



Local and National News

www.thetruthtoledo.com

Volume 17, No.13 "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..." January 27, 2010



## A Top Toledoan Rev. Donald L. Perryman

Pastor of Center of Hope Baptist Church on Dorr Street, Rev. D.L. Perryman is another Toledoan with a plate full of activities and responsibilities.

He is president of the United Pastors for Social Empowerment; he and his daughter, Tracee Perryman Stewart run the Children's Defense Fund Freedom School—the sponsoring organization for several summertime reading programs and he served on the oversight committee established by the Lucas County Board of Commissioners that was tasked with ensuring that the construction of the Lucas County Arena was completed by a diverse work force. The work force, in fact, came in with just under 15 percent participation by minority sub-contractors—almost reaching the goal set by the commissioners and well above most public works projects recently, such as the Toledo Public Schools school building projects.

Perryman and his family have a hat shop in the downtown area called The Preacher's Wife, which deals in upscale women's hats and accessories.

He was appointed to Mayor Mike Bell's Transition Team after the election, one of several boards he serves on. As with Rev. Brock, one will often find Perryman manning the barricades to speak out against social injustice.

And in the wee small hours of the morning, when the whole wide world is fast asleep, Perryman finds the time to write a weekly column for The Truth.

We kinda figured... if you want something done, ask a busy man.



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## If We Must Die

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.



*If we must die, let it not be like hogs Hunted and penned in an inglorious spot, While round us bark the mad and hungry dogs, Making their mock at our accursed lot. If we must die, O let us nobly die,..... Pressed to the wall, dying, but fighting back!* -**Claude McKay (1919)**

Crisis has a way of testing us, for character cannot be hid in an exigency or emergency but will always tell us something about the type of individual, community or society we are. Yet, that principle itself rests upon another truth which armchair quarterbacks and/or castigating pundits usually miss, which is that there should result from the crisis thrust upon us, lessons which we perhaps could not and would not have learned except for the experience of the immediate urgency. If allowed to be instructive, these lessons place a "stamp upon our nature" and become more lasting than the original drama from which they sprang.

The police and autopsy reports from the fatal shooting of mentally ill 62 year old Linda Hicks by police, were released following a firearms review board hearing last week, according to The Blade. Predictably, the board ruled that the shooting was justified, concluding that the police officer acted in self-defense. Earlier, a Lucas County grand jury declined to indict the officer, Diane Chandler, on a charge of murder with a gun specification.

If we are ever to get beyond the lambastic F### -The-Police rhetoric of the black community, the racist and patriarchal projection of blame upon the local Mental Health board leadership, the dysfunctional denial of the police department and an overly-critical but predictable and unimaginative public, then we need to refocus the energy of our frustrations upon the lessons revealed by this tragedy.

The revelations are many, however a few of the painful disclosures would have to include the following:

1. YES, THERE IS A PROBLEM between the Toledo Police Department and the African-American community!

The relationship is frayed and the October 15, 2005 riot in North Toledo was more than just about Neo-Nazis or gangs. Four years later, hard feelings still exist. The return of Officer Chandler to her pre-incident assignment in the inner city is perceived as an arrogant sign of disrespect and compounds this problem.

2. Since the public did not witness the incident, there will always be questions that may never be answered.

These questions should cause us to put ourselves in the shoes of Officer Chandler but must not omit other difficult questions including the possibility of perceived self-defense and self-preservation on the part of Linda Hicks.

Recently, the Supreme Court – according to Justice John Paul Stevens, “overreached by throwing out earlier Supreme Court decisions that had not been at issue” in order to give corporations First Amendment freedom of speech rights by granting big business the extraordinary power (at the expense of the marginalized) to spend unrestrained amounts of money to support or oppose political candidates. Then certainly there exists - whether with a hand under a pillow in one’s own bedroom: “The right of people to be secure in their persons, houses and effects

(Continued on Page 3)

## Community Calendar

### January 27 & 30

Auditions Casting Call: New gospel musical play – *Solomon: Love Him – Leave Him*; St. Mark MBC: 419-450-2022 or [skyblueclai@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skyblueclai@sbcglobal.net)

### January 29

Rosary Cathedral School “Get Acquainted Event:” 9 to 10:30 am; Tour of school, reception and presentation: 419-243-4396 or [tkiatkowski@ccmcschool.org](mailto:tkiatkowski@ccmcschool.org)

### January 29-30

Monroe Street Neighborhood Center Open Registration: Expanded gym hours for youth ages 11-16; 3:30 to 5:30 pm each day; After school open gym program will have structured activities Mon-Thurs from 3:30 to 5:30 pm starting 2.08: 419-473-1167

### January 30

26<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth: “Living a Life of Service: Giving Back to Your Community;” Presented by the UT Toledo EXCEL Program; UT Student Union Auditorium; 8:30 to 1:00 pm; Reservations start Jan. 21; Keynote speaker Malaak Compton-Rock: 419-530-3820, 3823 or 3830

5<sup>th</sup> Annual Bridal Show: Noon to 5 pm; Garden Lake Banquet Hall; Open vendor displays, bridal registry, fashion show, marriage renewal, entertainment, food tasting: 419-346-5275

### January 31

Trinity Basketball Club Informational Meeting for Girls Basketball; 16U & 17U AAU basketball teams; Family Baptist Church; 4 to 6 pm; 8<sup>th</sup> grade to high school juniors and parents welcome: 567-249-4039

Youth Day at Bethesda Christian Center Cathedral: “Praising Him in 2010;” 11 am speaker is Prophetess Tiwana Alexander, youth pastor at Bethesda; 5 pm speaker is Prophetess A’ Sianique Williams: 419-944-0984

Central Catholic Gospel Choir: Concert at St. Paul MBC; 4 pm

### February 1

Teen Intimate Violence Awareness Week: Sponsored by Self Expression Teen Theater and the DELTA Project; Frederick Douglass CC; 5 pm: 419-244-2255

