



Local and National News

www.thetruthtoledo.com

Volume 17, No.21

"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

March 24, 2010



# The Ayes Have It

Tonight, after nearly 100 years of talk and frustration, after decades of trying, and a year of sustained effort and debate, the United States Congress finally declared that America's workers and America's families and America's small businesses deserve the security of knowing that here, in this country, neither illness nor accident should endanger the dreams they've worked a lifetime to achieve. - See pages 4 & 11

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## This Strikes Us ...

*A Sojourner's Truth Editorial*

Oh yes, he did!

We've all heard the whispers, haven't we? The ones that began, oh ... about 100 days after the inauguration of the nation's first black president.

What has he done?

Just last week, one of this paper's guest columns contained such accusations – that President Obama has failed to accomplish anything, that his “Yes, We Can” campaign rhetoric had bashed heads with Washington reality and come up short.

But as pundits everywhere know, nothing quite succeeds like success. And President Obama's success in getting the almost-universal health care coverage package passed on Sunday night is a resounding accomplishment indeed.

Obama accomplished what a number of presidents over the past 100 years could not. That list includes both Roosevelts, Truman, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon (yes, indeed, Nixon, who probably came the closest over that 100-year struggle to pass a comprehensive health care plan – one that Obama and today's Democrats would have happily accepted) Carter and, in recent times, Clinton.

Clinton, of course, suffered an embarrassing defeat, a humiliation on universal health care coverage that ultimately led to his party's loss of control of Congress two years into his presidency.

Now, with his own poll numbers sagging, Obama had the opportunity to renew enthusiasm in his presidency and, make no mistake about it, he did just that.

Americans just love the smell, the appearance, of success. Especially success that comes from bold action. Obama has taken just that type of bold action to breathe life into the health care legislative process even in the face of the loss of a crucial Senate seat in Massachusetts. Ironically, of course, it was the seat that the champion of health care legislation, Ted Kennedy, had held since the dawn of time. And equally ironic was the fact that it was Ted Kennedy's endorsement that gave Obama's presidential aspirations such a boost. That endorsement came after the candidate promised the Lion of the Senate that he would give health care his early and undivided attention upon assuming the Oval Office.

Nothing succeeds like success, as Obama himself would note during the early primaries to explain his miraculous ascendancy over Hillary Clinton.

Lyndon Johnson once remarked during the terrible latter years of his presidency when nothing was working in Vietnam that his standings in the polls would sky rocket if he took bold action in that country – no matter what type of bold action it was. If he nuclear bombed Vietnam into oblivion or flew over hat-in-hand to ask Ho Chi minh for peace, the result in the polls would be the same – instant intensified popularity.

So let's withhold comment on the actual health care policy for the moment and ponder the political consequences of the bill's passage – presuming nothing untoward happens in the Senate this week to derail the process.

Polls show that Americans are deeply divided on the health care package and that disapproval of the current bill has risen over the past several months – signs that might indicate Obama's popularity could take another hit.

However, polls also indicate that most Americans – about 62 percent – want health care reform and that opposition to government involvement has actually decreased over the last several months. In other words, it's not the concept of universal health care coverage that has been a problem for most Americans, it has been the political process that has proved distasteful.

The polls also indicate that Americans, in general, really know little about what's in the massive, 2,000 page bill that supporters promise will include 32 million more Americans in the health care system within nine years.

And the same polling numbers show that Americans fault Republicans for their intransigence and believe that Obama has been sincere in his efforts at bi-partisanship.

All of these numbers indicate that the Democrats will probably not take an unmanageable hit in the 2010 elections.

Obama stepped up and led the charge for reform and now promises to go on tour touting the benefits that Americans can expect from the legislation.

So nothing succeeds like success and as the president hits the road, he has the aura of success about him. The trek will probably prove to be more victory tour than educational summit on what to expect from the bill. There is, after all, an election coming up and the Republicans will be rolling the dice and counting on voters to express disenchantment with health care coverage reform at the polls.

The problem with that strategy is that, as we noted, Americans really do want health care coverage reform and now that they have it, the ugliness of the process will matter much less than it did just a few short days ago.

## Community Calendar

### March 10-28

Calvary MBC 21<sup>st</sup> Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Floyd Smith: 10<sup>th</sup> – Church prayer at 7 pm; 12<sup>th</sup> – Service with New Home Baptist @ 7 pm; 14<sup>th</sup> – Service with True Vine @ 4 pm; 19<sup>th</sup> – Service with Beulah Baptist @ 7 pm; 21<sup>st</sup> – Service with Friendship Baptist @ 4 pm; 28<sup>th</sup> – Service with Rhema Word

### March 25

Birmingham Public Library: “Teen Space;” Video games, snacks, crafts and more; Grades 5-12

### March 27

Health Fair: UAW Local 14 Hall; Sponsored by NAACP WIN; 10 am to 2 pm: 419-810-2225

Clarence Smith Community Chorus: Annual Spring Concert; Toledo Mennonite Church; 6 pm; Negro spirituals, songs of the season, ensemble and solo performances: 419-535-0216 or 419-535-0933

### March 28

Jerusalem Baptist Church 5<sup>th</sup> Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor W.L. and First Lady Monica Perryman; 4 pm service with Indiana Avenue MBC: 419-461-1789

Queen of the Planet Earth: Fundraiser at the Collingwood Art Center celebrating Women's History Month: Hosted by Sherita Evans of Planned Parenthood; 4 pm doors open, program at 5 pm; Special performance by Self Expression Teen Theatre: 419-242-2255

New Prospect MBC Night Sunday School: Hosted by Deacon Lionel Hueston; 7 pm: 419-944-2790

### April 3

Informational Young People's Department Kick-Off Brunch: Warren AME; 10 am to noon: 419-243-2237

### April 4

Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral Hour of Power: 11 am: 419-944-0984

### April 7

Sexual Abuse Prevention Awareness Treatment Healing Coalition Mix & Mingle: Prevention experts, providers of services to survivors, survivors, co-survivors; 5 to 7 pm; Elizabeth House

### April 10

West Toledo Bereavement Support Ministry: Bethlehem Baptist Church; 10 am: 419-867-2122

Armor Bearer and Adjutant Training: Ramada Secor; 10 am to 2 pm: 419-322-4462

### April 11

Calvary MBC Revival: 10:45 am and 5 pm; Bishop Clifton Jones of Agape Love Ministries of Sandusky

### April 14-16

Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship Toledo District Intercessory Prayer Conference: City of Zion, Mt. Zion Church campus; nightly at 6:30 pm: 419-246-1850

### April 16-18

Calvary Baptist Church 13<sup>th</sup> Spring Retreat: \$19-531-9443

### April 17

“Getting to Know You Entrepreneur's Fair:” Introduction of businesses: 11 am to 2 pm: 419-944-0984

### April 24

Warren AME Church Health Fair: Sponsored by Faith in Motion Fitness; 10 am to 2 pm; Free screenings – blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose and vision; Comp massages; Free healthy lunch: 419-266-1065

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## The Politics of Life and Death

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



*Fervor is the weapon of choice of the impotent. – Frantz Fanon*

To African-Americans the script is familiar. Progressive social change – at almost

every critical historical juncture – has been met with frenzied threats, epithets and invectives hurled from the angry, twisted and contorted faces of mob-crowds made up of those who stood to gain from the status quo.

That was also the case over the weekend as the House of Representatives passed historic legislation reforming the nation's health care system despite media over-coverage of the pathological politics of disruption exhibited by opponents of the bill.

The public use of the N-word was resurrected and used to assault civil rights hero Congressman John Lewis of Georgia. Spit and

saliva were heaved from the inflamed mouths of zealous protesters towards Congressman Emmanuel Cleaver (D-Mo.) as public violence upon black leadership resurfaced in a new form.

The protesters in the streets were egged on by sign-waving Republican legislators from the halls of Congress in shouts of "Kill the Bill," and other political threats and code words intimating capital violence.

Congressman Patrick Kennedy (D-RI) in a press release following passage of the health care reform bill quoted Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who said "Of  
(Continued on Page 5)

## Who Owns Your Chalkboard?

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq.  
Guest Column



I had a nightmare that I want to share with you. No, this was not caused by some strange sage cheese that I had with a rye cracker nor was it generated by some smoked salmon pate with an undercooked dill dressing.

It was caused by comments I read where some black people are nonplussed about how the Catholic Schools are able to keep and maintain a high-level educational system and, into which system, black parents have gladly placed their kids assuming they have the bucks or their kids can get scholarships to do it.

