



Local and National News

www.thetruthtoledo.com

The Sojourner's Truth

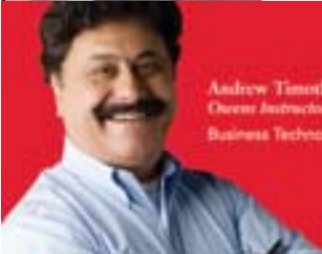
Volume 15, No.08 "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..." December 10, 2008



Denisee Williams
Playwright

In This Issue

- The Truth Editorial Page 2
- My View Page 3
- Rosa Parks Tribute Page 5
- Cover Story: Denisee Williams Page 6
- Foreclosure Prevention Page 7
- The Study Club Page 8
- NANBPWC Inductees Page 9
- Neely's Real Estate Page 10
- School for the Arts Page 11
- Minister Talent Review Page 12-13
- BlackMarketPlace Page 14
- Classifieds Page 15
- Three Generations of Hunters Page 16



Andrew Timothy
Chemistry Instructor
Business Technology

HIGHER EDUCATION. Beyond Textbooks.

An average class size of 15 and teaching-focused faculty with real-world knowledge will make your Owens education a quality experience.

REGISTER NOW! • www.owens.edu
Classes begin Jan 8. • Weekend classes begin Jan. 16.



OWENS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

Thanks to Mayor Carty Finkbeiner, Take Back Toledo is now front page news. You probably had no idea that a group called Take Back Toledo existed prior to the events of Monday afternoon. If you knew of their existence at all, you probably did not know exactly what they wanted to take back and from whom. After all, the group's existence had only been reported in the second section of The Blade a few days earlier.

The group wants, in fact, to take back Toledo from Mayor Carty Finkbeiner. Acknowledging that, if such recall action is successful, he would be removed from office with about three months left on his term, the group still feels that a statement should be made about how the mayor's fiscal irresponsibility has created an unfriendly business environment.

Overreacting as usual, the mayor held a "press conference" on Monday before a room full of interested observers and a great many city employees who were there on city time, to denounce his detractors and assail their intentions and their character.

What may have been merely a fringe group, undercapitalized and under-publicized, has now been promoted to the big time ... and the front page. Above the fold.

In this matter, if in no other, they have to be grateful to the mayor. He has given them credibility.

In time the group will use this very action of the mayor to their advantage. They will especially take note of the fact that the mayor's chief of staff sent an email to the city's directors, commissioners and managers "requesting" their presence at the press conference "if at all possible." The message asked members of the city's management to bring others with them to the assembly and added that "the mayor needs our support."

We think it might have been more appropriate to request their presence on one of those three days during which city employees would be laid off as a cost savings measure. That way, they could drop by City Hall on their own time which would really demonstrate their support, particularly given the political nature of the "request" in the first place.

The real goal of Take Back Toledo, according to its founders, is to position the group to back a mayoral contender in the upcoming November 2009 campaign. And, so far, although only one prominent candidate has announced - Democrat Keith Wilkowski - there seems to be no shortage of names being bandied about as others explore their chances. Finkbeiner himself has declined so far to say whether or not he will run for re-election.

Certainly he has done himself no good by stepping forward in such a manner to defend himself. We would find it hard to believe that Take Back Toledo had planned their actions in a way deliberately calculated to draw such a response from the mayor. That would under normal circumstances take an extraordinary bit of foresight. On the other hand, we can always count on some amount of overreaction, can't we?

* * * * *

It looks as if Detroit's Big Three are going to get their loans from the federal government and for all this largesse Congress is asking, among other things, the appointment of a "car czar" to oversee Big Three operations. Such interference in private industry by the public sector has conservative observers, and not a few conservatives in Congress, concerned, to say the least.

We don't share that concern - at least not about the necessity of having a car czar. We have many concerns about the efficacy of making such a loan in the first place even as we watch Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson wheel and deal with the first part of the financial institutions' \$700 billion bailout package. That plan had, to this point, no bank czar and the banks proceeded to do just what they wanted to do with the taxpayers' money - pay shareholders' dividends (how you can pay dividends to owners when the company is losing money is one of life's great mysteries) and hoard funds for future acquisitions.

There is one easy way to keep the government out of private industry - keep the shop running well enough so that you don't have to go crawling to Congress seeking help. You want help ... you get interference. Take the money or leave it.

The Sojourner's Truth

1811 Adams Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604
Phone 419-243-0007 • Fax 419-255-7700
Published weekly on Wednesday

Subscribe to The Truth Today!

26 Weeks - Only \$40.00 52 Weeks - only \$70.00

Name: _____ Phone# (____) _____ - _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send your check or money order to:

Community Calendar

December 11

Foreclosure Prevention Seminar: Sanger Branch Library; 4 to 6 pm; Sponsored by Library and Fifth Third Bank; Guest speaker LC Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz: 419-418-6677

December 12

Graduation for TPS Adult Education: Summit Annex near Riverside Hospital; 5 pm; Students in Practical Nursing, ABLE/GED, Barber Academy, Nurse Aide, Aviation Technology: 419-671-8700

ASSETS Toledo 27th Graduation Ceremony: St. Charles Hospital-Oregon Room; Social Hour at 6, Graduation at 7; Keynote speaker is Erik Johnson pfIvy Development Agency: 419-251-9870

December 13

"An Appreciation Service:" Majestic Praise Ministries honors Jason C. Carter; 6 pm: 419-250-3479

Toledo Business Networking/Expo: Sponsored by ASSETS Toledo and Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc; Garden Lake Hall; 11 am to 4 pm: 419-251-9870

Mega Garage Sale: Bethlehem Baptist Church New Life Center: 10 am to 4 pm; Crafts, holiday gifts, pictures taken with Santa: 419-578-1620

Braden United Methodist Church Free Dinner for Homeless: Noon to 2 pm
Christmas Decorations Bazaar: Church of the Living God; 11 am to 3 pm; Holiday décor for home, church or school

December 14

Clarence Smith Community Christmas Concert: Christian Community Church; 6 pm; Free musical event: 419-534-3370 or www.cscchorus.com

Ebenezer Baptist Church Musical Candlelight Service: Presented by Mass Choir; 5 pm

Afro-Semitic Experience: Temple Congregation Shomer Emunim; 3:30 pm; Cross cultural band that delivers positive and meaningful musical message about Jewish-black relations: 419-885-3341

Ascension Lutheran Church: 55th Anniversary Celebration; Guest speaker Councilwoman Wilma Brown; 10:30 am; Dinner to follow: 419-893-6754

End Time Christian Fellowship First Sermon: Wayne Corrgens's first sermon; 6 pm: 419-754-1177

December 21

Benefit Concert: Indiana Avenue MBC; 5 pm; Featuring First Creation, Dorinda Clark-Coles Singers and Musicians Conference, Jesse Coleman and The Affinity Band, Friendship Full Gospel Baptist Choir: 419-508-2636

White Elephant Sale: All Saints Episcopal; Noon to 2 pm

December 25

Merry Christmas!!

4th Annual Free Christmas Dinner: Thomas Temple COGIC; 1 to 3 pm; Dine in only

The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American
Owned and Operated Newspaper

Kevin McQueen
Fletcher Word
Becky McQueen

Alexis Randles
Geneva J. Chapman
James Fowler
Artisha Lawson
Jack Ford
Michael J. Hayes

Jason L. Lee Sr.
Jennifer Retholtz
Pamela Anderson
Kathy Sweeny

Publisher
Publisher and Editor
Business Manager

Reporter
Reporter
Reporter
Reporter
Political Columnist
Entertainment Critic

Layout Designer
Webmaster
Sales Representative
Ad Creation

A Certified MBE, 2007

The Sojourner's Truth, 1811 Adams Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604
Phone 419-243-0007 • Fax 419-255-7700
thetruth@thetruthtoledo.com
www.thetruthtoledo.com

My View



By Jack Ford
The Truth's Political Columnist

The Blade telegraphed their feelings on the case by the way they wrote the story. "A seasoned, well connected "employee was fired. Then followed a recount of all the SNAFUS at EOPA recently. It made the board look like a review of "Amos and Andy" ouch!

This issue may pivot on whether Mr. Culp is at-will employee or one who can be terminated for "just cause". If Mr. Culp is a "just cause" employer, the EOPA board of directors will be smart of they give Culp a board hearing for his appeal. The board should look at the issue De Novo and decide what is fair and just. EOPA cannot afford another layer of mess.

Both Carty and John Block are friends with Culp. Culp is Cartys main go to guy in the black community of Toledo, even though 20 years ago during the first firing, Carty was a counsel member who did not vote to support the settlement for Culp. Crazy, is it not?

The stated budget deficit may provide the "crisis"

that Gov. Strickland needs to reform the way Ohio pays for school financing. He could move off the property tax and its inherent unfairness to black and poor kids in the state of Ohio. No one really knows what an "adequate" foundation is for our children but the property tax is really arbitrary.

Last Sunday, Lee Conklin used my column in The Truth to raise the name of Mike Ashford to the mayoral stable. Then, Lee and Neff commented on how many committee meetings Mike has missed on City Council. Rubbish. Many council committee meetings are useless and the savvy councilmember can discern which meeting is must attend and which are not. When I was a council member and in the legislature, I often had conflicting appointments. So I would pick which meeting was the more important.

Both Troy Neff and Conklin chastised Mike for not returning phone calls. Mike, pick up the

phone and return the calls. Now, Tom Terrific, if you are reading this, you are thinking "hey Ford doesn't return my calls." That's right. I do not trust you.

Getting back to Mike Ashford, let me end with three brief points. First, Mike has received pretty good press but he has not had his name on the ballot in East Toledo, Point Place,

Tribley, Lincolnshire, Reynolds Corners, or all of South Toledo. By contrast, Ludeman has Run County wide and Sarantou has run city wide 3 times. Who gets the edge in voter identification?

Second Mike is somewhat reticent in taking political chances or challenging the unions.

