



Volume 19, No.26 "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..." April 20, 2011

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*Erika Williams, General Manager,
 Westfield Franklin Park*



This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

A recent national poll shows that nearly two-thirds of American favor raising taxes on those with incomes of more than \$250,000. Warren Buffet agrees – he says he pays far too little in taxes.

The wealthiest 400 families in the United States have as much combined wealth as the poorest 150 million – almost half of the nation's population.

Over the last 50 years, the tax rate on the wealthiest Americans has declined from a peak of 91 percent to the current 35 percent.

In 1950, the ratio of the average executive's paycheck to the average worker's paycheck was about 30 to one; in the year 200, that ration was between 300 to 500 to one.

According to the United Nations, the United States now has the highest level of income inequality of all the highly industrialized nations.

And here's the one that truly boggles the mind. Last year, General Electric earned \$14.2 globally and paid no taxes in the U.S. Over the past five years, GE made \$26 billion in American profits and has requested refunds from the IRS during that same period in the amount of \$4.1 billion (account benefits, not cash payments, we should add for the purpose of full disclosure)

Yes, the rich keep getting richer and the poor keep getting left further and further behind.

And Republicans, both in Washington, D.C. and in state houses around the nation, continue to be adamantly opposed to the idea of raising taxes on even the wealthiest of individuals or companies.

As they see it, keeping taxes low – slashing them is what U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan (Rep. WI) would have the nation do in his deficit-reduction plan unveiled last week – enables the rich to produce jobs and thereby enhance government revenues.

That old trickle-down theory just refuses to die.

You remember trickle down? The Reagan-era theory that held that lower taxes result in higher collections by the IRS. Problem is, no one could ever definitively demonstrate such a theory. Yes, revenues went up during the Reagan years after taxes were slashed. But then again, let's realize two factors at play.

First, revenues virtually always go up because so many jobs are added to the U.S. economy annually. Second, Reagan raised taxes 11 times after that initial cut. The first such increase took place scarcely a year after the cut in 1981.

Whenever we hear that tax cuts have resulted in revenue increases, we always ask, but how much additional revenue would have been generated had taxes not been cut?

Republicans now are willing to strip programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security rather than raise taxes. It's a game of politics not one of wise policy. It's a way of holding on to their base at the expense of the vast majority of Americans.

And that base? It's those wealthy ones we mentioned at the top and those not-so-wealthy folks who have deluded themselves into believing that at any moment the promise of America – that anyone has it in him or herself to become a latter-day Horatio Alger – will shine a light on their households and deliver them from the daily burden of barely making a living.

But as we have noted before in these pages, keeping taxes artificially low and focusing exclusively on the spending aspect of the finance equation in an effort to close budget deficits is simply a game of politics.

If the state, for example, cuts services, those services will be picked up by localities and localities will raise taxes to maintain those services. And generally the taxes, or fees as they will be called, will be more regressive than a properly applied tax structure would be.

We are going to find that fees will increase on goods consumed, on trash collected, on utilities, on library cards, on museum visits, on participation in community and school activities and so forth.

The state will also, as quietly as possible, figure out ways to increase fees for its services by raising tolls, for example, by raising fees for licenses – auto, drivers, hunting, etc. They will do this and maintain the charade that citizens now have more spending money because Republican governors and legislatures have kept income and corporate taxes as low as possible.

The point in all of this? To encourage the wealthy to create jobs and to make a rust-belt state such as Ohio or Michigan, more attractive to companies seeking to relocate.

Let's not kid ourselves. Companies may indeed be impressed by the amount of taxes they can avoid paying, see GE, for example. But they are also concerned about the quality of life for employees and the quality of the work force they can employ. The quality of life diminishes when services are cut and the quality of the work force is diluted when funds for education are slashed.

In the long and short run, it's a dangerous policy not to consider asking the wealthy to pay more to help reduce budget deficits – both nationally and statewide.

Community Calendar

April 20

ProMedica Health Education Series for Breast Cancer Survivors: Toledo Hospital Kellmeyer Auditorium; 7 to 8:30 pm; "Giggling Your Way to Good Health:" 419-291-2330

April 22

Eater Eggstravaganza: Wayman Palmer YMCA; Easter egg hunt, Easter egg roll, arts and crafts; 4 to 7 pm

Ohioans to Stop Executions Action Day: Hosted by Glass City Church of Christ; 4 pm: 419-727-0977

The Armory Church Good Friday Service: Noon to 1 pm: 419-537-9736

April 22-24

Third Baptist Church Easter Celebration: Friday at 7 – The Voices of Unity; Saturday at 4 pm – recital by Franklin Brewer; Sunday at 7 and 11 am – Resurrection Sunday services

April 23

Jerusalem Scholarship Ministry Easter Car Wash; Thur-O-Wash; 10 am to 4 pm: 419-461-1789

Spiritual Impartation Service: Sanger Branch Library; 10 am: 216-280-7939

The Armory Church: Sunrise Prayer Service at 6 am; Easter presentation – Children's Ministry at 11 am: 419-537-9736

April 29

Central MBC "A Evening with the Gentlemen:" 7 pm;

April 29-30

Calvary Baptist Church Youth Explosion: "Chosen Vessel in Christ;" Friday – 6 pm fellowship; Saturday – 9 am to 1 pm; Saturday at 7 pm – worship service: 419-535-9793

April 30

First Annual 2K Walk-A-Thon to Support Sexual Assault Awareness: "Steps to Healing and Wholeness;" Ottawa Park; 10 am registration: 419-460-5994

Padua Center Health Fair: Noon to 4 pm: 419-241-6465

May 1

Women Blessing Women Spring Blessings Fashion Show; Lourdes College; 3 pm: 419-241-9789

Abundant Life Baptist Church First Anniversary: 4 pm services at Garden Lake Banquet Hall; Guest church is New Kingdom Baptist

May 3-4

St. Paul Episcopal Church Spring Rummage Sale: Tuesday – 9 am to 7 pm; Wednesday – 9 am to 1 pm; Proceeds go to local and national charities: 419-874-4548

May 3-5

Beulah Baptist Spring Revival; 7 pm nightly

May 4-6

Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance Annual Revival: Warren AME Church; 7 pm nightly

May 7

Mother and Daughter Luncheon: Women's Department of St. Stephens COGIC; Noon to 2 pm; Speaker Missionary Arlene Glover-Bond

Delta Sigma Theta Breakfast for M'Lady: The Pinnacle; 10 am: 419-537-0760

May 11-15

Warren AME "Celebration of Love:" For Rev. Otis Gordon and First Lady Debra Gordon; Nightly revival Wed through Fri, 7 pm; Saturday night banquet at Gladioux Meadows – 6 pm; Sunday service at 10:45 am: 419-514-2989

The Sojourner's Truth Toledo's Truthful African-American Owned and Operated Newspaper

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Three Thoughts on the Loose ...

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq.
Guest Column



ticeably uncomfortable when they are asked to engage in any "collective sacrifice" because, to them, that means they will be sharing their goodies with "those people."

Lamentably, the Republican repulsion for poor people and their fawning worship of rich folks would be quickly checked if poor people (making under \$25,000 per year in income) would simply register and then vote out the scoundrels who view them as societal misfits.

But, Republicans know the sleeping political giant seen in a loose voting bloc of blacks and poor people (not necessarily one and the same!) and Hispanics would rout them out of office in one election.

So, To keep that sleeping giant... sleeping, the Republican noise machine trots out their tried and true chestnut of divide and conquer and thus pits blacks vs. whites vs. Hispanics in terms of a class struggle and a fight for scarce jobs and resources.

People. Do not fall for this okey doke. The Repub-

licans did it in the South in the 20's and the 30's when they pitted black farmers against white farmers and the white farmers ignorantly aligned their interests with the white, then-conservative Democratic/Dixiecrat Party and they got taken to the cleaners for such a political mis-alliance.

