



*Leola Green-Haynes*

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*"I want to enable young people to try to get to where they are trying to go and do something and to stay in school to accomplish that goal. Most of the kids I deal with stay in school and go on to college."*

## This Strikes Us ...

*A Sojourner's Truth Editorial*

"It never makes sense to have the taxpayers pay if private industry is willing to," says Rodney Neely, president of Q3 Development Partners.

Neely and his partner, CEO Jim Jackson, have made an offer to the City of Sylvania to purchase 1.7 acres of land at the corner of Erie and Centennial for \$1.6 million. You heard that right - \$1.6 million for 1.7 acres.

That offer has been made to a group called the Sylvania Area Joint Recreation (SAJR) district which has been holding the land since the Lucas County Board of Commissioners turned it over to them.

Lucas County could not legally sell the land to Q3 so they turned it over with the intent that the development group would acquire the property from SAJR through the City of Sylvania, which holds the lease to the land.

Confused?

Here's another interesting fact about this proposed land sale - the property actually sits in Sylvania Township.

All of that aside, the important matter here is that SAJR has the power to sell this land - it is a parking lot, by the way - to the Jackson group for more money than it is worth. Neely and Jackson estimate that they are willing to pay about \$400,000 more than the property is worth in order to secure the deal.

What Q3 wants to do with the property is to develop it for a national retailer and they have a national retailer who has committed to the deal. Both the identity and the commitment of the retailer have been disclosed to SAJR.

The national retailer, says Jackson, is committed to the deal even though the increased price for the sale of the land will be passed on to that company - that's how attractive the deal is to everyone involved.

It is especially attractive for the citizens of Sylvania because the developed property will create jobs and lower their tax burden. In addition, the property is already commercially zoned - the other three corners of the intersection are all commercial.

What has been SAJR's reaction to the Q3 proposal?

Mostly silence, according to Jackson and Neely.

And what happens if the sale to a private investor is turned down by SAJR?

A levy happens, that's what. A capital improvements levy for the good people of the City of Sylvania.

We actually could not believe that the alternative to private investment would be another levy for the taxpayers but, yes indeed, that fact was confirmed to us by none other than the president of SAJR, George France.

France told us that the group is considering a capital improvements levy for the November 2008 ballot that would include work on all land under the stewardship of SAJR, including the property at Erie and Centennial. But, said he, the levy would not be exclusively for that property, only part of it would be.

It would be foolish, said France, for us not to look at all options, and if Jackson's group is frustrated from a business sense, that's their problem to work through.

"What we did," said France, "was appropriate for the Sylvania community."

What they have done, or are proposing to do, is to pass the cost on to the taxpayers once again.

SAJR operates Centennial Terrace on which the property sits. They have been operating, over the last several years, at a deficit of between \$40,000 and \$60,000 per year, a cost which the City of Sylvania has been subsidizing - the taxpayers of the City of Sylvania.

A national retailer on that property would enable SAJR to operate at a surplus.

France readily admits he is not a businessman. But one does not have to be a businessman in order to determine what makes the most sense for taxpaying citizens.

We just cannot seem to get anything right in this area when it comes to creating a business-friendly environment. This refusal to work with the Jackson group would make some sense if it were based upon a sincere desire to simply forego commercial development in the area. But the property is a parking lot in the middle of a commercial area.

As Lucas County Commissioner Ben Konop said earlier this week about the matter, Q3 is providing an opportunity for private investment and thereby avoiding the need for a levy. "This is dereliction of duty on the part of Sylvania managers," said Konop.

We could not agree more.

## 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 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 26

Deacon Millard Catchings & The Voices of Zion: Summer musical with the Gospel Highlights, Sisters N Christ, the Twilight Gospel Singers & Nikki and the Browns; 4 pm; Mt. Zion MBC

Mt. Nebo MBC: Women and Men's Day; 11 am and 4 pm Service; Pastor Cedric Brock: 419-2468561

### \*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

### \*August 31-September 2

Woodward High Scholl Class of 1982 Reunion: Friday night at The Distillery at 7 pm; Saturday - Dinner, dance and mock casino fun at Gladioux Meadows from 6 pm to midnight; Sunday - Breakfast at The Courtyard by Marriott on W. Dussel at 10 am: 419-537-8859

### \*September 1

2007 NorthSide Reunion: Erie Street Market; 6 pm to 1 am, Dinner at 7: 419-944-9546 or 419-810-3716 or 419-727-1658

### \*September 1-2

2007 Labor Day Weekend GM/UAW Family Rib Fest: UAW Local 14 and GM Powertrain Park; Noon to 4 pm; Live music, rib vendors, arts and crafts: 419-243-4600 ext 38

### \*September 7

ONYX 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing: Ottawa Park; 11 am: 419-244-8666  
Fish Fry: Amazon Lodge Hall; 11 am to 5 pm

### \*September 8

Episcopal Church Women of All Saints Church: Annual Luncheon and Style Show; Gladioux Meadows; 11:30 am - Social Hour, 11:45 am - Lunch, 12:45 pm - Style Show: 419-531-4196 or 419-243-9633

### \*September 11

Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir: Auditions for membership; St. Paul AME Zion; 7 pm: 419-241-7332 or 419-241-3330

### \*September 14-16

St. Catherine Festival 2007: St. Catherine of Siena; Fri - 6 pm to midnight; Sat - 2 pm to midnight; Sun - Noon to 8 pm; Rides, Texas Hold'em, bingo, chicken dinner

### \*September 18

5<sup>th</sup> Annual Black College Tour Informational Meeting: Sponsored by Maumee Bay Club, NANBPWC; Kent Branch Library; 6 to 8 pm: 419-478-7844 or 419-944-5912

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My View

By Jack Ford  
The Truth's Political Columnist



Jack Ford

This is my last column since I plan to submit petitions this week to run for the Toledo Board of Education. Again, I thank The Truth for providing me with a vehicle in which to reach you and connect some dots on politics in Toledo, Lucas County and the great state of Ohio.

Dave Schulz took me on several weeks ago over my assertion that the city manager and at-large council format was a "reform" back in the 1910's to thwart blacks and other immigrants taking power from WASPS in the big cities of the North.

Well, Dave, check your history books. If you do, you

will see that these "reforms" were done precisely for that reason. We were experiencing what historians now call "the Great Migration" - blacks living in near serfdom (peonage) who migrated North to work in factories and plants and where they could live free (compared to the South in 1900) and make more money than they could chopping cotton in the South.

At the same time, immigrants from eastern Europe were flocking to the U.S. joining with large number of Irish who had been arriving in this country since the potato famine of the late 1840's.

As a result of the Irish success at municipal politics in cities like Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, concern was raised that the new immigrants would soon claim power like the Irish. And, Dave, if you think political leaders have not changed the rules in order to keep power for themselves, then you do not know much about American history.

As to blacks faring well under a reduced council format, I remember quite vividly when it was tough to get more than one black councilman

elected in at-at-large system. If we go to four at-large and four district councilmen, we could easily end up with one out of eight representatives for the African-American community. As for my staking out support for black political power, that is where I sit with no hesitation because I have seen what happens when vote dilution occurs in other cities.

A final note regarding the city manager form of government. Have we forgotten the lack of accountability under that system? Do we not remember how various managers would pass the buck and the City Council would duck as well? Do we want to go back to a weak mayor system where ribbon cutting was the mayor's primary role? Don't get hung up on Mayor Finkbeiner. He will not be the mayor for life - it just seems that way.

