of more land. The maximum number of units will be 20 plus if you can get control of the land. Then there is the

ability to do this sort of development elsewhere on Dorr Street and the ability to keep going. The city is enthusiastic about it as a concept."

In the short term, said Gant, once the pre-approvals are completed, the project will move forward rapidly. "Everything now gets triggered by things that are outside of our control," he said. "All the city needs is notification from the banks. From a construction standpoint, we have been ready to go and we are looking at five to six months in terms of construction."

The Brownstones on Dorr Street could still be ready for occupancy by next spring.

In the meantime, as anxious as Wilma Brown is to see that the housing project is brought to fruition, she continues her economic development efforts – large and small. "I keep my fingers on everything that happens in my district on economic development," said the councilwoman.

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Toledo Public Schools Back to School Schedule

Old West End Academy's first day was Tuesday, August 14. Students began arriving at 8:45 a.m. School started at 9:00 a.m.

Opening dates for other TPS schools:

Monday, August 20 – Toledo Early College High School

Tuesday, August 21 – Grove Patterson Academy

Tuesday, August 28 – First day of school for remaining schools, elementary students will have a half-day of school, while student in middle school and high school will attend a full day

Spencer Township: Home Is Where the Heart Is

By Alexis Randles
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Spencer Township, which is located less than 10 miles outside of Toledo, is literally where my grandparents found opportunity that the South was not willing to share. Called by most of its residents as "the country," it is a community that has often been overlooked by city goers who cannot appreciate the township's lack of shade, street lights and sidewalks. Even though, recently many residents say they have found the fast-paced life slowly but surely invading the once serene surroundings of Spencer Township.

This past Saturday the community, which is known for having the largest percentage of African-Americans in the Lucas County area, joined in celebrating all things familiar; family, friends and traditional fun at the annual Spencer Sharples Community and Class reunion. The community's history can be traced back to the late 1930's and early 1940's when record numbers of southern African-Americans migrated north to escape the brutal racism and poverty.

The day's events were

hosted at the community center often called the "drop-in" because it is accessible to everyone within the close-knit community. The center is located in what was once considered the 'New Town' section of Spencer Sharples on Irwin Road. The 'New Town' area was the result of an unfinished effort to expand the community and its commerce in the area through government funding in 1969.

To any passerby it is quite obvious that the impact of the failed endeavor still resonates within the community in the form of once-booming school buildings and local businesses.

"They came out with the 'New Town' development and tried to force the people to sell so they could get the land and build for personal profit," explained Michael Hood, chairman of the event. "But

unfortunately due to the poor results of the plan, it has caused us to challenge them (township and federal funding) to fix up this property because it has become an eye sore in our community."

This is the third year that Hood has been involved with the reunion. But he was born and raised in this community and was also a graduate of the once functioning Spencer Sharples High School - class of 1976. Three years later in 1979 the school was closed due to lack of funding and people in the community were forced to bus their students to schools in other townships, such as Springfield, Swanton and Toledo Public Schools. The fire department and community center were also closed during this time although both since have been re-opened.

"My vision was to bring back the people of this community and keep them together," said Hood. "I along with many others want to preserve it for the younger generation that do not know the struggle that it has taken to get to this condition."

The day's festivities started off at 10:30, with a parade that was led by the Spencer Township Fire department and included local residents with antique automobiles. However, the main part of the event did not officially commence until 1 p.m. Rev. Sylvester Day of Love Missionary Baptist Church (LMBC) - also located in the community - blessed the food. The smell of the barbecue was hard to resist along with all its fixings and baked pies and cakes that surely were somebody's grandma's recipe.

A short program followed which included Greater St. Mary's youth praise team and soloist Sharonda Jones. Author Rosie Hollins-Jordan, a native of the community, served as the guest speaker. Jordan provided the history of the community while interweaving her own family's experience after migrating from Arkansas to the area in

1945.

"It just seemed like this whole community arrived here at the same time," recalled Jordan. "All the kids walked together, played together and attended school together. We were truly one large family."

Jordan spoke candidly with this reporter about her father's decision to make the move. She explained how he had only attended school for one day and would have been considered illiterate by outsiders, but they survived due to his skill of farming and love for his family. "In 1975, when I was kid I remember him being interviewed for an article about northern black farmers and I had to read the article to him," she laughed. "And when I was finished reading he turned to me and said that is not what I said to that man (the reporter)."

Jordan shared many fond memories with this community but unlike most has also had the opportunity to share them with the world through her novel, *Wanderlust: Out of the Dust*. It is in this tale of adventure, which celebrates family and free will, that she is

when they call you by your childhood nickname, it is just amazing."

Later on in the evening in between the mingling and catching up, the community hosted their first-class reunion baseball game. This game is truly a reminder of traditions past said one on-looker captivated by the competition.

"This year we tried to have something for everyone to do, especially the kids, because we have noticed each year families bring their kids," said Hood.

The day's event was an ode to the rustic way of life and the memories those days. Despite the growth and development of the community that seems to be occurring at a momentous pace, residents within the community and those faraway manage to stay grounded. With each year nearly doubling the numbers in attendance, one can only hope that the fast-paced city life will not soon consume those of the "country."

"The only thing we will have left is a memory because the face has drastically changed due to companies



further able to illustrate how a family of Arkansas sharecroppers struggle to escape their impoverished life on a plantation. It is her first book of the *Wanderlust* series and although she now currently resides in the greater metropolitan area of Atlanta, her books can be spotted in Toledo area libraries and bookstores.

When asked by this reporter what continues to bring her to this event, "We are a family," she very simply responded. "I remember that kindred spirit, especially

coming up here buying the houses and land," said Jordan. "But even if there is cosmetic change we still keep the spirit alive!"

Want to Comment on an Article

Email the Editor at thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com

INTERESTED BIDDERS: TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS - GROVE PATTERSON K-8 ACADEMY

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until **1:00 p.m. on September 12th, 2007**, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers' Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor material and supervision necessary for the new **Grove Patterson K-8 Academy Bid**, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by Duket Porter Associates and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

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

Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting August 15th, 2007 which can be purchased from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615 Phone: 419-385-5303. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.

A PREBID CONFERENCE is scheduled for **August 28th, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.** at Toledo Public Schools' Board Room, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608

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

Bid Item No. 1 Site Work	\$	606,100.
Bid Item No. 2 General Trades	\$	4,974,818.
Bid Item No. 3 Fire Protection	\$	144,900.
Bid Item No. 4 Plumbing	\$	421,900.
Bid Item No. 5 HVAC	\$	1,463,100.
Bid Item No. 6 Electrical	\$	1,094,500.
Total Estimate:	\$	8,705,318.

