



Volume 15, No.11      "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."      December 31, 2008



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## This Strikes Us ...

### The Top Local News Stories of 2008

*A Sojourner's Truth Editorial*

Most of the news this year was on the national and international scene – the presidential election, the economy, oil prices, for example.

The presidential election was so all-encompassing that it dominated local, national and international news cycles – the drawn-out Democratic Party primaries, the selection of Sarah Palin, the debates, the reactions of the candidates to the economic crisis, Barack Obama's trip overseas.

Even so, there were a few local items that kept us amused and horrified, often at the same time.

#### 1. The Fall of a Golden Boy

Not strictly local, but certainly with a local impact, the self-inflicted fall from grace and power of Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick was the area's number one story. Kilpatrick was elected mayor of Detroit when he was 31 years old and under normal circumstances, given his smarts and charisma, would have had a stellar career as a public official.

Text messages revealing an affair with his chief of staff would ordinarily not be enough to bring a politician to his heels.

In this case, as it usually is for public figures, it was the cover up that done him in. Kilpatrick and friends fired police officers to start the cover up and then proceeded to settle the ensuing lawsuit with those officers out of court for \$8 million of Detroit's hard-earned tax dollars.

Kilpatrick battled on stupidly for a few months trying to use his office as bait for a better deal. Kilpatrick, the Big Three auto makers request for a bail-out, the 0-16 Detroit Lions ... not a good year for the Motor City.

#### 2. The Lima Police Shooting of an Unarmed Woman

Tarika Wilson was holding her baby son in her arms and, according to the testimony admitted during the trial of the police sergeant who killed her, was on her knees complying with the SWAT team's orders when she was shot and killed – a bullet going through her son's hand as well.

The tumult caused by the shooting brought state officials to town and they informed residents that the investigation would be transparent – it wasn't. The officer was charged with two minor misdemeanors and found not guilty of both charges.

The shooting brought the national spotlight on Lima as Rev. Jesse Jackson stopped in as did candidate Obama during his campaign.

#### 3. The Port Authority Change of Leadership

If we have learned nothing else during 2008, we know now never to use our company's email system or the cell phone (see Kilpatrick above) to conduct affairs of the heart that should never be conducted in the first place.

Mayor Carty Finkbeiner dropped a dime on Jim Hartung, president of the Toledo Lucas County Port Authority, for conducting just such an affair. Finkbeiner went directly to the media with his charges.

The whole affair – pun intended – was played out on the front pages and the lead stories in the electronic media until the board of the Port Authority was forced to fire Hartung unceremoniously.

#### 4. The Crystal Dixon/University of Toledo Mess

Crystal Dixon, a vice president in the human resources department of The University of Toledo, wrote a letter to a local weekly newspaper decrying the editor's open-mindedness on matters involving homosexuality.

The letter did not please her bosses at UT who tried to slap her on the wrist and demote her. Dixon refused the demotion and ultimately gained the help of an Ann Arbor law firm in order to take the university to court.

For Dixon, the issue was a matter of free speech. The university's position was that someone who was in the position of making hiring decisions should not be permitted to give voice to their

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## The Sojourner's Truth

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## Community Calendar

#### December 31

New Year's Eve Service: Bethesda at the City of Mercy – new location 705 Lodge; 10 pm; Guest Elder Bonnie Larkin pastor of Greater Faith Gospel Center  
New Year's Eve Service: Mt Nebo MBC; 9:30 pm  
New Year's Eve Service: Liberty Ministries COGIC; "Coming of a New Year;" 10:30 pm

#### January 1

Happy New Year!!

#### January 4

Healing Service: Hope Lutheran Church; 4 pm; Speaker Jim Oedy of New Hope Christian Community Foundation: 419-536-8383

#### January 10

BGSU Financial Aid Workshops: or students who have applied to BGSU; 9 am to noon & 1 to 4 pm; Lenhart Grand Ballroom of Bowen-Thompson Student Union; Financial aid preparation, FAFSA; Campus tours after the workshops, door prizes: 419-372-2651

City of Zion, Mt. Zion Church: "When women Worship" a study designed just for women; 11 am: 419-246-1850

#### January 13

Lourdes College Science Alliance for Valuing the Environment (S.A.V.E.): "Maumee Western Lake Erie Water Is Very Special;" Discussion of Maumee Bay and Western Lake Erie as well as the Toledo Lighthouse; Franciscan Theater and Conference Center; 7:30 to 9 pm: 419-824-3691

#### January 19

MLK Unity Celebration: UT's Savage Hall; 9:30 am to 11:30 a.m.; Speeches by UT students, music by Clarence Smith Community Chorus, Positive Force dance troupe: 419-245-1565

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Ramon Tiggs, Curator

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**My View**



By Jack Ford  
The Truth's Political Columnist

my getting elected minority leader in the Ohio House was really something.

In Hinton's view, only a "lying SOB" could convince all those politicians top vote him in over themselves.

Professor Hinton brought George Kelling to the UT campus at one point. Kelling is the guy who came up with the "broken windows" theory of community policing that was later embraced by New York City and then Boston. That is, fix problems in the community when they are small, such as broken windows and graffiti, and that will prevent minor crimes from happening, which will, in turn, prevent major crimes from occurring.

Hugh Hinton, a longtime professor of political science at The University of Toledo, passed away two weeks ago. Hinton taught a generation of students his theories of political science interwoven with his rich background or practical politics, including a long stint as chairman of the Maumee Democratic Party.

Hinton was a gruff, direct kind of guy who kept a frozen smirk on his face most of the time.

Hinton once told me that he was not that impressed that I got elected mayor of Toledo because all one had to do was smile and campaign. But, Hinton said that

Two weeks ago, the Toledo Free Press had an article by Jim Harper which chronicled the 1999 financial mistake by Mayor Carty Finkbeiner and City Council in rejecting a wage deal with AFSCME. It resulted in a \$10 million a year albatross around the city's neck.

Harper should have added another \$2 million from the failed Commodore Perry and Hillcrest deals and he should have added the 2006 deal that gave the same pension pickup to police and fire.

All told, Finkbeiner has cost taxpayers an extra \$14 million a year in wage costs. That is why Toledo is and will remain broke as Dick's hatband for a long time to come.

Now that Gov. Ted Strickland has chosen Kevin Boyce as the new state treasurer, the hard work begins for Boyce. There is an unwritten rule in statewide Ohio politics that says you must run and lose statewide once before you win an office.

This rule generally holds true when one candidate is a newcomer. In this case, Boyce is not only new to statewide elective office, he is very young—36 years old—and he is African-American. And President-elect Barack Obama notwithstanding, the old reluctance to elevate African-Americans will continue to hold some currency.

