



Volume 16, No.01

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

April 22, 2009

### In This Issue

This Strikes Us ...  
Page 2

School Board vs Minority Contractors  
Page 3

Konop re: Police Expenses  
Page 4

Martinez re: Fire Expenses  
Page 5

### The Economy

Neely's Real Estate  
Page 7

Getting to College  
Page 8

Homeless to Homeowner  
Page 9

Rediscovering Ironing  
Page 10

Fifth Third and United North  
Page 11

Gamma Phi Delta  
Page 12

Minister and the Stars  
Page 13

BlackMarketPlace  
Page 14

Classifieds  
Page 15

Lt. John Preston  
Retired, Toledo Police Department



And The Winner is...



Ian English  
Assistant Prosecutor, Lucas  
County



## The Truth's 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Dr. Hope Mitchell, MD,  
Mitchell Dermatology

Jan Scotland  
State Farm Insurance Agent



Principal Teresa Quinn and Students  
Lincoln Academy for Boys



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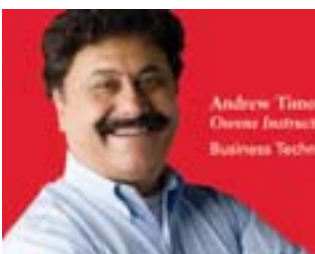
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## This Strikes Us ...

*A Sojourner's Truth Editorial*

One of the most intriguing spectacles on tax day was the appearance of U.S. Rep. Paul Latta (Rep. Bowling Green) at a local tax tea party gathering. The tea parties were organized as a national protest against taxes, bailouts and government over-spending.

On the whole, we can't find fault with the concept of protesting taxes, bailouts and government spending. What we can find fault with is the hypocrisy of those congressmen, such as Latta, who rail against the bailouts and the stimulus package while requesting millions of dollars in earmarks at the same time.

Latta, for example, requested and received 10 earmarks for his congressional district totaling \$2.93 million, primarily to curb flooding. Those requests make a lot of sense, in fact.

Latta, however, a relative newcomer to Washington showed, as so many Republican congressmen did, that he is a master at the political game of CYA. He requests the earmarks, then votes against the stimulus package knowing that it would pass with or without his vote and knowing that he and his constituents would benefit directly through his requests.

Now, moving forward, Latta and his like-minded Republican colleagues are in good shape whatever happens with the nation's economic woes. First, they decry the amount of government spending in the stimulus package. Second, instead of refusing to request earmarks – in the hopes of tamping down the spending – they seek their own.

If things go well, they will have brought home the bacon to the voters and can point to that in the next election cycle. If things go badly with economic recovery, they can still say 'I told you so' and conveniently omit any reference to their own part in jacking up the national debt.

Not exactly "Profiles in Courage" stuff.

By the way, Ohio's own John Boehner of the 8th District and also the house minority leader is cut from a different cloth. Boehner, an outspoken opponent of President Obama's economic message, does not and has not requested earmarks for his district during his time in Congress. The man walks the walk.

\* \* \* \* \*

Obama returns home from his latest trip abroad to face his critics on the right who are accusing him once again of kowtowing to America's enemies.

This time, Obama's poor judgment involved actually shaking the hand of Venezuela's Hugo Chavez ... and smiling at the same time. Unbelievable, eh? He actually shook this man's hand.

Chavez, by the way, is the socialist leader who has close ties with Cuba and Castro and had the effrontery to call George Bush a devil.

And Obama shook this man's hand!

As if this weren't enough, Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton have both been brazen enough to admit that the United States has made some mistakes in the past with respect to the way the country has conducted itself abroad and they have apologized for the same mistakes. Hard to believe, isn't it?

These actions, say the critics, will be taken as signs of weakness and embolden our enemies. Such softness increases the chances of future attacks, we are told.

This is why being perceived as ugly Americans is in the best interest of national security and why Obama should have spit in Chavez's face rather than shake his hand.

\* \* \* \* \*

Closer to home, the game is on to drive Mayor Carty Finkbeiner out of office two months before he would have had to quit the 22nd Floor under his own steam. The recall petitions seem to have passed the scrutiny of the Board of Elections and the question will be submitted to voters on November 3 during the general election.

The mayor, of course, has his back up. Who could have foreseen that happening?

In a statement issued Monday, Finkbeiner has declared that he will not be driven away, he will fight the validity of the signatures, he has hired lawyers to assist him in this matter.

So, the City of Toledo, faced with an economic debacle, could very well see three mayors in office in the space of less than two months, with all the chaos that may entail.

In addition, we now have a mayor who will be spending the next six and a half months coping with the recall issue at the expense of time that could be spent on economic and job development.

That recall thing is really making a lot of sense.

## The Sojourner's Truth

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## Community Calendar

### April 22

Area Office on Aging: South Kinship Club; "Grieving the Loss of the Happy Birth Family;" Hunt Senior Center; 5:30 pm

### April 23

Area Office on Aging: Open Dorr Kinship Club; "Service from MRDD;" Dorr Elementary; 5:30 pm

### April 24-25

Calvary Baptist Church Women's Ministry Spring Retreat: 419-531-9443

### April 25

"Take Back The Night:" End violence against women rally; Start High School; 6 pm – resource fair and displays; 7 pm – community rally: 419-530-3432 or [tbntoledo@yahoo.com](mailto:tbntoledo@yahoo.com)

11th Annual Free Prostate Screening Program: Toledo Council of Black Nurses and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; Cordelia Martin Health Center; 10 am to 2 pm: 419-531-4310 Warren AME Oral Health Workshop for Youth: Noon to 2 pm: 419-243-2237

Abundant Joy Ministries: Youth Biblical Rap Session; "It's OK to Say No;" Kent Branch Library; 2:30 to 5 pm: 419-787-3732 or 419-699-0586

Ohio Association of Colored Women's Club NW District Annual Fund Raiser: The Crown Affair; Heatherdowns Country Club; 11 am: 419-531-6163 or 419-537-9042

### April 26

Southern MBC 26th Pastoral Anniversary Celebration: Rev. Robert Wormely; 4 pm Beulah Baptist Church 3rd Pastoral Anniversary: 4 pm; Guests Rev. John Walthall and Mt. Ararat: 419-283-1028

David Carter Symphonic Choir First Annual Scholarship Fund Concert: In memory of David Carter; Phillips Temple CME Church; 4:30 pm

Greater St. Mary's Baptist Church 6th Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor and Mrs. Robert W. Lyons; 4 pm; Guest speaker Bishop McGee

### April 27-May 1

Women's Entrepreneurial Network's Trade Show: Ramada Westgate (formerly the Clarion); 1 to 6 pm; For vendor information call Beth Miller at 419-254-6034

Covenant Churches Conference: Servant's Heart Christian Church; "It's Your Season;" Services at 7 pm nightly

### April 28

Area Office on Aging: Caregiver Educational Series; Mott Branch Library; 6:30 to 8 pm

### May 2

First Church of God Health Seminar: "Developing Good Health Habits for Better Living;" 10 am to 2 pm; Genesis Dreamplex; Keynote speaker Linda Ross, RN: 419-865-5207

Toledo Business EXPO: Indiana Avenue MBC – Stephenson-Roberts Fellowship Hall; 11 am to 4 pm; Businesses, vendors call Dorothy Gray 419-537-9347 or 419-260-2209

### May 2-3

Greater St. Mary's Baptist Church 6th Pastoral Anniversary: Saturday banquet at 6 pm at the church – "A Night of Elegance;" Sunday service at 4 pm with guest Pastor J. Jordan of Ebenezer Baptist Church; "On Duty for God:

### May 3

Southern MBC 26th Pastoral Anniversary Celebration: Rev. Robert Wormely; 4 pm

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## The Past as Guide For the Future

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.  
The Truth Contributor



A wise counselor once said: "If life is to make sense, yesterday's experience must have something to do with today's living." The War on Drugs which began in 1970 under President Richard Nixon has failed to make a reduction in the percentage of Americans addicted to illegal drugs after 39 million arrests and a cost of over a trillion dollars.