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SOS (Save Our Scott) and Libbey, Too

By Warren Woodberry
Special to The Truth

This is an SOS. (Save Our Scott) to Blade writers Joshua Boak, Jim Provance, Jennifer Feehan and the Zogby Poll. The powerful and influential Zogby International poll, commissioned by The Blade, showed that residents of the 123-year old Seneca courthouse wanted to save it. Zogby, we need your poll at Scott. If The Blade had any African-American journalists permitted to cover this issue, I would appeal to them. But to my knowledge there are none.

I believe that I will start with complimenting you Blade journalists on your ability to spark my interest in your coverage of the Seneca Courthouse ... an issue that really held no interest whatsoever to me. But yet your coverage with many, many articles on the Seneca Courthouse gave me hope that possibly "one day" you would turn your sights on Scott and Libbey High Schools that are also under the same clouded future that hovers over the Seneca Courthouse. Being an alumnus of Scott I will concentrate on making a case for it.

If ever there was a facility that needed to be supported and returned to its rich cultural contribution to the community, it is Scott High School. I will not waste space here relating the history of Scott, but I will take a few minutes to relate a different reason as to why Scott should be saved.

Research will show that Scott is one of, if not the oldest high school in Toledo. Its founder, Jesup W. Scott, was possessed of impeccable credentials in the fields of business and civic concerns. Today, the list of individuals who have passed through Scott in the field of civics, business, sports and art, far surpasses that of any other high school in the city.

A prime example of the greatness of its alumni is Wilbur "Skeeter" McClure, Ph.D. Skeeter was born and raised in Toledo, Ohio. He then received a B.Ed in English from UT in 1961, an M.Ed and a Ph.D. in 1973 in counseling from Wayne State in Detroit.

His resume registers the following: "A nationally-known consultant, Dr. McClure is president of his management training, consulting and executive coaching firm. For over 24 years, he has successfully delivered training in Listening Skills, Leadership, Communication Skills, Team-Building, Stress Management, and Cultural Diversity to companies and other organizations across the country. Among his clients have been the National Basketball Association, Lib-

erty Mutual Insurance, the United States Navy, Arkwright Insurance, City of Boston, and the Towns of Brookline, Fall River, among others. In addition, he consults with police departments. For eight years, until 1980, he was an Associate Professor of Counselor Education at Northeastern University in Boston, MA. He has a private practice; individual, couples, families, and group therapy."

As "Skeeter" McClure, he compiled the best amateur boxing record in the world and was the only boxer to win every significant national and international championship, back-to-back, without defeat, in a three-year period. "Skeeter" was a two-time National Golden Gloves champion, a two-time National AAU champion, a Pan American Games champion, and in 1960, he capped off his brilliant amateur career by winning a gold medal in the Rome Olympics! (His teammate and roommate was Cassius Marcellus Clay) Finally, in the 100 years of the modern Olympic Games, "Skeeter" McClure is the only Olympic Games Boxing Gold Medalist to earn a Ph.D.

Research of Scott alumni would qualify many of them to be included in the world of Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged*. Many of these men and women were the movers and shakers of Toledo society and have influenced many corners of the world.

There would be no greater challenge to the vision of Toledo than to take the current urban students and return the pride and accomplishments that those who passed before them have experienced. Let me be clear, I am

aware of the tremendous challenge that this would present but, without challenge, what is a prize worth.

If you can imagine the impact that saving Scott would have on the community, the city, the prisons and the future of Toledo, you would see what the rewards would be. Compared with the energy generated in the



"Save the Seneca Courthouse" movement, the "Save Scott High School" would light up the city.

The challenge is to take a 97 percent African-American school and revise teaching methods and curriculum to guarantee that it strides into the 21st Century. The detractors would be the TPS administration, the Teachers Federation of Teachers and many in the community. You will find that none are easy opponents and that for various reasons they will fight real progress at Scott tooth and nail, but of course they will

deny this assertion with a passion.

To contradict their arguments on renovating Scott, I will cite the successful and beautiful renovations of the Toledo Public Library, the Toledo Museum and the Valentine Theater. Scott is the most important urban school building in the city and it lies in the heart of the Old West

community has once again been left out of the loop. Officials are accused by urban activist groups of failing to do all their homework on the Scott issue, including exploring funding opportunities and there is also the possible fact that TPS is violating the open-meeting and open-records law in reaching a decision about Scott without a public forum, which has been repeatedly demanded.

What happens at Scott is vital to the community and the city.

If alumni, both black and white, knew what was happening at Scott there would be an uproar heard across the city as evidenced by responses to articles in the Scott Alumni Newsletter. We, alone in the 'hood, do not have the ability to make our voices heard although many are still going hoarse trying concerning the plight of Scott.

It is with the help of journalists such as you three that a greater awareness of the potential of Scott can be presented. The issues of the building, the courses, the teaching, the funding, the quality of teachers, the pride in the school and the complete failure of the four-schools program which was rejected by all of the other schools in the city but yet

were still introduced in two failing urban schools. You will hear the case made in defense of this failing system but you will soon find that the benefits are for administrators and teachers far beyond the benefits to the students.

If you take on this project you will find that it will have as many twists and turns and finger pointing as the Tom Noe case. You will be wined and dined by a host of individuals in order to slant the story of the future of Scott and efforts will be made on a major scale to keep it off the front page.

You will find many city and state officials and unions who have no interest in fighting for a little black school, especially when it interferes with their personal and financial concerns, but you will get botox-filled lip service.

On second thought it might just be easier to campaign to save a small courthouse in Seneca than to take on the powerful forces here in Toledo that stand in the way of turning an urban school around. Following the money and the motive here in Toledo in the Scott and Libby issue is not easy. But if you folks are up to the challenge, we sure could use your help.



Janice, Hubert's Daughter

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“Hospice of Northwest Ohio turned my doubt into trust.”

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"Our family didn't have the resources to hire a private nurse. But together, we decided to contact Hospice of Northwest Ohio.

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"All the services Hospice provided were covered by Medicare.* I don't think a lot of people are aware of the excellent care available. Families in situations like ours need to call Hospice of Northwest Ohio."

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The Sojourner's Truth Business

Business Section • Business Section

Kapszukiewicz Announces \$5 Million Loan Program for Small Business

Eight local banks will offer loans 3% below market

Special to The Truth

Lucas County Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz announced the creation of a \$5 million small business loan program at a news conference on Thursday, August 9, at the site of the first recipient.

The initiative is a public-private partnership between the Lucas County Treasurer's office and local banks. Under the program, small businesses who commit to create or retain jobs in Lucas County will receive low-interest loans at up to three percent below market rates.

The loans will range between \$25,000 and \$150,000 and target Lucas County businesses that have fewer than 150 employees and net annual sales of not more than \$5 million.

