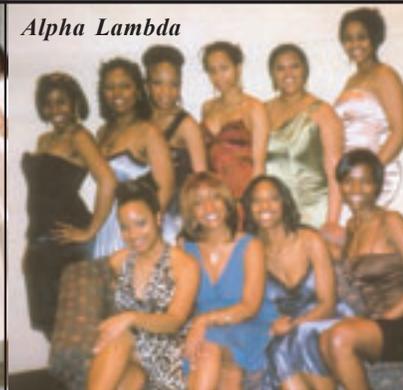




Iota Iota



Alpha Lambda



**AKA**  
*Anniversary*



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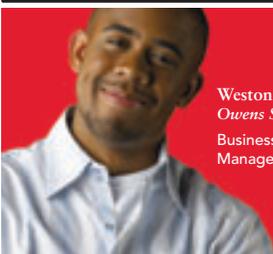
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## This Strikes Us ...

*A Sojourner's Truth Editorial*

The power of prayer or a craven grab for power?

In the immediate aftermath of her vote last Wednesday that ensured a tie for City Council president between incumbent Michael Ashford and challenger Mark Sobczak, Councilwoman Lindsay Webb spoke of the fact that her vote was one of conscience prompted by the considerable amount of time she had spent praying over the decision.

A day later, she had dropped the façade of divine intervention and had admitted that she had merely played the game better than the big boys.

Yes, she had lied, she admitted, in order to get the best of the long-time incumbents. And, quickly, the newly-installed president of City Council, Sobczak, came to her defense. She voted out of a sense of conviction, said the new president, and recently promoted judge of what exactly constitutes a moral conscience, who had apparently not heard that she had admitted to running a scam on her fellow Democrats.

Trouble is, Webb lied not only to her colleagues, she lied to everyone in sight – supporters, constituents, fellow Democratic Party members, party leaders. The only ones she apparently did not lie to were Sobczak and Mayor Carty Finkbeiner, both of whom benefited from the big lie.

Finkbeiner was able to place his boy in a position that would make it easier for him to obtain rubber stamp approval of his wishes. Sobczak got the job he has lusted after since before he officially took his oath of office.

And if anyone out there thinks that young, Ms. Webb came up with this maneuver and decided, on her own, to blatantly lie to her colleagues, her constituents, her party members, then there is a patch of swamp land in Florida we would like to sell you.

In one sense, the vote was a thumbs down for Ashford by the mayor, Sobczak and the building trades folks who managed to use Webb for their own purposes and she was just naïve enough to play into their game.

On the other hand, a lot of folks in the African-American community will perceive that this has nothing to do with Ashford at all. A lot folks will see this deception of Webb's as another sign of disrespect towards that community, just another in a long line of such disrespectful acts.

'Yes, I can tell you whatever you want to hear, lie to your face, shake your hand ... and then do whatever the heck I want to do. Now what are you going to do about it?'

And then, of course, there's the sense that many may have that politics is a dirty business and the Webb deceit is just typical politics. So much for the audacity of hope, eh?

\* \* \* \*

And while we're on the subject of the audacity of hope, Barack Obama is on the verge of an historic run for the Democratic Party nomination for president. His victory in Iowa demonstrated that, defying expectations, he can pull in young voters (unlike Howard Dean of four years ago who fell flat on his face when the young did not turn out for him), he can turn out independents, he can get white voters to pull the lever for him and he can overcome concerns about his perceived lack of experience on the national stage.

Perhaps the most amazing aspect of the Iowa caucus numbers is that almost twice as many turned out to caucus on the Democratic side than did four years ago. And indications are that in New Hampshire, there will be a record turnout as well. Something is happening out there, folks.

The incredible wave that Obama has been riding defines the word momentum in politics. Just a few short months ago, Hillary Clinton looked to be the inevitable pick for the nomination. Now she's in the fight of her life. If indeed she loses, pundits will line up to explain just what she did wrong and how she and her staff should have seen signs of trouble.

The fact is, however, the Clinton staff has committed egregious errors, their strategies have not been flawed. She, and they, have merely fallen prey to one of those moments in politics that happen less than once in a generation.

It's now on to South Carolina where about half of the voters on the Democratic side are African-American. And African-Americans in South Carolina had to be shown that Obama could indeed win over white voters before they, the black voters, would come over to his side. Are they yet convinced?

## The Sojourner's Truth

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## Community Calendar

### January 10-11

Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (MHR SB) of Lucas County: Two Strategic Plan Community Focus Group sessions; Thursday at 5:30 pm; Friday at 10 am; 701 Adams Street, Suite 800: 419-213-4600

### January 13

Third Pastoral Anniversary: Refuge Holy Tabernacle's Pastor Marvin Crittenden and Co-pastor Jori Crittenden; Pre anniversary at 4 pm; Guests Beulah Baptist Pastor Ronald Taylor: 419-242-5505

### January 19

Creations Black Bridal Vendors Networking Luncheon: Bethlehem Life Center; 11:30 am; Guest speaker George Robinson – Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce: 419-346-5275 or [creationsevents@yahoo.com](mailto:creationsevents@yahoo.com)

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc: Toledo Chapter presents 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Prayer Breakfast; "Women Standing on the Power of Prayer;" 9:30 am; Gladioux Meadows

### January 20

Third Pastoral Anniversary: Refuge Holy Tabernacle's Pastor Marvin Crittenden and Co-pastor Jori Crittenden; Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir; 6 pm: 419-242-5505

### January 21

Northwest Ohio Black Media Association presents the **Martin Luther King Jr. Basketball Classic**. Owens Community College, Student Health Activities Center. 1:00 p.m. Scott Bulldogs vs. East Chicago Central HS (Defending Indiana Class 4A State Champs.) 3 p.m. Libby Cowboys (Defending Toledo City league Champs) vs. Saginaw HS (Defending Michigan Class A State Champions.) 1-419-215-1087

2008 Dr. Martin Luther King Unity Celebration: UT Savage Hall; 9:30 am; Community luncheon at 11 am; Sponsored by the City of Toledo and the Board of Community Relations; Musical guests include the Clarence Smith Community Choir, Lisa Hightower and Joyce Rush: 419-245-1565

25<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King "Oratorical" Contest: Sponsored by The "Ghanaian" Foundation "Step Up, Toledo;" Civic Center Promenade Hall; 9 am to 3 pm; Open to students K-12; Senior High winner receives a \$500 scholarship award: 419-868-8396

### January 26

24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth: UT Student Union; 8:30 am to 1 pm; Keynote Speaker Byron Pitts of CBS National News; Breakout sessions for students and parents start at 10:30 am: 419-530-3820

Creations 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Black Bridal Expo: Civic Center Promenade – Erie Street Market; Noon to 5 pm; Fashion show, vendors, renewal ceremony: 419-346-5275 or [creationsevents@yahoo.com](mailto:creationsevents@yahoo.com)

### January 27

Third Pastoral Anniversary: Refuge Holy Tabernacle's Pastor Marvin Crittenden and Co-pastor Jori Crittenden; 12:30 pm; Guest Apostle John Mills, pastor of Home of Refuge for All People of Columbus: 419-242-5505

### February 2

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration: Bowling Green State University; 11:30 am: [www.zetaalphaomega.com](http://www.zetaalphaomega.com)

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My View

By Jack Ford  
The Truth's Political Columnist



It looks as if the black community is being marginalized in Democratic Party politics at every turn. Now, Mike Ashford has been dumped as president of Toledo City Council. While many are crying about the perfidy shown by newly-minted Councilwoman Lindsay Webb, she was not the real culprit. Nor was it the mayor who orchestrated the whole deal.

The real culprit is us, we, the people. We let the few in the Democratic Party trample on us because there is no fear of political retaliation by us. We have quietly let person after person

be passed over, fired, maligned and put out to pasture by a few greedy operatives at the Party. Enough is enough.

As I look to the future, I always felt that both the school levy and the tax levy would be tough sledding. It may be even tougher now. The last time, the tax levy passed by just a few thousand votes. The black community really supported the levy as usual. One of these days, the spigot from the black precincts will shut off.

Maybe you have heard of Black & Veatch. This is the large corporation doing much of the sewer overhaul for the city. When I became mayor, I stopped the contract that Carty Finkbeiner had negotiated because it failed to have an affirmative action clause in it.

Now the contract is up for extension and the new contract has no affirmative action language in it, even though the Black & Veatch bid is allegedly \$2 million over other bids. The rule with Black & Veatch is that they will line up to the contract and go no further.

If there is no affirmative

action clause, minority participation in the next \$250 million phase will be zilch. Do you see a pattern here? Black folks pay for levies of all kinds but get severed when it comes to contracts and jobs.

We are famous for telling our young to stay in Toledo and make their homes here. Why should they if black leaders are routinely denigrated and described as being second rate compared to white politicians and young entrepreneurs are kept out of the money loop?

Black Toledoans have no need to support an oligarchy which closes them out of power at every turn ... Eugene Sanders, Wilma Brown, Mike Ashford, Perlean Griffin, Gary Daugherty, Mike Bell, Rob Gilchrist and so on and so forth. Make no mistake, the loss of Ashford as council president is significant.

On another note, Steve Stivers is a state senator down near the Columbus area. I received a Christmas card from him even though I do not know him and I belong to the other party. Might he be thinking of a statewide run? For Secre-

tary of State? To gain control of the apportionment board? Hmmm!

Matt Szollosi, state representative on the eastside, is quietly doing his thing on behalf of the House Democrats. He is raising lots of money and traveling all over. Could we see a Speaker Szollosi before we see a Mayor Szollosi? I remember both Matt and Frank as young kids playing basketball in the yard when I worked on their mother's campaign for Auditor in 1990, 18 years ago.

Watch out for Darlene Dunn, Sylvania Township attorney and the Democratic candidate for state representative, against Barbara Sears, Republican and formerly long time councilwoman in Sylvania.