Third Mike Ashford can

run from cover in '2009'. He remains on council even with a loss for Mayor if he runs. Maybe a mayoral run gets his name out there for a future run, or maybe he gets hot and wins the whole thing like Obama.

Or, maybe Mike Bell gets in and takes the white yuppie support and blows everyone else away.

Lots of drama over at EOPA. Just when several media outlets celebrate the 20th anniversary of the pastor's takeover of Toledo city council in protest over the firing of then commissioner Pete Culp, the EOPA administration decided to fire him. Huh! I think it was pretty lousy timing. I think they need some public relations training at EOPA. I am sure Theresa Gabriel is having a good laugh! Miss T, by the way, never takes a whipping without a tough fight. Give her the props she deserves.

Divine Mandate? Naw ... I'd Rather Trust the Courts!

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

Well, my dear readers, it is time for another one of those annoying pop quizzes that test both your mettle and your IQ and ... maybe your common sense. So, here we go!

Without peeking at the below answers, there are five questions that need your honest input. You have five minutes to answer all five questions. Go.

(1) If God gives you a divine mandate to speak out on his behalf, should you obey it? Yes. No. Maybe. (If I am sure it is God and not my answering to last night's pizza that had too many anchovies).

(2) If you so speak out, do you have a backup plan just in case, things get hot and you gotta bail? Yes. No. Maybe (If I can run to the courts and get possible alternate relief then it is a good thing!).

(3) If you speak out and



get slammed by the media or your employer, do you keep a steady path or do you "cry in your beer" about these messy mandates? Yes. No. Maybe (Only if crying will help me if this mandate gets me in a tough spot).

(4) If you have second thoughts about this mandate due to the pressure that it brought on you, do you try to get others to back you? Yes. No.

Maybe (If those others can support me and they will

vouch for my mandate!).

(5) If your mandate from God is/was true, do you stand your ground and take the economic or political hit and know that God will back you up and his mandate? Yes. No. Maybe (If I did not fully calculate the costs of obeying the mandate, I want out!).

Ok. Time is up. Let's check your answers: 1-yes/2-no/3-no/4-no/5-yes.

If you did not get all five answers correct, you need to "stand down" and not issue mandates from God about homosexuals or other controversial topics unless you are willing to both start divine and end divine.

Playing prophet or prophetic is no trivial thing. Either you wear the camel cloth and eat the locusts and honey or come in out of the desert and sit in the comfy palace and

(Continued on Page 4)



PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, AND EVERYONE WHO CARES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

If you want to provide your kids with the skills they'll need to enter kindergarten, tune in to this fun, engaging series filled with information and support for your role as your child's first teacher.

Do you know a child care provider in your neighborhood or community that deserves a little recognition? **Nominate a child care provider**, and give them the respect and appreciation they deserve. For a nomination form visit www.wgte.org or call 419-380-4638.

AIRS ON: **wgte** TV Weekdays at 5:30 a.m.



It's 'Crystal' Clear - University of Toledo Message to Christian Employees: Shut UP

Special to The Truth

ANN ARBOR, MI - "A despicable double standard." That's what Thomas More Law Center President, Richard Thompson said as he blasted The University of Toledo's response justifying its firing of Crystal Dixon from her post as associate VP for Human Resources.

Thompson was reacting to a press statement released by the university that claimed Dixon's firing was about her ability to perform her sensitive job as associate vice president for human resources because of her statements in the Toledo Free Press.

Dixon's past job performance at the university - spanning six years and all in Human Resources - has always been outstanding. Her last job evaluation was excellent. In July 2007, Dixon was promoted to interim associate VP for Human Resources over all UT campuses.

One month before she was fired, she was made permanent associate VP for Human Resources (no longer interim). Of course all that changed once she publicly expressed her private views on homosexuality based upon her Christian faith.

Thompson pointed to the fact that less than six months before Dixon was fired over her comments, the university's vice provost, Carol Bresnahan, publicly attacked Christians who opposed domestic partnership laws, without being fired. Thompson said, "The University of Toledo has displayed a double standard that trashes the right to free speech. UT's president encourages those who support the radical homosexual agenda to speak out, but punishes Christians who oppose the agenda."

In a December 22, 2007 Toledo Blade article, UT Provost Bresnahan, identified as an official of the university, attacked those who opposed the law on domestic partnership registry as bigots. She said, "It's their religious beliefs, and bigotry in the name of religion

(Continued on Page 4)

Shut Up

(Continued from Page 3)

is still bigotry.”
 Bresnahan, an admitted lesbian, was in effect attacking Toledo Catholic Bishop Leonard Blair who publicly expressed disappointment on behalf of many people in Toledo regarding the registry law enacted by the Toledo City Council.
 This past May, Dixon was fired by the university's president because she responded to an opinion article written by the editor-in-chief of the *Toledo Free Press* entitled, "Gay Rights and Wrongs." Dixon wrote a letter of response based on her personal perspective. She wrote, "As a Black woman ... I take great um-

brage at the notion that those choosing the homosexual lifestyle are 'civil rights victims.' Here's why. I cannot wake up tomorrow and not be a Black woman. I am genetically and biologically a Black woman and very pleased to be so as my Creator intended."
 Further proof of the double standard was the UT president's speech at a "Celebrate Diversity Week" rally in March 2007. He urged his audience to speak out about diversity. He said "If you have something to say, speak out and speak up. Speak up and never let it be said that people can't hear you. You are important to

this university. You are important to me, I care about you." Apparently, he did not mean Christians who oppose the homosexual agenda.
 The Thomas More Law Center defends and promotes the religious freedom of Christians, time-honored family values, and the sanctity of human life through education, litigation, and related activities. It does not charge for its services. The Law Center is supported by contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations and is recognized by the IRS as a section 501(c)(3) organization.

Mandate

(Continued from Page 3)

play bridge with Herod and the boys.
 Regrettably Crystal Dixon does not like to walk in the sand and the camel cloth is slightly irritating.
 You remember Crystal? She is the University of Toledo employee who spoke up (rightly so) about the fact that homosexuals can not compare their "plight" to that of the civil rights struggle (that is true).
 However, a livid Dr. Lloyd Jacobs, who is president of the university, canned her on the grounds that she compromised her job (no evidence of that) when she would have to

make choices regarding hiring and some of those potential hires could be "gender compromised."
 Universities are not the bastions of free speech as we like to believe.
 They can and have made regulations about what goes on in their private fiefdoms and if a person rattles their pet projects or pet groups, that troublemaker can face retribution.
 Crystal Dixon was that troublemaker and she is now suing the university on grounds of free speech and equal protection. If the university can show that she compromised her job and/or others were

similarly treated as she was, she loses.
 However, if Crystal can show that others spoke out on equally hot topics and were employees of the university and they were not canned and no one was denied a job due to their sexual orientation, she wins.
 Who is the temporary "loser?" Mandates from God ... and Crystal for stating she was under a divine mandate but fumbled the ball when she was blindsided by Herod (a/k/a: Dr. Jacobs) who subsequently ordered her head to be placed on a silver platter.

W.L. Barnes Way Becomes a Reality

Special to The Truth



TTrue Vine Missionary Baptist Church Pastor Emeritus W. L. Barnes was born in 1918 and graduated from Scott High School. He is currently 90 years old.

He became the pastor of True Vine in February 1944 at the age of 26 and served that congregation for 50 years. During that time he spearheaded the construction of two new houses of worship, he organized the

State Line Baptist Church and he led True Vine through difficult financial times.

Barnes received a B.T.H. degree from Michigan Theological Seminary in 1953.

Barnes was married to the late Ozie Barnes for over 50 years.

As a member of the community, Barnes always found interests. He served as vice moderator of the Toledo

District Association, he was a member of the Stickney Area Ministers Conference, the Neighborhood Association and Block Watch of North Toledo. He was a member of the Baptist Ministers Conference.

Last week, Barnes was honored by Toledo City Council and a portion of Russell Street was designated as "W.L. Barnes Way."

FROM THE WRITER OF "A SECOND CHANCE AT CHRISTMAS"
 A New Spirit Filled Gospel Play
At the House I Live In

Written and Directed by Denise Williams

Presented at the Collingwood Arts Center, 2413 Collingwood Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43620
 December 11, 2008 - 7:00pm
 Ticket

\$16.00 - Advance Purchase, \$17.00 - Door, \$18.00 - Students w/valid ID
 Tickets available at the following locations:
 Henry's Jewelry & Giftware, 4909 Linn Street, Toledo, Ohio 43615, (419) 535-7967
 Jack's Men's Wear, 3414 Dorr Street, Toledo, Ohio 43607, (419) 536-1231

GCREATIONS
 4TH ANNUAL BLACK BRIDAL EXPO
 JANUARY 31, 2009

"Cleaning Your Special Day"
Bethlehem Life Center
 1400 W. Bancroft Street
 Toledo, OH
 12:00 - 5:00

Music By
DJ Keith Success

Breaker Displays
 Bridal Fashion Show
 Price Giveaways
 Marriage Renewal Ceremony
 2008 Bridal Directory
 Entertainment

Vendors Reserve Your Space Today!
 Vendor Discount Packages

Advertise with The Sojourner Truth and receive a 50% Vendor Discount!
 Contact: Pam Anderson
 419-343-6947

Vendors Where Are You?
 Accessories
 Bakers
 Beauticians
 Beauty Consultants
 Bridal Consultants
 Caterers
 Event Planners
 Florists
 DJs/Dancers
 Floral
 Fossil Wear
 Gifts
 Jewelers
 Limousine Services
 Photographers
 Massage Therapist
 Musicians
 Rentals
 Transportation
 Suits
 Stationery
 Travel
 Venues
 Videographers

Gcreations LLC
419-346-5275
 Gcreationsevents@yahoo.com

A portion of proceeds to support More Than A Nation, Inc. (M-T-N)
 "Empowering Single Parents Households"

Photo: Fabrice For. Photo: Photographer
 Bridal Gown: Sam Fajalish, Model: Barbara

Toledo Community Celebrates Legacy of Rosa Parks

By Nadean Hamilton
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Despite the bitter cold, and less than desirable driving conditions, dozens braved the elements by venturing outdoors on Saturday, Dec. 6, to take part in the 2008 Tribute to Rosa Parks held at the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library McMaster Center.