"As a group, small business is the largest single employer in Lucas County," said Kapszukiewicz, noting that about two-thirds of the new jobs created in the United States over the past three years were created by small businesses. "This program gives a boost to the small business men and women who sacrifice so much

of their own time and money to grow our local economy." Business men or women interested in obtaining a loan through this program should fill out an application at any local bank branch, just as they would for a typical loan.

All eight local banks who have depository agreements with Lucas County have

County Treasurer, the strength of our economy is of great importance to me, and I intend to work with community and business leaders to support entrepreneurship and create good jobs in Lucas County."

The first recipient of a loan through the new program was LaPerla, Inc., which secured

"Programs like this help ensure that our tax dollars work as hard as Lucas County citizens do," - Kapszukiewicz

agreed to participate in the program. They are: Charter One, Fifth Third, First Federal, Huntington, KeyBank, National City, Signature, and the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union.

Kapszukiewicz praised the role being played by the financial institutions, who will assume the risk on the loans so there is no risk to the taxpayers.

"Our local banks have shown real leadership in making this public-private partnership a reality," Kapszukiewicz said. "As

its loan through Huntington Bank. LaPerla is a 100 percent minority-owned business that has been operating as a for-profit company since 1984. It is the largest manufacturer of corn tortillas and a distributor of Mexican food products in Northwest Ohio.

With the assistance of this program, the company plans to add six additional employees for packaging and equipment operator positions over the next 12 months.

"It's going to help us grow our business," said Santiago Martinez, who owns LaPerla.



Lucas County Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz presents a ceremonial check for \$150,000 to Santiago Martinez, owner of LaPerla Tortilla Factory and the first recipient of the Treasurer's Small Business Linked Deposit Loan Program. Also pictured is Aggie Dahar from the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce.

"It will help us get our financials straightened out."

Kapszukiewicz said the new initiative is modeled after the state's linked deposit program, and that he intends to set aside \$5 million from the county's investment portfolio to finance the loan pool. He said the loans will be up to two years in length and can be renewed once for a

consecutive two-year time period.

"Mr. Martinez is precisely the kind of small businessman who stands to benefit from this initiative," Kapszukiewicz said. "My goal as Treasurer is to safeguard taxpayer money and use the office's financial resources to help move our community forward.

"Programs like this help ensure that our tax dollars work as hard as Lucas County citizens do," he said.

Anyone with questions about the new small business loan program should call the Lucas County Treasurer's office at 419-213-4303.

Dear Ryan,

I've been dieting to lose body fat for 12 weeks now, and I seem to have reached a plateau. I AM NOT DROPPING ANY MORE WEIGHT! What should I do?
J.P.

Dear J.P.,

It sounds like you've been restricting your calories for too long. Your body has adjusted to that caloric level, and as a result, it stops burning body fat. When denied enough food, the body begins to feed on the protein in the muscles.

Muscle is the body's easiest source for energy, depleting it interferes with your ability to burn calories. Staying in a caloric-deficient state lowers your metabolic rate, making it harder for your body to burn fat.

To break your plateau, move into an increased caloric state for two days. This will help recharge your metabolism. For a period of one to two days, gradually increase your calories. That way, you can increase your muscle, which in turn boosts your metabolism so you can burn fat much faster. Depending on your sex, size, activity level and present metabolic state, you should eat enough calories a day to lose at a safe rate. Additionally, make sure you are increasing calories with the proper foods, foods that will help you construct new muscle and stay lean. Not all foods do this. The same number of calories from different foods has different effects on your body weight. This is very easy to prove.

Just try replacing 1,000 calories of potatoes and brown rice with 1,000 calories of candy and ice cream in your diet, and see what happens to your body fat levels. Conventional dietary fat and food containing it (including fatty cuts of meat) tend to be easily stored as body fat. Protein and carbohydrate must be converted to fat before they can be stored as fat.

This conversion process uses up a portion of the calories contained in the protein and carbohydrate food, and this expenditure reduces the tendency of these foods to be converted to body fat. Simple sugars are easily converted to body fat too, although to a lesser extent than conventional fat.

When simple sugars are released into the bloodstream faster than the body can use them, a rise in insulin occurs. This causes fat cells to take up the extra sugar and turn it into body fat. So be cautious of your insulin levels and don't increase calories that will increase fat.

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• Business Section •

The Last Frontier: Business Ownership – Don't Let the Fear of Failure Stop You

By Vince Davis
Guest Columnist

What if you fail?
Business is not for the weak. It is risky. On Thomas Edison's 1,000 failed quests to develop the incandescent light bulb, he told his critics, "I have not failed 1,000 times; I have eliminated 1,000 options that do not work!"

Lee Iacocca took over a battered, beaten, almost-broken Chrysler Corporation. The company was on the verge of bankruptcy. However on the steps of the Senate Floor Iacocca told a tale of lost jobs vs. a new vision. The government bailed Chrysler out. Iacocca turned Chrysler Corporation around. The rest is history.

Virtually every entrepreneur has tasted defeat before success was achieved. Donald Trump lost and gained it all. He renegotiated his debt in the process of building more businesses. They do not quit! They expect adversity. If we are to get on with business ownership than we must understand that failures will occur. Just because a business fails does not mean that you are a failure! Even if you lose all off your stuff, don't quit. It is just stuff!

We too often allow the majority community to marginalize our successes and exacerbate our failures. The number of times "at bat" increases our chances of success. Normally, however, we only get one chance.

When we do well the majority community says: that's because of entitlements.

We validate ourselves by

how many important white people we know, boards we belong to and stuff we have accumulated. No other race of people validates them-

like cats and dogs. To the outside world they present a united front.

Integration hurt black



selves by how closely they are aligned to the majority race. Middle Eastern people respect one another, do business with one another and protect one another.

I grew up with Jews in New Jersey. They emphasize education as a community value. Jews do not try to look like the majority population. They have their own schools and their own wealth. They work for and with one another. I have worked for Jews. They treated me well. They can argue all day. Sometimes they would curse one another. However, whenever pressed they rallied together for the betterment of every other Jew. It is the same way with Arabs. In "their house" they fight

folks in some respects. It stratified us along financial lines. The best and the brightest have moved on. Solidarity is no longer prevalent. Blacks are in an "every man for himself" syndrome. It is the oldest game in battle – divide and conquer. Integration has some of the "blackest" of us thinking they are white. That must amuse them.

Most of your critics have never invested one red dime of their own money in anything. Don't ever let a critic get into your head. There has never been a monument erected to honor a critic. Forget them, they aren't worth your breath.

To go into business we

loan money on our homes, cars, uncles, aunts and everybody else. You have mortgaged it all to start your own business. What if you fail? Do you take an overdose of pills? Do you allow the world to beat you up with the moniker "failure."