Contact Jack Ford at jack@thetruthtoledo.com

Beware Of "Kwanzaa"

As an African-American child growing up in Detroit, Michigan in the 1960's I have no memories or recollections of Kwanzaa ever being celebrated or recognized as a cultural event for African-Americans. In speaking with my parents, aunts, uncles, friends and anyone born before 1960, they have no recollection of Kwanzaa being celebrated either. Somehow over the past 15-20 years Kwanzaa has been portrayed as an African-American tradition.

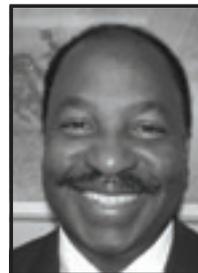
There is a reason why I along with many African-Americans don't recognize Kwanzaa - it didn't exist prior to 1966. In fact the Kwanzaa's tradition was made up by its founder Ron Karenga (Everett), a non-Christian. According to internet sources, Kwanzaa began on December 26, 1966 when Ron Everett aka (Ron Karenga) and his family and friends initiated the tradition of Kwanzaa in a ceremony lighting of candles.

The positioning of Kwanzaa in proximity of the Christmas Holiday is very interesting. Soon after Christmas, a day in which Christians recognize the birth of Jesus Christ, Kwanzaa's holiday starts. The proximity of Kwanzaa to Christmas is the founder's attempt to present Kwanzaa as a religious event/religion for African-Americans in substitution of Christmas and Christianity. Kwanzaa was meant to be an alternative to (Christianity) Christmas for African-Americans who rejected Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Kwanzaa tradition embraces its own doctrine of spiritual prin-

(Continued on Page 7)

CARTY TO BLACK COMMUNITY: GO AHEAD, DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq  
Guest Commentary



This Is How The Three Round Fight Is Called ... Listen In To The Ring Announcer ... Mark Sobczak: "In this corner weighing in at 135 pounds and a lot of lip is the challenger, Carty Finkbeiner.

In this corner weighing in at over 70,000 people and an economic power clout of over 200 million dollars is the Toledo black community."

Both fighters come out of their respective corners and meet the referee in the center of the political ring.

Referee: "I want a good clean fight and no head butts and no hits below the belt... especially you, Carty." Carty does a quick "who me" look and grins for the cameras.

"If there is a knock down, go to your respective corners and wait for my instructions. Now touch gloves and come out hammerin'."

DING...DING...DING...  
ROUND ONE: Carty cautiously moves to his left and feints a left jab at Michael

Bell. Mike ducks the jab and Carty hisses to him ... "You are just a King Kong in a dark blue uniform!"

Bell smiles and grins a toothy grin and says "yassa boss" to Carty's surprise.

The powers that be in Columbus are satisfied at Bell's docility and they make him the fire chief for the State of Ohio

ROUND TWO: Carty pumps his feet in a rudimentary Ali shuffle and throws a haymaker at both Dwayne Morehead and Perlean Griffin. Both grunt and bend but do not break. Carty moves in and while the referee is distracted, Carty bites the ear of Morehead and sucker punches Griffin. Both are temporarily baffled but stay afoot until the bell rings.

Carty grins at them and calls it a fair fight. Both are appealing the fight to

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission which has jurisdiction over political fights.

ROUND THREE: At the bell, Michael Ashford comes on like a Mike Tyson and destroys the pious Carty arguments about the \$10,000.00 shower stall that Carty had installed and then Michael throws one-two combinations about the \$40,000.00 budget for Christmas lights that Carty demanded to have and when Michael throws a right uppercut about Carty not submitting a balanced budget, Carty goes apoplectic and runs to his corner and unloads his secret weapon -

the giddy space queen incumbent Lindsay Webb who double talks about being in

Ashford's corner but when Carty whispers some sweet political nothings into her ear, she swoons and kicks Michael in his "political" family jewels much to the delight of Carty.

Scout, the dog, who is Carty's alter ego, barks approvingly at the antics of his neurotic boss and Lindsay Webb while lapping out of the corner water bucket.

The referee steps in and stops the fight. The crowd is going wild. They are hissing and booing both Carty and Lindsay (space queen) Webb for fighting dirty but when Carty gives them his crafted Pepsodent smile ... all is forgiven because the black community ... why they just love them some Carty!!

As soon as a sweaty Carty leaves the ring, he is besieged by many members of the local Negro clergy who swoon, gape and stand in awe of Carty and beg for him to touch them and come to their church on Sunday where he can stand tall in the saddle and have a photo op with them.

Meanwhile the ring announcer gets the political plum of becoming council president when Carty slipped him a few bills before the fight.

Who said black folks don't love a good, clean fight?

Lafe Tolliver, attorney



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## What A Tangled WEBB We Weave ... "Who Is Ever Going to Trust Her Again?"

By Fletcher Word  
Sojourner's Truth Editor

According to newly-sworn in Toledo City Councilwoman Lindsay Webb, she prayed over and over again about her decision to support Councilman Mark Sobczak for president of City Council. Apparently the Lord works in mysterious ways because after that extensive, and extended, prayer session, Webb proceeded to dodge the truth repeatedly in conversations with a variety of party members and fellow council members about her all-important decision.

"She looked us in the eye, shook our hands and said she would support [Councilman Michael] Ashford," said a livid Councilman Frank Szollosi of a meeting he, Ashford and Councilman Joe McNamara had held with Webb 90 minutes prior to the general session.

As a result, Ashford was ousted from the post he had gained just a few months ago and, once again, the Lucas County Democratic Party looked impotent and foolish as Sobczak and Webb joined the Republican caucus to move a fellow Democrat out of the top position in the city's legislative body.

The council session to undertake the start-of-the-term organization began with a call for nominations and only the names of Ashford and Sobczak were placed into consideration. But before the roll could be taken, Councilman D. Michael Collins moved to have the two nominees address their colleagues and the public on two questions: what their qualifications were and what their goals and objectives were.

Then ensued some legislative squabbling about how and why such speeches could be accomplished. In the event, Ashford proceeded with his address and spoke of his achievements, particularly that as council president in minimizing the contentiousness so prevalent among the members and that as a candidate of winning re-election with 73 percent of the vote.

Ashford promised to focus on safety, affordable housing, repairing streets and curbs and job creation.

Sobczak spoke of his skills as a negotiator honed during the course of his career as a Teamsters official and promised to re-instate a council retreat, to bring transparency to the process of appointing committee chairmanships and to improve communication.

When the roll was taken, Ashford, Szollosi, McNamara, Phil Copeland, Mike Craig and Wilma Brown voted for Ashford. Sobczak, Collins, Webb, George Sarantou, Betty Shultz and Tom Waniewski voted for Sobczak. Sarantou,

Shultz and Waniewski are Republicans, Collins is an independent and all the other nine council members are Democrats.

It was then time for Mayor Carty Finkbeiner to cast the deciding vote to break the 6 to 6 tie. Finkbeiner announced that he would speak with the two candidates in his office for 15 minutes, a puzzling decision to some because Sobczak has backed the mayor unhesitatingly for most of his tenure and Ashford has battled Finkbeiner at virtually every opportunity. Nevertheless, the drama played out.



Councilwoman Webb (in suit) explains her vote to Rev. John Roberts of Indiana Avenue Baptist

After about 45 minutes, the mayor re-assumed his seat on the dais and after a bit of squabbling with McNamara, who urged Finkbeiner to simply cast his vote rather than take the time to make a speech... made a speech.

"We need to work as closely as possible and put aside politics and focus on citizens' issues," said Finkbeiner thanking the two candidates for their "honesty and candor." Casting his vote for Sobczak, the mayor thanked Ashford "for his tour of duty which has been commendable."

Apparently, that tour of duty was not really commendable enough in the eyes of the mayor who earlier in the week penned a letter castigating Ashford for his lack of leadership, especially with respect to the 2008 budget proposal.

"Mike, are your critics right that you are not ready to be Council President?" wrote Finkbeiner in that missive. "You can't be reached when needed, you miss meetings in my office that you have agreed to attend, and you don't return calls... You have shown little leadership on a very important issue to the City—the 2008 budget."

The letter was circulated to council members on Monday, December 31 but there was no indication from Webb on Wednesday whether it played any part in her decision to cast a vote for Ashford.

Indeed there had been little indication from many who had spoken with Webb in preceding days, and on the day of the vote, that she intended to do anything but vote for Ashford.

On Monday, December 31, Webb returned a telephone call

to George Hillard, precinct person, ward chairman and member of the executive committee of the Lucas County Democratic Party and assured Hillard, he told The Truth, that Ashford had her support.

"I'm highly disappointed," said Hillard, "that she lied to me." Hillard was not alone in his disappointment.

Webb called Ron Rothenbuhler, chairman of the Democratic Party, on Tuesday evening at about 8:30 to talk about her decision.

"I had asked everyone to make a decision and not look like fools like we did six months

ago," said Rothenbuhler of his advice to his party's councilmen. "She said, 'yes, I'm going to support Ashford, I don't think Mark Sobczak has the votes.' I'm highly disappointed she could not have told me the truth."

And on Wednesday morning, the morning of the vote, Webb spoke with George Davis, Jr., former chief steward for the local UAW, now retired, and former vice chairman of the Democratic Party. Webb assured Davis, he said, that "everything was going to be all right." Davis and Webb had conferred on several occasions prior to this last call and she had repeatedly suggested to him that Ashford had her vote.

"Your word is all you've got," said Davis on the morning after the vote. "In my opinion, it seems to me that these people don't want to see black people in positions of power, we're going backwards in this town. It just doesn't make sense."

Then came the meeting just prior to the vote that Webb held with her three colleagues — Ashford, McNamara and Szollosi — during which she iterated her support for Ashford.

"She gave us her word," said Szollosi. "It's breathtaking."

Szollosi was doubly upset that the last minute reassurance had prevented his group from coming up with a plan B — perhaps placing a third candidate's name in nomination in order to avoid the tie and making unnecessary the mayor's intervention.