It is about an attitude of commitment and a willingness to make pledges of time and money to further a grander goal and that is the proper education of one's kids so that when they graduate, they are not embarrassed by their lack of cognitive and rhetorical skills; and their inability to compete with their peer group for jobs and positions.

It is about changing one's perception of what is important and what is marginal. What is important is making sacrifices of time and effort and money so that the next generation can excel.

It is about deferring the purchase of that 200 dollar pair of Jordan shoes or the latest X Box or Wii system so that your child can get a math/science tutor so he or she can pass the SAT or ACT tests and get into Howard or Harvard.

It is about having your kids in the house on weekday nights so that they are booking it and not soaking up the TV nonsense of BET or that MTN madness that, when said and done, added nothing to their  
(Continued on Page 5)

## "There Is Fat in This District"

By Steven Flagg  
Guest Column

Speaker after speaker streamed forward as his or her name was called to plead with the Toledo Board of Education to save a school, art and music specialists or in opposition to cuts from school athletics to bus transportation. Several said they would support the TPS income tax levy, some only if their program was spared.

The public hearing at Start High on St. Paddy's day had the feel of a pep rally for the May 4 levy. Others suggested it was more like a well-organized union rally since TFT, TAAP and AFSCME members attended en masse, easily the largest group represented that evening. The public hearing the next evening at Rogers was not attended as well, more subdued and absent the union presence although TPS employees again made up half or more of those attending.

Francine Lawrence, TFT president, led off the procession of speakers and was followed by TAAP and AFSCME representatives. Lawrence was loudly applauded by teachers in attendance when introduced and with obvious exuberance when she concluded her remarks by suggesting that board members need to "chop from the top."

Lawrence offered a number of criticisms and one solid suggestion. If the levy failed, she suggested the district should adopt a four-day school week stating it would save significant monies.

Why would Lawrence or TPS wait for a levy defeat to implement a new work week that could save art and music specialists and several school programs perceived as successful? Certainly such a

change is not without challenges, but they seem reasonable as compared to the consequences. Some state laws must be waived or changed. But since legislators have struggled mightily with the state budget, they're likely to be amenable.

One Lawrence remark was surprising and a bit of a shocker during a levy campaign. Lawrence said twice consecutively, "There is fat in this school district." On this Lawrence gets whole-hearted agreement from many in this community. There may be disagreements of where the "fat" is, but you heard it from the TFT president herself that "fat" exists.

Lawrence should share these cost-saving opportunities with the public. Her members' salaries are from taxpayer dollars and their ideas are an important contribution to the discussion.

Most of those who spoke at the public hearing asked that their programs or special interest be saved. The Toledo Technology Academy was amply represented by students and parents. The students came prepared and eloquently articulated the value of TTA and their experiences. It was a testament to those involved parents and the students of TTA.

With TTA and Early College High School slated for elimination, the logical next question would be why the elementary academies at Grove Patterson and Old West End were not listed as potential cuts? Superintendent John Foley stated on several recent occasions that all programs not required by state law were identified for Board review.

The longer school days and

curriculum at GP and OWE result in greater costs per student than the average TPS elementary school. GP and OWE programs are not mandated by state law.

All four programs serve about 1100 students or 4.2 percent of the approximately 26,000 TPS students.

So, is the current lame duck superintendent being honest with us? Were all programs evaluated and sent to board members for review?

TPS has strategically identified programs or services and offered them in sacrifice to create the greatest amount of emotional turmoil. Logic takes a holiday when proposed cuts appear callous and are programs perceived by many to be valuable and enriching. They seem even more heartless because TPS has not developed nor articulated a set of criteria by which they will make these cuts. Angst always runs higher when you can not reasonably predict what will happen in these situations.

In the end, it is to the advantage of the entrenched educational elite to assure that everybody's ox gets gored and that emotions prevent clear thinking regarding a levy that will drain \$18 million from the private sector of our local economy.

How else do you pass a levy in these economic times when TPS has been less than forthcoming about its operations and where great public cynicism regarding the safety and efficacious use of taxpayer dollars is evident?

Steven Flagg is a community activist and education advocate. For more information visit [TPSINFO.COM](http://TPSINFO.COM).

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The "Ayes" Have It: President Obama, Speaker Pelosi Lead Health Care Coverage Overhaul

By Fletcher Word Sojourner's Truth Editor

Running as a Progressive in the election of 1912 to re-capture the office he had left four years earlier, former President Theodore Roosevelt spoke of the need to reform the nation's health care system in order to bring affordable care to the less fortunate citizens of the richest country on earth.

Ninety-eight years later, on Sunday March 21, 2010, the Rooseveltian dream was finally realized. The House of Representatives, led by Speaker Nancy Pelosi and prodded, pushed and nudged by President Barack Obama, approved legislation that will expand, say the crafters, health care coverage to 32 million Americans who are currently lacking such protection.

By a margin of 219 to 216 - all Republicans voting against the measure as did 34 Democrats - the House passed the controversial bill. "This is what change looks like," said Obama after the historic vote. "This

is change we can believe in."

Yesterday, the president signed a bill into law that Democrats hailed as part of the other ground-breaking social legislation of recent decades.

"This is the civil rights act of the 21st Century," said Rep. Jim Clyburn of South Carolina, the top-ranking African-American member of the House.

"We will be joining those who established Social Security, Medicare and now, tonight, health care for all Americans," said Pelosi after the vote.

Perhaps not all Americans and, certainly, not in the near future. The bill proposes to ultimately cover an estimated 75 percent of those presently uninsured but not in full for another nine years.

What the bill will do almost immediately is provide immediate access to high-risk pools for people with no insurance due to pre-existing conditions.

Within six months, the

legislation prevents insurers from denying coverage to people when they get sick; will prevent insurers from denying coverage to children with pre-existing conditions; will prevent insurers from imposing lifetime caps on coverage and will require insurers to allow children to stay on their parents' policies until they turn 26.

By 2014, the bill will provide subsidies for families earning up to 400 percent of the poverty level - currently about \$88,000 a year for a family of four - to purchase health insurance; will require most employers to provide coverage or face penalties and will require most individuals to get coverage or face penalties.

The plan calls for health coverage to be expanded to the additional 32 million by 2019.

Democrats were jubilant after their victory. The Republicans ... not so much.

"If we pass this bill, there will be no turning



"We will be joining those who established Social Security, Medicare and now, tonight, health care for all Americans,"

back," warned House Minority Leader John Boehner (R-OH). "In a democracy, you can only ignore the will of the people for so long and get away with it."

After the vote, however, Republicans were indeed claiming that they wanted, and intended, to turn back. A number, including Senator John McCain of Arizona, Obama's opponent for the presidency in 2008, vowed to do all they can to

repeal the legislation in the future.

"We will not allow this to stand," said Rep. Michele Bachmann (R. MN).

The aftermath of the vote brought no political unity to the land. Eleven Republican states' attorneys generals immediately declared that they will bring suit against the bill in federal court over what they perceive to be the unconstitutionality of forcing

people to purchase health care coverage whether they wish to or not. Since the courts have long permitted the federal government to force citizens to pay into Social Security and provide financial coverage for their future, it is unlikely that Obama, and his Democratic allies, are nonplussed by such maneuvering.

In the immediate future, the president plans to hit the road and tout his legislative victory and the benefits in the plan to voters who have become disenchanted with the bill - or at least what they perceive to be in the bill - over the last several months of congressional wrangling.

And, just a little further off loom the mid-year elections. Can Obama generate enough enthusiasm throughout the land to prevent a serious erosion of his party's strength come November?

The Republicans are counting on a voter backlash. The Democrats are holding their collective breath.

Restoration of the VILLAGE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION BROCHURE April 28 - May 1, 2010 at the Hilton Garden Inn Toledo/Perrysburg, Ohio 6165 Levis Commons Blvd., Perrysburg, Ohio, USA 43551

Conference Speakers Dr. Steve Perry Alfred "Coach" Powell Dr. James Wadley Dr. Tom Edwards David Miller Urban Spotlight Honey Bell-Bey Lamar Darnell Shields Candice Harrison Sheryl Underwood To register, call 419.810.3874 or email restorationofthevillage@gmail.com



# 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Coalition of Black Trade Unionists' Banquet

By Brittany Jones  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

Once again, one of Toledo's long-standing local organizations celebrated Black History with a banquet at the Ramada Inn. This time the ballroom was accented with hints of bright yellow at the several tables where guests as well as political, labor and community leaders mingled.