No, you keep on going. They can't beat you until you quit!

Success and failure go hand in hand. Kipling said when you meet with triumph or disaster, treat those two imposters just the same. Don't celebrate too much when you win or sulk too much when you lose. Take success and failure all in stride.

Don't be scared. Scared people do not accomplish anything. A scared race of people is an abomination. I did a little organized fighting back in the day. You had better fight when you're in a fight. Scared people get beat worst. Fear is an energy drain. The Bible teaches us to fear not any man or beast. If God

is for you than who can be against you.

Recently had a company-sponsored business meeting in Europe. I visited castles and fortresses. Europeans have historically been obsessed with the acquisition of wealth and the protection of their boarder. Scarcely can a European seaport be found without a protective barrier from enemy vessels. The barriers are all duly equipped with gun turrets and observation quarters. City perimeters are fitted with a protective wall. Castles are equipped with a mot and steep walls. Castles have been built in the best possible position to mount a good defense. The walls inside the city protect the wealth.

The thing that was most evident to me is that Europeans have been into wealth acquisition and power for centuries. Building wealth and running businesses is entirely new stuff for African-Americans. African-Americans are the sons and

daughters of our former slave masters and the original Africans that were bought here. Therefore we have been around for far fewer centuries than they have. We've got a late start but it is not too late, we are just finding our way economically.

Edgar Albert Guest said it well:

Even hope may seem but futile,
When with troubles you're beset,
But remember you are facing
Just what other men have met.

You may fail, but fall still fighting;

Don't give up, whate'er you do;
Eyes front, head high to the finish.
See it through

That's my time!

See me at my insurance business for low rates on auto insurance and great rates on life insurance. Call Vince 419-244-2904

Ashford Cleared

(Continued from Page 16)



Ashford said he would be focusing his re-election campaign on key issues such as quality of life, repaving streets and jobs creation.

Traynum, seeking office for the first time, readily agreed to sign a clean-campaign pledge. "It would enhance your integrity even among those who don't know what it says," said Traynum. "But my mission is different. My mission is to clean up District 4 and I just don't have the time to worry about the mudslinging. My mission is to be the voice of District 4 and to worry about their needs."

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Majestic Lifestyles Offers Yoga Fitness Classes

Sojourner's Truth Staff



"Flexibility is the key to your youth and vitality," says Reginald Peacock, founder and owner of Majestic Lifestyles, a yoga-oriented fitness center at 618 Adams Street. "I'm getting people to start to learn how to be flexible."

Peacock opened Majestic Lifestyles several months ago although he was been building towards this moment for a number of years. A certified fitness trainer, Peacock, about five years ago, began incorporating yoga and flexibility training into the more tradi-

tional workouts he had been conducting: circuit training routines used in pre-conditioning, flexibility training to improve muscle toning and cardiovascular training to improve stamina.

Peacock's research into yoga prompted him to tread lightly initially. "I first started thinking there was a right way and a wrong way." He eventually realized that there is no wrong style of yoga as long as the program is effective in accomplishing the desired goals - increased flexibility, ridding the body of toxins, improved stamina and enhanced muscle tone.

Peacock starts his client's



work outs with a low impact set of exercises designed to emphasize flexibility before moving into the more rigorous aspect of the workout. On the day we visited his facilities, he was with a client, Faith Thompson, who has been working out at Majestic for several months. "I feel and look good since I've been coming here," said Thomp-

son. And that was the key for Peacock as he developed his yoga fitness routines.

"I was leading an exercise group several years ago," he recalled. "At the end of a routine, I just felt so good. 'How do you feel?' I asked the group. 'Are you feeling the same way I am?'"

The members of that

group reinforced his opinion that he was on the right track - they did indeed feel good. Many of them had not been able to touch their toes when they started and they had reached the point of enhanced flexibility. No wonder they felt so much better!

Majestic Lifestyles offers 30 and 60-minute class sessions, Monday through Saturdays, for \$10 and \$15, respectively, or eight-one-hour sessions for a total of \$80. For those who are trying to squeeze in a workout session during a busy workday, Majestic offers a "Yoga Lunch Break Blast" from 11 a.m. to 12:30p.m.

For more information, call Reginald Peacock at 419-276-8129.



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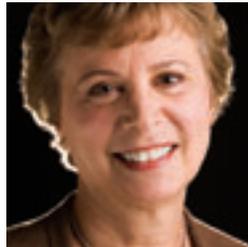
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WE ARE A FULL SERVICE BUSINESS

Yours, Mine and Ours: Stepfamily Finances Require Plenty of Planning

By Bill Harris
Guest Columnist

When two people with kids decide to get married, the emotional side of the equation is already complicated. How will the kids get along under the same roof? How will parents handle disciplinary issues, particularly when the other spouse's kids are the target? How will ex-spouses be involved in the new blended family?

And then, there's the

one or both members of a remarrying couple have assets they're bringing into the marriage that they want to protect if the marriage ends—a home, cash, investments. And if there are children from a previous marriage involved, safeguarding assets necessary to their education or their financial support needs to be spelled out.

Working immediately



surviving spouse, they may end up with a single parent providing for an entire blended family. Also, when adult children from previous marriages are involved, the couple needs to focus closely on beneficiary issues for retirement accounts and insurance policies.

Paying kids' expenses. People who have been divorced may have particular worries about financial dependency, and those need to be aired well in advance of marriage. These concerns and biases come into sharp focus when a child's everyday expenses or big outlays like healthcare, or tuition need to be paid. If one remarried spouse makes less than another, the idea of "you pay for your kid, I'll pay for mine" can become troublesome.

The remarrying couple might want to consider bringing their ex-spouse into the picture and possibly drawing up some formal agreement with them if they've not already addressed such expenses in their divorce and child support settlements.

Paying household expenses. Couples in remarriage need to address how bills will be paid, how debts before the marriage will be paid off, how investments must be made and how spending must be controlled. Putting such issues on the table early is key to any marriage's success.

Keeping an eye on the IRS. Remarriage doesn't eliminate tax problems that involve former spouses. Individuals who filed tax returns with former spouses take responsibility for the accuracy of those returns, and problems like under-reported income and unjustified deductions may haunt the new marriage later. Some financial planners and tax preparers may advise clients

who bring substantial assets into a marriage, or suspicion that a former spouse could cause tax trouble, to use the "married, filing separately" designation as a possible protection. It is critical to obtain professional advice if there are potential "injured spouse" or "innocent spouse" claims.