The annual event kicked off with Master of Ceremony Ravi Perry providing a brief overview of several key events leading up to Rosa Parks refusal to relinquish her seat to a white man on Dec. 1, 1955, an act which led to her arrest and subsequently sparked the Montgomery Bus Boy-

cott.

"It is not simply because Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat that we celebrate her achievements today, rather it is the strategic timing and politically calculating skill with which she quietly defied an unjust law that she is so appropriately honored today," Perry said.

Several public officials were also on hand to pay tribute to Parks, including Mayor Carty Finkbeiner, who told the audience that when he looks into the eyes of Parks' photograph, he is reminded of another African-American leader who

changed the political landscape of our nation.

"If you look at Rosa Parks eyes and her gaze, and you look in his serious moments at the eyes of the president-elect of the United States, you will see the same purposefulness, you will see vision," said Finkbeiner.

Senator Teresa Fedor and State Representative Edna Brown also spoke about Parks legacy.

"When I think of Rosa Parks, I think of determination, and in these eyes, you see determination," said Fedor.

Brown, who was the first African-American woman from Lucas County



Dontai Robinson, Isis Darks, Olivia Phifer, and Christopher Wilson

elected to the Ohio House of Representatives, says she often thinks about how her life may have turned out differently had it not been for Parks.

"I most certainly have to give thanks to those who paved the way for me such as Mrs. Parks," said Brown.

This year's celebration was expanded to include a student award ceremony in recognition of Toledo area youths who submitted written essays, poems, short stories, and songs expressing how the legacy of Rosa Parks made a difference in their lives.

Among those honored were Olivia Phifer, Dontai Robinson, Christopher Wilson, Shelby Harrigan, Isis Darks, and Shi Ho Wang.

First place winner Olivia Phifer, an aspiring attorney and Maumee Valley Country Day School sophomore, says

Parks' determination is what inspired her the most.

"She stood up for what she believed was right, and she wasn't thinking about anyone else when she sat on that bus, and so I think that is something to follow in life...to not let anything outside of your life push you around," said Phifer.

Phifer, an accomplished piano and violin player who manages to find time to participate in numerous community service projects including Race for the Cure and Children's Cluster at Jack and Jill of America, Inc., offered advice to other students who aspire to academic success.

"Set some goals to reach for and from then on you'll have a clear path of what you need to do," said Phifer.

First runner-up Dontai Robinson, an eighth-grader at McTigue Middle

School, plans to attend the Toledo Technology Academy next year in hopes that the school will prepare him for a career as a computer technician.

"I plan to fly when I attend Toledo Technology Academy ... and thank you Mrs. Parks for making it possible for me to have these opportunities," Robinson said upon taking the stage.

Second place winner Christopher Wilson, aspiring journalist and Whitmer High School junior, says that Parks strength in the face of adversity is what inspires him to strive for excellence.

"This is not just a what she means to me essay, I wanted to show people how brave she really was, there were threats against her life, but that did not put any stutter in her step," Wilson told the audience.

(Continued on Page 7)

3.50% APY*
6-MONTH TERM CD

4.00% APY*
13-MONTH TERM CD

Invest in your future with Fifth Third Bank. You'll get guaranteed returns on your balances, and you can rest easy. Plus, it's available at your nearest Fifth Third Bank, so it's convenient. Give us a call at 1-877-579-5353 or visit 53.com to see what we can do for you.



Deposit balances are insured up to the maximum amount permitted by law. Please visit www.53.com for insurance coverage limitations. *Annual Percentage Yield (APY) accurate as of 12/10/08. A Fifth Third checking account is required to receive the stated rate. Rate does not apply to balances earned on deposit with Fifth Third Bank. \$2,000 minimum deposit required to open. Penalty for early withdrawal. FDIC. Third reserves the right to adjust rate offered. Not available for commercial and business accounts. Fifth Third Bank Member FDIC.

Vince Davis State Farm, Vince Davis Insurance Agency

712 Sherman St, At Cherry | Toledo, Ohio 43608
Ph: (419) 244-2904 | Fax: (419) 244-4105 | Cell: (419) 509-0326
vince.davis.bun1@statefarm.com vinedavisinsurance.com

Auto | Fire | Life
Health | Long Term Care
Medicare Supplements
Financial Services
IN BUSINESS FOR 23 YEARS

Denisee Williams

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

Denisee Williams' second play opens this Saturday at the Collingwood Arts Center. "*The House I Live In* is about faith," says Williams. "It's about a family, a church and the different levels of faith in one house. When things happen – traumatic things – can we sustain that faith and know that God will take care of us?"

Williams wrote *The House I Live In* three years ago on the heels of her successful debut – *Second Chance at Christmas* – which she wrote six years ago after one of those inspirational moments about which one usually only dreams. Indeed the inspiration was a dream.

"I was asleep, having a dream," recalls Williams when asked how she started her play-wrighting avocation. "Everything just played out in my mind. It was about three o'clock in the morning and I had to get up and start writing."

Second Chance, which was produced numerous times during the following three years – at The University of Toledo and various area churches – parallels the famous Charles Dickens' *Christmas Carol*.

"It's about a deacon who has been in the church for years," says Williams. "He has a lot of wealth and status but he does not have Christ in his heart. After a while, he encounters three angels and turns his life around."

While Williams may be new to the world of crafting stage plays, given her background and love for musical plays, it may only have



been a matter of time before she began to devote her full energies to creating plays.

A longtime member of St. Mark's Missionary Baptist Church, Williams is a self-described "Christian with a love for working with young people and singing gospel music."

In the late 1970's the church choir recorded two albums entitled *Our Day Will Come* and *In Spirit and Truth*, written and produced by Daryl Ellis. Williams was a lead vocalist on both albums and traveled with the recording choir to their many engagements.

During a stint in Pomona, California, Williams was a member of the New Providence Baptist Church and

was one of the lead vocalists in that church's choir as well. In 1989, the choir at New Providence entered the McDonald Gospel Fest and won the competition. She has also performed in the gospel musical *Precious Lord*, starring Beau Williams of Star Search. *Precious Lord* is about the life of Thomas Dorsey, 'the father of gospel music.' Denisee Williams played Dorsey's wife in that production.

So while Williams may have been new to the writing end of the gospel musical format, she was clearly familiar with the art form when inspiration struck her that morning six years ago. In fact, she felt confident enough to also direct that

first play, as she has this second one.

"I think I've done very well," she says of her directing abilities. Part of the reason for her success, she believes, is her ability to bring out the best in those whom she works with. "I'm

centered around the McKessen family. The father, David, is a staunch Christian with a "Job-like faith" says Williams. Unshakeable, in fact.

The mother, Lana – "when she's confronted by a situation in which some

other son, James, is the good son, the one preparing for college and the apple of his parents' eye.

According to Williams, the cast and crew of *The House I Live In* numbers around 75 and includes performers from a variety of local churches such as Friendship Baptist, Mt. Pilgrim, Macedonia, Northwester and True Church of God.

Williams' third play is in the works.

A native of Toledo, Williams attended DeVilbiss High School and the Toledo University Community College. She has worked for the Toledo Public Schools for a total of 17 years and is currently a secretary with the TPS Intern Program. Williams is the mother of three: Tanisha, Janitra and Shay Toine.

The House I Live In will be performed this Saturday, December 13 at 7 p.m. at the Collingwood Arts Center.

"It was about three o'clock in the morning and I had to get up and start writing."

excited when I see people who have these talents but have not pursued them," says Williams.

She also gets excited by the fact that she is delivering an important message. "What I love to do ... it really is a ministry. I want to get the message out about Christ," says the playwright.

The House I Live In is

excited when I see people who have these talents but have not pursued them," says Williams.

One son, Justin, is a believer but is of an age when he wants to fit in and believes he needs more of everything, especially money, to do so. He gets caught up in this material trap.

Daughter Nia has not yet acquired her faith and the

THE LIGHTS BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Over a million lights... (go ahead... count 'em!)

Through December 31
(Closed Christmas Eve & Christmas Day)

And don't miss Noon Year's Eve on December 31 - Our family-friendly New Year's celebration!

Visit www.toledozoo.org for details

Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union

"It's Your Turn"

Free Checking
Savings & Loans
Pay All Utility Bills
Free Tax Service

1339 Derr Street
419-255-8876

Fifth Third Bank and Sanger Library to Host a Foreclosure Prevention Seminar

A special program designed for those at risk of foreclosure will be held from 4 - 6 p.m. on Thursday, December 11, 2008 at the Sanger Library, 3030 West Central Avenue, Toledo.

The seminar, co-hosted by Fifth Third Bank and the Sanger Branch of the Toledo Lucas County Library, will feature Lucas County Treasurer Wade Kapszukiewicz as the guest speaker.

According to Elizabeth Kollar, senior vice president, Mortgage, Fifth Third Bank (Northwestern Ohio), "The key to addressing a situation where foreclosure might be on the horizon is to seek help early. Waiting is the worst thing a borrower can do. Speaking with your lender before the situation gets out of hand is the best approach. The seminar will address the steps that should be taken."

Attendees will hear about "Loss Mitigation" from Fifth Third Bank and learn what the lender requires to consider a mortgage loan for a workout plan; Fair Housing and NODA will discuss programs to prevent foreclosure; Consumer Credit Counseling Service will explain how financial counseling can help consumers through the loss mitigation process; Neighborhood Housing Services will offer a variety of foreclosure prevention solutions and Veterans Service Commission will share assistance that is available for veterans and their families. A question and answer period will follow the presentations.

Seating is limited. Reservations can be made by calling 419-418-6677.