Boyce holds a masters degree in public administration. He has experience in the legislature and in municipal politics. He has worked in a high position in the Ohio Department of Education for years so he is no novice to public service.

Boyce will have to run a campaign starting right now and literally go into each one

of Ohio's 88 counties. In addition, Boyce will have to raise four million dollars in the next two years in order to be competitive in 2010, a re-apportionment year by the way.

Speaking of youth, it was nice to see the kudos being extended to Deborah Ortiz, director of the Lucas County Job and Family Services. Ortiz

is very savvy and covers the county commissioners in many ways. She must be on the governor's short list and probably was considered for the recent opening for the top job in the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services due to the recent "Joe the Plumber" snafu which resulted in a resignation in that department of the execu-

tive director.

Her top lieutenant, Shawn Reid, is a good one for the future. Some of the non-profits struggling right now would do well to pick off Reid for their CEO openings. His problem would be pay scale because not many non-profits pay six figures and he is ready to earn in that range.

**This Strikes Us**

(Continued from Page 2)

prejudices.

**5. The Multi-Purpose Arena**

Not much else has been on track from the standpoint of local development except for the Multipurpose Arena. The Marina District's future appears shaky during this credit crunch, Southwyck is stalled, the Toledo Steam Plant project has been scaled back.

The Arena, however, is rising from the ashes of downtown Toledo bringing in construction jobs and promising to turn the downtown area into a location with year-round events. That is good news for restaurants and bars in the area, good news for residential development, good news for those businesses seeking to locate in the area.

**6. The Floyd Rose Return**

Floyd Rose, retired church official and one of the guiding lights of Toledo's part in the Civil Rights Movement, returned to town in the late winter of 2008 to lead the fight against the imposition of a city tax renewal. That tax, which was on the March 4 primary ballot, would continue to raise about \$57 million annually.

"I left here in part because Carty Finkbeiner was elected mayor," said Rose at a rally at Braden United Methodist in late January. "I was devastated. I left here for the same reason I came back. I came back for the same reason I left. I was told that things were not better but worse."

The tax passed by a wide margin.

**7. The Non-Profit Agency Financial Woes**

The failing economy has made life particularly difficult for northwest Ohio. Toledo now has the highest unemployment rate of any large Ohio. But it's not just businesses that have been impacted. The economy has taken its toll on non-profit agencies.

EOPA, the Frederick Douglass Community Association and the Connecting Point all faced revenue shortfalls this year and leadership issues as a result.

EOPA finally settled on an executive director at the end of the year with the appointment of Jim Powell to the post—not without an impressive amount of internal board squabbles however. FDCA and the Connecting Point both dismissed their executive directors as they scrambled to re-organize and get a handle on their financial situations.

**8. Take Back Toledo**

Silly season abounds in Toledo. A group of businessman and media types have banded together to start a recall the mayor movement. If they succeed in getting the requisite number of signatures—over 19,000—the mayor will face a September 2009 campaign to avoid being dumped.

If he is dumped, it will be just a few months before the November general election, which means we could have three mayors in the span of four or five months, thereby ensuring that nothing will get accomplished if it has to come out of the mayor's office.

If all of this weren't silly enough, consider the mayor's reaction—he held a press conference to assail his attackers and brought their movement out of obscurity and onto the front pages.

**9. Ashford Loses the Presidency of City Council**

Last year our top local story was the unexpected rise of City Councilman Michael Ashford to the presidency of that legislative body as his colleagues decided to move incumbent Republican Rob Ludeman out and put Ashford in.

New council members decided to reverse that move in January and Mark Sobczak walked away with the grand prize when the mayor broke the tie and cast the deciding vote against Ashford.

One would have expected the mayor to do that—he and Ashford had agreed on practically nothing over the years and take great pride in embarrassing one another as often as possible.

What was unexpected was the duplicity shown by at least one new city council member as the vote unfolded. Great start to a career!

**10. Sidney Ribeau Leaves Bowling Green**

Sidney Ribeau was named president of Bowling Green State University in 1995 and by all standards—length of service, programs initiated, student enrollment, minority student enrollment, fundraising—was a huge success before leaving during the summer to assume a similar position at Howard University.

Chief among his programs was the implementation of the BGeXperience that brings students to campus before the start of the fall semester for an intensive introduction to critical thinking about values.

His capital campaign that began in 2003 raised \$120 million in a shorter amount of time than predicted. The minority student population at BGSU is now 19 percent, up from 6.9 percent when Ribeau arrived.

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**The Top Five National and International News Stories of 2008**

By Fletcher Word  
Sojourner's Truth Editor

Some years are particularly memorable. Some years are noteworthy because of a single event – such as 1929 and the stock market crash or 1941 and the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Some years achieve their legendary status because of multiple events such as 1968 – an election year, a year with two political assassinations (Rev. Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy), social unrest, campus turmoil, the Tet offensive in Vietnam, among others.

The year just ending will fall into that category, that memorable category, on the basis of two events – the election of Barack Hussein Obama to the presidency of the United States and the economic catastrophe which will undoubtedly rank as the second greatest financial disaster in the nation's history after the Great Depression which started in 1929.

**President-elect Barack Hussein Obama**

We can use his middle name now. In fact, he's going to be sworn in under his full name. That is what a difference a year makes.

As it happened – witness the 200,000 who turned out in Berlin to hear Obama speak during his foreign tour this summer – this story is both national and international.

Up until November 4, 2008, the Obama campaign was staying strictly away from the Hussein part of the candidate's name. That part of the name conjured up what so many people seem to fear these days – Middle Eastern terrorism.

The Obama story was a year-long saga that began, appropriately enough, as the year dawned. On January 3, 2008, the Iowa caucus was held and several things occurred that opened a lot of eyes about the Obama candidacy. First, he won, of course, and by a wide margin. Second, he turned out hordes of young and first-time voters. Third,

the overall turnout was far greater than anticipated – more than twice that of Republican caucus participants.

Fourth, and this may be the most telling of all, Obama won in a state that was virtually all-white.

Formost of 2007, ever since Obama had declared his candidacy early in that year, he had trailed Senator Hillary Clinton by as much as 20 percentage points in national polls. A good deal of that lead was due to the cynicism in the

scene. McCain had been given up for dead after his summer 2007 cash implosion. He had to trim his sails and lay off staff. Pundits wrote him off. But that near fiasco seemed to imbue the candidate with the underdog fighting spirit that characterizes his career in public service.

McCain's campaign re-geared and continued on a shoestring. Fortunately for the Arizona senator the Republican field was replete with

badly underestimated the Obama candidacy. Strategically, the Clinton forces made two huge mistakes. First, they placed little value on smaller states, particularly those with caucuses. Second, they planned a campaign that would end by Super Tuesday.