### February 2

Women’s Entrepreneurial Network “Getting Started” Business Seminars: “Financing and Record Keeping for Your Business;” 6:30 pm; Seymour & Assoc/Mass Mutual Training Room; Advance registration necessary: 419-536-6732 or [www.wen-usa.com](http://www.wen-usa.com)

### February 5

Getting to the Heart of My Health: Special event for women; TMA Glass Pavilion; Registration at 11:30 am; Comp lunch at noon; Keynote address, C. Noel Merz, MD: 419-251-2700

### February 6

Independent Advocates Old West End House Party: “Make Love Not Domestic Violence;” Celebrate healthy relationships with Independent Advocates; 7 pm; 2561 Glenwood: [www.iatoledo.org](http://www.iatoledo.org)

### February 13

Love and Marriage: Calling All Single Ladies Workshop; Momma Celeste Mitchell, author and relationship coach; Noon to 3 pm; RSVP before Feb 5: 419-376-2331

### February 28

Diocesan Celebration of Black History Month: “Looking Back to the Future;” St. Martin de Porres Church; 5 pm; Toledo symphony Orchestra

## Old West End Restaurant

(Corner of Delaware and Collingwood)

Soul Food Buffet (All you can eat!!)

Thursday & Friday Lunch Buffet - \$3.99 11 am to 1 pm

Saturday Lunch Buffet - \$3.99 – Noon to 2 p.m.

Sunday Buffet - \$6.99 – Noon to 6 p.m.

(Salad Bar included with all buffets)

**Soul Food Anytime**

Order in advance  
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## The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American Owned and Operated Newspaper

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# If We Must Die

(Continued from Page 2)

against unreasonable searches and seizures which shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation and particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized.”

3. It's the "same-o, same-o in Toled-o. We have been adept, poetic, creative, artistic and inspirational rhetorically voicing our frustrations but woefully impo-

with innovative solutions to recommend that might reduce the chances of this type of tragedy from being repeated in the future?

4. The call must go out for the aggressive recruitment of more black police officers.

deserve. The safety forces that come to work are thrust almost unfairly, at the epicenter of demoralized, hopeless communities created by the de-institutionalization of the mentally ill and a generation of black

6. No one wants to die horribly. In the end, all of us – black and white, police and citizens – merely want to be respected as individuals. Finally, 7. The fight for jus-

## To Those Who Have Been Blessed! NAACP Call to Action for Haiti

I appeal to your conscience and ask you to make a donation to the people of Haiti. They are without everything! There is no clean water, clothes, housing, nor food. But yet they sing in spite of their conditions and try to comfort each other.

I have watched CNN for the past six days and wondered why are people still dying in the streets? Why haven't they figured out a distribution plan? Why is medical equipment, supplies and food still sitting at the airport? I then came to the conclusion that there are no women to organize. It has been left in the hands of men. They are good at giving orders but not when it comes to organizational skills on a mass level. I know there are men saying that is not true, but women know better.

I do think we missed an opportunity, to donate, where one dollar would have made a difference and that was at the MLK celebration at The University of Toledo. If everyone had given one dollar that would have made a great statement coming from our community. I was invited to a small church in Michigan, where they collected \$1,000.00 for the people of Haiti. That's when I thought about the grand gathering at the MKL celebration.

Anyone who would like to donate, please go to NAACP website (naacp.org) and go to (4-Haiti Fund). It will tell you how to contribute online. You can give however much you can afford. To let the National NAACP know that you are from Toledo, place affiliate #3204 in the appropriate box. Our local branch and the Women of NAACP (WIN) Organization will be having ongoing donation efforts. This is not going to be a one-time campaign. We have been bountifully blessed! All we ask is that you Pass It On!!!!

WilliAnn Moore  
NAACP Toledo Unit President

## Letter to The Editor

January 22, 2010  
To the editor:

In today's economy more people are looking to squeeze every dollar out of their tax returns. Unfortunately, they find themselves in an environment in which tax filing can be confusing and difficult. What's worse, all too many tax filing services require fees and many offer Refund Anticipation Loans which strip millions in fees each year from the earned-income tax credits paid to working parents ultimately reducing the amount of their tax return. Now more than ever, people are looking for ways to get the most out of every dollar they earn. Organizations like the James C. Caldwell Community Center (JCCCC) have found a way to help using The Benefit Bank (OBB), a counselor assisted, web-based program that connects low-to-moderate income wage earners with access to tax credits and public benefits.

Clients with household incomes of less than \$57,000 can come to the JCCCC to file a tax return for free and walk out with more of their return in their pocket and more than just a tax refund.

Counselors will work with clients to get the most out of their tax-filing experience and uncover tax credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) that many eligible workers miss every year simply because they do not know they qualify, do not know how to claim the credits or do not know where to find free tax-filing assistance.

In addition, The Benefit Bank can help identify eligibility for and complete applications for public benefits such as heating assistance, prescription drug cost assistance, child care subsidies and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly Food Stamps). Each available dollar and every available public benefit can be significant in bringing individuals and families back from the brink of despair.

Sincerely,



James M. Caldwell, President/CEO  
James C. Caldwell Community Center

## The call must go out for the aggressive recruitment of more black police officers.

As the few existing African-American officers age and retire, they are being increasingly placed by those who do not look like the community they serve and who do not have the same degree of cultural competency which increases the chances for similar incidents in the future.

5. Police do not get the appreciation that they

youth barred educationally and economically from the mainstream and left with nothing but dope to sell. Our anger has to be rechanneled from the police into the initiative to collectively advocate for jobs, quality education and against policies and court decisions which place power in markets and corporations rather than in governments and citizens.

tice, dignity, respect and basic human rights is a life and death struggle. "If we must die, let us nobly die, ... fighting back", and having "stopped talking about it and started being about it!"