The yellow was not a ran-

The theme was chosen with a particular motivation towards the community. It holds importance because, in these times, getting involved should be a priority. Cenia Willis, president of the local CBTU, expressed this priority.

"We're trying to encourage people to become educated about their issues and

attraction was keynote speaker, David Claxton, who is the CBTU National Project Coordinator.

Prior to hearing Claxton's speech, Tim Gray, the master of ceremonies, began the event with greetings from Michael Hamilton (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 349), Toledo Council President Wilma Brown and Brenda Hill, Toledo Public Schools board member.

The singing of the Black National Anthem led way to the Kaye Cook Dancers, a group of young dancers ranging from elementary school to high school that performs African dances. This night there were five. They introduced themselves to the audience and then danced to various African musical pieces like "Jambo (Hello)," and "Funga Alafia (Liberian welcome dance)."

date for Lucas County commissioner and Michael Ashford, Toledo City councilman.

Setting the atmosphere of community involvement and fighting injustice was a poem performed by Annette McClair titled, "We Do Understand."

Willis, Cerssandra McPherson of Toledo Federation of Teachers Local 250 and Cheryl Tyler-Folsom of AFSCME Local 544 gave presentations to this year's honorees and paid recognition to past awardees. This year, Ron Rothenbuhler, chairman of the Lucas County Democratic Party, received the Political Achievement Award.

Although he was unable to attend, C. Brown, Master funeral director of C. Brown Funeral Home, was given the Community Activist Award. Lastly, Stephen Kemp, assistant director of UAW Region 2-B, accepted the Trade Unionism Award.

As a special acknowledgment, the Cherry Street Mission Women's Ministry was the recipient of the Community Action Award. The CBTU presented a check of \$500 to the ministry.

A musical selection of "I Need your Spirit," performed by the band Jesse & Company, led way to the introduction of the speaker carried out by Pierrette "Petee" Talley, secretary-treasurer of Ohio's AFL-CIO. Talley had

worked with Claxton during their time in CBTU.

Claxton spoke of the importance of organized job and the fight for justice in the trade. He tackled the issue of the relevance of labor unions today. To answer this question, he referred to his first union job at 15 when he was a bagger at Kroger – when it first opened – and he was let go with no relevant reason. With a call to his union, he

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Stephen Kemp and Wayne Blanchard



Councilmen Wilma Brown (L) and Michael Ashford with AFSCME Local 544 Cheryl Tyler-Folsom

**"Workers need a voice in the workplace – just that simple."**

dom placement that took away from the elegant setting, but was a representation of the Toledo chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, or CBTU.

The evening of March 20 marked its 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Black History Banquet with the theme, "It's Time to Move to the Next Level."

things that effects their daily living like family, health care, jobs and how important their vote is," she said. "We just want to help them to move to the next level to understand what it means for their survival."

The night was packed with welcomes, awards and entertainment, but the main

Following the entertainment was prayer from Melody Bowen-Hall, minister of St. Paul A.M.E. Zion.

The second half of the event opened to introductions of labor and political such as Bob Savage, Local 500 vice president; Erica White, CWA Local 4319 vice president; Art Jones, candi-

## Voces de la Frontera Includes Toledo in Its March for America Tour for Jobs and Immigration Reform

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Voces de la Frontera, a low-wage and immigrant workers' center that informs workers about their employment rights and promotes community organizing to achieve economic and social justice, arrived in Washington D.C. on Monday, March 22 as the culmination of a five-city tour – March for America – to highlight labor struggles.

The group held a rally in Toledo on Thursday, March 18, at the Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church where several local leaders made it clear that they were in accord with the organization's goals.

"You're in a friendly place ... with working people," said Pete Gerken, president of the Lucas County Board of Commissioners and long-time labor leader. "Our town's a working town but my nephews and nieces, sons and daughters don't have the same opportunities that I had. They've taken away our jobs from us. This is a cause we know is true, we know is right. You can always count on Toledo, Ohio and our friends in labor to stick with you."

Also in attendance to show support for Voces de la Frontera and their mission to the nation's capital to lobby congressman on the



issues of job creation and immigration reform, was WilliAnn Moore, president of the Toledo Chapter of the NAACP.

"Labor and the NAACP are two organizations with the same cause – we stand for jobs, we stand for justice," Moore told the visitors. "Everyone should have a decent-paying job. We need fair wages, we need safe, affordable housing."

The Voces de la Frontera road tour started in Milwaukee on March 17 to protest the loss of county jobs and then moved to Indiana where

Whirlpool workers are fighting to prevent a plant closing and the loss of 1,000 jobs.

After Toledo, the group moved south to Cincinnati.

"The recent crisis has resulted in millions of people joining the ranks of the unemployed," said Christine Neumann-Ortiz, executive director of Voces de la Frontera. "There is more to come. We must support workers who are fighting to keep their jobs, build greater solidarity among working people and demand more from the federal government."

**Women of Faith**

**Chicken Wings and Waffle Dinner - \$6.00**

**When:**  
Saturday, March 27, 2010

**Where:**  
St. Philip Lutheran Church  
3002 Upton Ave.  
Toledo, OH 43606  
419-475-2835

**Time:**  
10:00am – 2:00pm



# The Truth Arts

## ALMA Dance Experience, LLC – Upcoming Performances

Special to The Truth

**“The Outlet ~ presented by Urban Nu-Sense”**

**Wednesday, March 31, 2010, 9pm  
The Clazell Theatre**

**120 Main St, Bowling Green OH 43402**

“The Outlet by Urban Nu-sense” is a monthly celebration of the urban arts

community in this region, that takes place on the third Wednesday of each month at the Clazell Theatre. The setting is open mic, with scheduled headlining acts,

and a visual art gallery in the lobby. ALMA headlines this month’s “Outlet”, which is focused on dance, but will also feature poetry, music, song, whatever you got! \$3 to enter, fee waived if you sign up to perform. Doors open at 8pm, performances beginning @ 9pm.

ALMA Drum & Dance members Allison Kodeih, Yaya Kabo & Pevely instruct ALMA’s West African Dance technique class. The classes are \$10 per individual session, or \$35 for all four classes prepaid. Participants are encouraged to pre-register by calling, 419-A-OM-YOGA (266-9642). (Classes follow a 4 week on, one week off schedule.) Each class features a warm up, traditional dance technique, choreography, along with, live drumming. No experience is necessary; a great workout and easy to learn. Children with adults are welcome, and group discounts are available.

**Michigan Global Awareness Consortium Northern Michigan Colleges Tour**  
**Monday, April 19 thru Wednesday, April 21, 2010**

ALMA will be visiting 6 northern Michigan community colleges, presenting traditional West African drum & dance, as part of the Michigan Global Awareness Consortium, a group of community colleges working together to promote events and performances on their member campuses that raise global awareness. ALMA performances to include Bay College, Alpena Community College, North Central Michigan College, Northwestern Michigan College, Kirtland Community College, and Mid-Michigan Community College.

**ALMA Dance Experience, LLC** is a group of professional musicians and dancers bonded in the study, performance and sharing of traditional West African Drum & Dance, and Modern Dance. ALMA exists to celebrate dance and music, to bring dance and music to everyone, to celebrate the non-traditional artist, and to capitalize on the talents each individual brings to the group, to the stage and to the classroom. ALMA is also dedicated to collaboration; working with other artists to build a larger dance and music community.

**Drum Classes:**  
**“Soul Djembe Drumming” with Yaya Kabo @ Integration Yoga Studio**  
**Sunday, March 14 thru April 4, 2010 @ 12:30pm (next series April 18 thru May 9) 4633 W Bancroft St, Toledo OH 43615**

ALMA Artistic Director and Senegalese Master Drummer Yaya Kabo offers a 4-week series of classes for all students of djembe drumming. Classes are \$25 per session or \$75 for all four classes prepaid. Pre-register by calling 419-381-2755, or 419-A-OM-YOGA (266-9642). (Classes follow a 4 week on, 1 week off schedule.) Come learn Djembe & Dun Dun, traditional West African drumming styles, techniques & rhythms. For beginners to advanced! Bring your drum!

**Appearances:**  
**Belly Flea Agora**  
**Saturday, March 27, 1pm-6pm (ALMA short performance @ 3:30pm)**  
**The Martin School Auditorium**  
**10 S Holland-Sylvania Rd, Toledo OH 43615**

Come meet ALMA members, learn more about who we are & what we do, and see a short ALMA performance, all in the bustling, festive atmosphere of the Belly Flea Agora! There will also be performances by area belly dance artists all day, as well as, many other vendors, and workshop opportunities at this fantastic afternoon event sponsored by Aegela & The Mystic Lotus Dancers. More information about the Belly Flea Agora at [www.aegela.com](http://www.aegela.com).