For her part, Webb did not deny that she had indeed given her word to her three col-

leagues but she declined, initially, to comment on Szollosi's observation that she had lied to the group. She spoke instead of the difficulty she had faced in recent days.

"I have struggled with my decision," said Webb. "I did not make it lightly. I was physically ill last night. But I hope my Democratic colleagues will realize in time that I had the best interests of the city at heart."

Such realization did not appear to be on the immediate horizon. Several Democratic Party elected officials voiced their fear that a return to the highly contentious days of the A and B team split was inevitable in the wake of Wednesday's vote and Webb's deceit.

And as Wednesday's session ended, observers were faced with two questions about what had occurred during the day's time gaps — the first gap being the 90 minutes between the Webb/Ashford supporters meeting and the vote and the second being the 15 minutes — that stretched in almost an hour — during which the mayor interviewed the two prospective candidates.

For his part, Ashford told this paper later, explaining the second gap, he could not come to terms with the mayor. "Why am I here?" Ashford said he asked Finkbeiner at the onset of their conversation. "You haven't had a conversation with me since '06 and you know where Sobczak stands."

But, Finkbeiner, said Ashford, wanted to review once more the four hot button issues that would take so much of council's time over the next few months: the tax levy, the \$4.8 million garbage fee, the method of moving cases from the city courts to the county by booking suspects on state charges and lowering the operating costs for the municipal courts.

Ashford told the mayor that he could only support him on the tax levy. "As I was going out the door, I repeated 'I'm going to fight you on the garbage fee,'" said Ashford. The councilman also repeated his warning to the mayor that the county was going to move the court costs back to the city by billing the city for emergency services and would go to court, if necessary, in order to win.

"I disagreed with him on three out of four and the meeting was to confirm his overall

opinion," said Ashford.

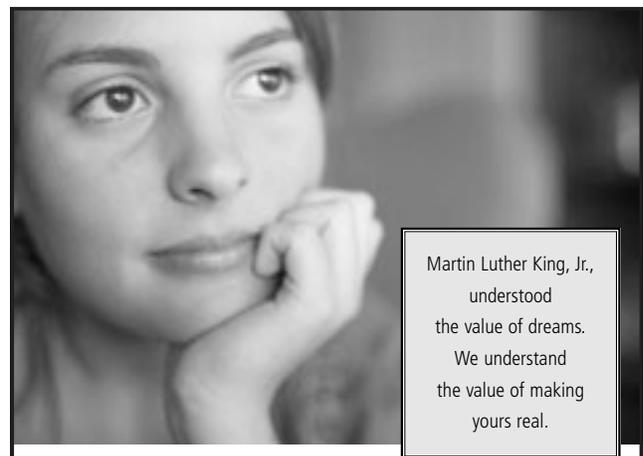
As for his take on the Webb flip-flop, Ashford was less than surprised.

"I never believed Lindsay," said Ashford of her promise to support him. "I told Craig that 'the building trades are going to come in at the 25<sup>th</sup> hour and put too much pressure on her. I don't trust her. Sobczak is her mentor.' That's what happens in politics."

The 90-minute gap during which Webb completed her turnabout was finally explained by the end of the week. She admitted that the promises of support for Ashford were a ploy to impact the proceedings in a manner that would bring about the desired result of forcing a tie. That's how the game is played, concluded the new councilwoman.

However, not everyone who observed Wednesday's events was quite so resigned to the notion that "anything goes" in politics.

Growled one irate and highly-placed official in the Democratic Party of Webb's actions: "Who is ever going to trust her again ... on either side?"



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**National City**

# First African-American Sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Celebrates 100 years of Service

By Artisha S. Lawson  
*Sojourner's Truth Reporter*

January 1908 presented several historical moments for American history—January 1 was the first time the New Year's ball was dropped in Times Square, then on January 12, the first telephone long-distance message was received from the Eiffle Tower. And on January 15, 1908, the formation of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. marked a page in African-American history.

Just two years earlier, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the first African-American fraternity, was organized in New York City. However, miles away during the spring semester of 1907 at Howard University, sorority founder Ethel Hedgeman Lyle began working on the AKA idea with university faculty member Ethel Robinson. Hedgeman Lyle was also inspired by her future husband and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. member George Lyle,

who was one of the chartering members of Beta Chapter at Howard University.

The sorority acknowledges their founders by naming them "The Twenty Pearls," which includes the original group of 1908: Anna Easter Brown, Beulah Elizabeth Burke, Lillie Burke, Marjorie Hill, Margaret Flag Holmes, Ethel Hedgeman Lyle, Lavinia Norman, Lucy Diggs Slowe and Marie Woolfolk Taylor; the sophomore group of 1910: Norma Elizabeth Boyd, Ethel Jones Mowbray, Alice P. Murray, Sarah Meriweather Nutter, Joanna Mary Berry Shields, Carrie Snowden and Harriet Josephine Terry and the incorporators: Nellie M. Quander, Norma Elizabeth Boyd, Julia Evangeline Brooks, Ethel Jones Mowbray, Nellie Pratt Russell and Minnie B. Smith.

Throughout the decades AKA has played an important role in various movements such as the 1913 Women's Suffragette March, the exposing of racial injustice in the form of

lynching, assisting the Travelers Aid Society to help black southerners migrate north, participating in tutoring and donating books while participating in the Mississippi Health Project.

Following World War II the sorority assisted with the post war reconstruction, joined the American Coun-

They have continued to serve mankind through various art programs, scholarship opportunities, senior outreach, receiving local and national awards, participating in local and national positive causes, and organizing youth oriented activities.

A sorority organized in



cil of Human Rights and National Health Office in 1950 to assist in fight for civil rights, formed the Cleveland Job Corps, started Leadership Fellows programs – an educational and hands-on experience for college students and began first Ivy AKAdemy in South Africa in 1980.

1908 when most women had no rights—especially black women – has grown from just The Twenty Pearls to over 200,000 women divided among 950 chapters throughout the world.

In years to come, other African-American leaders would take direction from Alpha Phi Alpha and Alpha Kappa Alpha by chartering seven black Greek-letter organizations to serve the community. Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., were founded in 1911; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., was founded in 1913; Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., was founded in 1914; Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., was founded in 1920; Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc., was founded in 1922; Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc., was founded in 1963.

These same organizations began to unite on May 10, 1930 when Omega Psi Phi, Kappa Alpha Psi, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta and Zeta Phi Beta formed the National Pan-Hellenic Council or NPHC. The remaining organizations joined later – Alpha Phi Alpha and Phi Beta Sigma in 1931, Sigma Gamma Rho in 1937 and Iota Phi Theta in 1996 to gain the nickname "Divine Nine."

Locally, the ladies of Toledo's three chapters: Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter, Alpha Lambda Chapter of The University of Toledo and Iota Iota Chapter of Bowling Green State University work in various community programs and fundraisers.

Julia Holt, long-time sorority member and Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter's immediate past president, who pledged at a southern school says that AKA will

be around for years to come. "I saw Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., as a symbol of the finest leadership and example for young women. Closing out this century and looking to the next 10 years, I see Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., expanding its service projects; continuing its embracing and partnering with other organizations, businesses and corporations to enlarge its service to mankind."

Toledo's link to AKA began in 1928 with the charter of Alpha Lambda Chapter at The University of Toledo. This undergraduate chapter was the first African-American Greek-letter sorority established in Toledo. The chapter's service projects include hosting plays and concerts, providing scholarships to local high school seniors and working with local causes: Kidney Foundation Lollipop Drive, Ronald McDonald House, and Sickle Cell Awareness.

In recognition for their accomplishments, the chapter has received several awards on various levels. The chapter, in conjunction with UT, was recognized by AKA's International President Barbara McKinzie, Ph.D, as the Great Lakes beta site for Undergraduate Signature Program: Economics, Educational Advancement through Technology. The program's goal is to establish a unique model program to utilize the leadership and

celebrations, and Ebony Fashion Fair. Three area sorority members chartered this chapter and have proudly hosted several events including: stage-show productions, card party raffles, fashion shows and AKA-Rama pageants and Ebony Fashion Fair.

Just one year following the charter of Zeta Alpha Omega, sorority member Elinor Allen was initiated December 6, 1953 during a Great Lakes Regional Initiation for Wayne State University. Along with Allen, then National President Beulah Whitby conducted the combined ceremony for members in Ohio, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. However, prior to that personal milestone, Allen was inspired by her teacher and future sorority sister. "My sixth-grade teacher at Gunckel School, Mrs. Ruby Peoples, was the first black teacher I knew with a master's degree. She and her sister, Ms. Hannah Harris, both were charter members of Alpha Lambda Chapter. These women were my role models; I wanted to be like them."

On March 15, 1975 Iota Iota Chapter, the final local AKA chapter, was chartered at Bowling Green State University. Ann C. Battles, the 20th Great Lakes Regional Director is currently a member of Zeta Alpha Omega, also served as the chapter's first advisor. In its 32-year



technology skills of undergraduate members and various other community groups. They have also been recognized by service organizations such as the American Red Cross, the NAACP, the Ronald McDonald House and the Kidney Foundation.

Just 24 years after the undergraduate chapter was formed, the Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter was chartered on April 25, 1952. The chapter works with actively with Alpha Lambda and Iota Iota in such annual events including: Founders' Day

history, they have received Gwendolyn Gholston Award for music and have participated in several local causes including: Memory Walk for Alzheimer Disease, Bowling for Kids and It Takes a Village School Project.

Since the mid-1920s, the three combined area chapters have raised over \$160,000 to support their scholarship programs. Along with their scholarship efforts, the chapter mirrors their national programs, (Continued on Page 16)

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# The Lima Third Street Tragedy: The Death of Tarika Wilson

By Vickie Shurelds  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

"We have done these busts thousands of times; literally thousands of times, not hundreds. We take every precaution, we train and plan before we go in, and we have been successful time after time." That quote is from Lima Police Chief Greg Garlock given at a press conference called by his office following the death of Tarika Wilson and the injury of her son, Sincere, during the high-risk service of a search warrant last weekend.