(2) Will someone tell Donald Trump to stick to creating banal reality programs. Now the "Donald" is again revving up public talk with his threats of becoming a presidential candidate.

And his immediate fear baiting agenda? Obama is hiding something on his birth certificate and the Chinese are making fools of us. The usual Republican xenophobic fears are finding home with the "Donald."

Donald is a showman pure and simple and his rantings about Obama feeds into the Fox News (?) Network viewership and the conspiracy theories that fringe groups love to chatter about and which find a home with Fox News(?).

It does not matter that the issue of Obama being born in the USA has been satisfactorily resolved. No. What is important to the birther crowd is that if there is any hope of any divisive wedge issue that can snag a vote or two, this may be it.

Hopefully, with the "Donald's" shameful litany of Obama not being, "one of us," he has shown his true colors and believe you me, Donald is not, "one of us or for us."

Whoever thought the "Donald" was a liberal (whatever that term now means) and that he was a thoughtful intelligent man, those lies hopefully have been laid to rest.

Will he run? Of course not! The "Donald" does not want intense media scrutiny of his failed marriages or his business practices or to provide any transparency of his convoluted finances and business failures.

He is hot air in search of a balloon and this threatened presidential run issue is it.

(3) I am not one to toot my own horn and ask for credit when credit is due but this

time I must change course and ask for some respect.

As you know, as a TPS consultant, I was deeply involved in the recent debates regarding the just announced settlement of the issue of the Toledo Public Schools

settling their differences with Super. Jerome Pecko and thus the school district will not lose about \$11 million that was slated to help the kids.

I wrote an article on this volatile issue about three weeks ago in which I excoriated Fran Lawrence for her stubbornness in holding hostage those much-needed funds and it worked.

Fran finally called me and indicated that at the time, she was over her head in a lot of emotional angst over this issue and looking back, she apparently wanted to use it as a lever to hammer the school board for not giving her loud applause and lots of credit for her years of service.

I empathized with her to some extent but firmly scolded her for holding out for such fleshy reasons such as personal pride and recognition.

After some hand-holding

and using up three boxes of tissues, Fran confessed that she needed to be reasonable and work things out with the superintendent.

I was happy to bring the combatants back to the table and now the board is happy and Fran is now relieved of a crushing financial burden that no single person should carry if those funds were to be returned to the federal government due to their non-use.

You know, at times, this TPS consultant gig is all right.

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@Juno.com

Ed. Note: As everyone should know by now, Lafe Tolliver is not an employee or consultant with TPS and added nothing to the discussions over the Race to the Top deliberations between the administration and the teachers' union. Folks, this is satire so take a deep breath, calm yourselves and hold your calls.

Second Annual Nate Washington Football Clinic



Saturday, April 30, at the Maumee Soccer Center (1620 Market Place Drive) Maumee, Ohio 43537

Online registration is available at www.85th.org

For eight to 12-year olds registration starts at 11am. Camp begins at noon and ends at 2 p.m.

For 13 to 17-year olds registrations starts at noon. Camp starts at 1 p.m. and ends 3:30 p.m.

Buses will leave Robinson Junior High at 10:30 am and 11:30 am. The bus will return children to Robinson Junior High immediately after each camp session.

For more information please visit www.85th.org or call 419.318.2158

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Toledo's Martha Boyd Turns 100 Surrounded by Family and Friends

By Brittany Jones
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

At least once in a person's life, the thought of what it would be like to live for quite a long time crosses the mind.

Seeing times change from one radical moment to the next, throughout the different eras, is a miracle in itself.

To do that though, one would have to live to at least the age of 90 or, better yet, 100.

That describes the life of Martha Geneva (Daniel) Boyd - Toledo's newest centenarian.

On Saturday at the L'Ambiance Hall, family and friends gathered in honor of her 100th birthday.

The hall was full of love and adoration for the woman in the front of the room, glamorous in a silver head wrap.

The decorations gave no doubt to what they were there for, especially the ice sculpture of the number "100" sitting in the corner, surrounded by colored rocks, pastel flowers and a stream underneath or the cupcake bar in the other corner.

The family performed for Boyd and presented songs with the word "love" in it or a

makeshift fashion show done by her oldest living nephew, which showed off the family reunion shirts for this year.

One of her gifts was a large bouquet of 100 red roses.

"You have always been there for me and I will always be there for you," her nephew said. "We love you with all our hearts and wish you 100 more years to come."

Born on April 13, 1911 in Waco, Georgia, Boyd was one of 12 siblings with eight sisters and three brothers. The large family lived on a farm.

In 1938, she became a resident of Toledo, Ohio where

she married Ralph Boyd, now deceased, and gave birth to her two daughters, Carol Yates and Marilyn Gandy.

In that same year, she joined Friendship Baptist Church where she is a faithful and active member until this day.

Boyd worked as a domestic worker for many families and served as a cook at Mary Manse College for a number of years. She also was a nurses' aide at Family Services of Greater Toledo until her retirement in the late 1970s.

Longevity runs deep in the family genes. Three of



Martha Boyd (center) with daughters Carol Yates (l) and Marilyn Gandy



Martha Boyd and grandchildren

her siblings lived past 100 and her two living sisters are 97 and 94.

Even at her age, she still has time to reach out to those in need. Boyd belongs to Helping Hands Sisters, an organization that assists local people.

The family tree lives on through her three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren plus a host of nephews and nieces.



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April is Minority Health Month ~April is Minority Health Month ~April is Minority Health Month ~April is Minority Health Month

Mercy M.A.R.C. Program in an Expansive Mode

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Mercy Health Partners' Mercy M.A.R.C. program is undergoing an expansion according to Kristal Barham, program coordinator.

The program – Managing chronic disease, Active partnerships, Reaching out, Caring for you – was started by Mercy as a means of going into minority-populated neighborhoods, particularly through black churches, in order to educate minority adults about the increased health disparities within the population, the risk factors that contribute to chronic diseases, the actions that can be taken to promote health and wellness and the role of personal responsibility in behavioral change.

Given the health disparities in the African-American

and Latino communities, compared to the population as a whole, M.A.R.C.'s mission it to narrow that divide by bringing information into such communities.

The evidence of such disparities is striking: African Americans tend to have an unusually high number of risk factors for high blood pressure; both African Americans and Latinos are disproportionately affected by diabetes; more than seven out of 10 African Americans and Latinos in Lucas County are overweight or obese; age-adjusted heart disease mortality rates for African Americans was higher than the rate for any other racial or ethnic group.

M.A.R.C. counselors speak about personal re-

sponsibility and healthy choices such as exercising, controlling the portion of food consumed and avoiding the foods that increase the chances for high blood pressure, especially those laden with sodium.

M.A.R.C. offers a personalized health plan tailored to the participant's needs along with a follow up support system.

The traditional M.A.R.C. program consisted of a one-hour presentation with a six-month telephonic follow up along with monthly contacts. Over the recent months, M.A.R.C. has added two additional components to its free services.

First, Barham and her associates have implemented a three-week format – one-hour

program for three weeks followed by a six-month follow-up.

Week one consists of blood pressure information along with an overview of life-style behaviors that influence blood pressure; week two addresses nutrition such as portion sizes, fad diets, reducing salt, etc; week three focuses on physical activity.

Second, M.A.R.C. has developed a "Healthy U" program co-sponsored with the Area Office on Aging. Healthy U is a six-week program developed by Stanford University to address chronic disease self-management.

While the program has developed a good number of participants, one recurring problem is the lack of participation by African-American



Gloria Enk, manager, Community Health Affairs and Kristal Barham, program coordinator of Mercy M.A.R.C.

males, said Barham. She and her colleagues will be intensifying their efforts to get men involved in the program over the next few months.

