



Volume 16, No.18

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

August 26, 2009

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Mayoral Candidates Square Off on Issues





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This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

Thank goodness for Michael Vick, Dante Stallworth and Plaxico Burress. These three young black males, in case you are just not a casual sports fan or news junkie, are, or were, National Football League players recently incarcerated for various offenses.

Vick, a quarterback of prodigious talents, but undeveloped skills, was convicted by federal officials of conspiracy in a dog fighting – and killing – ring and spent about 18 months in prison. He sincerely regrets his actions and says it was a cultural thing – that's the way he was raised.

Stallworth, a receiver of moderate talent and skill, was convicted of driving under the influence and negligent homicide. He was sentenced by a Florida court to 30 days, had to pay off the family of the man he killed and will be sitting out this NFL season. He sincerely regrets his actions and calls it a dumb thing.

Burress, a receiver of surpassing talents and little inclination to work on his craft, carried a loaded pistol with no safety switch into a nightclub in New York City (in New York they really don't like guns of any sort) tucked into the pocket of his sweatpants. (No, really, that's his story – who carries anything in the pockets of sweatpants?)

The pistol fell out and discharged into Burress's leg. He pled guilty, as had his fellow NFL rocket scientists, and accepted a sentence in the New York State prison system of two years. We don't know what he called his actions – what's the category way past dumb?

Pundits, even legal experts, are shocked ... shocked, they tell us, about the disparity in sentencing laws that keeps one man in prison for 18 months for killing dogs, another for two years for shooting only himself and the third for 30 days (24 days with good behavior) for killing a human being.

So we say thanks for these three, well ... idiots is really about the kindest way we can think of to refer to them for their efforts in enlightening the world about sentencing disparities. For the legal experts who are shocked, we say: "you gotta be kidding?"

Sentencing disparities have only been around for about as long as sentencing has been around and, in this country, we can count on such disparities bringing disproportionately harsh sentences on minorities and the poor like a ton of bricks.

Recently, the Cleveland Plain Dealer did a statistical analysis of hundreds of low-level felony drug cases in Cuyahoga County from 2004 to 2007 and concluded that white defendants were 55 percent more likely to get charged with a misdemeanor than black defendants charged with the same offense and 35 percent more likely to receive treatment as an alternative to incarceration.

In fact, if we look at our three NFL numbskulls and their individual cases, the disparities in sentencing are not so much irrational as they are a reflection of the way different jurisdictions look at approaches to maintaining safety and preserving order.

Florida has a quite sensible ordinance that imposes on prosecutors the obligation to prove that a homicide by someone under the influence actually occurred because he was under the influence and would not have otherwise occurred if he had not been. That can be a heavy burden of proof at trial.

New York City, which had as many as 1,800 murders annually in the 1980's and subsequently has reduced that number to as low as 500, has ample reason to be concerned about handguns.

Nevertheless, the disparate sentences for these high profile nitwits may bring some light to bear on the inequalities of sentencing issues – those inequalities due to race, color and/or socioeconomic status.

Several years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court finally, after years of work by such organizations such as FAMM (Families Against Mandatory Minimums), allowed sentencing judges to have some discretion in sentencing for crack cocaine offenses. The federal sentencing guidelines for those convicted of crack cocaine trafficking offenses required judges to compare five grams of crack to 500 grams of powder cocaine. Virtually all of those accused by the federal government of crack offenses are black.

Every now and then, the system hiccups and makes a few adjustments, as the Supreme Court did several years ago, but it's just a hiccup rather than a concerted move by all three branches of the government to take a comprehensive look at sentencing practices that fail to account for common sense.

The United States incarcerates 4,800 black males per 100,000. In contrast, in apartheid South Africa, only 850 males per 100,000 were incarcerated.

What we really need to do, first and foremost, is review exactly what the purpose of our prisons is. We need to stop incarcerating those who merely annoy us and, instead, use our prisons for those who present a danger to us.

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Community Calendar

August 26

Key Note Speaker Luncheon: American Care Givers; 11:45 am to 1:30 pm; Speaker Susie Lucas, designer of Unique Hair Designs: 419-724-0888

August 26-28

Shiloh MBC Three Day Revival: Guest evangelist Pastor Kenneth Turner of St. James MBC St. Louis, MO: 419-693-6998/419-535-0615

August 27-28

Positive Force Christian School of Dance Open Fall Registration: 4 to 8 pm; Monroe Street United Methodist Church: 419-932-0593

August 29

Book Signing and Reception: Friendship Baptist; Author Crystal Dixon's Destiny's Time; 5 to 7:30 pm; Gospel jazz, desserts and more

New Prospect Baptist Church Country Style Prayer Breakfast: 9:30 am: 419-536-8142
 "The Seven Churches of Asia Minor:" Presented by Se'Lah Ministries; Dynamic speakers; 7 pm; Collingwood Presbyterian Church: 419-870-0611

Back2School Outdoor Outreach Program: Waite High School; School supply drawing; 1 to 5 pm: 419-376-2231

August 30

Central MBC 4th Pastoral Anniversary: 4 pm service with guests Northwestern MBC
 Ebenezer MBC Annual 100 Women in White Service: 4 pm: 419-242-2581

Libbey Picnic: Culmination of the Toledo Museum of Art's Art on the Line community art project; 12:30 to 4 pm; Grounds of the Glass Pavilion; Entertainment, games, period costumes: 419-255-8000 ext 7432

Harvest Christian Center 4 year Celebration Service: 10:30 am; Children's and Teens' ministries available: 419-841-4500

Rhema Word Christian Fellowship Church Women's Day: "Praying Women from Generation to Generation;" Speaker Mother Alice Bishop at 9 am service; Min. Velma Bourn at 11:30 am service

Youth Day at Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral: Speaker Evangelist Raven Bank; 11 am; 419-944-0984

September 4

First Friday Fish Fry: People's MBC; 11 am to 3 pm: 419-389-9333 or 419-243-0854

September 4-5

Libbey Class of 1999 10th Year Reunion: <http://libbey99.bui-tech.com> or 419-740-0801

September 8

7th Annual Black College Tour Informational Meeting: Kent Branch Library; 6 to 8 pm; Preparing for 2010 Eastern Tour: 419-478-7844 or 419-944-5912

September 11-12

7th Annual Imani Festival: City of Zion, the Mt. Zion Church; Friday at 7 pm, Saturday 10 am to 7 pm: 419-297-6134

September 12

GLADettes Youth Club Bus Trip: Fundraiser; Original UniverSoul Circus in Detroit; Noon show: 419-535-5960

Back-to-School Kids' Fun Fair: 10 am to 2 pm; Body of Christ Fellowship Church; Free health screenings, refreshments, live entertainment: 419-464-8586

Luncheon and Style Show: Sponsored by Episcopal Church Women of All Saints' Episcopal Church; Gladieux Meadows; 11:30 am to 2:30 pm, luncheon at 11:45 am, style show at 12:45 pm: 419-243-9633 or 419-866-1528

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Invisible Bars

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



Whether an avid sports fan following Michael Vick's reinstatement to the NFL following the completion of an 18-month sentence for a dog fighting conviction or merely an observer of what local, non-famous and regular brothers who supposedly leave prison for good and attempt to make a living have to deal with, the issue confronts us.

