

Tue, 15 Feb, 2011

Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022 - (269) 926-4241

Benton Spirit

Community Newspaper

Informing, Enhancing, Showcasing, Promoting and Educating Southwest Michigan and Northern Indiana

NEWS	JOB	EVENTS	SIGN UP FOR FREE SPIRIT	CONTACT US
------	-----	--------	-------------------------	------------

SPECIAL: REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

COLUMNISTS



Columnist of the Week
Big Momma's Column

FEATURES



- Submit Event
- Letters to Editor
- Photo of the Week
- Crossword
- Sudoku
- Quote of Week
- Poetry Corner

Welcome to the *Benton Spirit*: **COMMUNITY PAGE**

REGIONAL PLANNERS HONOR YEMI AKINWALE

Benton Spirit • February 10, 2011

The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission has selected Yemi Akinwale as the 2010 Welch-Lackey Leadership Award recipient.

At the February 1, 2011 meeting of the SWMPC, held at Southwestern Michigan College, Chair Linda Preston honored Yemi Akinwale with the Welch-Lackey Leadership Award.

In announcing the award, John Egelhaaf, SWMPC Executive Director, commented, "There is no finer ambassador for the SWMPC across the region than Mr. Akinwale."

Akinwale, City of Hartford Manager, has served the SWMPC since 2000 as Berrien County Citizen Representative, joining the Administration Committee in 2001.

Alternate Treasurer for nine years, he has provided vital input to the Financial Management Policies and Procedures Committee.

In addition to Akinwale's work with the SWMPC, he served as a critical member of the four-jurisdiction effort for joint planning along the I-94 corridor and assisted the involvement of Partnerships for Change and the SWMPC in the corridor development effort. Currently, he is helping to navigate a Hartford

City/Township Joint Master Plan process.

The Community Hospital/Lakeland Foundation Board includes Akinwale as member. The Area Agency on Aging and Van Buren County Red Cross also benefit from his involvement.

The SWMPC is the regional planning agency for Berrien, Cass and Van Buren Counties and presents the Welch-Lackey Leadership Award each year in honor of former Commissioners George A. Welch and William F. Lackey. These men served the Commission in times of great personal difficulties, yet continued throughout to represent the spirit of public service and to further the goals of intergovernmental cooperation. Their contribution to the communities they served embodies the leadership qualities essential to the preservation of our citizen form of government.

— *Benton Spirit*

Share

Like

Submit Your Opinion

Stories of the Week

Front Page

- Happy Birthday Benton Spirit Celebrating Nine Years!
- A Special Valentine's Message To My Wife on Valentines Day:
- FREE Program on The Underground Railroad in Southwest Michigan
- Niles NAACP Guest Speaker, Brenda Walker Beadenkopf - Feb. 15
- February 3, 2011 Edition of the Benton Spirit Newspaper
- NOMINATE YOUR "LOCAL" WOMAN
- SW Michigan Transit Bid Opening: February 1
- NOTICE OF NOMINATING PETITION DEADLINE: 2011 School Board Election

Business

- What's On Your Horizon
- City of Benton Harbor News
- Message from Mayor Wilce L. Cooke:

Community

- REGIONAL PLANNERS HONOR YEMI AKINWALE
- AEP Salutes Black History Month
- Win a NEW Stove to Support FReach One! each One! Too!
- Great Start Hosts Training on the 40 Development Assets
- Invest In Our Youth!

Education

- LMC to Hold Free 5-Week Workshop for Adults
- Additions to Energy Production Technology Program Approved by LMC
- LEGAL NOTICE: Open Enrollment

Entertainment

- 2011 Jazz Night - Feb. 26
- Valentine's BASH

Government

- Proos: Michigan cannot afford unnecessary ergonomics regulations
- Pscholka officially sworn in

Housing

- MSHDA Celebrates Black History

Jobs: Misc.

- BARTER: InDesign Graphic Design Service for FREE Office Space

Jobs: Drivers

- DRIVERS NEEDED

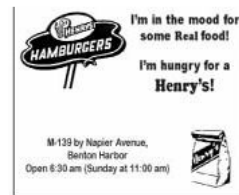
Princella Tobias

- I Rise to Discover

Black History Month

- Black History Crossword Puzzle
- Black History FIRSTS"

" target=_blank
onClick=javascript:gaq.push(['_trackPageview','AD:Facebook']);>



[Submit Obituary](#)

[Q & A](#)

PICTURE GALLERY

[Miss Benton Harbor Pageant 200 **HOT**](#)

[Crossroads Sweet Ending](#)

[Bobby Rush @ Crossroads](#)

[Princess Surprise B-Day Party](#)

[Capricorn B-Day Party!](#)

[Benton Harbor Post 410](#)

[Conyers in Benton Harbor](#)

[Film Festival](#)

ELECTION 2010

- [2010 Election](#)

SERVICES

[Coupons](#)

[Yellow Pages](#)

[Obituaries](#)

[Subscribe Today!](#)

REAL ESTATE

[Property](#)

ADVERTISE

[Benton Spirit Advertisement](#)

ABOUT US

[Terms](#)

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

[Black History Month](#)

[2010 Black History](#)

[Black Publishing Legends](#)

[Through the Eyes of Our Youth](#)

SEARCH ARCHIVES

[Search Archives](#)

["I Have a Dream Speech"](#)

© Copyright Benton Spirit Community Newspaper. All rights reserved.

{ powered by [bulletlink.com](#) }