Anyone interested in participating are encouraged to call 419-251-2004 for further information.

and National Child Abuse Prevention Month ~and National Child Abuse Prevention Month ~and National Child Abuse Prevention Month ~and National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Lucas County Children's Services: April Is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Annual Child Memorial Planned for April 29; Video Contest Winners Announced

Special to The Truth

Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) will mark April 2011 as Child Abuse Prevention Month with its annual Child Memorial on April 29 at 11:30 a.m. The solemn ceremony will take place at the agency's office at 705 Adams Street in downtown Toledo.

This year's ceremony will remember five children: - Thomas Stahl, age 7 months, drowning victim. - Cody Chrisman, age 14 months, drowning victim. - Saniya Sullivan, age 3 years, a drowning victim. - Kantraylous Guy, age 16 years, a victim of street violence - Deshaun Lee, age 16 years, a victim of street violence.

"Even though this is the first year in recent memory that we did not lose a child as a result of physical abuse, losing these five children is equally as tragic," says Dean Sparks, Executive Director of Lucas County Children Services. "Their deaths should serve as a reminder that regardless of a child's age, we need to keep them close and pay attention to their activities 24 hours a day," he adds.

In Lucas County, in 2010...

-LCCS received 4,487 referrals for suspected child abuse, involving 6,581 children.

-735 children were confirmed victims of abuse. This figure appears lower than in past years due to an important and positive change in the way that LCCS has begun to engage families. Nearly two-thirds of the families involved were able to utilize this "Alternative Response," in which no abuse perpetrator or victim is identified and caseworkers help families solve their own problems. Caseworkers still conducted traditional investigations of more serious allegations of abuse or neglect.

- The largest percentage of referrals (46 percent) related to allegations of physical abuse, followed by neglect (40 percent), sexual abuse (13 percent) and emotional abuse (two percent).

-Forty-six percent of alleged child victims were five years old or younger. Pre-teens

(six to 12 years old) accounted for 34 percent of child victims, while teens accounted for the remaining 19 percent of victims (two percent unknown).

Video Contest Winners Announced LCCS is also pleased to announce the winners of its 2011 Child Abuse Prevention Month student video contest.

A group of students from Achieve Preparatory Academy created the winning 30-second child abuse prevention commercial. The group included Shanequa Patterson, LaMarquita Long, Candice Hoskins, Elexis White, Asia Long, Andri'a Harris and Monique McCray. In addition to having their commercial air on Buckeye CableSystem, their school will receive a \$400 prize and they will be recognized at the LCCS memorial.

Mary Zimmerman, a student at Ottawa Hills High School, was the runner-up. She will receive a \$100 prize. Mary will also be recognized at the LCCS memorial.

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Call 419-213-4001 or go to the Lucas County Board of Elections website <http://www.lucascountyvotes.org> to get an Absentee Ballot Request Form.

Go to your regular polling location on May 3rd. Call the Board of Elections (419-213-4001) if you have questions about where you vote.

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The Truth

ECONOMY

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Donald DJ Walker Set to Receive College Scholarship and Vie for Regional Title this Summer

Special to The Truth

Selected among 26,533 Boys & Girls Club youth in the state of Ohio, Donald "DJ" Walker has been named the Ohio Youth of the Year by Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) for his sound character, leadership skills and willingness to give back to the community.

As the new Ohio Youth of the Year, he will receive a \$1,000 college scholarship from Tupperware Brands Corporation. A true example of an extraordinary young leader, 17-year old DJ will now vie for BGCA's Midwest Region Youth of the Year title and an additional college scholarship.

Being named Youth of the Year is the highest honor a Boys & Girls Club member can receive. As BGCA's premier youth recognition program, Youth of the Year recognizes outstanding contributions to a member's family, school, community and Boys & Girls Club, as well as overcoming personal challenges and obstacles. Youth of the Year encourages Club members to reach their full potential by achieving academic success, leading healthy lifestyles and contributing to their communities. Youth of the Year honorees are shining examples and living

proof that great futures start at Boys & Girls Clubs.

Donald "DJ" Walker has been an active member of the Homer Hanham Boys & Girls Club for 10 years. Donald Jr. joined the Keystone Club when he was 15. Keystone Club is a teen group dedicated to leadership and community service.

DJ has received many awards throughout his 10-year tenure at the Club. Some of his awards and recognition include being a Top Attending Member, Member of the Month; Local and Regional Fine Art Exhibit Winner and



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National Fine Art Exhibit finalist; and Digital Arts Festival Regional finalist – all awards he's received more than once.

DJ assisted with the basketball and bowling competitions for the Special Olympics. He was "blown away" by the talent of the competitors and was truly humbled as his preconceived notions about the Special Olympics and its participants disappeared. Volunteering for the Special Olympics and the Kidney Foundation taught DJ "when you get, you have to give back."

He believes the world would be a better place if more people believed this and acted accordingly.

DJ attends Scott High School with a cumulative grade point average of 3.8, and is the Scott High School valedictorian.

He plans to be the first of his family members to graduate high school and college. DJ has been accepted at The Ohio State University and plans to earn his Bachelor of Science in Psychology through the

College of Arts & Sciences. He is fascinated with why people think and behave the way that they do.

Ultimately, he wants to become a school counselor or work at an organization like the Boys & Girls Clubs of Toledo so that he can work with children like he once was...who "need us the most."

DJ and all Youth of the Year nominees are living proof that Boys & Girls Clubs across the country are fulfilling their mission of inspiring and enabling young people to Be GREAT," said Roxanne Spillett, president and CEO, BGCA. "We are most appreciative to Tupperware Brands for their long-time support of Boys & Girls Clubs and providing scholarships to help our members attain their goals."

This summer, DJ will compete against other Boys & Girls Club members within the Midwest Region. DJ has earned a \$3,000 scholarship from the Ohio Area Council for the Boys & Girls Club of America. If named regional winner, he will

be awarded an additional \$10,000 college scholarship from Tupperware Brands, the recognition program's national sponsor. Five regional winners will advance to Washington, D.C., in September 2011, to compete for the title of BGCA's National Youth of the Year. The National Youth of the Year will receive an additional scholarship of up to \$50,000 from The Rick and Susan Goings Foundation and will have the opportunity to meet with the President of the United States in the White House.

"As a long time supporter of Boys & Girls Clubs of America, I am proud to announce Tupperware's involvement in the Youth of the Year program," said Rick Goings, chairman and CEO of Tupperware Brands Corporation. "We strongly believe in these future leaders of tomorrow and are proud to support their continuing education."

For more information about the Youth of the Year program, visit

www.bgca.org/yoy.

African Art Has Arrived!!

Hundreds of wood carvings from Ghana have recently arrived at The Truth Gallery – masks, statues, village scenes! All at unbelievably low prices!



The Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM

See more art online at www.thetruthtoledo.com

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

Erika Williams: Westfield's General Manager Focused on Community Involvement

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

"The customer is one of our most important stakeholders and we work hard to create an enjoyable shopping experience," says Erika Williams, general manager for the past four years of Westfield Franklin Park Mall. And to that end, Williams and her staff have created a family-friendly environment by adding or maintaining such customer amenities as Family Parking (for expectant mothers and families with small children); a Family Lounge (a private rest area with baby-changing stations and more); a family dining area (a dedicated seating area in the food court); a play space for children to learn and play; stroller rentals and a concierge to offer personal assistance for a wide range of family needs.

In fact, on the day that The Truth sat down with Williams, Westfield was hosting its first W Family event in which local organizations such as the Toledo Lucas County Public Library, the Toledo Botanical Gardens and Metroparks are participating in a program to discuss plants, flowers and their summer educational/athletic programs with families.

On the retail side, Westfield, which underwent a massive expansion several years ago and has all but dwarfed other area shopping centers, continues under Williams' guidance, to add outlets.