Let me thank Councilman Michael Ashford and his team at the Wayman Palmer YMCA for helping me to distribute 450 book bags that ProMedica donated for poor youths. And, thanks, ProMedica. Thanks also to Bowling Green State University and President Sidney

Ribeau for their donation of supplies - paper, pens, key fobs, etc. - for inserts for the bags. These bags were given out to the Center of Hope Church, UMADAOP, Adelante, the Boys and Girls Club and the Wayman Palmer center kids. Both The University of Toledo and Owens Community College have

similar book bag programs through their respective alumni offices.

The recall effort on Mayor Finkbeiner must be gaining steam even though time is running out. As I circulated my own petitions last week, I was asked by at least a dozen citizens if my petition was a recall form. I do not know

what it all means but I would begin to sweat if I were the mayor.

Speaking of participatory democracy, you should have seen the turnout at Copeland Hall on Saturday, August 18 for the election of business manager and other officers. Some 47 folks were on the

(Continued on Page 10)

Fiddling Around While Rome Burns

By Jan Scotland  
Contributing Columnist

In 64 AD the Emperor Nero reportedly fiddled on the roof top of his palace while a good portion of Rome burned down. A total madman, many thought he started the fire himself so he could build his luxurious golden palace on the land consumed by the fire.

He had his own mother put to death so he could be free of her control. He did the unthinkable of singing and acting in theaters throughout the empire to captive audiences who would he arrested (or worst) if they tried to leave the theater. Ever since that time people relate situa-

tions that seem irresponsible and insane to Nero's playing his fiddle while Rome burned.

The current situation in Toledo Public Schools is a good example of the madness of Nero. While the students in the system continue to suffer, the board members can't bring themselves to do what the citizens elected them to do. LEAD! The members of the board continue to bicker and stonewall each other oblivious to the fact that their actions can't turn this ship around.

What's worse is that the ship is not only going in the wrong direction, but with the

threat of vouchers and charter schools, the ship is taking on water at an alarming rate. Parents have lost confidence and even the introduction of brand new buildings is not bailing enough water to keep the system afloat.

Charter schools fill up almost as fast as they are introduced, Catholic high schools are opening junior high schools to rave reviews, vouchers are creating an exodus of biblical proportions and school levies have a snowball's chance in you know where of passing.

(Continued on Page 4)



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A Less Than Rosy Reality Moment

Everybody has his "reality moment." Mine came when I received a call from the mother of a 16-year old who was in the Child Study Institute. I don't remember the charges, but he was in the motel room with a 19-year old who was shot 13 times by the police.

I anxiously waited for the officer to bring him to the room that had been arranged for the visit. I wondered what I would say to him. Then the door opened and, escorted by the officer, he walked slowly into the room and sat across the table from me.

I immediately began talking to him about the moral issues, crime and punishment, heaven and hell, good company and bad, etc. He raised his head and looked directly into my eyes and said, "Rev. Rose, that's a nice suit you got on."

"It's a suit," I said.  
"Nice pair of shoes, alligators, aren't they?" he asked.  
"They're shoes," I said.  
"You live in Inverness Village, don't you?" he asked.  
"Yes, why?" I said.  
"I understand that you live in a five-bedroom house and drive a Fleetwood Cadillac?" he asked.

"Yes, but that's not important," I answered. "I really came to talk about you."  
He stood up, looked directly into my eyes and said: "You don't understand. I have six children, and your mother runs out in the middle of the are all gone, you do what And he called for the officer give me an opportunity to That was my "reality moment" there was a world out about. I was fighting for stand and whose circum-reach. Later I left Inverness Cadillac, and expensive small townhouse on of the inner city.



When I came to Valdosta, I bought a house in Foxborough, middle class neighborhood, complete with swimming pool, and everything that goes with it. Then I remembered my encounter with the young brother back in Toledo and I became uncomfortable with it all. I bought a small three bed room, one bath house in the heart of the ghetto. I haven't convinced my wife to move there yet, but I enjoy working with the people who need me.

Although someone recently entered my house without permission and stole two computers, three printers, a television set and a DVD/VCR player, I have no regrets. I would like to find them so I can tell them that I have forgiven them and would like to help them.

These young black men are confronted by a hostile society that doesn't care whether they live or how they die. Nobody seems to care about them and they don't care about anybody. They don't vote for anybody and nobody votes for them. Desperate, they neither cherish life nor fear death. But warning signs are everywhere, and if we don't save our children, they will destroy us.

Floyd Rose, President  
Valdosta-Lowndes County chapter  
Southern Christian Leadership Conference

## Land Contract Inspection Ordinance To Be Reviewed by City Council

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The City of Toledo's Housing Policy Task Force has recommended that City Council pass an ordinance requiring that properties sold through land contract agreements be brought up to minimum standards and that such exchanges be certified by a City of Toledo certificate of compliance.

In 2006, according to Kattie Bond, director of



Neighborhoods, 317 land contracts were recorded out of a total of almost 20,000 property exchanges. "I'm certain that many of those were in the central city," said Bond.

The ordinance, entitled "Conditions for Letting Land Contract Property" will be reviewed in committee by City Council this week before moving on to the entire body for approval.

"The Task Force members saw the abuses associated with land installment contracts and the lack of local enforcement," said Bond. "This legislation seeks to protect the desperate and uninformed consumer who is looking to become a home owner."

The new Chapter 1765 will require that all land contracts be recorded, be inspected and receive a Certificate of Property Code Compliance. The procedure is similar to the point-of-sale ordinance (Conditions for Letting Rental Property) that was proposed several years ago by City Council.

"The inspection process is to ensure the buyer understands what they are purchasing," said Bond. "The vision of the Housing Task Force is to maintain and create healthy, complete neighborhoods that meet the needs of four residents and offer high quality sustainable housing, stable and increasing property values and foster and encourage additional private sector investment in neighborhoods. Selling substandard housing to uninformed citizens does not fit the vision of the Housing Policy Task Force."

Land contracts are agreements between buyer and

seller in which the seller retains all equity in the property until the loan is fully paid, comparable to renting or leasing with an option to buy.

Bond responded to criticism by opponents of Chapter 1765 last week that focused primarily on the issues of whether the City of Toledo has adequate staff to enforce such an ordinance and whether such legislation is an infringement of a free market economy.

As to the first issue, private home inspectors licensed by the International Code Council, said Bond, can be enlisted to perform the initial inspections.

As to the second, "governmental interest in improving our neighborhoods is not illegal nor a barrier to the free market place."

The overriding concern for Bond and members of the Task Force is the status of those who negotiate their way into land contract agreements. For the most part those seeking land contract deals "are already challenged," said Bond.

Councilman Joe McNamara will be introducing the legislation during a Thursday Community and Neighborhood Development Committee hearing. McNamara is chairman of that committee.

## Will You A Be A Victim of the Patriot Act?

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture

Evil Republican Right Wings conjured up this notorious attack on civil liberties disguised as a safeguard against a supposed threat of terror.

As if it wasn't bad enough that the Bush Administration is making all sorts of heinous actions perfectly legal under this bill, they aren't our only threat at this point.

Lower-ranking politicians and attorneys who happen to be very savvy in the ways of Washington are now using their knowledge of the Patriot Act to seek revenge in their own personal matters.

Forget V, now it's P is for Vendetta - because the wicked minds who created the Civil-liberty-shattering sections of the Patriot Act now have even more wicked minds who willingly carry out the worst and most intrusive aspects of this law and they are able to make a phone call to a high-ranking friend and now your ass is grass.

And guess what? It's completely untraceable!

