



Local and National News

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# The Sojourner's Truth

Volume 16, No.02 "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..." April 29, 2009

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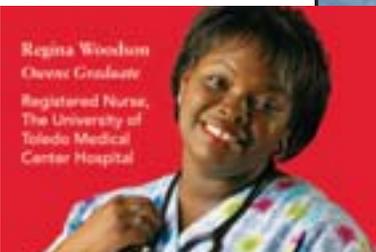
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*Henry Clark*  
Poor Clark's Barber and Beauty Shop



Regina Woodson  
Owens Graduate  
Registered Nurse,  
The University of  
Toledo Medical  
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## My View

By Jack Ford  
The Truth's Political Columnist



The stage is set for a last minute bailout via stimulus package to help Toledo work through this crisis in its police strength.

But even with some infusion of federal cash, Mayor Carty Finkbeiner would still need help from the Toledo Police Patrolman's Association in granting concessions.

Isn't it ironic that the method Finkbeiner used to gain police and fire support during the 2005 election (a promise to pick up pension costs) is now part of the mayor's demand of what the safety forces should give up? So much of this debacle, the mayor brought upon himself with those promises. Let us not also forget the damage created by the hiring of 17 workers – to satisfy

campaign debts again – in the Forestry Division.

If you were the union, would you give it up after getting it in exchange for election support? Nope.

But this fight has much greater significance. This fight is now over whether any politician will ever have the toughness to lay off police and fire. A line has been drawn in the sand here in Toledo. It is significant to me that none of the candidates – Keith Wilkowski, Ben Konop, Mike Bell, Jim Moody and the rest – are saying anything about this situation.

They are as silent as lambs on this because this is the third rail of Toledo politics. If the unions break here, their mantle of political invincibility is over.

And speaking of politics, the early campaign skirmishes are just beginning. Mike Bell, running as an independent, needs to remember that he has to have a substitute network for the two dozen or so Democratic Party clubs and associations throughout Lucas County. Bell cannot afford to act as if the Dems do not exist. They do and the old question of who is the endorsed Democrat may well become key with east side and central city voters.

Bell should not think he will get the black vote just because he is black. And his failure to challenge Finkbeiner on his "King Kong" comment still resonates with older black men.

Moody continues to make the classic mistake that so many Republicans make – he ignores the African-American community. Take a lesson from the campaigns over the years of Andy Douglas, Donna Owens and Finkbeiner. Campaign aggressively in black Toledo. Every day of every week, do something in the African-American community.

Konop's photo op and story asking Warren County for its stimulus money is the typical "made for The Blade" news. No substance but he got a press hit!

That, by the way, is a lesson for City Council candidates. If you are new, call a press conference and make believe that you are already elected. Stand next to a pothole, criticize somebody. And, if someone takes the bait and responds, keep at it. Create your own news as Konop does weekly. It's free press and gets your name out there. Just make sure your name is spelled correctly.

Jon Stainbrook, Lucas County Republican Party chief, guarantees that his party will have a full slate of GOP candidates for City Council. Stainbrook does not see any opportunity in the "jail mess" but rather in the turmoil at the Lucas County Board of Elections.

However, the Board of Elections "mess" is pretty convoluted, almost impossible to explain or understand. On the other hand, the jail death is stark and clear cut. Was there or was there not a wrongful death? Were there two wrongful deaths as alleged – when one also takes into account the taser incident?

Already the coroner's office is backing away from its original findings. But there is a reason why Sheriff James Telb has remained so popular. He has always been accessible and he has been fair in his hiring and promotions.

For years Telb, Mike Bell and I did Santa Claus for Hope. So I know the sheriff from many different angles. I find it hard to believe that he could knowingly cover up anything. If anything is true, it is that he has always acknowledged screw ups in the past.

## Community Calendar

### April 27-May 1

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

### April 30

REACH Program Application Deadline: REACH Program from June 15 to August 7 at the UT Health Science Campus; Students grades 10-12 and 3.0 GPA; To expose students to research and clinical environments: 419-383-3438

### May 1-3

Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral 13th Pastoral Anniversary: Celebrating Bishop Marjorie Holt; 7 pm on Friday with Guests Bishop Hall and New Psalmist True Church; 5 pm on Sunday with guests Elder Anthony Hayes and Mt. Hope Apostolic

### 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  
ETFC Men's Breakfast: Brethren United in Christ; Speaker Rev. Michael Coleman of Antioch MBC; 9 to 11 am

Southern MBC 26th Pastoral Anniversary: Celebrating Pastor Robert Wormely; Banquet in the Robert Wormely Multipurpose Building; 6 pm

Chess Tournament: Toledo-Lucas County Main Branch Library; For Students grades K-6; 9:30 am to 2 pm: 419-259-5231

### 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  
All Saints Episcopal Church Women's Day: Speaker Charlma Jones Quarles of Washington, DC; 10 am

Greater St. Mary's Baptist 6th Pastoral Anniversary: Celebrating Pastor Robert Lyons; 4 pm; Guest Pastor J. Jordan of Ebenezer Baptist Church

### May 4

Block Watch Meeting: Mott Branch Library; 5 pm; Speaker Kori Wiscowski of Habitat for Humanity; 419-244-5390

Southern MBC 26th Pastoral Anniversary: Celebrating Pastor Robert Wormely; 4 pm

### May 6-9

Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance Revival: Friendship Baptist; Services 7 pm nightly; Speakers – Edward Branch, Edgar Vann and J. Lewis Felton: 419-246-8561

### May 8-9

Dorcas Ministries 2009 Don't Touch Me Symposium: Living Word Ministries; 6:30 pm each night and 11 am on Saturday; Guests include Min. Tabitha Williams, Elder Simeon Moultrie, the Everready's, Min. Haith Johnson, Orlando Gregory, Pastor Darrell White: 419-283-8321

### May 9

Pilgrim Church Flower Sale: 9 am to 2 pm: 419-478-6012

## The Sojourner's Truth

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# Asking the Right Questions

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



Lucas County jail officers used a Taser four times to subdue Turner after he repeatedly banged his head on his cell window. He had been shocked five times previously in the process of being arrested. After he was shocked at the jail he was placed in handcuffs and leg restraints, became unresponsive and pronounced dead when taken to the hospital.

The announcement came and went by almost unnoticed, lost in more attention-grabbing but trivial gossip which passes for news such as which players the NFL teams should draft, how Bo (the First Dog) might be adjusting to life in the White House, or whether Sara Palin has anything to do with her daughter's baby daddy drama.

One week ago, Wednesday, April 22 The Blade reported that The U.S. Department of Justice had decided against prosecution of Toledo police or Lucas County sheriff's deputies for the 2005 death of Jeffrey Turner, 41, after he had been shocked multiple times with a Taser.

According to reports,

One thing however, is clear. TASERS KILL. They also kill black men disproportionately, the majority of whom are unarmed and not a threat.

There were 334 deaths by Taser in the USA between 2001 and August 2008 of which 45 percent were black. Most of the deceased were under the influence of drugs or alcohol and a significant number had underlying health problems.

However approximately 20 percent had no illicit drugs or alcohol in their system and other forms of police restraint were usually involved such as handcuffs, leg shackles, prone restraint, batons, and chemical or pepper spray.