"I work closely with leasing and development to bring new and exciting retail to the center for our customers," says Williams. "In 2008 we opened three big box retailers, two of which are first-to-market retailers such as DSW and Ulta. Old Navy opened its second location in Toledo."

Within the past two weeks, Westfield opened a Best Buy Mobile and The Limited is arriving in the fall.

Since moving to Toledo in 2007 from Nebraska, Williams has been an active member of the community. She is on the Board of Community Relations and has completed the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Academy. She is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and Links, Inc.

It's that community involvement, both on her part and on Westfield's, that she emphasizes.

Among the events in which Westfield has or will participate are Keep Toledo/

Lucas County Beautiful and the YWCA's Denim Days – an effort to end violence against women.

"Westfield Franklin Park is committed to being an active community partner and to that extent, I am most proud of the work that I am currently doing with an event called Give a Grand," she says.

During the month of April, Westfield is partnering with the Board of Community Relations, United Way of Greater Toledo and Leadership Toledo to encourage local youth to log community service hours.

Every school in the greater Toledo area has been challenged to give 1,000 service hours or more. Students log their hours and report them to their schools.

The school with the most service hours at the end of April will receive a pizza party, courtesy of Westfield, and the students themselves who participate in the program will be eligible for a drawing to receive assorted prizes.



The concept of Give a Grand came from a convention on community betterment that the BCR sponsored with youth during the summer of 2010.

"This is a win-win situation because it is encouraging kids to do the right thing and teaches them about giving back to the community," says Williams. "Westfield Franklin Park is a proud sponsor of this event."

Williams' hometown is St. Louis, MO. She earned a bachelor's degree from Xavier University in New Orleans and a master's of business administration from Southeast Missouri State University during which time she interned for companies such as Walgreens and WalMart.

She joined Westfield, an Australian company with more than 50 malls in the United States, as an assistant general manager in her hometown of St. Louis in 2004 before being promoted to general manager of Westfield Gateway in Lincoln, Nebraska.



Growing Food in Urban Areas Safely

Special to The Truth

Nearly everyone loves fresh, local produce – and when produce is cared for safely and properly, sales and customer satisfaction rises. As the start of the growing season is nearer, a training workshop will be offered for community gardeners, urban growers and anyone involved in farmers' markets to learn the fundamentals of proper food handling and good agricultural practices.

Food safety expert Shari Plimpton, Ph.D., director, industry outreach, Center for Innovative Food Technology (CIFT), will discuss "Growing Food in Urban Areas Safely," Mon., Apr. 25, 2011 from 3 – 5 p.m. at Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center (CC#1-2), 2213 Cherry St., Toledo, OH 43608.

The knowledge gained from this session is especially important if there is an interest in selling produce to outlets. Participants will learn proper sanitation and hygiene procedures for safe, high quality produce.

In addition, information will be available on urban agricultural efforts in Ohio.

Best of all, guests can attend free. Register by contacting rsvp@ciftinnovation.org or 419-535-6000, ext. 108.

THIRD IN A SERIES

Letters from the Heart

My mom was able to hold her grandson again, thanks to Hospice of Northwest Ohio. Before they arrived, she was in too much pain for my son to be on her lap. But they got it under control.
Tim, 1985

My wife and I were treated with dignity by the Hospice of Northwest Ohio team. Sometimes, they knew my feelings even before I did, and offered support and encouragement.
John, 2007

Hospice of Northwest Ohio showed respect and compassion for my grandma. Their experts came in and instead of worrying, we could just be with her and love her.
Kate, 2009

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Every Social Problem Has a Constituency of Economic Beneficiaries

By Rubin Patterson, Ph.D.
Guest Column



When I worked for the General Accountability Office (GAO) one summer, while I was a graduate student at Howard University, there was one thing I learned that stuck with me over the years: "Whenever there is a social problem, there is a constituency who benefits and fights to maintain that problem."

In fact, overcoming the political resistance to progress by the economic beneficiaries of the problem is almost always far more challenging than crafting and applying a technical solution to the problem.

Nowhere is this illustrated more pointedly than with the social problems of food and the environmental. We need a constituency for structural

change sufficient to overcome the constituency of economic beneficiaries that seek to deny us a clearer environment and a healthier food system.

Our industrial-integrated food system is a social problem because it is fossil fuel-intensive, environmentally toxic, dangerous to farm and food processing workers and makes quality and nutritious healthy food unavailable or unaffordable for many. To appreciate how the industrial food system is bad for your health, one needs to look no further than the explosion of type 2 diabetes and vascular disease related to obesity.

One-fifth of our energy is consumed in food production. US food production uses nearly as much energy as all of Japan, the third largest economy in the world. Consider also that, for the poor US farm workers, scientific studies link their high levels of pesticide exposure to a neuro-degenerative process that leads to Parkinson's disease.

My wonderful grandmother (who died last week) was an outstanding cook who used ingredients from her garden and, to her credit, she

couldn't quite figure out the fast food craze in the 1970s as the engine of the "fast food nation" was just cranking up. In thinking about children's preference at the time for McDonald's and other fast foods, she would say in jest: "they must have some drugs in fast food to make kids prefer it over my home-cooked food."

It turns out grandma was about right. According to brain-imaging technology, a lot of the sugary and fatty foods many Americans enjoy activate the same "reward" system as a drug such as cocaine. These foods trigger neuro-chemicals of pleasure that tell us to consume more of these foods when our bodies are saying, "please stop!"

Individuals who are passionately out to change the entire food system would not be just fighting against the likes of Wal-Mart, Monsanto, McDonald's, Pepsi and Tyson. They would also be fighting against the fossil fuel industry, the transportation industry, the financial services industry, and media conglomerates because they all benefit from how the industrial food system is run. Needless to say, an institution

such as the US Chamber of Commerce serves as a coordinating body to preserve the comprehensive status quo.

The social problem of environmental degradation is much the same way in that a constituency of beneficiaries is fighting to preserve the problem. Take the Superfund as an example. The Superfund was established back in 1980 to fund and oversee the clean-up of toxic-orphaned sites from corporations that pose the greatest threat to public safety.

Superfund funding came from a tax levied on petroleum and chemical companies. The tax was pretty nominal, which was about a nickel a fill-up on average. An example site is Greenpoint in Brooklyn where, at the turn of the 20th Century, Rockefeller's Standard Oil refineries spilled and deliberately dumped somewhere between 16 and 30 million gallons of oil and gas.

The site's underground petrochemical lake is still a source of carcinogenic benzene and other vapors and will continue to threaten the public until the site is remediated.

ExxonMobil, the parent company through mergers and acquisitions over the decades, says that the company followed the letter and spirit of the law at the time when the Greenpoint spillage and dumping occurred, thereby claiming no additional responsibility to remediate and retribute.

Meanwhile the benzene fumes continue to affect the local public, which means the government is responsible for remediation while the case is in litigation. But the Superfund has been broke since 2004. These two industries have succeeded in preventing the reinstatement of the Superfund tax since 1995, despite its obvious need.

Constituencies benefiting from these big social problems are crushing constituencies seeking to solve them. For me, the greatest obstacles to solving these social problems are politicians and their aides, both of whom doing the bidding of corporations, not so much for campaign contributions, but for their own lucrative careers in the industries they have served so well while in office. In that sense, the

governing process is inherently corrupt. But much of the public is complicit in its co-optation.

Apparently, we are all too busy in hot pursuit after our individual gains to effectively address these social issues. Fortunately, since much of the public privileges the careers of individuals over clean air for the masses (judging by the public's actions, not what the public tells pollsters), there is a burst of new career opportunities associated with environmental sustainability.

What this potentially means is that the public can pursue its political and their political aides to financially gain from the promotion of new sustainability industries, then economic beneficiaries of these social problems might see their political support dwindle.