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min., at [ddperryman@utoledo.edu](mailto:ddperryman@utoledo.edu)

## The University of Toledo, TOLEDO EXCEL

The Joint Committee and Sponsoring Organizations

Present the

### 26th Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth

inviting (all Toledo-area 7th - 12th graders, their Parents and Community)

### "Living a Life of Service... Giving Back to Your Community"

Saturday, January 30, 2010  
8:30 a.m. (sharp) to 1:00 p.m.

at The University of Toledo, Student Union Auditorium  
Doors open at 7:30 a.m.

-----Free Admission and Lunch-----

Guest Keynote Presenter:

**Ms. Malaak Compton-Rock**  
Activist/Philanthropist

Advance reservations strongly suggested but not required:

Thursday, January 21 thru Thursday, January 28, 2010  
10 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.



Call now for your reservation!  
(419) 530-3820, 3821

Port Authority Provides Grant to City of Compassion for Solar Energy Facility

Sojourner's Truth Staff



ing the grant.

The headquarters of the City of Compassion CDC is St. James The Armory Holiness Church of God in Christ and the pastor, William James, is the board president of the CDC.

"Our vision is to reach out to the community and to provide them with the armor and the tools they need to move forward," said James.

According to James, a

than the going rates along with reducing the carbon footprint," said James.

Also at last week's announcement was Toledo Mayor Mike Bell.

"I find it so unique that a church has it figured out," said Bell. "Here is a church that understands the need for green. I am hopeful that others will take a look at their lead."

The solar facility will be a collaborative effort with the Lucas County Improvement corporation (LCICV) which will provide technical support, Hull and Associates, who will provide environmental support and Dovetail Solar & Wind providing technical support in the area of renewable energy.

The Port Authority is currently attempting to obtain a \$40 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy for the development of just such projects, said Toth. According to others within the Port Authority, if the grant is received, part of those funds could very well be earmarked for the City of Compassion project.

"Here is a church that understands the need for green. I am hopeful that others will take a look at their lead."

The Toledo Lucas County Port Authority announced last week that it has granted \$35,000 to the City of Compassion Community Development Corporation (CDC) for pre-development costs to develop a solar photovoltaic generating facility on a 16-acre site adjacent to the Xunlight Corporation. The

award comes from the Port Authority's Community Economic Development Initiative grant and loan program.

"This will help to move Toledo and northwest Ohio forward and relieve our dependence on fossil fuels," said Paul Toth, president of the Port Authority at the news conference announc-

pre-development examination was made of the 16 acres on which the church sits and wetlands were discovered. That area will be turned into an ecological museum. On other parts of the acreage, a one-megawatt solar facility is planned.

"The CDC could offer electric rates 25 percent less

Black History Month @ Main Library Celebrates the Performing Arts

The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library is proud to celebrate Black History Month in February with a family program titled, Expression of Culture through the Performing Arts scheduled from 2-4 p.m. on Saturday, February 27 in the McMaster Center at Main Library, 325 Michigan St. This lively program is free and open to the public. Please join us in celebration of the performing arts contributions of African Americans.

Scheduled performances:

- Libbey High School Jazz Ensemble
Spoken Word Performers/Poets
Clarence Smith Community Chorus
New Works Writers Series
Afro-Caribbean Dance & Drum Ensemble
Donte Moss as Gordon Parks, noted photographer and filmmaker
Belinda Morgan as Elizabeth Keckley, who was the dressmaker of Mary Todd Lincoln, wife of U.S. President Abraham Lincoln
Gallery Exhibit featuring photos, paintings & quilts
Children's crafts area
Light Refreshments

For more details, please call 419.259.5207

Advertisement for 'lifeUNEXPECTED' and 'the Vampire Diaries' on The CW. Includes text: 'lifeUNEXPECTED MON 9P following on ALL NEW ONE TREE HILL', 'the Vampire Diaries THURS 8P following by on ALL NEW SUPERNATURAL', 'WT05-TOLEDO THE CW', and 'wt05toledo.com'.

**NOBMA Announces The Top Toledoans of 2009**

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Here they are! Northwest Ohio Black Media Association's (NOBMA) first annual list of the Top Toledoans – the Top

Toledoans of 2009. They were influential, they were exciting, they got things done.

*(Continued on Page 12)*



**Wanda Butts**

Wanda Butts' 16-year-old son Josh died in a water accident in 2006 and since then Butts has set out on a mission – to tell the Toledo area and the nation that African-American children need to learn how to swim. Hence the Josh Project.

To date hundreds of students have been given free swimming lessons at the Greater Toledo Aquatic Club at St. Francis de Sales High School and Butts' mission has been reported in 2009 on such high-profile media forums as Bryant Gumbel's Real Sports and the CBS Evening News.

Butts has traveled the nation telling the story of the Josh Project to audiences from coast-to-coast such as at the Golden Goggles Awards ceremony in Beverly Hills, CA and at the April Pools Day program at Norfolk State University.

The USA Swimming Foundation created a video about the Josh Project for their Make a Splash Initiative.

Donations have kept the Josh Project afloat and once a year, Butts hosts a Soulfood Extravaganza, her major fundraising activity.

For more information on this cause, visit [www.joshproject.org](http://www.joshproject.org) or call 419-973-1383



**Mayor Mike Bell – At the Top of The Top Toledoans for 2009**

How easy a selection was this one?

At the very top of our list of Top Toledoans sits Mayor Mike Bell.

Bell, who at the start of the year was the State of Ohio Fire Marshall after an impressive 16-plus years as Toledo's Fire Chief, returned home in the spring to launch his candidacy for mayor – his first political campaign.

An immensely popular figure, Bell ran his campaign largely on his own terms: 'I'm going to bring people together to work n Toledo's issues;' 'we're going to focus on regionalism;' 'we're going to turn this thing around together.'

And, he declined to change his style. He rode his motorcycle, he walked around in his leather vests and, above all, he emphasized his integrity and his ability to work with people. Above all, he eschewed party politics and ran as an independent. It worked, all of it.