"Thousands" of break-ins conducted by the Lima PACE Unit and SWAT teams that resulted in the apprehension of their suspect - but this time, something has gone terribly wrong.

The press release to the media on Saturday morning read: "At approximately 8:15 p.m. on Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, the Lima Police Department Tactical Team conducted a high risk search warrant at 218 East Third Street. During the performance of the war-

rant, Tarika Wilson, age 26, and her young child were injured. The injury to Tarika Wilson was fatal. Her young child was Life Flighted to Children's Hospital in Columbus and is in stable condition. The search warrant resulted from a long term investigation of Anthony Terry age 31. He was arrested in the residence and has been charged with Suspicion of Possession of Crack Cocaine and is being held at the Allen County Jail. Marijuana and crack cocaine were recovered from the residence. The fatal injury to Tarika Wilson and the injury to her child resulted from a member of the Tactical Team. Assistance from the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation was requested and received. A formal news conference will be held at the Lima Police Department today (January 5<sup>th</sup>) at 1:00 p.m."

Details surrounding the "performance of the warrant" are sketchy at best. Because the investigation was turned over to the State of Ohio, the Lima Police Department was

no longer in a position to answer specific questions or respond to certain requests. They could divulge information regarding the victims and the targeted subject, but not about the officer or any of the actions of the Police Department:

1. Tarika Wilson had recently been released from prison
2. Anthony Terry had demonstrated aggression toward the Police in an incident 12 years ago
3. There were two pit bulls in the house that had been shot as well; one survived, one did not
4. Marijuana and crack cocaine were recovered from the residence.

The Chief would only say the officer who was 'directly involved' had been placed on administrative leave. He went on to say that an incident such as this has an affect on their department as well; no one wants this to be the result of the performance of their duties. That person would remain on administra-

tion leave until the investigation conducted by the Attorney General's office was complete.

Reporters asked a barrage of questions. "Did the police know there were children in the house?" (Six of them, in fact.) The chief said they were aware of the people who lived in the home. "There were toys in the yard and on the porch, it was apparent there were children in the home."

On the night of January 4, police say they prepared according to their training procedures to enter the home. Because of the children, their "distracting devices" were thrown outside the home - not inside as they usually do.

Here begins the dichotomy in the story. Because of the investigation, the Lima Police Department cannot release specifics. Brenda Johnson, executive director of the Cheryl Allen Southside Community Center says Anthony Terry was apprehended immediately and taken from the home and placed in a police cruiser.

"They had the target of the warrant," says Johnson. "The police had Anthony Terry, so why would they go back in the house? They already knew who lived there and that all they would find would be a young mother, her six children and two dogs. Knowing that, why would you begin to shoot in the house? Why would you go up the stairs?"

When neighbors alerted Tarika Wilson's family, they came to her home, but were stonewalled for hours while police secured the scene. Vickie Johnson is Tarika's aunt. She says the police were rude and displayed no sense of compassion. "You don't tell a woman whose child is in a house surrounded by police after guns have been

fired, to shut up, or move back or you'll be tazed," says Vickie Johnson. "That was her baby in the house, and her grandbabies. She wanted to know if her daughter was in the house and they told her to shut up."

No one in authority spoke to the family for four hours.

They were fine, and one of the officers was talking with them."

A reporter asked: "You spoke to the children without an adult present?" He answered, "Not about the case. Just talking to keep their minds occupied."

The Chief also said he



They were waiting for a search warrant that would allow them to re-enter the house after the Tactical Team left. And they had made the call to the state. They were also waiting for them to arrive to begin to process the site.

Finally, the family was told of the death. At the impact of the words from Chief Garlock, Tarika Wilson's mother, Darla Jennings, fell to the ground.

Nothing else was said until a press conference was held at the Lima Police Department on Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

Chief Greg Garlock addressed the media in somber tones, read the press release then a briefing on the status of Sincere Wilson. "He's in stable condition and his injuries are not life threatening".

When asked where the children had been taken during the time after the shooting until relatives arrived to retrieve them. "They were here. When I arrived, they were playing in the hallway.

stood by the officers who made the decisions regarding the raid. "Obviously, first of all, this is such a sorrowful situation that has created for us a lot of concern; both from the standpoint of the victims involved in this incident as well as the officers that were involved. We have victims on both sides of this issue, if you will. Because of the fact, frankly, we know the community would want to see an objective look be put forth on this we've asked for the Attorney General's Bureau of Identification and Investigation Office to come in which they did last night, and begin to process the scene of this incident as well as interview those involved. We've in essence turned this investigation over to them with the intent of assisting them in any way we can. We'll let them look at the facts and we'll see where they take us."

Former SWAT Commander Richard Shade said raiding a home with children

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# The Lima Third Street Tragedy: The Death of Tarika Wilson

(Continued from Page 6)

in it is not unusual. "People need to understand that this is a risk they take when they allow someone to sell drugs in their home and they have children."

Lima Mayor David Berger was present at the press conference. "I think it's very important to express on behalf of the community our real sorrow at what has transpired here. Obviously, for Ms. Wilson's family, our heart goes out to them; both for her death and for the injury to the child. Also, from the standpoint of the police department and the officers involved, this is an incredibly upsetting circumstance. It is truly a circumstance that no one ever wants to see happen; the officer's are included in that. They train very hard in order to be prepared, but in this instance, something went wrong. Right now, the process that is underway is one I really do believe was the right decision by the chief to bring in BCI, a third party will conduct the investigation going forward, we need to allow that investigation to go forward, all the facts be determined. Then based on the facts decisions will be made at this point I think it's

certainly a matter of recognizing that what's occurred it's a horrible incident that we now want to sort out and then ultimately review what our options are at that time."

## "They killed her. Shot her down like a dog,"

concerned residents and the victim's family gathered at the Cheryl Allen Southside Community Center to organize thoughts and actions and express their outrage in an environment away from the eyes of the media.

Reverend Arnold Manley took the lead of the discussion explaining the importance of working within the system while monitoring the investigation to make sure things are not "swept under the rug"

Reverend B. Lamont Monfort encouraged the crowd of nearly 150 to think. "We have to be clear thinking and not be a distraction to the process. You can only win if you think beyond your anger. Our first priority has to be this family. We have to make sure they are taken care of and that their needs are

being met."

The decision was made to gather again at 4:30 that day to hold a candlelight vigil in honor of Tarika Wilson. They would march in peace to demand the answers as to why

this incident became a death sentence for a 26 year old mother of six.

### Part 2

"Truth and justice... truth and justice... truth and justice."

The words rang out from the crowd of close to 200 that gathered just next to the yellow tape indicating a police investigation at 218 East Third Street.

Reverend Arnold Manley addressed the crowd after marching with over 100 community members from the Cheryl Allen Southside Community Center to the house of Tarika Wilson.

Less than 16 hours had passed since the Lima Police Department's Tactical Team had stormed the home, armed with a high-risk search warrant in pursuit of Anthony Terry. Terry had been the target of a long-term investigation and, according to former SWAT Commander Richard Shade, "There is no doubt he was selling drugs out of that house." Shade is now a major in the Lima Police Department. "People need to understand this is the risk you take when you allow someone to sell drugs in your home."

As members of the community gathered for the vigil, they began putting stuffed animals on the fence—police tape and a cruiser parked in front of the home 24 hours a day prevented any closer contact. They later began to throw the toys on to the porch as tempers began to rise in the reaction to the incident.

"We want answers. And we want them very soon," says Rev. Manley. "There is a time for all things; it is now

time for truth and justice."

Within the crowd, people began to tell stories of Tarika Wilson. "She was a good mother who loved her kids, and she was going to start school on Monday so she could begin to make a better life," said one mourner.

"They killed her. Shot her down like a dog," said another.

Every time the crowd began to feed on its own hurt, anger and sorrow, it was quieted by a request for respect and control in honor of the victim.

"We don't care what they say, we want to know what happened, and we want to know why that person isn't in jail. Why is he on vacation? A vacation we as tax payers are paying for?" asked Manley. He continued by saying the vigil was a promise to Tarika Wilson and her family, including her chil-

until February 28, 2007. After that day, she cries every day because of what happened to her son at the hands of law enforcement in Lima, Ohio."

"There were babies in the house! Six children! Oh, my God! Why would you shoot in a house with children in it? You never know what could happen when children are involved. What about procedures – you said your officers are well trained – every job I've always been on they always say 'Safety First.'"

Michael Little says the police have to be held accountable for their actions because it's their job to know what they would encounter when they enter a home.

Thirteen-month old Sincere Wilson continues to be cared for by Columbus Children's Hospital where he was life flighted after being shot in the shoulder and hand. One of his fingers was shot off and he has undergone two

told us, 'he's in booking, but we're going to have to let him go because we didn't find anything.'

"So what is the truth? Any other time, when they make a bust they lay all they've found out on the table so we can see it. Drugs, money, guns... where are they? Show us what you found! I don't believe there were drugs in that house, and we're going to find out the truth." Johnson vows to hold a march every Saturday until the investigation is completed.

Newspaper coverage from mainstream media ran information on a former drug charge involving Tarika Wilson, and revealed that the rental property was owned by City Councilman Derry Glenn.

"I'm hurt behind that," responds Glenn, "She was getting her life together, a young mother making plans to take care of her children. Now she's dead. And my family is hurt because my name is being dragged through the mud and across the front pages. I've known of homes owned by other councilmen, even by police officers that have been busted, but their names were not in the papers. But, that's OK. During my tenure of eight years on Lima City Council, I work with these people, talk with them, make laws with them, but they have disrespected me. They could have come to me like a man and said we believe these things are going on in your house. They knew, and they had a plan. They know how I love the people of the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward and how I will do anything for the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward, and they want to stop me. But, they can't."