Rubin Patterson, Ph.D., is a professor of sociology, chairman of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and director of African Studies at The University of Toledo

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New Owens Community College Partnership Brings Free Computer Classes to Northwest Ohio

Special to The Truth

Area residents interested in enhancing their knowledge and skills with computers and the Internet are invited to participate in new continuing education computer classes through Owens Community College during the months of May and June as the academic institution announces a new educational partnership with the non-profit Connect Ohio organization.

The new educational initiative, titled Every Citizen Online, is being led by Connect Ohio as part of a \$6.9 million federal grant the organization has received to help expand access to broadband Internet to consumers across the state.

"Owens Community College is pleased to partner with Connect Ohio to provide free computer classes to members of the communities we serve," said Michael Bankey, Ph.D., Owens vice president of Workforce and Community Services at Owens. "Increasing access to technology through computers

and broadband Internet can enhance the quality of life and creates greater educational opportunities in our area."

Owens will offer free hands-on computer classes at four Northwest Ohio locations beginning in May as part of the Every Citizen Online project. The four locations are the Owens Learning Center at The Source in downtown Toledo, the Owens Learning Center at Arrowhead Park in Maumee, the Owens Findlay-area Campus in Findlay and the Wood County Courthouse in Bowling Green.

The initial computer class will take place on Thursday, May 5 at the College's Arrowhead Park Learning Center on Indian Wood Circle in Maumee. Owens' first class will begin at 5:30 p.m. and cover computer basics, an introduction to the Internet and discussion about how broadband can be helpful in daily life. Classes will also occur at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10 at the Owens Learn-

ing Center at The Source, at 9 a.m. on Friday, May 13 at the Wood County Courthouse and at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17 at the Owens Learning Center at Arrowhead Park. Additional dates will be scheduled during the months of May and June.

Connect Ohio is a non-profit public-private partnership, whose mission is to see all Ohioans connected to the benefits of high-speed Internet service. The organization's federal grant was awarded through the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

For more information, or to register for the free classes, individuals can contact the College's Workforce and Community Services at (567)661-7357 or 1-800-GO-OWENS extension 7357.

Social Security Column

CONNECTING TO OLDER AMERICANS

By Phil Walton

Social Security Manager in Toledo, OH

Older Americans Month is an occasion to show appreciation and support for our seniors as they continue to enrich and strengthen our communities. This May, the theme — Older



Americans: Connecting the Community — pays homage to the many ways in which older adults bring inspiration and continuity to the fabric of our communities and highlights how technology is helping older Americans live longer, healthier, and more engaged lives.

Social Security uses technology to make dealing with Social Security easier for seniors. We offer a variety of services at www.socialsecurity.gov. Just look at the "top services" column to the left of the page to see the wide range of services that technology allows us to offer online. Social Security has a special relationship with American seniors since we pay benefits, at one time or another, to just about every one of them. Nine out of ten Americans aged 65 or older receive Social Security benefits.

Here are some more statistics to consider. Among older Social Security beneficiaries, 52 percent of married couples and 72 percent of unmarried persons receive half or more of their income from Social Security. Older Americans are a growing group, too. Life expectancy continues to rise, and by 2035, it's estimated that there will be twice as many older Americans as there are today.

Older Americans, as well as people who don't expect to retire anytime soon, who use Social Security's website give it consistently high customer satisfaction ratings. Right now you can get an estimate of your future retirement benefits, plan your retirement, even apply for retirement benefits right over our website. Visit us online at www.socialsecurity.gov. Learn more about what you can do to celebrate Older Americans Month by visiting the organization's website, www.olderamericansmonth.org

TANF Summer Youth Employment Program Launched

Special to The Truth

The Board of Lucas County Commissioners announced this week the launch of the 2011 TANF Summer Youth Employment Program (TANF-SYEP) intended to create approximately 300 temporary, seasonal jobs for young workers who have already been identified as being eligible for the program.

More than a half million dollars will be allocated from Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds and the program will be jointly coordinated by the county Department of Job and Family Services and the Workforce Development Agency.

"Not only is this a great opportunity for young people to gain work experience which will impact them for the rest of their lives but it allows local businesses to gain extra employees during the summer months," County Commissioner Tina Skeldon Wozniak said.

Youth participants have already been selected from among those who are eligible for TANF funding however businesses interested in taking on a summer worker are still being recruited. Businesses interested in taking part in the program should call 419-213-6340 for information.

The funds being allocated to the program will be used to pay workers \$8 per hour for the six-week long program. Those selected will work up to 25 hours per week.

"This has been a strong employment program for the youth in our community," stated Commissioner Carol Contrada. "It is a great opportunity for our businesses and our young people entering the working world."

Since the program has strict requirements for the use of federal funding, youth participants between the ages of 16 and 21 enrolled in TANF programs who meet those requirements have already been identified and are being notified, county officials stated, and no new applications can be accepted.

In return for offering their business as a work site where young workers can gain valuable knowledge and work experience, the companies gain access to the next generation of employees and teach them about their business and the world of work.

Applications for business work sites will be available on the Lucas County web site under Departments and Workforce Development Agency.

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

2011 Economic Growth Summit Presented by WEN

Special To The Truth

The Women's Entrepreneurial Network (WEN) announces that it will be hosting an Economic Growth Summit on May 23, at the Crowne Plaza in downtown Toledo. Registration begins at 11 am with the luncheon beginning at 11:30. The educational and networking event will shed light on what is in store for our region's economic growth over the next few years.

"Our goal with this summit is to bring together businesspeople from the area who are looking for ways to grow their businesses and expand their leadership skills," said Tami Norris, WEN Board Chairman. "With an enlightening keynote speaker and engaging breakout sessions, the event will focus on the themes of economic development, leadership and networking."

The summit begins with a networking luncheon featuring keynote speaker Julie Williamson Wright, ERP Global Communications/Training Manager for Cooper Tire and Rubber Company. Julie will present "The Leading Indicator: Predicting Success in a Changing Economy." After lunch, participants will have the opportunity to attend breakout sessions on economic development and leadership.

Breakout sessions include:

Economic Development:

Jerry Arkebauer, Arkebauer & Associates, will lead this panel on Economic Development. Joining him on the panel are: Tom Blaha, Wood County Economic Development Corporation; Jamie Beier Grant of the Ottawa County Improvement Corporation; D'Naie Jacobs, University of Toledo; and Lisa Wagner, Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority.

Leadership:

Jennifer Alford, Creative Financial Partners, will moderate the panel on Leadership. The

panel also includes: Chrys Peterson, Channel 11 Anchor; Sharon Speyer, Regional President of Huntington Bank; Megan Coyle-Stamos, Coyle Funeral Home; and Sharon Lange, publisher of The Sylvania Advantage.

Following the afternoon breakout sessions, participants will reconvene for a networking mixer.

Registration is now open for the event at www.wen-usa.com. Early bird registration for WEN members is \$59, \$79 after April 15. Registration for non WEN members is \$99.

Event sponsors include Thread Marketing Group, Directions Credit Union, The Blade, Joani Donovan – Ultimate Body, Mind and Spirit, Karen Kiemec – Paths to Wellness and Chris Huss.

The Women's Entrepreneurial Network is a non-profit membership organization that encourages and supports business owners, business professionals and women-friendly businesses with successful entrepreneurial and professional development. Membership is open to men as well as women. Currently, WEN has over 275 members throughout Northwest Ohio. They sponsor ten different monthly meetings in Toledo, Bowling Green, Bluffton, Defiance, Findlay, Maumee, Oregon, Perrysburg, Sylvania and Swanton.

FAST MEDICARE COVERAGE EVEN WHEN YOU'RE NOT RETIRED

By Phil Walton
Social Security Manager in Toledo, OH

You've made your decision: although you're eligible to collect Social Security payments, you're going to keep working and delay receiving your retirement benefits. But don't forget about Medicare. Even if you decide to wait until after you are age 65 to apply for retirement benefits, most people should apply for Medicare coverage at age 65. If you'd like to begin your Medicare coverage, you should apply within four months of reaching age 65.