Only 33 of those who died were reportedly armed with any type of weapon, four having a firearm which was not always being brandished. A 17-year-old, who was standing in the street holding a Bible and screaming "I want Jesus" was tasered multiple times for refusing to comply with commands and continuing to yell. He collapsed at the scene and died the next day.

The Lucas County Coroner's Office ruled the manner of death a homicide and that he died from hypertensive heart disease complicated by the altercation with jail personnel, including the Taser shocks. Toxicology reports for drugs or alcohol were negative apart from a marijuana constituent in the urine which can be detected weeks after exposure.

Although a civil suit has been filed by Turner's mother, Betty, for violation of her son's civil rights by police officers and sheriff's employees, the Justice Department's assessment that a "prosecutable violation of federal criminal civil rights statutes did not take place" will be debated both in and out of court.

Police layoffs and task reassignments from desks to the streets is a strong possibility in Toledo and one relevant question is whether these tasers or "non-lethal" killers are being misused or too readily used as a work-saving, short-cut rather than a life-saving, injury-preventing last resort.

"Tasers are not the 'non-lethal' weapons they are portrayed to be," said Angela Wright of Amnesty International. "The problem with Tasers is that they are inherently open to abuse, as they are easy to carry and easy to use and can inflict severe pain at the push of a button, without leaving substantial

marks." A study by Amnesty, which included information from 98 autopsies, found that 90 percent of those who died by Taser were unarmed and many did not appear to present a serious threat. Many were subjected to repeated or prolonged shocks, by more than  
*(Continued on Page 14)*

## A Letter To Toledo City Council

This is a difficult time in Toledo and City Council has many tough decisions to make. How can you balance the budget effectively and prepare for the future of Toledo?

Regardless of the decisions made, votes taken and outcome, it is essential to acknowledge the sincere, honest effort that each council representative puts into the decisions made. Thank you for all your hard work on behalf of the residents of Toledo in such a stressful time.

Offer the following...  
Increasing revenue through additional taxes, fees or assessments may, in the very short term, solve the issue. However, in the long term, it will further alienate residents and business owners and continue the exodus from Toledo.

What are the alternatives?  
First, and foremost, reducing the police force by 150 is surreal, unacceptable and irresponsible. There are 3,000 employees in Toledo and for a division of 650 to lose 20 percent of their staff is unimaginable and unreasonable. If the federal government is allowing the funds for 40 police officers, why then are the cuts necessary?

The mayor is taking this approach for two reasons: one, to force concessions from the unions and, two, to force council to bend in his direction of continuing increases in taxes, assessments and fees. Don't weaken and don't yield. He is wrong. If he threatens until hell freezes over, he is still wrong.

If 150 more must be cut, take them from unessential services. There are private organizations, which would take on the recreation services and many other services the city now pays to provide. Utilize the private sector.

The unions are saying they are trying to negotiate the contracts but also are

saying they will not offer concessions. Concessions are not an option they are an essential necessity. The contracts need to be more in line with the private sector.

It is a bitter pill to swallow as it was for those of us who work in the private sector and had to also swallow that pill, but that is the medicine needed to fix this economic epidemic. Don't look for more revenue you must require responsible contracts.

If staff has been cut to 32 hours per week, if refuse collection crews have cut routes and overtime by the rolling pickup schedule and our employment rate is only five percent higher than the low of seven and a half percent in 2005, it does not seem possible the gap in the deficit is as great as the mayor suggests. What has been offered to prove the deficit amount?

Before jumping into privatization of refuse collection, carefully check the numbers. In February, I provided a study of the cost of private companies versus city service and it does not bear out a savings. The study was prior to the changes in crew sizes, changes in routes and rolling schedules (which I consider long overdue).

**IDON'TBELIEVEIT!**  
The budget which is reviewed in a PDF file can be provided by the treasurer in an excel spreadsheet which could easily be assessed and used to determine what is causing the gap. Request and .xls format you can analyze. If you already have one, please forward so I can review. I would like to do a study of the data.

In the end, when the economy improves and one reflects on this very difficult time, I ask this: if the fire protection fee reimbursement ordinance passes, if the refuse fee increase passes, if reciprocity is cut, and city government sees the income continue from these sources, will they continue or will they be discontinued?

As with the three quarters percent temporary tax, the

revenue will be used and become necessary. But what then? Will we lose more residents due to the increased cost and will we lose more businesses, as more fines, taxes and assessments are set? Will our home insurance rates be increased to cover the decision by council to bill back the charges for fires and other fire department services?

Why do we pay income tax? When will Toledoans see relief?

Suggestion: Go back about 15 years, 30 years and 45 years and look at a budget and what services were offered in those years. Compare the services and see what changes can be made.

I finally realized that so many services we offer in the city started out as very nice programs provided by the private sector and non-profits and seemed like such a good idea, the city took over the programs. We can no longer keep absorbing all the programs that seemed so valuable.

Even something as small as the Easter egg hunt... any church in a neighborhood offered egg hunts, why in the world did the city support one also? The church on Strayer Rd. dropped 20,000 eggs from a helicopter!!! Why did the city even consider do an egg hunt? Not only was it a waste of our funds, but also of personnel, printing and advertising.

In this difficult time, get back to basics - police, and fire and refuse collection. These three budget items are first and always attacked in a budget crunch with the intent to frighten residents and council into compliance to the will of the mayor. Be tough, be firm and be careful.

With sincerity, I offer thanks for your willingness to represent us in such a difficult environment.

Sincerely,  
**Karen Shanahan**

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# Wilkowski Announces Plan to Bring Green Collar Jobs to Toledo

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Democratic mayoral candidate Keith Wilkowski observed Earth Day 2009 by announcing his plan to "Repower Toledo" with the growth of "green collar" jobs.

"The whole idea of these green collar jobs – they are blue collar jobs that Toledoans are so good at," said Wilkowski as he set forth a four-point program to move into the alternative energy field.

Wilkowski's plan, as laid out in the proposal he released, seeks to: grow the region's clean technology industry through innovation and entrepreneurship, create and retain manufacturing jobs, create good jobs and save money through energy efficiency and prepare a green-collar workforce.

"We need to focus on solar, on alternative energy jobs that will be our salvation," said Wilkowski. "It's all about the creation of jobs – green jobs to put our people to work."

According to the "Re-



power Toledo" proposal, Wilkowski plans to grow the clean technology industry by transforming the City's Development Department into the Office of Innovation, Technology and Jobs – a department

headed by a creative and experienced entrepreneur. The department will be overseen by the mayor's Science and Technology Cabinet.

The City will partner with The University of Toledo

to strengthen its technology commercialization and business incubation efforts and to stimulate its venture capital investment. Income tax credits will be offered to individuals who are granted patents in targeted technology sectors such as advanced energy.

To create and retain manufacturing jobs, Wilkowski plans to commit to building a "21<sup>st</sup> Century urban energy infrastructure," to establish tax credits and financing programs for property owners installing solar panels, to create a wind-testing program to stimulate private investment in wind energy and to construct a municipal solar power facility.

