

Get Out The Vote Rally set for Saturday October 30 at Monument of Faith Church See Ad/Flyer on page 2.

October 22– November 5, 2010

The Pontiac News

A POSITIVE NEWS SOURCE WITH A LOCAL FLAVOR

VOL. 2 ISSUE 5



Keynote Speaker at OCEDC Women Leadership Summit
See details below & on Page 16



Oakland County Sheriff Department To Take Over City of Pontiac Police and Dispatch Services!

(See story on Page 2 – Kevin McCormick perspective)



School District of the City of Pontiac

Need Help, Give Help, GET HELP • Parent Partners' Educational Pointers • Tutorial Services for High School Students
(Details on Page 8 & 9)

15th Anniversary of Million Man March Celebrated on Sunday, October 17.

International audience for major message

Minister Louis Farrakhan delivered an inspiring message to crowd of 8,000 people assembled inside the Tampa Convention Center and thousands more viewed it via Internet webcast. His theme of atonement, reconciliation and responsibility matched the theme of the historic Million Man March, which took place on October 16, 1995. Part of the reality

addressed by the Minister were harrowing conditions facing Blacks throughout America -from high school dropout and incarceration rates, to disproportionate disciplinary rates among Black children to often jobless Black men, who rely on women for support. Solutions were also presented to solve these problems.



Minister Louis Farrakhan

Hurry Get Your Tickets or Table Today **Women In Leadership Summit - Featuring Denise Ilitch as Keynote Speaker At The Met Hotel in Troy Friday October 29, 2010 – 11am – 3pm**

For information about this event contact Event Chairperson Kiesha Speech 248-586-8925 or speechk@ocedc.net - To Register complete the registration form on our website www.ocedc.net and fax to 248-975-9742, or email to russellf@ocedc.net

Sponsorship opportunities are available for this event! Call or Email Frank Russell at OCEDC at (248) 858-5204 russellf@ocedc.net today for details! - Cost to Attend this event is \$50 Single Ticket, \$45 each for 5 or more Tickets, or \$400 Table of 10 Tickets.

Presented by:



O C E D C
Oakland County Employment Diversity Council

A Change is Coming for Pontiac

By Kevin L. McCormick



Kevin L. McCormick

The tentative agreement that was announced for the Oakland County Sheriff's office to begin providing law enforcement services for the city of Pontiac (and effectively disbanding the 150-year old Pontiac Police Department) is a major development for the city and its residents.

This development is unfortunate and almost shocking. To have your local police department dismantled and those services handled by others is jarring and upsetting for some. But the bottom line is: the city can't afford to keep providing these services.

Services like trash collection and police (and fire) protection are funded largely by property tax dollars. And, for some time, those revenues have been falling in Pontiac as people have lost jobs, moved away and otherwise been unable to financially support the city.

Those residents who remain can't continue to shoulder the burden of supporting the entire city; they would not be able to afford the level of taxes necessary to continue funding those services at historical levels. So, we've come to this.

There will be many who will be angry at the decision to bring in the Oakland County Sheriff's Office, replacing Pontiac's finest. But, the loyal and hardworking men and women of the Pontiac Police Department were victims of circumstances beyond their control – the economic devastation brought on by the gradual collapse of the automotive

industry and the erosion of the community it once supported.

This is a new day and the start of a new era for Pontiac. The city has made tough choices prior to this, but few of them seemed to touch the core of the city the way this decision has. We have to stop remembering what Pontiac used to be like and how great it was; we now need to start imagining how it can (and should) be in the future.

What does the Pontiac of the future look like? Where is the city five years from now? Ten years? Twenty or more?

By embarking on this path, Pontiac is showing that it can make the gut-wrenching decisions necessary to save the city and properly support the citizens who live, work and do business here. The city is projected to save \$2 million annually by allowing Oakland County provide law enforcement services; that is money that can go directly back to the city to support other vital services.

This turn of events should not be looked at as a failure by the Pontiac Police Department. Frankly, they have done a remarkable job maintaining law and order in the city. It's hard to maintain order when you only have about one police officer for every 1,000 residents. They needed help, and now they have it.

Some of the officers from Pontiac may be hired by Oakland County after the transition, and some may not. That remains to be seen. The bottom line is that law enforcement help is coming to the city and should have an immediate impact on crime, illegal activity and neighborhood relationships.

This is a positive event for the city of Pontiac, not a negative one. It's the first step for the city to rebuild itself into something that will provide its citizens much greater benefits than what they are receiving now.

This is a painful decision, but the right one. We have to start somewhere. Let's start now.

Kevin McCormick is the founder of Alchemedia Creative, a communications firm that focuses on content development for its clients in every medium of communication: print, broadcast, internet and social media. He can be reached at Kevin@alchemedia-creative.com

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— Guest Opinions —

Luqman Ameen Abdullah: Murdered in Cold Blood

One More in a Long Line of “Justified Assassinations”

By Quincy Stewart



Quincy
Stewart III

In a front-page Detroit Free Press article, dated Friday, October 1, 2010, writer Niraj Warikoo lead a story on assassinated Detroit Muslim Imam Luqman Ameen with the headline, “Cox: Imam Killing Justified: FBI Agents Feared for their Lives as He Opened Fire, Report Says.”

On the next page, the next headline read, “Report Depicts Defiant Man.” The story clearly takes sides with the FBI and police agencies who justified shooting Ameen over twenty times because he was “defiant”. The Free Press article goes as far as to show a graph diagram with the exact entry and exit wounds sustained from bullets fired from the police. Luqman Ameen was shot over seven times in the groin area alone; five shots to the face, plus a fractured jaw, probably from a punch or a kick, several abrasions from dog bites, (post mortem) two bullets to the shoulder, one direct hit to the heart, five to the left abdomen, two to the center stomach, four to the left hand, three to the right hand and some to the back which exited the front. This vicious, sadistic murder was justified as Sean Bell’s murder was justified in 2006.

The Sean Bell shooting incident took place in the New York City borough of Queens, New York on November 25, 2006, in which 3 men were shot a total of fifty times by a team of both plainclothes and undercover NYPD officers, killing one of the men, Sean Bell, on the morning after his bachelor party, and severely wounding two of his friends. The incident sparked fierce criticism of the police from some members of the public and drew comparisons to the 1999 killing Amadou Diallo. Three of the five detectives involved in the shooting went to trial on charges ranging from manslaughter to reckless endangerment, and were found not guilty.

Amadou Diallo was a 23-year-old Guinean immigrant in New York City who was shot and killed on February 4, 1999 by four New York City Police Department

plain-clothed officers: Sean Carroll, Richard Murphy, Edward McMellon and Kenneth Boss. The four officers fired a total of 41 rounds. The shooting took place at 1157 Wheeler Avenue in the Soundview section of The Bronx. The four were part of the now-defunct Street Crimes Unit. All four officers were acquitted at trial in Albany, New York. Diallo was unarmed at the time of the shooting, and a firestorm of controversy erupted subsequent to the event as the circumstances of the shooting prompted outrage both within and outside New York City and issues such as police brutality, racial profiling, and contagious shooting were central to the ensuing controversy.