There's a fast, convenient, and simple way to apply online for Medicare in as little as 10 minutes

— even if you're not ready to receive retirement benefits. Just visit www.socialsecurity.gov/medicareonly. At the website, you'll find more than just the online Medicare application. You'll also find information about Medicare, and have the opportunity to watch a short, fun video reuniting the cast of The Patty Duke Show to tell you about the ease and convenience of filing for Medicare online.

It's important to note that people who already receive Social Security retirement or disability benefits do not need to apply for Medicare; they will be automatically enrolled.

There is no additional charge for Medicare hospital insurance (Part A) since you already paid for it by working and paying Medicare tax. But there is a monthly premium for medical insurance (Part B). If you already have other health insurance when you become eligible for Medicare, you should consider whether you want to apply for the medical insurance. You may want to consult with an insurance specialist. To learn more about this and other Medicare considerations, read our online publication, Medicare, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10043.html.



Good Health Begins With You!

April is Minority Health Month

For a free calendar of events contact the Toledo-Lucas County Commission on Minority Health
At 419-213-4995 or
bryantr@co.lucas.oh.us

With thanks to: American Heart Association, American Lung Association, American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, American Stroke Association, American Heart & Lung Association, American Lung Association, American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association



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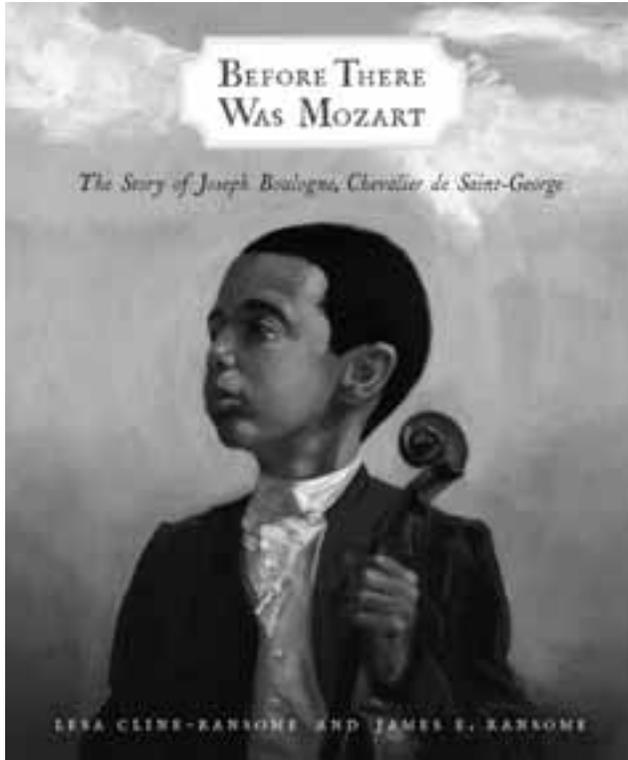
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Before There Was Mozart by Lesa Cline-Ransome and James E. Ransome

c.2011, Schwartz & Wade Books

\$17.99 / \$19.99 Canada 40 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor



Many, many years from now, you're going to be a major-league ball player.

Or a concert pianist, maybe a ballerina, or a singer with a band.

That's because you spend a lot of time practicing. Though it's sometimes hard and not always fun, practice makes perfect and you want to be as perfect as possible when you're a ball player,

pianist, ballerina, or singer. Throughout his life, a young boy named Joseph practiced his violin, but only when he wasn't exploring. In the new book *Before There Was Mozart: The*

Story of Joseph Boulogne, Chevalier de Saint-George by Lesa Cline-Ransome and James E. Ransome, you'll read a story that's somewhat hidden by history.

It was breezy on Christmas Day 1739, and the slaves who worked the sugar fields were preparing to celebrate the holiday. But up in the main house, the owner of the West Indies plantation was awaiting the birth of a child...

The baby was named Joseph because it was Christmas, and the midwife predicted that someday, he'd meet the king and queen of France. Joseph's mother, Nanon, a slave born in Senegal, was just happy that the boy was healthy.

On the plantation, Joseph loved to play with other slave children, even though he was not one of them. As the only child of a slave and her master, he wasn't made to work; instead, he was allowed to wander the island

and explore, and when Joseph's mother went to town, he usually went along. It was in town that he fell in love with music.

But life wasn't all play. Monsieur Plato, the plantation's overseer, was also Joseph's tutor, and Monsieur ended each lesson with violin practice. By the time he was nine years old and had immigrated to France with his parents, Joseph – whose father eventually gave him the name of Joseph Boulogne, Chevalier de Saint-George – was known as a talented violinist.

As Joseph grew, he loved the violin more and more. He started composing and performing, unknowingly, before Wolfgang Mozart, and later – fulfilling the prophecy made the day he was born – as the first man of color at the royal palace for the king and queen of France.

If you go looking for this book – and you should

– you'll probably find it in the picture book section of your library or bookstore.

It might be ill-placed there, however.

Author Lesa Cline-Ransome and illustrator James E. Ransome have dusted off an amazing story that even adults can appreciate, but I fear that the narrative is too sophisticated for toddlers, who gravitate toward picture books. Surely, *Before There Was Mozart* can be enjoyed by them – the illustrations are colorful, and very little-kid-friendly – but children old enough to understand history, classical music, and this tale's significance will probably like it more.

Overall, this is a beautiful and important book, but just beware for whom you bring it home. Small children may squirm with impatience at this story, but for kids eight and up, *Before There Was Mozart* is just perfect.

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The Art of Freestyling – Preserving the Art Form

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



When I was in elementary school, I remember spending a lot of my summers at my grandparents.

One day a few friends were playing out front with me when this dude walked down the sidewalk and one of my friends was like "he can rap."

You know how an eight or nine-year old will think a 13 or 14-year old is like the coolest thing on the planet, so we begged him to rap for us.

He kicked a freestyle right on the spot.

Rhymed about everything from our clothes to the cars on the block, and he kept putting his name in it.

Dude walked away and I was still in awe.

My parents and my older cousins were into Run DMC and all that.

I was never sheltered from the rap world.

I loved hip-hop, but the emceeing aspect had never been placed right in front of me until that day.

D.J. Jazzy Jeff &

Fresh Prince came out with "Parents Just Don't Understand" and my family used to get a kick out of my cousins and I giving an impromptu performance of that song and a few others but those rhymes weren't mine.

By the time I was almost out of elementary school I had perfected the lunchroom freestyle.

Providing beats for other kids with a fist for a kick drum and a house key for a snare on a cafeteria table became my staple, but soon as someone else would take over the rhythm I would get it in verbally.

I wasn't the best but I thought I had skills.

I just happened to hit junior high in the early 90s when gang culture overwhelmed rap culture.

So rapping in that time period had less to do with creative wordplay and more to do with what set you claimed and what kind of guns you could reference. But that's what sparked an interest in seeking true lyricism.

This is where it becomes less about my personal musical journey and more about how the art of freestyling was basically absent for half of my Toledo teenaged life.

Stringing together a few curse words and talking about how murderous you are started

to become like white noise to me, I would really block it out when I actually would see a group of kids rhyming.

My crew and I back then felt everyone was too West Coast with it, so we immersed ourselves

In East Coast hip-hop culture. The only 15-year olds in the 419 walking around in Timbs, backpacks talking about "what up, son?" but then still having rhyme ciphers that weren't about being gangsta.

I'm sure they were other teens who felt the same, but surrounding myself with others who

the back of one of those big buses right by the compact restroom.

It was cool though because everyone was equal, it was purely about your ability as an emcee.

And that's when the city started to open up to me all these hidden jewels of authentic hip-hop culture.

That's when Toledo experienced it's own rap civil war just like the industry was going through.