Wilkowski wants to "retrofit Toledo's entire building stock – public, private, commercial and residential – to improve energy efficiency. Retrofitting these structures – which is modeled after similar initiatives in Milwaukee, WI and Boulder, CO – according to the Wilkowski plan will "create

thousands of jobs in installation and construction as well as jobs in 'upstream' manufacturing" such as building materials. This part of the proposal purports to raise the value of the city's housing stock and help Toledo businesses be more competitive.

The fourth part of the Wilkowski plan is to prepare a green-collar workforce first by funding a Toledo-Lucas County Green Jobs Partnership that "will connect young people, dislocated workers and other individuals with barriers to employment with job training, internships and job placement.

In addition, Wilkowski said he will work with area colleges, labor unions and other training providers to expand curriculum offerings for those interested in careers in energy-related fields such as solar technology, green supply chain manufacturing and high-performance construction.

"This is our future but we have to pursue it ag-

gressively," said Wilkowski. "We have to have a holistic and comprehensive approach to jobs and the economy of the future."

The "Repower Toledo" plan, said Wilkowski after the Earth Day announcement, is part of his view of the type of leadership the City of Toledo needs.

"As a leader you have to have a vision about where you want to go," he said. "Bringing people together is important but you have to have a belief about where you want to go."

Lucas County Commissioner Ben Konop, also a Democratic candidate for mayor, issued a statement critical of Wilkowski's plan. "While energy efficiency is a laudable goal, we must reach that goal through realistic initiatives with feasible means of paying for them," said Konop noting that the program in Milwaukee is estimated to cost \$500 million.



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## Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison Visits University of Toledo

By Artisha S. Lawson  
Sojourner's Truth reporter

The University of Toledo College of Arts and Sciences welcomed Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison on Friday, April 24 to UT's newly remodeled Savage Arena and an audience of over 300.

Formal welcomes from Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Rosemary Haggett and Interim Dean for College of Arts and Sciences Nina McClelland opened the event.

"Students sent Professor Morrison songs, and that's one reason why she is here tonight. What better way than to have Toledo Public Schools and The University of Toledo student collaborate to get Ms. Morrison here tonight," said The Edward Shapiro Lecture Series Committee Chairman Jon Richardson.

UT President Lloyd Jacobs, MD, expressed his gratitude to the Lecture Series for organizing this event and acknowledged the longevity of the university.



"Thank you to Shapiro family and lecture series committee members," said Dr. Jacobs. "Tonight we have multiple reasons for celebra-

tion, first this being the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the College of Arts and Sciences, which was founded in 1909. Since its inception, The University of

Toledo College of Arts and Sciences has been the leader in education and will continue to transform the world."

Morrison received a standing ovation as she approached the podium to address the crowd. Morrison is a native of Lorain, Ohio is an author, editor and professor. Her novel, *Beloved*, was published in 1987 and awarded the Pulitzer Prize for fiction and named the best American novel published in the last 25 years by The New York Times.

In 1993, Morrison was the first African-American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature. Her latest work, *A Mercy*, was released in November 2008 and was named one of the 10 best books of 2008.

Morrison explained why her novels are based in the past even though the themes are still relevant.

"I called this lecture, 'this past is now,'" said Morrison. "I'm interested in collecting my thoughts. People and stu-

dents who casually read my novels ask why I write about the past and why not write about the now because the present is urgent. They say the past seems so back then, I write a lot about the past. My first [book] took place in 1930, but it's more about regret about past mistakes, then about the time period."

She also spoke about war and terrorism and explained some of the reasons normally given to continue fighting. "War against terror described in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Centuries was to correct beliefs of those [of different beliefs]. Where state religion is the norm, [people] use intellectual tradition to justify killing in the name of God. Let's get rid of war against terror, instead of tolerating cultural ignorance," said Morrison.

Following Morrison's speech, she was presented with a proclamation and original painting from Ella P. Stewart Academy for Girls and a gift bag from her sorority sisters of the graduate and

undergraduate chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Morrison's speech is the fourth in the Edward Shapiro Distinguished Lecture Series, which was established to bring noted scholars in the arts, sciences, and humanities to The University of Toledo.

The series is named in memory of Edward Shapiro, PhD, a university alumnus and economics professor for 22 years in the College of Arts and Sciences. Shapiro also donated more than \$4 million to the college during his lifetime.

The event was organized by committee members: Chairman Jon Richardson, Esq.; Thomas L. Ashley; Father Jim Bacik; Robert Bell; Pat Green; Judge David Katz; Mary Morrison; Baldemar Velasquez; Richard Walinski; Traci Watkins PhD, Esq.; Keith Wilkowski, Esq. and Donna Woodson, PhD.

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## United Way Women's Initiative Welcomes Victoria Rowell

By Artisha S. Lawson  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

At least 100 supporters and volunteers of United Way Women's Initiative attended An Evening Under the Stars. This year's event on Wednesday, April 22 at The Pinnacle in Maumee featured Victoria Rowell, an actress, author and foster care advocate.

United Way Women's Initiative seeks to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of women in our community and cultivating women to become leaders, philanthropists and advocates on issues of concern to women.

Every year, members invest in their community in programs supporting women and children in Lucas, Wood and Ottawa counties. Since its inception in 2001, Women's Initiative has invested almost a million dollars benefiting women and children. For the past three years, these women have focused on improving social and emotional learning programs at East Toledo and Sherman Elementary schools.

Currently, they have redirected their focus on grant making and will fund programs addressing women and children in the areas of health, educational access and success, social and economic autonomy, as well as safety and freedom from violence. Members are women who have donated at least \$100 or more towards this annual meeting.

"The women's initiative wants to mobilize women, I'm so excited to work with these volunteers. For the past three years we've focused on successful schools and youth," said



Mary Sabin, Women's Initiative Chairman Elect.

Guest speaker Rowell was born in Portland, Maine and raised in foster care where she began her performing career at the age of eight when she received a full scholarship to the Cambridge School of Ballet in Massachusetts.

In her book, *The Women Who Raised Me*, she writes about the important people who have helped her to achieve success and her personal experience in the foster care system. She is the founder of The Rowell Foster Children's Positive Plan, is an Annie E. Casey Foundation spokesperson, has received 12 NAACP Im-

age Awards, the United Nations Association Award and honorary degrees from the University of Southern Maine and Wheelock College in Boston.

She spent a majority of her address striving to unify the women attendees and speaking about how the women in her life helped her become who she is today. "I am thrilled to be in the presence of women who care about children, our community and their elderly," Rowell said during her opening.

As a foster care advocate Rowell used the example of how she began her ballet career as a way to connect the importance of

positive adults in the foster care system. Her foster mother encouraged her to study ballet, which led to her scholarship opportunity.

"She woke me up to watch June Taylor dancers and found a book on ballet positions and I would practice

an hour a day in the front room of the farm house. She heard about a scholarship, this was in 1969 and I was offered a full-ride scholarship that lasted eight years," said Rowell.

Mainly because of her positive experience in as a foster child, she felt that the women attendees should share an important message to other community women.