What should be the status for those who have paid their debt to society? How do we as a society, negotiate the complex and seemingly competing issues of restitution and redemption, of righting

wrongs and restoration?

With over 1.5 million people in state and federal prisons, a disproportionate number who are black and many jailed for non-violent or petty crimes, more prisoners than ever are coming home. Department of Justice statistics reveal that nearly 650,000 ex-offenders are landing on the doorstep of communities each year.

Sadly, despite leaving with a 'my life will be different this time hopefulness,' most experience the same nihilism and social barriers on the outside as behind bars and feel as though they have gone from one prison to another.

Linda Cuning, of Abri Family Services, a firm that works with incarcerated and reentry individuals and their families states "There are so many talented, interesting, intelligent and creative individuals that have done some bad things. Yet, if there is an inward desire for change, this person can be a contributing citizen to our community."

She adds, "Yet we demand a lot of changes from some-

one who has been incarcerated and may not even know how to change. If she or he does not have the resources both inward and outward to make the changes needed, then they will return to the negative lifestyle and habits."

While the effects of a person's pre-prison history or their experiences in prison such as length of prison stay, involvement in correctional programs and psychological consequences of the prison experience have been analyzed and used to predict recidivism there has been very little attention given to prisoners' experiences after release.

Michael Foucault, the late French philosopher, observing New York's Attica prison wrote "Society eliminates by sending to prison people whom prison breaks up, crushes, physically eliminates; the prison eliminates them by freeing them and sending them back to society.... The state in which they come out ensures that society will eliminate them once

again, sending them to prison."

The failure to properly address the issue of how to mainstream reformed inmates, according to others, "reflects the larger social forces of social exclusion as a generation of gifted black men and women have been stripped of their rights to citizenry even after they've served their time, making them susceptible once again to criminal influences."

Cuning indicates that one of the top barriers is the

lack of funding and fewer reentry services available at just the time when more people than ever are re-entering the community. Another barrier is the lack of support from the communities. "People immediately judge these individuals and even their families making it even more difficult to integrate into the community. Lack of a job, no place to call home, poor relationships, addictions, depression etc. keep a person in crisis mode, which can breed criminal activity," she adds.

The Reentry Coalition of Northwest Ohio, a network of providers helps. Abri Family Services also has partnered with The Source to assist individuals in overcoming inward barriers that hinder success both personally and in employment settings. "However, employers are very leery when it comes to hiring reentry individuals," Cuning states.

Indeed, for most returning prisoners, the most essential element for transition to a

(Continued on Page 12)

If You Are Sick and Tired, Now Is Your Chance to Vote for Change!

By Stephen Ward
Guest Column

Early voting started on August 11th, at the Lucas County Board of Elections 2009 Early Vote Center located at 653 Miami Street. The center is open from 8:30 AM to 7 PM on Tuesdays, and from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM the rest of the week. The center is closed on Saturdays and Sundays, and will be closed September 7th for Labor Day, but will be open from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM on September 12th and from 12 PM to 4 PM on September 13th.

This election is probably the most important election that Toledo has seen in years. With Mayor Finkbeiner not running for reelection, it is certain that we will have a new mayor. In addition there are several issues that will be on the ballot and over 20 City Council candidates to choose from.

The local primary is non-partisan and does not require the voter to declare a political

party, yet history has shown that during non-presidential and primary elections the voter turnout has been extremely low. Allow me to stress to you that the citizens of Toledo cannot afford this! I had the opportunity to meet President Barack Obama when he was here campaigning. He even held my son in his arms! One thing President Obama stated is, "We need to be the change that we seek!" In other words, while he is our new president, there is still work to be done. There is still work to be done right here in Toledo. Everyone knows that it is time for a change, but in order for that change to come it requires that we take action now! The first step to being the change that we seek is to vote! Vote and vote smart!

It is time to redefine politics. We cannot continue to turn elections into popularity contests in which the can-

didate who has the most signs, or raises the most money wins the election. We cannot continue to vote for City Council incumbents who are part of the good ol' boys network, and expect to get different results. We will have a new mayor, now we must take the necessary steps to ensure that we will have new members on City Council as well. The average voter pulls the lever for five or six candidates and each vote gets counted equally. With over 20 candidates on the ballot for Toledo City Council, pulling the lever for five or six candidates is definitely not voting smart! The strength of a non-vote can be stronger than a positive vote.

Let me make myself clear; I am encouraging you to vote, but please don't pull the lever for more than two or three candidates. This is a smart voting strategy called, 'Voter

(Continued on Page 13)

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Jobs, Jobs, Jobs Top the Agenda During Mayoral Forum

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

In a mayoral forum sponsored by the Alpha Phi Boule of the Sigma Pi Phi, five candidates debated a number of issues on Thursday night, August 20, before an audience of several hundred at the Toledo Lucas County Main Branch Library's McMaster Center.

The five candidates – independents Mike Bell and D. Michael Collins, Democrats Ben Konop and Keith Wilkowski and Republican Jim Moody – sparred about education, the City of Toledo's Office of Affirmative Action/Contract Compliance, homeownership, homelessness and "double dipping" by public officials. For the most part, however, the discussions inevitably came back to the subject of jobs and economic development. And, for the most part, the candidates stayed on message stressing the themes they have developed as part of their campaign strategies.

"The City of Toledo has no economic development plan, I do," said Wilkowski during his opening statement as he spoke of his plans to develop green collar jobs and enhance the growth of Toledo as a transportation hub.

"Safety is number one," said Councilman Collins, a retired policeman. "If you are not safe, nothing else matters."

"I know we have everything we need to fix anything that needs to be fixed," said Moody, a real estate agent who would repeatedly emphasize his commitment to keeping government small and working together.

"Inclusion, diversity and equality for all citizens," said Lucas County Commissioner Konop who spoke of his efforts in his county role in taking on the "ole boys network."

"We have to change the way we do business. If we don't change, we are going to get the same results," said former Fire Chief Bell. Bell would refer often to his ability to get people together to address concerns.

On the all-important topic of jobs creation, which would weave its way through most of the other issues, three candidates spoke of their plans: Wilkowski on his ideas for alternative energy manufacturing jobs, Moody on intermodal development and entertainment, Konop on his plans for requiring the living wage, prevailing wage rates and paid sick days.

Bell talked of getting out of the way of businesses and regional cooperation and Collins of the fact of, since



government cannot create jobs, making sure the city has goods and services.

On the topic of education and how the next mayor could work with the public school systems to enhance the quality of education, Wilkowski, leading off, said that schools are an anchor for the community and the mayor can provide the leadership to help

without directly running the system. Bell suggested setting up partnerships between the schools and segments of the community. Collins spoke of implementing a mentoring program.

Moody said that the mayor's office can be a bully pulpit but noted that the key to education was to ensure the safety of school children.

Konop spoke of his effort to establish a college scholarship fund and also said that he could envision a "change in structure" if matters within the school system do not improve.

Four candidates – Bell, Collins, Konop and Wilkowski – committed to restoring the office of Affirmative Action/Contract Compliance to department status. That office had been downgraded under Mayor Carty Finkbeiner to a division with a good deal less autonomy than it had under previous administrations.

"We cannot keep adding layers and layers of city government," said Moody in disagreement with his fellow candidates.