So many of us young hip-hop heads were sick of the thugged-out stereotype, we yearned for rap music that was more

after 4 p.m. with no regards for parents and TARTA buses there to transport us home.

People like Ray Stone, my dude Eric Jefferson and my dude Yusuf Lateef were all among some of the best.

Even a few of the ciphers had more than one female getting open, just straight killin' it and no one hesitated to give props no matter who it was. That was the mid-1990s.

This isn't just another nostalgia piece.

I started to continue my series on April being Poetry Month and

every Sunday at rotating locations such as Inez Nash Park and Highland Park. Some of the biggest names we have would be there.

Chief Alone, Gutta Dave, Lil D, Big Black, and a few others would always keep me in the loop.

I will admit that instead of the gang-related rhymes, the newest threat to freestyling is the need to personally embarrass and humiliate in battle rap rather than a group of emcees in a cipher.

Just think about that. We can be *Eight Mile*



Local artist Mike Flamez freestyle battles on GrindTimeNow.com

liked to rhyme is how I stayed close to the emceeing aspect of hip-hop.

The most popular dudes in high school were low-level dope boys (or relatives of big-time dope boys).

Gangbangers and then after them were the athletes.

Being able to rhyme didn't earn you that much shine in those hallways.

But on field trips, it was a different story.

I remember losing a few rhyme battles in

artistic and creative rather than intimidating.

Young Artists At Work was a teen employment program designed around paying youth to create visual arts.

When you bring the hip-hop element to downtown Toledo plus teens' creativity and expression you are going to get some fun times.

We would freestyle on our lunch breaks.

We would freestyle in the morning before we started our workshops.

We would freestyle

all that.

But the similarities between a poet and an emcee run deep.

Plus, the city has shown lots of signs that the art form of freestyling is alive and well.

Mike Flamez is a local artist who has enormous youtube support and has been across the country as a battle rapper.

He hosted a rap battle at Cloud 9 a few weeks ago, some of the best and most promising emcees took part.

All last year, there would be rap battles

style with it, two people facing off.

Or we can be like what my crew and I spent our teens emulating...that East Coast backpacker inspired side-by-side cipher.

Either way, don't just chase the dream.. preserve the art form.

And yes, every once in while I still spit a little bit.

Peace.

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ESOP Honored with Two NCRC Awards

Empowering and Strengthening Ohio's People is proud to announce the receipt of two awards and a grant at the National Community Reinvestment Coalition's 2011 Annual Conference. Following are the honors from NCRC.

Inez Killingsworth, National Community Reinvestment Award
About the award winner: Inez Killingsworth founded the Cleveland East Side Organizing Project in 1993, taking it statewide in 2008 under a new name: Empowering and Strengthening Ohio's People (or ESOP). ESOP has become a powerhouse foreclosure counseling agency -- and organizing presence -- in the state, with 8,000 families receiving help in 2009 in the nonprofit's 11 Ohio of-

fices. ESOP has a 75 percent success rate in negotiating resolutions for homeowners facing foreclosure. In 2010, ESOP reached more than 10,000 families in 2010 and saved more than 3,200 homes from foreclosure.

Cleveland vs. Wall Street, Documentary film Community Empowerment Award
About the film: In this documentary on the devastating numbers of foreclosures that have crippled certain neighborhoods in the Rust Belt city of Cleveland, filmmaker Jean-Stephane Bron concocts a mock trial that pits the city of Cleveland against 21 banks it blames for the foreclosures that wrecked the city's economy. Cleveland vs. Wall Street premiered at the 63rd

Cannes festival in 2010.

ESOP was also awarded a **National Neighbor Silver** grant to conduct community-based organizing, advocacy and education focused on financial security for older adults.

The **National Community Reinvestment Coalition** is an association of more than 600 community based organizations that promote access to basic banking services, including credit and savings, to create and sustain affordable housing, job development and vibrant communities for America's working families.

View photos from the conference on ESOP's [Facebook](#) page.

Dorr Street Barber Shop Once Again Donates Free Haircuts for King Students

Sojourner's Truth Staff

Hair Trendz Barbershop on Dorr Street continued a tradition that started just a short time ago but, nevertheless, seems to have taken root.

Owner Eddie Byrd and his staff--Devon Hands and Cory Wynn--took the day off from their regular customers and headed over to Martin Luther King Academy for Boys to give away about 50 haircuts to students.



The idea for the give-away started at the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union among CEO Suzette Cowell and her staff. The concept was picked up by Pastor Raymond Bishop and Mt. Pilgrim Church and spread to other Dorr Street establishments who offered donations for the event.

THE BLACK MARKETPLACE

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 3bd home w/carpet over hardwood floors; LR w/decorative fireplace; Dining Room with custom blinds and built-in buffet; Appliances included, full basement, fenced yard and 2 car garage. Sold "AS IS", no seller concessions!!
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Executive Director

Our not-for-profit grass roots organization seeks a forward thinking leader to develop, administer, and oversee current and future programs that improve the quality of life for individuals and their families living with mental illness. The Executive Director must possess skills that include but are not limited to exceptional communication and problem-solving, strong community presence, ability to expand existing community partnerships, proven fundraising ability, grant writing, implementation of strategic plans, and administrative experience. The successful candidate will lead staff and volunteers who are committed to NAMI's mission. Our work schedule requires flexibility to accommodate the agency's diverse responsibilities and outreach within the community. The applicant will have a state of Ohio advanced independent license (LISW or LPCC) with the ability/designation to supervise non-independently licensed staff (LSWs or LPCs). Conditions of employment, salary, and benefits shall be mutually agreed upon. A complete position description is available through the NAMI of Greater Toledo office. Please e-mail a cover letter, resume and salary requirements to crenner@namitoledo.org no later than May 6, 2011. NAMI's success depends upon the full and effective employment of qualified staff. We do criminal record checks and we are an EOE.

Place your Classified Ad

CALL PAM: 419.243.0007
OR VISIT
WWW.THETRUTHTOLEDO.COM

Bookkeeper Position

A nonprofit, senior citizen HUD housing facility is seeking person for bookkeeping position for twenty-five to thirty hours per week. Knowledge and experience is QuickBooks, accounting and bookkeeping principles, payroll, Microsoft office and Excel are required to apply.

Positive people skills, organized and ability to work with others are also a necessity. Hourly rate is \$12.00 to \$14.00 per hour. Applications and job description can be found online at www.abundantlifeperrysburg.org or by calling (419) 874-4371 between 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Cover letter, resume and application may be emailed to ablif@bex.net or mailed to 100 Trinity Court, Perrysburg, OH 43551. Please include detailed description of experience in QuickBooks and bookkeeping. Applications accepted through April 29, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

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We do criminal record checks and we are an EOE.



The Toledo Refinery has an immediate need for a Project Engineering Supervisor. The Project Engineering Supervisor will supervise 4-8 technical personnel and the design and drafting organization. Candidate will provide technical and project direction to reportables, manage assigned projects, and prepare and negotiate complex contracts, special reports, costs and progress reports. The selected candidate will assist in developing both expense and capital budgets for Project Engineering. Other duties include but are not limited to: initiating and approving change order procedures; developing solutions to field construction problems; ensuring legal compliance within the scope of job duties; and assuming responsibility of the Engineering Manager in his/her absence.

Candidate must have a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, or Instrument Engineering. 10-15 years of engineering experience preferably in a PetroChemical and/or Refining industry. Familiarity with managing engineering and field contractors. Professional Engineering registration is a plus.

For confidential consideration, please submit your resume via email to dayna.brown@pbfenergy.com

EOE/M/F/D/V



The Toledo Refinery has an immediate need for a Project Engineer. This position will work with Process Engineering, Maintenance, and Operations to develop project scopes, prepare estimates, and establish project schedules. The selected candidate will develop engineering drawings and scopes for construction. Project Engineer will work with project team to develop bid and construction quality engineering packages. Work with materials management to perform bid review meetings, develop contracts, and procure materials. Supervise engineering contractors and work with on-site maintenance contractors to schedule and implement capital construction projects, cost estimates, and schedules. Participate in HAZOP reviews. Present projects to senior management and prepare appropriation documents for approval. Ensure compliance of legal and other requirements within the scope of job duties.