The battle has however produced a pronounced stamp upon the shape and definition of the criminal justice system and upon African-American family life.

America has imprisoned more people per capita than anyone else in the world. African-Americans, although a mere 13 percent of the population, constitute half of the country's 2 million prisoners. Also, with a 10th of all black men between 20 and 35 years of age in jail or prison, you are liable to find at least one imprisoned black person in almost every family or extended family circle. With persons with felony convictions practically restricted in many cases from employment, access to public housing, student loan or welfare eligibility, the negative effect of prison on black family life is devastating.

However, The April 2009 Sentencing Project's The Changing Racial Dynamics of the War on Drugs makes the astonishing announcement that for the first time in over 25 years more whites are going to jail for drugs and that blacks are being incarcerated at a slower rate. The number of African-Americans in state prisons for a drug offense declined by 31,000 persons or 21.6 percent from 1999-2005 while the number of whites incarcerated for drugs increased by 42.6 percent or an additional 21,000. These changing racial dynamics suggest how we may have gotten mired in this slough of racial incarceration and point out some valuable insights for future success.

The effect of racial bias or disparity in sentencing which has for two

(Continued on Page 6)

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12 Noon - 4 pm  
United Way of Greater Toledo  
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mourning women . . ."**

**God is calling.  
Will you answer?**

## School Board Finally Decides to Reach out to Minority Contractors

By James Fowler  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Nearly eight years after it initially began, Toledo Public Schools' \$640 million renovation project may have reached a turning point in its long struggle to provide business opportunities for minority and local contractors.

Last week the Toledo Board of Education rejected five demolition bids presented by Lathrop/Gant/Barton-Malow (LGB), the construction management firm that recommends contractors for each project. Instead it unanimously voted for a resolution that would break up the five remaining school renovation projects into smaller segments so that local business owners would have a better chance at bidding on contracts.

Steve Steel, Ph.D., president of the Toledo Board of Education and a professor at Bowling Green State University, says that as elected officials it is important for the school board to be more proactive when it comes to issues such as this.

"We have to make sure that we fulfill some of the commitments that were made by previous boards that haven't been met," he says. "We have to be more aggressive and make sure those commitments are fulfilled."

One reason the school board did not make the decision earlier is because they were unaware they could.

"We had been told by the administration that the rules set up by the OSFC [Ohio School Facilities Commission] which is funding most of the project didn't allow for breaking down bid contracts," says Steele. "It

wasn't until recently we heard a contrary note from the OSFC."

Vince Wiggins, director of the Toledo African American Bureau of Commerce, believes the school board made the right choice. He also thinks it's long overdue.

"Without question it [breaking down the bid contracts] should have been done a long time ago," says Wiggins. "When the program started, it should have been the cornerstone of the entire project."

However, he also thinks the board was in a difficult situation.

"The school board and the school system have been under fire for some time now," he says. Plus, "there's more evidence coming to the table that Toledo Public Schools and LGB wasn't doing all it could to ensure contracts are broken down into pieces contractors could bid on."

As reported by The Truth last August, the numbers for women and minority participation in TPS' "Building for Success" project (the official name for the school renovation project) have been dreadful. A 2006 report by the African American Bureau of Commerce estimated that minority business enterprise (MBE) participation at the point-several years into the project-was at three percent. The goal was 20 percent.

One of the reasons for the low numbers has to do with the issue of bonding. On public projects potential contractors must submit a bid bond, which ensures the bid being placed. If they are accepted, the contractors must then secure a performance bond, which covers the work being done and

provides insurance for the hiring company in case the contractor defaults later on.

Bonding for a project as large as the "Building for Success" one can be quite expensive and the sad truth is many local, female and minority businesses do not have the financial resources for large projects or, unfortunately, do not know what the requirements are to get bonded.

Someone who has seen this problem up close is Eric Johnson. A contractor for 12 years, his company, Dynamic Contracting, focused on large, commercial projects such as Burroughs Elementary School, the Westfield Mall, the Toledo Jeep Assembly Plant and the Toledo Waterways Initiative. He says that while bonding has prevented many business owners from even submitting bids for this project, there's an even larger issue that needs to be addressed. "The majority of small business owners come from a trade," says Johnson, now a consultant for local minority and small businesses. "They're a carpenter, a plumber, an electrician. And then they transition to [being] a business owner. But they don't have exposure to the business side."

Why not?

"Typically, we [contractors] don't have any exposure to the requirements [for a business]," he explains. "Our goal is to go out, get some work, perform the work and hopefully make a buck at it."

Personal accountability  
(Continued on Page 4)

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## Ben Konop's Three Point Proposal to Stem an Anticipated Rise in Crime.

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Lucas County Commissioner Ben Konop, announced candidate for Toledo mayor, held a news conference on Sunday at the Secor Carry Out at the corner of Dorr and Secor Streets and presented a three-point plan designed to prevent a rise in crime as the City of Toledo finds itself forced to lay off police officers in an

attempt to address its mounting budget deficit.

Konop's remarks came in the wake of an announcement by the mayor's office that an additional 75 police officers would be laid off on May 1. That number is in addition to the 75 layoffs previously announced although the city has applied for a federal grant that

may enable it to retain 40 of these officers at least through the fall of this year.

"I have a short-term, cost effective solution that will help stem a potential rise in crime," said Konop.

Konop suggested, first, that other city workers, such as garbage men, be trained in "detecting and reporting sus-

picious behavior. "This can be done at little cost to taxpayers," said Konop. "Right now, there is little formal communication between garbage men and police officers."

Secondly, Konop said that the city needs to ensure that computer software is used and improved. The department's CompStat software program "is on the chopping block right now," said Konop. He said that he would, as mayor, be willing to give up a staff person to guarantee continued investment in the program. The CompStat program, said Konop, has been credited with reducing crime in larger cities.

Konop's third suggestion entails the involvement of the city's large number of small business owners, particularly retailers such as the Secor Carry Out. Konop was accompanied by Dan Ridi and Nabil Shaheen of the Midwest Retailers Association.

"There are a group of small business owners on the cutting edge of crime," said Konop pointing out the camera on the outside of the carry

out that was used by police officers to solve the August robbery and murder of Matthew Dugan, a clerk in the now-closed BP gas station across the street from the store.

"Unfortunately, we have more adversity than partnership," said Konop. "We need

to work in partnership with retailers. Fifty thousand people a day come into these stores."

Konop proposed an Amber Alert-type of system "to alert store owners of suspicious people" and a task force "to get retailers to the table."



*Dan Ridi, Commissioner Ben Konop, Nabil Shaheen*

## School Board

*(Continued from Page 3)*

on the part of the contractors is arguably one of the underreported aspects of this story. While few would argue that TPS and LGB could have done more, if contractors don't have the business acumen or the knowledge about bonding they need, then a difficult situation becomes even harder.