"We want to know what the city has to say about this" one man yells from the crowd. "So do we" says Johnson – so we're going to City Council Monday night. Be there before 7:00."

*Ed. Note: Next week, an account of that City Council meeting and a report on what attention national organizations will be devoting to the Lima incident.*



dren, that this would not become one of the unsolved deaths in Lima, Ohio.

Michael Alexander Sanders died while in custody of the Allen County Jail on February 28, 2007. The black community and their families still await information on two other deaths as well. His sister Demetria Sanders said her family wants to know what happened. Nearly a year has passed with no information.

She has returned to the area to care for the children her brother left behind. "Chief Garlock, I want you to know that my mother is a strong, black woman whom I've only seen cry three times in my life

## Beware Of "Kwanzaa"

(Continued from Page 3)

clips and development.

In submitting to the principles of Kwanzaa, as African-American Christians we are saying "Christ isn't sufficient; Christ isn't our redeemer and we need help from Kwanzaa or Ron Everett." The Apostle Paul writes: "if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come." In other words it is Christ who transforms and sanctifies Christians, for Christians there is nothing that Kwanzaa can give us, we are made complete in Christ. □ Operation Re-Seed Christian Ministries.

Reverend Ken Earl Rupert

When I was a child the senior choir would sing this song:



Brenda McFall

"We've come this far by Faith  
Leaning on the Lord  
Trusting in his Holy word  
He's never failed me yet  
Oh, Oh, Oh can't turn around  
We've come this far by faith."  
Lyrics that are so true today.

Today, I also understand this quote by former President Jimmy Carter: "I have one life and one chance to make it count for something... I'm free to choose what that something is, and the something I've chosen is my faith."

Now my faith goes beyond theology and religion and requires considerable work and effort. My faith demands, - this is not optional - that I do whatever I can, wherever I can, wherever I am, whenever I can, for as long as I can, with whatever I have to try to make a difference."

Be encouraged to embrace your faith in "2008".  
Remember we have come far to turn around.

ncoraged@hotmail.com  
Brenda McFall

Faith quotes by Jone Johnson Lewis

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## Owens Community College to Host Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Basketball Classic, Jan. 21

Special to The Truth

Owens Community College, the Northwest Ohio Black Media Association and the Toledo Public Schools will honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as the College will serve as host to the 2008 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Basketball Classic on Monday, Jan. 21. Four boys high school basketball teams from Ohio, Michigan and Indiana will compete in the doubleheader with all proceeds benefiting Northwest Ohio Black Media Association scholarship initiatives.

Founded in 1996 by the Northwest Ohio Black Media Association, the 2008 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Basketball Classic will be held at the College's Student Health and Activities Center on the Toledo-area Campus. Owens is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township.

"Owens Community College appreciates the opportunity to strengthen our partnerships with Toledo Public Schools and the Northwest Ohio Black Media Association and once again support this very worthwhile

fundraiser for scholarships in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.," said Christa Adams, Ph.D., president of Owens Community College.

Beginning at 1 p.m., varsity basketball action will commence with Scott High School (Toledo, Ohio) taking on defending Indiana Class 4A state champion East Chicago Central High School (East Chicago, Ind.). In the second varsity game starting at 3 p.m., defending City League champion Libbey High School (Toledo, Ohio) will face Saginaw High School (Saginaw, Mich.), the defending Michigan Class A state champion.

The Northwest Ohio Black Media Association, the Toledo-based affiliate of the National Association of Black Journalists, was founded in 1990 with the goals of strengthening ties among Black communicators, becoming an exemplary group of professionals that honor excellence and outstanding achievement by Black communicators, assisting in expanding job opportunities for black communicators, and

identifying potential black communicators in local high schools and colleges.

For nearly two decades, the Northwest Ohio Black Media Association has played a very active role in many community outreach programs, which includes preparing students for careers in journalism through its Minority High School Journalism Workshop and helping the community learn more about the media through its community access seminars. The organization also provides thousands of dollars in scholarships annually and organizes debates and town hall meetings on an array of current event topics.

Tickets for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Basketball Classic are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students. Tickets in advance are \$8 for adults and \$6 for students. Individuals can purchase tickets at The Sojourner's Truth in Toledo (1811 Adams Street) and at Libbey and Scott high schools. For more information, call (419) 841-1652 or (419) 243-0007.



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# Wynton Marsalis and Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra Return with "Ellington love songs"

Special to The Truth

The University Musical Society (UMS) presents the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra (JLCO) and Wynton Marsalis at Ann Arbor's Hill Auditorium (825 North University Avenue) on Wednesday, January 16, at 8 p.m. Led by jazz legend Wynton Marsalis, the 15-member ensemble returns with a new program entitled "Ellington Love Songs," featuring beloved love songs written and made famous by Duke Ellington. The band will also draw on other repertoire from the jazz canon, including tunes by jazz luminaries and new and original music by members of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. "One rarely hears this music played with such technical brilliance, stylistic authenticity and tonal sheen... Here were the throaty reeds, percussive trumpet blasts, and visceral sense of swing that have made the [JLCO] the greatest large jazz ensemble working today." (*The Chicago Tribune*)

For tickets or additional information, contact the University Musical Society at 734-764-2538 or online at [www.ums.org](http://www.ums.org). Tickets may

also be purchased in person at the League Ticket Office (911 North University Avenue). The UMS Ticket Office is open: Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., closed Sunday.

Comprised of 15 of today's finest jazz soloists and ensemble players, Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra has been the Jazz at Lincoln Center's resident orchestra for over 18 years. Featured in all aspects of the Jazz at Lincoln Center's programming, the remarkably versatile JLCO performs and leads educational events in New York, across the US, and around the world. In its dedication to the art of jazz, the JLCO's educational programs reach

over 110,000 students, teachers, and general audience members each year.

Under the direction of Music Director Wynton Marsalis, the JLCO spends over half of the year on tour. The big band is hailed for performing a wide variety of jazz works, including compositions and arrangements by Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Thelonious Monk, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goodman, and many others. The JLCO also regularly premieres works commissioned from a variety of composers, and in recent years, has collaborated with many of the world's leading symphony orchestras.

In addition to its extensive performance schedule, the

JLCO has appeared on several television broadcasts. Concerts by the JLCO have aired in the US, England, France, Spain, Germany, Brazil, Australia, and Japan, among others. In 2005, the *Jazz at Lincoln Center's Higher Ground Benefit Concert* aired to raise funds to benefit the musicians, music industry enterprises, and other related entities impacted by Hurricane Katrina. To date, 11 recordings by the JLCO and Wynton Marsalis have been released and distributed internationally — most recently *Don't Be Afraid... The Music of Charles Mingus* and *A Love Supreme*, both released in 2005.

Wynton Marsalis has been described as the most outstanding jazz musician and trumpeter of his generation, as one of the world's top classical trumpeters, as a big band leader in the tradition of Duke Ellington, a brilliant composer, a devoted advocate for the Arts, and a tireless and inspiring educator. Born in New Orleans in October, 1961, Marsalis is the second of six sons. At an early age, he exhibited an aptitude for music and a desire to contribute to Ameri-



can culture. At age 14, he was invited to perform with the New Orleans Philharmonic, and at 17 became the youngest musician ever to be admitted to Tanglewood's Berkshire Music Center. He studied music at The Juilliard School and soon assembled his own band, performing over 120 concerts every year for ten consecutive years. During these years, Marsalis' strong belief and vision for jazz music worked to revitalize the art form.

Perhaps his most notable contribution to the jazz industry, Marsalis co-founded a jazz program at Lincoln Center in 1987. Under his leadership, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Program has developed an international

agenda with up to 400 annual events in 15 countries. Since then, Marsalis has received several prestigious awards and recognitions, among them "UN Messenger of Peace" in 2001. In addition to his musical achievements, Marsalis has established himself as a model citizen by working with numerous non-profit organizations.

To date, Marsalis has produced 33 jazz and 11 classical records, with over seven million record sales worldwide. With his collection of standards, he is credited with reinvigorating the jazz musician's relationship to American popular song. Today, with his Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Marsalis is an irresistible force.

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**Bad weather date: January 19th – same time and place.**

Assistance provided by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the KnowledgeWorks Foundation.

## Toledo Club Donates Christmas Toys



The members of the Toledo Club of the National Association Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc., donated Christmas toys and educational games to the foster children of the Ohio YAP. The Regional Manager Kelly Hennessey and staff were very appreciative of the gifts that were received.

The Education Chairman Clara Brank and her committee organized this nationally-mandated project. The Club's mission is to promote and protect the interest of African American businesses and professional women; to serve as a bridge for young people seeking to enter business and professions; to improve the quality of life in the local and global communities, and to foster good fellowship.

Wanda Terrell, president; Delores Bate, vice president; Barbara Tucker, vice governor; Donnetta Carter, membership director.

## Lucas County Adopts 2008 Operating Budget

*Special to The Truth*

The Board of Lucas County Commissioners will take action this week to pass a 2008 budget that responds to the continued economic challenges in our community while maintaining essential services.

The Board will pass a 2008 general fund budget with total expenditures of \$147.8 million dollars, with across the board reductions in each operating department and a 1.35% total reduction over the final 2007 budget. The Board is strongly commit-

ted, they announced, to downsizing county government, reducing its own budget this year by over six percent and reducing its own staff by almost 15 percent over the last five years.

"Lucas County businesses and families continue to struggle due to high gas prices and a weak national economy, and Lucas County government is no different," said Commissioner Tina Skeldon Wozniak. "With our 2008 budget, we continue to reduce county staff while maintaining the services so many of our residents count

on." As in past years, Lucas County will invest significant dollars in criminal justice and public safety. Lucas County is projected to spend over two-thirds of its 2008 operating budget on criminal justice and public safety.

"Maintaining a strong public safety system is our number one priority as county leaders," said Commissioner Pete Gerken. "We've made that commitment in the past and we've renewed it again with this budget."