Should you happen to fall out of the good graces of someone with access to high security clearance individuals, the repercussions are

going to be far more serious than your old parking tickets resurfacing.

Your personal records, your financial information, and even your health/medical records can all be seized and even MANIPULATED.

Since the Patriot Act has broadened the definition of terrorism to include "domestic terrorism" - just about anything you do can be colored as a threat which would make you a prime target for retaliation.

Wire taps, email retrieval, and searching your premises without warrants -

that's what the Bush Administration has made us all subject to, and now these individuals with ability to manipulate the laws can get away with it.

Your credit can be ruined (or further ruined), your name can be added to various lists of ex-offenders and you can be barred from signing up for public utilities and other necessities....

**YOUR ENTIRE LIVELIHOOD CAN BE ERASED!!**

The Patriot Act makes it so that everyone will turn a blind eye to

any mistreatment you may suffer because it will just be assumed that you deserve whatever punishment you

were dealt.

You terrorist, you!

Until all of the reforms take place, the best protection you can have against being unfairly victimized by the Patriot Act is just knowledge.

If some lawyer with a few friends in the FBI decides to make threats about how they can ruin your life, don't take them as idle.

If you happen to have emails containing the threats or better yet

a recorded phone conversation (most cell phones have voice memo recorders), start calling the bar associations in all the states where you know this particular attorney practices. It's not a fair fight to begin with, so anything you have to do to protect yourself you should do.

Your generation might be the least involved in government and politics ever,

but that doesn't mean we have to play victims for no reason.

Educate yourself.

[www.checksandbalances.org](http://www.checksandbalances.org)

(PS - if you have a few friends in high places yourself, maybe you need to call in a few favors if it means saving ya ass!)

## Fiddling Around

(Continued from Page 3)

So what are their answers? Well the poorer kids are dragging them down because they won't learn; those parents, they won't participate or work with the kids at home; the bad kids are disruptive; the teachers are under paid; the administration's hands are tied because of the union; the competition from private schools is killing us.

Well, duh!

If you know kids from poorer families have issues with learning then implement programs and strategies to teach them. You can't use a cookie cutter approach to education and expect it to work in all situations. Study programs from around the country that have successfully addressed the learning challenges in their areas and design a program that works. Your goal is to lead. Once you have identified the barriers to learning do what it takes to break them down.

Many of the rules in our system today work to keep parents out of the schools not invite them to the table. While I understand some of

the reasons why teachers get weary of a small percentage of parents, the rules in place are not conducive to the involvement you say you covet. You can't block parents and bemoan the fact that they don't participate at the same time.

Bad kids are disruptive in any system. Maybe if you stop passing them from grade to grade whether they have learned what was required in each grade or not, they won't be so dysfunctional and quote unquote "bad."

Teachers in private and parochial school systems are paid far less. Somehow the kids in those systems still learn.

The administration (which includes the board) sat across the table from the union reps and negotiated away many of their rights to manage the system. Maybe it's time to take those rights back.

Yes, Rome is burning. While our board is fiddling around on their figurative roof, a good portion of their system, if not burning, sure is smoking up a storm. If they are not careful the golden palaces their building will lay empty. They will have to rid themselves of the mother they know as the union to get back control. They have to stop holding their audiences hostage and put on the performance that keeps them in their seat. They have to put down the fiddles and role up their sleeves.



Contact Jan Scotland at [jan@thetruthtoleado.com](mailto:jan@thetruthtoleado.com)

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## United Way's African-American Initiative Unveils Upcoming Projects

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The United Way of Greater Toledo's African-American Initiative (AAI) is ready to unveil a number of programs that the staff has been preparing over the past number of months.

According to Jason Daniels, director of Community Impact, and the manager in charge of the African American Initiative, four such programs will be rolled out within weeks. United Way's African-American Initiative has created a partnership designed to research ways to reduce childhood obesity. "This is United Way being realistic about the fact that we need to focus on preventive health issues," said Daniels last week during a conversation with The Sojourner's Truth. Last month, the project assembled a forum of about 70 participants to address questions such as reducing the number of children who are considered to be obese. According to the Childhood Obesity Initiative (COI), the number of overweight children in

this country is between 25 and 29 percent. (The COI would like to reduce the number of overweight children who enter kindergarten by 50 percent by 2015.)

Here in northwest Ohio, the United Way has formed 11 working groups to analyze the problem and has

different types of stores or the types of food available at school affect obesity here."

As for other programs, on September 6 the AAI will launch "Lunches with Leaders" a monthly series (with the exception of January and July) of brown bag lunches designed to

corporations to ensure that African-Americans are trained to serve on boards of directors. The goal is to increase diversity on nonprofit boards through the enhancement of professional development and leadership skills. The AAI has formed a partnership with the Black

**"We need real medical research to determine contributing factors. We need to determine how things such as access to athletic facilities, access to different types of stores or the types of food available at school affect obesity here."**

enlisted the assistance of The University of Toledo to assist in that research. "Every community is different," said Daniels. "We need real medical research to determine contributing factors. We need to determine how things such as access to

provide members with the chance to network with one another and to gain insight from notable guest speakers. Stay tuned to The Truth's community calendar for exact details on location and speaker. "Board Builders" is a workshop that the AAI has created to work with local

Alliance for Education Options (BAEO) in order to increase access to educational options for African-Americans. BAEO takes a two-pronged approach to advancing the cause of educational attainment: classes for parents so that they will become more



Jason Daniels

knowledgeable about their children's options and workshops for students about college access and options. According to Daniels, 50 percent of the agencies funded by the United Way of Greater Toledo are accessed by African-Americans. In the past, the decision on funding was strictly a function of internal decisions by the United

Way staff. During this year's fundraising campaign, however, donors will have the option of designating all or part of their donations to various initiatives, including the African-American Initiative. For more information on AAI, contact Jason Daniels at 419-254-4670 or by email at [jason.daniels@unitedwaytoledo.org](mailto:jason.daniels@unitedwaytoledo.org).

**WT05-TOLEDO**  
get into it!  
[wt05toledo.com](http://wt05toledo.com)

**coming October 1st**

- girlfriends** Mondays 9pm
- the game** Mondays 9-30pm
- aliens in america** Mondays 8-30pm
- everybody hates chris** Mondays 8pm

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## InterFaith Fellowship of Churches International Holds 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Holy Convocation

By Artisha S. Lawson  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Pastors, members and guests gathered on August 8, 2007 at the Clarion Reynolds to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Holy Convocation, centered on the theme "Destined 4 Greatness."

Toledo's own Presiding Prelate Bishop Marjorie L. Holt, PhD, hosted the four-day event with a youth explosion service that featured youth groups from Toledo, OH; Sandusky, OH; and Clarksville, TN.

"The groups came from all over the country to show their steps, dance, songs, mime and exuberance. It is no doubt in our minds that Interfaith Fellowship of Churches will remain alive and well for years to come with the youth always being at the forefront," said Holt.

An all-youth parade including 60 participants opened the service and the evening continued with a three-member praise and worship from Refuge Holy Tabernacle who harmonized three selections for the congregation.

Most of the service centered around various drill teams, youth ministries, drum corps and praise dancers from Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral, Keys To The Kingdom, Praise & Deliverance, New Kingdom Baptist Church, Victory Now International, Refuge Holy Tabernacle and Egyptian Knights & Isiserettes of Toledo, Mariyah Banks of Sandusky and Family of Faith of Clarksville.

"I just love watching children show praise and wor-

ship unto the Lord, each group was truly anointed," explained Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral member Artina McCabe.

