

CITY OF TOLEDO

CARLETON S. FINKBEINER
MAYOR



July 12, 2009

Good Friend(s),

I will begin by re-stating what I have expressed many times previously. "It has been an honor and privilege to serve the citizens of Toledo eight years as a Councilman, two years as Vice Mayor and twelve years as your Mayor."

During each of these 22 years, I have felt both blessed and grateful to have such an opportunity to serve my fellow citizens. And, I have never, ever put that service second to any other call – at times much to the frustration of my family. This past week, for example, as Finkbeiners from California, Arizona, New Jersey, New York and Ohio gathered in Hyannis Port, Massachusetts for a once a decade reunion, Amy and I remained in Toledo to work upon the contract with the Toledo Police Patrolmen and the independent investigation of the fire in the Westmoreland Neighborhood. I did, however, talk with my brothers and cousins, nieces and nephews by phone long distance every night of the week. They understood!

When I was considering running for Mayor during the Christmas holidays of 2004, my daughters, their husbands and my wife, all questioned my motivation. In March of that same year I had quadruple heart by-pass surgery. I felt terrific, but my family wanted no part of another Mayoral term. We reached no conclusion that December 2004, but I made one promise to them – "If I run - and win, I'll serve but only one term."

I have been asked to reconsider this promise – but none of those persons are family members.

Toledoans, we have a dynamic community. The entire world, including Toledo, is in an economic malaise. We are in transition from an industrial driven economy to a knowledge-based, information era. We shall survive – but we must put an even greater emphasis on education and learning.

Toledo is making that transition thanks to our universities and colleges, plus our wonderful position as one of the most advanced alternative energy centers in the country. Due to the inspired work of the late Harold McMaster we are the solar capital of the nation and we must work diligently to keep that ranking.

Our Art Museum places us in the vanguard of cities our size in the cultural arts, thanks to the generosity and vision of Edmund Drummond Libbey and his wife.

And the abundant, low cost water of the Great Lakes will bring both population and prosperity back to Ohio and Michigan in the years ahead.

Team Toledo

One Government Center • Suite 2200 • Toledo, Ohio 43604 U.S.A. • Phone 419/245-1001 • Fax 419/245-1370



However, without a positive mental attitude, individuals and communities never reach their full potential. There is ample room for improvement in our self-confidence, and our positive vision of Toledo's full potential.

Toledo must be willing to take a few risks – and support risk-takers, like Michael Owens and Harold McMaster. The world is home to the teeming masses, but is uplifted by the visionary risk-takers. I urge Toledoans and elected officials to remember that.

To my friends, supporters, and citizens/voters, a very heartfelt, "Thank You." Over 35 years, we have been spiritually and mentally "joined at the hip," and your faith has been deeply appreciated.

To my critics, I quote the revered Abe Lincoln:

"I care nothing about clamors, Sir. I do precisely what I think is right."

Or the defining words of Theodore Roosevelt:

"It is not the critic who counts; nor the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcomings; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

And I would proudly remind each of you that our three Mayoral terms included:

- The new Jeep plants
- Owens Corning World Headquarters
- Dana Commercial Credit Corporation, now home to ProMedica
- Significant additions to Toledo Hospital and St. Vincent Medical Center
- The Docks - and a revitalized International Park
- Fifth/Third Field
- Buckeye Basin Greenbelt Parkway
- A new State Correctional Facility, and 450 new jobs
- The Marina District
- A revitalized and once empty Commodore Perry, Hillcrest Hotel, Toledo Trust Building, LaSalle Building and One Lake Erie Center
- A new Veterans' Glass City Skyway Bridge
- A rebuilt M. L. King Bridge
- Began restoration of Fiberglas Tower
- The return of COSI (Imagination Station)
- The retention of HCR ManorCare
- The transition of Health Care REIT to the Dana Complex
- The relocation of Fifth/Third Bank to One SeaGate Center
- Expanded regionalism by:
 - Extending water service to all of Lucas and Fulton Counties
 - Added four Joint Economic Development Zones
 - Supported the merger of Toledo-Lucas County Health Departments

- A razed Southwyck Mall and improved Reynolds Road
- A Railroad Intermodal in South Toledo
- A census gain of 17,600 citizens
- A paving of 40 street miles annually
- The nurturing of flowers throughout Toledo
- A reduction in crime of 18% through the years 2006 – early 2009
- A cost cutting of \$50 million from the City budget during the last two years
- All-America City Award, 1998, and All-America City Finalist 2000 and 2009
- Top 10 City of the Future, 2007/2008, fDi Magazine-April 2007
- Most Business Friendly City, 2007/2008, fDi Magazine-April 2007
- Most Livable City, 2008, Third Place, United Nations
- During my 11½ years as Mayor, we created 19,403 jobs, retained 26,185 jobs and \$3.86 billion dollars in new capital investment took place.

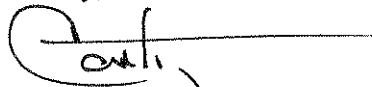
Toledoans, I thank you from the bottom of both Amy's and my hearts for the opportunity to serve you. It was a dream, back in 1993 when I was first elected Mayor, and I shall always be grateful to you and the Almighty for this gift.

While I have not yet finished the race, I continue to retain my passion for Toledo, and I always will!

Now I will keep that promise to my loved ones - and myself. I shall not run for Mayor this Fall.

God Bless each of you – and may God always bless a city called TOLEDO.

Proudly, from Toledo -



Carty Finkbeiner
Mayor