The brutal and completely unwarranted assassination of Ameen is yet another display of institutionalized white supremacy and the accompanying ultra-violence that has plagued the black community since 1619. Countless expressions of hate and violence of the most barbaric kind can be found in the books, “Without Sanctuary” and 100 Years of Lynching by James Allen, Hilton Als, John Lewis, Leon Litwack, and Ralph Ginsberg, respectively.

These books show in graphic detail, through pictures in Without Sanctuary and articles in 100 years of Lynching, which were mostly printed in newspapers from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the history of unbridled brutality against blacks by white society in general, and the police in particular. This is not an article to instill bitterness or hatred against anyone; it is however, as truthful an article as you will ever read about a little-talked about subject in America- White on Black Violence.

We hear, see and read countless radio broadcasts, television “investigative reports” and essays by leading “experts” in sociology and psychology about the epidemic of black on black violence. We see gangs of roving black youth wreaking havoc on their own communities. Yet, there are never reports on television about the centuries-old phenomenon of white on black violence. It is too close to home to do that. The American press will report on the violence (to some extent) of whites killing blacks in Soweto, Johannesburg or other parts of the world, but not here. Cameras always seem to roll when

incidents of violence occur in the black community but they are rarely present to film the countless murders of black youth by police agencies and white supremacists. When the cameras or witnesses are present, the press takes a stance of “wait and see” as it relates to the police investigating themselves. Only in the Detroit police murder case of Malice Green in 1991 and only with the public push by then Mayor Coleman Young and prosecutor Kim Worthy did his killers do a little time, but were released only after a few years.

It always turns out the same; Police are exonerated by either the police themselves, even if it is an outside agency, or the federal government. The message is clear: Killing black people by police is a justifiable activity. Being critical of police or this government is tantamount to being a target for murder, false arrest, harassment and intimidation.

Luqman Ameen was critical of police and the American government in its historic treatment of so-called black people and it was within his right to do so. Being “defiant” of this government and its often racist policies should not be a crime. It was not a crime for the thirteen colonies on this soil before America was formally constituted to defy the British, and black folks have caught far more hell than George Washington ever dreamed of.

Mike Cox and the FBI along with local police stated that, “Luqman Abdullah was a man who preached violence against law enforcement officials, and that his actions that October day led to his own death.” This clearly tells us that Luqman’s opinions, if indeed true, precipitated his death, not a raid on a warehouse of alleged stolen goods. When police and prosecutors use the term, “undisputed evidence”, we must ask, undisputed by whom?

It is clearly disputed by many organizations in Detroit who have rallied against this murder from day number one. It is disputed by his family, those that knew and loved him, and many Muslims and Christians alike who saw this as an act of cold-blooded murder. Yet, these disputes don’t weigh an ounce when decisions are made because the decision-makers are in fact the criminals in

disguise. His killing was easier to swallow, even by some in the black community because of the recent jacked-up hate for Muslims.

In fact, the entire Muslim community is under attack as a result of hysteria fueled by the mob mentality that has been America’s trademark for centuries. It seems that segments of the white population in America, not all, but some segments, have to have a new group to hate and dehumanize every now and then. It has always been so-called black people and will continue; the Native American was severely hated but chose to fight back and gained respect, even in defeat. The Asian was relegated to Internment Camps per the King Alfred Plan during World War II, and the Mexican is now deemed a pariah immigrant and since September 11, 2001, the Muslim.

Let it be clear that I am not Muslim but respect and appreciate anyone’s right to worship or not worship who they will in peace. It is a person’s human right to be critical of government so much so that the Constitution, written by slave-holding white supremacists, in a twisted and profound contradiction, included a person’s right to criticize and even disband government if it became too decadent, though not for light and transient issues that can be resolved.

Luqman Ameen was murdered as Fred Hampton was murdered in cold blood while he slept in December of 1969 by Chicago police for organizing in the community and turning so-called black people toward a philosophy of self determination. George Jackson was murdered in prison by guards in 1971 because he wrote passionately in books about black people thinking about self determination. The list goes on into perpetuity as it relates to the murders and assassinations and or imprisonment of black men and women, from those on the plantation who decided to take a stand on their humanity like Nat Turner, Denmark Vesey and others, to Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King, Jr. and now Luqman Ameen.

I am aware what writing even a modest article like this is deemed anti-what-ever ...but since 9/11 in particular, we have become so immobilized, petrified and scared to be critical of a government that is clearly willing to lie to us about wars, participate in covert and overt crimes against countries around the world and upon its own citizens, up to and including murder, that not to speak out is a slow death from the inside-out. Luqman Ameen Abdulla’s assassination was outright murder; the FBI and police and Mike Cox have callously covered it up and once again, we sit on our hands and cowers that we have become, will eventually let this pass without seeking justice without ceasing. Significant to remember are the bullets he received many times to his genitals. This is just as significant as the many black men who met similar fates in the past at the hands of police mob posses, the like whom killed our brother, Luqman.

Kenneth R. Burch, Sr. P.C. Attorney At Law

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See New Address Below



— What's Happening In Pontiac —

Another Pontiac Positive

Kathy McKee Casting Motor City Film and TV Training Studio to Open in Pontiac in December 2010

Kathy McKee Casting is a full-service agency providing principles, day players and extras casting for film and television. Additionally, she offers seminars and workshops to help actors understand script breakdowns and prepare for auditions. The success of these programs led her to recently open the Casting Motor City Film & TV

Training Studio. McKee and her three instructors, who have a combined 75 years of experience, teach acting, screenwriting, editing, producing and basic production assistant skills.

“Casting is the invisible art, the art that can distinguish talent from a lack of talent, appropriateness from god-awfulness,” said

McKee. “Having an eye for actors, along with the diplomacy to steer a filmmaker toward the right performers, is what makes a casting director so invaluable in today’s business.” McKee has worked on a number of projects, including as part of Mali Finn’s Emmy® award winning casting team for the biopic “61*.”



Kathy McKee

McKee began her career as an actress, earning her first role, and her SAG card, in 1970 on “The New Bill Cosby Show.” Mentored by Sammy Davis Jr., McKee spent the next 20 years working on a variety of sitcoms and hosting duties on “Good Morning L.A.,” KHJ-TV’s morning talk show in Los Angeles. She eventually returned to her roots in Michigan, bringing her expertise to the local talent.

For more information: kathymckee-casting@gmail.com, www.kathymckee-casting.com, www.castingmotorcity.com, 248-595-8660 or 248-702-8146. Or Call Kashif Russell – Pontiac Recruitment Specialist at 586-441-6544 Or contact Willetrea Washington @ 248-636-9877.

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In the event that you or your loved ones, friends and/or acquaintances find themselves in need of legal service, do not hesitate to contact me. For informational purposes, you should be aware that we provide the following, but not limited to legal services.