The issue of raising the level of homeownership in the central city brought a wide range of divergent opinions. Konop suggested making

neighborhoods "places where people ought to live," increasing enforcement of code violations particularly against absentee owners. Moody referred to his Neighborhood STAR proposal that would allow for homes to be purchased for less than the cost of rent by having the city sponsor a mortgage insurance program.

Wilkowski called homeownership the "greatest single indicator of the strength of a neighborhood and focused his attention on "making sure people are working."

Collins promised to implement the new registry of vacant homes which the current administration, he said, has not implemented.

Bell spoke of jobs. "Bottom line is, if you go to the bank, you need a job," he said, offering to promote a regional approach and to "stick to the basics."

After the questioning by the panel – representatives of local black media – questions were posed by members of the audience and one about "double dipping," the practice of retired public offi-

cials coming out of retirement and drawing both a pension and a salary, brought a heated exchange.

Konop said there would be no double dipping in his administration. "It's almost immoral" for someone to be drawing two pay checks, said Konop, when young people can't find jobs and teachers and policemen are being laid off.

Collins and Bell, both retired from Toledo's safety forces took issue with that stance. "[Konop] would want all us older retired people to go away," said Bell. "The question is, do you want the best person in that position?"

Moody said he would base hiring on the merits not on the basis of who would be drawing a pension. Wilkowski noted that he, in spite of his previous elected official and government employee status, did not draw a pension.

The five candidates are headed towards a September 15 primary which will narrow the field down to the two top vote-getters. The top two will then go head to head in the November 3 general election.



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St. Francis de Sales Graduates Earn Scholarships for College

Special to The Truth

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One student was awarded the Chick Evans Caddie Scholarship, 76 students are Toledo City League All-Academic Athletes, one student has been appointed to the U.S. Air Force Academy. In addition,



Brandon Banton

this class has contributed over 22,000 hours in community service to 115 local organizations, in Appalachia, Honduras and U.S. inner cities.

Brandon Banton of Toledo will attend Capital University (Columbus, OH) this fall. He received an Academic Award and the Reverend Rufus S. Tarrant Award from the university. While at St. Francis he was a member of Interact, the Toledo

Rotary high school chapter; the Urban Art Club and he participated in intramural basketball. He is the son of Claudette Banton.

Samuel Gandy of Toledo will attend The University of Toledo. He was a varsity soccer player, participated in intramural basketball, competed on the Mock Trial Team and was also a member of the Afro Club. He is the son of Randy and Beth Gandy.

Trevor Gaston of To-



Samuel Gandy



Trevor Gaston

ledo will attend Miami University (Oxford, OH). He received an Academic Scholarship and the Red Hawk Scholars Award from the university. While at St. Francis he was a varsity football player and a junior varsity member of the track team. He was an active member of the Chess Team, the Ambassador's Club, the Architecture Club and president of the Afro Club. He volunteered for

Campus Ministry; and Teen Institute, the drug, alcohol and tobacco free education and awareness committee. He is the son of Beverly Stallworth.

Jarrod Horton of Toledo will attend Madonna University (Livonia, MI). Jarrod was a captain of the varsity football team and a member of Interact, the Toledo Rotary high school chapter. Jarrod was also a varsity basketball player and will continue to play on an



Jarrod Horton

athletic scholarship for Madonna University. He is the son of Cynthia Allen.

Lincoln Kynard, director of Student Achievement and Afro Club Moderator is proud of this year's graduates. He is committed to providing families and students with the tools, knowledge and support to thrive during their experience at St. Francis de Sales.

Kynard directs the school's Mentoring Program to assist students in transitioning into a college-prep culture.

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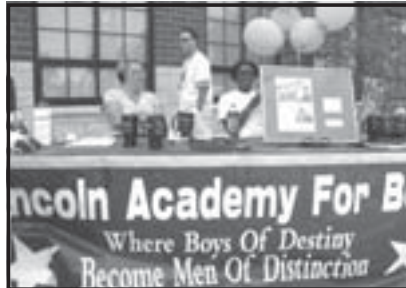
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Scott Learning Community's Back to School Open House

Sojourner's Truth Staff



On Wednesday, August 19, a bright, sunny day, the Toledo Public School's

Scott Learning Community held an open house at Robinson Middle School to

feed, entertain and enlighten dozens of inquiring parents and students.

The various schools of the Scott Learning Community—Scott, Robinson, Lincoln Academy for Boys, among others—set up booths staffed with school representatives.

The open house—a joint collaboration between TPS and URBan Radio Broadcasting, LLC—also featured games for young children and pizza for those of all ages.



Above: Lincoln Principal Teresa Quinn and Superintendent John Foley
Left: The Mix and TPS

one salary
The Show The Players Watch
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North Toledo Street Named "W.L. Barnes Way"

Sojourner's Truth Staff



A section of Russell Street in north Toledo, the block in which True Vines Missionary Baptist Church sits, has been named for the church's founding pastor, Rev. Willie L. Barnes. "A man who made north Toledo what it is today," said Toledo City Councilman Michael Ashford.

Ashford had sponsored the council resolution naming the street for Barnes back in December but weather and conflicting schedules delayed the actual dedication of the street. Barnes, a graduate of Scott High School, founded True Vine in 1944 at the age of 26 at 3118 Pomeroy. He moved the church to Russell Street in 1950 and was an active member of a number of north Toledo associations and community groups for many years.

"We at True Vine are so excited to have this day come to pass," said current pastor, Rev. Melvin Barnes (no relation) during last week's ceremony that was attended by dozens of church members. W. L. Barnes resides in a nursing home these days and was unable to attend himself.

"WHEREAS, Pastor Willie L. Barnes has been blessed to provide spiritual leadership to

those in our community, whereby his knowledge and understanding, humble demeanor and unwavering faith in God have allowed him to touch each and every person he has encountered... due to his unrelenting commitment and involvement over the years to the City of Toledo and its community affairs, it is fitting to dedicate Russell St. as 'W.L. Barnes Way,'" read City Council's resolution, in part.



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Action

Ohioans Shine at This Year's National Black Theatre Festival

By Geneva Chapman
Special to The Truth

The biennial National Black Theatre Festival was held in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Monday, August 3 through Saturday, August 8, 2009.

I didn't arrive until Wednesday and missed the opening ceremonies featuring Winston-Salem's most prestigious African-American citizen, Maya Angelou, Ph.D., as guest speaker Monday. There was a gala that night honoring a number of celebrities (see website). The first production, the North Carolina Repertory Company's staging of *Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope*, debuted Monday night, as well.

Starting on Tuesday, mainstage productions, including a number of solo or one-man/one woman shows, were featured at various venues around the city. When I arrived on Wednesday, many of these shows had closed or closed that day by the time I got unpacked.

My first cousin, Dawn Jefferson, flew in from Texas, and she and I hung out while my brother, James Chapman, who had not one but TWO plays in the festival, rehearsed with his cast which included my baby sister, D'Ebrar, and Toledoan and my bff, Pajil Wiggins-Hancock. James' plays, *Wimmin With Wings* and *Black Men Rising*, which was featured at the Festival two years, ago debuted Thursday night.

My brother Joseph and his family arrived Thursday evening and went to see the show while Dawn and I got a little Winston-Salem flavor. We went to a restaurant named Tripps that provided us with the best dining experience I've had in a long time. Their Key Lime Pie, a personal favorite, is to die for! I was ready to move to Winston-Salem and wrote about that in my daily "diary," scaring the life out of my love interest back in Texas who I saw while there last month and who is under the impression that I'll be moving back home some day.