In the event, Obama won 13 of 23 contests on that day and took the main prize – the delegate count. After that, Clinton was playing catch up in an underdog role she had not contemplated.

Tactically, the Clinton campaign was not prepared to deal with the personality meltdowns that came along. Bill Clinton's frequent outbursts and his petulant whining caught the campaign off guard. Strategist Mark Penn's self-righteousness and inability to play nice with others prevented the campaign from responding to changes in the candidate's standing.

Yet, Hillary Clinton hung on until the bitter end, even as her support among super-delegates eroded, clinching the nomination for Obama. Much was made of the Obama slip of the tongue when he said he had campaigned in 57 states.

That statement did not faze anyone at this paper. We had counted around 57 or 58 well before the primary season had ended, and it seemed like a lot more. You betcha!

Speaking of which, how 'bout that Sarah Palin/Tina Fey addition to the election cycle? The debate has raged endlessly about whether she actually helped John McCain re-energize his base (yes, she did) or whether she actually cost him votes in the end (yes, she did).

Obama may have won this election without the assistance of the economic crisis ... we may never know for sure. And we can only guess as to the net effect of Palin's selection to the second spot on the ticket.

This much seems obvious, however. If she gained the spot on the ticket in order to bring disaffected Hillary Clinton women over to the Republican side, that gambit failed. And so did any chance of McCain winning moderate voters in sizeable enough numbers to turn this election around.

Palin probably brought social conservatives to the

polls, but she did so in states such as Oklahoma, Texas, Alabama, Mississippi, Utah and Wyoming where McCain would have won handily no matter whom he selected as running mate.

Her candidacy certainly did not help in swing states such as Florida, North Carolina, Indiana, Ohio, Colorado, Iowa, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Mexico and Nevada. Obama won every state that John Kerry won in 2004 plus more than a half a dozen others.

Nevertheless, Palin emerged as a leading candidate for the GOP 2012 nomination.

**The Economy**

How does a 158-year old investment bank, Lehman Bros, that had weathered numerous economic downturns during its history, especially that of the Great Depression, suddenly disappear like a puff of smoke?

We got bits, large bits, of bad news during the entire course of the year. Foreclosures were up, especially in the sub-prime market. Fannie

(Continued on Page 5)



African-American community that a black man could take the nomination from the Clintons or win in the general election. Iowa turned the black community around for Obama.

A decided underdog – black, little experience on the national stage, exotic name – won the nomination.

Obama would go on to win the general election, but within the Obama victory, both for the party nomination and in the general election, are a number of interesting stories all on their own – the Senator John McCain resurgence and eventual nomination; the Clinton-Bill and Hillary – meltdown after what appeared to be an insurmountable polling lead; the Obama/Clinton primary battle and the Gov. Sarah Palin emergence on the national

flawed candidates and eventually the McCain candidacy surged to the top with yet another triumph in New Hampshire.

Missteps by opponents helped the McCain cause and he quickly wrapped up the nomination before the end of February – well before the Texas and Ohio primaries, in fact. That may have proved detrimental to him in the general election since he did not have the opportunity, as did Obama, to campaign exhaustively in the Ohio and Pennsylvania primaries. By the time November rolled around, Obama had spent lots of time and money in those key swing states and had a huge head start in paid and volunteer staff on the ground.

The Clinton campaign

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**The Top Five**

*(Continued from Page 4)*

Mae and Freddie Mac needed government help, J.P. Morgan was going to buy Bear Stearns via the prompting of the government in order to save that venerable Wall Street institution, the Bank of America was going to buy Merrill Lynch, AIG needed government help in order to survive, and then, all of a sudden, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and Fed Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke were in front of Congress asking for \$700 billion to save the world from an economic cataclysm.

The economic meltdown had seemingly been triggered by the unregulated use of derivatives – new financial instruments that were in many cases tied to the large number of bad mortgages lending institutions had been making, particularly in subprime mortgage markets, in recent years. These mortgages had been bundled by local banks and sold to investment banks, not only within the U.S. but around the world.

Time is of the essence, Bernanke and Paulson told the country, so 'we really can't explain the whole thing, just

trust us.' Eventually Congress did bestow their trust on the administration and the money flowed into the banks ... and sat there.

Meanwhile the Big Three automakers realized they were about to go belly up and they went to Washington, hat in hand, and asked for a paltry dozen or so billion dollars to keep afloat. Naturally Congress went ballistic. "You flew down here in corporate jets? You are making \$20 million a year, Mr. CEO, and you don't think that's excessive?"

The auto execs were flogged, made to return in sack cloth and ashes ... and drive the 520 miles in hybrids ... and still denied the money by Congress.

It's going to be so much fun to see what the bankers have to do to get their hands on the second half of their \$700 billion in a couple of months, especially since they won't even disclose to the public what they are doing with the public's money. Some real groveling may be in order.

The Bush administration, deciding as Vice President Dick Cheney told his Republican colleagues in Congress

that they did not want the "Herbert Hoover" tag applied by historians, reached into that portion of the \$350 billion they had not doled out to Wall Street and came up with a bridge loan of around \$14 billion to keep the American auto industry viable – for a couple of months anyway.

Finally, to round out the fall out from the credit crunch, investor to the stars, Bernard Madoff, fell on his sword and admitted to setting up a Ponzi scheme designed to bilk his clients. He had lost \$50 billion, he told investigators and no one else was to blame except for him.

At year's end, investigators are trying to figure out where \$50 billion went, if indeed that sum is an accurate reflection of the loss. Madoff had to reveal the extent of the problem when investors, especially institutional investors such as charities, came calling for their money due to the credit freeze.

**Oil Prices**

Just before the summer started, President George Bush held a press conference during which he expressed

surprise when informed by a reporter that gas prices were predicted to hit four dollars a gallon during the summer.

"I hadn't heard that," said Bush.

In some spots in California, gas actually topped the five dollar mark as the price for crude oil hit \$150 a barrel before returning to levels not seen in years – \$33 a barrel just recently.

OPEC is less to blame than are oil speculators who drove the prices sky high and caused Americans to seriously rethink the types of vehicles they are inclined to purchase.

**Mumbai Terrorism**

This one tops the War in Iraq as an important news story in our opinion not because of the magnitude of the attack which left more than 170 people dead but because of the participants – India and Pakistan – and what it means for the future.

There are four reasons why this event is both so important and terrible at the same time: both nations are nuclear powers, both are heavily populated (India has over a billion people), India is becoming increasingly important as an economic power and Pakistan's involvement with and proximity to Afghanistan may well determine the future of the Taliban and the fate of U.S. forces there.