"It's about the quality of time," said Rowell. "Whether you choose to go into respite care or offer to care for a child or siblings for a weekend or read to the elderly once per month or teach a child to pitch or take a child to the ballet – it all matters. There are over 500,000 in foster care; over 50 percent are in public schools and living with grandparents. These third generation parents are raising kids off of social security. They need second-hand clothing and that bag of groceries."

Following a brief question and answer session, the local chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. presented Rowell, their sorority sister, with a bouquet of yellow tea roses, the official sorority flower. Afterwards Rowell signed copies of her book and 3D designs

of the Habitat Home were projected and displayed.

Attendees were encouraged to sign up for United Way Women's Initiative and Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity 2009 Women's Build from June 6 until July 25. This year National Association of Women in Construction are expected to participate but women volunteers are still needed for work in crawl prep, deck building, framing, siding and roofing, insulation, dry-wall, painting, greeting, clean-up, errand running, assisting with food distribution, first aid, installation of interior doors and trim work, cabinet installation and landscape.

Women who are interested should contact Lisa Fink at the United Way of Greater Toledo. The build will benefit a local family with a five-bedroom handicap accessible single-level home.

This event was organized by committee members: co-chairs Julia Hambrecht and Lillian Walsh, Sara Jan DeHoff, Simone Hayes and Christine Senack. Proceeds of the event will benefit the 2009 Women's Build.

### The Truth Art Gallery

1811 Adams Street,  
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Ramon Tiggs, Curator

#### For event information contact:

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Director of Events  
419.346.5275

Email: [gcreationevents@yahoo.com](mailto:gcreationevents@yahoo.com)



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# Henry Clark: Poor Clark's Remains a Neighborhood Institution and Tradition

By Fletcher Word  
Sojourner's Truth Editor

Henry Lee Clark opened his own barbershop – Clark's Barber Shop which would later expand to Clark's Barber and Beauty Shop – in 1961 after having served an apprenticeship at Powell's Barber Shop for several years. And now, 48 years later – 39 years at his present location of 1723 N. Detroit – Clark vividly recalls the incident that inspired him to take up the profession. It was the freezing cold temperature.

"When I got out of the service, I worked on a construction job," says Clark. "One day it was about eight degrees and one of the other guys said to me 'you got no business doing this.'"

Clark found himself in complete agreement with his colleague especially on those occasions when he was hoisted high up in the cold air over the Maumee River. "That motivated me to go to barber school," he recalls.

So back to school he went. Clark attended the Andrew Barber College and earned his certification in 1959. He would follow up that with a diploma from Herron's Beauty School in 1965 but by that time he was well on his way to servicing what he estimates is about 5,000 clients over the

years while using the services of approximately 400 barbers.

The Grenada, MS native arrived in Toledo at the age of 10 in 1943 along with his younger sister Joy. The youngsters' mother had died years before and they had spent the ensuing time with their grandmother "way out in the woods where I didn't see black folks or white folks ... just woods." Their father, however, was in Toledo. Hence, their arrival in the Glass City.

Clark attended Libbey and Macomber High Schools and joined the Air Force after graduation. After the service he quickly realized that it was time to come in from the cold.

Running a barbershop in a black community means



**"When I got out of the service, I worked on a construction job. One day it was about eight degrees and one of the other guys said to me 'you got no business doing this...' That motivated me to go to barber school"**

more than just cutting hair, as everyone should know. The barbershop is a gathering place and a social

center of the community, a place to hold lengthy, sometimes contentious discussions about sports, poli-

tics, religion ... you name it. The barbershop is also a tradition and Clark's is certainly part of a Toledo tradition. Last year when Rev. Cedric Brock of Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church started a program called Adopt a Haircut, he selected Clark's as the place to host the program. Adopt a Haircut provides young African-American boys with free haircuts courtesy of community donations. The boys have to first go to the library, check out a book

and take the book to the barbershop in order to receive their free cut.

The reason Brock selected Clark's, also known as Poor Clark's, for the honor is because of that tradition. Clark's happens to be the place where Brock, as a boy, received his very first haircut.

good life."

Meanwhile back at the shop. A visit to Poor Clark's during a weekday late morning tells the story of this particular neighborhood institution. There are about a dozen chairs in Clark's and on a quiet Thursday morning, four barbers are already at work.



One of the other reasons Brock selected Clark's is that the shop is located across the street from the Lincoln Academy for Boys, one of Toledo Public Schools' single-gender elementary academies. The location may be a coincidence but Clark's long-time devotion to mentoring and helping students is certainly not.

Four customers are waiting their turns, reading magazines or chatting with Henry Clark as they wait. The banter flows, the laughter abounds. If a visitor had no other appointments or duties to tear him away from the scene, he might well spend the next several hours listening to the free-wheeling conversations.

"There's no elevation without education," Clark is fond of saying.

Clark's dedication to education has been reflected in several ways. He has continued his own education in his adult, business life and he has on numerous occasions spoken to students on a variety of topics. He has mentored dozens of students during the years.

"I try to tell them that they need self-control," says Clark. "If they control themselves, they will lead a

Clark takes a lot of pride in what he has accomplished over the years, especially the service he has provided to his clientele. Since he is the last of his family – his younger sister Joy passed away recently – for Clark, his barbers and clients are more than just business acquaintances or friends – they are family.

And the barbershop is home. Home for Clark, a home away from home for so many others.

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- April 26, 2009

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REACH is a component of the University of Toledo's Diversity Initiative administered by the Office of Institutional Diversity and funded by the College of Medicine. The program provides funding for 15 student intern positions.

While students of all ethnic and cultural groups are accepted into the program, a special emphasis will be placed on identifying and recruiting students who are traditionally underrepresented in the sciences (i.e., African-American, Hispanic or Native American students).

FOR APPLICATIONS OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Office of Institutional Diversity  
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**Darrick Beckwith**  
Community Relations  
Asst. Executive Director

## Minority Health Month's Last Few Activities

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

April is Minority Health Month and a flurry of activities in the last few weeks of the month wrapped up the annual spree of health fairs and screenings.

Warren AME Church held its fifth annual health fair on Saturday, April 18 as a full house of vendors – clinics, health care professionals, insurance agencies – offered information to the public in the church's fellowship hall.

On Saturday April 25, the Toledo Council of Black Nurses and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc hosted a community health fair and the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Prostate Cancer Education and Awareness Program at the Cordelia Martin Health Center.

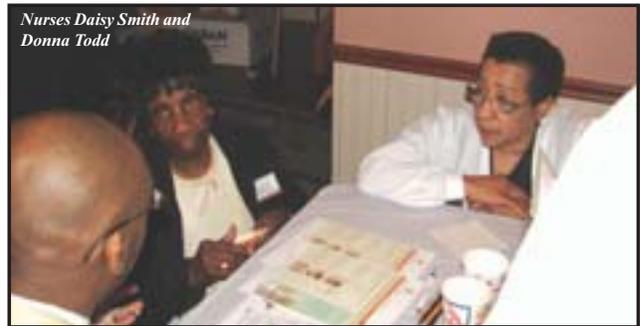
Saturday's visitors were able to have screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, HIV/AIDS, diabetes, Lupus and prostate by vendors ranging from the American Cancer Society to St. Vincent's Col-Rectal department.