The Truth Art Gallery

1811 Adams Street,
Toledo, Ohio 43604
Phone: 419.243.0007

Ramon Tiggs, Curator

For event information contact:

Glenda D. Brown
Director of Events
419.346.5275

Email: gcreationevents@yahoo.com



The Truth Art Gallery and Events Center is dedicated to providing professional services for your next event. We invite you to come and view the art gallery and see the many possibilities that we offer for having your special event at this special venue.

Gallery Hours:

Mon - Fri: 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sat and Sun: By appointment

Poems from Guantanamo: The Detainees Speak

Join the ACLU of Ohio Northwest Chapter and the Northwest Ohio Peace Coalition for reading from *Poems from Guantanamo: The Detainees Speak*, edited by Marc Falkoff, attorney for 17 Guantanamo prisoners. This event will be held on Wednesday, December 12 at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Sanger Branch, at 7 p.m. A collection of poems written by detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the book is available only because of the efforts of *pro bono* attorneys who submitted each line to the Pentagon for scrutiny. These poems – some originally written in toothpaste or scratched into foam cups with pebbles – poignantly illustrate the very un-American human rights violations our country is committing in the name of freedom. Free and open to the public. For more information, call (216) 472-2220 or 419-242-7317.

Parks

(Continued from Page 5)

"My life would be so much different if it had not been for her."

Fourth place winner Isis Darks, Start High School junior, accomplished classical music composer and sister to first runner-up Dontai



Robinson, says that ability to make sacrifices to benefit others is what she admires the most about Parks.

"She sparked opportunities for people like Barack Obama and Colin Powell," said Darks.

The 2008 Tribute to Rosa concluded with keynote speaker John Jones, president and CEO of the Greater Toledo Urban League, giving a rousing speech challenging the status quo in the City of Toledo.

"There's a whole lot going on in Toledo and I know what I say may make some people angry and, unfortunately, I don't care," Jones said.



"Seasoned, established and entrenched veterans in the room, you have the opportunity to lay a great example out in front of these young folks, but will we get away from the egos and agendas, the organizational fear of losing power that causes us to not do what we need to do today to effect change?"

Jones went on to tell the audience that although he was excited about Barack Obama's victory, he alone, cannot change our lot in life.

"Be excited that we've got a president-elect walking into the office, be excited that he's a man of color, be excited that it's the first time that this has happened in the history of our nation, but let your excitement turn into action...the kind of action that creates change for our children," said Jones

"Everybody's not a leader, I understand that, but in our own ways, and in our own individual pockets of community, we can lead," Jones continued.

"If you trust in the Almighty Father...and believe that you can be the change that you want too see, I am confident that Toledo has a bright future ahead of it, Ohio has a bright future ahead of it, and this nation has a bright future ahead of it."

JAVÄ Printz.
Custom T-Shirts - Logo Design - Team Uniforms - Promotional Merchandise
"Amazing Prices" * No Minimum Quantities *
614-762-6689
www.javaprintz.com
Mention code: ST1209 and receive a 10% discount on your first order!

Hospice helped our family reach a final goal.

Having my dad at graduation made my wish come true, too.



HOSPICE
OF NORTHWEST OHIO

"My husband, Willie, found out nothing more could be done for his cancer. He still had one last goal: to see our daughter, Joya, graduate from nursing school – which was nearly a year away.

"Hospice of Northwest Ohio provided care for Willie, right in our home. I believe their expertise helped him live to see the graduation, and made a lot more good days possible for him along the way."

Laura, Willie's Wife

"Whenever we had questions, Hospice explained every answer. They knew what to provide even before we knew what to ask for. And the staff connected on a personal level, too. My dad's nurse was like part of our family.

"Hospice made all the arrangements to get dad to my graduation, including the wheelchair and portable oxygen. Having dad see me cross that stage meant the world to me. Now that I'm an RN, I know great care when I see it. My dad had the best."

Joya, Willie's Daughter

Hospice can help make the end of life meaningful and fulfilling.
To learn more, ask for our FREE brochure series, "Hospice Answers."
Call 419-661-4001 or visit hospicenwo.org.

Answers for Living the Last Months of Life™

Visit us online at thetruthtoledo.com

Toledo's Historic Study Hour Club Celebrates Diamond Anniversary

By Artisha S. Lawson
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Members and friends of The Study Hour Club celebrated their 75th anniversary with their annual Christmas luncheon on Saturday, December 6 at Central Park West.

The organization began in 1933 when founder Bessie March gathered with charter members Elizabeth English, Della Field, Edwine Ferguson, Inez Gibson, Reba Harris, Constance Heslip, Katherine Highwarden, Irene Hill, Edna Hobbs, Georgine Johnson, Elizabeth Wanzo, Jeanette Price, Ollie Randolph, Anna Singleton and Ella P. Stewart.

Throughout the years the club continued to stick with their main objective of reading, studying, reviewing, and/or discussing books, current events and



topics of interest which might enhance the cultural and mental development of the group.

The group named itself "The Study Hour Club" and adopted "Strive to Excel" as its motto and has sponsored public meetings which featured Langston Hughes, Arna Bontemps, Countee Cullen, E. Simms Campbell, Phillipa Duke Schuyler and Camilla Williams.

In more recent years, the club has continued its commitment to the community by hosting programs that included authors Eddie B. Allen, Justin Fenwick, Sherlon Pack-Brown, Ph.D., and Linda Whittington-Clark, Ph.D. The club has also worked in collaboration with the local Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. chapter to study the impact of fraternities and sororities and also the significance of the Underground Railroad.

To celebrate their milestone, the club welcomed over 250 guests to their

Christmas luncheon. The event opened with words from club President Shirley Clay and program Chairman Elizabeth Bannister, a mini-play with hats and a PowerPoint presentation which covered the last 75

years of the organization's history.

The presentation was divided into decades and included an image and information on their founder, information on the club's first officers, activities completed by the club throughout the years and concluded with a memorandum of deceased members and event news clip from newspapers.

Event Chairman Lillian Spaulding expressed her

pride that her organization was celebrating a diamond anniversary and thanked the group's friends and family for celebrating with her. "Yes, this is our diamond anniversary, our 75th anniversary, and you look like you're ready to celebrate. We are delighted to have you join us to celebrate this special occasion."

As in years past, the event ended with everyone

(Continued on Page 9)





Fairview
Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

**Welcome to
Fairview Skilled Nursing &
Rehab!**

Welcome to Fairview Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center! We are a facility dedicated to providing quality, compassionate, and innovative health care. Fairview bridges the gap between the hospital and home when a short-term rehabilitation stay is needed. We also provide a wonderful environment for those that come to us needing long-term care. We invite you to be a part of us.

We are Family Serving Families




Darrick Beckwith
Community Relations
Asst. Executive Director

4420 South Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43615
Office: 419-531-4201 * Fax: 419-531-3607

**CALL FREE ON YOUR CELL PHONE
TO ANY PHONE IN THE WORLD!!**

Hot New Technology



Free Mobile-to-Mobile
Free Mobile-to-Landline
Free Landline-to-Mobile
Free Landline-to-Landline

JUST PLUG IT
Just \$20/month
Unlimited Calls to USA and 30+ Countries



*No Need For Internet, Broadband, Computer
All you need is local phone service.*

**GREAT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
JUST STARTING IN USA**

giConnect
Any time, any way, any place

419.740.5220

Study Hour

(Continued from Page 8)



singing two classic Christmas songs – “Joy to the World,” and “Silent Night.”

Club President Shirley

The club is led by officers: President Shirley Clay, Vice President Elizabeth Bannister, Recording Secretary Vivian Bush, Corre-

Paula Hicks-Hudson, Anne Johnson, Gwen Jones, Marjory Jones, Patsy Stephens Kiros, Marcella Livisay, Tamara Mickler, Laura Palmer, Rose Marie Parker, Ruby Peoples, Equilla G. Roach, Genie Ross, Odessa Rowan, Dorothy Smith, Lillian Spaulding, Emma Sutton, Barbara Tucker, Denise Usher, Ethel Walden and Linnie Willis. Emeritus members are Louise Alexander, Dorothy Dennis, Faye Fenwick and Shirley Walker.

“I joined in 1997 because I liked the cultural identity it gave to the community...”~Shirley Clay

Clay recalled when she joined the organization back in 1997. “I joined in 1997 because I liked the cultural identity it gave to the community and because it brings news worthy people in the field of education to speak on certain topics,” said Clay.

sponding Secretary Phyllis Stephens, Treasurer Jettie Sansbury and Keeper of Records Marianne Payne. Members include Jeanette Bradley, Judi Copeland, Phyllis Crockrel, Zenobia Faulkner, Kathryn Franklin, Joyce Frost, Edith Gholston, Mattie Hamilton,

NANBPWC Welcomes Five New Members with Induction Ceremony

Special to The Truth



The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Clubs, Inc. Toledo Club, welcomed five new members on December 2 with a dinner at the Girl Scouts of America office on Collingwood Blvd. The new members are Bonita Brazzell, Glenda Brown, Denise Cardwell, Theresa Felton and Jamie Richardson.

Each inductee was given a yellow tea rose, the official flower of the national organization and a sisterly welcome by all of the club members. The dinner was catered by Chef Les.

The NANBPWC mission is to promote and protect the interests 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.

Donnetta Carter is the membership director, Wanda Terrell is the club president and Delores Bates is the first vice president.

Upcoming events sponsored by the Toledo Club include the Women’s History Program, the Vocal Arts Competition for emerging Artists, Founders’ Day and the Annual Debutantes Cotillion.

The Peabock Cafe & Lady K, Ms Karen Harris Presents...