Still, now that the contracts have been broken down, bid and performance bonds will be smaller, which should make it easier for smaller businesses to bid on them. Johnson thinks landscaping and building cleanup, two of the four new areas created by breaking up the contracts, will receive the most bids from local contractors. But will that translate to an increase in the MBE/small business/women participation numbers?

Unfortunately, it will probably be a while before that question is ever answered.

The second, and probably more important, question, asks one person close to the process is: if these contracts can be broken into smaller pieces, why wasn't it done from the beginning?

# Adam Martinez Presents a Three-Point Plan to Save \$9 Million in Fire Fighting Expenses

By Fletcher Word  
Sojourner's Truth Editor

Adam Martinez, Democratic candidate for Toledo City Council, unveiled a three-point plan to slash the city's budget deficit last week by addressing some key training issues in the Toledo Fire Department. According to Martinez, his plan will save the city \$9,511,900.

"The City of Toledo is currently facing a \$27.8 million deficit which grows by the day," said Martinez during the introduction of his program. "It is impractical to think that the City of Toledo is able or willing to pay for the recruitment, training and salaries of a

2009 Fire and Safety class."

Due to the fact of inadequate staffing in 2008, said Martinez, the Fire overtime budget was estimated at \$4.2 million, a problem his plan is designed to address along with increasing manpower.

The three point plan consists of a Lateral Firefighter program, applying for a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (S.A.F.E.R.) grant and a one-time training opportunity titled the Toledo Voluntary Fire Emergency Response Safety Training (V.F.E.R.S.T.)

Martinez's lateral firefighter program would offer 15 positions to individuals in surrounding rural and metropolitan areas "who currently serve in a volunteer or military fire fighting capacity and have certified Ohio Fire/EMS/EMT training."

The trainees would go through an accelerated training course of two to three weeks to learn current rules and regulations, equipment apparatus and field operations policies and procedures.

Martinez estimates the cost of such a program would be just over \$15,000

but would ultimately save \$547,200 in long-term training costs and \$1,780,000 in overtime.

The second point in the Martinez plan - S.A.F.E.R. - is a grant for which any municipality can apply without a match requirement. The funding agency is the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) which has set up the program to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer interest organizations to increase the number of trained, front-line fire fighters.

Martinez suggests seeking funds in the amount of \$3,750,000 or enough to train and hire 100 cadets for a class that would graduate in September 2010.

The Toledo V.F.E.R.S.T. program would be a one-



Adam Martinez

time opportunity to train 40 cadets who would voluntarily waive or defer compensation during the 12-12

week training course. Twenty-five of the 40 slots would be offered to those who have already been offered condition letters of employment and they would have the first right of refusal. Fifteen of the slots would be offered to those who already have EMS/EMT training. Martinez estimates that this part of his plan would save the city \$3.5 million over the course of six to seven months.

As a result, within a year and a half, the city would have an additional 140

(Continued on Page 9)



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## The Governor's Plan to Address Ohio's Health Care Dilemma

By Mary Jo Hudson  
Director, Ohio Department of Insurance

One of the effects of this national recession is that too many Ohioans are not getting the health care they need to maintain healthy and productive lives.

Many people who have lost jobs or taken pay reductions in recent years find that it is difficult to afford private health insurance. Likewise, employers who continue to provide health insurance are offering less generous plans than in past years in order to reduce costs.

For these reasons, Ohio Governor Ted Strickland has laid out a vision for Ohio that includes expanding health coverage to all children, reducing the number of uninsured adults by 110,000 in the next biennium, and improving the overall health of Ohioans by addressing the causes of poor health through an emphasis on prevention.

The recently released Ohio Family Health Survey found that 1.3 million Ohioans are uninsured and that the uninsured rate for Ohioans ages 18-64 increased from 15 percent in 2004 to 17 percent in 2008. The survey also found that independent workers, workers in small firms and individuals ages 19 to 25 had the highest uninsured rates in the state. Ohioans living in rural areas, as well as Ohioans living in Appalachia, saw the highest increase in their uninsured rates over the past four years (4.7 percent and 4.1 percent respectively). Fortunately, the number of uninsured children has decreased since 2004, although this decrease was largely due to expansions of Medicaid.

Also, when uninsured Ohioans wait to seek care, it is often in a crisis. As a result, the costs of the care are extremely high, and cannot be paid by the individual. According to research done by The Ohio State University, an estimated 7.8 percent of the premiums paid for health insurance coverage in Ohio are due to costs shifted by providers for uncompensated care. This amounts to approximately \$330 for individual coverage and \$950 for group coverage in additional costs each year. We have a responsibility for the economic well being and health of our state to take action and not sit idle while the number of uninsured Ohioans continues to increase.

The good news is that

even in these difficult economic times, we can make changes to improve access to coverage for some Ohioans, especially those working independently and for small businesses. In his Executive Budget, Governor Strickland offers innovative proposals that would provide access to affordable coverage for 110,000 more Ohioans. These proposals are reasonable and fiscally responsible first steps to expand health insurance to more Ohioans.

The Governor's proposals include the following:

- \* In group policies, expand dependent child coverage up to age 29 and extend the state tax deduction for employer sponsored coverage to all family and dependent coverage. This proposal provides Ohioans the opportunity to purchase coverage for their children who are just starting out. More than 21,000 Ohioans will benefit.

- \* Reform Ohio's individual open enrollment programs so that open enrollment rates will decrease by approximately 50 to 70 percent. Open enrollment is the only program available in the Ohio individual market where those with pre-existing con-

(Continued on Page 12)

## The Past

(Continued from Page 3)

decades provided blacks with longer prison terms than whites for the same offense is perhaps the most obvious and therefore easiest to point to.

But with African-Americans representing only 13 percent of the total population and the same percentage of drug users and estimated sellers but 34 percent of those arrested for drug offenses, 50 percent of those convicted of drug offenses and 75 percent of those actually incarcerated, the recent decline in drug offense incarceration suggests that part of the over-incarceration of blacks is attributed to disparate law enforcement practices that have placed focus and concentrated resources and drug arrests in low-income minority communities while limiting arrests and attention in other neighborhoods.

This failed strategy may have occurred because the media poster child for drug sellers and substance abusers is the young, urban, black male crime and thug figure operating in the 'hood while the drug problems of numerous high-profile white movie stars and celebrities are depicted as medical or health issues.

As crime and violence previously confined to the inner cities escalated in rural, suburban, on and off-campus college housing and other previously insulated areas as a result of the decline of crack and the rising demand for prescription drugs and methamphetamines – the drugs for the affluent, the epidemic drug problem became more visible and the need for serious attention much more apparent.

While law enforcement practices and courts colored the penal system black and brown, politicians and the press applied additional coats of color by feeding public fear of crime with racist get-tough punitive pronouncements and an emphasis upon the supply of illicit drugs rather than by curbing the demand or appetite for drugs by utilizing rehabilitation methods and prevention as recommended by expert drug

policy scholars.

The Obama White House has indicated that it would shift policy and push for treatment rather than incarceration and offer first-time nonviolent offenders a chance to serve their sentences in drug rehab rather than in prison.

The good news for the African-American community is that the disparate racial dynamics of the penal system which have been skewed by a failed and misguided War on Drugs is changing. It is easy to use the disparity in arrests and sentencing along with the failed Reagan/Bush/Clinton/Bush White House strategies as an excuse for weak behavior. However, the stark, cold reality in the 46 years following Martin's Dream and the 55 years after the Supreme Court's Brown vs The Board of Education decision reveals the fact that there are still nearly

one million African-Americans in this 21st Century slavery and social control system called prison who are basically excluded from ever becoming productive employees, good husbands and fathers or contributing members of society.