When the dust settled, the graduate of Woodward High School and The University of Toledo, former football athlete, youngest fire chief in Toledo history and the longest serving, had earned a decisive victory in the mayoral contest against his former classmate at Woodward, Keith Wilkowski.

Mayor Mike Bell is NOBMA's Top Toledoan of 2009.



**Kameron Kyser**

Let's say it's the last Thursday of the month and you're just itching to get out of the house and meet some folks? Who you gonna call?

Thosefellas ... that's our guess.

And the leader of Thosefellas, a one-year-old organization, who hold such networking affairs on the appointed day, is Kameron Kyser.

"Our interest is in spreading resources and helping people do business together ... making connections," says Kyser.

So once a month – check your social media for the information – Kyser and Co. bring together folks to socialize, network and expand their horizons. He calls it "bringing forward thinkers together in one place."

Calvino's, PizzaPapalis, Fifth Third Field, Lucas County Arena, the Omni and the Toledo Club are some of the gathering spots Thosefellas have utilized over the past year.

What started as a few stragglers had grown into a must-attend affair over the course of 2009. That should have come as no surprise, really. After all, dude's got over 4,000 Facebook friends.

Kyser, a graduate of Rogers High School, The University of Toledo and Assets Toledo, is a case manager with LMHA during the daylight hours. At nighttime, he's out there bringing people together.



**Suzette Cowell**

OK, so what doesn't Suzette Cowell do in Toledo? As everyone knows, she's the head of the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union on Dorr Street and is in the process of raising funds to move that operation into a brand new facility to be built on the corner of Dorr and Detroit.

She's also one of the movers and shakers behind the Dorr Street Coalition, an organization of area businesses and residents attempting to bring Dorr Street kicking and screaming into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Five years ago, Cowell decided really climb a mountain and bring an African-American Festival to Toledo. She started it on the corner of Detroit and Indiana for the first three years, then moved it to The University of Toledo's Scott Park Campus in year four.

In year five – 2009 – the festival exploded.

"Did you ever think you would see anything like this in Toledo?" asked Cowell as she gazed over the crowd of about 5,000 on the Saturday night of this summer's festival. The first year, between 600 and 700 total tickets were sold for the weekend event.

What a difference a lot of dedication can mean.



**Billie Johnson**

For more than three decades, Billie Johnson, executive director of the Area Office on Aging, has dedicated her life to helping senior citizens and her agency is widely praised as one of the most effective social service organizations in the area.

She has led AOoA to expand its services and programs into the funding of home care services.

Each year, it seems, Johnson piles another accomplishment on top of the others. Even with a 40 percent cut in state funds last year, Johnson and her staff were able to get a replacement levy passed which will bring

in a total of \$3.8 million a year for Lucas County senior services. In 2009, Johnson also helped start the ball rolling on building a new facility to house the J. Frank Troy Center which her agency funds.

During Johnson's tenure, the AooA has developed into a premier Area Agency on Aging in the nation. She has been responsible for the development of three non-profit wholly-owned subsidiary corporations. In addition to the seniors whom she advocates for daily, Johnson has long served as a mentor to women through her leadership in area organizations such as Zonta International and The Links, Inc.

In 2008, Johnson was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame.

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## AKA's Hold MLK Day Service Project at Kitchen for the Poor

*Special to The Truth*



(l. to r.): Rebecca Battles, Elinor Allen, Cynthia Battles, Muriel Williams, Oscar Haynes, Leola Haynes, Donnetta Carter, Dorothy Battles, Janice Wooley-Woolard, Brunetta O'Neal

The Connection Committee of the Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc conducts a community service project annually to commemorate the birthday of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This year, the sorors selected, appropriately enough, to volunteer their time at the Martin Luther King Kitchen for the Poor. Above the entrance door of the center is a sign with a quote from King which reads "Let no man go hungry."

"Our goal was the same that Dr. King espoused, to help somebody" said Brunetta O'Neal, Connection Committee chairman. "We experienced a great deal of pleasure from mingling and working with the staff and employees as well as with the people who came for lunch. Overall the project was very fulfilling as we demonstrated the AKA motto - "service to All Mankind."

The Rev. H. V. Savage opened the doors of the center in April 1969 after witnessing first hand the problem of hunger in his own neighborhood.

Today, the Kitchen serves over 200 hot meals a day, some of which are delivered to the elderly and shut-ins. Over 100 box meals are delivered during seven, designated holidays and more than 100 lunches per day are provided for school-aged children during the summer months.

Juanita Persons, executive director, said of the volunteer effort: "It has been a beautiful experience to have the AKA Sorority come and serve the poor. We really enjoyed having them here. Looking forward to see you all again."

Henrietta Armstrong is the head cook at the Kitchen and Harvey Savage, Jr, is president of the board. They, along with Persons, are the daughters and son of the late Rev. Savage.

In addition to those pictured, Margaret Huntley, Leia Love and Theo Simmons also participated in the service project.

Clara Petty is president of Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter.

## Top Ladies Host Annual Prayer Breakfast

*Special to The Truth*



The Toledo Club of the Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, January 23 in high style at Gladioux Meadows.

Ladies were beautifully clad in pink attire and their traditional orchid. Lady Mary McKinley Reed, first vice president, served as Prayer Breakfast chairman. Lady Clara Petty, second vice president, was the co-chairman.

Top Ladies President Lady Mary Dawson and Top Teens President Jillian Nobles welcomed the guests who also enjoyed a

gracious praise dance by the "Black Diamond An-

gels." Top Teen Opal Dunlap is a member of the dance troupe and also the Area V president presiding over the states of Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, West Virginia, Kentucky and western Pennsylvania.

Top Ladies and Lords filled the room as they and friends and guests celebrated the theme "Exercising Faith During Challenging Times."



## CAREER FAIR

Thursday, February 4, 2010 - 5:30-7:30 PM  
at Start High School  
2010 Tremainsville Road, Toledo, Ohio

**ARE YOU UNSURE WHICH DIRECTION YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE WILL GO?**

Toledo Public Schools CareerTechnology department is giving you a choice.