James' plays were staged in a double-bill at Winston-Salem State College, a historic black college. The campus is beautiful. I had my day all planned Friday: I would see one-woman show *Who Will Sing for Lena?* by Toledoan Janice Liddell, Ph.D., (produced a few years ago in Toledo by New Works Writers' Series, directed by Imelda Hunt, Ed.D., and featuring this writer as Lena Baker, the only woman executed in the state of Georgia) on a double bill with a one-woman show about Zora Neale Hurston, Harlem Renaissance writer. Then I would go see James' shows.

James, Pajil, Dawn and I were all ready to go see *Lena* and James went to the Convention Center to buy tickets, followed by Dawn and me who went to check out the vendors. The show was sold out for every



Pajil

performance! So, we had a change of plans. We went back to the hotel!

Had I stayed at the Convention Center a little longer, I'd have seen an attractive African-American man with dreadlocks handing out red convention bags promoting my novel, *They Just Be Killing White Folks* (A Vampire Tale of Terror, Horror, & Bloodlust) under my *nom de plume*, Valo PaJeffChat.

That night we saw a stellar performance of *Wimmin With Wings* by James' company, Flow Theatre, based in Columbus and *Black Men Rising* by a

New York cast. Oddly, James directed the play about women and Patricia Floyd, who you can see from time to time playing a judge on "Law & Order: Criminal Intent," directed the play about men.

Let me tell you about those men! They are not only hunks, but they can act their well-built muscular behinds off! The added feature of step-dancing made the show a big hit with the audience. The shows were so good, I went back to see them Saturday night after having lunch at Whole Foods with the cast before their 3 p.m. show.

Dawn and James went to the

Convention Center and I went back to the hotel to nap so I could stay up and party the last night of the festival.

Saturday night was Pajil's best performance. Like a consummate professional, her performances were consistent and kept getting better. Unfortunately, the other two actresses in *Wimmin* were tired during both the 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. performances and it showed on stage with lack of energy and the refuge of amateur actors, cheesy attempts to get laughs to over-compensate for not being able to woo the audience with the power of their stage presence.

Pajil was focused and on point throughout the performance, giving a subtle but powerful performance as the character who had to learn to "fly" and stop being a victim. The quietest one on the stage, she was the strongest and the one the audience responded to most.

Her performance impressed a couple of theatre professionals in the audience: an actress from NYC whose day job is coaching actors and who did a one-woman show about Ethel Waters early in the week and Ella Joyce who was a principal character in the television comedy "Roc" and who did a one-woman show about Rosa Parks early in the week. (Thursday night's performance was attended by Winston-Salem's most prominent African-American citizen but don't tell anybody - her initials are M.A.)

I was so very proud of Pajil and of my brother's work. He was the only writer with two plays in the festival. Seeing the

New York actors do his play made me realize that his work holds up and speaks to many people. This was a great victory for James, for Pajil, for D'Ebrar who performed her best Thursday night, and for the festival.

Oh, I pooped out after we went out to eat after the show and while everyone else did the party scene, I went back to the hotel to go to bed, along with cousin Dawn, who had to catch a flight at 6:30 Sunday morning, and James, who had to take her to the airport.

Preparing to leave the beautiful city of Winston-Salem after sending my man in Texas a text reassuring him that I won't be re-locating here, I know I'll come back again and again for this festival now that I've gotten a taste of what I've been missing all these years.

Besides seeing my brother's work and my sister and best friend shine on stage, there was one other fantastic thing that happened at the festival. One of the awardees Monday was the theatre department chairman from Prairie View & M College, the black school I was expelled from in Texas for my "militant" activities. He was honored for his efforts in creating an outstanding drama program featuring African-American playwrights at Prairie View. Ironically, one of my "militant" activities was demanding that the college produce plays by African-Americans about African-American culture.

I felt vindicated knowing that it has finally happened. In celebration of African-American theatre and all theatre, I salute the National Black Theatre Festival for presenting so many wonderful performances by a diverse group of writers and performers from all over the country and the city of Winston-Salem for being a most cordial host.

Ed. Note: The National Black Theatre Festival was founded in 1989 by Larry Leon Hamlin in order to unite black theatre companies in America and ensure the survival of the genre into the 21st Century. Held biennially, the NBTF attracts more than 65,000 people during the six-day event.

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The AKA Showcase of the Arts

Sojourner's Truth Staff

The Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. partnered this year with the Monroe Street Neighborhood Center to present this year's Showcase of the Arts, "The Motown Sound." As usual, the event was free and open to the public.

Rhonda Sewell and Kristian Brown served as mistresses of ceremony for this year's event as several hundred turned out to participate or watch the visual and performing arts presentations.



Third Thursday Art Walk

Sojourner's Truth Staff



The Arts Zone/Warehouse District Third Thursday Art Walk continues to expand. This past Thursday, August 20, a record 19 galleries in the Warehouse District, Downtown, Uptown and Old West End opened for new offerings and art activity in the evening.

Live blues by the Blue Flamingoes and a cappella harmony by Streetwise were featured on St. Clair as were poetry performances by the Madd Poets Society.

A touch of the unusual – the Ford Gallery presented live, painted models by Monique in its windows.

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Klaire's Prayer Boxes Preserve Memories of the Departed

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Klaire, an artist who specializes in the use of bold, vivid colors and floral patterns, took her art in a new direction lately when she started making prayer boxes – “dream boxes for memories and prayers,” she calls them – for those grieving for a lost one.

Klaire, who has had her art displayed in numerous galleries in Toledo, including The Truth Gallery and 20 North Gallery, made her first prayer box during the crisis involving the disappearance of little Nevaeh Buchanan. She took three such boxes to Nevaeh's mother's family and an ad-



ditional five to those on the little girl's paternal side.

She became so involved with the family that eventually a four-foot tall painting

that Klaire did of the young girl was placed at the casket's side during the wake and the funeral.

Those prayer boxes have

become a bit of a cottage industry recently.

After the Nevaeh tragedy, Klaire's grandmother died, as did her granddaughter's great grandmother. Prayer boxes helped to comfort the grieving relatives in both cases. Those brought requests from many others for her to replicate the boxes.

More recently Klaire's god-son, Duane Preston, lost his mother Terrie to cancer prompting her latest tributes.

For more about Klaire and her art, visit The Truth Gallery at www.thetruthtoledo.com.

An Art Event: “Confessions of an Art-a-holic”



A new multi-media art event and exhibit produced by artist Terry A. Burton titled “Confessions of an Art-a-holic” is scheduled to open Thursday, September 17, 2009 from (6 p.m. – 9 p.m.) at the MMK Gallery located on 20 North Saint Clair Street in downtown Toledo, Ohio.

The MMK Gallery is part of the Third Thursday Art Walk organized by the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo and will showcase nine visual artists and performers:

Tom Brooks (photography), Terry A. Burton (multi-media artist), Mary Dunkin (drawings and paintings), Amelia Matus (paintings and poetry), Tom Wagle (illustrations), Dr. Rhomboid Goatcabin (experimental noise music), Bianca Marcia (experimental noise music), Blackbyrne Arms (rock-n-roll music), and Bastard Love Child (electro-rock music).