I think a more positive and productive insight to use the trend in declining incarcerations as an occasion to say goodbye to a culture of thug life and failure and to begin to celebrate a new dawning of liberation and the re-establishment of the culture of achievement and other historically prevalent core values which we have allowed to slip away such as education, identity, self-determination, inter-dependency and spirituality.

Contact Donald Perryman, D. Min, at drdlperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org

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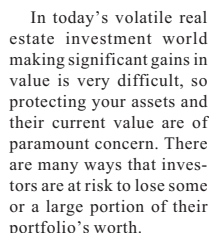
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## Tackling Tough Times

By Rodney Neely  
Real Estate Contributor



Due to the historic overvaluing of property and its over-leveraging, lenders have reduced the access to

capital to acquire, refinance, develop or improve commercial real estate across the board. Tenants have pulled back on leasing due to the same phenomenon. This pressure on the market has pushed appraisal values downward dramatically in the Toledo area and nationally as well.

In addition, the lack of liquidity in the commercial markets has made it tougher for the small-to-medium investor to retain his or her tenants or attract new ones to vacant space because of the inability to complete the property improvements or maintenance consistently.

Although these are great challenges, these factors make it imperative that owners take evasive maneuvers to keep what they have with minimal risk.

There are several strategies that can be employed to mitigate the risk of ownership during these tough times. For the first time in many years the local and regional owners of real estate have a distinct advantage. These submarkets are good places to make a stand

against the onslaught of job losses and high vacancy rates of the larger properties spreading across the country.

Understand that each of these areas is extremely important. You must think strategically about the market and the real estate cycle we're in, then ask yourself several questions: What does my neighborhood need in the way of goods and services? Who provides that in other areas and are they willing to either relocate or open a new location in my property?

Securing one of these tenants could be the answer to your prayers. Being small, agile and open minded to rent concessions or percentage rent to get a good tenant will be necessary to protect the value you have.

The second and a very effective tactic to sustain value is by leasing your vacant space yourself. There are two ways to do this with selling the property in mind and have a win-win for everyone.

As an owner you would lease the business your-

self! Yes, start your own business. Be your own tenant and capitalize the net operating income based on the total amount of rent. Depending on the capitalization rate you will add significant value to the sale price of the property.

For example, if you have a property selling at one price with a 25 percent vacancy, you could lease the space to operate a business there and maximize the return on sale as a 100 percent leased investment property. Although you create more work for yourself, you also will be adding value to both the investment and community while providing what the area is lacking in services. Everyone wins!

The other way is even simpler, but requires a bit more financial risk on the owner's part. That option is to master lease all the vacancies and guarantee the new owners rent upon sale for a period of one or two years.

For example; if you have a small strip center that is 50 percent vacant, you

(Continued on Page 9)

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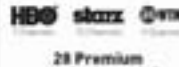
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<p>5. <u>CONCLUSION</u></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>6. <u>REFERENCES</u></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

**Book Review****Tom Joyner Presents How to Prepare for College by Thomas LaVeist and William LaVeist, with a foreword by Tom Joyner****c.2009, Amber Books \$15.00 / \$16.95  
Canada 129 pages***By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor*

For most of your life, someone's been asking you what you wanted to be when you grew up.

You've had ideas all along, but nothing real. After all, you once wanted to be a ballerina-dancing, hoops-playing construction worker, or something like that. So when somebody asked you what you wanted to "be" someday, you didn't really know then and you might not know now.

But you're going to college, that's for sure.

Be ready, no matter how much high school you have left, read Tom Joyner Presents How to Prepare for College by

Thomas LaVeist and William LaVeist, foreword by Tom Joyner and get the knowledge you need to get the college you want.

Though you might just be in middle-school or early high school, the authors of this book say you should have started preparing for college when you were in diapers! If your parents read to you and helped with your studies, you've got a good foundation for success in higher education. If you weren't so fortunate, it's never too late to get the skills you need. Your school's guidance counselor can help ensure you're taking the right classes and are ready

for standardized tests, which are essential for most college admissions.

But grades, SATs, and fundamental knowledge aren't the only important things you'll need when applying for college. LaVeist and LaVeist say that admissions officers also look for community service and extra curricular activities. (Nobody said this was going to be easy).

During this time, you should have been thinking about the college you want to attend. If you're African-American, you might choose an HBCU. Maybe an Ivy League is more

*(Continued on Page 9)***City of Toledo Awarded Economic Stimulus Grant Funding For Infrastructure Improvements***Special to The Truth*

The City of Toledo has submitted legislation to City Council requesting approval to accept two Economic Stimulus grants for various infrastructure improvement projects. The Division of Engineering Services has been awarded Federal Economic Stimulus funds in the amount of \$7,215,000 and State Economic Stimulus funds in the amount of \$2,201,000.

These funds will be applied towards the following "shovel-ready" infrastructure projects, which include some of Toledo's most traveled roadways:

**Federal Stimulus Transportation Funding****Projects Grant Funds**

Hill (Detroit to Westwood) \$ 1,175,000

Detroit (Central to I-75) \$ 570,000

Michigan (Madison to Lafayette) \$ 1,675,000

Secor (Monroe to Laskey) \$ 2,800,000

Telegraph (Alexis to state line) \$ 315,000

South (Detroit to Airport) \$ 600,000

Total: \$ 7,215,000

**State Stimulus Transportation Funding****Projects Grant Funds**

Hill (Westwood to Detroit) \$ 1,078,000

Nebraska (Westwood to railroad tracks) \$ 299,000

South (Daniels to Spence) \$ 162,000

Preventative Maintenance Resurfacing \$ 662,000

Total: \$ 2,201,000

No new CIP funding will be required on any of the aforementioned projects. To date, the City of Toledo has received nearly \$20 million in outside funding assistance for the 2009 construction season.

On Monday, Mayor Finkbeiner released the following statement: "I urge City Council to unanimously approve these Economic Stimulus grants, which will help improve our roads."



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## Protecting

(Continued from Page 7)

would sign a master lease agreement for all of the unoccupied space at market rate and sell the property as 100 percent leased. This will maximize the current value and give you a tremendous windfall at closing.

Nevertheless, the portion of that profit that covers the one or two-year lease commitment should be held in escrow to fulfill that obligation. During the lease period you will attempt to lease the space at the same rate to another user, therefore freeing the obligation by assigning that lease to an actual tenant.

When a satisfactory user is found, then the balance of the escrow funds should be returned to you as the balance owed on the original sale. Great idea, right? Maybe. This deal structure has inherent financial risk and leaves a lot to chance in a volatile real estate market. Be careful.

Real estate is no different than any other business. You have to understand the playing field, know who the players are

and the rules to the game. Although things are getting better in the financial markets, now is not the time to take great risk with assets that you currently own.

If possible, I believe investors should look for opportunities to acquire existing operating businesses that are distressed. These value-added projects could become the "cash cow" revenue producers that provide the capital needed to invest in more real estate.

In every aspect of business there are risks and rewards for the decisions you make. Be sure that you mitigate the downside by col-

lecting as much information as possible, be honest with yourself about you can get accomplished and be strategic in your approach to problem solving.