- Business Technology
- Medical Technology
- Marketing Technology
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- Small Animal Management
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- Precision Machining
- Electronics Technician
- Culinary Arts
- Broadcast Communications
- Supply Chain Management
- Natural Resources
- Landscape & Turf
- Aviation Technician
- Carpentry/Construction
- Electrician/Pre-Apprenticeship
- Heating and Air Conditioning
- Manufacturing Engineering
- Telecommunications
- Teacher Education Exploration

### REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS COLLEGES

Parents and students are invited to our Career Fair on  
Thursday, February, 4, 2010 from 5:30-7:30 pm  
at Start High School in the cafeteria.  
2010 Tremainsville Road - Toledo Ohio



(In case of snow-day cancellation, the Career Fair will be held on Thursday, February 11)

If you have any questions, please call 419-671-8777 or 419-578-4980

Meet program instructors and find out how your student can earn college through our program.  
Refreshments served. Must be present to win great door prizes.

The event's guest speaker was Yvonne Byrd Gayle who began her 35-year teaching career in Alabama. Life's journey brought her to Toledo where she continued her love for and dedication to children by teaching in the Toledo Public School system. As a retired educator, her concern for children has not changed. She currently serves as a tutor in the Helping Hands Program.

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. is a national organization. The Toledo chapter was organized in November 1983 by Lady Ann Battles. The Top Teens Toledo chapter was organized in 1984 at Robinson Junior High School.

Top Teens Chapter members are Dunlap, Lincoln Harris, Lakendra Lawrence, Janae Menefee, Chanel Olds and Asha Townsend. Lady Patsy Bolden is the chapter's advisor.

This year's scholarship recipients are Houston, Menefee, Nobles and Petty.



## Interview with Tommy Davidson – Appearing at Fat Fish Blue/Funny Bones, Levis Commons. January 29, 30.

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture

When I interview someone, I usually plan out my questions in a way that will give readers a glimpse of what they would naturally expect and a lot of what they would've never expected. I even crossed media on this one, putting up a status on Facebook alerting my friends I was about to interview Tommy Davidson and asked them if they had any questions they wanted me to ask him. They were thrilled and responded.

I don't do TMZ bull, I don't want to exploit.

I want to have a discussion. A meeting of the minds.

Tommy Davidson gained fame through "In Living Color."

Chances are, if you are you are under 25 you don't know what that is.

Well my dad made sure I watched "In Living Color" in it's heyday because it was poignant, bold and hilarious to no end. Davidson's impersonations of Sammy Davis Jr. and others were un-matched by other funnymen.

Comedians are not all fun and games however.

I was very happy to chop it up with a hero of black comedy and we hit it off, he actually suggested an author to me and I did my

research and I thanked him for the wisdom. My first celebrity interview of 2010 is indeed a high honor, so even though I'm sure you all are going to go and check him out when he visits Toledo this month... read this conversation and get to know ya boy Tommy Davidson.

**Michael:** Why do you think it's so hard for black actors to get the success and respect they deserve?

**Tommy:** The entertainment industry is just a microcosm of society. It's hard for us to excel at anything just because of the systematic business mechanisms in place.

There is racism in business. Consolidation and exclusion.

We don't own any networks, they make the decision if they want to let us on or not... so they decide to exclude us. Exclusion to me is racism. Why should we be excluded when we are just as much a part of the consumer pool that the advertisers sell to?

We are Americans, too, why can't we see people that look like us on TV?

The way to fight racism is to just call it racism first of all and then not care if they let us on their networks or not. That never

stopped us before.

**Michael:** Speaking of networks, what is your take on the whole Jay Leno and Conan O'Brien late night show scuffle?

**Tommy:** Ain't none of our business. That's their business.

**Michael:** Why do you

think black people aren't even a factor in late night programming? I was like 10 when Arsenio was on, and it's been nothing since.

**Tommy:** Racist business practices. They just don't want us to have it.

They're thinking 'why should we share with you?'



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**Michael:** What was the turning point in your career where you went from someone trying to do it, to someone doing it? Was it switching an agent or writer or... just what was it like getting to live your dream?

**Tommy:** Mike, it was a process... you know? It wasn't like one day "bam there it is."

I moved from DC to out here, got a job, got an apartment, went to the clubs, busted my behind ... getting to know people over three or four long years. So it was just a result of me sticking to it.

**Michael:** Feel that. I've seen TMZ and paparazzi try to get at you.

I never really check for them that much, but I just want to hear your take on it.

**Tommy:** Ha haa! They like me! It is what it is, man.

Fortunately I stayed in the media positively. They

followed me around because

I had some raggedy cars but I didn't really care. I think they dug the fact I ain't really care. It went away once I drove a really nice car.

The only thing about TMZ is the website, the people are so mean with the comments they leave. TMZ is just like a whole of the Internet, it reminds me of the bathroom stall where you say something and everyone gets to read it. Anybody can write anything and everybody can read it.

**Michael:** How did you get started doing the USO shows, what made you want to start doing comedy for the troops?

**Tommy:** Around 17 years ago, I got to go to Europe - Germany ... England.

I got to see how many black people were over there, reminded me of Philly.

Not just black people,

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## 20 North Gallery Presents the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual *Black History Month Exhibit*

*Special to The Truth*

On Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 20 North Gallery will open its 15<sup>th</sup> annual *Black History Month Exhibit*. The show will continue through Saturday, March 6, 2010. The exhibition was founded by Peggy Grant (current art director of 20 North Gallery) in the late 1970's. Since then, it has been exhibited throughout various locations in the Toledo community and now, for 15 years, is proudly presented by 20 North Gallery. This event has become an integral part of Toledo's Black History Month celebrations, and in recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of prominent African-American artists and leaders in our community.