**Dance Classes:**  
**“Intro to West African Dance”**  
**Tuesday Evenings @ Integration Yoga Studio**  
**March 30 thru April 20 ~ 7pm – 8:15pm**  
**Integration Yoga Studio, 4633 West Bancroft St, Toledo OH 43606**

## Exposing Truth Ministries Presents *Like Mike: The Man in the Mirror*

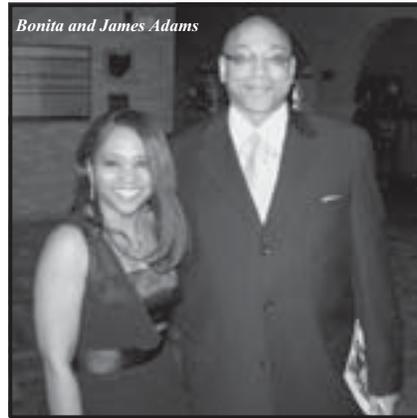
Sojourner’s Truth Staff

The only negative aspect to Exposing Truth Ministries latest production – *Like Mike: The Man in the Mirror* – as is the case with all of the company’s productions, is that you just don’t get enough chances to catch the darned thing.

*Like Mike* opened on Sunday, February 28 at the Lourdes College Franciscan Center Theatre... and closed on the same date. As luck would have it, however, the company’s management – Bonita and James Adams, playwright and executive producer respectively – are discussing a revival in October at a site yet to be determined. Stay tuned. If you missed February’s production, you certainly won’t want to miss it the second time around.

*Like Mike* chronicles the life of Leon Michael Williams, a young man who idolizes Michael Jackson. Three different actors play Leon at different stages of his life and perform some of the musician’s hits. In addition, the production features dance performances by the House of Adonis and the Springfield High School’s JROTC drill team.

The play’s message is that you don’t have to be famous to make a difference in people’s lives. In addition, the play brings an awareness of the issue of sugar diabetes since the main character is



Bonita and James Adams

diagnosed with the chronic illness.

The play opens with a scene, naturally enough, of a man in the mirror. Leon Whittington, a veteran performer who started his singing career at the age of five, stars as the adult Jackson and gets the production off to a roaring start with his rendition of that song.

Following on the heels of that opening number is 11-year-old Tae’yana Willis and her classroom version of the Aretha Franklin classic “Respect.”

And we’re off. “It’s Possible” sung by young Jonathon Ford; “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough” by Ford and Sylvia Caniglia; “Ben” by Jordan Purley

(young Jackson); “Right Time, Right Place,” by The Difference, Joshua Bey, Vincent Rice and Damore Upchurch and more and more.

A multitude of songs and solid, stand-out performances by acting veterans such as Grant Walker, Roy Jenkins, Nicole Marie Rice, Cynthia Valentine and Gerald Quinn.

A very moving script by Bonita Adams and creative direction by Sylvia Carter. This is a night’s entertainment not to be missed in October.

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## Morehouse College Glee Club Performs at Third Baptist

By Brittany Jones  
Sojourner Truth's Reporter

No instruments, four rows, 'Prince Albert' tuxedos and young men harmonizing.

Powerful voices filled the historic Third Street Baptist Church the evening of March 10.

It was not a choir, though, but the Morehouse College Glee Club from Atlanta GA—bringing a musical special treat to the city of Toledo.

This mini concert was brought to Toledo by the Tehillah International Ministries in memory of Doris Peoples-Bryant, who was the president and a member of the mission committee at the church for 18 years.

Rhonda Sewell, coordinator of public relations of Toledo Public Libraries, carried out the duty of mistress of ceremonies.

With welcomes and prayer by Reverend Glenn Jones of Third Baptist Church, the rest of the night was a melodic dedication to the woman who fought some time to bring this glee club here.

At 7 p.m., the young men hurried down the aisles—in a straight line—to their spots on the stage. Close on their heels was the conductor, David Morrow, who thanked the audience and said a few

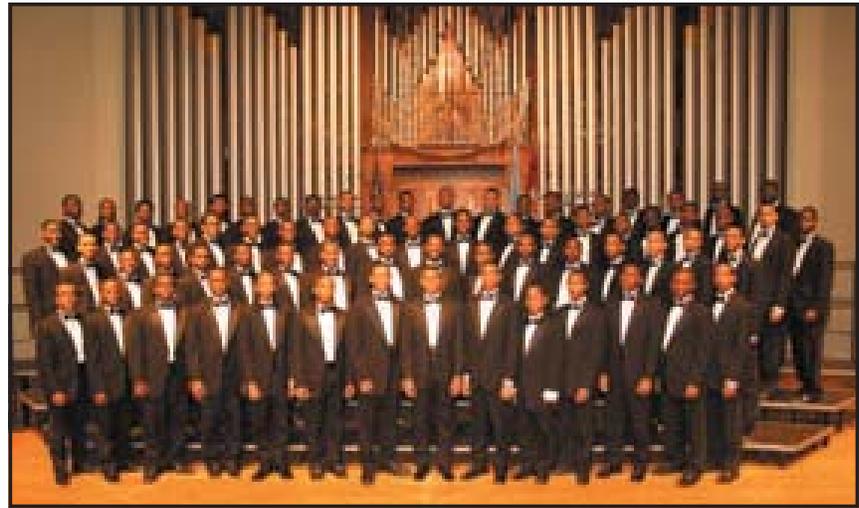
words before beginning the event.

"We are thankful that we are welcomed to the city of Toledo and we are excited," Morrow said. "Ms. Bryant has been trying to get us here for some time, so we are glad to finally make it."

Immediately after, a particular note on a harmonica was heard and, at that signal, the church was a music hall.

The concert was divided into seven sections, not including intermission. Musical numbers were selected from a variety of listed songs in the program. The first three sections had pieces of music that covered many categories including "Ubi Caritas," a Catholic hymn and jazz compositions like "Variations on Doo-Wah" by a black American composer, Wendell Logan. The concert also included selections of traditional black church music such as "Train's-a-Comin'" by Carlos Simon. Before intermission, selected Bible verses from the book of Psalms were performed.

The 15-minute intermission offered a presentation by the mission committee's chairman, Brenda Hill. She called the rest of the commit-



tee up and together, they donated \$500 to the Doris (Peoples) Bryant Music Scholarship Fund. Bryant's daughter, Marguerite Bibb, received the check and gave thanks.

"My mother loved music. It was a comfort to her," Bibb said. "She loved this chorus and did everything to encourage the youth."

To bring in the second half of the event, the 2009-2010

Morehouse College Quartet put on a performance that brought an entertaining and comedic ambience. The songs came from the church repertory. Two that were performed were "Let the Church Roll on" and "Plenty of Good Room."

The Quartet included Tyrone Webb (graduating 2011), Aaron Paige (2010), Chancellar Jenkins (2011) and Brandon Waddles (2010.)

The Glee Club's wardrobe change into a type of prep-school uniform – embroidered navy blue blazers, striped ties and dress pants – signaled the last part of the show.

This closing bought love songs and songs from different languages including one Christmas song titled "Betelehemu," sung in the African language of Yoruba. As a spin, some members took up instruments that added to the African mood. The rest of the songs kept with the gospel theme.

Before the finale, the Bryant family presented

Morrow with a framed picture of himself and Delores Peoples-Bryant, as a gift.

With the help of Morehouse alumni from the audience, the Morehouse College Hymn was performed and the show was concluded.

Sewell gave thanks and acknowledgements to sponsors and guests. Senior Pastor Kevin Bedford gave blessings and then asked the congregation to hug their neighbor before departure.

This tradition of inviting choirs and glee clubs to the church has been going on well before Glenn Jones began his stint as the pastor of Worship and Music. He has been there for three years.

"I want to continue to expose choral organizations, such as college choirs, to the greater Toledo community," Jones said. "We keep inviting them so recipients can experience and soak up the music."

This particular concert has been in the planning since last year and Bryant was the driving force behind bringing Morehouse to Toledo.

Past choir performances included Central State, Renaissance High School from Detroit and Eastern Michigan University.

The Morehouse College Glee club embraces almost 100 years of tradition and excellence, come next year. Their quartet is older than the Glee club itself—it began in 1870 with notable quartet competitions, as oral tradition states.

David Morrow has been a member of the Morehouse College of Music faculty since 1981 and director since 1987. He is an alumnus of Morehouse with a Bachelor's of Arts degree. Morrow is currently the president of the National Association of Negro Musicians, Incorporated.