McCabe enjoys each convocation because all of her children participate in the youth night activities as performers and instructors of youth programs. "I've been attending these convocations for years and each year I look forward to youth night," said McCabe.

Along with the presentations, Bethesda youth coordinators McCabe and Elder Gail Green moderated a Bible quiz game that divided youth into age groups, provided gifts for correct answers and door prizes for all participants. Dozens of youth were involved with this fun activity.

Holt began this fellowship 10 years ago and has since worked under the leadership of Mayor Jack Ford as executive assistant to the mayor of the City of Toledo, has had a guest appearance on the Trinity Broadcasting Network's Praise the Lord Program, has presided over worship services each Sunday night on Cable TV-Channel 69 and in 2004 was consecrated as the only female bishop in the Interdenominational Assembly of Churches International. As bishop, Holt oversees churches in Ohio, Tennessee, North Carolina, Florida, India, Ghana and Nigeria.

The InterFaith Fellowship of Churches International's (I.F.O.C) stated mission is to enhance and strengthen the body of Christ through sharing, caring and preparing for greater works through serv-



Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral Faithful Feet Drill Team



"Youth on Parade"

ing with and for each other.

I.F.O.C ministries include All For Jesus Ministries of Detroit with Pastors Uche and D'Arcy Cadmus; Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral of Toledo with Bishop Holt; Burning Fire Prophetic Ministries of Detroit with Bishop Lanette Davis; Divine Deliverance Ministries of Daytona Beach with Pastor Kinard Perry; Family of Faith Worship Center of Clarksville, TN with Pastor Anthony Alford; Great Destiny Word Center of Greensboro, N.C. with Pastor Jamal Broadnax; Inner Dimension Fellowship of Fayetteville, N.C. with Pastor Terence McCrimmon; New Faith Ministries of Toledo with Elder Shawn Mahone; and Siloam Evangelical Ministries of Suryapet, India with Pastor Silvi Siloam.

The convocation continued until August 11, 2007 with daily Morning Glory at 9:00 a.m., Hour of Power at 11:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m. worship services.

"This convention was so spirit-filled with the presence of God that participants stated that they will bask in the glory

of God for a long time," said Holt.

Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral's weekly activities are listed on their website [bethesdachristiancenter.org](http://bethesdachristiancenter.org).

Want to Comment on an Article

Email the Editor at [thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com](mailto:thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com)



I.F.O.C. and guest preachers

### Community Club Presents Fall 2007 Entertainment & Servicing Events

Summer is winding down and it is time for the Fall 2007 event lineup presented by the Community Club. The Community Club is an organization founded by a group of men, ages 30 and over, who are dedicated to helping the community as well as providing positive social activities for its members.

One of our most popular events is back, the Sunday NFL Ticket, and it begins Sunday, September 9. Come enjoy the excitement of the NFL for free with the Community Club! Doors open from 12:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. weekly through the NFL playoffs. If you can't make the Sunday NFL ticket, back by popular demand is Monday Night Football. Each Monday during the NFL season from 8:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

The Community Club will be continuing to service the community by offering the Community Club Homework Assistance sessions. Free weekly tutoring sessions will be held on Mondays beginning September 10 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Licensed educators will be on hand to help students with homework. Tutors will be available to answer questions parents may have to better assist their students with school assignments.

Looking for something to do in the middle of the week? Join the Community Club as they host (W.O.W.) Women On Wednesday. This unique program provides food, fun and information networking geared towards women, but everyone is welcome. W.O.W. is every Wednesday from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. cost is \$10 per person.

If you want to relax and hear great music on the weekend, The Community Club presents the R&B Groove Session Series. A mixture of Old School, contemporary and live local music can be heard on Friday and Saturday nights starting at 10:00 p.m. The Community Club will continue the Safe Halloween candy giveaway and holiday food basket program. Stepping and hustle classes coming soon!

For more information, please call 419-720-4306. The Club is located at 3353 Franklin on the corner of Pearl, near Manhattan.



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Arts Section • Arts Section

## Toledo Museum of Art Continues Elizabeth Catlett Exhibit in Gallery 18

By Fletcher Word  
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"Elizabeth Catlett is one of the great artists of the 20<sup>th</sup>



Century and certainly the most important African-American female artist of the century," says Don Bacigalupi, Ph.D., president, director and CEO of the Toledo Museum of Art, during a tour of the gallery that houses a recently-acquired collection of Catlett's prints and sculptures.

Bacigalupi, who took over the director's chores in late 2003, has more than just a passing interest in the art of Elizabeth Catlett. His specialty is art since 1945 with a particular focus on cultural studies, i.e., African-American and Latino artists.

But his interest in this particular artist also has a personal touch. He has known Catlett for about 12

years.

When Bacigalupi was curator at the Blaffer Gallery in Houston (most of his career had been spent in the Ameri-

romance and marriage to Mora and in great part as a response to the increasingly vicious witch hunt by the U.S. government on progressive artists and intellectuals after World War II.

The politics and the racism of her native land drove Catlett into exile and prompted her to join a colony of artists at the Taller de Grafica Popular (workshop for popular art) with similarly minded colleagues such as Leopoldo Mendez, Raul Anguiano, Luis Arenal and Pablo O'Higgins.

Over the years, Catlett produced linoleum cuts,

along with spectacular sculptures.

During Bacigalupi's visit with the still very active artist – she spends about six hours a day working in her studio – he put the question to her of a contribution to the Toledo Museum of Art. The artist graciously agreed and allowed the director to select 20 prints that represent some of the most "important moments of her 60-plus years as an artist," he recalls.

Those works, plus several sculptures that Bacigalupi has obtained (one purchased, one borrowed), are currently on display at the Museum in



woodcuts and lithographs

an exhibit that began during Juneteenth and will last through September 23 in Gallery 18.

Catlett was born in Washington, D.C. in 1915 and enrolled in Howard University in 1931 working with some leading figures in African-American art. After Howard, she headed to the University of Iowa to study painting with Grant Wood ("American Gothic").

"Make art about what you know," Wood told Catlett. She would.

Sculpture, however, became Catlett's primary area of concentration at Iowa and she received the first master of fine arts degree earned in sculpture at the university. She then taught at Dillard University in New Orleans while challenging the pattern



of Southern segregation that prohibited her students from visiting the world of arts in the area museums.

After a stopover in Chicago, she moved to New York in 1942 and continued her studies in sculpture with Ossip Zadkine and lithogra-

phy with Harry Sternberg. She also became involved with the George Washington



Elizabeth Catlett

subversive" as described in President Harry Truman's Ex-

with the George Washington (Continued on Page 8)

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**Fashions For The Young Man of Distinction**

# Toledo Museum of Art Continues Elizabeth Catlett Exhibit in Gallery 18

(Continued from Page 7)

After Carver, Catlett moved to Mexico where she eventually became a Mexican citizen in 1962 after years of harassment by the U.S. embassy. In a fit of pique, the State Department revoked her U.S. citizenship and she was declared an "undesirable alien" and denied entry to the U.S. Her U.S. citizenship was finally restored in 2002.

There are two prominent aspects of Catlett's works that are on display in Gallery 18—prints from her seminal series titled "I Am the Negro Woman" and two other sculptures.