The application of these basic principles give you the framework to maintain the value in the assets you have and the direction to expand your ownership of investment quality real estate.

Always remember that in life success is the greatest revenge.

Contact Rodney Neelyat  
Rodney@q3development.com

## Martinez

(Continued from Page 5)

fire fighters for a limited cost to Toledo's taxpayers plus an additional 15 fire fighters from the surrounding areas who could be called upon on an as needed basis.

"In addition to minimum manning, we must take a long-term approach towards creating a pipeline of diverse and qualified individuals to preserve the institutional knowledge, maintain workforce standards and ease the burden of loss due to retirement and aging workforce," said Martinez of his plan.

## From Homeless to Homeowner: NODA Graduates 100th IDA Program Participant

Special to The Truth

Sandra Hendrix is the Northwest Ohio Development Agency's (NODA) 100th Individual Development Account (IDA) Program graduate. A former homeless grandmother of two, Hendrix began the path to homeownership a few years ago.

Hendrix moved from a homeless shelter into Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) housing. While living in LMHA housing, she went to Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS) for a credit evaluation. NHS found items on her credit report that were not hers, so NHS did letters of dispute to have those items removed. To build her credit, she took out a secured credit card and began the cycle of using it and paying it off repeatedly until offers for traditional credit cards began to arrive.

Through the homeownership class at NHS, Hendrix learned about NODA's IDA Program. The IDA Program is a matched savings program that allows individuals or families at or below 200 percent of the poverty level to save for asset building goals, such as

homeownership, post-secondary education or micro-enterprise. Participants must save at least \$25 per month for a minimum of six months and a maximum of four years. The maximum savings is \$1,750 and NODA matches two dollars for every dollar saved, with a maximum of \$3,500. A participant who reaches the maximum savings goals will have \$5,250 toward their asset.

Hendrix opened her IDA account in March 2007 and in just 18 months, she graduated the program with the maximum savings goal. This gave her \$5,250 toward the down payment on a home.

"The IDA Program gave me time to build my credit and save money at the same time," she explained. In the meantime, LMHA secured a \$5,000 grant for her through the City of Toledo toward down payment assistance. She closed on her home at 3811 Drexel on February 20, 2009 even in these difficult economic times.

"The IDA Program was a big incentive for me to take my time to build credit, save money and get ready for homeownership," stated

Hendrix. Since its inception in 2001, 100 participants have graduated in the following categories: two for predatory lending rescue, 51 for homeownership, 29 for home repairs, 15 for micro-enterprise and three for post-secondary education.

"The IDA Program is a way for individuals and families to become more self-sufficient. In this day and age, the IDA Program is one of very few places someone can go for down payment assistance," said Tiffany C. Zinn, NODA's vice president & chief operating officer.

When asked what it feels like to be a homeowner, Hendrix commented, "I sometimes am still in awe. It's awesome. I feel so blessed. It took all the programs to get me where I am today."

Funding for the IDA Program comes from the Ohio Community Development Corporation Association, Fifth Third Bank, United Way of Greater Toledo, and Westfield Insurance. For more information on the IDA Program, call 419-243-3734 or visit [www.nodatoleado.org](http://www.nodatoleado.org)

## Book Review

(Continued from Page 8)

in your league. As the authors stress, it all depends on you, the student.

But somewhere along the line, somebody is going to mention money. No, it won't be cheap but it won't cost as much as you think, either. There are several ways to pay for your education, and this book walks you through some of them.

And now – look way ahead. Preparing for college doesn't stop when you step on campus. You'll need to learn how to stay there and make your Mama proud.

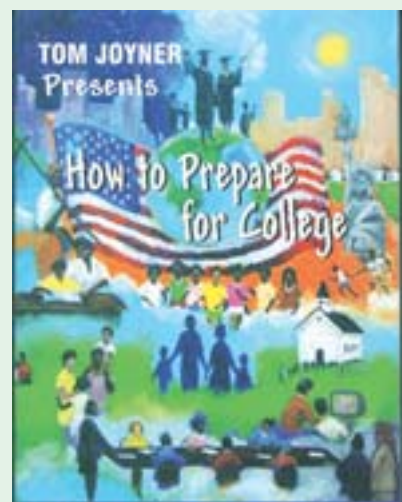
Tom Joyner Presents How to Prepare for College is a thorough book that may seem daunting at first. Forget about being smarter than a fifth grader. If you follow the recommendations of authors Thomas LaVeist and William LaVeist, your first-grader may know more than you know.

Still, the fundamentals they recommend having will undoubtedly point any child toward higher education, and the help they give to the Class

of 2014 and beyond is solid. Be aware that, while this book predominantly features historically black colleges and universities, the information applies to anyone planning to attend any college.

While it's best-utilized for middle-schoolers or freshmen

through-juniors in high school, what's inside this book is also useful for older adults heading back to school to finish a degree or change careers. If college is in your family's future, Tom Joyner Presents How to Prepare for College gets an A+.



**The Economy...Tackling Tough Times•The Economy...Tackling Tough Times•The Economy...Tackling Tough Times•The Economy...Tackling**

## Pressed to Save: Americans Re-discovering Ironing as Way to Cut Household Expenses

*Special to The Truth*

The economy may be anemic, but it's not due to a lack of iron...or actually, ironing.

The National Dry-Cleaning Association reports a 20 percent decline in business since last September, likely due to the fact that Americans are breaking out their ironing boards in full force, taking a do-it-yourself attitude toward getting the wrinkles out.

But getting that crisp, dry cleaned look may seem daunting to many of us. While mom made it look easy, whipping out a perfectly pressed shirt with beautiful creases in under a few minutes, the fact is it's not something that comes as instinctive as we might like. There are rules about temperature settings, tips on techniques and other directions, and knowing all of them could be the difference between looking sharp and having the charred silhouette of an iron on the

back of your shirt.

"Ironing is not difficult, but it does require a bit of practice and some basic know-how," said Betty Byrne, senior home economist and director of garment care at Proctor Silex, one of the nation's premier authorities on irons. "Our research has found a high degree of frustration with ironing, since most people are self-taught. Let's face it, when you have your favorite blouse or shirt on the ironing board, you don't want to run the risk of ruining it."

Byrne says one of the biggest mistakes people make is setting the iron to the wrong temperature level. She says if the fabric is a blend, the temperature should be set on the lowest levels, and if need be, you should use the lowest temperature first and test it on an inside seam. When ironing several items, sort them by temperature, ironing the

garments that need the lowest setting first. (Irons heat up faster than they cool down, and if you do need to go from a high to low setting, wait five minutes for the iron to reach the lower

temperature.)

To make your garments look like they've just come from the dry-cleaners, Byrne offers these ironing tips:

Before you iron. If pos-

**"Ironing is not difficult, but it does require a bit of practice and some basic know-how,"**



sible, take clothes out of the dryer slightly damp. Ironing this way is easier on the wrist and provides crisper results

**Collar.** Start out with the underside of the collar, gently pulling and stretching the fabric, working from each point to the center.

**Yoke.** (The area of the shirt that rests on your shoulders.) Place one shoulder over the narrow end of the board, ironing from the center out. Repeat on the other shoulder.

**Cuffs.** Iron the inside of the cuffs first then the outside.

**Sleeves.** Iron one sleeve at a time, ironing the outside, or the cuff-opening side, of the sleeves first, and then the inside. Repeat on the other side.