The Holiday New Years Eve Party

Special Guest
One of Toledo's National Singers
The Prolinks

Live Entertainment provided by:
**Mr. Gerald Foster
K.G.B.
Lady K (Ms Karen Harris)**

Tickets
\$35/person (before Christmas)
\$40/person (after 12/23)

Tickets Available At:
Peabock Cafe : 419.241.8004
Lady K, Ms Karen Harris 419.290.8280
(reserve seating available for early purchase only)

**@
Erie Street Market
237 N. ERIE ST. TOLEDO, OHIO**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

THE TRUTH ART GALLERY

HOLIDAY EVENT
1811 Adams Street
Toledo, OH
419-243-0007

**FRIDAY
DECEMBER 12, 2008
6-10 P. M.
\$5.00 Admission**

ART EXHIBIT
“New Art Collection”
Come meet the Artist!

**Hors d'oeuvres
Beverages**

Musical Selections

Networking
“Bring your business cards”

**Ramon Tiggs—Curator
Glenda Brown—Event Director**

**Visit our Website
www.thetruthtoledo.com**

**Schedule your
2009 event today!
419-346-5275
pcreationssevents@yahoo.com**

Non-Conventional Financing: Property Seller's Dream or Buyer's Nightmare

By Rodney Neely, Real Estate Contributor



Property ownership is the most fundamental tool in wealth building in this country.

Once you decide its time to end the cycle of renting and become a property owner there are many ways to fi-

finance your loan at the end of the land contract agreement.

Because you are buying the property, if you default for any reason, the seller may seek judgment in the full amount of the contract pur-



nance your purchase. Of these options, several could have pitfalls or unintended consequences that you should think about prior to moving forward.

These methods of acquisition can be applied to commercial or residential real estate. Very often these days you may see advertisement for properties sold on land contract. This method of buying real estate without going to a bank initially, but allowing the seller to act as your lender with the intent that you will acquire a conventional loan at the end of a fixed term in the future, is an excellent way to become a property owner.

This is typically done by people who can monetarily afford to buy, but due to previous credit history are not eligible for a bank loan. The idea being that after one or two years of positive credit history in this format, institutional lenders will again consider you bankable and re-

chase price and various other expenses. For this reason it is absolutely imperative that all land contracts be filed with the clerk of courts in your county to memorialize the event.

The downside to buying this way is the obvious. You are at the mercy of the seller to continue to forward your monthly payments to the primary lender (his or her bank that holds the mortgage) for the term of the agreement.

If at some point the seller defaults on the payments and does not notify you a foreclosure proceeding will be initiated and your total investment in the property could and most likely, will be lost. Be very careful when purchasing real estate in this manner and institute a monthly verification that each payment has been made by the seller to the original mortgage holder to protect your investment.

The other two less popular methods of non-bank fi-

ancing are rent-to-own or lease option purchase. These are very similar in their execution and are in my opinion more buyer-friendly than a land contract arrangement.

Renting to own real estate is very often a way that sellers reward loyal tenancy. By allowing the resident to be credited a portion of their monthly payments toward a down payment to the property or an equity position in the property. On a long term tenancy, this allows people of modest means the opportunity to own. These options have some degree of risk as well.

In today's economy we are experiencing falling housing values across the nation. Therefore a home under contract valued at \$50,000 dollars today could lose a portion of its value, due to market conditions, and be worth considerably less when you decide to refinance into a conventional loan.

This would mean you, as the buyer, could either purchase a home that you believed to be worth more or lose the equity intrinsic to the property because of these same market forces. A positive is that in the case of a possible default by the buyer, the seller can only pursue the loss of the lease amount and legal expenses in these situations. Nevertheless, in my opinion either pathway to ownership is less of a financial risk than a land contract arrangement.

ALMA returns to The Toledo Museum of Art's "Winter Legacies" program at the end of December, and then opens 2009 with West African dance and drum classes for all levels, and the second of our series of guest-artist workshops in traditional West African Dance, with Idy Ciss from Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago.

ALMA also has education programs planned for late winter at Marshall Elementary and Garfield Elementary School as part of their Arts in Education programming and a student recital for spring of 2009 in the planning.

erty in today's market.

I recommend making this investment prior to entering into any agreement to buy real estate. As in all investments, the buyer must collect, evaluate and analyze many separate factors to estimate the future value of the

property. Using these techniques to better understand the investment being does not guarantee success in the long term, but it should increase the odds for a positive outcome.

Always remember, that in life success is the greatest

revenge.

Ed. Note: Rodney Neely is a Toledo-area real estate professional. He can be reached by email at Rodney@q3development.com or by visiting the company's website at www.q3development.com

ALMA Enters Its Sixth Year with New Artistic Direction and West African Drum & Dance Performances, Classes and Workshops

Special to The Truth

ALMA Drum & Dance proudly enters its sixth year with new artistic direction and a full slate of performances, classes and workshops for the public. The company is honored to have Senegalese Master Drummer Yaya Kobo in the role of artistic director, who is joined by company director and principal dancer Allison Kodeih, lead drummer Pevely, principle performers Ann Ritter and Jim Mitchell and dancer Jenyl Linkey.

ALMA returns to The Toledo Museum of Art's "Winter Legacies" program at the end of December, and then opens 2009 with West African dance and drum classes for all levels, and the second of our series of guest-artist workshops in traditional West African Dance, with Idy Ciss from Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago.

ALMA also has education programs planned for late winter at Marshall Elementary and Garfield Elementary School as part of their Arts in Education programming and a student recital for spring of 2009 in the planning.

ferred by the Toledo Museum of Art. This concert is free and open to the public.

Classes:
"Soul Djembe Drumming" with Yaya Kobo
Sunday Afternoons, January 4 thru January 25, 2009 @ 12:30 p.m.

Performers School of Dance, 6801 W Central Ave, Toledo OH 43617

Classes are \$25 per session or \$75 for all four classes prepaid. Pre-register by calling 419-381-2755. Held at the Performers School of Dance (www.performerschoolofdance.org).

ALMA Artistic Director and Senegalese Master Drummer Yaya Kobo will provide a four-week series of classes for all students of djembe drumming. Exercise hand coordination while learning traditional West African rhythms. Everyone welcome... beginner to advanced.

"Intro to West African Dance"

Tuesday Evenings @ Integration Yoga Studio
January 3, 2009 ~ 7 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Integration Yoga Studio, 4633 West Bancroft St, Toledo OH 43606

These popular classes are \$10 per individual session, but with pre-registration, four

classes are only \$35. Participants are encouraged to pre-register by calling 419-A-OM-YOGA (266-9642).

Fun, fitness and art in every session ~ start the year off on the right foot!

The class will be instructed by ALMA Drum & Dance members Allison Kodeih & Pevely. Each class features a warm up, and traditional dance technique, along with, live drumming. No experience is necessary and all are welcome. Children with adults are welcome and group discounts are available.

Guest Workshop:
"Authentic West African Dance Workshop" featuring Idy Ciss

Saturday January 24, 2009 ~ 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Performers School of Dance, 6801 W Central Ave, Toledo OH 43617

This workshop features dance instruction by Idy Ciss, Senegalese dancer, and consultant, choreographer, and principal dancer of Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago. Open to all dancers "for exercise and creative dance movement." Cost of this 2-hour workshop is \$20 in advance, or \$25 at the door. Pre-register by calling 419-381-2755.

DIXIE Auto Leasing Toledo, OH
 5880 N. Detroit
Month to Month Leasing
 419-476-8674
 WE ARE A FULL SERVICE BUSINESS

RECESSION \$ SUPPRESSION
SAVE 70%-80% WHILE THEY LAST

\$30 **\$10 & \$15**

DESIGNER BOOTS **LUXURY HANDBAGS**

80% OFF **CHRISTMAS PINS & EARRINGS \$5**

DESIGNER JEWELRY **SCARVES \$10**

LUXURY FASHION AT THE BEST PRICE
ACCESSORIZE 5333 MONROE ST.
 Mon-Wed-Fri-Sat 10-5 Tues-Thurs 10-7 Sun 1-5

Toledo School For The Arts: Education Disguised as Art

By Faith A. McGlown
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Walking into the Toledo School For The Arts, located at 333 14th St. in downtown Toledo, is not like walking into any other school in the city or even the state.

Immediately, you sense the charged atmosphere. It's almost like a little tinge of electricity. You feel plugged in or unplugged, depending on how you look at, but you can't ignore it.

Peeking into the classrooms, one finds that students are focused and engaged in the college-preparatory curriculum. It is also easy to find students stretching or dancing, rehearsing in jam sessions, laying down music in studios, running lines with cast mates or putting the finishing touches on graphic art in the four-floor building.

Although David Sayers, artistic director, said the goal of TSA is not to be the next "Fame," the 1980's movie and TV show about a performing arts high-school, but it's the closest comparison. Consequently, you can't help but hope that Debbie Allen will walk around a corner or a spontaneous musical number will break out in the cafeteria.

A diverse student-body walking the halls filled with beautiful murals and artwork

or hearing original music to indicate a class change or seeing audition details posted on bulletin boards only gives you a sense of the school's movement and synergy.

In 1999, TSA opened its doors as community public school, chartered by the Toledo Board of Education, to provide students with creative opportunities to achieve personal and academic success through art-based learning.

"Integrating the arts into the curriculum that helps students succeed," Sayers said about TSA's goals, "providing an environment for students to find personal success."

Sayers said personal success in the arts makes it easier to achieve academic

success because students already have a level of accomplishment. One is the byproduct of the other.

TSA's has received state and national recognition for its superior academic performance, including the National Title I Distinguished School Award by U.S. Department of Education U.S. for 2008—the first for a charter school.

"An advantage for our teachers is that they have as much room as needed to try new, successful things," Sayers said, about the benefits of TSA's charter-school status.

Named the National Blue Ribbon School in September by the U.S. Department of Education, TSA enrolls any Ohio sixth through 12th graders, all experience levels, interested in the music, dance,



TSA's production of "RENT"



theater, and visual arts with no tuition costs. The school offers beginner classes in all the arts.

TSA enrolls 560 students, 80 students in each grade, and currently has a waiting list for admittance. The school has excellent student retention and 85 percent of recruitment is word-of-mouth. For enrollment, administrators conduct an interview process with students and parents. Students undergo an audition for placement purposes only.