- 1. All Personal Injury matters:**
 - a. Automobile/Motorcycle accidents:**
 - b. Slip and Fall accidents on private property/ businesses and other locations**
 - c. Dog Bite: and**
 - d. Police Brutality and Abuse/Excessive Force**
- 2. Medical Malpractice/Nursing Home Negligence**
- 3. Contract Matters/Real Estate/Business Transactions:**
 - a. Automobile and Home Insurance**
- 4. Probate Matters: Wills – Trust – Estate Planning: and Guardianship and Conservatorship.**
- 5. Workmen’s Compensation and Social Security Claims.**
- 6. All Criminal matters Felony/Misdemeanors and Traffic.**

—What's Happening In Oakland County

L. Brooks Patterson Honored by UDM



L. Brooks Patterson

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson ('61, '67) was inducted into University of Detroit Mercy's College of Liberal Arts and Education Hall of Honor. Honorees were recognized for giving back their time and resources to the University in many ways, helping it to continue to flourish and grow. The annual inauguration was held at the Detroit Golf Club on October 3 at the Detroit Golf Club.

In his fifth term as Oakland County Executive Patterson has earned the AAA bond rating for the county and created many job retention strategies such as Emerging Sectors and Automation Alley. He has also encouraged Oakland County residents to become more active, sponsoring the Oakland Edge Hockey Tournament, The Brookside Way Mini-Grants, and the Count Your Steps initiatives.

Patterson has also created many programs to enhance the quality of life in Oakland County. His Main Street Oakland County and OakStreet programs were created to maintain the well-known character of Oakland County's downtown areas. He also challenged everyone in Oakland County in May

with the OakGreen Challenge, a plan to reduce energy use by 10% by the end of 2012.

Other Hall of Honorees inducted include: K. Noreen Keating '63, President, Enhancing Your Nonprofit; Elmore J. Leonard, Jr '50, Novelist; Jean Maday '62, Director, Scholarships and Grants, Department of Education, State of Michigan; Neal Shine '52, Former Managing Editor and Publisher, Detroit Free Press; Ronald J. Thayer '62, Consultant, Continental Dining Services; and James W. Woodruff, Former Provost, University of Detroit.

The University of Detroit Mercy is Michigan's largest private Catholic University, with approximately 100 academic majors and programs. Sponsored by the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) and the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, the University has campuses located in downtown and north-west Detroit.

UDM is one of 28 Jesuit colleges and universities and the largest of 18 Mercy institutions of higher education in the United States. For the eighth consecutive year, University of Detroit Mercy is listed in the top tier of Midwestern Regional Universities in the 2011 edition of the U.S. News and World Report's "America's Best Colleges."

Small Business Happenings & Resources



Tyshara Lawson Oakland County Business Intake Consultant

Small businesses have accounted for 65% of new jobs over the past 17 years (U.S Small Business Administration) & they continue to be a driving force for our local economy. Current business owners & those looking to start a business have more resources available to them than they realize. This section will provide information on resources, events, funding sources, & other information regarding small business matters.

- Small Business Jobs Act of 2010
- Higher loan limits in their top loan programs
 - Temporary Changes to help 504 program (Fixed Asset Financing)
 - The government has extended the Recovery Act Loans through December 2010
 - Fees have been reduced
 - Guarantees increased to up to 90%
 - You must work with an SBA approved lender to secure one of these loans

What does this mean to small business owners? It means the SBA has increased how many loans they are backing in an attempt to help & encourage the financial institutions to lend money. They will all still have their own credit, collateral, & interest rates standards. There are other provisions listed to help small businesses that are looking to do business with the government. For more information on the jobs act please visit www.sba.gov/jobsact.

Oakland County Business Center (MI-SBTDC)

Located at the County Complex across the street from the court house, the Oakland County Business Center offers workshops, no-charge counseling, research assistance, & serves as an information resource. Trainings are provided on a monthly basis & cover several different topics. Items are available to download from their website & links are provided to other local, state, & federal resources. You can get more information by linking to their homepage from their calendar at www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar or by calling the office at 248-858-0783

Upcoming Workshops:

Legal & Financial Basics for Small Business: Legal & Financial Basics provides new and existing Michigan entrepreneurs an understanding of the "key legal and financial considerations" when operating a business in Michigan, and an overview of how to protect their business interests while minimizing the risks of liability. The workshop also provides entrepreneurs important information and guidelines for establishing a short and long term succession plan for their business.

When: Tuesday October 19th
9:00 am to Noon

Where: Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center Building, 41 W. 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd., Waterford, MI

Cost: No Charge
Registration: www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar

Ninth Annual Bid & Brunch Matchmaking Event: This is a Must Event for Small to Mid-Sized Minority and Women Business Owners

Identify sourcing opportunities through a matchmaking process where participants can meet one-on-one with representatives from a variety of corporate, federal, state, county, municipal and institutional purchasing departments.

When: Wednesday October 20th
10:00 am to 3:30p

Where: Southfield Municipal Complex, Southfield Pavilion

Cost: \$75
Registration: www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar

Sales II: Is Following Up Your Best Sales Strategy?: Learn what questions to ask to help the prospect discover why to buy from your company. Better understand why companies buy from you, and why they don't.

When: Wednesday October 27th
9:00 am to Noon

Where: Southfield Municipal Complex, Southfield Pavilion

Cost: \$45
Registration: www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar

Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan:

A business plan is a document that serves your needs and the needs of others (investors, bankers, etc.) that may require information from you about your business. Workshop participants will learn what elements are commonly found in effective plans and will work on developing each of these for their own business. Assistance in the process as well as information on resources will be provided.

When: Thursday October 21st
6:00 pm to 9:00pm

Where: Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center Building, 41 W. 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd., Waterford, MI

Cost: \$40
Registration: www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar

CEED Microloan Orientation: Many small businesses face obstacles when trying to obtain a business loan. The recognition of the serious need for working capital for existing businesses, start-up or expansion, equipment purchases, and job creation is not the priority it once was. If you have a need for alternative financing consider the Microloan Program. Discover the requirements and process necessary to apply and obtain a microloan.

When: Wednesday October 27th
9:00 am to 11:00am

Where: Southfield Public Library, 26300 Evergreen Road Southfield, MI

Cost: No Charge
Registration: www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar

Fundamentals of Marketing Your Business:

Marketing is an essential of business success. All products/services must be sold to well-targeted audiences with a wide-ranging marketing mix. The staff/SCORE counselors can guide you through successful techniques and marketing principles helping you to promote your products and services to the most promising customers-your target audience.

When: Thursday October 28th
9:00 am to Noon

Where: Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center Building, 41 W. 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd., Waterford, MI

Cost: \$40
Registration: www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar

LARRY JONES CPA

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— Africa (Alkebulan) & World News —

Editors Note: The ancient name for the continent of Africa is Alkebulan. It means "mother of humankind." Africa the current name, was given to this continent by the ancient Greeks and Romans. Source: Alkebulan Reference Center – www.ancient-knowledge-breakthrough.net

UN Foundation Board Meets in Ghana



Kofi Annorh
African Correspondent

Kofi provides TPN with news about events that are happening on the African Continent and throughout the diaspora.