As part of mission of the MMK Gallery, 35 percent of artwork sold by featured visual artists will go to a local non-profit organization of their choice. Also, it is free to attend this art event and for more information visit www.myspace.com/oursocial.

All visual art will continue to be on exhibit for three weeks after the opening.

Contact:

Terry A. Burton
(419) 345-7839

terrenceburton@hotmail.com

www.terryaburton.com



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International, National and Local Performers Scheduled at Owens' Center for Fine and Performing Arts in 2009-10

Owens Community College's Center for Fine and Performing Arts will raise the curtain with an array of events scheduled throughout the 2009-10 presenting arts season. Music, dance and theatre artists from around the world, including several local, national and international standouts, will perform a variety of shows and concerts as part of the Center for Fine and Performing Arts' season titled "Spectrum".

The side-splitting comedy of nationally-recognized impressionists and entertainers Bethany Owen, Pete Peterkin and David Born will serve as the kickoff event for the 2009-10 season as a Comedy Showcase - Night of 100 Stars performs on Sept. 25. Celebrity personalities that will make appearances throughout the impressionists' comedy act including Cher, Tina Turner, Ray Charles, President Barack Obama and Robin Williams.

Hot off the Comedy Showcase's heels are the sounds of jazz, swing and rock n' roll that once filled jukeboxes around the country as the four-person group Beachfront Property presents "Jukebox Gold" at Owens on Oct. 9. Beachfront Property's four-part musical blend is spun out in seemingly effortless fashion that creates mellow and exciting, woven-together chords for listeners to arrangements of familiar songs with a whole new sound.

The College presenting arts season will once again

feature a Family Fun Sunday series of three performances designed to provide fun and entertainment to individuals of all ages. The series will kick off with multi-talented performing artists Regan Patno and Julia Snyder blending balletic feats, precision juggling, acrobatics and creative choreography with odd objects as part of The Tweaksters performance on Oct. 25.

Following The Tweaksters, Faustwork Mask Theatre will showcase an array of fanciful handcrafted masks in a performance titled "The Mask Messenger" as the second performance in the series on Jan. 17.

Finally, children will be exposed to two languages simultaneously as the classic children's book "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" by Roald Dahl is presented by Sign Stage on Tour in a musical that will feature American Sign Language onstage in addition to spoken dialogue in English. "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" will be presented on March 7 as the third performance in the Family Fun Sunday series.

Owens will also offer one additional performance package this season. The Spectrum Performances series will showcase the masterful talents of five entertainment groups with a broad range of qualities, ideas and activities. In addition to the above mentioned Comedy Showcase - Night of 100 Stars and Beachfront Property Presents "Jukebox Gold", Soul Street Dance Company's Soul Sessions Dance Concert is prepared to take attendees on a high energy ride of movement and music that is part entertainment and art on Jan. 8.

Additionally, individuals will have the opportunity to take a trip back in time to the magical sounds of the 1960s, 70s and 80s made famous by such nationally-known female artists as Tina Turner, Martha Reeves, Gladys Knight, Donna Summer and The Pointer Sisters as emerging nationally-recognized performer Karen Durrant brings to life the classic and timeless songs in Dreamgirls on Feb. 19.

The 2009-10 presenting arts season will also feature

speaking engagements of two nationally prominent authors and writers. On April 15, nationally-known writer and radio personality Garrison Keillor will once again bring his satirical remarks and humorous antics to Owens as he presents an evening of storytelling entertainment.

Local community arts events will highlight the 2009-10 season as Owens collaborates with the Toledo School for the Arts to present the musical "All Shook Up" Nov. 5-7 and 8, a Winter Musicfest Concert on Dec. 17 and Limitless Dance on March 5. The Toledo Repertoire will also make two appearances at Owens and present Egdy Rep Reading "The Man Who Had Three Arms" on Oct. 10 and the theatre production "Victor/Victoria" June 4-5, 11-12 and 13. Community performances also include the African Legacy Project of

Northwest Ohio presenting internationally-acclaimed jazz pianist and composer Stanley Cowell in a tribute concert performance to legendary jazz pianist and Toledo native Art Tatum on Oct. 11 and the Northwest Ohio Chapter of The Voices of Harmony presenting an array of harmonious selections to ring in the holiday season as part of their annual Sounds of the Season concert on Dec. 12.

In addition, Owens fine and performing arts students will also put their acting skills on display as part of the College's annual student theatrical productions. Craig Wright's "Recent Tragic Events" will occur Nov. 19-21 and 22. In addition, "Creative Noises Live" Fall Artists Series will once again perform in the College's Center for Fine and Performing Arts as Owens faculty and students showcase their musical talents, Nov. 2-18.

Internationally-recognized Francesc de Paula Soler, known as "The Poet of the Guitar", will also grace Owens' stage as he brings a cosmopolitan musical mix of Spanish and Latin American sound as part of a free performance on Oct. 23. The concert is being presented by the College's Department of International Studies, Communications and Humanities and the Department of Fine and Performing Arts.

All performing arts events will occur in Owens' Mainstage Theatre on the Toledo-area Campus unless noted otherwise. Owens is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township. For additional information about the College's 2009-10 presenting arts season schedule, contact the Center for Fine and Performing Arts at 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 2787 or (567) 661-2787.

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Touch a Dream Dance Studio

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Toledo native and former Detroit Pistons dancer, Tanisha Shelmon, has opened her own dance studio, Touch a Dream, at 3640 North Holland Sylvania Rd. inside of the Sunrise Gymnastics Academy.

Touch a Dream Dance Studios opened just this past June 6 and already has about 40 students – ages three to adult – in five classes studying the fine points of ballet, hip-hop, jazz, lyrical and tap dancing.

Six instructors are on hand to assist Shelmon in the instruction.

Fall registration will be held on September 6 and classes start on October 5.



One of Shelmon's goals is to assemble competition teams for events around the area. Those teams will compete in jazz/contemporary events (ages six to 18) and in pro hip-hop (ages 10 to adult).

Auditions will be held on Sunday, September 6 from 1:30 to 7 pm.

For more information on the Touch A Dream Dance Studio, call 419-344-6190 or 419-344-6028.



A Chat with Bad Boy Producer, Hit Men Member Nashiem Myrick

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture

This interview right here is very special to me.

Writing in the paper is cool, but I'm no journalist...

I'm an artist first and this producer is one of my heroes.

Raised by musicians my entire life I have been producing since 10 or so.

In the 90's as a pre-teen and teen, I looked up to so many of the top hit makers in the game.

Lavale and I would read through all the liner notes, study styles, study instrumentation, etc.

Bad Boy Entertainment's in house production crew The Hit Men became my number one source of inspiration as we started buying equipment and trying our hand at producing other artists.

The Hit Men grew to include 10 or so producers and the legendary success was evident on the charts and in record sales. I mean, Bad Boy was already a leading force in urban music having consistent success year after year and changing the way the world approached hip-hop and R&B music and artists.

But The Hit Men grew to become their own dominant force even outside of their home label.

Their production work was sought after to the point that non-Bad Boy artists paid top dollar to have a track by them and many times it resulted in platinum plaques and mind blowing rotation.