India and Pakistan have waged three wars since the British quit the Indian subcontinent and acquiesced to the local request for partition. That partition was poorly executed as the state of Kashmir – with its 85 percent Muslim population ended up under Indian rule instead of Pakistani.

The attack, organized on Pakistani soil, has been met with apparent calm by the Indian government but has caused the Pakistani govern-

ment to move forces to the Indian border in contemplation of reprisals.

These forces are the ones that should be dealing with Afghan and Al Qaeda terrorists who have been using the Pakistan mountains as their own staging grounds for incursions into Afghanistan.

A war between these two powers would exacerbate the world's economic problems and would divert much needed attention away from the task of dealing with terrorism. And then there's that little nuclear arsenal situation.

**The War in Iraq**

OK, let it be said, even if candidate Barack Obama was not willing to admit it – John McCain, you were right about the surge.

Truth be known, however, John McCain could and should have spoken up about the need to deal with a post-war strategy well before it was clear that the Rumsfeld strategy was not going to work. McCain had such an opportunity in the run-up to the war when Army chief of staff was unceremoniously drummed out of the military for daring to suggest that after the war itself was over, the U.S. would need a whole lot of troops on the ground to keep the peace.

Nevertheless, the situation in Iraq is good deal more settled than it was in 2007. Of course other than the surge itself we have the payoffs to Sunni warlords to thank for the decrease in violence. We can only guess what will happen when the troops leave and the payoffs end.

The Kurds in the northern part of the country have weathered the last few years without a lot of damage to their section of the country or loss of life – compared to the Shi'a and Sunni losses. That northern calm may be about to change as oil-rich Kirkuk,

where a lot of Kurds reside, becomes the object of a tug-of-war among the various ethnic and religious segments of the population.

McCain said he would not leave the country until we had achieved victory. Amazingly no one asked him how he would know exactly when "victory" in Iraq arrives.

There are two possible scenarios here. In the first one, we simply declare the war over and stay forever as we have in South Korea. In the second one, we simply declare the war over and slink away to leave the Iraqis to their own devices as we did in Vietnam.

**Several Other Top Stories**

Two events in China – an earthquake in the Sichuan province that killed 70,000 people and the Beijing Olympics featuring a stunning eight-gold medal performance by Michael Phelps – were gigantic stories in 2008.

The Georgian/Russian dust-up over South Ossetia also got the blood coursing. This situation was particularly interesting in that just about everyone seemed to get it wrong. It was Georgia that started the problem with its artillery barrage. The Russians, who have been waiting for years to flex their muscles, especially as the West looks to surround them by bringing Ukraine and Georgia into NATO, got their chance to show off their re-built military apparatus. They drubbed Georgian forces within a matter of days.

Even more interesting than the actual conflict was world and U.S. reaction. In the heat of the campaign, for example, John McCain snarled and shook his fist at Russia. But if he had been president what would he have done? Pulled surge forces out of Iraq to protect Georgia?

The Russians are back.

*In Loving Memory*



*John W. Glover, Sr.  
April 1934–December 2004*



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# Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture

By Mario L. Harris-Rosser  
Special to the Truth

**Harambee, Harambee, Harambee, Harambee, Harambee, Harambee!** Maulana Karenga, Ph.D., first celebrated Kwanzaa in 1966. Karenga is quoted, "[Kwanzaa] offers a clear and self-conscious option, opportunity and chance to



of those present at the public Kwanzaa celebration held at the YMCA's Wayman D. Palmer Center last week.

Kwanzaa's creator,

make a proactive choice, a self-affirming and positive choice as distinct from a reactive one."

This was the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kwanzaa cel-



Development; Che Snelling of S & S Management and Consulting; LaVerne Redden, director of Social Concerns for the Diocese of Toledo; John Jones, CEO of the Greater Toledo Urban League and Toledo City Councilman Michael Ashford.

In addition to the presenters, a wide range of local vendors also were on hand to bring a touch of local community and business to the offerings, such as: the Essence of Natural Beauty, Stephanie's Sweet Scents, Latoya Carter with Avon and Lenora with Obama T-shirts.

The Kwanzaa Committee of the Lighthouse Community Center organized the seven-day event.

celebrated in Toledo area and this year's theme was "Our Views, Our Voices, Our Unity."

Kwanzaa begins annually on December 26 and concludes on January 1. The seven-day celebration includes seven corresponding principles derived from the *Swahili* language listed as follows: *umoja* (unity), *kujichagulia* (self-determination), *ujima* (collective work and responsibility), *ujamaa* (cooperative eco-

nomics), *nia* (purpose), *kuumba* (creativity), and *imani* (faith).

The local Kwanzaa celebration featured a wide range of talented speakers, storytellers, poets, musicians, and dancers. In addition, the program included a variety of local vendors and restaurants. Peering out into the audience,

Diane Gordon, the chairman of the Kwanzaa Committee said: "[T] his program is the meaning of unity, it represents everything that the principle of *umoja* expresses."

This year's presenters included Willie McKether, Ph.D., of The University of Toledo; Glenna Wilson-Barnes of Covenant Youth

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## YWCA Breaks Ground for Women's Housing Center

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

It has been a while in the making but, finally, the Toledo YWCA has broken ground on a building that will consist of permanent housing units for women and their children. "It was a wonderful journey," said YWCA Executive Director Lisa McDuffie of the two and a half year process that came to fruition just recently. "This was one of those times when we knew what we needed to do. Having housing for battered women fits the mission."



Mayor Carty Finkbeiner and Lisa McDuffie

The YWCA has long had temporary housing for women and children. "We were doing an awesome job with transitional housing," said McDuffie. "But from a budget standpoint we weren't getting the job done. The discharge of women before they were ready was a heartbreaking situation."

The new building at Jefferson and 10th will contain 43 units—efficiencies, one and two bedroom apartments and should be complete in 18 months. In addition to the units in the new structure, the existing YWCA will be renovated to contain an additional 22 units for permanent housing.

The cost of the new building is approximately \$10 million, financed in large part by the Huntington Bank.

"The role of the YWCA is so important to this part of the city," said Mayor Carty Finkbeiner during the groundbreaking ceremony. "It's a wonderful experience to be mayor of a city with [a combination of] rich and poor, Caucasian and of color. There is a synergy in making all of that work. We do that better in Toledo than we give ourselves credit for. We can be way out front in terms of providing housing opportunities for the least fortunate of our brothers and sisters."

"This provides more than hope, it provides shelter," said McDuffie in concluding her remarks.