The UN Foundation Board of Directors, will meet in Ghana and confer with government and non-profit organisations to learn and share strategies for advancing progress on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The directors include former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and UN Foundation Founder and Chairman Ted Turner.

The meeting comes at the culmination of a year-long effort by the UN Foundation to raise awareness about the need for innovative partnerships between governments, civil society organisations and the private sector with the UN to address global challenges.

The meeting in Ghana builds on the positive momentum generated during the recent high-level UN Summit in New York that showcased how the world body is achieving progress in Africa and why it must be accelerated around the world.

The visit is scheduled for October 19 to October 23, and is being hosted by Mr Annan, who served as UN Secretary-General from 1997 to 2006 and led the effort to establish the MDGs in 2000. Mr Annan joined the UN Foundation's Board in 2008.

"This UN Foundation Board includes some of the world's most respected leaders in health and development. Being together in Ghana for these meetings will underscore how we can make rapid progress toward ending extreme poverty and tackling global challenges including health and environmental sustainability," said Mr Annan.

Ted Turner said: "One of the best ways to accelerate progress on all of the MDGs is to improve women's and children's health and to reduce the burden of preventable disease by expanding access to immunisation. We look forward to talking with government and civil societies leaders to hear how the UN can support their efforts to prevent disease and save lives."

The UN Foundation's schedule of events will include a high-level session on the MDGs with UN officials, Ghanaian government officials, and representatives of Ghanaian civil society organisations at the University of Ghana, Legon, on October 21. Set in 2000 by the UN, the MDGs is tackling the biggest problems facing the world today - these include global poverty, women's and children's health, hunger and education.

The Board will also participate in high-level discussions with country-level UN representatives, a dinner meeting with Vice President John Dramani Mahama and a luncheon meeting with the vice chancellors of Ghanaian universities and other senior academic leaders.

The delegation will also travel to Kumasi, where they will tour health centres in the Ashanti Region where preparations are underway for the launch of a nationwide measles immunisation campaign scheduled for early November.

They will also participate in a meeting and cultural program hosted by the Asantehene.

"Ghana was one of the first countries to protect children against measles through a nationwide immunisation campaign and has made remarkable progress in reducing measles deaths," said Ted Turner.

"This type of leadership and innovative partnership is what will drive a healthier future for this continent. Ghana's continued commitment to hosting regular immunisation campaigns and follow-up vaccinations has resulted in zero measles deaths in the last eight years. I commend the government and community leaders for their dedicated efforts to reach our goal of reducing measles deaths worldwide."

The board members will also participate in a discussion on the UN's efforts to expand access to affordable energy, and meet with a group of entrepreneurs who have received support from the UN Foundation and the United Nations Environment Programme to develop innovative energy technologies and products like clean cook stoves.

"Access to clean and affordable modern energy is critical to fostering lasting social and economic development and to achieving the Millennium Development Goals," said Timothy E. Wirth, President of the UN Foundation.

"Worldwide about 1.5 billion people don't have access to electricity, with one billion more people only having access to unreliable electricity networks."

The UN Foundation is working with the UN, countries like Ghana, civil society, and the private sector to help reach the goal of universal energy access by 2030.

By working together, "we can provide convenient and affordable energy that will empower communities and protect the environment", says Mr Wirth.

Created in 1998 with Ted Turner's \$1 billion gift to support UN causes and activities, the UN Foundation connects people,

ideas and resources to help the UN solve global problems. Since 1998, the UN Foundation and partners in the Measles Initiative have supported measles campaigns costing more than \$12 million and developed public-private partnerships to support UN projects in Ghana.

These efforts are carried out in close cooperation with the Ghanaian government, UN Agencies and leading Ghanaian business and non-governmental organisations.

UN Foundation Board members joining Turner, Annan and Wirth in Ghana are Gro Harlem Brundtland (Norway), Director-General Emeritus, World Health Organisation and Former Prime Minister of Norway, and Andrew Young (USA), Chairman of Good Works International and former US Ambassador to the United Nations.

The members of the Foundation's Board of Directors represent 11 nationalities.

Other Board members who couldn't travel to Ghana are Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah (Jordan), Chairperson of the Queen Rania Foundation for Education and the Jordan River Foundation; Igor Ivanov (Russia), Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation; N.R. Narayana Murthy (India), Chairman of the Board and Chief Mentor of Infosys Technologies Limited; Hisashi Owada (Japan), President of the International Court of Justice; Emma Rothschild (United Kingdom), Jeremy and Jane Knowles Professor of History, Harvard University and Director, Joint Centre for History and Economics, Harvard University; Nafis Sadik (Pakistan), Special Advisor to the UN Secretary-General; Yuan Ming (China), Director, Institute of International Relations at Peking University; and Muhammad Yunus (Bangladesh), Founder of the Grameen Bank.

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Mosaic Ghana Africa

In April 2011, **Mosaic Ghana Africa** will lead a business development, investment and cultural tour to Accra, Ghana in West Africa. The delegation will include various Oakland County, State of Michigan and other U.S. based executives of small, medium, and large U.S. firms representing a variety of business sectors.

The overall focus of the trip will be commercial, cultural and investment opportunities for Oakland County, State of Michigan and other U.S. companies, including joint ventures, presented by the continuing market liberalization and privatization underway in this country. In Ghana briefings and one-on-one business appointments will be arranged for members of the government, business and cultural delegation".

For information regarding this trip contact **248-758-1411** or email thepontiacnews@sbcglobal.net

ELECT BRENDA CARTER TO THE PONTIAC SCHOOL BOARD OUR CHILDREN COMES FIRST!

I am running for the School Board because I believe I can help make a difference. I truly believe that every child is a work of art, a brand new canvas. I believe that given the opportunity and a supportive nurturing environment that our children can accomplish anything!

There are systemic issues that are hindering the progress of our children. I want to become a proactive part of resolving them. I believe that the School District is embracing change and I want to be a part of this.

I plan to assist in this change by embracing the following platform items:

1. Economic inefficiencies and how it relates to a positive learning experience for our students.

a. Our students shouldn't be victims of economies which are in our control. We should work proactively to ensure that revenues are directed to the appropriate areas that will ensure the maximum educational experience for our children.

2. Utilizing all programs/grants/stimuli that will normalize learning programs across the district.

a. The learning experience shouldn't be influenced by the student's locality. We



Brenda Carter

should work diligently to ensure that students are afforded all learning opportunities available.

Schools should provide a safe and proactive learning experience regardless to where the child resides.

3. Incorporate the communities in all aspects of the child's learning experience

a. We should reactivate all forms of community involvement immediately. It will

take a village to educate our children. The community is a valuable resource for current state/desired state solutions.

We must listen to our children. We were once children. We can learn from them, embrace them and help them to achieve the opportunities afforded to us. The game hasn't changed. Challenges are historic. It is

how we choose to play the game that will determine if our children will be winners or losers. It is truly up to us!