This column is produced by the Financial Planning Association, the membership organization for the financial planning community, and is provided by Bill Harris, Financial Advisor and a local member of the FPA. Bill Harris is a financial advisor with Informative Financial Services of Toledo, Ohio. Securities and advisory services offered through Mutual Service Corporation, member NASD/SIPC. Informative Financial Services is not affiliated with Mutual Service Corporation. For seminars and speaking engagements, Bill can be reached at 419-885-8384.

money. How will you and your spouse pay for your kids' college tuition? What happens if you or your spouse dies suddenly?

Any couple needs to consider emotional and money issues before they say "I do," but for blended families, getting a financial plan in place before the wedding is especially important.

Getting credit histories out in the open. Any marriage, not just remarriage, requires both spouses to admit to their debts and assets no matter whether they plan to merge those assets or keep them separate. The couple should sit down to discuss their financial affairs well before the wedding. Based on the couples' respective credit histories, they may have to consider how to divide up ownership of planned joint properties and accounts to obtain the best lending rates possible.

Dealing with child support and alimony. Many remarried couples with children either pay or are paid child support for a designated period per their prior divorce agreements. Couples should discuss how this will impact the blended family in terms of fairness.

Getting a prenup. As prenuptial agreements become more the common between people who have never married before, remarrying couples might need them even more. In most cases,

on an estate plan. There are many good reasons to develop an estate plan at the time you and your future spouse are developing a prenuptial agreement—one agreement actually informs the other. Estate planning is necessary because many remarrying couples may still have younger children to provide for, and if one spouse dies, then custody issues might arise between the ex and the current spouse if arrangements are not spelled out beforehand. An estate plan is particularly necessary if remarrying spouses vary considerably in age—if the younger spouse is the

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Dorr Street Coalition Educational Meeting

The Dorr Street Coalition and the Toledo Public Schools will conduct a joint educational committee meeting concerning the future of Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School at Mott Branch Library on Monday, August 20 at 6 pm

A Taste of Diversity 2007

You're Invited! to Celebrate National Race Equality Day with a "taste." Join us on Sunday September 16, 2007, for "A Taste of Diversity" at the Toledo Botanical Garden. This free event is open to everyone in our community. Come take this opportunity to sample delicious food items, enjoy cultural music and entertainment, and participate in arts & crafts demonstrations while taking in the beautiful scenery at the Gardens. For more information, call 419-245-1565.

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Hutch Daddy Dollar**

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

Man, isn't it great to have our own HOT 97?

That's a major thing, right? If you've been listening to 97.3 then you've noticed.

From the moment they came on the airwaves last spring I've been checking hard for the mixes, the on-air personalities and all of the events they bring to Toledo.

My personal taste, of course I love it when the play list is full of that hip-hop we grew up on in the late 90's (I prefer Common over "A Bay Bay" any day), but you can't front on a station that tries like hell to please as many people as they can.

D.J. Big Lou The Mayor, D.J. Kausion, D.J. Scott Smoove and a few other affiliates of Hot 97 have always treated my crew with respect.

Humble and on the grind, the whole station just won listeners over by being down to earth. But then things got even hotter when a down south cat came to Toledo and quickly became a ruler on the airwaves.

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Peeps have been asking for the past few months "Ayo, who is Hutch Daddy? - Where did he come from? - Why is he so cool with U.G.E.?" - LOL.

Well, hey, as far as him showing love to my crew, the man just likes great music.

But as far as his impact on the 419 and his origin, I got at him so now all of you can know the man behind that Southern playalistic drawl:

Michael: Okay Hutch, good look on meeting up ... okay - WHO is Hutch Daddy Dollar?

Hutch: Whhhhooooo (both laugh) - that's a lot. I guess a summation is that I'm just a regular cat, you know? The regular dude that's in the street and just lucked up and got on the radio. Just a regular old hood dude that got lucky one day and they told me to talk on the mic. Almost like a new version of Petey Greene. I done been in trouble and all that but I just always had that gift of gab. I got into radio from deejaying and I got into deejaying from producing.

I've done remixes for Jill Scott, Brandy, Bubba Sparx, Trina, Trick Daddy - I gotta nice little resume. Once I

started doing radio and seen the impact it had with the people it was kinda addicting.

Michael: What was the station you used to work for?

Hutch: Well I came here from Flavor 102.3 in Tallahassee and Star 105 in Valdosta, Georgia. I was on two stations at once, in that area I do have somewhat of a little notoriety.

Michael: Hell, being on two stations at once you would have to ... (both laugh)

Hutch: You know, getting my Tom Joyner on.

Michael: So how did you first get into hip-hop?

Hutch: I lived between two projects, like literally. A lot of people say 'man, growin' up in the projects is the worse thing ever' - NO, growin' up in a low-income house that sits between two projects is the worst thing ever. Early on, I had to learn how to be diplomatic, you know? But back in the 80's I remember hearing Planet Rock playing loud out of the boom boxes. In Florida we listen to everything.

2 Live Crew and Run DMC both came out in '85 and that was my introduction to hip-hop.

Michael: Even though right now it's Atlanta, but back in the day wasn't it Florida that gave the world that booty-shake music?

Hutch: Oh yeah. I've always gravitated towards ... energy-driven music. Especially with black people, we really feel music. I always love booty shake because it was about letting go and partying - not about fightin' or nothing. That's what I loved about Bass music, in Florida we didn't have no violence in the club - everybody watchin' the girls! (both laugh)

but even with the booty-shake, we still listened to KRS-One and MC Shan and all that.

Michael: Alright, we talked about Florida. Tell me, what did you think about coming to the Glass City?

Hutch: Okay, you're like the first one to hear this.

Within one week of getting in Toledo somebody broke in my truck and stole like \$15,000 worth of music equipment plus I got two flat tires coming up 75 on my way here.

Michael: DAMN! Ayo, whoever got Hutch's stuff, you wrong for that!

Hutch: Just imagine, I was like 'yo, this must be a sign or something' - (both laugh).

Michael: Maan, see if I

was on the air - it would be a manhunt. Ransom, the whole nine!

Hutch: I've always been one of those people that know everything happen for a reason and that the Most High don't put nothing on you that you can't handle. Things could always be worse. Real talk, I'm the regular hood story dude - like coming home and click, click - the lights off growing up or whatever.

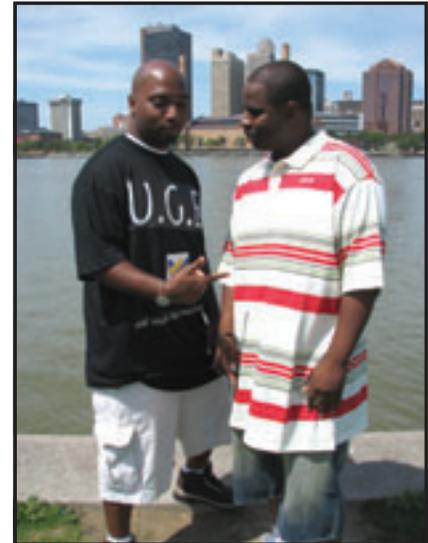
Michael: Yeah, me too, fam - just comin' from the bottom up.