Candidate must have a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, or Instrument Engineering. 5-10 years of engineering experience preferable in the PetroChemical and/or Refining industry. Professional Engineering registration is a plus.

For confidential consideration, please submit your resume via email to dayna.brown@pbfenergy.com

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CLASSIFIEDS

April 20, 2011

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PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH ADVANCE PRACTICE NURSE

UNISON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GROUP, INC. is seeking a Psychiatric-Mental Health Advance Practice Nurse with prescriptive authority to provide direct services to clients and prescribe psychotropic medications. Duties include conducting psychiatric/medication evaluations, prescribing medications with follow-up medication management and reviews, and ongoing treatment for clients.

Applicant must be comfortable working in a community mental health center, have two years of relevant professional experience to include previous clinical experience with demonstrated leadership ability. Will consider hiring new graduates who are still in their Prescriptive Externship.

Qualified applicants must have a Masters of Science in Nursing, certificate of authority, certificate to prescribe, DEA licensure and excellent interpersonal communication skills including proficiency in computer use. Current certification as a Psychiatric-Mental Health Advanced Practice Nurse (PMHCNS-BC or PMHNP-BC) is required.

Interested candidates should submit resume and salary requirements to Human Resources, Unison Behavioral Health Group, 1425 Starr Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43605, Fax (419) 936-7574; Email hr@unisonbhg.org.

Equal Opportunity Employer

INTERESTED BIDDERS:

TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – START HIGH SCHOOL SITE PACKAGE 3

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until 1:00 p.m. on May 4, 2011, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers' Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor, material and supervision necessary for Start HS Site Package 3, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by SSOE, Inc. and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

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

Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting April 14, 2011 which can be purchased from Toledo Blueprint, 6964 McEnerney Road, Northwood, Ohio 43619, phone: (419) 661-9841. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.

A pre-bid conference is scheduled for April 25, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. outside of Start HS, located at 2010 Tremainsville Road, Toledo, Ohio 43613.

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

Start High School Site Package 3:

Bid Item No. 1	Sitework	\$523,980.00
Bid Item No. 2	Landscaping	\$25,800.00
Bid Item No. 3	Electrical	\$67,720.00
	Total	\$617,500.00

CLINICAL THERAPIST/DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSOR

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc. is seeking Clinical Therapist/Diagnostic Assessors to complete diagnostic assessments and provide group and individual therapy to adults and children. Positions are contingency and work on an as needed basis.

Qualified candidates must have strong clinical skills including the ability to make clinical decisions, knowledge of therapeutic principles and practices, thorough knowledge of DSM-IV and strong group process skills. Masters degree and Ohio licensure as an LPCC or LISW required.

Send resume and desired status to:
Human Resources Director- CTDA
Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
1425 Starr Ave.
Toledo, OH 43605
419-936-7574 – Fax
hr@unisonbhg.org - Email

Equal Opportunity Employer

INTERESTED BIDDERS:

TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – OLD OTTAWA RIVER DEMOLITION

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until 1:00 p.m. on May 4, 2011, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers' Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor, material and supervision necessary for the demolition of Old Ottawa River, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by Duket Architects Planners, and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

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

Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting April 15, 2011 which can be purchased from Toledo Blueprint, 6964 McEnerney Road, Northwood, Ohio 43619, phone: (419) 661-9841. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.

A pre-bid conference is scheduled for April 22, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Old Ottawa River School, located at 4801 290th Street, Toledo, Ohio 43611. A site walk-thru will commence directly following the pre-bid meeting.

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

Sealed bids will be received for:

Estimates

Old Ottawa River Demolition:

Bid Item No. 1	Old Ottawa River Building Demolition	\$113,399.00
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Request for proposals from insurance firms to provide coverage for directors and officers, errors and omissions, commercial liability, and several affordable housing developments funded with low income housing tax credits. Proposals shall be received by United North Corporation, 3106 Lagrange Street, Toledo, OH 43608, until 4:00 p.m. on May 2, 2011. Bids should be sealed and will be privately opened. Further information on coverage, values and loss history are to be obtained from Kim Cutcher, United North Corporation, 3106 Lagrange Street, Toledo, OH 43615, and 419-255-8406.

NORTHGATE APARTMENTS 610 STICKNEY AVENUE

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Women's Clubs Sponsor Vocal Arts Competition for Emerging Artists

By Barbara Tucker
Special to The Truth

On Sunday, April 10, 2011, the Maumee Bay Club and the Toledo Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (NANBPWC, Inc.) joined in a partnership



SEATS STILL AVAILABLE!!

Colleges to be visited are:

- Fisk College – Nashville, Tn.
- Tennessee State University – Nashville, Tn.
- Jackson State University – Jackson, Miss.
- Dillard University – New Orleans, La.
- Xavier University – New Orleans, La.
- Tuskegee University – Tuskegee, Ala.
- Alabama State University – Montgomery, Ala.

Tour Scheduled for April 17, 2011 through April 22, 2011

Deposit is required to secure a seat on tour.

For More Information Call:

Trevor Black @ 419 / 478-7844 or
Gwen Banks @ 419 / 944-5912



Participants in the Maumee Bay Club's and the Toledo Club's Vocal Arts Competition for Emerging Artists

to sponsor the Vocal Arts Competition for Emerging Artists. The program was held at the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, 1502 North Detroit.

The Vocal Arts Competition for Emerging Artists is the signature program of the NANBPWC, Inc. established in 1982 under the leadership of Past National President Mary E. Singletary. The purpose is to provide a competitive arena for talented young African-American vocal artists to showcase and demonstrate their artistic abilities in

classical vocal performance as well as assist them with music scholarships. Scholarships are awarded on the National Level as follows: \$3000.00 for First Place, \$2000.00 for Second Place, \$1000.00 for Third Place and \$300.00 for remaining contestants.

This year's competition presented Christian Taylor, baritone and senior at The University of Toledo. He performed selections from a repertoire consisting of an Aria from a major opera, an Oratorio Cantata, a German Lied, a French Melodie and a Negro Spiritual or work by an African-American composer. Christian's accompanist was Justin Myers, an engineering major and piano minor at UT.

After being adjudicated by Margaret Baron and Joyce Rush, both renown in the Toledo area for their musical ability, Taylor will advance to the North Central District Vocal Arts Competition on May 20, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan. If successful there, he will

represent the North Central District of the NANBPWC, Inc. at the National Convention in Greensboro, North Carolina on July 20, 2011.

The Steering Committee was comprised of the following members from the two collaborating clubs.

The Maumee Bay Club was represented by Trevor Black, president; Gwendolyn Wilson-Banks, first vice president; Pattie Poston, secretary and Linda Collins. The Toledo Club was represented by Barbara Tucker, chairman and North Central District governor; Wanda Terrell, president; Denise Black-Poon, first vice president and Sharon Green-Gaines, co-chairman.

The Maumee Bay Club and the Toledo Club both actively perform services to benefit the community under the umbrella of the national program mandates: Health, Education, Employment, Economic Development, Founders' Day and Women's History.

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Class will consist of a 30-45 min warm up that will include stretching, floor work, (grooves), marching, formations, dancing technique and business work. Warm ups will lead into small group combinations and final groupwork leading to the learning of routines.

MOVEMENT TOPICS:
Alignment – Full & Recovery – Lifting/Loose – Lift & Propel Movement – Performance Quality & Presence

*Dance teams who qualify for the Free Hotel Deal! Registration could fill by Thursday March 24, 2011. Registration is non-refundable and non-transferable.