Catlett embarked on her "Negro Woman" series in 1946 and produced a series of 15 linoleum cuts which acknowledge the harshness of black women's work and honor several renowned historical figures such as Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman. Accompanying the cuts is a narrative describing Catlett's identification with her subjects: "I am the Negro woman. I have always worked hard in America... In the Fields... In other folks' homes... I have given the world my songs. In Sojourner Truth I fought for the rights of women as well as Negroes. In Harriet Tubman I helped hundreds to freedom. In Phillis

Wheatley I proved intellectual equality in the midst of slavery..."

"Technically it is masterful," says Bacigalupi in awe as he describes a sculpture titled "Head of a Young Woman."

"It is such a haunting presence with a sense of humanity from a very straightforward work," says the director. "The blank eyes became very universal in her work."

Along with the fired clay "Head," there is also an astonishing bronze sculpture, "Glory," that was lent to the Museum for this exhibit by local collectors Ronald and Cynthia Thompson.

In addition to the sculptures and "Negro Woman" cuts, Catlett's signature print, "The Sharecropper" is also on display along with later works of the 1960's.

Two 1969 prints entitled "Malcolm speaks for Us" and "Negro Es Bello II (Black Is Beautiful)" are products of a period that brought about a revived interest in Catlett as she incorporated images of the Civil Rights, Black Power and anti-war movements in her works.

"Portfolio," six color lithographs ("Singing Their Songs," "Playmate," "To Morning..." "Walking Blindly," "All the People," "Second Generation") were



Visionary Leadership Project.

There is no charge for entry to Gallery 18. If you have not seen the exhibit yet, we urge you to get there before the closing date of September 23. The prints cannot be subjected to light indefinitely so they will be moved into storage after that time, to be re-exhibited at a later, yet-to-be-disclosed date.



completed in 1992 and inspired by a 1937 poem by Catlett's friend Margaret Walker titled "For My People." As with her "Negro Woman" series, Catlett fleshes out the Walker poem through her visual art.

The exhibit also features a series of videotapes of Catlett herself—an oral history of her artistic voyage from child-

hood, to Howard University, to the University of Iowa to George Washington Carver School. This series of tapes was prepared by the National



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Reel Review

Rush Hour 3 Jackie Chan Chris Tucker (P.G. 13)

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture



This is the worst of all the big whoop-tee-do summer blockbusters.

This is the worst of all in the Rush Hour franchise.

Pointing out differences between races is so 90's that not many comedies succeed when they hinge an entire film on such an outdated laugh gimmick. It's good for a few laughs, but this concept is just so tired. I've always thought it was peculiar that Chris Tucker refused to reprise his legendary (and I do mean legendary) role as Smokey.

He had a problem with being seen on camera as a wisecracking pot head from around the way, however he seems to have no problem playing the fish-eyed, slapstick sidekick of Jackie Chan.

Carrying guns and chasing women is acceptable on screen I guess, as long as he's not on the porch smoking weed with Cube. But you know what, I can walk with him on that.

To each his own. But something about buddy comedies just seems to bring out that

"shuckin and jiving" character in black actors like Chris Tucker.

All the antics, loud trash talking, unscrupulous behavior of black actors is funny when it's Martin Lawrence on his own show acting a damn fool. It too gets old after a while, but it's funny because it's on his own terms on his television show.

But actors like Martin

Lawrence and Chris Tucker take that silliness to a whole different place when they have to be the loudmouth screw-up alongside some other actor.

Like I'm saying, it's not criminal... it just sometimes leaves a funny taste.

The whole "I'm black and I eat chicken and listen to soul music and you are Asian so you are boring and you eat too much rice" — that whole premise is just tired, yo.

Rush Hour 3 relies on that just as much as the original and the sequel and it's just not getting it anymore. One thing this film tries to address is how close Carter and Lee have become by showing that the Asian man can be a little more like the black man and vice versa.

So now Carter has learned Chinese and Lee has picked up a few slang terms.

In addition to that, there's one scene where Carter or-

ders some Moo Shu and Lee orders some fried chicken and sweet potato pie.

to see whether or not you really didn't like something.

But in the theatres, the company around you can

wouldn't miss much if they bootlegged this film instead of going to the theatre.

After going to the theatre and seeing this joint tho, I WHOLEHEARTEDLY ADVISE

anyone planning on seeing this film... consider your alternatives.

Now, of course, being in with National Amusements... I can't condone bootlegging...but let's just say this one time I understand your pain.

If I had to pay to see movies, I would feel cheated if I paid 10 bucks to see old jokes, old stereotypes, old karate moves in a different city from the last two times I've seen them.

Man, that was the most enjoyable part of this film ... the scenery in Paris.

Oh yeah, and the Parisian cab driver. He was rough, but that's about it.

Everything else was mostly lame.

And if any of you have been reading my article this whole summer you will remember that of all the most-anticipated films of '07, this is the one I wasn't so sure about and I feel very justified in hating on this film early.

First of all, the film starts off with Carter as a traffic cop. No explanation is given as to how he was busted down from a detective to a traffic cop.

Carter and Lee aren't exactly on the best terms at the opening.

Turns out that the F.B.I. agent from Rush Hour 2 was the formal love interest of Inspector Lee and something happened where Carter mistakenly shot her or some mess.

It would've been more entertaining if they would have just put this into the screenplay, instead its back story that just comes up in dialogue.

But nonetheless, the "brothers from another mother" have to reconcile so they can once again prevent the Triad gang from once again trying to kill the same guy from part one and just like part one his daughter (now a grown woman but still not much help) is caught in the middle.

Stale, just stale.

That's my word.

Go see something else!!!

There were a few laughs, but enough to pass.

True grade for Rush Hour 3 is a big fat F.



Now, while you're still deciding whether or not you should laugh or be slightly offended...

keep this in mind...even though you see a black man on screen, this film was written by two white guys.

I'll be the first to admit that how you see a film can sometimes affect how much you enjoy a film. I know plenty people that swear they've watched something and didn't really care for it, but in reality it was just playing on the TV while they were cooking or talking on the phone or some mess. In that sense, you are not watching the movie—the movie is watching you.

You have to pay attention

have a big impact on your experience.

Napoleon Dynamite. First time I saw it, I watched it by myself and was like "ummm... I don't get it." The second time I watched it I was with a few peeps and it was like a whole different experience.

Rush Hour 3 is a movie I happened to catch at a late show and there were very few people in the theatre. On one hand, either something is funny or not—but with comedies sometimes it really helps the joke if you have a room full of people who get it and are laughing too.

Rush Hour 3 has a few funny bits and I really paid close attention, but even if that theatre had've been packed wall-to-wall there isn't much that could make this movie worth it.

Y'all know I ALWAYS speak against bootlegging.

However...LOL.

To make matters even worse, a few hours before I went to the theatre I happened to be at a south Toledo carryout and witnessed one of the most successful local bootleggers making an unsuccessful pitch to get the store owner to buy his entire collection of summer releases.

His sales game was tight but still his come up was chop.

When he mentioned Transformers I had to speak up (y'all know that's my stuff!).

But when he mentioned Rush Hour 3 I knew that the average person probably

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# Leola Green-Haynes: A Lifetime of Service to Her Community

By Alan Abrams  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

"I'm just a busy person, I always have been," is the cheerful response Leola Green-Haynes gives a reporter who has just asked how she manages to balance her many outstanding community activities.

Having just turned 77 on August 12, Green-Haynes can look back upon a full lifetime of accomplishments. She has had two successful careers, one in healthcare and the other in education; spending 15 years at St. Vincent's Hospital and 27 years in the Toledo Public Schools system.

She sits in her comfortable living room, surrounded by family photos and framed honors including the National Sojourner Truth meritorious service award for 2003 from the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (she is a former president of their Toledo Club) and a plaque certifying her inclusion in the prestigious Who's Who Among American Teachers, an honor for which she was nominated by a student who herself became a teacher.