Each year's exhibit showcases art work of the best black artists of our region, as well as

many nationally recognized artists. In addition, 20 North Gallery arranges school visits and participatory workshops given by visiting artists in local elementary and secondary schools. Other related events during the run of this exhibit have included live poetry readings at 20 North Gallery featuring African-American poets, storytelling, and live musical performances.

In 2010, outreach educational outreach experiences will include lectures and demonstrations by featured artist Aaron S. Bivins and nationally-recognized artist and illustrator Wil Clay. The exhibit and outreach is made possible by the support of many sponsors including Pepco, Mary T. Wolfe, Owens Community College, Owens Community College Black Student

Union, Ebony Construction, UAW Local 14, 360IPT.com, WTVG-13abc and The Ford Gallery.

The exhibit is eagerly anticipated each year by artists and audiences, alike. Once again, this year's exhibition will be a rich cross-section of the talented visual artists of Ohio and the surrounding Midwest.

Bivins, the featured artist, attended The University of Toledo in Ohio, receiving a B.A. in Art, as well as a teaching certification. He also studied watercolor landscape painting with the prominent Toledo watercolorist, Walter Chapman and acrylic and oil landscape painting with noted Toledo artist, Richard Dziak.

Working primarily in watercolor, acrylic and oil, he also explores other



media as he paints portraits of people and animals, landscapes, architectural studies and still life. Bivins is a former junior high school art teacher in the Toledo Public School system—he now serves as a painting demonstrator and conducts watercolor workshops and classes, as well as jurying varied art shows throughout the region.

Throughout his career, he has won numerous awards, including several Best-of-Show and First awards, at shows such as the Crosby Festival of the Arts, Toledo Botanical Gardens; Art on the Mall,

The University of Toledo; the Roots of Diversity Multicultural Art Show, Arts Commission of Greater Toledo; and many others. Bivins' paintings are represented at many galleries throughout the northwest Ohio region and his numerous exhibits include two solo exhibitions at Flatlanders Gallery in Blissfield, Michigan; annual contributions to 20 North Gallery's Black History Month exhibits; and the Juneteenth Celebrations at the Toledo Museum of Art.

Bivins is an associate member of the Ohio Watercolor Society and past-president of the North-

western Ohio Watercolor Society. He is also a member of the Toledo Artists Club.

Joining Bivins' work will be that of celebrated Toledo artists: Wil Clay; Charles T. Gabriel, Jr.; Marcus Nunn; Mack Walton; Warren and Yolanda Woodberry and John Wade III from Ft. Wayne, Indiana, among others.

Among the artists are five members of the local group Omni Artists whose work is displayed at The Truth Gallery at 1811 Adams Street.

20 North Gallery and the exhibiting artists will be welcoming friends and collectors at the free Opening Reception on Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, from 6 – 9 p.m. Reception attendees can begin celebrating Black History Month in conversations with these regional artists while enjoying light refreshments and live entertainment.

To view a virtual tour of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual *Black History Month Exhibit* beginning Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, visit [www.360ipt.com](http://www.360ipt.com). Click > Business Directory > 20 North Gallery.

For More Information Contact: Peggy Grant, art director, 419-241-2400 or visit [www.360ipt.com](http://www.360ipt.com). Click > Business Directory > 20 North Gallery.

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# Toledo Museum of Art Invites Public to Contribute to New Bead Installation

## The Bead Goes On Project Seeks 10,000 Handmade Beads

Special to The Truth

Bring on the beads! The Toledo Museum of Art is collecting handmade beads from artists, enthusiasts and community members as part of the *Bead Goes On*, a project culminating with the installation of a 10,000-bead curtain at the Museum.

Contributors are invited to give as many as five original beads made of glass, metal, felt, kiln-dried wood or other non-organic materials. The completed work of art will be unveiled at the Museum's Starting Place Gallery, and later permanently installed in the Museum's internationally renowned Glass Pavilion.

"I wanted to find a way to show off even the smallest forms of art," says glass artist Robin Schultes, who teaches at the Museum and who came up with the idea for the community art project. According to Schultes, bead making is not only one of the oldest art forms known to man, but also a popular hobby for people of all ages.

"The ideal beadmaker is anyone and everyone," says Schultes. "It doesn't have to take a lot of time and effort, only as much as one wants to put into it."

The *Bead Goes On* has already collected a wide variety of unique beads. Strands of the beaded curtain are hung in the Glass Pavilion Flameworking Studio as they are completed, and visitors are encouraged to come see the curtain's progress. Visitors can also make beads of their own in one of the many hands-



on activities, workshops and studio sessions at the Museum.

For complete guidelines, submission information and an entry form, download the prospectus at [www.toledomuseum.org/events/community](http://www.toledomuseum.org/events/community).

The Museum is providing visitors with a number of opportunities to make their own beads and take part in *The Bead Goes On*. Here is a list of upcoming activities. "Family" designates activities open to all ages. Other activities are open to those 14 and older.

### FREEHANDS-ON ACTIVITIES

**Animal Beads**  
Jan. 29: 7-9 p.m., Libbey Court

Search the galleries for animals in our collection, and then make your own animal-inspired beads.

Gordon Parks Inspired

**Beads**  
Feb. 5: 7-9 p.m., Libbey Court

View powerful photographs by Gordon Parks in the Canaday Gallery, then create beads influenced by his work.

The *Bead Goes On* at the Family Center

March 7: Noon to 5:30 p.m., Family Center  
March 9 and 11: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Family Center

Make your own good luck charm using Model Magic™ and add a bead to *The Bead Goes On!*

### Batik Beads

March 26: 7-9 p.m., Libbey Court

Use fabric, watercolors and crayons to make dyed,

batik-like beads.

Whistler Watercolors on Wooden Beads

April 11: 2-4 p.m., Libbey Court

Using the Whistler exhibition for inspiration, decorate wooden beads with watercolors.

Bead a Butterfly, Bead a Bee  
April 23: 2-4 p.m., Libbey Court

Boxer Muhammad Ali—one of the subjects in our Gordon Parks exhibition—was said to "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee." Create insect-shaped beads.

### CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Art Evening Studio Ses-

sions

April 19, 20, 21: 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spend three consecutive evenings making glass beads, pendants and swizzle sticks. (\$150 for Museum members/\$200 for nonmembers)

### The Bead Goes On Workshop

Saturdays (March 27, April 24): Noon to 4 p.m.

Make unique glass beads using a torch and soft glass. (\$60 per session for Museum members/\$75 for nonmembers)

### The Bead Goes On Mardi Gras Workshop

Saturday, Feb. 13: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and repeated at 2-6 p.m.

Use molds to create glass beads in vibrant shapes and colors. (\$60 for Museum members/\$75 for nonmembers for each workshop)

### Bean Cast Beads

Friday, Feb. 19: 6-9 p.m.

Combine dried beans with melted bronze, then buff to a shine for unique, Swiss cheese-like patterned beads. (\$50 for Museum members/\$60 for nonmembers)

### Beginning Glass Beadmaking

Ten Wednesdays beginning Feb. 20: 6-9 p.m.

Get comfortable with a

flameworking torch while learning bead designs, shapes and techniques. (\$375 for Museum members/\$400 for nonmembers)

### Metal Beads Part II

Five Tuesdays beginning Feb. 23: 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Fabricate more complex beads from sheet metal and wire. Metal Beads Part I is a prerequisite. (\$105 for Museum members/\$120 for nonmembers)

### Metal Bead Casting

Five Thursdays beginning Feb. 25: 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Shape wax into a bead shape to make a mold, and then inject the mold with liquid bronze. Polish and voila! (\$105 for Museum members/\$120 for nonmembers)

### Felt Beads

Friday, Feb. 26: 6-9 p.m.

Make unique beads out of wool felt. (\$50 for Museum members/\$60 for nonmembers)

### Family Fun: Clay Animal Beads

Friday, April 1: 7-9 p.m.

Make Japanese Netsuke beads with clay after a tour of the Museum's collection of these intricate miniature wonders. (\$20 for Museum members/\$25 for nonmembers)

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Top Toledoans of 2009

(Continued from Page 5)

Bishop Duane Tisdale



Bishop Duane Tisdale was appointed to Friendship Baptist Church as an assistant pastor in 1985 and a year later was named senior pastor. He's been on a roll ever since.

The church purchased 17 acres of land on Nebraska Avenue in 1993 to build a new structure which was completed in 1998. In the interim, Tisdale and the church started the Toledo Urban Federal Credit Union and he served as the first chairman of the board, a group home for boys and a ministry for women.

In 2002 a transition home was opened and then, in 2003, Tisdale and his flock started a community development corporation Friendship New vision, Inc.

FNVI was more recently certified as a community housing development organization and has undertaken numerous projects around the city to rebuild and remodel homes to bring to residents of Toledo affordable housing.

Friendship Baptist celebrated its 100th anniversary just five short years ago, but due in no small part of Tisdale's efforts, the past 25 years have been a period of unprecedented accomplishments. Each year, for example, the housing stock in Toledo benefits from his New Vision. Eight houses rebuilt in 2009.

Juanita Savage Person



"She is the glue that holds the place together," said one of the Kitchen for the Poor's board members of Juanita Savage Person, director of the agency that feeds thousands of poor folks on an unimaginably small budget.

Person has led the agency her father founded in 1969 for the past 18 years with the help of sister Henrietta Spearman, the head cook, and brothers Harvey Savage, Jr., the president of the board, and Raymond, the driver who delivers meals to those who can't get to the agency's location on Vance.

She has, however, been working at Kitchen for the Poor since she was 15 years old. The good news is that the Kitchen is still going far in an effort fulfill its mission - as Martin Luther King once said and is memorialized over the entrance of the Kitchen - to "let no man go hungry."

The bad news, in this particular economy, is that there are so many more mouths to feed. In 2009, for example, the Kitchen reached record highs of service with more than 34,000 lunches served on site and another 1,500 delivered to shut-ins.

But that's what Person's purpose in life is - to serve others. "People feel good at ... the holidays when they can give. But I get to feel this way all the time."

William Keaton



There are no magic pills to educational success, says William Keaton, principal of the Ella P. Stewart Academy for Girls, just a dedicated staff and lots of help from the community.

But someone has to lead the way and that would be Keaton who directs one of a handful of public single-gender academies in the nation.

In the six years since Stewart became a single-gender academy, the school has been in three locations even as it is blazing the trail, along with Lincoln Academy for Boys, and making the case for such schools.

Under Keaton's guidance, the school has achieved a continuous improvement ranking over the past several years on the Ohio Report Card with a most recent performance index grade of just over 80 percent.

In order to broaden his students educational opportunities, Keaton has worked with groups such as the Links, Inc, for mentoring and tutoring, the University of Toledo's Eberly Center for tutoring and Fifth Third Bank to start a branch at the school and help students learn about banks and savings accounts.

In 2009, Keaton and Stewart opened a museum - the Mrs. Ella P. Stewart Museum - in the school to honor its namesake and to inspire students to pursue their math and science studies.

Lisa McDuffie



The Toledo YWCA has long had temporary housing for women and children. For many years, however, the agency was forced in too many cases, due to a lack of capacity, to discharge women from their housing units well before they were ready.

It was a "heartbreaking situation" says Lisa McDuffie, executive director of the agency for the past nine years. It was a situation McDuffie corrected this year as she oversaw the construction of a new building of 43 units adjacent to the standing structure on Jefferson Avenue. That was a \$10 million project financed by Huntington Bank.

In addition to the new building, soon the existing facility will be remodeled to add 22 units, also for permanent housing for battered women.

McDuffie, a licensed social worker, earned her undergraduate degree from Findlay University and a master's from Case Western Reserve University.

And while she obviously had a stellar 2009 - how many folks are putting up new buildings these days in downtown Toledo, after all - one excellent tradition at the YWCA continues. The Milestones Awards (the 2010 winners were announced just this week) has always been and continues to be the best awards show in town.