## Fund Established to Help I-280 Family

*Special to The Truth*

After discussion with the family, United Way of Greater Toledo and Mercy Health Partners have jointly established an assistance fund. The money collected will help cover funeral, transportation, lodging, and other expenses the family incurs relative to the collision that took place on Sunday, December 30, 2007. This fund will be available to the family immediately.

According to Sarah Bednarski, manager of media relations at Mercy Health Partners, "The family is overwhelmed with the community's responsiveness and is grateful for the continued prayers."

People interested in contributing to the *United Way I-280 Family Assistance Fund* can make a donation at any Fifth Third Bank location. Checks should be made payable to *United Way I-280 Family Assistance Fund* and can also be sent to United Way of Greater Toledo, One Stranahan Sq., Toledo, OH, 43604. For additional information please contact United Way 2-1-1 by simply dialing 2-1-1.

## Toledo Ballet Offers New Spring Classes

*Special to The Truth*

In its constant commitment to offering new, innovative programs in addition to its cornerstone, classical ballet, Toledo Ballet is adding several new classes to its spring semester. Beginning February 4, Toledo Ballet will offer a *Prince and Princess Ballet* class for three to five year olds.

This class, offered once a week during its spring semester, will combine an introduction to creative movement and dance with storytelling and crafts that reinforce many of the traditional storybook ballets such as *Cinderella*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Coppelia*, *Peter and the Wolf*, and more.

"Children that age, understandably, need varied activities within a given time frame. Toledo Ballet wants to celebrate this while at the same time engaging these youngsters in stimulating, educational activities. We feel this is a perfect blend that is precisely age appropriate," says Mari Davies, execu-

tive director.

And while these children are in one studio, their parent or guardian can take a breath in a yoga class scheduled to coincide with this class, just a room away. "It's a win-win for everyone," she added.

For dancers and non-dancers who want a more aggressive health and fitness program, Toledo Ballet faculty member Michael Lang, a NSCA personal trainer, tai chi instructor, licensed massage therapist, and former Broadway performer, will offer a Group Fitness class. This class is designed to help participants lose weight while gaining strength, agility, speed, endurance and flexibility.

"This is a great opportunity for all sorts of athletes and dancers as well as those aspiring to get in shape," says Toledo Ballet School Director Lisa Mayer. "The proper approach to safe physical fitness is imperative in order to maximize results and minimize potential for injury, and this class does

just that."

Due to numerous requests, Toledo Ballet is also introducing an Adult Beginning Tap class. For adults who aren't quite ready to begin ballet or explore the world of hip hop, tap offers a wonderful means of exercise while creating their own joyful noise. "This class is designed for adults to have fun while being physically active," Mayer noted.

Toledo Ballet continues its commitment to providing superb classical ballet training while acknowledging a value and interest in other dance forms. Additional continued contemporary classes include musical theatre and dance, hip hop, lyrical jazz, and ballroom. Non-dance classes also include pilates.

For further information on spring semester classes, please call Toledo Ballet at 419.471.0049.

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# MHRSB Celebrates 40 Years of Service with County Proclamation

Special to The Truth

On Tuesday, January 8, 2008, the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (MHRSB) of Lucas County celebrated 40 years of delivering services to county residents with mental health and/or substance use disorders. A special ceremony took place at 1:15 p.m., at One Government Center, with a proclamation and remarks from Lucas County Commissioners, local officials and MHRSB representatives. A reception followed with the cutting of a 40th anniversary cake that was served to all in attendance.

Much has changed over the years, but the Board's commitment to behavioral good health has been unwavering. Following is a brief history:

The '60s and '70's - The Mental Health Board was formed in 1968 and was given responsibility for mental health, mental retardation and drug and alcohol services. In the '70s, voters approved the system's first 0.1 mill operating levy that supported the opening of four community mental health centers, several drug and alcohol programs, emergency crisis services and

other support programs, to ensure that the needs of persons with persistent mental illness and/or drug and alcohol disorders were addressed.

The '80s and '90s - Over the next two decades, the community mental health system experienced major changes. The responsibility for mental retardation and drug and alcohol services was removed from the Mental Health Board. Due to overcrowding of state hospitals and, more importantly, with the belief that persons could be better treated within their community, the Board was given the responsibility of transitioning previously hospitalized individuals to community care. Programs continued to be developed, evaluated and refined for quality and operational efficiency. Voters approved an additional 0.5-mill levy and St. Paul's Community Center was opened.

The new century - In 2006, another major change occurred. After a focused study of the likely outcomes for consumers and the community at large, the Lucas County Mental Health Board and the Alco-

hol and Drug Addiction Services Board merged to form the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County or MHRSB. The combined board allows for a systematic approach to planning efforts; combined focus on stigma reduction; enhanced quality of care; integration of services and supports, and elimination of unnecessary duplication of services, programs and administrative functions.

Through this combined effort, the MHRSB is able to offer an improved and unified public behavioral healthcare system for the citizens of Lucas County.

The MHRSB funds more than 25 agencies including: ABLE, Adelante, Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Northwest Ohio, Catholic Charities, Community Partnership, Compass Corp. for Recovery Services (CCRS), Connecting Point, Court Diagnostic and Treatment Center, Family Service of Northwest Ohio, Fresh Attitude, Harbor Behavioral Healthcare, Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of

Greater Toledo, Neighborhood Properties Inc., Philio New Concepts, Rescue Mental Health Services, St. Paul's Community Center, St. Vincent/Mercy Medical Center Hope for Families, Self Expression Team Theater (SETT) Institute, Sylvania Community Action Team (SCAT), Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC), Thomas M. Wernert Center, University of Toledo Medical Center Adult Psychiatry and Kobacker Center, Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Program (UMADAOP), Unison Behavioral Health Group and Zepf Center.

For more information, please contact the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County at 419-213-4600 or visit [www.co.lucas.oh.us/MHRSB](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/MHRSB).

# 2008 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Celebration

Special to The Truth

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s non-violent philosophy coupled with his vision of brotherhood and kinship impacted the civil rights movement delivering a brush stroke of hope for all people across a canvas of indifference. Americans as a people stand upon the shoulders of Dr. King, who made courageous sacrifices in his pilgrimage toward a peaceful way of life, and his legacy will continue to inspire generations in "Connecting Our Community".

You are invited to join others in the community during a free Unity Day Celebration at the University of Toledo's Savage Hall on Monday, January 21, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

Celebrating with us are the Clarence Smith Community Choir, vocalists Lisa Hightower and Joyce Rush, the Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB), local business leaders, community leaders, social leaders, our youth, and a tribute to our armed forces and a special recognition for the Toledo Mass Choir

A free community luncheon will immediately follow this commemoration.

Unity Day is sponsored by The City of Toledo, Board of Community Relations, Better Community Relations, Inc., The University of Toledo and several community sponsors including-GM Powertrain, Buckeye Cable System, Black & Veatch, the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority and ProMedica Health System.

For more information please call the Board of Community Relations at 419-245-1565.

## Dear Ryan,

I am dreading the New Year already! I made resolutions last year to drop some weight and get into better shape. I failed miserably and I think I'm worse this year than last. Any suggestions would be so helpful.

Thank-you  
Tamara

## Dear Tamara,

Well it's here and there's no turning back the hands of time. I know most of you have set your New Year's resolutions as you did last year to only end up failing and falling short or not even getting started.

"This year is going to be different," you say! What's going to be different? What are you going to do to stay motivated? What do you need for motivation? What kind of goals are you setting this time? How many days a week can you realistically get into the gym? Are you willing to prepare your food and have it with you when you need it? Can you sacrifice giving up the wine, beer or liquor for a few months? These are a few of the questions that need to be answered.

Not succeeding has is not entirely all your fault. A lot has to do with the weight-loss businesses and their get-skinny-quick scams leaving you to believe that you can lose 10 pounds in a week. When that doesn't happen you get discouraged, down on yourself and give up. Also, all the commercials that have weight loss products and medications that make you skinny over night. It's no wonder we have this misconception that we should be skinny in the morning.

Here's a simple plan for you that even a child can follow. First you have to accept that you aren't going to get into shape in three to four days or weeks! You need to sit down with a piece of paper and come up with a plan. Devote a little bit of time to YOURSELF!!

Now set realistic goals as I have told you before. You want to lose body fat not just weight. One to two pounds per week is a great goal. Maybe you could try to go down one dress or pant size.

Schedule your workouts like an appointment and let nothing keep you from it even if you go and workout for only 15 minutes. It's about creating a new habit. Pick music that will hype you up or help you in any way to get you through your work outs.

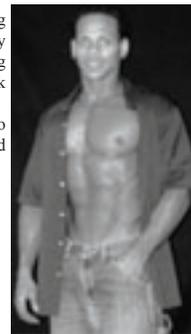
Food: make a list of the foods you need before you go to the grocery and don't stray from it! Schedule your eating every three hours so that you can keep that metabolism running in high gear. Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated, help with protein synthesis, and fat burning.

Remember it's about creating new habits and making changes that will perpetuate a healthier lifestyle. So stay focused and be realistic in your goal setting and keep moving forward. If you have a bad day of eating, it's OK, just get back on track for the next meal or the next day. All is not lost.

Give yourself a day to eat something that you want so you're not going crazy fighting cravings all the time. Good luck and happy New Year to you all.

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# The Lima Truth

January 09, 2008

The Sojourner's Truth

Page 12

## LIVING BETTER IN 2008

By Sharon Guice  
Sojourner's Truth  
Columnist

A new year means an opportunity to reflect on the past and plan for a better future. It is a new year. It is a new season. A time to turnaround and to believe for a better year. Out with the old, in with the new as the old cliché says.

It is time to reflect upon the past year(s) and assess our achievements and setbacks in order to do better in the New Year.

Did 2007 bring you many heartaches and

pains? Did you experience any tears of joy or only tears of pain? Did you lose your job for any reason or did you score a great promotion?

Did you lose a loved one, be it family or friend and/or gained a new special one – baby, husband, wife, adopted child or close friend?