While the financing is in place for the new building, the YWCA is still in the process of seeking an additional \$3 to \$5 million to renovate the existing structure at 1018 Jefferson.

## Center for Advancement Announces Project C.H.A.N.G.E.

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*



Pastor James Williams and City Councilman Michael Ashford

The James C. Williams Center for Advancement has received a federal grant in the amount of \$224,000 in order to continue its work through Project C.H.A.N.G.E. (Change Happens As New Generations Excel) on preventing and reducing the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies among at-risk youth, the center's staff announced this week.

Rev. James C. Williams, III, pastor of the Tabernacle of Faith Worship Center and the director of the Center for Advancement, spoke of his concern for those youths who have found themselves in the spiral that locks them into behavior that encourages early pregnancies and "the added pressure of raising children when you are still a child."

According to Williams, the project will target youths, ages 10 to 21, who are either in foster care or in the juvenile justice system.

Youth accepted into the program will be paired with mentors and then given individualized plans of care to include services "that incorporate the identification of needs, strengths, values and preferences of the youth and may include wrap-around services as provided by the applicant or referrals to social services agencies, faith-based and community organizations and other entities that deliver such services."

Such wrap-around services may include tutoring, counseling, job readiness, substance abuse prevention, GRE/literacy and English as a second language instruction.

Leading Project C.H.A.N.G.E. are Rhonda Stoner, a licensed social worker and the project coordinator, and Jacquelynn Williams, senior project assistant.

The Center for Advancement was organized by Rev. James C. Williams, Jr., pastor emeritus of Tabernacle of Faith, in 2004 to work with at-risk youth and ex-offenders. The center's mission is to empower disadvantaged individuals to reach their fullest potential through faith-based programming and services.

For more information on the Project C.H.A.N.G.E., or to apply to become either a mentor or mentee, call 419-531-2727 or email [rstoner@jcwcfca.org](mailto:rstoner@jcwcfca.org).

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# Best Books of 2008

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
Sojourner's Truth Contributor

Lucky you. This holiday, you got a bookstore gift certificate. That means two things: one, that somebody knows you well and knows you love books. And, two, you have to get to a bookstore, pronto!

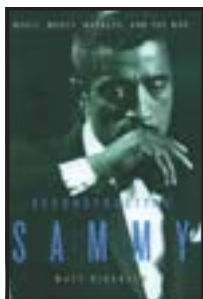
So many books, so little time, right? To make it easy, here are my Top 15 Picks, the books you can't miss, have to read, shouldn't pass up. Of the over-300 books I read in 2008, these are the cream of the crop...

**NONFICTION: Top Five**  
**Assisted Loving** by Bob Morris. When Morris' mother dies, his father goes on a dating rampage and drags his son along by pushing Morris to find True Love. This book made me laugh and there was a passage that still



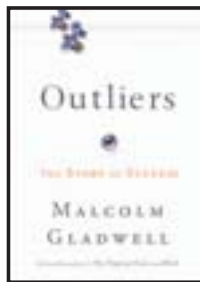
brings me to tears when I think about it. It's a great read for anyone who has a parent who's experimenting anew with the dating pool or anyone who's looking for love in all the wrong places.

**Deconstructing Sammy** by Matt Birkbeck. This bio is a fascinating look at singer



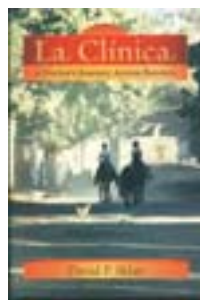
Sammy Davis, Jr., his widow, and the man who took on the project of untangling the mess that was Davis' estate. I enjoyed this book because it's a peek at stardom gone wrong, a story of obsession and responsibility and a nostalgic trip back in time for anyone who remembers the Rat Pack days.

**Outliers** by Malcolm Gladwell. What makes success? This book will tell you how to spot it in typical Gladwell style. From Mozart concerto to Beatles concert, you'll see how genius and opportunity meet to make a phenom. This is one of those



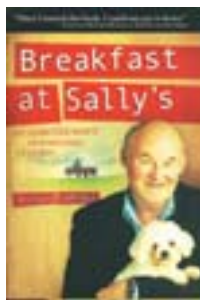
rascinating, quick-to-read books that will make you think long after you shut the cover.

**La Clinica** by David P. Sklar. This book surprised me because I wasn't expect-



ing to like it as much as I did. Sklar's multi-level book is his look back at time spent volunteering at a Mexican free clinic run by a man with several secrets. The back-and-forth to then-and-now moves this true story along and reading it is like exploring a cave: there's something unexpected and wonderful in every little cranny.

**Breakfast at Sally's** by Richard LeMieux. I was only going to browse this book



when I first picked it up but by page 4, I couldn't leave it alone. When LeMieux, who is successful and wealthy, goes bankrupt and insolvent and loses his home, he hits the streets with his dog to live in a van. *Breakfast* is one of those books you have to read, particularly in this economy. It will make you thankful for every single thing—and person—in your life.

**FICTION: Top Five**  
**After River** by Donna Milner. When a young Canadian girl's mother hires an American draft dodger to

work on their farm, it causes turmoil in the entire family that resonates for years. This



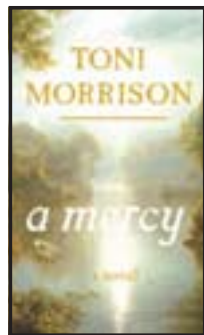
debut novel is beautifully written; one of those curl-up-on-the-sofa books to savor.

**Cake** by D. Conversely, this book is NOT for everyone. It will curl Grandma's



hair with the language and violence, but I raced through it in an hour. *Cake* is a page-turning story about a man who reluctantly gets involved in a drug deal gone bad, even though he's desperately trying to live straight. It's hip, urban and with an ending that will make you scream. Again, it's not for everybody — there are things in here that aren't "nice" — but I loved, loved, loved this book.

**A Mercy** by Toni Morrison. Vintage Morrison — only better — this book is



about three slave women and the ailing mistress they're trying to save. Layer by layer, Morrison lets the women tell their tale of brutality, fear, and love. *A Mercy* is a skinny book that starts out a bit odd but stick with it. You'll want

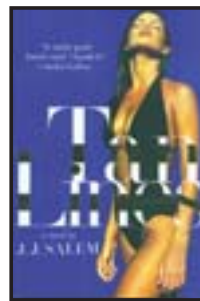
to turn around and read it all over again when you're done.

**The Right Mistake** by Walter Mosley. This is another one of those "make you think" books. It's about a former convict who wants to turn his community around, and he employs friends, fam-



ily, and thinkers to help him. Mosley's Socrates Fortlow (the main character) is the consummate philosopher, and this book is perfect for when you want a little more than a novel.