For more information visit me at Brenda@electbrendacarter.com or visit my website at www.electbrendacarter.com or call 248-521-9632

Please join us for a fundraiser to support Brenda Carter on Tuesday October 26 at

BO's Brewery

51 N. Saginaw Street Pontiac, Michigan

from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Minimum donation \$20.00

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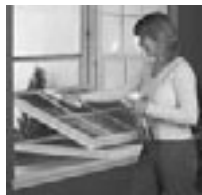


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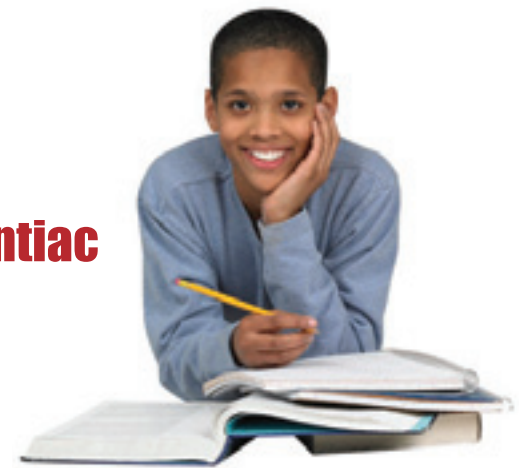
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School District of the City of Pontiac



WHAT IS TITLE 1?

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB Act) reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 and is based on four principles that provide framework through which families, educators and communities can work together to improve teaching and learning. These principles are: 1) accountability for results; 2) local control and flexibility; 3) expanded parental choice and 4) effective successful programs that reflect scientifically-based research.

Title 1 is not only designed to help close the achievement gap between disadvantaged and minority students and their peers, but also to change the culture of America's schools so that success is defined in terms of student achievement and a school district's invest in every child.

Three decades of research provide convincing evidence that parents are an important influence in helping their children achieve academic standards. When schools collaborate with parents to help their children learn and when parents participate in school activities and decision-making about their children's education, children achieve at higher levels. In short, when parents are involved in education, children do better in school and schools improve.

Now, you understand what must happen within our school community. As we lay the groundwork for tomorrow, we must all have an inclusive approach. We need each other. As our educational goals are met, we can help someone else receive the help they need. When flying, the instructions are, "In case of a loss of air pressure in the cabin, first put the mask on yourself, pull down on the strap and breath normal before helping anyone else."

Pontiac Schools must take care of itself first and regain its prominence of a "World-Class District." Won't you join me!

The "No Child Left Behind" Legislation, of course, is an unfunded mandate. Educational dollars should be more fluid and readily available to raise student achievement within the School District of the City of Pontiac and the nation. At-risk students can learn and can succeed if given preferred opportunities.

As your Superintendent of Schools, I want you to demand preferred opportunities and join me as a partner. I am expecting all parents to become involved in their child's education.

Yes, parents are welcome in ALL of our schools. Please know that the Pontiac Board of Education has set parental involvement as a high priority. It is only a written priority if we don't have your hands working, your feet walking and your mouth talking about the unlimited learning possibilities that must be afforded our students. Yes, expectations have been placed on the parents and citizens of this community.

Please join the Title 1 Parent Group at your child's school. We want our parents to be informed, engaged and excited about our schools and our Title 1 Programs. The challenges I have for the parents of our District are:

- To make a choice to make a difference;
- To connect and give ten (10) hours a month of your time to your child's school;
- To support our schools and show our students you care; and
- To become a partner in your child's education in order for the Pontiac School District to succeed.

To join us as a partner, please call the Office of Strategic Reform at (248) 451-6852.

The achievement of our children must be our first priority! As we embark upon the implementation of Phase 1 of the "Transformation and Reformation" of the School District of the City of Pontiac, let's come together as a TEAM (Together, Everyone Achieves More).



PARENT PARTNERS' EDUCATIONAL POINTERS

Preparing Your Child For Testing

- Mark test dates on your home calendar and schedule appointments on non-testing days;
- Encourage your child to take responsibility for homework and class study;
- Help your child learn how to find information independently;
- Praise your child for work that is well done;
- Encourage your child to ask questions in class and at home;
- Get to know your child's teachers;
- Attend parent-teacher conferences;
- Confer with teachers on a regular basis for progress reports;
- Gather available test preparation materials in advance of tests; and
- Ensure that your child knows that you value a good education.

Test-Taking Tips for Parents & Guardians to Help A Student

- See that your child is well rested and eats breakfast;
- See that your child arrives at school on time and is relaxed;
- Encourage your child to do the best work possible;
- Do not send your child to school if illness is apparent; and
- Do not remove your child from school on test days for appointments.

Proven Research for Parental Involvement

Decades of research show that when parents are involved:

- student have higher grades and test scores
- students have better school attendance
- students also have fewer instances of violent behavior

TUTORIAL SERVICES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

High School Students Offered Tutorial Services

This school year, the School District of the City of Pontiac will provide the opportunity for parents to select and receive supplementary educational services (SES) according to the "No Child Left Behind" non-regulatory guidance specifications.

We are proud of the Pontiac High School for making AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) as designated by the State of Michigan. This is the first time this has ever happened within a decade. What an achievement! However, there is more work to be done.



PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE SUPPLEMENTARY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (SES) FAIR ON **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2010, 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM AND 3:30 P.M. – 6:30 PM**, AT PONTIAC HIGH SCHOOL, DURING PARENT - TEACHER CONFERENCE,

TUTORIAL SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE FOR ANY PONTIAC STUDENT THAT IS OF HIGH SCHOOL AGE AND IS CURRENTLY ATTENDING PONTIAC SCHOOLS AND RECEIVING FREE AND REDUCED SCHOOL LUNCH.

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— Educational Matters —

Evaluating Teacher Effectiveness

How Teacher Performance Assessments Can Measure and Improve Teaching

Improving teacher quality is one of the most direct and promising strategies for improving public education outcomes in the United States.

By Linda Darling-Hammond

Cultivating Effective Teachers

Parents, practitioners, and policymakers agree that the key to improving public education in America is placing highly skilled and effective teachers in all classrooms. Yet the nation still lacks a practical set of standards and assessments that can guarantee that teachers, particularly new teachers, are well prepared and ready to teach.

This report discusses a promising approach to the question of how to measure teacher effectiveness. Specifically, it describes the ways in which assessments of teacher performance for licensing and certification can both reflect and predict teachers' success with children so that they can not only inform personnel decisions, but also leverage improvements in preparation, mentoring, and professional development. It outlines progress in the field of teacher assessment development and discusses policies that could create much greater leverage on the quality of teacher preparation and teaching than has previously existed in the United States.

For more than two decades, policymakers have undertaken many and varied reforms to improve schools, ranging from new standards and tests to redesigned schools, new curricula and new governance models. One important lesson from these efforts is the repeated finding that teachers are the fulcrum determining whether any school initiative tips toward success or failure. Every aspect of school reform depends on highly skilled teachers for its success. This is especially true as educational standards rise and the diversity of the student body increases. Teachers need even more sophisticated abilities to teach more complex curriculum to the growing number of public school students

who have fewer educational resources at home, those who are new English language learners, and those who have distinctive learning needs.