Did you end the year broke or managed to keep some fall back on cash in the bank? Did you rob Peter to pay Paul or did you keep your bills paid each month?

What did you invest in

2007? Making money, time with others, family, sports, friendships, church attendance, the youth, the elderly, how about yourself?

How much couch-potato time did you do in 2007 or were you a busy beaver or workaholic?

What about your health? Did you invest the time to go check out that nagging symptom of pain and discomfort to see what the problem may or may not be?

What about your home, did you lose it due to increased mortgage rates or did you get a great buy because you have saved and saved waiting on the right time to buy? Or by the grace of God, were you able to maintain your home?

Did you buy a new car in 2007? Did you sell the old one or sow it into someone else's life to meet a need?

Do you believe you took one step forward only to be knocked back two?

What did you dream about in 2007 to happen that did not come to pass? What plan fell apart and did not materialize as you envisioned? What business deal did not work in your favor?

Well, it is 2008 and no matter what 2007 brought to you by your own choices good or bad or by some outside force not of your own control; you much believe and put forth increased faith for a better 2008.

Sometimes we're up and sometimes down, but you can not stay stuck in the past.

There are over 350 days left in this year. We even have an extra day in February due to this being a leap year.

Although it may have appeared that all of hell came against you in 2007, the evil forces if you believe them to be did not win to take you out, because you are still here. You stood against all the good, bad, and ugly and made it to another year. Who knows, some of us may not be here this time next year. But, until then we have to believe and take action for a better 2008.

Now count your blessings. Take a look back and stick a pin in that memory and hold it in place. (If you need to, go ahead and use pen and paper and write

them down) Matter of fact; use a red pen physically or mentally. The color of red signifies power.

Ok, now that you are thinking about your blessings count them. The one you believe were really good ones, stick a big red pen there or write it in CAPITAL Letters. 1, 5, 10, 15, 25, 50. Oh, no blessing is too small to count. If it enters your mind as a blessing, count it even if a negative thought wants to overtake it.

Ahh, now back to counting the blessings of 2007, 60, 75, 80, 95, 100. Wow!! OK, the blessings or the good things that happened in your life or good that came out of bad things, the big red pen items were they the result of something you chose to do or experience?

Your choices/experience, what can you do to better that experience in 2008?

If you started a business and it did not do as well as you anticipated it to do, what can you do better in 2008 to help increase your sales? Maybe seek help from someone already in that business or develop a new marketing strategy.

How about paying the bills? Did you pay a lot of late charges? If yes, why not critique your spending

plan to pay on time and bank the savings you now reap from on time payments and watch your savings grow? It is like killing two birds with one stone.

Will you schedule an appointment with your physician to check out that nagging health problem? If nothing else, you will know whether or not it is something serious that needs immediate attention or you just worried over nothing because the problem is easily fixed.

Did you lose your job in 2007? If yes, are you receiving unemployment benefits? If so, do not wait until it run out before getting out there to seek and find another job. Do you have a hobby that you can earn some extra cash? Anything you do for someone and they pay you, do more of it to compensate your bank roll.

If you lost a loved one through death, divorce or they just did not want to be around you anymore, remember life goes on even in the midst of pain. With all in you that is considered good, find someone else to show love. Like a child, an elderly family member or friend, a teenager, a young single mother learning what it is to be a mother, a young couple

learning how to be committed to each other. For a good man will obtain favor from the Lord..... Proverbs 12:2

It is hard to let go of relationships, but let go we must to reach that place of doing better in 2008.

Remember 2008 is turnaround time and it is about doing better. Not just doing good, but better. Better thoughts, better planning, better actions, better results on those big red pen items. Dream BIG, plan wisely and see 2008 as better than the year before.

Believe it to receive it. Resolve to do much better for there is the Spirit of God in you that say, Beloved, I wish above all things that you may prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. 3 John 2 (soul – where you think and take actions on your thoughts)

Write a mission statement (vision) of what you want to see come to pass in 2008 and review it often. Make a Picture Poster to keep the vision before you. Change anything that needs to be changed as more truth evolves and is revealed to you. Do not fall victim to the old way of thinking and acting. Stay strong and courageous to

(Continued on Page 14)

### Lima's Churches

\*Rev. Earnest Stephens, Jr. 4th St. MBC 122 West 4th St. Lima, Ohio 45804419-224-1501  
Rev. Robert Tony 11th St. MB Church 108 E. 11th St. Lima, Ohio 45804419-227-8083 Rev. Robert Curtis, Jr. Mt. Olive MB Church 1406 St. Johns Avenue Lima, Ohio 45804419-228-1584

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\*Pastor Lawrence Bobo St. James CME 800 E. Franklin Street Lima, Ohio 45804419-222-2845 Rev. FR Dunlap Friendship Baptist Church 349 E. Wayne St. Lima, Ohio 45804419-224-2727 Rev. King Beverly New Greater Grace Baptist 422 E. 8th Street Lima, Ohio 45804419-224-4463

\*Rev. C.M. Manley New Morning Star 1904 S. Main Street 419-227-1825 Rev. Arnold Manley Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church 1251 Union Street 419-224-6006 Rev. Dennis Ward Second Baptist Church 520 West Spring Street 419-229-6666

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\*Elder Ed Tibbs New Life Christian Center 202 W. Kibby St. 419-227-3997 John Barcus, Minister Kibby Street Church of Christ 428 E. Kibby St. 419-224-1251 Minister Robert Horton Southeast Church of Christ 1830 Reese Ave. 419-229-3590

\*Elder Clarence McGriff Mt. Olive Church of God in Christ 705 E. Catalpa 419-223-1451 Rev. Damell Williams New Life Church Intnat'l 1180 West High St 419-999-1615 Rev. Phillip Battle, Jr. Bethel F.B.H. Church 1312 Norval Ave 419-227-6133

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Glass City Power Player - D.J. MPRESS



By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture

Peace fam, I'm trying to start '08 off by making some noise on behalf of the hardworking men and women who keep the Glass City entertained.

Y'all have seen me mention a lot of heavy hitters in these pages and right now I wanna shed some spotlight on someone The Truth readers probably already know: D.J. MPRESS.

Man, for the last half of '07 he was a mainstay at The Peacock Caf  and for a few years prior he was virtually synonymous with any good time you had at Jackson's.

I can tell you first hand, as a D.J., he's widely known and respected among the 20 somethings, 30 somethings and the 40 somethings.

One thing I watch for with every D.J. in any city is his strategy to KEEP people on the floor. The right song at the right time gets them on the floor, but in Toledo you've got to be a mad scientist to keep people on that dance floor and D.J. MPRESS (or Moni to his friends) has proved time and time again he's got that on lock.

Outside of D.J.ing - he's a producer and member of Toledo's most authentic hip-hop group - Da Basix.

Personally, I can vouch for this dude as a good per-

son and one of few people in this music scene in this city I can say I trust and respect highly. And I know plenty other artists who feel the same.

We were discussing some business because he's gonna be helping U.G.E. out at our Saturday Night Live Showcase at the Peacock 2-2-08 and then I thought, hell, now is as good a time as any to formally introduce my readers to D.J. MPRESS. Here's the interview.

**Michael Hayes:**

Most people in the Glass City should know your name by now from deejaying at clubs and making music, but for the readers who don't know, tell everyone about D.J. Mpress and all you are involved in right now as far as music and entertainment

**D.J. MPRESS:** I am DJ M.P.R.E.S.S. - it stands for Mixes Popular Records Ever So Smoothly.

I am one of the founders of SOULBEAT Music Group along with my partners Sid Delux and Twin (Derrick Wiggins). We just released Da Basix album called *Return of the Weirdoes* (you should have bought the first two) on myspace. It's the third album by Da Basix (the Essentials and the Soul Shok).

SOULBEAT also has a compilation album coming soon with all the artist from the label: Da Basix, Emmac, Mr. Write, General, Phunk Bros. I also teamed up with my cousin Ramon Rodgers and we are releasing a jazz/r&b album with songs that we co-produced and songs I wrote featuring Tiffany Renee, Darla, Chea and Vitela.

I also hook up with another local crew called Eman-

ipated Soul (Elevated Thinkin and Larry Sparks Jr.). We are currently working on writing some songs for several major label artists. I have a mixtape series coming soon as well so now I'm staying busy.

**MH:** With all of your D.J. experience, what have you learned as far as the musical tastes of Toledo audiences? What do we like to listen to?

**MPRESS:** I've been deejaying for over 10 years and Toledo people pretty much dance to what's hot right now. You have to ease new stuff on them. I'm the type of DJ that will play what you want to hear but I also force feed you new, good, not mainstream music. I like it when I play something underground and people come up and ask "what is that?"

**MH:** So you might have to play Wipe Me Down, Soulja Boy, Walk It Out and all that right?

**MPRESS:** Yeah, you gotta give em what they want, but I might try to sneak some Little Brother or some Lupe Fiasco in there somewhere just to expose the audience to something new.

**MH:** What are your thoughts on the local music scene?

**MPRESS:** I like the local groups that grind. Cats like the Swagga Boys, they grind out and promote themselves, Hustle Hand, the Rockstars, and U.G.E. to name a few. Groups that really put their all into what they believe in. That is why I love SOULBEAT cause it would be easy for us to do

what's popular but that's not where our heart is at. So we stay true to what we love and that's REAL hip-hop.

**MH:** How did you get your start in music as a D.J. and Producer?

**MPRESS:** I've always been into music. Had a big library. When I was in college (Fort Valley State, Ga.) I helped my school start a station. Then I got a job in Macon, Ga. on a station doing odds and ends. When I came back home I played ball for a guy that owned a couple clubs.

After our games (Wednesdays) we went to the club just to talk and kick it. They talked him into letting us



open on that night and told him I could D.J.. So I started doing Club 128. As far as producing, a friend I went to high school with had a group. I used to go to the studio with them and watch. The producers were D.J. Oso one of the baddest in the city on the MPC and Reed Russel. Oso started showing me how to use the mp then the whole crew except me moved to Columbus.