*C & M Medical Supply booth*



*The State Farm booth with Vince Davis, his daughter Traci and grandson, Julian*



*Nurses Daisy Smith and Donna Todd*



*Dana Slay at the Noni booth*



*Pastor Otis Gordon gets a hula hoop workout in*

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## Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Senior Recognition Program

### Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Toledo Alumnae Chapter held its 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Senior Recognition Program on Saturday, April 25 at the Scott Park Campus of The University of Toledo and honored 26 area high school seniors for their accomplishments.

The Senior Recognition Committee – Chairman Tiffany Triplett, Co-Chairman NaTasha Baker and members Tia Triplett, Shannon Tisdale, Kaylene Miller and Ronata Bryant – not only recognized the high school students for their achievements but also conducted sessions in order to give the young women some valuable advice on how to proceed



Front Row (l. to r.): Jasmine Bauknight, Camelle Hodges, Dennasia Patterson, Camille Ramsey, Fionna Stallworth, Tyniece Williams, Shatia Allison, Bree Lyons  
Back Row (l. to r.): Nija Sheares, Karlonda Harper, Kyla Jackson, Mariah Waller, Earlyn Whitehead, Sarah Edwards, Symone Coleman, Veronica Dutridge

were led off by a welcome and introduction. Then followed a brief history of the alumnae chapter by Bettina Shuford, Ph.D., president of the chapter.

The committee conducted breakout sessions allowing the students to hear from the chapter's members about college and career decisions. The parents also participated in their own session, led by member Joyce Hendersson, on career choices.

Tamika Draper, the assistant principal of Winterfield Venture Academy and a member of the sorority, was the keynote speaker. Draper, a graduate of Scott High School and UT, spoke to the students about making the right choices in life, using her own life as an example of overcoming obstacles after the wrong choices have been made.

Draper became a single mother when she was a sophomore in high school and continued her high school and college education, along with taking on a variety of jobs in order to support her son and herself. She told her audience that "you will face resistance and negative thoughts from others ... you are in control of your destiny by the choices that you make."

Draper also warned the high school students to take responsibility for their choices and actions. "We aren't owed anything," said Draper. "We have to go out and get what we want."

Saturday's event ended with the roll call of the students and the awards presentations.



Tia Triplett and NaTasha Baker lead breakout session

with their college careers and in their professional lives.

The afternoon's events



Kaylene Miller, Tia Triplett, NaTasha Baker, Tamika Triplett, Tiffany Triplett, Shannon Tisdale

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# UT Honors Emeritus Faculty Member and Trustee With Endowed Professorship

*Special to The Truth*

The important role that Dr. S. Amjad Hussain, MD, trustee and professor emeritus of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery, has played during his years with the former Medical College of Ohio and now The University of Toledo is well-known. Now the university is preserving his legacy through the creation of a new endowed professorship.

The S. Amjad Hussain Endowed Professorship in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery will be a valuable resource to bring a na-

tionally renowned faculty member to campus who will focus on research and educational programs in cardiac surgery, bolstering an already strong department.

"The professorship that will bear Dr. Hussain's name will be a pillar of excellence at The University of Toledo," said Dr. Jeffrey Gold, Health Science Campus provost, executive vice president for health affairs and dean of the College of Medicine. "We are proud to honor his legacy at the University in this way, and hope that others will want to be a

part of this tribute by helping to grow the endowment for this professorship. We have here a man who could justifiably be called a renaissance man and a polymath."

The Hussain family has made a foundational pledge of \$500,000 to help start the endowment, which will require \$1 million to fund it in perpetuity.

"Dr. Amjad Hussain has given so much of himself to this institution, as both an integral member of our College of Medicine faculty and a member of our board, that it is our pleasure to pay trib-

ute to his accomplishments through the creation of this professorship," said Dr. Lloyd Jacobs, UT president. "Over his career, Amjad has redefined what it means to dedicate yourself to an institution, and this professorship will serve as a reminder to us all of what we should strive to be."

The University hosted an event honoring Hussain for his dedication to the university on Tuesday, April 28, in the ballroom of the Hilton Hotel on the Health Science Campus.

Born in the frontier town of Peshawar in northwest Pakistan, Hussain graduated with distinction from Khyber Medical College in 1962. He received general surgery training at the Medical College of Ohio (now The University of Toledo) and thoracic and cardiovascular surgery training at Wayne State University. He returned to Peshawar in 1970 and taught at his alma

mater for four years, before returning to Toledo to start a private practice in 1975.

Upon his return to Toledo, Hussain held a clinical appointment at MCO in the Department of Surgery and returned annually to teach at his alma mater in Peshawar for the past 35 years. He was named professor emeritus by MCO at the time of his retirement in 2004.

The author of more than 50 scientific papers, 10 books and an op-ed columnist for the Toledo Blade for nearly 20 years, Hussain is an accomplished surgeon, researcher and teacher who has held many leadership positions, including president of the Academy of Medicine of Toledo and Lucas County, the Toledo Surgical Society, the Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America and Khyber Medical College Alumni Association. He's also an internationally recognized explorer.



*Dr. S. Amjad Hussain*

The university is also affirming Hussain's legacy by introducing an annual lecture focused on the history of medicine. The inaugural S. Amjad Hussain Annual Lecture in the History of Medicine and Surgery will take place Aug. 24, 2009.

For more information on the endowed professorship, contact Howard Newman, associate vice president for development, at 419.530.6840 or howard.newman@utoledo.edu.

## Celebrating Jazz Appreciation Month

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*



*Dick Lange Trio*

The Professional Musicians of NW Ohio Local 15-286 and Music Performance Fund presented a celebration of Jazz Appreciation Month on Saturday, April 25 at the Toledo Lucas County Main Library featuring a lineup of 15 of the area's jazz ensembles.

The performances were held on the library's north lawn and at two inside locations. Among the performers were the Dick Lange Trio, the Toledo Symphony Jazz Trio, the Lori Lefevre Quartet, the Jim Grottron Quartet, the Ramona Collins Quartet, Selina Perryman & Co, The Murphys, the Toledo School for the Arts, Keith Bernhard & More Jazz Messengers, the Bob Rex Trio, Jelise & Co., Chiefs of Dixieland, the UT Jazz Faculty Quartet, the Toledo Youth Jazz Ensemble and the BGSU Jazz Ensemble.



*Selina Perryman & Co.*



*Re. William Spencer (on sax) of Jelise & Co.*

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# Mayor Carty Finkbeiner, Dan Wagner President Toledo Police Patrolman's Association

Gentlemen:

The citizens of the City of Toledo desperately need the leadership of the City and its employee unions to negotiate a resolution of the current impasse to stop

the lay-off of 150 police officers. Waiting until May 28<sup>th</sup> to resume negotiations – 27 days after the scheduled lay-offs – is unacceptable to the people who

live and work in this great city. I strongly urge the parties to return to the bargaining table immediately. I further propose that you

call upon retired Ohio State Supreme Court Justice Andy Douglas, who has earned the respect of labor and management over his long career, to mediate these negotiations.