To donate to the Doris Peoples-Bryant Music Scholarship fund mail to Third Baptist Church, 402 Pinewood Ave, Toledo, OH 43604.

"She pushed people to go beyond their comfort level," Bibb said. "She was the encourager and loved young people."

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The officers are in the front row (sitting down) from left to right: Letha Goree, membership chairman; Yvonne Harper, president; Prestein Waddell, first vice president; Rose Keetion, club advisor; Ozie Syph, chaplain; Vallie Bowman-English, Esq. - Clerk TMC. Back row left to right: Melinda Hunt-Artis, program chairman; Jannie Bester, benevolent chairman; Cheryl Tyler-Folsom, financial secretary; LaVern Mosley, sergeant-at-arms; Irene Roberts, corresponding secretary; Dorine Mosley, second vice president and Prescilla Hutchens, trustee.

# Lavish Life Entertainment presents "Toledo Has Talent," (Powered by The Juice 107.3) at the Historic Collingwood Arts Center!

Special to The Truth

On Saturday, April 3rd 2010 from 2pm until 5pm (doors open at 1pm), Lavish Life Entertainment presents "Toledo Has Talent," (Powered by The Juice 107.3).

This event is a talent showcase/competition between some of the best local and national...yes nationally performing dance groups and singers! Featuring dance/performance groups such as

House of Adonis, K-Squad, Intoto and Touch A Dream.

The event will be hosted by U.G.E. Recording Artist Leigh Ashley and will feature two surprise performances!

A pair of free tickets to the show will be given away every week live on radio so tune in to 107.3 The Juice!

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prizes, and raffle giveaways will be distributed throughout the show.

The hosts are raffling off free nights at hotels, \$20 Burger King gift cards, T-mobile side-

kicks, \$50 Meijer shopping cards, \$1,500 coupon savings books, and a netbook!!

This event has been Sponsored by T-mobile, The Juice 107.3, Burger

King (Bennett Management), and Meijer

Tickets are available by calling 1-800-838-3006 or through the CAC online box office at: WWW.CACTOLEDOORG

. Or, if you do not have access to a credit or debit card you can go to the Collingwood Arts Center and purchase tickets at the office with cash!

## University Authors and Artists Exhibit to Open

Special to The Truth

The 2010 University of Toledo Authors and Artists Exhibit will open with a reception honoring the authors and artists with works on display Monday, March 29, at 3:30 p.m. in the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections in Carlson Library.

The exhibit will feature the works of nearly 200 UT faculty who have published books, journal articles or conference papers or have produced creative works since 2008.

The free, public exhibit will be on display Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through April 30.

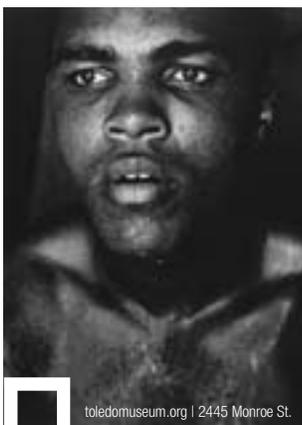
The display has been a yearly event in the library since 1950. This year's exhibit marks the return of the tradition after a two-year absence, according to Barbara Floyd, director of the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections.

"The exhibit is an opportunity for faculty to show the products of their research and

creativity to their colleagues, and for the community to see the type of work produced at the University," she said.

John Murray, Ph.D., UT professor of economics, will provide the opening remarks, and President Lloyd Jacobs will welcome the attendees.

For more information on the exhibit, contact Floyd at 419.530.2170.



Toledo Museum of Art

## Bare Witness

Photographs by Gordon Parks

February 5–April 25, 2010  
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Gordon Parks; "Muhammad Ali," c.1970. Gelatin silver print, 24 x 20 inches. Lent by The Capital Group Foundation, 2002-47 © 2006 The Gordon Parks Foundation. Bare Witness: Photographs by Gordon Parks was organized by the Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts at Stanford University. The exhibition and its accompanying catalogue are made possible by generous support from The Capital Group Foundation, the Cantor Arts Center's Holzbach Family Fund and the Cantor Arts Center's members.



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Arts Section • Arts Section •

**Book Review**

**Tupac Shakur: The Life and Times of an American Icon by Tayannah Lee McQuillar and Fred L. Johnson III, PhD**

c.2010, Da Capo Press \$15.95 / \$20.00 Canada 276 pages, includes index

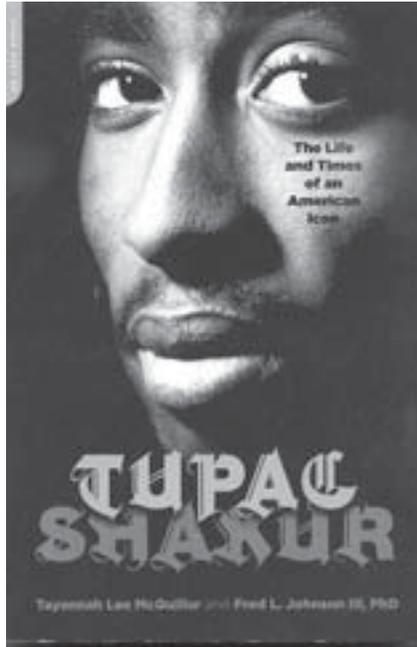
By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

Have you ever wondered why music is important to you?

Scientists have all sorts of explanations, but you probably can't live without your iPod because the tunes you love speak to you. Those songs move you, body and soul, and the singers say words only you wish you could say.

But despite the fame and fortune, the lives of those singers aren't as great as you think they are—or were, as in the case of one rapper. In the new book *Tupac Shakur: The Life and Times of an American Icon* by Tayannah Lee McQuillar and Fred L. Johnson III, PhD, you'll read about him.

Afeni Shakur was an activist. Born before the Civil Rights Movement, she joined the Black Panthers as an adult and quickly became a leader within the group. She conceived her first child while on bail for conspiracy charges (for which she was subsequently found not guilty). She named the child Lesane but later re-named him Tupac, after a revolutionary Incan emperor.



Though he was almost always homeless, had little to eat or wear and though many of the adults surrounding him were in trouble or in jail, Tupac Shakur grew up to be "a sensitive soul." He attended Baltimore School for the

Arts, acted in plays and wrote poetry. He was well-versed in Shakespeare. His best friend was a white boy named John.

And then, to protect Tupac and his younger sister from violence in New York, Afeni sent them to

California to live with a friend who turned out to be an angry alcoholic. Because he knew little about sports and a lot about literature, Tupac preyed upon by rougher boys near his new home.

Trying to fit in, Tupac briefly dealt drugs. He couldn't play basketball, but he was "stunning on the microphone," which gained the attention of a white woman who took him under her wing. She nurtured Tupac's talents and guided him and, within three years, he was a star.

But though Tupac's ca-

reer was on the rise, his life was out of control. Because of the lyrics, his songs were banned and vilified. He began hanging out with people who were into drugs and guns. He was shot, spent time in jail and was shot again.

And in the end, Tupac's music couldn't save him.

Ostensibly a book about the life of a musician, *Tupac Shakur* is merely half that. The other half of the book is a reiteration of history and 1960s culture, tedious biographies, and plenty of repetition in scattershot chapters. True, authors

Tayannah Lee McQuillar and Fred L. Johnson III include a thorough examination of the infamous feud between rappers but, though it was well-done, it wasn't enough. The "extras" simply overshadowed the good in this book. I would have been happier if *Tupac Shakur* had stuck with the story of Tupac Shakur.

If you're looking for a definitive biography on the musician, this book isn't quite what you want. It's okay, but overall, *Tupac Shakur* just doesn't wrap it up enough.

**SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL AWARD PRESENTED AT BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCERT**

On Sunday, February 28, The Saint Katharine Drexel Award was presented to three individuals for their dedication and commitment to honoring diversity at St. Martin de Porres Church-Toledo.

2010 was the Tenth Anniversary of the canonization of St. Katharine Drexel by Pope John Paul II, and the 20<sup>th</sup>. Anniversary of the Toledo

Symphony's Black History Month concerts at St. Martin de Porres Church-Toledo.

The recipients were **Anna Moore**, educator and over 30 years teaching career at St. Theresa School, St. Martin de Porres School, and Englewood Peace Academy; **Deacon John Algee**, St. John the Baptist-Toledo, original staff

person at St. Martin de Porres Church, former teacher at Central Catholic High School, Pastoral Leader, and workshop presenter on youth and African American issues; and **Dr. Donald Weathers, M.D.**, well-known physician in Toledo and one of the founding committee members for Toledo Symphony Concerts at St. Martin de Porres.