So some years later I bought an mp and taught myself how to use it. I was struggling with it when I ran into Sid Who knew how to use it. We stayed up all night one night showing me pointers and I took them and ran with it.

**MH:** What are your thoughts on the quality of hip-hop these days?

**MPRESS:** I think music like life goes in cycles. It also branches off to different things but comes back to music. Right now I think groups are doing what I call time pieces. Stuff that just meant for whatever season it is now. No disrespect but in 20 years there ain't going to be no Soulja Boy or Wipe Me Down review. Groups like Tribe Called Quest and Wu and KRS can tour forever. It's coming back around to real music again cause that's what it takes to have longevity.

**MH:** Honestly - who did you feel was gonna win that soundscan battle between Kanye and 50 and why?

**MPRESS:** I knew Kanye would win. He has more public appeal. Even if you think he's arrogant you can't front on the music. He's doing cuts with Coldplay that's a whole different target audience. Fifty appeals to only the hustler or wanna be hustler.

**MH:** When it comes to music like Little Brother, I know you're a fan... how did you feel about 9th Wonder splitting from the group?

**MPRESS:** I love little brother and being a producer I gotta love 9th too. And even

That's being real and responsible too.

**MH:** I know J. Dilla was one of your inspirations. How did it affect the Soulbeat crew when he passed?

**MPRESS:** When Dilla passed, man, it affected me. Here was a man that I never personally met but yet he was responsible for me doing music. Him being from Detroit, real close to home making an impact on the world like he did. I see people with them "Dilla changed my life" shirts and he did.

When he was alive he heard some of our music and made a comment on a website about up and coming groups and mentioned us. That was like the highest compliment ever. We were invited to perform at a tribute to him the day of his funeral in Detroit. Me and Sid went early so that we could catch the funeral. We got there late and it was over but we followed these to limos leaving the church not knowing who was inside.

When they got to the house where the limos stopped we asked the driver who was inside. He said it was Dilla's mom. She invited us inside introduced us to other family members and we told her that her son changed our lives and invited her to the show that night. That was big.

**MH:** What would like to see different in '08 as far as the local and national music scene?

**MPRESS:** I would like to see people take more chances in '08. Not just follow what's hot. YOU make the next hot thing. Push the limits of music. I also welcome the resurgence of music with a meaning.

**MH:** Any last comments about what you got going on and upcoming projects?

**MPRESS:** Just keep your eyes open and glued on SOULBEAT Music Group. Be on the lookout for many, many hot projects from the camp. I will be back at Jackson's soon doing first Friday. We did it big all summer at the Peacock. Look for some more of that starting with the big U.G.E. showcase Feb. 2. Hit my myspace page [www.myspace.com/djpress](http://www.myspace.com/djpress) for booking info and to see what we got going on. Thanks for the love and keep supporting me. I do this for the love.

## LIVING BETTER IN 2008

(Continued from Page 12)

make the necessary changes as they become known to you. See I'm doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43:19.

This author believes in Turnaround Time and resolves to do better in 2008.

It is a Leap Year, so leap into a better life and in all things Give Thanks.

Will this be the year African Americans rise high and defy the odds stacked against us? Hope past the dread and envision the promises of doing better.

Blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear. Matthew 13:16. Declaring that I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13.

May your troubles be less, your blessings be

more, and nothing but happiness come through your door a lot more.

### You Don't Know About Life

Life is up  
Life is down  
Look around

Life is sweet  
Life is bitter  
You never know  
Love ones come  
Love ones go  
Life - you must step in

the name of Love  
As you don't always get a second chance

You're here one minute  
The next one you're gone  
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PEACE.

Contact Sharon Guice at Sharon@thesojournerstruth.com

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4 bds to full baths, updated eat-in kitchen w/granite countertops, large deck, large master w/bath and adjacent office, built-in bookshelves.  
**Call Laneta Goings, Welles Bowen, Realtors**  
419.467.9302 or 419.891.0888

**Ms. Althea's Mini-Mart**  
*Special T Shirts - Photo Shoots - Balloons*  
2491 Collingwood - Toledo, Ohio  
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**1748 Bobolink Lane \$255,000**  
4 Bdrm/possible 5 - 3 1/2 baths, Hardwood floors - finished basement, family rm w/bar Beautiful custom Home  
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**324 Williamont \$89,000**  
Washington Schools, 3 bd ranch, family room, master bedroom with half bath, large yard  
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**1146 Pinewood Avenue \$65,000**  
Duplex - Great investment property. New siding and roof (3 years) 1 lower kitchen updated, extra lot.  
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**801 Lincoln Ave. - \$91,900**  
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**5115 Grelyn Drive -\$165,000**  
2 bdrm brick ranch w/attached garage and family sized deck overlooking spacious backyard  
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419.297.2301 for showing

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Everything New: Paint, Carpet, Stove, Refrig. Section 8 OK  
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**1918 Peacock Lane - \$179,000**  
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Office 419.874.1188 - Cell 419.260.0215

**2815 Sagamore - \$125,000**  
3 bdrms; 1.5 baths home; open living and dining room with hardwood floors; family room and enclosed porch.  
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**1408 Shenandoah Road**  
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**380 Pinewood \$130,000**  
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**1158 Vance Street - \$34,900**  
**Great home for a large family, 4 bedrooms/possibly 5, has walk in closets, newer gutters, nice garage.**  
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# CLASSIFIEDS

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**ist Church, Warren AME Church, Imani**  
**Learning Academy and the Zablocki**  
**Senior Center**

The Learning Club of Toledo, a free math and reading after-school program with a 15 year history of success, has immediate openings for students grades 2-12. Early programs operate from 4-5:30 and late programs from 5:30-7:30pm. If interested call 419-360-2842.

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Provides data entry and monitoring of Medicaid eligibility through the CRIS-E computer system. Facilitates program enrollment for PASSPORT, other waivers, & RSS. Some home visits to assist with Medicaid applications. Requires computer/data entry skills. Associates Degree required. Good oral and written communications. Knowledge of Medicaid regulations preferred. Reliable transportation, insurance and driver's license required.

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 Personnel/PASSPORT  
 AOoA  
 2155 Arlington Avenue  
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Human Resources - CSP  
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 EOE

**JANITOR-PLANT**

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Parker Hannifin Corporation  
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EOE M/F/D/V

**RN or LSW**

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Send resumes to:  
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The Upward Bound Program is a federally funded TRIO program which provides intensive services to ensure that low income and potential first generation college students complete their respective secondary programs and are prepared to pursue a postsecondary education.

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Send or fax resume with cover letter to:



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 Toledo, OH 43605  
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# First African-American Sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Celebrates 100 years of Service

(Continued from Page 5)

known as platforms, which aim to strengthen this community with target programs –to charter to the community needs. Incoming president Lisa Dubose is very proud of her sorority's service to others and cannot say that one is better than another.

"It is difficult to choose 'one' favorite program, as I am proud of all of the community-based initiatives that we sponsor and many of our programs are special to me. The Grandparents' Day Recognition Program honors grandparents raising their grandchildren; the Tutorial Program assists at-risk el-

ementary-aged students; the Financial Literacy Program provides students with training on the importance of economic awareness and long-term preparedness; the Showcase of the Arts Program displays the talent of our community in the areas of visual and performing arts; the Ebony Fashion Fair is our major fundraiser which provides support to community organizations and college scholarships to deserving students; and the Holiday Family Adoption effort meets the immediate need of families with children," stated Dubose.

AKA's mission is to serve mankind, and to con-

tinue this legacy the sorority has included targeted efforts called platforms to accomplish these goals for years to come. The five platforms cover all areas of life that affect African-Americans. Platform 1 – Non-Traditional Entrepreneur with Chairman Kimberly Johnson aims to assist women become more profitable and knowledgeable in the field of entrepreneurship. Platform 2 – Economic Keys to Success with Chairman Denise Black-Poon has a goal to use education, synergy and partnership to expand economic development from a local market to a national market. Platform 3



– Economic Growth of the Black Family with Chairman Ethel Files attempts to strengthen black families and to overcome adversities that black males face. Platform 4 – Undergraduate Signature Program with Chairmen Elinor Allen and Clara Petty encourages the use of technology within colleges and universities. Platform 5 – Health Resource Management and Economics with Chairman Theodorsia Tucker strives to uplift individuals physically and mentally to face challenges and acknowledge rewards from life.

To commemorate the sorority's anniversary, thousands of members plan to travel to the birth place of AKA, Howard University in Washington, DC, from January 12-15. The campus will be decorated in sorority col-

ors salmon pink and apple green, while members participate in four-days of tributes, emotional ceremonies, and community service.

The sorority plans to host a ceremony at Mooreland-Spingarn Research Center, which is located on the campus of Howard and houses AKA archival records. Along with the ceremony, the sorority plans to launch the first digital version of their official magazine, *Ivy Leaf*.

The women also plan to uphold their mission statement "to provide service to all mankind," by outreaching to seniors and cancer patients and also by responding to immediate community needs in the DC area. However, the highlight of the celebration will be the dedication of a library, and donation of books and funds

to support the library.

Several chapters will host their own celebration and the local chapters of Zeta Alpha Omega, Iota Iota and Alpha Lambda have planned to celebrate on Saturday, February 2, 2008 at Bowling Green State University beginning at 11:30 a.m.

For additional information on Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority visit their website <http://www.aka1908.com>, and Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter website is <http://www.zetaalphaomega.com>



**Gcreations Events**  
3rd Annual Black Bridal Expo  
Saturday, January 26, 2008  
12:00 – 5:00 P. M.  
Civic Center Promenade – Erie Street Market (Downtown Toledo)

Alexis Means (TV 13) - Fashion Show Commentator  
Prize Giveaways & Vendor Displays  
Marriage Renewal Ceremony (Divia & Howard Holden (31 Years))

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