**Body.** Begin by ironing the front panels; be careful and iron around the buttons, not over them. Complete by ironing the back panel. Give the

collar another once over, check for any creases and wrinkles you may have missed.

If you're shopping for your first iron or a new iron, there are many to choose from. Proctor Silex, in fact, has 17 different models in varying styles and sizes. Byrne advises to find one that fits well in your hand. Some new designs feature handles and controls that are actually optimized for better comfort. There are also many new features on the market like larger, easier to read temperature dials, simplified temperature controls, spray triggers and reservoir floats making it easier to see the water level.

"We're pleased to welcome a whole new generation of ironers who I think will find that ironing yourself is a great way to save money each week," Byrne says.



### AT THE ENCLAVE EVERYONE IS WELCOME

The Enclave in celebration with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission is proud to support Fair Housing and recognize that April 2009 marks the 41st anniversary of the Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, Federal Fair Housing Act, which provides for equal housing opportunity for all Americans and prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin/ancestry, familial status and disability.

If you believe that your rights have been violated, please contact the Ohio Civil Rights Commission at 419.245.2900.

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## Recovery Funding for Emergency Food and Shelter Programs

*Special to The Truth*

Last week, United Way of Greater Toledo and U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur (OH-9) announced a \$202,307 federal award for emergency food and shelter programs in Lucas County. The award – which comes in addition to regular annual EFSP funding and will be made to United Way for distribution to local non-profit agencies – is part of a \$100 million national allocation that will be provided through the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"This funding will give a much-needed helping hand to several organizations in the county who are providing food and shelter to hungry and homeless families," said Congresswoman Kaptur. "The need for help for the victims of this national economic crisis is growing every day."

Emergency Food and Shelter Programs (EFSP) were first authorized by Congress in 1983 and are generally appropriated under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Lucas County already received its regular annual allocation of \$430,936.00 in February, which was distributed after a careful allocation process by the local EFSP board.

Now, due to the national economic crisis, Congress chose the EFSP as a vehicle for distributing stimulus funding because of their quick response to areas of greatest need.

The EFSP is administered by a National Board, which is chaired by FEMA and consists of six voluntary agencies: United Way of America; American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.; The Salvation Army and United Jewish Communities. The National Board qualifies local jurisdictions for annual EFSP awards based on criteria involving current population, unemployment, and poverty levels.

Locally, the board is chaired by Tim Yenrick, executive director of the American Red Cross Greater Toledo Area Chapter. The procedure to apply for funds will be the same as during the regular process; public notices will be posted in the newspapers, organizations can submit applications, and the local board will review and make appropriate allocations. More word will arrive from the government at the end of the week regarding the timeline for this process.

If your organization is interested in applying for funds, please visit [www.unitedwaytoledo.org](http://www.unitedwaytoledo.org) for more details.

## Fifth Third Bank and United North Development Corporation Present a Homebuyer's Workshop

*Special to The Truth*

A special program designed for first time (or repeat) homebuyers will be presented by Fifth Third Bank and United North Community Development Corporation on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 from 6 – 8 p.m. at the Lagrange Branch Library, 3422 Lagrange Street, Toledo, Ohio.

The workshop is free and open to the public. Reservations are not required, but seating is limited. Call 419-418-6677 to reserve your place

Attendees will learn what is required to become a homeowner:

- Credit Scores: what they mean; how to improve them
- Debt to Income Ratio: how that ratio impacts the ability to get credit

- Programs available to first time homebuyers in today's market
- Role of real estate agents
- The importance of a home inspection

For buyers looking for a value estimate on a property for purchase or their current property, Fifth Third Mortgage is offering a free home valuation. This limited time offer includes:

- Aerial and bird's eye view of the property
- Ability to scan rooftop displays featuring current market values
- Calculation of the cost and value of home improvements
- Current information about neighborhood price trends

"There is a fair amount of activity in residential mortgages in Northwestern Ohio right now. Plus there are good programs for first-time homebuyers," said Linda Ewing, vice president, Community Affairs.

There are a number of reasons for this—

- Interest rates are attractive—better than we saw 10-15 years ago!
- Contrary to popular belief, houses can still be purchased with less than 20 percent down payments
- Housing stock is plentiful and available at bargain prices
- First time homebuyer incentives from the government can be up to \$8,000 (increased 1/1/09)

It is a great time for consumers to evaluate and consider home financing options. Fifth Third Bank mortgage experts will be available to answer financial questions.

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## Governor's Plan

(Continued from Page 6)

ditions can purchase health insurance. Few Ohioans can utilize it now, because the rates are exorbitant. The proposed changes will make coverage more affordable for individuals and families. While individual market rates will increase by approximately 5.5 percent, more than 52,000 Ohioans will benefit from being able to purchase more affordable private health insurance without causing disruption to Ohioans who already have coverage in the small group market.

\* Require employers to offer to uninsured employees the opportunity to purchase coverage with pre-tax dollars through Section 125 cafeteria plans. Employees may save up to 40 percent off the cost of coverage for themselves and families. More than 37,000 Ohioans will benefit.

While expanding access to health care requires shared sacrifice, it's important to remember that when people don't have insurance, we all end up paying more. We can work within our private market structure to make health care coverage more available and affordable for Ohioans. Let's make these changes that benefit Ohioans and start moving us to a healthier and more economically sound Ohio.

## Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Inc Community Luncheon: "Champions of Faith and Service"

Special to The Truth

The Beta Phi Chapter of Toledo (President Diane Minor) of Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Inc. hosted the 56th Northern Regional Conference in Toledo, April 3-5, 2009 at the Hilton Hotel. The chapter was also celebrating the 10th anniversary of its founding.

During the luncheon, the local chapter presented its education award to Tyrone Bledsoe, Ph.D. Bledsoe is the founder and executive director of the Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB) and has also served as vice president for Student Life and special assistant to the president at The University of Toledo.

The chapter's community leadership award was presented to Barbie Harrison, president and CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Ohio. Harrison has led the agency for 13 years and is also a member of Alpha Kappa alpha Sorority Inc; the Toledo Chapter of the Links,



Inc; Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.; the National Association of Negro Women's Business and Professional

Clubs, Inc; the Rotary Club of Toledo, among others.

Doni Miller, CEO of Neighborhood Health Association (NHA), Inc. and host of

(Continued on Page 14)



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## U.G.E. - The Last Royalty on Cover of Last week's Sojourner's Truth

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture

Wow! - had NO idea we were going to be on the cover.

So funny, I tell people all the time "I have NO control over who gets the cover...that's all my editor".

And then MY company ends up on the front page!

I had no control over it and it was actually a misunderstanding.

Anyone who knows me... knows how I think.

If I had've KNOWN we were getting cover... I would've put T. Diamond and Aye Dee on the cover and taken T. Rtist and Mz. Johni off the cover.

T. Diamond and Aye

Dee are still U.G.E.'s biggest acts... and T. Rtist and Mz. Johni are hardly ever in the city so I never would've made that choice had I known we were getting the cover.

Seen some people hating.. won't even read it because it's about U.G.E.

Which is weird to me. We have no enemies. We have no beef. We start no drama.

We don't say we are the best... we just say we are here... judge for yourselves.

But... then again I have had a lot of good feedback from it.

People respect the work, they like the CD, they like the video... they see how we are different from most. Now...

just waiting on them paid shows to jump off.

But, yeah... even with all that. I thought we were getting the special Art section cover inside the paper... I didn't know we were getting the cover cover.