Saint Katharine Drexel devoted her life and fortune to God. Saint Katharine and the Blessed Sacrament Sisters founded many schools for African American and Native American children. Saint Katharine is also the founder of Xavier University in New Orleans, LA, the only historic Black Catholic University.

Xavier's Premedical Program is #1 in the nation in placing African-Americans into medical school and also placing students into related health professions such as osteopathic medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, podiatry, and public health health care administration.

# Health Care Bill

Remarks by President Obama (Continued from Page 1)

Tonight, at a time when the pundits said it was no longer possible, we rose above the weight of our politics. We pushed back on the undue influence of special interests. We didn't give in to mistrust or to cynicism or to fear. Instead, we proved that we are still a people capable of doing big things and tackling our biggest challenges. We proved that this government—a government of the people and by the people—still works for the people.

Today's vote answers the dreams of so many who have fought for this reform. To every unsung American who took the time to sit down and write a letter or type out an e-mail hoping your voice would be heard—it has been heard tonight. To the untold numbers who knocked on doors and made phone calls, who organized and mobilized out of a firm conviction that change in this country comes not from the top down, but from the bottom up—let me reaffirm that conviction: This moment is possible because of you.

Most importantly, today's vote answers the prayers of every American who has hoped deeply for something to be done about a health care system that works for insurance companies, but not for ordinary people. For most Americans, this debate has never been about abstract



tions, the fight between right and left, Republican and Democrat—it's always been about something far more personal. It's about every American who knows the shock of opening an envelope to see that their premiums just shot up again when times are already tough enough. It's about every parent who knows the desperation of trying to cover a child with a chronic illness only to be told "no" again and again and again. It's about every small business owner forced to choose between insuring employees and staying open for business. They are why we committed ourselves to this cause.

Tonight's vote is not a victory for any one party—it's a victory for them. It's a victory for the American people. And it's a victory for common sense.

If you have health insurance, this reform just gave

you more control by reining in the worst excesses and abuses of the insurance industry with some of the toughest consumer protections this country has ever known—so that you are actually getting what you pay for.

If you don't have insurance, this reform gives you a chance to be a part of a big purchasing pool that will give you choice and competition and cheaper prices for insurance. And it includes the largest health care tax cut for working families and small businesses in history—so that if you lose your job and you change jobs, start that new business, you'll finally be able to purchase quality, affordable care and the security and peace of mind that comes with it.

So this isn't radical reform. But it is major reform. This legislation will not fix everything that ails our health care

system. But it moves us decisively in the right direction. This is what change looks like.

Nor does this day represent the end of the work that faces our country. The work of revitalizing our economy goes on. The work of promoting private sector job creation goes on. The work of putting American families' dreams

back within reach goes on. And we march on, with renewed confidence, energized by this victory on their behalf.

In the end, what this day represents is another stone firmly laid in the foundation of the American Dream. Tonight, we answered the call of history as so many generations of Americans have be-

fore us. When faced with crisis, we did not shrink from our challenge—we overcame it. We did not avoid our responsibility—we embraced it. We did not fear our future—we shaped it.

Thank you, God bless you, and may God bless the United States of America.

# Banquet

(Continued from Page 6)

got his job back.

It impressed him that a person can have that much authority, he stated. That is why unions are relevant.

"If you got someone to hear your voice and also react to your voice, that's what a union is," Claxton said. "Workers need a voice in the workplace—just that simple."

He also discussed the decline in union membership and the fact that, historically, unions formed the middle class because people were getting well-paying jobs.

Unions, he stated, bring dignity and are essential to the health of the social fabric. He called for putting money in places that could create jobs like roads and green technology.

"We have to put Americans back to work with more openings to jobs," he said. "Put people to work in their communities so their local



Ron Rothenbuhler

needs are being met."

He ended with the challenge for people to stand up and shout for more organized jobs because that would in turn result in higher wage employment.

To wrap up the night, there was a raffle and remarks from Tyler-Folsom and Willis.

Bowen-Hall concluded with a benediction.

"We know people need to get out and vote instead of complaining about issues," Willis said. "If you get out and get educated about issues and vote, it will mean a lot as far as what happens to your community."

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## Lima Hosts Its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Oratorical Contest

By Sharon Guice  
The Truth Reporter

Martin's dream live on today in young kids who recite his words in their own tone, passion and strength to convey his message from over 40 years ago.

Recently on a cold, snowy morning 10 youth, age seven to 17 gathered on the campus of Rhodes State College and Ohio State University at Lima to recite what would Martin Luther King Jr. say today if he were still alive, using the theme, "Revitalize, Rejuvenate, Recommit."

Phyllis Henderson, director of Community Outreach, welcomed every one to the program. Reverend Joel King, Jr. cousin to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the MLK "Oratorical Commissioner, opened the program with a heart felt invocation.

Mayor David Berger presented the organization with

an proclamation, declaring the day to make a difference. Jason Upthegrove of the NAACP was the master of ceremony. Mildred Clark, Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Toledo and Ohio "Oratorical" Contests Founder, showered the youth with praises for taken on an opportunity to showcase themselves and doing their part to keep the dream alive.

The Martin Luther King Oratorical Contest is founded on his legacy of "Brotherhood of Neighbors" and is kept alive by dedicated people such as Dorothy Lovell Jones, CEO and founder of I'M M.A.D. G.I.T. M.A.D., Inc.

Jones brought the contest to Lima in 2009 in an event that produced a first place winner, Caitlyn Merkel, who went on to recite her speech at the 2010

Martin Luther King Celebration in Columbus.

Second place winner of the 2009 contest became the first place winner at the Lima 2010 contest and will go on to Columbus, Ohio in April 2010 to the statewide competition as well as the first, second, and third place winners of the Lima contests.

Jones, the founder of the I'M Making A Difference Get Involved To Make A Difference Inc., is a poet and published author of inspirational poetry and stories.

He is a visionary who enjoys creating stuff and, consequently, has created a company called "Creating Stuff Productions," that is designed to create poetry, videos, graphic images, business cards, invitations, etc. Creating Stuff Produc-

tions is a division of her parent company, Set Me Free Productions. She uses her passion for writing poetry and inspirational words to encourage the heart, uplift the spirit, and inspire the souls of people.

Thus the inspiration to bring the Martin Luther King Oratorical Contest to Lima inspiring youth through the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement to get involved and make a difference.

Jones talked to any and all parents and youth who would listen to get involved in the I'M M.A.D.G.I.T. M.A.D. organization encouraging them with the possibility of winning scholarship money towards a college education.

Ten youth turned out to recite their orations to a crowd of about 100 people before judges—Lewis Jones, Ruthy L. Mills, Jerry Hunt, Angela Hall and Vickie Beining — after hearing Nancy Wilkerson the public relations director of the organization review the rules and regulations for the contest.

Any child in K-12 grade in Lima/Allen County may enter the contest and this year's Micaiah Moore, age seven, from Heritage Arts Magnet was the first place winner in the Primary Division and Landin Schumacher, age seven, second place winner from Shawnee Elmwood Elementary.

The Intermediate Division first place winner Merri Merkel, age 10, also attends Heritage Arts Magnet School. The Junior Division students included of John Merkel, age 13, first place winner attends North Middle School; second place winner, age 11, Courtney Clemens is a student of Shawnee Middle School and 12-year old third place winner Terrill Minor who attends St. Gerard Catholic School.

Seniors Division first place winner, Brandon Warren, age 17 is a student at Shawnee High School; Caitlyn Merkel, age 16, second place winner of Lima Senior High; Angelina Smith, age 16, of Lima Central Catholic, third place winner



Dorothy Lovell Jones

and Ebony Horison, a 17 year old Lima Shawnee High School.

Each student worked with dedication to research the life and times of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other great civil rights leaders. After researching the material, the youth wrote an essay to recite before the judges, who turn in votes on a first, second, and third winner in each division of the contest. The winners move on to the statewide competition held in Columbus, Ohio in April. The first place winner of the statewide contest will get recite their essay before the governor of Ohio, the next January on King's birthday.

The Lima contest also has a ward for people in the community who has made a difference, called the "Making A Difference." This award is presented to individuals in their community who have gone above and beyond the call of duty. They exemplify the core values that Dr. King spoke of when he described the "Beloved Community." They care about their communities and have made significant changes in order to make a difference in the lives of others. They believe in diversity and that every mem-

ber of society is important and worth developing. The award is open to all Ohio residents who have made a difference in their community.