As she looks around the room, Green-Haynes says, "There are so many most prized things we love, becoming a mother, accomplishing my degrees. I was in my 30's when I went to The University of Toledo and graduated in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science degree. I earned my Master of Science in Education degree

there in 1980 and have worked on my Educational Specialist Degree with emphasis on Supervision and Administration."

One of four children of Oliver and Idell Woodard, Green-Haynes was born in

depts all over again.

"Retired in 1997 and have been a substitute teacher since then working with inner city children. So many people don't want to work with inner city children. I don't mind going anywhere

time for activities such as serving as chairman of the Cotillion in 1980 and 1981, working with EOPA for 16 years, and becoming a certified First Aid and Safety Instructor for the American Red Cross. There, she was

John E. Roberts, I established the first nursery for children five and under in 1972 which remained in operation until the Junior Church was founded in 1978. I became the director of the Junior Church in 1979.

"This past December, I was appointed to the Mother's Board. That is similar to being a deacon," explains Green-Haynes.

As if all that you've read so far wasn't enough to keep her busy, Green-Haynes is also actively involved with TMACOG, where she was appointed to a two-year board term.

She is a Block Watch area and sector leader and serves on their board. In addition, Green-Haynes serves on the boards of the Neighborhood Health Association (the Cordelia Martin Center); Legal Aid of Northwest Ohio/ABLE; Toledo Sister Cities; the Toledo Zoo; the Toledo Symphony League; and the Toledo Museum of Art and its Committee for Cultural Diversity.

She is also involved with

creating programs for seniors through the Area Office on Aging, and was formerly a long-time board member of UMADOP, the drug and alcohol prevention agency in Toledo.

Green-Haynes is active in Alpha Kappa Alpha and has served as president of the Beta Gamma chapter and co-chair of the Ebony Fashion Fair.

She was married to Leemon Green from 1950 until his death in 1988. They had three daughters: community activist Sharon D. Green-Gaines, Pamela L. (Carlton) Green-Jones and Paula S. Green-Smith.

In 1990, Green-Haynes married Oscar Haynes. His three daughters and two sons helped create a combined family of eight children, 17 grandchildren (including Hollywood screenwriter and *Sojourner's Truth* contributor Andre Gaines) and one great granddaughter.

Contact Alan Abrams  
at  
[alan@thetruthtoledo.com](mailto:alan@thetruthtoledo.com)

## "So many people don't want to work with inner city children. I don't mind going anywhere to teach"

Bruce, Mississippi. The four children included a half-brother whom Green-Haynes took custody of in his early teens. She says her father "hitch-hiked out of Mississippi," and the entire family eventually moved to Toledo when she was five.

Green-Haynes attended Chase Elementary School, Woodward High School and graduated from Scott High School. She enrolled at the State of Ohio School of Practical Nursing in Toledo and worked at St. Vincent's from 1960 to 1975.

She began working for the Toledo Public Schools in Sept. 1975. "I taught kindergarten for five years at Stickney and for 22 years at Riverside. I started off teaching kindergarten and was bumped to the sixth grade. So I met many of my stu-

to teach," says Green-Haynes.

She admits she does prefer teaching kindergarten to second grade. "You can get more teaching in," she says. But she has worked the full gamut from kindergarten to eighth grade.

"I still see my students at their weddings and baby showers. I enjoy children and they enjoy me," says Green-Haynes.

Because education is so important to her, Green-Haynes continues to work to "enable young people to try to get to where they are trying to go and do something and to stay in school to accomplish that goal. Most of the kids I deal with stay in school and go on to college," she says.

Despite her two careers, Green-Haynes still found

among the first trained for dealing with a new public health problem, the HIV/AIDS virus.

But there's even more. "The church I grew up in was the Central Baptist Church. When our pastor, the late Rev. W.J. Stephenson founded the Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church in 1946, I followed him there. Working with the Rev. Dr.

## My View

(Continued from Page 3)

ballot. Hundreds of Laborers' Local 500 – active and retired – showed up. It was like a tailgate party in the lot with mini barbecues and plenty of beer. Candidates were trying to garner votes.

I have been going in and out of Copeland Hall for 20 years and I have never seen that many union members show up for anything. Democracy is a beautiful thing to watch.

The COSTCO opening is this upcoming week. Signing the deal with the owners of Westgate was the last major deal I did as mayor. Of course, both Finkbeiner and Keith Wilkowski were anti-COSTCO at one point. I hope they got back on track with Toledoans on this because the building and the new look of the strip mall at Westgate are beautiful. Starbucks is full and the new road to Elder

Beerman is smooth and nice. Go COSTCO!

I would hope and expect both UT and BGSU to have stellar football seasons this year. Both have talent returning but are not too highly regarded by the football pundits. I think that fits in nicely with Coach Amstutz and Coach Brandon. I will be attending many of the games. This is a year in which Toledoans should give extra support to the Rockets in light of the publicity earlier in the year.

A tour of the South End revealed a lot of Karen Shanahan signs throughout District 2. Joe Kidd had better start matching her or he will lose that aspect of the race. I have always liked the yard sign part of campaigning. I used to take them with me and stake them right in front of the voter. But place them close to the house. It is harder to steal them when they are near the porch rather

than the street. At least, that's what I have been told.

Dr. Amjad Hussain was a fine appointment to the UT Board of Trustees. He was recently a commencement speaker and he is a noted writer, author and thoracic surgeon and cardiologist. But Governor Ted Strickland should have appointed a qualified African-American to this board. This is crucial given the make up of the UT student population and the role this university plays in northwest Ohio. How about Fletcher Word? He is a graduate of Harvard, highly ethical, very knowledgeable on many fronts and will speak up for all students.

Let's end with two good stories. Back in 2001, two young kids started showing up at my campaign headquarters. Neither had much political experience although one had been a students leader in high school and in

(Continued on Page 14)



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# Owens Community College Expands Access to Higher Education Through New Partnership With Toledo-Lucas County Public Library

*Special to The Truth*

Owens Community College and Toledo-Lucas County Public Library are entering into a partnership in which the two organizations are creating new higher education opportunities in Lucas County. Beginning Fall Semester 2007, Owens will offer its first-ever on-site academic courses at several Toledo-Lucas County Public Library branches.

In addition to the new on-site academic courses, individuals will have the opportunity to utilize the Toledo-Lucas County Public Libraries' state-of-the-art computer and Internet technology for online learning.

Owens students will be able to pursue any of the College's more than 160 e-Learning courses at the branch libraries in such academic areas as accounting, art, business, English, psychology and speech, among other course selections.

"Owens Community College is honored to partner with the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library and open new doors for Northwest Ohio residents by providing greater access to higher education," said Christa Adams, Ph.D., President of Owens Community College.

"We welcome this collaborative initiative with open arms and embrace the alignment of our educational philosophies."

"We are excited about this partnership because it allows students to take college classes in their own neighborhoods," said Toledo-Lucas County Public Library Director Clyde Scoles. "The libraries will benefit from increased attendance and Owens would further serve its mission by extending outreach to students. It's a win-win situation."

Owens academic courses will be made available to resi-

dents at several area Toledo-Lucas County Public Library branches, including Waterville, Oregon, Heatherdowns, Holland, Mott, Reynolds Corners, Sanger, South, Maumee and Sylvania. Course offerings include astronomy, composition, introduction to literature, world civilization, climate and weather, modern college mathematics, general psychology, life span psychology, and introduction to college algebra/trigonometry.