Upcoming interviews: Hot 97's Lil D. Jesse Coleman of 360 Studios, Magic Juan and Embrace Ent.

Thanks for rocking with me, Toledo.

glasscitytruth@yahoo.com



Aye Dee



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# MINORITY HEALTH MONTH APRIL 09



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State Senator Ray Miller, Chairman

Cheryl A. Byrnes, MEd, Executive Director

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**What's Your Sign? And Does It Matter?**

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture



Can you tell anything about what type of career, love life or personality you will have based on the date of your birth?

Is there any validity to the study of astrology?

I was very religious back in the day.

In the mid-late 90's, soon as I and my friends turned 16 and could drive... no matter what ignorant mess we had done on Friday and Saturday, we rolled to church Sunday morning together.

For years I never allowed myself to peer deeper into the world of zodiac signs and all that because I was told it was evil and to stay away.

Then, right before September 11 happened, I was a sophomore at The Uni-

versity of Toledo. I was on the Rocket Shuttle one day and I was in a bad mood. A female friend asked me what was wrong and within a minute of my diving into my current issues she was like "hmm... you sound like a typical Pisces."

And I was like, "yeah, whatever."

She went that entire ride to campus from South Toledo talking about how Pisces act, how Pisces feel, how Pisces process life's ups and downs and I was amazed. I wanted to hate on the knowledge but I couldn't.

About half of what she was saying was so accurate it was scary.

I began to study astrology myself. At this point, I've probably read about 200 books and have had my natal chart done and all that.

Not because of some foolish horoscope nonsense that tries to predict your day to day life... I'm not on that. But when it comes to certain traits in people... and the compatibility between people (as lovers, business partners and friends) I have found it to be useful just to read up on it and see what you find.

In my opinion, about 40 percent of what someone's sign says about them is pretty accurate.

Of course, I always look at this in the entertainment world.

The more I read about Pisces, it always said the we rule the world of the arts (music, theatre etc.) I started noticing the signs of my favorite artists as well.

ARIES: Okay, my co-producer in U.G.E. (Adonis/Lavale) was born under this sign... not usually known for the arts but always known for vision and intellect. However, when they want to create, it's always straight fire... peep the list: Pharrell Williams, Jill Scott, D.J. Kool Herc, Mariah Carey, Redman, Kelly Price and Akon are all Aries. In this I notice all of these musicians created a lane for themselves because they had the vision to see where they fit in the industry.

TAURUS: Another sign people don't usually associate with music or art (Hitler was a Taurus\*).

Master P, Busta

Rhymes, Chris Brown, James Brown, Stevie Wonder and Janet Jackson all born under the sign of the bull. Do you notice any similarities between any of these people that could be attributed to their sign?

Nope, me neither. LOL. Let's move on. Hold up... Chris Brown and James Brown both... nevermind.

GEMINI: In my research and in my personal opinion, of the three signs that rule the world of creative talents, this is probably the most powerfully gifted sign.

Just look at this list: Prince, The Notorious B.I.G., Tupac, Faith Evans, Ice Cube,

Laurn Hill, Kanye West, JadaKiss, Cec Lo, Lenny Kravitz and Andre 3000. Those are all game-changing artists, whose talent is so off the meter it's not even funny. I've been in two relationships with Gemini females and I have two artists on my label born as Gemini's and I can say... watching them create it's nearly magical. And they can do anything artistic.

Sing, rap, spoken word, dance, draw—if they can do one, they can do em all.

CANCER: Usually very gifted writers or actors if artistic at all and Cancers are usually hell bent on doing things their way. Extremely talented though often mis-understood.

The men have a mindset for strategy (comes in handy for chess or warfare) and the women are known to have a strong attachment to motherhood (or daughterhood if she's spoiled, I dated one like that - LOL). 50 Cent, Lil Kim, Plies, Lindsay Lohan, Aundrea Fimbres (Danity Kane), Keith Sweat, Irv Gotti, and Missy Elliot—all born under this sign.

LEO: Dawn Richards (Danity Kane) and Jennifer Lopez exemplify much of what you read about Leo women. However, this sign isn't usually associated with the arts.

More so a need for attention and power. Fat Joe and Soulja Boy are Leos.

I'll just hit you with the most important Leo in the world: President Barack Obama.

Bill Clinton is one too, so maybe Leo men don't always make great artists but they make great presidents so... hey. Astrology can help you just stay in your lane, fam.

VIRGO: Men under this

sign are so laid back and cool yet wise. Women are usually perfectionists. I have a few dudes in my circle who are Virgo but I usually don't vibe with the women of this sign. Even as far as the most popular Virgo female artist in the world, I still was late getting on the bandwagon. Ludacris, Doug E. Fresh, Nas (who all have a song together called Virgo), Beyonce, Dave Chappell (not a musical artist but hey), Foxy Brown, and the undisputed King of Pop himself, Michael Jackson.

LIBRA: Usher, Keisha Cole, T Pain, Heather Headley, Russell Simmons, Eminem and your favorite rapper's favorite rapper... WAYNE - all Libras. Notice any similarities?

I know a lot of talented females who are Libras. I know a lot of people who are bi-polar and Libras too. Libras are good at verbally insulting people. I've seen and lived it.

But musically, they simply pour everything into their art with nothing held back.

SCORPIO: I know Scorpio's very well. I am surrounded by them.

Quickly angered, deeply loyal, and capable of sharp insight make this sign good in business... but the anxiety and lack of focus present barriers to artistic pursuits unless they learn discipline. Sean Combs, Fabolous, Keri Hilson, Big Pun (R.I.P.)

Ciara, Nelly and Eve prove they are good at wordplay and sex appeal.

Except ya boy Fab... most of them seem to be okay with losing an article of clothing now and then. (Eve was a stripper first).

Maaan... that Scorpio reputation just won't leave.

SAGITTARIUS: The Best Rapper Alive.. Jay Z. And the worst rapper on the radio... Flo Rida.

Trina. D.M.X. Brittany Spears. Jamie Foxx - no question this fire sign brings intensity and an ability to make friends with all types which helps greatly in the music biz.

Ego is very important to this sign though, almost as important as it is to Leos and Scorpios and that's always a problem working with and being close to others. But they also have adaptability (like Gemini and Pisces) which is how Jay Z and Jamie Foxx can be in their 40s and still be relevant and Brittany can

make a comeback. Hmm... think DMX might make a comeback one day?

CAPRICORN: Okay, when I noticed three male artists all admitting to having a sex or porn addiction I just assumed they were Capricorn and I was correct.

L.L. Cool J, John Legend, Mos Def, R. Kelly, Jordin Sparks, Amerie and I gotta mention Angela Simmons. This is an earth sign, so usually the world of entertainment isn't spilling over with Capricorns but the men are particularly charismatic so show business suits them fine.

AQUARIUS: If you are hip to the Soulquarians, then you already know.

This sign has been so successful in the world of the arts that they formed a crew around it. If you don't know, go back and do some research on who was making all that hot music for your favorite conscious or neo soul artists a few years ago.

Dr. Dre, Big Boi, Questlove, Lupe Fiasco, D'Angelo, J Dilla, Lupe Fiasco, Tweet, Alicia Keys and the architect of modern day emceeing... Rakim.

PISCES: The last sign of the zodiac which is said to have all the other signs present inside of us, Pisces rule the world of creativity along with Gemini and Aquarius but we are known to be more humble and reserved so we don't seek attention for ourselves.