The 2010 award recipients are Karel Oxley, Superintendent of Lima City Schools and Heidi Yoakum. Yoakum currently serves as a manager in the Community Education and Engagement Department for State Treasurer Kevin L. Boyce.

Guest speaker for the event was the Honorable Kevin L. Boyce, Ohio Treasurer of State. Boyce who understands the importance of serving one's community encouraged the youth to continue to make a difference by serving their community.

Shawna McGriff and Kevin Jones, II entertained the audience with song and mime dancing.

The winners declared and awards presented, Reverend Diana Shurelds closes the program with benediction.

To get involved with the I'M M.A.D. G.I.T. M.A.D., Inc organization, email [andimakingadifference@ymail.com](mailto:andimakingadifference@ymail.com) or send mail to Making A Difference, Inc., P. O. Box 361, Lima, Ohio 45802.



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**My View**

By Jack Ford  
The Truth's Political Columnist



can be expected to appeal to urban Ohio voters. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc so she understands women club movements. Brown is the sister-in-law of Leo Brown, a former great football player at The Ohio State University all the way back in 1954 – Woody Hayes first great team.

Toledo caught a glimpse of Gov. Ted Strickland's running mate, Yvette McGee Brown, last Friday, March 11, during a visit at the annual Urban League banquet.

Another brother-in-law is James Brown, the newly minted Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons in Ohio who took over for our own Rev. James Willis, immediate past Grand Master.

Brown, a former Franklin County juvenile court judge, was introduced to the crowd of 400 attending the dinner but did not speak. State Representative Edna Brown took Yvette Brown from table to table greeting Toledoans.

We can expect to see Yvette Brown in our churches and at other community events in the months to come. Please note that the Democrats have two African-Americans on the state-wide ballot – Brown and Treasurer of State, Kevin Boyce. No blacks are on the Republican

slate this year after having had Ken Blackwell for the posts of Secretary of State, treasurer and governor in years past.

It seems to me that State Rep. Edna Brown is running a lackadaisical campaign for the Senate. Brown needs to gear up and compete for the news stories as her primary opponent, Toledo City Councilman Joe McNamara is doing.

Joe Mac is speaking out on everything from the old United Way building demolition to the city's budget crisis. Brown needs to follow suit so she can match the coverage that Joe Mac is receiving.

The lay-offs in the City of Toledo are quite painful to consider but are the inevitable result of the pension pick-up granted by Mayor Carty Finkbeiner and City Council in 2005-2006. No one who voted for these

pick-ups should be returned to office. It was known at the time that there was not enough money for such an extravagant benefit yet only a few councilmen had the courage to vote no.

Kudos to Earl Murry, Ph.D., and Judge Keila Cosme for getting their yard signs out early. They are trying to win and they want you to know it right now. Murry may be the sleeper in the race for commish in that he has the most government experience of anyone running for office today. Murry is a former civil service commissioner, former executive director of Dayton Public Schools and a former college professor and administrator at The Uni-

versity of Toledo. Do we need that kind of experience in the ranks of the county commissioners? Yes, we do.

I also like Art Jones, a good friend, in the race. Jones is a former Toledo City Councilman and worked for four years in the water department. Prior to his government service, Jones worked for 35 years in the VAN at AP parts. When you add Sylvania Township's Carol Contrada to the mix, you can easily see that voters have a strong field from which to choose this year.

Ben Krompak is a former student of mine and Michael Zychowicz is a local attorney. We need some debates to separate these five candidates.

The field is also getting crowded for the federal judgeship being vacated by Judge Carr who is moving to senior status thereby taking on a limited workload.

Ban Konop is said to want it and may have the backing of the publisher of The Blade. Judge Jack Puffenberger, a probate judge, also wants it badly.

Common Pleas Court Judges Stacy Cook and Gary Cook have quickly rounded up support from area labor unions. Some in the black community are supporting Neema Bell, a local attorney and partner in the law firm of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick.

Whom do you support? Did you get on the phone and tell Senator Sherrod Brown?

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**Thanks for your support GREEKS!**

**HEALTH AWARENESS**

**Lawsuits Claim Denture Cream Linked To Illness**

A debilitating medical condition is taking a devastating bite out of the lives of many denture wearers.

The condition is a type of nerve damage called neuropathy--a tingling and weakness in the arms and legs. It may also develop into complete loss of sensation and make walking or standing nearly impossible.

Recent medical studies have linked zinc found in common over-the-counter denture creams to this devastating condition.

Zinc is a mineral found in many foods, including shellfish, meat, beans and cereals. It is also sold in supplement form. It is required by the body to help wounds heal, to keep the immune system function-

ing properly and to help maintain proper sense of taste and smell. When used as an ingredient in denture products, zinc can help dentures adhere to the users' gums.

Too much zinc, however, can cause nausea, abdominal cramps and diarrhea. Chronic ingestion of high doses can result in copper deficiency, which can lead to serious

neurological disease.

While the U.S. Recommended Daily Allowance for zinc is 11 mg for men and 8 mg for women, denture adhesives, such as Super Poligrip and Fixodent, can contain 17-38 mg of zinc per gram of adhesive.

Recently, a lawsuit was filed against a well-known denture cream manufacturer claiming that the zinc

in the adhesive was responsible for a 64-year-old man's paralysis and ultimate death due to respiratory failure. According to the family's attorney, Ed Blizzard, this may be the first case of "denture death" in the U.S.

On February 18, GlaxoSmith-Kline, maker of Poligrip and Super Poligrip, announced it would remove the zinc

from its denture adhesives.

The law firm of Blizard, McCarthy & Nabers recently launched a Web site

[www.denturecreamjustice.com](http://www.denturecreamjustice.com) -to provide information about the condition and recourse that injured consumers can pursue.

To learn more, visit the Web site or call (866) 941-1947.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

March 24, 2010

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## DRIVER (Part-time)

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## The University of Toledo Job 997780 ~ Academic Advisor, Upward Bound:

The primary responsibilities of the Academic Advisor are recruitment of program participants, providing academic and career advising and/or services to program, participants (i.e., conducting standardized testing; coordinating academic year, field and socio-cultural events/activities; monitoring weekly tutoring; classroom instruction and program workshops; liaison between university departments, the Toledo community, students, parents and target schools). Evening and weekend work is required as well as travel and other duties as assigned by director. Salary commensurate with education and experience. This is a grant funded position through August 31, 2011.

The requirements for this position include:

- Bachelor's degree required in Education or related field; Masters degree preferred
- Excellent oral, verbal, and written communication skills required.
- Excellent presentation and organizational skills
- Computer literacy
- Two or more years experience with programs or projects serving the needs of low income, minority, and/or disadvantaged students
- The ability to interpret test results and work successfully with high school students, parents, teachers, and target school personnel

To apply, submit a cover letter (include position title and job), a resume, as well as three professional references to: The University of Toledo, Human Resources Department, Toledo, Ohio 43606-3390; Fax (419) 530-1490; or email [recruit@utoledo.edu](mailto:recruit@utoledo.edu), which is preferred. Use only one method of application. **Resumes must be received by Friday, March 26, 2010.**

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## The University of Toledo Job 994371 ~ Staff Compliance Auditor, Internal Audit:

The Staff Compliance Auditor performs complex compliance research and regulatory analysis in order to monitor regulations and administer the overall compliance program developed by the Compliance Officer and the Compliance Committee. This position assesses compliance of operational units, analyzing and researching risk assessments to ensure conformity and adherence with federal, state, and local regulations, University policy and accreditation standards. The individual(s) in this position are employed as auditors that perform compliance work as needed and warranted by the University. The scope of the Compliance Auditor's duties will include both The University of Toledo Medical Center and The University of Toledo academic institution. Salary commensurate with experience.

The requirements for this position include:

- 1 Bachelor's degree in business or related field. Experience in compliance, auditing, or legal affairs preferred. Other equivalent combination of relevant education and/or experience may be considered.
- 2 Work toward a Compliance Academy certification

**Ability to effectively balance the compliance needs of the academic and clinical enterprises.**

Go to <http://www.utoledo.edu/depts/hr/main/employment/career.html> for complete description.