Sincerely yours,  
Keith Wilkowski



CC: Justice Andy Douglas (retired)

**INTERESTED BIDDERS:**

**TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – OLD BOWSHER HIGH SCHOOL, BIRMINGHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, RIVERSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, OLD ELMHURST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND WALBRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS**

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 Bowsher High School and Birmingham, Old Elmhurst, Riverside, and Walbridge Elementary Schools as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by The Collaborative Inc, Munger Munger and Associates Architects Inc, and MacPherson Architects 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 29, 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 **MANDATORY PREBID CONFERENCE** is scheduled for **May 8, 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 [jessica.dandino@lgb-llc.com](mailto:jessica.dandino@lgb-llc.com), by phone at (419) 776-5600, or (fax) (877) 281-0784.

*Birmingham K-8 School*

- Bid Item No. 1 Birmingham K-8 School Building Demolition:*  
\$ 155,307.00
- Bid Item No. 2 Birmingham K-8 School Site Demolition:*  
\$ 61,233.00
- Total* \$ 216,540.00

*Old Bowsher High School*

- Bid Item No. 1 Old Bowsher High School Building Demolition:*  
\$ 715,215.00
- Bid Item No. 2 Old Bowsher High School Site Demolition:*  
\$ 82,428.00
- Total* \$ 797,643.00

*Old Elmhurst Elementary School*

- Bid Item No. 1 Old Elmhurst Elementary School Building Demolition:*  
\$ 145,034.00
- Bid Item No. 2 Old Elmhurst Elementary School Site Demolition:*  
\$ 26,291.00
- Bid Item No. 3 Old Elmhurst Elementary School Site Restoration:*  
\$ 30,000.00
- Total* \$ 201,325.00

*Riverside Elementary School*

- Bid Item No. 1 Riverside Elementary School Building Demolition:*  
\$ 211,547.00
- Bid Item No. 2 Riverside Elementary School Site Demolition:*  
\$ 25,953.00
- Total* \$ 237,500.00

*Walbridge Elementary School*

- Bid Item No. 1 Walbridge Elementary School Building Demolition:*  
\$ 266,068.00
- Bid Item No. 2 Walbridge Elementary School Site Demolition:*  
\$ 29,359.00
- Total* \$ 295,427.00

## IMA Protests Proposed Police Cuts

The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance represents pastors from all over Toledo who have a concern for our community and its residents. Most of our churches are in the central city area, and the people from that part of the city are those whom we serve. Therefore, we find it impossible not to respond to the recent decisions being made by our mayor concerning cuts in our fire and police departments.

The people who live in the central city of Toledo have been marginalized for generations due to the lack of services and support from our city. Issues from faulty sewer systems to pot-holed streets have been lifted up by City Council members and residents alike. The crime rate in the zip code areas of the central city are the highest in the area. The schools are notoriously worse in the central city than in the fringe areas, gang activity has been on the rise for the last several years, and yet the mayor's office has turned a deaf ear. People living in the central city are marginalized from the best that our city has to offer.

For our mayor to propose that officers be cut from the gang unit, from the community services unit and from our schools and other public places is unconscionable. The majority of those who live in the affected area are African American, and all of those affected are the most in need. Are we abandoning our inner city to the crime, drugs, after hour joints and greed that we have fought to rid ourselves of over the past few years? Does the mayor have any idea of the import of the community services officers provide for those who live in the most dangerous or tenuous parts of our city? It would seem that he does not.

Many of our churches and our parishioners have experienced slow response times to emergency situations. A 911 call can take as long as one hour or more for a response in some areas. This is not the fault of the police and fire crews. They are doing their best and are, in most cases serving their city well. The slow response time is generally due to lack of staff – an issue that will only worsen if the mayor has his way.

There are other ways to deal with our budget shortfalls than to threaten those least able to respond with cutbacks in necessary services. We support cuts in top staff positions first, in unnecessary expenditures that are now costing us an exorbitant amount. We believe there are other ways to respond to the present crisis and we call on our mayor and City Council to find them.

Cedric Brock, President  
Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance



### The Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union



A Few Brick Donors

currently located at 1339 Dorr Street, has just launched their "Brick Campaign". The **TUFCU** has begun this campaign in an effort to raise funds for the new building which will be built at the corner of Detroit Avenue at Dorr Street. If you are interested in purchasing a "Brick" as a part of the campaign the prices are as follows:

- \$ 50.00 for each "Walkway" brick
- \$100.00 for each "Vestibule" brick
- \$500.00 for each "Archway" brick

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## Lima's Ninth Annual Harambee: A Gathering for Unity

By Vickie Shurelds  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter



Recently, the call for civil rights and equal justice has come under fire in Lima. One reporter at a local paper has even gone as far as to say on his blog that the NAACP is and always has been a group of whiners without a plan, without effect and remains a useless entity.

The Voting Rights Act continues to initiate strong conversations, with supporters saying people of color will never be equal citizens unless they enjoy the same freedoms freely bestowed upon anyone else born in America.

State Representative Sandra Williams reminded participants at the Allen

time to vote."

Williams is serving her second term representing the 11<sup>th</sup> District. She spent time in Lima working as a parole officer and said her decision to go into politics was made during that time. She cited positive strides recently with the historic vote to place President Obama in the highest position available in the United States.

"When voters came out to support him, they also made significant changes in the Senate, in the Statehouse and in the committees within those forums," she said. "There are 17 members of Ohio Legislative Black Caucus and each one holds the position of a chair of one committee; vice chair of another."

Williams is chairman of the Ohio House Economic Development Committee, and is vice chairman of the Public Utilities Committee. She is a member of the Financial Institutions, Real Estate and Securities Committee and the

level that has allowed for true growth in a positive direction for Ohio according to Williams but she cautioned there is no room for complacency. Every election is an important election.

"Look at the candidates, seek out those who have your best interest in mind. Look at their records, listen to what they say, and spend equal time watching what they do," she told her audience last week. "In these times we hear a lot about the poor; and certainly now there are some people classified in that category that never thought they would be. But, I've heard a different definition of 'poor': Passing Over Opportunities Regularly. We cannot afford to be "POOR" we must become aggressive in our attempts to keep Ohio growing."

Williams spoke briefly about a retreat attended by all members of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus. During the retreat they were able to list priorities and begin plans of action according to the list.

"The challenges that we face today are many, but we are capable of getting them under control," she said. "We have decided to first put an end to false promises that make it difficult to move forward. The education promise is falling by the wayside. African-American males are still six times more likely to be incarcerated. The initiative to close the achievement gap is working. There will be an additional \$20 million placed in that budget to expand that program beyond the African-American male to created an opportunity for a stronger group of educated youth en-

tering institutions of higher learning, training, or the workforce."

She went on to say our plea for jobs in Ohio must be accompanied by a workforce prepared to do those jobs when they arrive. Certificate programs, apprenticeships and internships must be accepted to provide more people with the skills needed for industries we may be able to bring to Ohio.

Another concern she has heard across the state has been from minority business owners who believe they are being overlooked when it comes to partnerships with the state.