Erykah Badu, Amel Larrieux, Corrinne Bailey Rae, Rhianna, Common, Kevin Liles (smh if you don't know who that is) Will I Am, Timbaland, Chad Hugo (Neptunes got same signs as me and Adonis), Latoya Luckett, Bobby Valentino and... umm... Flavor Flav...!!

So yeah, nothing serious... I'm not saying to study astrology or anything.

But if you're game, just pay attention and see if you notice how someone's sign factors in to who they are and what they do.

It gets much deeper though, rising signs and all that.

But, yeah... that's it for this week.

glasscitytruth@yahoo.com

\*Ed. Note: Years before Hitler became a genocidal, lunatic megalomaniac, he was an artist... hmmm



## Gamma

(Continued from Page 12)



Bridges, a public affairs television show which focuses on the social and economic issues affecting people of color, was the media honoree. Miller is a founding member of the local Gamma chapter.

Dr. Cecelia Peters, MD, also of NHA, was the medical award recipient.

Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Inc. was founded in February 1943 by the late Elizabeth Garner, teacher, and the late Violet T. Lewis, owner of Lewis Business College of

Detroit, MI. Those founders along with the 11 other members are known as the sorority's 13 Original Pearls.

Marlene Harris Taylor was the mistress of ceremonies for the community luncheon and Karrie Mosley, an inspirational speaker and founder of CEO of Empowered to Empower, Inc., was the keynote speaker.

Danise Fisher was the luncheon chairman and April Gambriel, the luncheon co-chairman.

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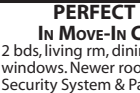
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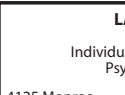
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# CLASSIFIEDS

April 22, 2009

Page 15

## Electrical Journeymen Wanted

Parker Enterprises, LLC is seeking experienced electrical journeymen with strong leadership skills. Applicant must have current journeyman's card, valid OH driver's license and be familiar with current codes. This is a drug free, fast growing, local electrical engineering and contracting firm. Must be able to pass a drug test. Please fax resumes to 419-386-5056 or email to [info@ParkerEnterprisesLLC.com](mailto:info@ParkerEnterprisesLLC.com). An equal opportunity employer.

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## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING MISS JUNIOR TOLEDO?

If you are between the ages of 12 and 18 (not turning 19 before July 26, 2009), possess a performing talent, please fill out this form completely and either mail or fax.

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Mail to: **The Miss Junior Toledo Pageant**  
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## PUBLIC NOTICE

Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) is issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Post-Adoption Parent Support Group Facilitation/Training.

The goal is to begin three (3) post-adoption parent support groups and prepare a core number of adoptive parents who have adopted through LCCS to successfully facilitate and maintain the groups on an on-going basis.

LCCS is seeking proposals from public and privately employed individuals and entities/agencies capable and willing to develop and provide consultation, training and facilitation for the groups. RFP materials will be available from April 20 through April 30, 2009 at 705 Adams St., Toledo, Ohio, 43604. To make arrangements to pick up an RFP packet, call 419-213-3658. An applicant information meeting regarding the RFP will be held on April 30, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. in Room #913.

The deadline for submitting completed proposals (NO FAX) is 4:00 p.m. on May 21, 2009. No proposal will be accepted after that deadline.

By  
Dean Sparks, Executive Director  
Lucas County Children Services

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## Notice to Bidders: Inquiry #

FY09-111, (Project #06-12-1333) The University of Toledo will be accepting sealed bids for the Pharmacy and Collier Additions on the Health Science Campus. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Main Campus, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 13, 2009. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$250.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Tom Stuckey of Poggemeyer Design Group, Inc. at 419-352-7537. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Dowling Hall, Room 2315 at the University of Toledo, Health Science Campus, 3000 Arlington Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43614. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 5%. Project Estimate: \$21,098,998.00; Breakdown: General Const: \$12,921,298.00; Mechanical: \$5,058,653.00; & Electrical: \$3,119,047.00.

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## INTERESTED BIDDERS: TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – OLD REYNOLDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DEMOLITION AND OLD ORCHARD PHASE 1 DEMOLITION

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until 1:00 p.m. on May 20, 2009, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers' Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor, material and supervision necessary for the demolition of the Old Reynolds Elementary School and Old Orchard Phase 1 Demolition, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by The Collaborative Inc, and Munger Munger and Associates Architects Inc, and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

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

Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting **April 22, 2009 which can be purchased from Toledo Blue Print, 6964 McNeerney Rd., Northwood, Ohio 43619, phone: (419) 661-9841. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.**

A PREBID CONFERENCE is scheduled for May 6, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. at Toledo Public Schools' Board Room, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608. A walk-thru schedule will be provided at the pre-bid meeting.

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

Bid Item No. 1	Old Reynolds Elementary School Building Demolition:
\$ 174,573.00	
Bid Item No. 2	Old Reynolds Elementary School Site Demolition:
\$ 26,710.00	
Bid Item No. 3	Old Reynolds Elementary School Grading/Landscaping
\$ 27,125.00	
Bid Item No. 4	Old Orchard Elementary School Phase 1 Building Demo:
\$ 57,700.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 286,108.00</b>

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) is soliciting proposals from the qualified environmental service providers for the Mold Analysis and Assessment Services. Interested firms are requested to contact Ash Marathe for the solicitation manual at the following address: Send your request to: Ashok Marathe, LMHA, 201 Belmont Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43604 or Fax 419-254-3495, or by email: [amarathe@lucasmha.org](mailto:amarathe@lucasmha.org). The solicitation manual will also be available for pick up at the address listed between the hours of 9:00a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 1:00p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### SOLICITATION TYPE: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP Number: Job # 29033  
DESCRIPTION: Mold Analysis and Assessment  
ISSUE DATE: April 20, 2009  
SUBMISSION DUE DATE: April 30, 2009 - 2:00p.m.

SUBMISSION TO: Ashok V. Marathe  
Director of Redevelopment and Capital Investments  
Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority  
201 Belmont Ave  
Toledo OH 43604

DIRECT INQUIRIES TO: Ashok V. Marathe  
Director of Redevelopment and Capital Investments  
Fax: 419-254-3495 or email: [amarathe@lucasmha.org](mailto:amarathe@lucasmha.org)  
(No phone calls please)

ALL INQUIRIES MUST BE RECEIVED IN WRITING NO LATER THAN 5:00p.m. EASTERN TIME, APRIL 27, 2009.

ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OUTLINED IN THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (MBE) AND WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (WBE) ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO RESPOND.

ALL OFFERORS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO MEET THE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REQUIREMENTS AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY REQUIREMENTS AS DESCRIBED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER #11246. EACH OFFEROR MUST INSURE THAT ALL EMPLOYEES AND APPLICANTS FOR EMPLOYMENT ARE NOT DISCRIMINATED AGAINST BECAUSE OF THEIR RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN, DISABILITY, HANDICAP, AGE, OR ANCESTRY.



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

**The Sojourner's Truth**  
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Volume 15, No.02  
"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."  
October 29, 2008

**The Sojourner's Truth**  
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"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."  
November 19, 2008

**Top Stories of 2008**

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**Historic Third Baptist Church 140th Anniversary**

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**The Sojourner's Truth**  
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**The Sojourner's Truth**  
Local and National News  
Volume 14, No.23  
"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."  
September 24, 2008

**JaJuan Turner**

**Dr. Akinfemi S. Afolabi, MD**  
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**Jamilah N. Jones, President**  
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