One of the few areas of consensus among education policymakers, practitioners, and the general public today is that improving teacher quality is one of the most direct and promising strategies for improving public education outcomes in the United States, especially for groups of children who have historically been taught by the least qualified teachers. Teachers can have large effects on student achievement, as suggested by a recent large-scale study in North Carolina, which found that the differences in achievement gains for students who had the most qualified teachers versus those who had the least qualified were greater than the influences of race and parent education combined. These very large differences were associated with teachers' initial preparation for teaching, licensing in the field taught, strength of academic background, level of experience, and demonstration of skills through National Board Certification, all of which are variables that could be directly addressed through policy.

Unlike most high-achieving nations, however, the United States has not yet developed a national system of supports and incentives to ensure that all teachers are well prepared and ready to teach all students effectively when they enter the profession. Nor is there a set of widely available methods to support the evaluation and ongoing development of teacher effectiveness throughout the career, along with decisions about entry and continuation in the profession. Meeting the expectation that all students will learn to high standards will require a transformation in the ways in which our education system attracts, prepares,

supports, and develops expert teachers who can teach in more powerful ways—a transformation that depends in part on the ways in which these abilities are understood and assessed.

In recent years, there has been growing interest in moving beyond traditional measures of teacher qualifications, such as completion of a preparation program, number of degrees, or years of experience, in order to evaluate teachers' actual performance as the basis for making decisions about hiring, tenure, licensing, compensation, and selection for leadership roles. A key problem is that current measures for evaluating teachers are not often linked to their capacity to teach. Existing federal, state, and local policies for defining and measuring teacher quality either rely almost exclusively on classroom observations by principals who differentiate little among teachers and offer little useful feedback, or focus on teachers' course-taking records and on paper-and-pencil tests of basic academic skills and subject matter knowledge that are poor predictors of later effectiveness in the classroom.

Looking ahead to the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the No Child Left Behind Commission called for moving beyond the designation of teachers as "highly qualified" to an assessment of teachers as "highly effective" based on student learning evidence. Other recent federal proposals—for example, the Teacher Excellence for All Children Act—have suggested incentive pay to attract effective teachers to high-need schools and to pay them additional stipends to serve as mentors or master teachers. The questions are now squarely on the table: "How should we measure teacher effectiveness?" And how can we develop more effective teachers

much more consistently, rather than leaving teacher effectiveness to chance?

This report describes progress currently underway to achieve a system of reliable, valid, and nationally available performance assessments—from a teacher's point of entry through the development of accomplished teaching. Such a system would create a more useful and more common standard for the profession, just as national assessments do in fields such as nursing, engineering, accounting, medicine, and other skilled professions. A system of performance assessments could also leverage improvements in practice and professional learning opportunities.

As this paper details, some states have already begun to develop and implement standardized assessments of teacher performance that more accurately gauge the classroom effectiveness of beginning teachers, and a group of 20 states has joined together to build on these efforts to create a common tool for assessing novices.

In addition, most states now recognize the National Board Certification program, which identifies veteran accomplished teachers who are more effective in developing student learning. The best practices from these initiatives can support a continuum across the teaching career for identifying and supporting stronger teaching and making more grounded personnel decisions based on a common, comprehensive set of standards that can be adopted nationwide to ensure that only the most well-prepared and effective teachers are instructing our public schools students. In addition to raising the bar for teacher preparation and professional development, nationally available performance assessments at the points of the initial license, the professional license—usually about three years into the profession, just prior to tenure—and advanced certification could reflect the greater commonality in student expectations reflected in the so-called Common Core standards already adopted in more than 30 states. Such a system could also solve some of the problems created by the current Byzantine set of different licensing requirements across the 50 states and help create a national teacher labor market that supports mobility from states with surpluses to those with shortages while enhancing teacher quality.

A reliable and valid system of performance assessments based on common standards would provide consistency in gauging teacher effectiveness, help track educational progress, flag areas of need, and anchor a continuum of performance throughout a teaching career. Such a system could also be used to establish standards for a National Teacher License that would allow mobility across states, ensure school districts that a new hire meets the requirements necessary to become an effective teacher who can advance student learning, and enable districts to identify and recruit the most able teachers to the most needy schools.

Linda Darling-Hammond is currently Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education at Stanford University.

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List of Board of Education Qualification

LISTING OF OPTIMAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS: These are optimal qualifications, for board members to be the best that they can be; these are not minimum qualifications. No candidate will measure high on all of them, and none are really easy to assess.

OPTIMAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR SELECTING/ENDORING CANDIDATES FOR THE PONTIAC BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. EXPERIENCE

1. Has a demonstrated dedication to the social, academic and character development of young people, and a thorough provable understanding of childhood development.
2. Has the education and/or practical experience needed to understand the financial possibilities and limitations of a large organization or school system.
3. Has a demonstrated ability to work as a consensus builder and team player.
4. Has demonstrated leadership qualities, based upon past experience and achievements.

B. ETHICS

1. Has a demonstrated willingness to elevate the ethical code of the district well above usual political and public office standards, to abide by that code, and to hold his/her fellow board members to those elevated standards.
2. Has a clear understanding of the proper Board role in the award of district contracts.
3. Has a clear understanding of the ethical pitfalls of soliciting or accepting political contributions and personal favors from district vendors.
4. Has no misconduct record which would discredit the Board.

C. ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Has a clear understanding that nearly all Board work should be done by crafting written policies and not by hands-on intervention.
2. Has the time and is ready to put aside personal career opportunities and family time to attend to school district needs.
3. Has a demonstrated willingness to be trained in best practices for school board members.
4. Has a clear understanding of the best practices for selecting a district superintendent & for reviewing her/his performance.

D. ADVOCACY

1. Is willing to serve on the board for more than one term.
2. Has a demonstrated commitment to public education vs. a preference for private education. If he/she has children, has been committed to educating them within the public schools.
3. Has a demonstrated concern for civic leadership and community improvement, such as, has served on the boards of directors of non-profit, parenting coalition, or other community service organizations. These past contacts and work will provide a significant springboard for future advocacy.
4. Clearly knows what a Board member must do to engage the community in support of the schools and parents in the successful education of their children.
5. Has a clear vision of where the district should be and of the costs and processes for getting it there.

E. FOCUS ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

1. Has a clear understanding of:
 - a. the proper role of the Board in evolving a vision and strategic plan for the district.
 - b. how to improve the school learning climate, student attendance, and discipline in order to elevate student achievement.
 - c. the limits of paper-and-pencil testing as a sure measure of student achievement.

F. PROPER ROLES OF THE BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

1. Has a clear understanding of the proper roles for the Board and Superintendent for:
 - a. assuring the safety of students and staff.
 - b. selecting teachers, principals and division directors.
 - c. how to respond to a parent's complaint of unfair student treatment.
 - d. the collective bargaining process.
 - e. textbook selection and curricula development.
 - f. right-sizing and capital improvement of schools.

Before you vote ABILITY TO LEAD – QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Ability to supervise: how would you rate the Trustee's ability to organize, plan and lead?

Parental Service: does this Trustee have a warm and sociable attitude towards parents?