"Legislation was passed determining 15 percent of goods and services received by the state should go to African-American-owned businesses," said Williams. "Looking at our score card, we found only four percent compliance. But as we looked further, we found that out of 58,000 African-American-owned businesses, only 1,000 were actually signed up to do business with the state. We must do what we can to participate in the programs! You must sign up! Otherwise, how does the state know where you are and what you have to offer? Programs like weatherization are up by 200 percent. This is a time we can use these programs to get people back to work – the state is looking for certified people: inspectors, contractors, there are \$51 million in that fund but the only way to have your business and employees benefit from that is to go to the website and sign up. The funds must be spent within the next three years, so the time for action on your part is now.



Caucus Member  
Kathleen Amerson



Rep Williams and Alberta Shurelds



Harambee Booths 2009

County Democratic Minority Caucus Harambee that holding legislators accountable is not necessarily the first step for addressing issues. "The right to vote must become a priority for you," said Williams. "[As legislators] – We have a hard time getting things done – and when we look for people to come out and vote we have a difficult time finding them. Traditionally, it seems the people who are most effected by those issues are not there when it's

Veterans Affairs Committee. "These positions allow us the opportunity to work equally for those who put us in office. The power of your vote is that you can determine the effect of what goes on by voting smart, voting consistently, and holding your representatives to task," said Williams.

The work done by organizations like the Minority Caucus also a part of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus, has made changes at the basic

"Health care programs including those for diabetes, Lupus and others are not working as well, because when these programs are put into place, only 20 percent of those qualified for program actually sign up," Williams continued. "We agree we've got to do a better job of getting the information about these programs to the people who need them most."

As Williams closed her

speech she spoke of the need for every Ohioan to remain active in the democratic process. President Obama's Organizing for America will be in Lima on May 5 to find out what it is that people need to make their communities continue to move forward.

"They are being sent here to help you," said Williams. "Make sure you show up when they arrive."

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The Soloist ... Jamie Foxx Robert Downey, Jr

By Michael Hayes Minister of Culture



Beautiful people on screen. Lies, deceit and betrayal. Someone gets his ass kicked (and he deserved it). And that's all good.

But in times like these, we need our art to mean a little more.

In times like this we need some sort of transformative experience.

At least I do. Walking around Art-omatic (the bi-annual art and culture explosion in downtown Toledo) for three Saturdays in a row, I was moved by some of what I saw because I could feel that the artist was moved by the need to convey something meaningful.

Jamie Foxx is just such an artist. He is a lock for any role involving musicianship as he is mastering the worlds of acting and music to greater extent each year.

He is not a "former recording artist" such as Will Smith, Queen Latifah or Ice Cube. He is a CURRENT Billboard mainstay, ringtone sales champion and radio killer. He can drop albums, hit singles and provocative films all at his own will it seems. And he's 40 plus years old with a keen understanding of how his fans need to connect with him.

He became Ray Charles, feel

me?

At first glance, it is somewhat jarring to see the Oscar winning/glossy video music star type-dude in his first onscreen appearance in The Soloist as a homeless person.

It takes a while getting used to. His dialect has been adapted to portray a man whose tangential rants to himself make him seem to be the most insightful lunatic you've ever heard mumbbling.

Homelessness in America is a huge problem obviously.

I don't want to say that "the homeless" are a problem. With the economy the way it is, many people reading this article are just a paycheck or two away from being damn near homeless. This film reminds you that even though you feel a twinge of discomfort looking at persons whose entire catalog of possessions is in a shopping cart or garbage bag; even though the dirt on their face and the odor on their clothes makes you uneasy; even though they may have slept under a bridge last night; they are still humans.

And we aren't so high and mighty that we can look down on them.

This film also demands that audiences remember the pervasiveness of mental illness in

our society. Treated, or untreated. Diagnosed or undiagnosed.

Thinking about music was an issue for me while watching this film.

All of my readers who are older than me and see me in public and remember me as a child, if you had seen me in 1990 while I was in the fifth or sixth grade you probably saw me walking through the hood with a big ass cello.

True, born a drummer... taught myself keyboard... but for two years at Stewart I played cello. I was no Nathaniel Ayers

but his musicianship reminded me of the dedication and wisdom 10-year olds need if they want to dedicate their life to an instrument.

Seeing this film presents the viewer with an in-escapable dilemma - what does success mean in the world of art?

Here you have a homeless person who prefers to play under the highway overpass because the acoustics are suited to allow his music to travel to listeners he feels needs his message. Here you have someone with no shelter yet his greatest priority is what

time and energy he can dedicate to his craft.

And if you think that sounds ridiculous, this film once again begs the question: what is sane/insane?

Yeah. If you wanna see a sexy white girl getting slapped around by a way more sexy black girl, go see Obsession and cheer as Beyonce struggles to act her way through another movie. Maybe it's not that she can't act, maybe it's just... from Cadillac Records and even Austin Powers in Goldmember - sometimes her dialect, facial inflections and range of emotions just never evolve.

Most of you will choose the cheap thrill at the box office.

But if you want to see a movie that you will one day want to purchase, as in an actual, legit DVD purchase from a reputable establishment \*wink, wink,\* if you want to have a movie experience that makes you feel something... go see

The Soloist.

I haven't told you the half, so there's a lot left to enjoy.

The TRUE grade for Jamie Foxx's The Soloist is B+.



In Memoriam Carolyn Jones-Knighten, 1971-2009. Carolyn Jones-Knighten, a versatile singer known for her wide vocal range, died Wednesday in The University of Toledo Medical Center, formerly the Medical College of Ohio. The cause of death is not known, according to her brother, Alvin Jones, Jr. A Toledo native, her first audiences were in the pews of Bethlehem Baptist Church. She started as a member of the children's choir, singing a solo, "Amazing Grace," at age five. Jones-Knighten was a graduate of Macomber-Whitney High School and the Ohio Barber College. She worked briefly as a barber before quitting to pursue her musical career full time. She began singing professionally locally at age 18, performing a variety of styles including reggae, jazz, country, pop, and gospel. During her career, Jones-Knighten performed in Europe and Japan, as a soloist and member of gospel and R&B groups, and in the studio as a backup singer. She also sang and acted in several national touring theatrical productions. Many know her as the vocal half of C.J. and Company, a duo that has performed at least two nights a week at Stella's Restaurant and Bar in Perrysburg since it opened in 2005. "She was just fantastic," said Jim Hodulik, owner of Stella's. "She had a passion for what she did. She just loved singing." Her voice could melt listeners or propel them out of their seats and onto the dance floor, said C.J. Manning, saxophonist and keyboard player for C.J. and Company, a friend for more than 20 years and her musical partner for the last eight. In addition to their shows at Stella's, Mr. Manning said, the duo performed at other local venues and private functions such as weddings and parties. Surviving are her husband, Billy Knighten; daughters, Porshia Knighten, Jordan Knighten, and Helena Jones-Knighten; mother, Helen R. Jones; brother, Alvin Jones, Jr., and sisters, Connie Ford-Lowe, Tammy Jones, and Victoria Bell. Visitation and wake services will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday in Bethlehem Baptist Church, 1430 West Bancroft St. The funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at the church. Arrangements are by the Day Funeral Home

## Questions

(Continued from Page 3)

one officer at a time, or shocked for failing to comply with police commands even after they had been incapacitated by a first shock.