**Tan Lines** by JJ Salem. Okay. So you'll never see this book on any best-seller list, but that doesn't make it any less enjoyable. You'll get scandal, snarkiness and a great murder mystery in a beach-house deadly romp of a novel here, which makes it



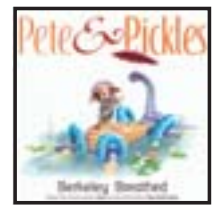
pure fluff and pure fun, all wrapped up in one.

**CHILDREN'S: Top Five**  
**Angel Girl** by Laurie Friedman, illustrated by Ofra Amit. As if the story (boy in concentration camp meets girl who saves his life and he finds her, years later, and marries her) isn't heart-rending enough, the illustrations will bring you to tears in this picture book. Be aware that, even though this is a



book for little kids, you might want to read it yourself first to be sure it's not going to scare sensitive listeners.

**Pete & Pickles** by Berkeley Breathed. A pig with a predictable life meets an escaped circus elephant who



messes with things in this charming, adorable book with illustrations that adults will love as much as the kids will love the story. Get this book, read it to your Resident Toddlers, put the kids to bed and go read it again for yourself.

**You're a Bad Man, Mr. Gumby** by Andy Stanton. Don't buy this book. Seriously. Buy *Mr. Gum* in audio because it's much, much better when read by the author. The audio is only a couple hours long, and I had to stop what I was doing when I was listening to it because I was laughing too hard. This is fun for kids

(Continued on Page 12)



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**NEW YEARS RESOLUTION FOR TOLEDO AND BEYOND**

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture



these unwitting cynics for a ride in my own car to show them the vast city they have never encountered because all they know is Monroe St.

I've mentioned our parks systems to people who just move here from out west.

I've mentioned our family atmosphere for people considering staying here after college.

Why do I do this?

How long have I been defending a city that may or may not even deserve it?

Yo, it all started back for me in the late 90's when some friends and I spent our last couple of years in high school trying to take over the city of Toledo.

Trying to become entrepreneur/mini moguls was exhausting but we rubbed shoulders with powerful people and we began to take our city very seriously.

Since then I have organized and promoted events, I have done the charity work, I have researched the 20/20 Master Plan for Downtown and yada, yada, yada.

Going from a "best & brightest of Generation Y" to now being among the educated townies abstaining from brain drain... I have seen enough to question my defense of The Glass City.

In short, I am finding fewer and fewer reasons to be a proud Toledoan.

And this is after a long career of being what my close friends would call one of the proudest Toledoans they know.

See, I have never truly wanted to stay here.

In 1990 I was in the sixth grade and I saw movie after movie that opened my eyes to Manhattan and THAT is the place I have longed to be ever since.

For certain reasons, I have yet to make that move so during my time still in my hometown I have praised this city because...well, hell I'm just not a hater.

If I'm going to live, work and play somewhere... I'm going to find something to feel good about.

I'm going to educate myself about something before I just outright dog the mess out of it.

So when you hear me now say that I have grown tired of my personal Toledo promotions... please know that it's only after a long time spent trying to convert the unconverted to see the potential and beauty I have always seen in this place.

But you know what? Even in singing praises I've always been honest.

Is Toledo racist?

all that Bowling Green has, compared to us having nearly 100.

But because they are all bunched in within three blocks of each other, it creates such a fun atmosphere with all the people walking around that it feels like a much bigger place than it is.

Toledo has long suffered from an image problem.

City-wide low self esteem.

But now it's much deeper than how we see ourselves.

I'm starting to dislike Toledo on much more serious levels.

**HERE'S WHY!**

Rolling blackouts that leave people without power even in gentle weather conditions.

A horrendous sewer system that leaves entire neighborhoods flooded.

And OMG... lets not even

job growth...most cities that have tapped into industries like telecommunications, computer software and such...those cities experience growth because they attract companies to employ their workers.

Those cities are usually in places like Texas, California and Arizona.

Warm climates year round?

Not exactly an Ohio thing.

But even with the challenge of attracting new companies...

We can't even keep the companies we have!!!

Fed Ex... they are moving!

Just outside of Toledo.

**CURSED?**

If you want to deal with this on a spiritual level you might think of transgression and iniquity.

A generational curse on Toledo.

If you want to think of this like on a purely basic needs level of paying bills and staying afloat... you might arrive at the same conclusion, there just might be a curse on this city.

I have held out as long as I could, y'all.

But as 2009 dawns and we find ourselves in a weird place.

We've got, potentially, the greatest incoming president of our lifetime taking office.

And we've also got the most challenging array of problems we've ever witnessed in our lifetime waiting for him the moment he's sworn in.

Quality of life is going to be drastically important in the coming years.

Keeping your head above water is going to be survival of the fittest.

And that is not so much of a comment about personal fortitude as it is about our collective strength as a city...as a place dubbed the crossroads of America.

Will Toledo become the next Flint, Michigan?

God I hope not.

I truly hope not.

New leadership, will that turn it all around?

Focusing on the energy industry, will that put our city back to work?

All of the proposed solutions have promise...but I think I just have had enough.

These damn streets, yo! Fix the damn streets!

I don't know what our elected officials plan on doing in 2009 to make life better.

I don't know what you reading this plan on doing in 2009 to improve Toledo.

But for me... I will continue to make the best of it, but I have to factor in my new realization that spending my own energy to repair Toledo, Ohio is a complete waste of time when there are other places that can more readily offer that I am looking for.

My New Year's Resolution is to experience success that gives me options of where I want to live. Yeah, that sounds good...I resolve to explore my options.

Because it just may be time to say good night, Toledo.

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I'm trying to get my hands on that Q Tip joint too, got a good feeling about it.

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Also: if you are planning to go to Obama's inauguration... I'd love to print the story of your trip so as always, send a nice email to ya boy and we can all share in your experience when you get back.

Last but not least... 2009 is going to be very interesting.

If you stay ready, you won't have to get ready.

Peace.

glasscitytruth@yahoo.com

**Keeping your head above water is going to be survival of the fittest.**

Hell yeah!  
Does Toledo have a follower mentality?

Hell yeah!  
I've always been honest... even if it hurts.

See... with roughly 300,000 people you've got to admit that this city is not small.

It's not meant to be a Denver... a Seattle... a Cleveland.

It's just a mid-major city. This place has plenty of people.

I'm sure you've seen traffic and the lines at stores this past shopping season... those people didn't just come out of thin air.

There are people here, they just don't do much.

So it's not that our city is small... it's that it lacks atmosphere.

When we do shows in BG and we're down there on Wooster & Main... those seven or eight nightclubs are

discuss the condition of these damn streets. WTF ?