Personal Appearance: what impression does your Trustee's personal appearance make?

Personality Characteristics: how would you rate their ability to get along with others?

Growth Potential: does this Trustee have the ability to teach and lead others? Are they able to learn and adapt quickly?

Safety & Office Appearance: does this Trustee demonstrate an ability to follow the rules?

Stability, Personality: how stable is this Trustee? How do they deal with pressure? How confident do they appear? How would they describe their predominant mood?

Attitude: how willing is this Trustee to carry out instructions and cooperate with you and fellow parents? Are they a team player? Do you observe passive resistance or blatant argumentative tendencies?

Ability to change: is this Trustee able to adapt to changing conditions and learn quickly?

Initiative: to what degree does this Trustee think constructively and take appropriate action? Are they fair and balanced in decision making?

Dependability: how much does this Trustee work conscientiously and in line with instructions?

Quantity of work: is there a satisfactory amount of output? Do they over promise or under deliver? Are they slow or do they work hard and turn out more work than required?

Job Knowledge: to what level do they understand all phases of work? Do they excel at the job or do they lack knowledge in the job or certain areas?

Quality of work: is there a consistent level of performance in meeting or exceeding quality standards?

Regards,
Michael R. Napper'e, P.E.
mnappere@att.net
mnappere_kccf@yahoo.com



Ask Elaine.com

By Elaine Smith-Wright

Mrs. Smith-Wright started out as a Mass Communications major at Oakland University and now holds a B.A. degree in Nursing Home Administration and the Certificate of Gerontology and Sociology of the Aging from Wiley College along with a MBA Degree from East Texas Baptist University in Management. She also holds a Certificate in Filmmaking, Screenwriting and Directing from the Motion Picture Institute of Michigan.

Dear Ask Elaine:

The holidays are coming up and I am already beginning to show signs of anxiety. Five years ago my husband and I bought our first home and in celebration we decided to throw a family feast for Thanksgiving instead of a house warming. We were then asked to allow our family to have Christmas dinner at our house as well. That would lead us to having a New Year's Day dinner, Easter dinner, Mother's Day dinner, Father's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day festivities and it has continued every year since the first one. My family actually expects me to have these holidays at my house! When ever I suggest we move the festivities to someone else's house the next time an event comes up, my suggestion is always shot down with a slew of reasons and excuses as to why my house and yard is the biggest and can accommodate the most people and how convenient it would be for everyone to just bring something. Don't get me wrong, I love my family dearly and we always have a wonderful time. But my problem is that for once I would just love to make a dish and transport it over to somebody's house, eat there and leave and go home like everyone else is doing right now. I always have to have my house and carpets cleaned before and after each event, prepare all of the meat, make sure the house has the decorations for the event and ask others to help clean up. I know my husband and I are out far more than anyone else and frankly I'm sick of it always being us. I don't want to tell them that we aren't going to do it anymore because I don't want my family to be upset with me about it. I'm between a rock and a hard place. What can I do?

**Signed,
Stuck In The Middle**

Dear Stuck In The Middle:

I'd hate to be in your shoes. I know how you enjoy pleasing your family and seeing everyone enjoying your home and appreciating all of the hard work you put into making sure that it is a lovely atmosphere and plenty of food and fun for everyone. But being stressed out in the process is no place for you to be either because it's not good for your well being. So what to do? I would write a letter explaining to the family, siblings and friends that sponsoring such events all through the year has become a bit too much for you and your husband now that you are getting up in years. (Playing the aging card is always a good play! People have sympathy for others who are getting older.) Explain how it would really be a great help if everyone would just take part in helping to make the holidays ones that are memorable just as you did for the last five years. Lay it on thick! The more you stress how much work and expense has been donated to making the rest of the family comfortable for the last few years, the less stressed out you'll be when your loving family steps up to the plate to help out. Make out a schedule of events for the year and find one or two occasions that you don't mind putting on at your place and leave a blank line beside the ones that you think someone else should have at their place. Let them know that they can make the events just as great and enjoyable as you always have and that this is their opportunity to display their creative talents. Don't forget to offer any assistance that they will need such as your old decorations, menus and etc. and I'm sure everything will work out just fine for everyone. Good Luck!

You can write to Ask Elaine.Com at: ThePontiacNews@sbcglobal.net

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— Sports —

Pontiac Jr. Huskies Wrestling

Pontiac Jr. Huskies Wrestling Practice Begins November 10, 2010. Come out and join the best youth wrestling club in the State of Michigan.

Our Resume of Jr. Huskies/High School All-State Wrestlers:

Jr. Huskies Class of 1980-1986

- Tyrone Logan, Pontiac Northern *State Champion
- Adam Polk, Pontiac Northern *All-State Honorable Mention
- Tarrent Moore, Pontiac Northern *All-State Honorable Mention
- Dequan Dinkins, Pontiac Northern *All-State

Jr. Huskies Class of 2000-2009

- Dequan Warner, Dekalb High-Georgia *2x State Champion
- Terrell Warner, Dekalb High-Georgia* All-State
- Kirhy Williams, Pontiac Northern* All-State
- Deon'dre Polk, Pontiac High* All State
- Willie Stewart, Lake Orion* All State
- Esteban Gonzalez, Holly* All State
- Anthony Gonzalez, Holly, State Champion
- Jalen McCoy, Highland Park* All State Honorable Mention

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Practice Orientation Begins: Wednesday November 10, 2010

Subject: Review Hand Book to all Parents and Wrestlers

Place: Pontiac High (Bill Willson's Wrestling Room)

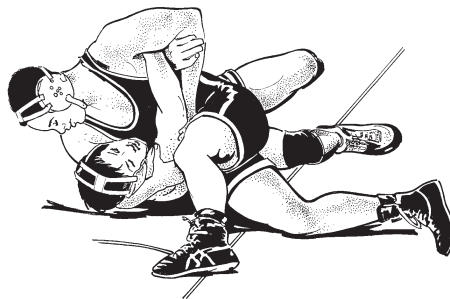
Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Practice Schedule: 3 times a week (Accordance to Athletic Functions)

Cost: Free

Attire: Wrestling shoes, head gear, t-shirt and shorts.

(No Outside Gym Shoes Will Be Allowed On the Wrestling Mat)



Contact Information

Adam Polk, Manager

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Email: adamdp71@aol.com



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— Women Issues —

Women's Commission October presentation focuses on Personal Protection Orders at the October 28th Meeting

Recognizing the importance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Women's Commission for Oakland County will welcome noted jurist Hon. Fred M. Mester at its October meeting.

Judge Mester served in the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court of Michigan in Oakland County from 1982 to 2008. He is also an adjunct professor for Oakland University, Madonna University and Oakland Community College. He currently hears all Personal Protection Order proceedings for Oakland County.

Judge Mester has received many awards, including the Earl. W. Kintner Award, the John N. O'Brien Memorial Award for Distinguished Community Activities, and a NAACP Humanitarian Award. He is active in many social service organizations, including

HAVEN, and founded the program, "Reading to Reduce Recidivism," which aims to improve the literacy of criminal offenders.