Hutch: Exactly, that's why I can go to the Belmont Carry Out and feel comfort-

right now, you know Common got the number one album - which means a lot to a cat like me, but what do you think of the industry these days?

Hutch: Honestly, sometimes the conscious hip-hop heads - I'm kinda mad at them.

Everybody says 'why ain't Talib Kweli' getting no play?' That's because those fans aren't supporting these artists. For a record executive or a radio programmer, the only numbers they have to go by are sales and all that. When the fans say 'this is what we want, this is what we want' - they gotta SHOW



able because I'm one of them cats.

Michael: That's my youth right there, ayo - what's the key to success in your opinion?

Hutch: Do you! People was saying 'Man, what you gonna do about yo accent?'

But I can't be nobody but Hutch Daddy and I think people believe you when you're doing you and being yourself.

Michael: What have you found that Toledo likes to listen to?

Hutch: I see that Toledo right now is definitely pretty rowdy. They like the real hood, street-driven stuff. But one thing I do see is Toledo is starting to get on more is the dance stuff which is good because the more dancing, the less fighting.

Michael: True - I'm gonna put that in bold ... **THE MORE DANCING, THE LESS FIGHTING!**

Hutch: Ha ha, yeah - so thank you "cupid shuffle" (both laugh)

Michael: So what do you think about the hip-hop scene

that's what they want.

But we all share some of the blame. Common found a way to tap into the white audience that might go and buy the CD - us, we just gonna burn it (both laugh).

Michael: Some of us have computers and don't know how to nothing BUT download!

Hutch: Yeah, but I respect somebody like Kanye. He's figured out a way to mesh what he does that the hip-hop heads like, but still make music everybody else wanna hear.

I mean, he did a track with D.J. Toomp - that's T.I.'s producer! And it's hot, I love that song!

Michael: Yeah, that's true. When Talib Kweli came to Toledo he said 'the minute you put a price on ya CD you're commercial so no one can say that they aren't commercial.'

Hutch: Right, and I agree with that.

Michael: What else are you trying to bring to the Toledo entertainment scene?

(Continued on Page 14)

The Lima Truth

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The Sojourner's Truth

August 15, 2007

Now Honey, THAT'S The Blues! The Incomparable Bobby Rush Returns to Lima

By Vickie Shurelds
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

There was a time, back in the day, when Lima, Ohio was among the "top stops" for some of the biggest names in the music business. It's hard to imagine now, looking at the downtown area today, how, just a few decades ago, legends of jazz, rhythm & blues, and soul music frequented the Lima area just as often as they visited Chicago and New York.

Legend is not a word being used as a flowery upgrade to the situation. BB King, Bobby Blue Bland, Muddy Waters, Denise LaSalle, Ray Charles, Della Reese, LEGENDS that at the height of their careers were coming to Lima, Ohio on a regular basis to entertain the African-American population.

One of the legendary performers of the blues returned to Lima during Square Fair 2007. He was listed among the "also ands" of the performers available for the weekend. The headliner was the Charlie Daniels Band, so most of the focus was thrown in that direction. But the keen eyes and ears of those Lima residents with the memories of steel for days gone by heard the name and remembered: **Bobby Rush**.

Bobby Rush is an original. For the past 50 years he has toured the world bringing his creative twist on a constant theme: the blues touch everybody. Bobby Rush can be identified by his lyrics, his skillful telling of a story with humor, nimble dexterity of the English language and manipulation of inflection to paint a picture of your own life as he spins the tale of his own. His name is branded in the songs; his mom, dad, wife, girlfriend and his girlfriend's friends all call him **Bobby Rush**. There's no questioning who's in control here.

In his native Louisiana, he was the son of a preacher who understood the life of a black man in the South. They were farmers, as were their neighbors, and they suffered or prospered at the fickle rise and fall of the market.

His dad devised a plan to help the families of his church. He sent Bobby Rush to work for a store owner where the organizers of the nearby town frequented. He was just a kid making \$3 a

week. Nobody paid attention to the little black boy sweeping up sand and dust.

Before the store opened, Bobby sprinkled extra sand on and around the tables and chairs, and as the townsmen talked, he was in easy earshot of their discussions. He heard them plan when to raise and lower prices according to their view of the black farmers at work. They would intentionally set the market to gain the greatest advantage for themselves on cotton and grains.

Bobby Rush would tell his father what he heard each day, and the preacher would relay the information to the congregation on Sunday, creating a co-op of the highest caliber, and franchising the crops for the benefit of the church family.

The information Bobby provided made a difference in the lives of his family and friends, and he never forgot



the advantages of working together for the good of the community.

Or how maintaining control of your own destiny is the best way to make sure the only one for credit or blame is you.

"I always kept control of my own music, my own masters, I decided what I'd sing, when I'd sing, and this gave me longevity, but caused me to maybe not have as much radio play for my songs as some of us."

Rush recounted some of his decisions in those first few years on the road and, even though he was instrumental in launching more than a few stellar careers, he maintained an expressive business with room to take it where ever he wants to go.

He watched as his friends took advantage of record company deals. Redd Foxx, The O'Jays and many, many others hit long and hard on the mainstream circuit and

although he continued to write hit records for friends like Teddy Pendergrass and the O'Jays, he was content to be the black blues singer, Bobby Rush.

"I probably couldn't have done a lot of the things I have, except they just weren't paying any attention to me! They say, that's just Bobby Rush a little ol' blues singer, just leave him alone. If they had known all that I was doing, or all that I'd be able to accomplish, they might have tried to put blocks in my way."

When it comes to his music, Bobby Rush is committed to perfection. He has his own style and his own standard and he accepts nothing less of himself or his band. When he took the stage in downtown Lima last Thursday night – the confidence, the joy, the rhythm took the audience hook, line and sinker.

Phyllis Diller, Hugh Downs all hailed from this little city more known for its acronym: **Lost In Middle America**.

But there was a time, not so long ago when legends used to roam Main Street. One returned last week. It was an honor and a blessing to witness his return, and to experience an entire audience "Feel the Rush."

Contact Vickie Shurelds at vickie@sojournerstruth.com

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Contact Vickie Shurelds at vickie@sojournerstruth.com

A Showcase of the Arts

The Art Tatum African American Resource Center

The Art Tatum African American Resource Center at Kent Branch Library, 3101 Collingwood Blvd., is sched-



uled to present *A Showcase of the Arts* from 1-4 p.m. on Saturday, August 25.