Stevie J, Deric Angelettie, Carlos Broady, J. Dub, Chucky Thompson, Ron Lawrence, Mario Winans and Nyshiem Myrick were all members along with Prestige,



Yogi, Nissan Stewart and others.

Thanks to some common acquaintances in the big apple, I was able to get a phone call with Nashiem Myrick whose astounding production credits include the classic...and I mean CLASSIC "Who Shot Ya" by The Notorious B.I.G.

Most of your favorite artists in the mid/late 90s have been laced by this man.

Nashiem Myrick is a Grammy Award winning, multi-platinum plaque owning legend in the urban music production landscape.

I got to chop it with one of the Hit Men, y'all, like an idol to me for real... I was geekin'.

Hayes: Nashiem!! Peace,

sir...how are you?

Myrick: I'm good, man.

Hayes: What was it like? Those early days at Bad Boy when you guys were making music that would one day shape our culture??

Myrick: I started off as an intern in the studio. Helping Puff record and program songs and then that helped my skills to become a producer and when he formed The Hit Men, I was one of the first people he got at.

I had produced songs with him for Bad Boy and for the Mary remix album and he knew I had the talent and then I did "Who Shot Ya," so he knew I had a buzz goin on.

And he reached out to me, but, maan, we had to work.

(Continued on Page 12)

Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union would like to extend a special **Thank You** to everyone who contributed in any way with making this year's 1st Annual African American Festival a huge success.

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Myrick

(Continued from Page 11)

Biggie was becoming one of the hottest artists on the planet and he just filtered everything through him and his other artists.

Hayes: "Who Shot Ya" is legendary, we were just finishing up our freshman year in high school and just starting to really produce for others...that beat among producers...man, it's pure classic

Myrick: A lot of people don't know, that wasn't supposed to be a Biggie song.

Keith Murray couldn't finish it, I don't know why but he couldn't finish the song. Puff was like "What am I gonna do?" We had to have it turned in by Monday, it was early Friday morning. He wanted this as an interlude on Mary's album. L.L. Cool J came to write to it also, but I don't think he got anything out of it. So Puff told me to have Biggie come through.

B.I.G. loved the beat instantly, and he got in the studio and stayed there the whole night.

Hayes: So you were there while Biggie came up with his verses?

Because he just wrote everything in his head right?

Myrick: Yeah, I was there all night with him. He stayed there up until an hour before his flight.

He listened to the beat and at like 5 or 6 in the morning he got in the booth.

Biggie had said some stuff at the end of the original first verse that was too harsh and got cut but they was like 'it's a hot song, don't wanna waste it' - so later he did his second verse.

Hayes: A lot of people feel Bad Boy only talked about champagne and money, but the music you guys made influenced our culture in a lot of ways.

Myrick: Look where our culture has gone from... from before Bad Boy to post Bad Boy.

Everybody was hating, saying we ruined the culture,

but you gotta understand in the 80s...

Hip-hop was still a baby. Hip-hop was a poor man's culture.

When I came up in the 70s/80s...the people who was into hip-hop didn't have money.

Now you got cats getting money, and you can't hate on it.

Instead of hating on the money aspect, people need to understand hip-hop has to diversify, it has to grow. Now it's a worldwide culture.

Hayes: I love reading the stories about when Puff flew all of The Hit Men out to the Bahamas

to just concentrate on production...what was that like?

Myrick: We went out there to get away from New York.

We couldn't concentrate. We had created five albums. We had to get away.

The Biggie album, Faith album, 112 album, Puff's album...that's why we was out there.

Hayes: I can just imagine how that must have been...things you and the other Hit Men were coming up with for that time period, like the track for My Downfall (Life After Death) stuff was just amazing.

Myrick: Yea... going out to the Bahamas didn't take us out of our element.

We vibe with each other good. Me, D Dot, Carlos Broady, Amen Ra, J Dub, Stevie J...you know.

We worked good together.

Hayes: So what do you think about production that you hear now?

When you listen to the radio how do you feel about the game now from a producer's standpoint?

Myrick: It's a change. It's a trendy game in the rap world. I like the music.

I have no bad feelings about it. It's not a lot of sub-

stance lyrically.

I grew up in the 80's with Public Enemy, De La, Jungle Brothers...you HAD to have substance.

Hayes: Who are some of your favorite producers right now?

Myrick: Maan, same people for years. Carlos Broady, Dre, Primo, Swizz...I like Kanye.

Hayes: What equipment you working with right now?

Myrick: I got that Akai 2500. Pro Tools. And I have the Neko ... keyboard computer, an incredible machine.

Hayes: Oh wow, you got that Neko ? That keyboard slash computer joint?

If I had eight grand, I'd scoop one up too.

Myrick: It wasn't eight grand, I think I spent like four grand. It's crazy though.

That's what I'm working with and that's all I need. I don't really shop beats and all that...but I'm not retired! I'm just loungin'.

Hayes: What advice would you give to up and coming producers like myself?

Myrick: Skill level all depends on ya ability.

But as long as you have a passion and keep working it's gonna come to you.

You can do anything.

Hayes: Good look, fam, thanks for the interview.

Upcoming local interviews:

Lil D, Jesse Coleman p360 Records, D.J. Lyte N Rod, and a lot more.

If anyone seen Magic Juan... tell him to call/email me!! Lost ya number, fam, I got you tho!

A lot of interviews coming up... thanks for reading. email or facebook search: glasscitytruth@yahoo.com

thetruthtoledo.com

Bars

(Continued from Page 3)

conventional lifestyle is stable employment according to *Transitions From Prison To Community* (2003). Yet convicted felons are likely to have difficulty finding opportunities for work because of the public stigma often attached to the ex-prisoner status. As a result, outside assistance or help in locating jobs, replacing depleted work skills and overcoming housing restrictions will be needed.

Another post-release barrier needing attention is interpersonal conflict with personal partners which is second only to problems involving substance abuse. Abri provides life skills and strengthens families to build successful relationships.

The role of civic engagement such as voting, volunteering, giving back and neighborhood involvement as well as

maintaining positive or new peer relationships and mentoring are also critical components that must occur for former prisoners to avoid returning to their former lifestyle.

Thus the process of moving from prison, an institution of government control, to the uncertain and chaotic environment of everyday life on the outside is made difficult by society-generated legal barriers in addition to those from the prison experience and a prisoner's past life.

Although there is an entire legal industry centered on keeping people out of prison, there is no coordinated, comprehensive plan or strategy to reintegrate people who have made mistakes and help them to succeed in their reentry into mainstream society as tax-paying citizens.

The challenge is to find

solutions to restore or reintegrate people who have messed up in a way that addresses both their wrongs and their potential, and that punishes but does not continue to punish forever.

Helping people to secure employment, resolve conflict with family members, maintain sobriety, joining and becoming active in community or faith based organizations should be funded and incorporated in public policy. Because of the enormous number of incarcerated young African-American men and women the community can not afford to stand idly by.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, Ph.D., at dperman@arcinfo.org

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ymcatoledo.org



Sick and Tired

(Continued from Page 3)

Plunking. Voterplunking is when voters consciously cast votes for only a portion of the possible slots. In Toledo the City Council candidates are campaigning for six at-large seats, and the top 12 vote getters will move forward to the General election. If you only vote for the one or two candidates that you support, your vote becomes stronger and your candidates have a greater chance of winning! It is ex-

tremely important to use this voting strategy if you want to change Toledo!