Celebrating its 10th Anniversary, the school recently completed a \$1 million renovation funded by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority and Local Initiatives Support Corporation. It included new and refurbished classrooms, computer labs, dance, music and acting studios, art rooms and rehearsal spaces.

TSA, which received its second-consecutive 'excellent' rating from the Ohio Department of Education, does not have the same funding base as Toledo Public Schools, which has been in academic turmoil, for each student but has managed to be more successful with less money.

As a community school, TSA cannot receive local property and income tax dollars as TPS does. They receive only state and federally allocated funds for education. By performing in non-traditional fundraising events that are open to the public at a cost, such as recitals, concerts and exhibitions, students help the doors stay open while obtaining professional experience. TSA also receives donations and contributions from individuals, businesses and foundations, including instruments and equipment.

If TSA has an unyielding power source, that would be Dave Gierke, director of development. His passion and pride for TSA spills out infectious and he resembles a proud father.

"Education disguised as

art," Gierke said, describing TSA, where even math is transposed into art and covers the walls.

Gierke's enthusiasm is matched by that of the pupils as they greet him cheerfully by first name or when the self-professed drummer pops his head in a classroom to hear students rehearse.

Gierke said that transitioning in TSA can be tough. Balancing the academic requirements with artistic demands can be challenging for some students.



Students need good study habits and parents have to be willing to try something new, Gierke said.

Small-class sizes, teachers that take a personal interest in students, and art with a social conscious has been components of TSA's success, he said.

The school employed 45 full-time employees in 2007, including 32 fully-certified teachers, two teacher's aids, six administrators and five support staff.

In addition, they employ 12 part-time teachers, artists, and musicians, which provide exemplary training and real world experience in various artistic fields.

TSA offers students opportunities to work with professional artists to expand their art experience and knowledge. They have "ARTnerships" with Toledo's major cultural institutions, such as the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, the Arts Commission of Greater

Toledo, the Toledo Museum of Arts, the Toledo Ballet Association, Toledo Jazz Society, Toledo Repertoire Theatre, and Owens Community College Center for Fine and Performing Arts.

Devin Krueger, 9th grader, has attended TSA since the sixth grade and describes the school as family-like and mature, like the mandatory Business/Money-Management course.

He said you'll find a wide mix of artistic tastes, genres, and expressions but every-

one comes together for projects and productions. Also to his delight and expression, TSA doesn't have a school uniform policy.

"It has a great atmosphere and so much to offer," said Krueger, who is a musician and dancer, "including an outstanding education."

The class of 2008 will be TSA's sixth graduating class. Last year, its graduation rate was 100 percent with 42 graduates receiving \$503,000 in college scholarships.

The Toledo School for the Arts Open House is planned for January 24, 2009, from 10 a.m. until noon, at its downtown location. The snow date is set for January 31, 2009 at the same time and location.

For more information or an events schedule, contact TSA at 419-246-8732 or at their website: www.ts4arts.org.

Happy Holidays!
From The
Sojourner's Truth

Local Music Industry, Pt. 2 – Auditions For A Big Opportunity!

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



WMIX Mix 95.7 and WJZE Hot97 always do it big.

The Mistle Toe Jam promoted each December by Toledo's black radio dynasty has become an event everyone looks forward to because it brings high-profile industry talents to a city starved for entertainment on such a high level.

Real talk... everyone reading this knows I'm a producer first and foremost.

So naturally...anytime any major recording artist comes here I'm always trying to get my music/my artists/a package or something in position.

And I'm far from alone in this.

People all over this city make music, produce artists, etc. and it's never a good look just trying to do business when a celebrity pops in for a night at one of our clubs (which happens more often than you think).

But when you have a major event like the Mistle Toe Jam, local artists consider this an opportunity of a lifetime to share a stage with top-tier talent.

I was lucky enough to get tickets to Mistle Toe Jam a couple years ago when they brought Musiq Soulchild and Tank to the Valentine Theatre in downtown Toledo back in 2006.

It was one of my favorite shows ever.

This year the good folks at Mix95.7 and Hot97 are bringing Fantasia and Avant here to

The Glass City on December 20 at the Stranahan Theatre.

Major platinum-selling artists right here at home.

And a shot for local singers to be seen on the same stage.

THAT'S HUGE!

As a Toledoan, I'm happy we have people like Brandi Brown and Sherron Jones.

As a producer, I'm happy my company U.G.E. has focused on R&B for so many years because our city gets written off as if all we have is a bunch of rappers but it's

a treasured little secret that Toledo, Ohio is home to some beastly male and female singers as well.

I feel as if I've known about all the great singing talent here because we focus on it,

but maybe not everyone else knew about it.

Well, given the attendance of the Mistle Toe Jam Idol Auditions (round one and two held at The Peacock)... if you don't know, now you know!

When I first heard about it, I sent a text to Mix 95.7 radio personality and top executive for both stations...Brandi Brown.

Some people in high positions can treat you kind of funny sometimes, but each and every interaction I have had with Brandi is always cool and mutually respectful.

She was gracious to let me know the rules and ask me about who I would be bringing down because she knows I make music for a few singers around here.

We chopped it up and on November 20 I took Leigh Ashley, Darron Scott and Aye Dee along with my co-producer down to The Peacock to take place in the auditions.

Here were the rules: singers could sign up to compete, singers had to have an a cappella no longer than two minutes prepared, three judges would score singers on stage presence – vocal ability – and overall performance.

On that Thursday in late November we piled in and although I recognized Tracy from Hustle Hand Ent... I have to admit that I didn't know who a lot of the other singers were.

But knowing them didn't matter, because once things got started they all got open and even if I didn't know everyone's name I certainly respected their talents.

Brandi Brown, Lil D, Sherron, T.J., and good friend of U.G.E., Hutch Daddy Dolla, were all there reppin the Hot97/Mix95.7 family while Mix95.7 D.J. Rollin Reddick (double R) hosted the evening.

D.J. Mpress was holding it down and once the auditions got under way he helped with crowd control so everyone could be heard.

Like I said before, a lot of the singers were people I just didn't know but there was a lot of talent on display at varying skill levels.

I brought Aye Dee, Leigh and I also brought Darron

Scott who sang a song we wrote and he was a winner in round one.

Funny thing though, Darron was disqualified.

We had another show and had to hit the road and since he was not there when his name was called he was disqualified.

We didn't mind because it was fair because the rules did say you had to be present and he understood. Everyone was gracious and just told him to come back on December 4.

See... that's what we try to bring to the game: dignity.

Even if something doesn't go our way... we won't trip. We try to be mature.

Fast forward to December 4, on the second round of auditions... it was clear that the local R&B community had heard the call and were prepared to come and earn their spot.

This past Thursday it went down and it was one of the most fun experiences I've ever had at the Peacock and it was one of the biggest outpourings of artists I've ever seen in Toledo. Period.

Nearly 40 singers had signed up to compete.

And that's not even counting a few singers I saw in the audience who I knew could step in and possibly win it all but they just tried to sign up too late.

Shouts to Sasha Claybourne who was coming straight from the studio, she's most definitely one of those people talented enough to take it all but just got there a little late.

On round two... Tracy still came out with Gutta Dave and a few others from Hustle Hand Ent. to see the festivities.

I saw my dude J. Rashad of Pos Mov there to get open as well.

For the entire night, I was up there posted on the wall with D.J. Mpress, Hutch and my dude Flow and a few U.G.E. peeps (and some drunk dude in the corner who just would not shut up).

Standing next to the DJ gave me an interesting perspective on the night because I was behind the performers I kept looking into the audience to gauge everyone's reaction to certain people. And certain notes...

I'm not gonna lie... it wasn't a pretty picture at times y'all.

Some people just flat out embarrassed themselves.

Producing R&B means that you have to know the difference between the key, the tone and the pitch of a note – so I was listening for who had that accuracy versus who just wanted to sing in front of a large crowd.

But even though there were a few just gone off that liquid courage... I have to say that round two was the night the competition got thick!

I mean you had true power houses and people already enjoying industry success right next to voices honed in the church to perfection... it was a night that made you respect the R&B industry in this city.

I repeat...the R&B industry.

Even though so many artists heard the call... not everyone heard it right.

This was a night for singers.

There was this one dude who put his name down...had his number called and got his cool self up there and tried to do his rendition of Eminem's "Lose Yourself."

The competition's only white female singer did very well in my opinion and I was wondering where she came from.

And there was another girl I was checking for...don't remember her name but I remember she said she was from Baltimore.

My dude Charles (a/k/a The Light) distanced himself from the competition by singing "Kiss From A Rose" by Seal. It was a risky move but it worked!

Charles is known as The Light among U.G.E. peeps because he has been our host at our weekly open mic night: The Listening... for all singers/rappers/artists to be seen and heard each and every Saturday here at The Truth Headquarters/Art Gallery.

Yes, yes...I'll say it again if you didn't know.

For ALL those singers there on both nights... U.G.E. provides a place for you to be seen and heard each and every week. All artists are welcome to join us every Saturday at 1811 Adams (across from Life

Skills...block up from Manos).

The Listening is a place provided by U.G.E. and The Truth to give artists a place to hone their skills in an intimate setting. Not a club...not a concert venue...an intimate setting.

It's free of charge for now... and based on word of mouth.

Anybody respectful to what we do and ready to come and be a part of it...we welcome you.

But, yeah...competition was fierce on round two and even if some singers didn't get it, that night presented a great chance to network with people who could help aspiring artists get to that next step.

You had Tracy and Hustle Hand Ent. Boss / music producer Gutta Dave in the building.

This is one of the best-known labels in the area that enjoys a constant buzz, impressive fan base and also rotation and shout outs on Hot97.

You had DJ Mpress...co-

WANTED

FOR HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

REWARD

Wanted in 50 states, this suspect is considered highly dangerous to your bank account. A wallet full of cash will be awarded to those choosing to fight highway robbery by taking the bus.