This free event, presented in conjunction with the women of the Toledo chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., will showcase 35 acts of local talent in visual arts, poetry, dance, theater, music, and song.

A Showcase of the Arts is co-chaired by Alpha Kappa Alpha member Denise Black-Poon and Art Tatum African American Resource Center Library Specialist Melissa Jeter. Refreshments will be served.

*Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. was founded in 1908 and is the oldest black collegiate sorority in the country. The sorority will celebrate its centennial in 2008.

For more information, please call 419.259.5283.

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The Cornerstone Harvest Church: Building People to Build People

By Sharon Guice
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Vacation Bible School at Cornerstone Harvest Church was an extraordinary event with 750 children who came out for the three nights of service, Monday through Wednesday. This year's theme was titled "Faith Jam Remix."

As the children entered the sanctuary, large screens were displaying videos on the wall.

The kids heard music videos playing very loud, upbeat music which caused the children much excitement

dressed up in a sports jersey and agrees with Helminiak by making woof sounds when speaking to the children.

Monday and Tuesday featured guest Minister Ronnie Caldwell and his puppet friend Oohgene of Peaceable Kingdom Ministries, Franklin Tennessee. Oohgene the side kick who helps Caldwell minister to the kids. Oohgene would say something funny such as "I want to sing a song about my girlfriend" and Caldwell

he created and hosted a children's television pro-



gram.

Cardwell and his company, Peaceable Kingdom Ministries, Inc., have produced three music albums - *Have Fun, Please God, Children's Church Classics-1* and *Children's Church Classics-2*. The music is energetic and contemporary. The response has been in-

new sound. In addition to the music CD's, he has just released his first music video which includes five songs.

Cardwell taught the children the scriptures through songs with an upbeat tempo and dance moves. The inspirational music lyrics invited the children to participate. Young children love to move to music and sing along with excitement and these children, who ranged in age from three to 12, were no exception. Parents could be heard enjoying the music and singing along with the kids.

The three to five years old were taught in a separate room. The six to 12 years old were all in the sanctuary jumping and clapping and doing their own thing to the music playing. There was a dance contest and the kids were encouraged to go at it.

A visitor would have seen kids doing flips, standing on their heads, twisting and jumping, break dancing,

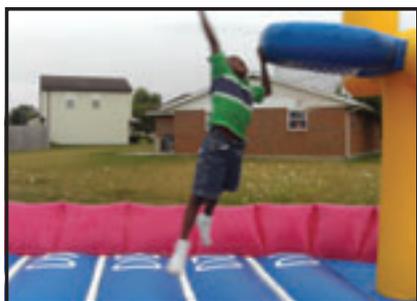


chosen one on stage anticipating winning a prize.

Two teams were picked and the team that could get the scripture in order the fast-

and prizes won.

Each night after ministering to the kids they had time for fun and games too. Over 50 children expressed their



and anticipation of what was to come.

One video clip showed an African-American man with a giant Afro wearing a fluorescent orange outfit. He was making odd sounds to a very upbeat song. He made some smooth moves, utter some funny sounds, then recite "I'm beautiful."

The kids played games with Bro. Ray Helminiak, children's minister, assisted by Old School. Old School is a dog animal character,

would say something to correct him and tell him he wasn't there to sing about his girlfriend. This would cause the children to laugh and giggle knowing Oohgene should not be talking about a girlfriend.

In ministry since 1979, Caldwell has been noted as one of the "Top 10" children's ministers in the United States. He has received the "Children's Minister of the Year" award from Willie George Ministries and



credible... children of all ages (and adults) love the fresh,

whatever each thought would make him or her stand out to win a prize. Of course the kid standing on his head for a few seconds would capture your attention as this is no easy feat to accomplish.

On Monday night Caldwell taught the children about faith. He used dance moves with his hands and feet to spell the word F A I T H. He also showed a video of kids doing the moves and singing the song. Then he would pick kids out of the audience to learn the lyrics of the song and the dance steps.

He picked a group of kids out of the audience to play a scripture game. You could see and hear the kids jumping with excitement to be the



est won a trip to the candy basket.

The kids also played a game of The Price is Right. Caldwell called on Asher Roberts to be his assistant. She had to dress up in costume to look like a game host assistant. She would bring out two bags and the kid had to choose which bag held the prize. If they were successful, he or she would win a great prize.

On Tuesday night, Caldwell taught the children using cereal boxes. He uses Life, SmartStart, Trix, Lucky Charms and others to teach life lessons and how to avoid avoiding sin by making good choices.

Wednesday night, Bro. Ray Helminiak and his side kick, Old School, instructed the kids. Games are played

desire to receive Jesus into their hearts.

The parking lot was set up with a carnival atmosphere where visitors were able to take part in food, games, and contests. Wednesday night was family night. Families were invited to take part in contests where trophies were given out to the winners.

Cornerstone Harvest Church's next children ministry event will be Sidewalk Sunday School. This event will take place in neighborhoods and schools on August 18 and 25 noon at Waterford Townhomes (Hope & Nova Street).

Contact Sharon Guice at Sharon@sojournerstruth.com

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Hutch Daddy Dollars

(Continued from Page 11)

Hutch: I wanna bring a lot of the things we do down south. You know, a lot of folks say 'oh, Toledo isn't ready' – but it's not that Toledo isn't ready. Toledo hasn't been given a chance to be ready. Just like black folks back in the day, it's not that we wouldn't excel at education – we just hadn't been given the opportunity. Like the beach party thing.

I was more than happy with the turnout. Thought we was gonna get 1,000 people and we got over 2,500. I even got bigger events planned, I wanna keep people on they toes!

Michael: I gotta ask, have you encountered that 'I hate

Toledo' low self esteem some of these folks here tend to have?

Hutch: Man, every single day I get asked "why did you come to Toledo?"

Michael: And this is Toledoans asking you this, right?

Hutch: TOLEDOANS! And my answer is... why not Toledo?

Like we here at International Park looking at the skyline, Tallahassee don't have nothing like this. This is kinda big city to me. What I wanna do is wake Toledo up to a lot of the things Toledo has to offer. Like the Maumee Bay thing.

Ninety percent of the people that came out there had never been out there and it's 15 minutes away.

Y'all zoo is off the chain too!

Michael: Yeah, our zoo, our main library, our art museum are all among top 10 in the country but folks don't even get it. But what else have you noticed about Toledo?

Hutch: One thing I wish were different is all the division. Even among us radio cats, we're all professional so there's no need for any hard feelings.

Of course I rep Hot 97 and all that, but a lot people don't

(Continued on Page 16)

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The goal is to provide adolescents/teens who are in the custody of LCCS and eligible for the agency's Independent Living Program with services that will:

- Help the youth gain the skills, knowledge and supports necessary to live independently.
- Promote behaviors that can lead to stability and well-being.