In addition to offering higher education on its Toledo-area and Findlay-area campuses, Owens recently expanded its educational opportunities through the creation of new on-site academic and support services at The Source, Lucas County's One-Stop Employment Center, in downtown Toledo. Individuals will be able to take advantage of the

center's many educational services beginning this Fall Semester.

Additionally, Owens has within the past year established a partnership with Toledo Public Schools and offered its first-ever courses at the new Rogers High School in Toledo.

Owens Fall Semester classes at the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library branches begin the week of Aug. 20. For more information, call (567) 661-7777 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 7777.

The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library supports and enhances a better quality of life for all residents of Lucas County. This is achieved by offering open and equitable access to information and services in a variety of formats and locations by providing focused resources and services that meet the needs of young children, adults and individual learners; popular materials at levels proportional to demands; and reference services, including specialized resources and services for economic development and local history. The Library, in fulfillment of its mission, is committed to sound resource management, to the continued advancement of the Library system and to quality service for all users.

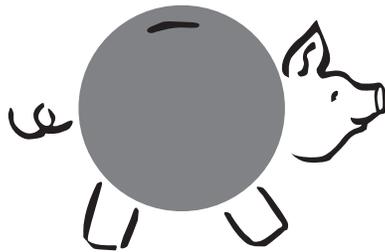
## The Season's Final Celebration



Players, coaches and families of the six-team Mid-City's White Sox Baseball League held their final event of the season this past month with a picnic and awards ceremony at the Lucas County Rec Center.

Several hundred gathered to put the finishing touches on another successful season. Now that the boys of summer are about to move on into fall, that can only mean they are ready for school to commence and ... what else?

Football, of course.



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## Fair Housing: Keeping the American Dream Within Your Reach

By Vickie Shurelds  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

It begins as do most love stories: tenant meets landlord, tenant leaves landlord, landlord sues tenant. And, as in most relationships, problems arise out of a lack of understanding of the expectations of those involved.

Ironically, there are times when the landlord is as unaware of what their lease contract really means as is the tenant and those misunderstandings can lead to a lot of headaches and heartbreaks.

Veronica Hyde is the Fair Housing Services Coordinator located in the LACCA (Lima/Allen County Community Action Commission) building located at 540 South Central Avenue. She suggests getting pass the starry-eyed infatuation with a new home or apartment, and get your "ducks in a row" before you sign your lease contract.

"It's easy to get all caught up in the landlord/tenant relationship because both parties are fulfilling a need. The landlord is providing shelter for the tenant and his or her family, and, of course, the tenant is providing a source of income for the landlord. When they first come together it's a win/win situation. But, that can change over the course of the contract."

The issue at the heart of most of the disputes is the deposit. "Most people believe the deposit is automatically returned to you at the end of the contract - that is not always the case." The misunderstanding of the security deposit is due, for the most part, to a lack of com-

munication. Unless it is stated in the contract that the lessee will receive the deposit back, and all terms of return are met, the landlord is entitled to keep your deposit.

There is training available for anyone who wishes to

become a landlord, the training offers details on designing and executing a contract, as well as landlord and tenant rights and responsibilities. Unfortunately, it is not a requirement for becoming a landlord. Anyone can rent out any property he owns and learn as he goes but this can be a formula for disaster when both the tenant and landlord are new to the game.



become a landlord, the training offers details on designing and executing a contract, as well as landlord and tenant rights and responsibilities. Unfortunately, it is not a requirement for becoming a landlord. Anyone can rent out any property he owns and learn as he goes but this can be a formula for disaster when both the tenant and landlord are new to the game.

"We suggest taking time to read the contract before signing," says Hyde. "Take it home, or better yet, bring it to us, we'll be happy to look over the contract with you and go step by step over what it outlines and what signing that contract can mean to you in the long run."

Another misconception with a rental agreement is the timeline. If you sign a year's contract, the landlord is not obligated to come to

communication. Unless it is stated in the contract that the lessee will receive the deposit back, and all terms of return are met, the landlord is entitled to keep your deposit.

Two other issues that getting a lot of press nationally, but specifically in Ohio, where there are an astounding number of infractions are predatory lending and familial discrimination. Too many

potential renters or home buyers accept discrimination as 'business as usual' and believe they just have to figure out ways of 'working around' landowners that utilize unfair practices.

That should not be so, Hyde says. "Those are not only unfair actions; they're illegal and should be handled as such." Her office is already handling several alleged discrimination cases currently. "If you feel you're being discriminated against - you probably are! At least take the time to investigate. Sometimes, you may run into someone who is just an 'equal opportunity jerk!' - someone who just really isn't a 'people-person.' That's not discrimination - that's something else! But, discrimination can be proven, and should be, because it is illegal, and cannot be allowed to continue."

Many legislators in Ohio are working diligently on predatory lending laws. The Ohio Homebuyer's Protection Act placed into effect by the efforts of Attorney General Marc Dann gives his office "enforcement authority over abusive lending practices committed on or after January 1, 2007 by loan of-

ficers, mortgage brokers or non-bank lenders. The Act prohibits these businesses from committing unfair, deceptive or unconscionable acts in connection with a residential mortgage loan, including:

- Entering into a mortgage knowing you had no reasonable probability of payment of the mortgage.

- Refinancing an existing mortgage loan when the new loan does not have a reasonable, tangible net benefit to you considering terms of both the new and refinanced loans, the cost of the new loan, and your circumstances.

- Taking advantage of an inability to reasonably protect your interests because of any known physical or mental infirmities or illiteracy you may have.

- Compensating, instructing, inducing, coercing, or intimidating an appraiser for the purpose of improperly influencing the appraiser's independent judgment with respect to the value of the house being appraised.

- Failing to provide you with loan disclosures" This exact document can be viewed by visiting <http://www.ag.state.oh.us>. If you

feel you've been a victim of predatory lending, you are encouraged to contact the Attorney General, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, or locally, Fair Housing Services.

As a reminder, Veronica Hyde states: "That's why we're here. We will walk you through the process to make sure every resource available to you is put within your reach. You're not alone; we'll stay with you until a solution is reached."

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## The Million Father March: A Missing Link for Children's Educational Success

By Vickie Shurelds  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

We first blamed the kids. They had short attention spans ... attention deficit disorder ... hyper-activity ... they were over stimulated. So we pumped them full of Ritalin and other mind-altering drugs, then punished them when they couldn't control their actions.

Next, we blamed the teachers and administrators. They weren't qualified enough. They cared too much, or too little. They were asking too much, or weren't challenging enough. They weren't giving kids enough training on the tests, then they were criticized for teaching "to the test." We demanded more training, more skills; higher expectations for each teacher, we wanted "highly qualified" teachers.

Now the focus turns to the family. The missing link for most kids is the lack of communication with their parents. Teachers think the parents don't care. Statistics show the parents are dealing with issues like finances, and the negative effects of poor judgment in too many cases, leaving little time for concentration on the education of the children. Parents often believe education is the responsibility of the school when, in fact, if we can't quickly figure out how all of these sources link together to create a solid foundation for the education of our children - we have all lost.

Out of the Governor's Conference on Closing the Achievement Gap for African American Male's High School Graduation came a

group of about 50 interested community members from Lima/Allen County. Working within the guidelines set by former Senator CJ Prentiss, a protocol is being developed to have an immediate impact on the graduation rate of black males in Lima.