I humbly ask for your vote for Toledo City Council. For too long our political leaders have played on our fears and exploited our differences for their own personal and partisan gain. Change and action are paramount to the future of our city.

It's time for the citizens of Toledo to be heard. We must create a community for all

people, and this requires a Servant Leadership approach to government. No longer can important decisions be made with too little input from the citizens who will be affected by those decisions. The greatest leader forgets himself, and attends to the development of others. While others are raising thousands of dollars for their own personal gain, I am sensitive to the fact that we are living in tough and

uncertain times. Rather than raise money or accept contributions for my campaign, I have been raising money to help the homeless. In addition, when elected to City Council I will donate 20 percent of my council salary back to the city of Toledo to help with the current budget deficit. We have seen our police get laid off, city employees lose their jobs and take pay cuts, but yet the city leaders continue to get rich. This

should not be! Our leaders should lead by example. I have challenged the other council candidates to do the same, but they refuse to respond.

Government solely exists to serve its people! The best interest of the people must be the highest priority of City Council! We must regenerate our safety and security. We must resuscitate our economy, schools, and neighborhoods. We must

reclaim Toledo for all people.

I encourage you to vote this election! A vote for Stephen Ward is a vote for all people! We cannot continue with the same old tired politics. It's time to vote change!

Stephen Ward is a candidate for Toledo City Council At-Large. He may be reached by email at:

Stephen@WardforToledo.com

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Homes For Sale! !!!
Grant Money & Tax Credit Funds Available!
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2 Bedrooms ~1 Bathroom~ Walk In Closets
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NEW NOVEL by Toledo Writer:
A black farmer takes his sons to see a silent horror film showing at a new theater Halloween night in 1930, in central Texas. Nearly 500 blacks were lynched in Texas that year; a movie about a vampire hardly seemed frightening except to the youngest son, Lijah, who consoles himself with his father's assurance that in the film, "they just be killing white folks". **Download at lulu.com/content/5743710 for only \$5.00**

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CLASSIFIEDS

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August 26, 2009

Production Manager (Value Stream Manager)

Parker Hannifin, a Fortune 500 Company, has an immediate need for a Value Stream Manager at its Hydraulic Filter Division located in Metamora, Ohio.

The selected candidate will oversee day-to-day manufacturing activities to meet daily, monthly, quarterly and yearly deadlines and provide leadership for the associates. This person will drive the Lean process to maximize profitable growth, provide premier customer service, develop a technically qualified work force, reduce operating costs and inventories through incremental and quantum continuous improvements. The Value Stream Manager will also be responsible for all aspects of managing to include developing associates, budget planning, employment decisions related to associates and performance assessment of shop floor team leaders and associates.

Qualifications include a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering, Business or related field. The candidate should have a minimum of 6 years manufacturing experience with 3-5 years of supervisory responsibilities. Further, individuals must possess excellent communication and interpersonal skills and working knowledge of Windows based computer programs. Candidates must be self-starting who take initiative, responsibility and has been successful at developing teams. A dedication to premier customer service and the ability to productively motivate employees in a nonunion environment is a must. Substantial understanding of Lean principles (VSM, JIT, single piece flow, Kaizen, 5S) is required. Qualified candidate must submit a cover letter, salary requirements and resume by September 6th, 2009 to: Parker Hannifin Hydraulic Filter Division Attn: Human Resources 16810 County Road 2 Metamora, OH 43540 EOE/M/F/D/V



Grants and Contracts Associate Make a Change for the Better Work with Legal Aid

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), a non-profit law firm that provides free, high-quality legal assistance to eligible low-income residents of western Ohio, seeks a Grants and Contracts Associate. The position is based in ABLE's Toledo Office. Associate will track, coordinate, and implement ABLE and Legal Aid of Western Ohio (LAWO) grant activities. Applicant will prepare and track invoices, billings, reports and budgets and maintain files for nearly 40 grants. Individual will also research and write grant proposals to government and private sources.

Bachelor's degree or relevant work experience, including a minimum of 5 years experience working in the area of grant and contract development and compliance, is required. Financial or accounting background preferred. Computer proficiency required. Must have outstanding interpersonal skills; strong organizational and project management skills; the ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing; and be able to work collaboratively in a team-based environment. Experience in the non-profit sector is helpful. Individual must be committed to ABLE's mission and the principle of equal access to justice. Some travel required. Compensation is commensurate with experience; excellent benefits package.

Send resume electronically, as soon as possible, in Word or PDF format, to:

jobs@ablelaw.org
Subject: Grants & Contracts Associate

Applications will only be accepted by e-mail. Position will remain open until filled. EOE



Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY10-024,

(Project # 5004-10-1490) for Hospital Sprinkler Project Phase 2, Floor 4 for the University of Toledo 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, September 16, 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 \$35.00 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, September 9, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Health Education Building, Room 105 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: \$541,300.00; Breakdown: General Const: \$204,200.00; Fire Protection: \$129,100.00; & Electrical: \$208,000.00.

Special Ed Teacher

Caring and knowledgeable Special Ed teacher needed for a small community school. Fax resume to 419-535-5915

School Nurse

Caring and knowledgeable School Nurse needed for a small community school. Fax resume to 419-535-5915

Need a tutor?

Professional, in-home tutoring offered in math, science, Spanish and more!
Pre-K thru college. Call 419-708-0447 or visit www.tutoringinyourhome.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) is issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Child and Adolescent Mentoring Services.

The goal is to help children and adolescents improve behaviors impacting family dysfunction that may result in the recurrence of maltreatment, placement re-entry, placement stability and/or reunification through the use of mentoring services that target their needs and, therefore, permanency, family/school stability and overall well-being.

LCCS is seeking proposals from non-profit and for-profit agencies or entities capable and willing to provide mentoring services to children and adolescents. RFP materials will be available from August 24 at 9:00 a.m. through September 3, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. 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 September 3, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Room #A,E,F at the Lucas County Conference & Learning Center, 711 Adams St., adjacent to the LCCS main building.

The deadline for submitting completed proposals (NO FAX) is Thursday, September 24, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. No proposal will be accepted after that deadline.

By
Dean Sparks, Executive Director
Lucas County Children Services

Legal Notice

Proposals will be received on behalf of the Lucas County Workforce Development Agency (LCWDA) at the Lucas County Department of Job and Family Services (LCDJFS) office, 3210 Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio, until **12:00 noon**, (local time), **August 31, 2009** and opened immediately thereafter for the selection of Provider(s) for **Professional Services/Grant Writing**. Submitted proposals must be completed according to the specifications and provisions outlined in the Request for Proposal. The contract period will be from approximately **September 1, 2009** through **August 31, 2010** with a renewal option.

Prior to the **August 31, 2009 12:00 Noon** (local time) deadline, each bid upon submission must be stamped for the time and date and placed in our bid box. The bid box is located at the Security Desk on the first floor of the LCDJFS office. No bids will be accepted after **12:00 Noon** (Bids that are time-stamped at the Document Center will not be accepted.)

The Request for Proposal Packet will be available on **Monday, August 24, 2009**. It will be available for potential bidders to download by going to the site: <https://apps.co.lucas.oh.us/bids>.