LCCS is seeking proposals from governmental units, private for-profit entities/agencies and non-profit entities/agencies who have unique information, knowledge and experience providing Independent Living Group Services, RFP materials will be available from August 13, 2007 to August 21, 2007 at LCCS, 705 Adams St. Toledo, OH 43604 between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. To make arrangements to pick up a RFP packet, call 419-213-3658. An applicant information session will be held at LCCS on August 21, 2007 at 10:30 A.M. in Room #913. The deadline for completed proposals (NO FAX) is 4:00 P.M. on September 7, 2007. No proposals will be accepted after the deadline.

By Dean Sparks, Executive Director
Lucas County Children Services

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Please respond by 08/24/07 with resume and salary requirements (no calls) to:

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Fresh Attitude Takes to the Street to Protest Waiting List Policy

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Fresh Attitude staffers and supporters took to the streets last week to protest what the agency proclaims are discriminatory practices on the part of Central Access. Central Access is a division of the Lucas County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board (LCMH&RSB) that assigns those with substance abuse problems to various agencies for non-medicated treatment.

During the morning hours on Wednesday, Fresh Attitude, an Ohio Drug and Alcohol Addiction Services certified treatment provider in Lucas County which provides treatment to approximately 400 clients, demonstrated in front of the Rescue Mental Health Services, which houses the Central Access offices, and called for an end to "the discriminatory practice of referring low income individuals to a waiting list situation instead of active engagement in treatment services," according to a press release issued by Fresh Attitude prior to the demonstration.

The core problem, said

LaMarr Norwood, founder and director of Fresh Attitude, has openings and is more than prepared to accept individu-



Inc., is the fact that Central Access has assigned so many individuals to COMPASS – one of several treatment agencies, along with Fresh Attitude and New Concepts, that Lucas County funds – there is a waiting list for COMPASS's program. In the meantime, said Norwood, Fresh Attitude, a minority-operated agency which has been in operation since 1992,

als for treatment immediately. "Persons with early engagement in treatment have a better outcome for abstinence than those who are in a waiting list situation," said the statement. Norwood estimated that there are at least 60 individuals who are waiting for openings in the COMPASS program.

Central Access, said Jacqueline Martin, executive

director of LCMH&RSB, was formed about one year ago in response to complaints about how those seeking non-medicated services are funneled into treatment programs. Those who are eligible for treatment are prioritized after clinical evaluation, she said.

However, said Martin, the board's hands are tied to a certain extent because, just as with federal Medicare-funded programs, clients ultimately have the right to make their own choices about which treatment program they want to join. "We have long believed that clients get to choose their providers without any question at all," said Martin. "Choice has always been a part of our system."

"There is no law that gives a client a choice," said Norwood in response. "Clients have rights, but if that choice is full, then it is cruel to put the client on a waiting list."

Norwood argues that clients who have drug and alcohol abuse problems represent a danger to themselves and to society the longer they are kept waiting. Moreover, he contends that those with such difficulties, particularly if treatment is mandated by external forces such as the

courts, may be inclined to place themselves on a waiting list rather than enter a program immediately.

"Nothing good can come out of all of this for anyone," said Norwood. "And why are you allowing this to happen, it fosters discrimination?"

Norwood further contends that the LCMH&RSB has the power to ensure that clients and agencies conform to the concept that those with drug or alcohol abuse problems are given immediate care. After all, he notes, the

believe promotes racism and discrimination," said Norwood. As he explained, individuals are often required to undergo treatment in order to avoid incarceration or to retain or regain custody of their children. And, just as often, they are required by the courts or county agencies to do so within a certain timeframe. Delaying treatment places families and individuals at risk, said Norwood.

Fresh Attitude staffers and supporters will again



LCMH&RSB has the money and ultimately funds all of the agencies.

"The board is into this 'client's choice' which we

be demonstrating this week in front of the Government Center building in an effort to draw public officials' attention to the waiting list issue.

Ashford Cleared by Ohio Elections Commission

Sojourner's Truth Staff

After several weeks of being singled out for reproach by one of his opponents and the local media, Toledo City Councilman Michael Ashford was cleared of any perceived infractions by the Ohio Elections Commission last Thursday.

Ashford responded the day after the Commission handed down its decision regarding his yard signs that identify him as

an "Endorsed Democrat" by taking the high road and calling for his opponents to sign a clean-campaign pledge. He also promised to remove the 15 signs that prompted Thomas Meinecke, a District 4 candidate for City Council, to file a complaint with the Commission.

"Today I'm going to ask my opponent to move on," said Ashford at a news conference during which he was surrounded by supportive

elected officials – City Councilmen Wilma Brown, Phil Copeland, Mike Craig and Frank Szollosi and Toledo Board of Education President Steve Steel. "If my signs misled anyone, I sincerely apologize and I will replace all old signs with the words "endorsed" with new signs."

Nevertheless, Ashford assailed "negative campaigning" and challenged his opponents – Meinecke, Terry Shankland and Ronnell

Traynum – to sign a clean-campaign pledge.

"Let's talk about issues – not campaign signs," said the

District 4 representative.

"Let's move forward and this is where the Democratic Party will have to take the lead and

make sure everyone signs this clean-campaign pledge."

(See ASHFORD on Page 8)

Hutch Daddy Dollars

(Continued from Page 14)

know ... when I threw my birthday party I even invited the people from The Juice to come down. So I just wanna say that if you see me around, we should be able to speak – it's all love and we're all professionals. Another thing – to all the elders who read The Sojourner's Truth, the kids are ready and willing they just need your guidance. It seems like a lot of the elders and the older leaders are just giving up on the youth but a lot of these kids are positive minded and eager to try some stuff. Just all the older

People say 'aww, the Toledo music scene is wack' – Naw, ya'll got some really

with when he was just getting on like when I look at U.G.E. and a few other



people around here ya'll are on that level. And if you got haters that mean you doing something right playa!

Michael: Appreciate the love, maan outside of just the music - it's cool how a dude that's not even from Toledo can come in represent harder than a lot of folks who been here forever.

Hutch: You know, sometimes people have good intentions and just get burned out.

But it's always good to have someone come in with a fresh perspective, you know?

Michael: No doubt, thanks for ya time

Hutch: Fa sho!

people, please don't give up on the kids. I'm telling you, I'm on the radio everyday – the kids are your fruit, don't give up on them. And last but not least, the Toledo music scene.

talented people here. D Rolla and Ray Stone and your whole U.G.E. crew and all that, you gotta a lot of talented people here. Me and T-Pain are really good friends and seeing what he was working

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