The group is creating workable timetables and action steps that will be implemented on every level of education. Of course, there is a high priority on the freshman and senior class; but there is an awareness that the desired effect of 100 percent graduation/100 percent enrollment into higher education has to begin in that first classroom experience. The students have to know from the first moment of kindergarten, that the expectation is they will attend a college, university or trade school after high school graduation.

The missing dynamic for all efforts thus far is: the parents. How do you reach them? How do you get them engaged?

One of the dilemmas for the schools is the desire to have the parents involved without letting them in the buildings! It's a real Catch-22. As those details are being mulled about there is a first step emerging. The Million Father March will take place in Lima on the first day of school - Tuesday, August 28.

Simply put, every father is asked to take your kids to school that day. Just bring them there, encourage them to do their best, shake the hand of a teacher and say, "I'm going to support any

positive effort you put forth for my child." That's it. Just by the presence of fathers creates a statement to students that education is important.

Signup sheets for the Million Father March will be at a variety of locations throughout Lima, including the Lima Public Library, Clear Channel Lima, churches, community centers and online at [www.1150wima.com](http://www.1150wima.com).

There will also be a New Year's (School) Eve Rally on Monday night, August 27 at 6 p.m. in front of the Civic Center that will feature proclamations by the mayor and City Council and other special dignitaries, including Prentiss.

A performance by the NOMADS, and appearances by DJ Ol' Skool and the Raven of Clear Channel Lima will follow the short speech program. Special giveaways will also be a part of the rally. There will also be additional opportunities for fathers to sign up to participate in the Million Father March.

The march itself is a national effort in its fourth year. It is a special project of The Black Star Project of Chicago, headed by Phillip Jackson. They present these facts on the importance of male involvement in the education of their children:

A father who actively participates in the educational and social development life of a child is invaluable and irreplaceable.

Research shows that children whose fathers take active roles in their educational

lives earn better grades, get better test scores, enjoy school more and are more likely to graduate from high school and attend college.

Additionally, children have fewer behavior problems when fathers speak and listen to their children regularly and are active in their lives.

A good father is part of a good parent team and is critical to strong family structures.

Strong family structures produce children who are more centered, academically proficient and socially developed and are a valuable asset to their communities.

Better parents produce better communities, better schools and better students.

Fathers, grandfathers, foster fathers, step-fathers, uncles, cousins, big brothers, significant male caregivers and friends of the family can participate in The Million Father March.

While this event is sponsored by black men, women and men of all races and faith backgrounds are encouraged to take children to school on their first day of school.

As the day of the Million Father March approaches, there is also an awareness of the children who do not have access to a positive male available to take them to school, or to fulfill many of the other needs they may have. So the search is on for Mentors, again, specifically African-American men who have a few hours a week available to impact the life of a child. The call for mentors is ongoing. So keep it in mind.

The Million Father March. Take your child to school on Tuesday, August 28. It's your chance to fill in that missing link for the success of your child's education.

### NEW PARENT SERIES 2007

Special series for new parents focuses on classes from infant massage to reading to baby

Join the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library for its **New Parent Series 2007**, a special series for new parents with classes scheduled in September and October.

All classes will be held in the Children's Library Program Room on the second floor of Main Library, 325 Michigan St.

New Parent Series 2007 classes are as follows:

#### Infant Massage:

**Saturday, September 8 - 11 a.m.** This 90-minute class features Toledo Hospital nurse **Margie Smith** who will teach infant massage techniques for your baby, ages 3 weeks to crawling. Instructors reveal that infant massage strengthens bonding, relieves a baby's discomfort and promotes mental, spiritual and physical development. Parents are asked to bring a blanket and pillow for baby. Registration is required and begins August 25.

#### Baby & Me Yoga

**Saturday, September 22 - 11 a.m.** This 45-minute class features **Yoga Jenn** for a gentle yoga class designed to incorporate baby into the exercises while building strength and endurance for new parents. Parents are asked to bring a yoga mat, blanket or beach towel. Registration is required and begins September 8.

#### Baby Signs

**Saturday, October 13 - 11 a.m.** - Join **Toledo Hearing and Speech Center** officials and talk to your baby before your baby can speak using sign language. Registration is required and begins September 22.

#### Read to Me

**Saturday, October 27 - 11 a.m.** - The final program will feature Children's Library Manager **Nancy Eames** for a program focusing on the importance of and techniques for reading to infants. Eames will also discuss the best books of 2007 for infants and toddlers, the importance of finger plays and rhymes and the incorporation of music with babies. Registration is required and begins October 13.

For more details and registration for all New Parent Series 2007 classes, please call 419.259.5231

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## My View (Continued from Page 10)

his church. The first kid was Domonique Warren. He was a scrawny little guy who wanted to help with the race for mayor. His family background had presented numerous challenges for him and at that time he was living with his grandmother.

Early on, Domonique

mentioned that he wanted to attend Morehouse College in Atlanta. He had heard of it and he wanted to be a "Morehouse Man." After I won the race, I broke some rules and hired him in the mayor's office when he was only 17-years old. He handled some constituency work and did a good job during his senior year at Scott

High School.

Some of the staff took him under their wings and helped him out; we even had a fundraiser for him at Manhattan's. Guys like David Ball, Bruce Rumpf and Bob Savage chipped in with some cash. We raised enough money to buy him a laptop and a wardrobe for college. Ana Bannister and Richard

Brown worked on getting him admitted to Morehouse. Retired Common Pleas Judge Robert Franklin, a former Morehouse chairman of the board, even made a crucial call to the school. Dominique got admitted, stumbled a bit early on, but graduated on time with honors. He's now teaching at a school in Chicago.

The second kid was Ravi Perry. He is one of neighborhood kids from Westmoreland. Both his parents have doctoral degrees and he is part of the Perry clan - a group of talented musicians, teachers and activists.

Ravi worked hard in the campaign and went on to the University of Michigan

where he graduated with top honors. He is now finishing his Ph.D. at Brown University. His doctoral dissertation involves an analysis of the 2001 Toledo mayoral race.

Both of these young men are African-American. Both are giving back to the community and will do so for the next generation, God willing. Congrats to both!

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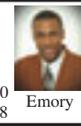
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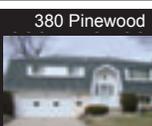
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### PUBLIC NOTICE

Lucas County Children's Services (LCCS) is issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Independent Living Group Services.

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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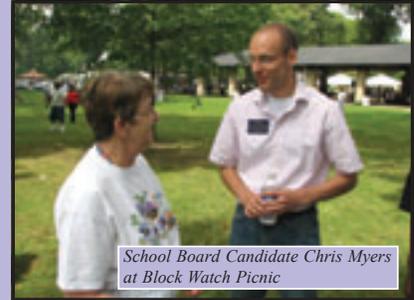
## Candidates On The Run



City Council Candidate Michael Ashford w/ supporters



School Board Candidate Richard Brown w/ supporters



School Board Candidate Chris Myers at Block Watch Picnic



District 4 City Council Candidate Ronnell Traynum w/ Gary Dougherty



**Myron Duhart, Esq.**  
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## Thurgood Marshall Law Association

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*The Thurgood Marshall Law Association is an organization of attorneys whose primary objectives are to:*

- Educate and enhance the African-American community's access to the legal system;
- Increase the presence of African-American attorneys and law students in the City of Toledo; and
- Provide support, assistance, and advocacy to African-American Attorneys.

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*In our organizational efforts we especially salute the Honorable Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and continually strive toward the perfection and impact he exhibited in his legal career.*

For more information about the Thurgood Marshall Law Association, contact any of our members.

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