Another quiet fact but one which suggests a second troubling question is that Turner was reportedly mentally ill and tased as a result of exhibiting disturbing or unusual behavior. Are we now, in Toledo and the United States, criminalizing mental illness? And are we also, in a sense, executing blacks (dis-

proportionately) and others for what truly are medical emergencies rather than criminal acts?

According to a Justice Department study, over 64 percent of jail and prison inmates have reported mental health problems as the United States has "dismantled a colossal mental health complex and rebuilt an enormous prison."

The dramatic rise in the number of those in prison is almost exactly equaled by the

decline in those that were formerly institutionalized in mental facilities as it appears that we now diagnose deviant behavior differently today from how we did in the past by transferring individuals who used to be targeted for mental health treatment straight to jail without passing Go.

As the nation's prisons and jails hold unprecedented numbers of people with mental illnesses, many who come into contact with law enforce-

ment as a result of their mental illness, a third question surfaces. Do law enforcement officers have the needed support, resources, or specialized training to deal with these situations in a more appropriate way than to rely upon the tools and institutions of punishment?

The Jeffrey Turner tragedy suggests that the time has come, even in the midst of an economic crisis, to address the needs of this population in new or more effective

ways rather than with the traditional law enforcement strategies which often confuse and threaten those with mental illness, further leading to erratic behavior that results in harm to them or officers.

New strategies such as training and retraining on the signs and symptoms of mental illness, de-escalation techniques or by responding to mental illness situations with joint teams of officers and mental health providers will

improve outcomes and provide an alternative compassionate response that prioritizes treatment over incarceration when appropriate, and will have significant positive consequences for the officers, the mentally ill and their loved ones, the community, and the criminal justice system.

Contact Donald Perryman, D.Min, at [djperryman@concordia.edu](mailto:djperryman@concordia.edu)

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# CLASSIFIEDS

April 29, 2009

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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

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) is issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Educational Assessment, Planning and Specialized Tutoring services.

The goals are to (1) conduct comprehensive, standardized assessments of children's educational needs, (2) identify appropriate services to address educational deficits, and (3) provide specialized, subject specific tutoring for children with significant deficits or who are at risk of school failure.

LCCS is seeking proposals from public and privately employed individuals and agencies capable and willing to provide educational assessment and specialized tutoring services for children living in substitute care. RFP materials will be available from April 27 through May 7, 2009 at 705 Adams St., Toledo, Ohio, 40604. To make arrangements to pick up an RFP packet, call 419-213-3658. An applicant information meeting regarding the RFP will be held on May 7, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. in Room #913 at the above address.

The deadline for submitting completed proposals (NO FAX) is 4:00 p.m. on May 28, 2009. No proposal will be accepted after that deadline.

By Dean Sparks, Executive Director  
Lucas County Children Services

### Special Public Announcement \*

May 4 – Rick Dees Show  
New company launch – Light Years Wireless  
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### PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF TOLEDO

**SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE 2008-2009 ONE-YEAR ACTION PLAN**  
To all interested agencies, groups, and persons:  
The City of Toledo is seeking comments on a proposed substantial amendment to its One-Year Action Plan, which is a part of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan for a Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP).

The Substantial Amendment includes a description of available funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the eligible uses for the HPRP grant. It contains a description of the process to be used to select subgrantees and plans for collaborations in undertaking the activities. As part of this program, the provision of homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing activities shall be undertaken, including short-term or medium-term rental assistance, housing relocation and stabilization services (housing search, mediation or outreach to property owners, credit repair, security or utility deposits, utility payments, rental assistance, moving cost assistance, and case management), and other appropriate activities for homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing of persons who have become homeless. In addition, the plan will contain certifications required by HUD.

The draft Substantial Amendment 2008-2009 Action Plan will be available for review and comments beginning Friday, May 1, 2009, at the following locations:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 1) Department of Neighborhoods<br>One Government Center, 18th Floor<br>Downtown Toledo, Jackson & Erie | 4) All local branches of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library<br>(Refer to local telephone directory or <a href="http://toledolibrary.org">toledolibrary.org</a> for locations) | 7) Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority<br>435 Nebraska Avenue<br>Toledo, Ohio |
| 2) Department of Development<br>One Government Center, 22nd Floor<br>Downtown Toledo, Jackson & Erie   | 5) The Ability Center of Greater Toledo<br>5605 Monroe Street<br>Sylvania, Ohio   |  |
| 3) Clerk of Council<br>One Government Center, 21st Floor<br>Downtown Toledo, Jackson & Erie            | 6) The Fair Housing Center<br>432 N. Superior Street<br>Toledo, Ohio  |  |

The City of Toledo will receive comments from the public, in writing, until Tuesday, May 12, 2009, at the following address:

**CITY OF TOLEDO  
DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS  
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT 2008-2009  
ONE-YEAR ACTION PLAN  
ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER, SUITE 1800  
TOLEDO, OHIO 43604  
(419) 245-1400/FAX: (419) 245-1413**

Comments received during the 12-day comment period will be included in the substantial amendment submitted to HUD.

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### INTERESTED BIDDERS: TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – OLD REYNOLDS ELEMEN- TARY SCHOOL

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, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by 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 McNerney 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 **MANDATORY 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	
Total		\$ 228,408.00

## Tanzanian Artists Tour Northwest Ohio

Special to The Truth

In September 2008, two northwest Ohio regional agencies, the Great Lakes Consortium for International Training and Development (GLC) and the Arts Council Lake Erie West (ACLEW) received a grant for arts exchanges on international issues. The 2008-2010 grant program is funded by the U.S. Department of State and the two agencies were specifically charged with arranging exchange opportunities with the nation of Tanzania.

The program provides women artists in northwest Ohio and in Tanzania the opportunity to develop an exchange network to collaborate on artwork and to create exhibitions, address person to person issues, travel to diverse art agencies and cultural institutions and develop networks and strategies to empower young women artists to further their artistic, leadership and community goals.

In February 2009, the first American delegation with six participants traveled to Tanzania, conducted workshops and had discussions, meeting with artists and arts organizations.

Eleven young Tanzanian women artists were

selected for the first fellowship program. They arrived in the U.S. on

April 7 and will remain through May 4. They are creating joint artwork

and discussing women's issues that are important to both countries.

The artists are sculptors, painters, photographers. They work in oil, wood, stone and fibers, among other media.

The group of artists will be leaving this week for Chicago and returning over the weekend for a few days before departing for Tanzania.

The delegation includes Mwandale Mwanyekwa, a sculptor from Dar es Salaam; Amoke Kyande, a photographer from Dar es Salaam; Irham Jaruph, a sculptor from Bagamoyo; Agnes Kijazi, a sculptor and painter from Bagamoyo; Asha Mohamed Hassan, a sculptor from Bagamoyo; Neema Mjengwa, a sculptor from Bagamoyo; Kaiza Mohammed, a painter from Zanzibar; Tatu Hussein Ali, a tinga-tinga painter from Zanzibar; Salma Massenga, a fiber, batik cloth artist from Tanga; Ester Kilua, a weaver from Tanga and Fatma Azzany, a painter from



Above: Mwandale Mwanyekwa and ebony self portrait

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