To apply, submit a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to: The University of Toledo, 2801 W. Bancroft, MS 205 Toledo, Ohio 43606-3390 or email [recruit@utoledo.edu](mailto:recruit@utoledo.edu) (preferred). Use only one method of application. **Resumes must be received by Wednesday, March 24, 2010.**

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## CLINICAL COORDINATOR, AOD SERVICES

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc. is seeking an individual to manage adult AOD programming. Responsibilities will include processing referrals, program marketing, diagnostic assessments, insuring appropriate documentation and reporting, group and individual counseling, consultation with and supervision of staff, maintaining ODADAS certification, development of relationships with external sources and other related projects as assigned.

Qualified candidates must possess a current LISW-S, LPCC-S or Ph.D. and Chemical dependency licensure. Must be competent in substance abuse assessment and counseling, have experience working with individuals and families with mental health and substance abuse problems and have previous management experience.

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## APARTMENTS

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## Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY10-096, (Project # 5001-09-1479) for Campus Energy Plant

Phase 1 - Chiller Replacement 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, April 14, 2010. 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 \$75.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Jay T. Lingnell, AIA of the JDI Group at 419-725-7161. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the Dana Conference Center, 1325 Conference Center Drive, Toledo, Ohio 43614, 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: \$399,000.00; Breakdown: HVAC: \$243,000.00 and Electrical: \$156,000.00.

## Legal Notice

Sealed bids will be received by Lucas County Job & Family Services (LCDJFS) at 3210 Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio, until **12:00 p.m., March 31, 2010** and opened at 2:00 p.m., March 31, 2010 for the selection of Vendor(s) to provide **Non-Emergency Medicaid and Title XX Transportation Services** for eligible LCDJFS clients. Submitted bid packets must be completed according to the specifications and provisions outlined in the Request for Qualifications. The contract period will be from approximately **July 1, 2010** through **June 30, 2011**.

Prior to the **March 31, 2010 12:00 P.M.** (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 P.M.** (Bids that are time-stamped at the Document Center will not be accepted.)

The Request for Qualification will be available on **Friday, March 5, 2010**. It will be available for potential bidders to download by going to the site: <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

An Electronic Question & Answer (Q&A) process will be from March 5, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. to March 10, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. **PARTICIPATION IS OPTIONAL, BUT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.** Questions for the Q&A must be submitted in writing and received via email, by Michelle Niedermier at [niedem@odjfs.state.oh.us](mailto:niedem@odjfs.state.oh.us) by March 10, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.; the posting of the Q&A will be on March 15, 2010. If any changes are made to the RFQ as a result of the Q&A, an addendum to the RFQ will be posted on the website address (noted above).

This notice is posted, as of **March 5, 2010**, 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.48-2011-RFQ-01

## AKA's Celebrate Founders' Day and 102 Years of Service

*Special to The Truth*

On Sunday, February 28, 2010 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. celebrated its 102 years founding at Brandywine Country Club. This event was open to the public and hosted by the three local chapters of the nation's first African American Greek-letter organization for college educated women. Undergraduate chapters at Bowling Green State University and the University of Toledo, and graduate chapter of Zeta Alpha Omega welcomed 200 guests and members to join this celebration whose theme was "Sustaining the Vision: A Celebration of our Founders".

Founded on the campus of Howard University in 1908, this small group of 16 women has grown to a membership of more than 250,000 college-educated women affiliated with undergraduate and alumna chapters worldwide. The credo of "service to all mankind" guides the sorority

in its programs which centers on significant issues of the black family, communities, economics, health, entrepreneurship, technology, and the arts.

The guest speaker was Jala Anderson, former Channel 13 Action News anchor. Jala spoke of her great love for the Toledo community and how she welcomed the opportunity to return and share her incredible journey since she left the area. She was married in Toledo and left for a new job in North Carolina. Within a three year period she lost her job with that local TV station, moved back to her hometown of Chicago, secured a position with a pharmaceutical company was downsized and most devastating was her husband was killed in a car accident. Jala spoke of how she was changed by these three events and her faith and trust in God and her grandmother's love and en-

couragement sustained her and helped make her a stronger and better person today. She has written a book about her journey which will be released this year. Last year Abbott Laboratories recognized her diverse talents and recruited her to become their Global Field Sales Trainer. She is still active in community service and gives motivational speeches to youth, civic, and church groups. Also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, she was eager to return to be the Founders Day speaker and introduce her new 4 month-

old baby girl, Phoenix Rose to her sisters and guests.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority also recognized three local agencies for their services to the community. Covenant Youth Development, The Firm, and the Genesis Project all received contributions and certificates for their efforts to make life better for their specific populations.

Entertainment was provided by sorority members Bertha Peyton who provided the musical prelude. Mary Hayes sang Lift Every Voice and Sing and Gabrielle Hill astounded everyone with her



Marie Bush and Jala Anderson



Marie Bush, Ann Battles, Clara Petty

professional classical solos. Rosalyn Cooper danced her interpretation of Alecia Keys "Superwoman". Mayor Michael Bell delivered greetings from the city.

Not only sorority members were recognized for their contributions as charter members, golden members, life members, silver stars, past presidents, regional and national

officers. Local organizations were also acknowledged and thanked for their support. Marie L. Bush, chairperson for this event stated "We wanted the community to share in our celebration and we thank you for coming".

Mistress of ceremony was Kimberly Caldwell and Clara Petty is the graduate chapter president.

## Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Zeta Xi Zeta Chapter Holds 2010 Finer Womanhood Scholarship Breakfast

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

The Zeta Xi Zeta Chapter of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. held its 2010 Finer Womanhood Scholarship Breakfast on March 20 in the Mt. Vernon Room at Parkway Place as dozens of sorors and guests gathered to celebrate this year's theme: "Inspiring Our Community to Dream."

Among the highlights of the morning were portraits of Zeta Phi Beta success stories presented by the chapter members, the presentation of the annual scholarship, the keynote address by Min. Sherri Galloway and the award for Zeta of the Year to Athelene Harrison.

"I am Freddie Henderson ... pioneer for African-American travelers who opened the first black-owned travel agency in 1955," said Celeste Burgess during her spirited portrait of the trail-blazing Zeta soror who, in 1964, planned Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s trip to Oslo, Norway to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. Henderson was honored herself to travel with King to the ceremony and sit with his party.

Chapter member Kimberly Awls presented her portrayal of Clara McLaughlin who, in 1979, received an FCC license and became the first African-American woman to purchase a television station - Longview, TX - and in 2002 bought the Florida

Star Newspaper in Jacksonville, FL.

"I knew when I was young I wanted to do something in the media," said Awls as her McLaughlin alter-ego. McLaughlin attended Howard University and became editor-in-chief of the yearbook staff and earned her MBA from Prairie View A & M University.

Soror Monique Gayle followed those remarks with her portrait of Yolanda Webb, a Detroit native and Tennessee State University graduate who started a cosmetics business in 2003 - E'l'on Cosmetics - whose mission is to help women see the beauty they have within.

After breakfast was served, the audience was treated to the keynote address by Galloway, who has lived her life by the idea of "embellishing yourself in the possibilities of life."

An associate minister at Rhema Word Christian Fellowship Church, Galloway formed the Christian Walk Ministry in 2001 to revive and empower those in need through spiritual counseling, community resource referrals and financial advising.

Galloway also has started a company, Strictly Business, a notary and tax preparation group that provides services for more than 150 clients in the Toledo area and across the nation.



BreAnna Allen was the scholarship recipient. Allen, a senior at Rogers High School is a member of clubs and organizations such as the Daughters of Promise,

Student Council and Project Life. She is active in community service projects and the school's drama club.

Allen will be attending The University of Toledo

where she plans to major in chemistry and hopes to be a dentist.

Athelene Harrison was named Zeta of the Year. A native of Morrilton, Arkansas, Harrison earned her bachelor of science degree from Philander Smith College in Little Rock and a master's degree from UT. She is a retired elementary school teacher and computer specialist with the Toledo Public Schools.

In 2000, Harrison and her six sisters started a business to mass produce a family Cha-Cha recipe - Florence's Home Style - named for the sister's mother who had passed the recipe on to their generation.

Florence's Home Style has flourished and can be found in select specialty grocery stores and online at

[www.florencehomestyle.com](http://www.florencehomestyle.com)

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc was formed in 1920 by five female students - the Five Pearls - at Howard University to address societal mores, ills, prejudices, poverty and health concerns. There are now hundreds of chapters around the world and the sorority's national and local programs include endowment of its National Educational Foundation, community outreach services and support of multiple affiliate organizations.

The Zeta Xi Zeta Chapter's Finer Womanhood Committee included Chairman Laurie Sharp, members J'Vann Winfield, Christian Young, Celeste Burgess and Kelli Williams. Jamilah Jones is the chapter's president.



Athelene Harrison