A Bidder's Conference will be held on **May 18, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at The Dana Conference Center, 3110 Glendale Avenue, Toledo, Ohio. **ATTENDANCE IS OPTIONAL, BUT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED**. Questions concerning the proposal and bidding process will be accepted by e-mail until **4:00pm EST August 28, 2009**. All questions must be sent by e-mail to Michelle.Niedermier@odjfs.state.oh.us. If any changes are made to the RFP as a result of the Bidder's Conference, an addendum to the RFP will be posted on the website address (noted above).

This notice is posted, as of **May August 248, 2009**, at <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Pete Gerken - President
Tina Skeldon Wozniak - Commissioner
Ben Konop - Commissioner

Bid. 48-2009-RFP-031-WDA

CLASSIFIEDS

August 26, 2009

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AOD THERAPIST I

Opportunity is available for experienced AOD Therapist to work in Child and Adolescent Services providing individual, family and group counseling, case management and prevention services.

Candidate must possess a Bachelor's degree, a minimum of six months experience working with children and adolescents with chemical dependency issues and be at minimum a CDCA. Dual licensure as either a PC or LSW and prevention certification preferred.

Send resume with salary requirements to:



Human Resources - AODI
1425 Starr Avenue
Toledo, OH 43605
Fax 419.936.7574
Email: hr@unisonbhg.org
EOE

AOD THERAPIST II

Opportunities are available for experienced AOD Therapists to work in both Adult or Child and Adolescent Services providing individual, family and group counseling, case management and prevention services

Candidate must possess a Master's degree, a minimum of two years experience working with children and adolescents with chemical dependency issues and one of the following Ohio licenses - LSW, LISW, PC, PCC, LCDC III or LICDC. Dual licensure and prevention certification preferred.



Human Resources - AODII
1425 Starr Avenue
Toledo, OH 43605
Fax 419.936.7574
Email: hr@unisonbhg.org
EOE

Quality Engineer - Aerospace

Parker Hannifin, a Fortune 500 Company, has an immediate need for a Quality Engineer, focused on the Aerospace industry, at its Hydraulic Filter Division located in Metamora, Ohio.

The selected candidate will be responsible for designing, developing, coordinating and deploying work instructions and procedures and associated process controls for our products that are sold within the Aerospace industry. The person will develop process improvements and cost control programs throughout our operation. This individual will also review customer/industry/internal specifications to ensure compliance with stated requirements. The successful candidate will provide technical support to operations, customers, and suppliers as needed. They will also provide training and supervise others as required.

Qualifications include a Bachelor's degree in Engineering or related field with 3 to 5 years of related experience in a manufacturing environment. Candidate must have knowledge and experience with various quality and continuous improvement tools (SPC, FMEA, Control Plans, Poke Yoke, Lean, Problem Solving, etc.) as well as the ability to read and understand blue prints, specifications, and requirements. The selected individual will need to have knowledge of machining, assembly operations, gauging, SPC, APQP, and quality assurance systems (ISO 9001, AS9100). Experience in performing quality audits is required. Experience using PC configured with MS Windows OS and a familiarity with MS Office software is a must. Project Management experience is a requirement. ASQ Certified Quality Engineer (CQE) and Certified Quality Auditor (CQA) are required as well. Strong preference will be given to those that have Six Sigma (Green Belt, Black Belt, etc.) or Process Excellence certification.

Qualified candidate must submit a cover letter, salary requirements and resume by September 13th, 2009 to:

Parker Hannifin
Hydraulic Filter Division
Attn: Human Resources
16810 County Road 2
Metamora, OH 43540

EOE/M/F/D/V



Mobile Benefits Bank Advocate Want to make a real difference in someone's life? Come and join us

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE) has established a Mobile Benefit Bank (MBB) in the greater Lucas County area. The MBB helps low-income individuals and families access and apply for public benefits and credit programs for which they may be eligible using the Ohio Benefit Bank online system.

ABLE is seeking to enroll an additional Advocate through the AmeriCorps Program to identify and screen individuals for benefit eligibility through outreach events at a variety of community access points. The individual will work from ABLE's Toledo Office.

Candidates must be able to work well with low-income individuals and groups; have excellent communication skills; be computer proficient; and committed to the principle of equal justice. Relevant college degree highly preferred. Experience working in the area of government benefits is preferred. Fluency in Spanish is highly preferred.

Compensation is set by federal statute. Participants are eligible for a living allowance, health insurance, and an education award for each full year of service. Twelve month commitment required. Minimum 35 hour work week with some weekend and evening activities required.

Applications will be accepted until September 4, 2009. Email a cover letter, resume, and list of references, in Word or PDF format, to:

jobs@ablelaw.org
Subject: AmeriCorps MBB Advocate

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS Turnkey Security Solutions (Security Systems Installation - Intrusion Detection Systems

Digital Video Management System and Recording
The Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) is soliciting **Request for Qualifications** from qualified Security Design firms for installation of security systems, intrusion detection systems, and digital video management. A solicitation manual is available for pick up at the Modernization Department, 201 Belmont Street, Toledo, OH 43604.

You may also download a copy of the RFQ from our website at www.lucasmha.org. If further information is required, call Joseph Barringer at (419) 259-9550 - FAX (419) 259-9494 - or email: jbarringer@lucasmha.org.

Qualification statement is to be submitted no later than **03:00pm on Thursday, September 17, 2009.**

3-Part Harmony Yoga

St. Martin de Porres
5:30 to 6:45
Mondays and Wednesdays
\$6 per class
Contact - Connie Martin
419-242-4246
419-290-4870

Frederick Douglass Community Association Fundraiser

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Neighborhood Facilities Building
Call 419-244-6722 for ticket information

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ATTENTION ALL MOMS!!!

Are you between the ages of 18-40 and feel that you are HOT?

Looking for beautiful, physically fit and fabulous moms for an equally fashionable project. Call 419.870.8757 for details or an audition if you or someone you know fits this profile.

St. Paul's Annual Rainbow Tea

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church held its annual Rainbow Tea on Saturday, August 15, at the Family Activities Center on Trust Drive. The congregation packed the meeting room to hearing musical selections, Christian humor by Min. Allen Smith and the "Fashion With Elegance" show featuring about 20 models.

Mary Reed served as mistress of ceremonies. Lorraine Boyd performed "Over the Rainbow," followed by Smith, the praise dance and the fashion show moderated by Kimberly Caldwell, Ph.D.

Closing remarks were made by Mary Liggins, Rainbow Tea chairman, and Rev. James Wilis, pastor of St. Paul's.



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LEGENDS WEEKEND

*Celebrating the History of Northwest Ohio's
African American Contributors*

1:00 pm, Saturday, October 10, 2009
The Toledo Ohio - 235 14th Street, Toledo, OH 43604

Ms. Doris Peoples Bryant - Community Service
"Leadership is action, not position." Donald McGannon

Eddie M. Cole - Law
*"Always stand on principle, even if you stand alone."
John Quincy Adams*

Mrs. Jean Overton - Community Service
*"If you worry about who is going to get credit, you don't get
much work done." Dorothy Height*

Dr. John S. Scott - Arts & Education
"Life and Art ain't far apart." Langston Hughes

Dr. Nikki Taylor - History & Education
*"Every human being has, like Socrates, an attended Spirit; and
wise are they who obey its signals." Lydia M. Child*

2009 LEGENDS WEEKEND

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Phone: (419) 244-5719
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