Fight Highway Robbery. Take The Bus. **TARTA**
Visit www.tarta.com or call 419.243.RIDE. **TARTA**
A better way to get there.™

Auditions

(Continued from Page 12)



Water



Tymara Spears



Tracy



Tonya Issac



Shanda Gordon



Mona Bills



Leigh Ashley



Katrina Hill



Devonn



Charles Johnson



Adriant Gardner

owner of Soul Beat Music Group.

As a music producer and

constantly in demand DJ, this is a stand up dude who currently works with a di-

verse roster and also enjoys a healthy buzz in the city.

I didn't see 'em but I heard the good folks from 360 Studios were in the building that night and it's always good to be in with a studio owner.

You had a few luminaries on the spoken word scene up in the spot as well.

So any singer/artist looking to network and get production, publicity or anything to further their career... The Mistle Toe Jam Idol Auditions served as a great opportunity for people to make connections.

Especially since round three... singers/competitors will need their own music.

Should have hollered at me! We could have got you right!

But that's just the side

notes.

The main point of this was to pick who would be lucky enough to open for Avant and Fantasia!

Gotta shout out April & Lee, Michelle Stanley, Bobby, C.C., Carmeletha, Diana, Flow (who knew you could sing, dude? Tore that "Ordinary People" up, yo!).

On behalf of all local artists, I wanna thank Hot 97 and Mix 95.7 and all their staff for truly standing behind Toledo's talent.

So...round three is December 17...12 performers, one spot.

Brandi Brown had this to say concerning the event:

"Toledo definitely has talent and the response has been overwhelming and it's a great opportunity for any aspiring artist"

And I'll even sweeten the deal...whoever wins...I'll guarantee you a full interview right here in my column.

I'd like to also list all the participants as soon as I get a full list.

Here are your 12 finalists: Tonya Issac, Mona Bills, Tracy, Leigh Ashley, Shanda Gordon, Devonn, Tymara Spears, Charles

Johnson, Water, Adriant Gardner, Katrina Hill

And if I get a complete list of all participants I'll print that too.

Toledo has never had a problem with talent.

This city is spilling over with talent.

The issue is how many of those who are talented and also have the professionalism and maturity needed to build bridges?

If you're not building bridges...chances are you're burning 'em.

Until next week, peace.

Glascitytruth@yahoo.com

Also: U.G.E. artist T. Diamond new mixtape: THE WINTER IS MINE!

My space.com/toledodiamond1

P.S.: Jeep Workers... I am praying for an Auto Industry bail out for you all.

Don't know why they can give Wall Street Millionaires 700 Billion...but then struggle back and forth about helping the middle class people keep their jobs.

Remember everyone: this mess didn't start with Obama, but I hope he can help.

Black Market Place

HANDYMAN SERVICE
 Plumbing, Gas Lines, Electrical - NEW! Furnaces
Installed and Serviced - No job too big or too small
 For good quality service at an excellent price!
FREE ESTIMATES * Fully Insured
 Contact ERIC at (419) 480-7096 Please leave message!

**Want to place an ad in
 The Black Market Place?**
 Call Pam Anderson @ 419-243-0007

G. Fab
Custom Clothing & Graphic Design
 Graphic Design Layouts for: *Custom Printed:*
 *Business Cards *Contact Jason at 419.467.4320 or gfab@buckeye-express.com*
 *Brochures
 *Invitations
 *Flyers
 *Obituaries
 *T Shirts
 *Hoodies
 *Hats
 *Jackets
 *Jeans
Special rates for Churches and Non-Profit Organizations

Grace Edwards
 Broker/Licensed in Ohio & Michigan
 BUS (419) 693-0591
 FAX (419) 726-5650
 RES (419) 729-9494
 www.dsalle-realestate.com
 3623 NAVARRE AVE.
 OREGON, OH 43166

 the home team!
THE REAL PROS!
 12 Offices Serving Ohio & Southern Michigan

5106 Grelyn Drive NEW PRICE \$155,800
 Spacious 3 bdrm brick ranch w/2.5
 baths; 2588 sq. ft. of living/entertaining
 space for you and your family. Great
 neighborhood with easy access to UT bike trail.
 Call Alma 419.297.2301 today for a showing.

2811 Inwood - \$89,000
 Need a lot of space? Here's over 2300
 sq. ft/5 bdrms; 2 baths waiting for your
 repairs/cosmetic upgrades to restore it to
 its natural beauty. Possible short sale.
 Call Rickie for an appointment (419.494.6972)

GREAT FAMILY HOME!!
530 ISLINGTON - Ready to move - in!!
 Home located in the historic Old West End. Original oak
 woodwork, hardwood floors, & bay windows. Living Rm
 w/fireplace, Dining Rm w/pocket doors. Loads of storage!
Wilma Smith * DiSalle Real Estate Company
 Office 419.866.5900 * Cell 419.350.7514

PERFECT STARTER!!
IN MOVE-IN CONDITION!! 1818 MACOMBER
 2 bds, living rm, dining rm w/hardwood floors. All new
 windows. Newer roof, furnace, and hot water tank. C/A,
 Security System & Patio in rear yard. Appliances stay
Wilma Smith * DiSalle Real Estate Company
 Office 419.866.5900 * Cell 419.350.7514

GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!!
1506 LINCOLN - TOLEDO, OHIO
 Ready to move in w/Separate Basement, New Roof,
 Furnace, Humidifier, Most Windows Replaces, Security
 System, Security Light & Garage - Property Sold As Is.
Wilma Smith * DiSalle Real Estate Company
 Office 419.866.5900 * Cell 419.350.7514

HOUSES FOR RENT!!!!
SECTION 8 WELCOME!!
 Website: www.whittgrouprealty.com
 Click on Featured Listings and Navigate
 OR call 419.536.7377
 Email: propertymanagement@whittgrouprealty.com

935 Clifton - \$92,000
 3 B.R., Hardwood throughout, 2
 season porch, 2 car. Motivated seller.
Call Laneta Goings, Welles Bowen, Realtors
 419.467.9302 or 419.891.0888

Call
 419.460.1343
 Video, and Photography
OWNER - RAMON TIGGS

914 Hamilton St. - \$14,000
 A GREAT STARTER OR INVESTMENT HOME
 2 B.R., Living room, Dining room,
 Kitchen and Basement
Call Laneta Goings, Welles Bowen, Realtors
 419.467.9302 or 419.891.0888

Toledo, Ohio
 419.376.0602
 www.bfc-seeds.com
Gale@bfc-seeds.com
Gale Stephens
 Artist - Owner

NO MORE STAIRS!!!
1500 Roosevelt Avenue
 All Brick, 1 story 3 beds with
 1.5 Bath with Hugh Kitchen, 2 car
GRANTS AVAILABLE!!
 Call Emory Whittington, III * 419.392.5428

**Better Care Lawn &
 Show Removal Services L.L.C.**
 Commercial/Residential Free Estimates
 Senior Citizen Discount
 Insured and Bonded Landscaping
 Phone: 419.917.6440 * Fax: 419.754.3953
 www.bettercarelawnservice.com

HOUSE FOR SALE - 1027 W. Woodruff
 • 4 Bedrooms • 3 Full Bathrooms
 • Kitchen Appliances • Central Air
 • Basement • 2-Car Garage
 Down Payment Assistant Available For
 Eligible And More!!
JULIA BRYANT 419-320-0909

1408 Shenandoah Road
\$49,000
Nice updated home!
 Great for the money - To get inside
Please call Bessie 419.260.0215 or
Kim 419.810.7097

2428 Lawton
\$29,900
 2 Full baths, central air, updated kitchen,
 newer cabinets, block windows in
 basement, garage w/carport
Please call Bessie 419.260.0215 or
Kim 419.810.7097

THE C. BROWN FUNERAL HOME, INC.
 1629 Nebraska Avenue, 43607
 419.255.7682
 A BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU ACCREDITED BUSINESS
 START WITH TRUSTSM

801 Lincoln Ave. - \$91,900
 2 bds, Master Bath with Jacuzzi, Freshly
 painted, Finished basement, New roof & eaves,
 concrete steps. Double lot!
Laneta Goings, Welles Bowen, Realtors
 419.467.9302 or 419.891.0888

Kyriard's Barber & Styling Salon
 863 W. Central * Toledo, Ohio 43610
 For Appointment Call 248.9317
 Hair Stylist: Clyde * Dell
 Latest Techniques in Hair Styles for Ladies & Men

Archer Tree Service
COMPLETE TREE REMOVAL
 24 HR. Emergency
 Insured and Bonded
 419.810.4695 - 419.729.0539

1319 Palmwood - \$27,627
 Two story 3 bd home, newer furnace, home
 updated windows, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher stays
 plus an extra lot.
Call Donnette Tiggs, Welles Bowen, Realtors
 419.290.4567 or 419.891.0888

Houses For Rent
 Everything New: Paint, Carpet,
 Stove, Refrig. Section 8 OK
 MVP Property Management
 419-244-8566.