It's almost like they want you to damage your car so you can go get it repaired and help boost the auto service industry in this city.

Yeah, the roads are so bad in Toledo that you start to wonder if it's a conspiracy.

Our mayor... he means well at times but... far faaaaaa more harm than good.

Our police... by my own count, I have come across at least eight instances in the last two years where Toledo police have blatantly threatened, bullied and outright beaten females that I know!

Jobs are a problem all across the country and this New World Order agenda to drive the nations' financial well being into chaos is more of a Dubya thing than a Carty thing.

We're just at the mercy of larger forces on that one.

Even when it comes to

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# Achieving A Resolution Of Financial Health

Special to The Truth

According to a survey conducted by Franklin Covey at the end of 2007, the top New Year's resolution for 2008 was to "get out of debt or save money." And given the nation's economic crunch in 2008, it's expected that financial goals will be a high priority in 2009.

The survey also found that 35 percent of Americans break their New Year's resolutions by the end of January. So what can you do to

stay on track to get your finances in order (or, at least, in better shape)?

Financial expert Liz Pulliam Weston, author of "Easy Money: How To Simplify Your Finances and Get What You Want Out of Life," offers these tips for saving money and sticking to your New Year's resolution.

**. Use cash as much as possible.**

Using cash really helps people stay on the straight

and narrow. Set aside cash each month to cover variable expenses (such as food, gas and entertainment). When the money is gone, it's gone. No going back to the ATM for more.

**. Open a high-yield savings account.**

You'll want to keep your money working hard for you, and that means getting a higher rate than you'll find at the typical brick-and-mortar bank. Look for a high-rate,

FDIC-insured savings account with no account minimums and no monthly fees, such as FNBO Direct (www.FNBODirect.com/savings).

**. Shop smart.**

Don't make any online purchases or big offline purchases without first checking to see if an online coupon is available. This can be as simple as a Google search using the word "coupon" and the name of the store.

Typically, online coupon searches are worth the effort.

Another place to find valuable savings tips is at www.pyfchallenge.com. The PYF Challenge follows five people as they compete to save the most money. Along the way, challengers have shared their unique savings strategies, such as:

. When taking a trip, consider flights with one or more stops. It's less convenient than a direct flight, but normally will save you a considerable amount of money.

Look for ways to make some extra cash. Participate in focus groups, freelance, etc., and put that cash toward expenses outside your monthly budget (e.g., gifts, donations).

. Save money on groceries by taking a list to the grocery store and abiding by a "do not stray from the list" policy. It's amazing how much unneeded stuff you buy otherwise.

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**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

**1319 Palmwood - \$27,627**  
 Two story 3 bd home, newer furnace, updated windows, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher stays plus an extra lot.  
**Call Donnette Tiggs, Welles, Owen, Realtors 419.290.4567 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; baptismal 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 remodeled with updates 900 sq. ft., 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 31, 2008

Page 11

## Bus To Inaugural

Toledo Grassroots in Washington, DC  
January 15 to January 21  
**National MLK Celebration and  
Presidential Inauguration**  
Contact C.J. Brazell at 419-508-0170 or Bonnie  
Cosey at 419-509-9532

## INSTRUCTOR, BUSINESS (Toledo Campus)

Owens Community College invites you to learn  
more about this exciting job opportunity at [https://  
jobs.owens.edu](https://jobs.owens.edu).  
Become part of our inclusive culture that em-  
braces and celebrates diversity.  
AA/EOE

## INSTRUCTOR, INFORMATION SYS- TEMS (Toledo Campus)

Owens Community College invites you to learn  
more about this exciting job opportunity at [https://  
jobs.owens.edu](https://jobs.owens.edu).  
Become part of our inclusive culture that em-  
braces and celebrates diversity.  
AA/EOE

## RN or LSW

Expanding Program seeks Assessor/Care Man-  
agers/Screeners with one (1) year experience in home  
care or gerontology. To work in the Toledo area. To  
conduct in-person assessments, case management  
and/or screening for individuals in need of long-term  
care. Benefit package. Knowledge of community  
resources and reliable transportation required.  
EEO/AAP, Bilingual and minority applicants en-  
couraged to apply.

STARTING SALARY: Negotiable  
Send resumes to:

Personnel/PASSPORT  
AOoA  
2155 Arlington Avenue  
Toledo, Ohio 43609

## Medical Assistant

Seeking a dedicated professional to provide medi-  
cal assistant and front desk services. Duties include  
providing direct care to clients of all ages, scheduling  
appointments and taking blood pressure and other  
vitals. Requires current Medical Assistant certificate  
plus two years recent office experience. Must be  
proficient and accurate in data entry, have Microsoft  
Word processing experience, and be able to independ-  
ently perform multiple medical tests in a medical  
office setting including, but not limited to, laboratory  
draws, EKGs, and foley catheterizations. Previous  
experience working with mental health and/or MRDD  
population a plus. Commitment to providing excel-  
lent customer service a must. Send resume and  
salary expectations by 12/31/08 to Harbor Behavioral  
Healthcare, Attn: Human Resources (MA), Fax to  
419-724-9439; E-mail to [harborhr@harbor.org](mailto:harborhr@harbor.org)  
[www.harbor.org](http://www.harbor.org); EOE.

## NORTHGATE APARTMENTS Now Accepting Applications 1 AND 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS

Mature Adult Community for Persons 55 and  
Older or Mobility Impaired. Rent Based on Income.  
Heat, Appliances, Drapes and Carpeting Included.  
Call Call (419) 729-7118 for details.



## 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.

**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](http://jobs.owens.edu).



## House for Sale

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

## Special Notice RE: Examinations for Journeyman Wireman

Applications for the Journeyman Inside Wireman  
test will be accepted January 12 – 16, 2009 at the  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local  
8, 807 Lime City Road, Rossford, Ohio between 9:00  
a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The qualifications to be eligible for  
this examination are:

1. Must be 18 years of age or over.
2. Must live in the jurisdiction of Local 8 for one  
year prior to application.
3. Must have proof of 4 years employment in the  
commercial/industrial electrical industry.

## • 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 pri-  
vate patios, indoor mailboxes, re-  
served parking and busing to local  
grocery stores. Applications are now  
being accepted. Call 419-872-3510 or  
419-874-4371



## 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](http://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 immedi-  
ate 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 responsi-  
bilities 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 manufactur-  
ing maintenance, preferably in the food industry  
Ability to work and manage within a team environ-  
ment.

Strong organizational, critical thinking, and prob-  
lem solving skills.

Effective presentation, verbal, and written com-  
munication 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 depart-  
ments 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](mailto:hr.toledo@jmsmucker.com) by De-  
cember 31, 2008.