In addition to Judge Mester's presentation, the Women's Commission will hold its regular business meeting. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Time is set aside for public comment.

The Women's Commission will meet at 4 p.m. on Thursday, October 28, 2010, in the Commissioner's Auditorium, Oakland County Government Center, 1200 North Telegraph Road, Pontiac. For information about the Women's Commission, visit <http://www.oakgov.com/boc/> or call The Women's Commission Chair Laurie Renchik at 248-948-7900.

The 9th Annual Oakland County Bid & Brunch

9th Annual Bid and Brunch was held on October 20, 2010 in Southfield, Michigan at the Southfield Pavillion where over 100 participants learned about business diversification and exporting opportunities. This event was sponsored by the Oakland County, the Southern Oakland County NAACP and supported by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. For more information about the Oakland County Business Center Services, call 248-975-9555.



Pictured left to right: Oakland County Commissioner Jim Nash, Oakland County Business Center Director Lola Are', Bid & Brunch Panelist President/CEO OF MWP Industries Moses Olaniran of Pontiac, Commissioner Mattie McKinney Hatchett and Oakland County Commissioner Eric Coleman

— Political Stuff —

PETERS RECEIVES PERFECT GRADE ON VETERANS ISSUES

Only 20 lawmakers received an A+ from the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America Action Fund

Representative Gary Peters was recognized by the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America Action Fund today for his perfect record on supporting veterans from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. There were only twenty lawmakers who received a perfect grade.

"We are all indebted to the men and women who serve in uniform, beyond what we can ever hope to repay," said Rep. Peters. "I will continue to fight to get our troops the equipment and supplies they need, and also ensure that veterans coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan have access to the health care and educational opportunities they have earned."

Peters successfully helped secure steady funding for veterans health care that gives VA hospitals and doctors certainty in treating their patients, regardless of whether Washington passes a budget on time. He is also pushing VA Secretary Shinseki to

address the unconscionable backlog of veteran benefit claims and to do more to report statistics on Traumatic Brain Injury so that the medical community can better understand the affliction, which has become more prevalent during the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Peters supported legislation that will give the 1.8 million women veterans in our country better access to the health care and expand new GI Bill college benefits to all children of fallen troops since 9/11. Peters helped pass legislation that gives businesses an expanded tax credit for hiring unemployed veterans and provides troops in Iraq and Afghanistan with better equipment, including Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles proven to save lives.

Gary Peters served as a Lieutenant Commander and Seabee Combat Warfare Specialist in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

Scholarship Dinner Ball at the St. George Cultural Center

The Rising Star Social Club of Queen of Sheba Chapter 15, Order of Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliation, Jurisdiction of Michigan will be hosting their annual Scholarship Dinner Ball Saturday, November 6, 2010 at the St. George Cultural Center 43816 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, MI. - Tickets can be purchased from any member of Queen of Sheba for a donation of \$35. Call 248-332-5866 for your ticket!

Programs & Service for 2010

- Scholarships to area high school students
- Blanket Drive donations to Haiti and Grace Center of Hope
- March Reading Project at Jefferson/Whittier Elementary School
- Adopt-A-Family for Thanksgiving and Christmas
- Feed the Homeless Project with Newman A.M.E. Church
- Personal Care Items donated to New Bethel Shelter, Life Skills of Pontiac and Grace Center of Hope
- Donated school backpacks filled with supplies to Rogers Elementary School
- Women in the Bible Study Series

This year Queen of Sheba will be awarding 12 students with scholarships and book awards. The awards will go to: Kiarra Tullis, Myeka Naylor, Desiree Goldsmith, Danielle Bates, Jasmine Jackson, Shatoria Townsend, Nayrily Arroyo, Shuntel Chaumley-Hawkins, Donte Graham, Paris McFadden, Brent Roberts and Damian Short.



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The Best Corned Beef Sandwiches this side of the Bronx!
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–Community Calendar–

**The Palace of Auburn Hills
COMING EVENTS
CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS:**

Upcoming event highlights include:

October 22 - Pistons vs. Memphis Grizzlies
(preseason)

October 24 - Roger Waters: The Wall Live

October 29 - Regular Season Home Opener,
Pistons v. Oklahoma City Thunder

October 30 - Pro Boxing at The Palace

November 2 - Pistons v. Boston Celtics

November 5 - Pistons v. Charlotte Bobcats

November 6 - Disney Live! presents Mickey's
Magic Show, two shows

**For a complete calendar of events for The
Palace of Auburn Hills:**

[http://www.palacenet.com/files/media/PLComing
Events102010.doc](http://www.palacenet.com/files/media/PLComingEvents102010.doc)

Marketing Department, Palace of Auburn Hills
Phone: 248.377.8221 • Fax: 248.377.0543

**Oakland County Seniors,
it is time to get your affairs in order!**

The Estate Planning Clinic is currently accepting applications from Oakland County residents age 60 and over, with an estate valued at a maximum of \$150,000 if single, not including primary residence, and \$250,000 if married, not including primary residence.

The Estate Planning Clinic is a collaboration between Lakeshore Legal Aid and Thomas M. Cooley Law School. The Estate Planning Clinic is a teaching clinic staffed by law students. The students are supervised by attorneys and are authorized to practice law with supervision. The students interview and counsel clients, draft wills, durable powers of attorney and powers of attorney for health care at no charge to the client.

***Please call to determine eligibility and
to schedule an appointment.***

Location: Thomas M. Cooley Law School, Auburn Hills Campus
2630 Featherstone Road - Auburn Hills, Michigan 48326
(248) 335-0125/ epc@cooley.edu
Lindsay E. Citrin - Staff Attorney

Estate Planning Clinic
2630 Featherstone - Auburn Hills, MI 48326
Voice: (248) 751-7800, ext. 7724 - Fax: (248) 751-7875
citrinl@cooley.edu

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Oakland County Employment Diversity Council



Presents

THE 9TH ANNUAL WORKPLACE DIVERSITY FORUM **Women in Leadership Summit**

“Advancement for Women in Challenging Times.”

Friday, October 29, 2010 - 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The Metropolitan Hotel - 5500 Crooks Road - Troy, Michigan 48098



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER
DENISE ILITCH**

Vice Chair of U of M Board of Regents
Owner and Publisher of Ambassador Magazine



**MODERATOR:
JULIETTE THORPE OKOTIE-EBOH, PH.D.**
Senior VP of Public Affairs for MGM Grand - Detroit

Panelist:

**Diverse Panel of Women from
Government, Education & Leading Industries**

Panel Discussion Topics and Learning Objectives:

- To understand the barriers that contribute to the lack of women in leadership roles
- To increase awareness of the vital contributions women make to leadership
- Share best strategies used by successful women
- Share best practices and lessons from progressive companies
- Create long-term strategies that increase representation of women in leadership roles

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Sponsorship opportunities are available for this event!

Call or Email Frank Russell at (248) 858-5204

russellf@ocado.net today for details!

****Event Chairperson Kiesha Speech speechk@ocado.net****

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