2409 Lawton - \$30,000
 Great for a 1st time home buyer or investor.
 Large LR/DR with 3 bdrms. Add your
 cosmetic repairs to bring out the natural
 character of this home.
 Call Alma Dortch-Gilbert 419.297.2301 for appointment
 adortchgilbert@sbcglobal.net

1013 Prospect - \$66,900
 Tear off roof 2007, 4 B.R. Freshly painted
 throughout, Large L.R., D.R. and porch. Base-
 ment, it won't last long.
Call Laneta Goings, Welles Bowen, Realtors
 419.467.9302 or 419.891.0888

835 Yondota - \$50,000
 Looking for a new church HOME! This East Toledo
 vinyl sided church w/seating capacity of 200; bap-
 tistal pool; newer furnace w/ac; basement with nice
 kitchen is waiting for New Members!
 Call Alma Dortch-Gilbert 419.297.2301 for showing
 adortchgilbert@sbcglobal.net

Powell's Barber & Beauty Supplies
 901 Nebraska, Tol, OH 43607
Complete Line of Barber & Beauty Supplies
 Phone: 419.243.7731 - Fax: 419.242.6390
 Mon: 10 - 6 & Tues: Sat. 8 - 5
Calvin Powell

1543 South Avenue - \$74,900
 Well maintained, newly remod-
 eled with updates, good, 1 1/2 baths.
 Basement & 2 car garage.
Call - John F. Kevern 419.261.1233

909 Blum \$7,000
LOT READY FOR BUILDING
 Please call Bessie 419.260.0215 or
 Kim 419.810.7097

LARRY E. HAMME, Ph.D.
 Clinical Psychologist
 Individual, Family, Marital, Group Therapy
 Psychological Testing, Training
 4125 Monroe Toledo, Ohio 43606 Phone: 419.472.7330 Fax: 419.472.8675

Hicks Day Care
 Where Kids Come First!
 George Hicks
 Administrator
 2469 Maplewood Ave, Toledo, OH 43620
 Cell: 419.870.2335, Phone: 419.243.9175
 Fax: 419.243.9174
 E-mail: ghick3@msn.com * hicksdaycare.com

CLASSIFIEDS

December 10, 2008

Page 15

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT of OPERATIONS

Owens Community College invites you to learn more about this exciting job opportunity at <https://jobs.owens.edu>.

Become part of our inclusive culture that embraces and celebrates diversity.
AA/EEO

INSTRUCTOR, BUSINESS (Toledo Campus)

Owens Community College invites you to learn more about this exciting job opportunity at <https://jobs.owens.edu>.

Become part of our inclusive culture that embraces and celebrates diversity.
AA/EEO

INSTRUCTOR, INFORMATION SYSTEMS (Toledo Campus)

Owens Community College invites you to learn more about this exciting job opportunity at <https://jobs.owens.edu>.

Become part of our inclusive culture that embraces and celebrates diversity.
AA/EEO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Frederick Douglass Community Association seeks an Executive Director. Candidate must have proven skills to develop positive community relationships, effectively communicate in multiple settings, provide strategy and long-term vision, manage the financial and operational aspects of the association, provide superior customer service and secure philanthropy to support operations. The Executive Director works under the direction of a Board and has volunteers and staff to accomplish services. Prior experience with a non-profit or community agency is a positive. College degree required. Please mail, by December 29, 2008, a resume and salary requirements to The Search Committee P. O. Box 352431, Toledo, Ohio 43615E.O.E.

Mentoring, Education & Leadership, Inc Bus Trip

The Mentoring, Education & Leadership, Inc. is sponsoring a bus trip to the historic inauguration of President-elect Barack Obama. The bus will depart from Mercy Hospital parking garage on Jefferson Avenue on Monday, January 19, 2009 at 9:00 p.m. and will return on Tuesday evening, January 20, 2009.

The cost of this event is \$120.00 per person which is non-refundable. To reserve your seat for this historic event, please contact Dr. Carnel Smith @ 419-917-3547. Seating is limited. Call now to reserve your seat.

Place your classified in
The Sojourner's Truth
Call Pam at 419-243-0007

FREE and AFFORDABLE tutoring available. We come to you! Pre-K thru college. Call today! — 419-708-0447

Discipline, Judgment, Confidence

Train your child in the martial arts now
So that they won't carry guns later
Call 419-243-2198
Khalig Kartier

HIGHER EDUCATION. Teaching Opportunities.

Owens Community College is now hiring adjunct faculty members. Consider sharing your knowledge and experience to promote learning beyond the textbooks. Make a difference for students.

Master's degree required for most positions. Please check posting for requirements.

Apply online at jobs.owens.edu.



House for Sale

Single family home
3 bed, 1 bath
\$18,000
1535 Buckingham; Call 248-250-0179

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) is issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Housing Services for Post-Emancipation Young Adults, age 18-21.

The goal is to provide housing services that will support participating young adults efforts to:

- Become self-sufficient;
- Establish and maintain independent housing;
- Learn essential life and personal management skills.

LCCS is seeking proposals from governmental and private entities/agencies capable and willing to lease low cost efficiency and/or one-bedroom apartments to young adults participating in the agency's Post-Emancipation program. RFP materials will be available from December 1 through December 17, 2008 at 705 Adams St., Toledo, OH 43604. To make arrangement to pick up an RFP packet, call 419-213-3658. An applicant information session regarding the RFP will be held at LCCS on December 17, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in Room #913.

The deadline for submitting proposals (NO FAX) is 4:00 p.m. on January 7, 2009. No proposal will be accepted after that deadline.

By Dean Sparks, Executive Director
Lucas County Children's Services

• Training • Job-placement

If you are 55 or older and unemployed with limited income, we have training opportunities that may lead to employment Earn while you learn!

Call Experience Works **TODAY!**
419-255-7102
EEO/AA

For Rent

1127 Fernwood Ave
3 Beds, 2 car, First Floor laundry and Bath. Screened in porches.
\$625 month. Call 419-392-5428
Owner/Agent

Independent Housing Facility

Abundant Life of Perrysburg is a subsidized independent housing facility for those 62 or older. We are located in a beautiful, quiet residential setting in Perrysburg. Abundant Life offers one bedroom garden apartments with private patios, indoor mailboxes, reserved parking and busing to local grocery stores. Applications are now being accepted. Call 419-872-3510 or 419-874-4371



Holiday Time at Aurora House

It is holiday time again! We are in need of volunteers to Sponsor a Family or sponsor one of our residents for the holidays. The holiday season can be a difficult time for some of our residents and their children. Our desire is to bring a little light and further the message of hope to our residents during this time of year. We welcome your support. For more information, please call Mary Ann Wasserman, Christmas Coordinator at 419-244-3200

Classifieds are also posted online at
www.thetruthtoledo.com

Free Tutoring

No child Left Behind Act
Clubz! In Home Tutoring
Elementary & Middle School Students
One-on-One In Home Sessions
Call today for qualifications
Clubztutoring.com
419-482-0533

Maintenance Manager J.M. Smucker Co -- Toledo Plant

The J. M. Smucker Company, continually ranked by Fortune magazine as one of "The 100 Best Companies to Work for in America," has an immediate opening for a Maintenance Manager at their Desert and Baking manufacturing facility located in Toledo, Ohio.

Summary of Role:

This position will be responsible for organizing, planning, and coordinating all maintenance activities for the production lines. This role will have responsibilities of managing approximately 20 employees over 3 operating shifts. A mechanical and electrical background in the food industry is preferred.

Qualifications:

Must have a 4 year technical degree
A minimum of 4 years experience in manufacturing maintenance, preferably in the food industry
Ability to work and manage within a team environment.

Strong organizational, critical thinking, and problem solving skills.

Effective presentation, verbal, and written communication skills

Ability to organize and prioritize actions to help meet plant objectives and long-term vision.

Self-motivated and can work independently with minimal direct supervision.

Proven project management skills
Open to managing operating teams and departments as a future assignment

Hiring Process:

Qualified candidates must submit a resume and cover letter stating salary requirements in MS Office Word format to hr.toledo@jmsmucker.com by December 31, 2008.

Benefits / General:

The Company offers a competitive benefits program that includes: medical, dental, vision, 401k, and vacation.

No phone calls please. We will contact individuals that we are interested in pursuing. We are an equal opportunity employer.

Toledo's Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. Hosts a Senior Prom

By Artisha S. Lawson
Sojourner's Truth Reporter



Top Ladies with McKissick residents at recent "Senior Prom"

Music and laughter welcomed residents and guests to Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. Toledo Chapter's Senior Prom at McKissick Senior Center, located in South Toledo. The Saturday, November 29 holiday party combined the procession and crowning of prom king and queen winners, Lord Dan

Dawson and his wife Lady Mary Dawson, residents recalled past memories, and a home-made lunch.

During her welcome address, prom queen Mary Dawson, president of Top Ladies of Distinction's Toledo Chapter, thanked the committee members for a great program. "Thank you all so much for coming. This is a beautiful day; we don't have the snow or rain but just rain. I am so excited and want to thank the committee chairs Mary Oats

and Delores Bates, the committee, and members for coming out today. I thank the seniors –we just love you all out here, and my Lord, my husband Dan Dawson for coming. I hope you all enjoy yourself. Remember to smile, laugh and remember your prom," said Dawson.

And the Hunters – Three Generations Worth – Are Home from the Hill

Sojourner's Truth Staff




The Turnbough family are avid hunters. Joe Turnbough, Sr. has been hunting deer, wild turkey and assorted game for years. His sons, Joe, Jr and Charles,

are carrying on the family tradition and doing just fine in the process. During this deer season, Charles bagged an eight-point buck and Joe, Jr. a 12-pointer. Both were shot in

Williams County. That success followed on the heels of a successful Youth Hunt on November 22 and 23 in which the third generation of Turnboughs brought home two does.

Cell 419.870.1730

**ALL WIRING!
REAL BRIGHT ELECTRIC**
711 MORAN
TOLEDO, OH 43607



EMZIE WILSON
Fax: 419.531.4518

Church's Chicken



12 tender strips & 4 biscuits
and choice of any large side order

\$12.99

50 pieces of dark (original or spicy)

only \$35.00

Offer good for Church's Chicken at
2124 Franklin Avenue, Toledo

InnerGIRL Institute
CHANGE FROM THE INSIDE OUT
HOLIDAY PARTY
DECEMBER 20, 2008
4pm to 7pm

MUSIC FROM LOCAL ARTIST
Shawn Highsmith &
SPECIAL GUEST
HUMBLE "G"
Violinist/Hiphops Rap Artist

FOOD • GIFTS • GAMES
MUSIC

This event is free to girls 13-17. RSVP is required to attend and space is limited. RSVP no later than December 13, 2008 to Kimberly Baber at 419-283-5249 or innergirl@yahoo.com. For more information on IGI visit <http://innergirlinstitute.ning.com>.