### Benefits / General:

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

**No phone calls please. We will contact indi-  
viduals that we are interested in pursuing. We  
are an equal opportunity employer.**

# Giving You the EDGE to Grow Your Contracting Business

**Contractors – Come and Learn About EDGE**

Monday, January 12  
5-7 p.m.  
The University of Toledo  
Scott Park Campus Auditorium

*Reception to follow*

The EDGE is program is designed by the state of Ohio to facilitate access to state government contracts and business services for socially and economically disadvantaged business enterprises.

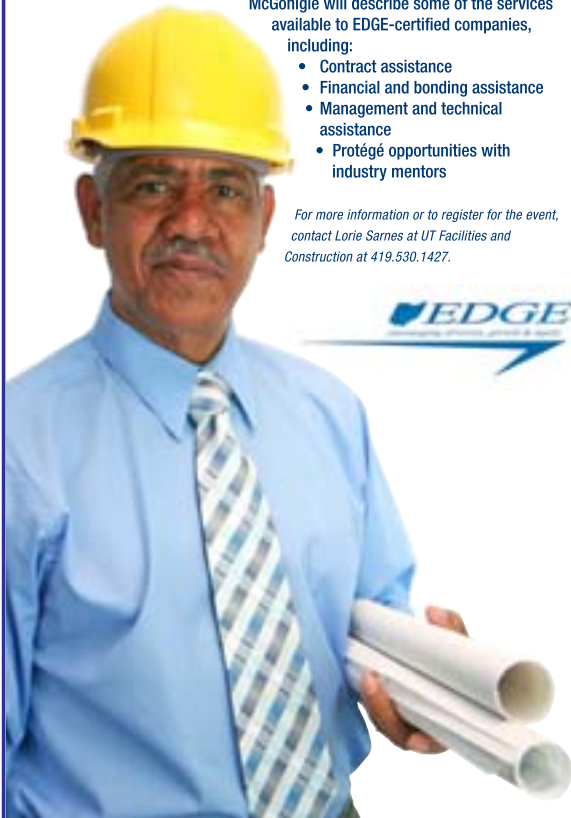
The University of Toledo is eager to work with EDGE-certified businesses and is committed to helping minority businesses access EDGE services and compete for business at the University.

As part of this commitment, UT is hosting the event, which features Todd McGonigle, EEO Program Manager for the state of Ohio's EDGE program, will talk about how to become EDGE-certified and how EDGE-certified companies can pursue work with the University.

McGonigle will describe some of the services available to EDGE-certified companies, including:

- Contract assistance
- Financial and bonding assistance
- Management and technical assistance
- Protégé opportunities with industry mentors

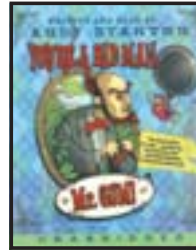
For more information or to register for the event, contact Lorie Sarnes at UT Facilities and Construction at 419.530.1427.



## Best of...

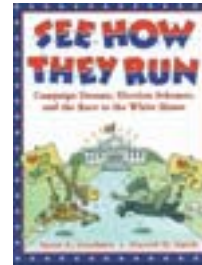
(Continued from Page 8)

seven-and-up, and fun for you, too.



*See How They Run* by Susan E. Goodman and Elwood H. Smith. It doesn't have to be an election year for kids to be interested in politics, and this book makes Washington goings-on easy to understand. This is one of those "adults should read it, too" books, but it's really

perfect for kids nine-and-up. *Science on the Loose* by Helaine Becker. Again, this isn't going to be on any



bestseller list, but it's a great book. Kids will learn about their bodies and the world around them through silly cartoons and fun activities. Perfect for kids eight-to-12, it lets them learn something useful without making them

feel like they're learning.



And there you are: 15 can't-miss, gotta-buy-it books for you to use with your gift certificate. If you've already read these, ask your bookseller for ideas; he or she has dozens of favorites to talk about.

So what are you waiting for? Get out of here. Go. That gift certificate isn't getting any newer, you know.

Happy reading!

## Outliers: The Story of Success by Malcolm Gladwell

c.2008, Little, Brown and Company  
**\$27.99 / \$30.99 Canada 320 pages**

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
*Sojourner's Truth Contributor*

Your college alumni letter came the other day. You read it, surprised and a little depressed.

A first-class slacker you graduated with is a multi-millionaire now. The Guy Most Likely to Succeed has done just that and more. And that cheerleader you dated? She's parlayed her pom-poms into prosperity and she's living large.

And you, well, you could be a contender but the only Rocky you know has been life since college. Although you're not doing too badly, your classmates obviously did better. Were they born lucky or did their parents "know somebody?" Find out the truth in the new book *Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell.

You know a star when you see it. It's the athlete who makes the game look effortless, the businessperson who breezily turns junk into gold, the lawyer who's top in your address book, the teacher you remember best. Gladwell calls

those people "Outliers." They lie outside – but above – the norm.

And they are successful. But why?

Gladwell says that, in order to understand highly successful people, you need to look at where they're from, ancestrally, culturally, and geographically. Mix in innate ability, seizeable opportunity and plain old luck and you can predict who succeeds.

In Canada, for instance, Gladwell says that an overwhelming majority of elite hockey players were born in the first three months of the year. The months themselves aren't the key; instead, the best players are best because youth-team age-bracketing runs January 1 through December 31. Pucksters born early have a several-month advantage over their smaller, younger teammates.

Birth year can play a part in success, too. Gladwell says it's no coincidence that Bill Gates, Steve Jobs and other computer giants were born in

the middle 1950's, just like it's no coincidence that some of today's most respected law firms were started by men who were born in the mid-1930's.

But success isn't just a matter of birth. Researchers say that it takes an average of 10,000 hours of practice to become the best at any task. Seizing opportunity definitely helps. If your parents were born to a hard-working culture, that'll give you a leg-up. Somehow getting entire organizations to change their schedules would be beneficial. But brains? Great! You've got 'em, but high intelligence isn't at the top of success-making lists. Practical intelligence is much more desirable.

*Outliers* is - for the most part - a lively and fascinating trip through the making of a success. Taking readers from Canada to Europe, Jamaica (where Gladwell himself caught a lucky ancestral break) to Wall Street, author Malcolm Gladwell is gleeful in revealing his findings. Although he sometimes rambles before he explains himself, what you'll learn is layered so that it's not overwhelming.

The only problem I see with this book is that it's going to tell you how to spot success, but you won't learn how to get it. Still, Gladwell's latest is one of those business books that doubles as fun, making *Outliers* a book to stay in with this winter.

Cell 419.870.1730

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