Wilma Brown



Toledo City Councilwoman Wilma Brown, now president of City Council, is completing her third and final term as the District 1 representative. Her passion for some years now has been the re-birth of Dorr Street. To that end, as a councilwoman she has directed her efforts to seeing that new businesses are brought to the corridor and that existing businesses are upgraded.

She helped bring in a new strip mall at Westwood and Dorr several years ago and was instrumental in the Walgreen's project at Reynolds.

That huge, empty apartment building at Parkside and Dorr? Brown fought for years to get that monstrosity torn down and was finally successful.

She was also instrumental in getting Dorr Street re-paved a few years ago.

Her signature project, however, is the Brownstones at Dorr Street - aptly named to be sure. She has worked on bringing in new housing on Dorr for years. The first groundbreaking, in fact, was back in 2007.

But in 2009, the units were completed - the first six in what will be 20-plus if Brown has her way. Now that she's been installed as president of Council - the third time was a charm - she may have the opportunity to have her way a little more often over the next two years.

Advertisement for 'ONE SUNDAY' featuring a large '1' and '0' graphic, 'GAMES VVY.TV', and 'STOP BEING SO SUPRISED!' text.



## Owens Community College Black Student Union Hosts Events for Black History Month.

Feb 14th- Speed dating will be free food, gifts, entertainment and much more during your match made in heaven event!! Held on Feb 14th at 5:30pm-9pm at Owens Community college in the LE bldg ( law Enforcement bldg) room 147. For more information and to sign up early please email us at [owensbsu@yahoo.com](mailto:owensbsu@yahoo.com) or call Darryl at 419 467-6273. Feb 15th- Essay and

poetry contest- writing theme is "Black history" Applicants is open to all ages. Submissions must be made by Feb 8th 12 midnight via email at [owensbsu@yahoo.com](mailto:owensbsu@yahoo.com). Finalist will be contacted via phone and email. Award ceremony will take place Feb 15th, 6-9pm at Owens in the LE bldg room 147. General admission is \$3.00 for everyone. There will be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the Essay and poetry contest!! Minimum and maximum words 500-1000 and 20 stanza's in the poem. All content must be clear and free of vulgarity and explicit content. For more information please contact Darryl Reed at 419 944-9874. Feb 16th- Elementary-High school "Black History" Quiz bowl. 6pm-9pm at Owens in the LE bldg room 147. To sign a person or team please email us at [owensbsu@yahoo.com](mailto:owensbsu@yahoo.com) or contact Darryl Allen at 419 467-6273. Admission \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids and all students Feb 17th- College level "Black History" Quiz bowl 6pm-9pm at Owens in the LE bldg room 147. To sign a person or team please email us at [owensbsu@yahoo.com](mailto:owensbsu@yahoo.com) or contact Darryl Reed at 419 944-9874. Feb 18th- Ancestral Homage Drive. "Honoring those who paved the way for us today." The drive will begin at Friendship Baptist church and end at Mt. Pilgrim. The line up will begin at 7:30am and the drive starts at 9am. To sign up and register email us at [owensbsu@yahoo.com](mailto:owensbsu@yahoo.com) or contact Darryl Reed at 419 944-9874. Feb 19th- BSU Black History Conference entitled : "Cultural Crisis..and our Transition out". Featuring keynote speaker Dr. Boyce Watkins and other community leaders and speakers. Held at Owens Community College in the LE bldg room 147 beginning at 5pm-9:30pm. To register please email us at [owensbsu@yahoo.com](mailto:owensbsu@yahoo.com). This evening will include 3 workshop classes with various speakers, dinner, a presentation by the keynote speaker, and much more!! March 28th- BSU- 2nd Annual African American

Small Business awards Ceremony. located at Owens Community College in the AV bldg ( audio/visual bldg) room 125 from 6pm-9pm. Nominate your business or someone you know by going to [www.owens.edu/bsu](http://www.owens.edu/bsu) and click on small business awards nomination packet 2010 registration deadline is March 1st. For more information you can call Shawanda at 419 699-6769 or email us at [owensbsu@yahoo.com](mailto:owensbsu@yahoo.com) APRIL 2nd- The Citywide Dance Competition Hosted by Owens BSU and Shavon Archer, Friday from 6pm-9:30pm at Owens Community College in the SHAC gym. for more information or to sign up your team call Shavon at 419 290-4258. For further information you may contact the Black Student Union Advisor, Shawanda Johnson at 419 699-6769 or email us at [owensbsu@yahoo.com](mailto:owensbsu@yahoo.com). Visit us at [facebook.com/owensbsu](http://facebook.com/owensbsu), [myspace.com/owensbsu](http://myspace.com/owensbsu), or at [www.owens.edu/owensbsu](http://www.owens.edu/owensbsu)



## BGSU Black History Month Calendar Packed with Events

*Special to The Truth*

The pivotal role that four, first-year African-American college students played in history by refusing to move from a lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C., in 1960 will be the touchstone of a Feb. 3 forum at Bowling Green State University on how students today can advocate for social justice. The peer-educators workshop will be held from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

The event is one of many throughout February in BGSU's celebration of Black History Month.

The 11th annual Black Issues Conference, on Feb. 6, will focus on "Black Empowerment under the Microscope: Moving in a New Direction." The daylong conference, sponsored by Multicultural Affairs, will be held in the union. Tickets are \$5 for BGSU students and \$10 for non-BGSU students and BGSU faculty and staff, and \$15 for the general public. Call the Office of Multicultural Affairs for tickets at 419-372-2642.

Children and their families can enjoy a musical journey through African-American culture and history at "Lift Every Voice and Sing," at 11 a.m. Feb. 13 in Kobacker Hall of Moore Musical Arts Center. The Young People's Concert is aimed at children 5 and older. Tickets, \$ for children and \$2 for adults, are available at the door.

Also on Feb. 13, the achievements of African-American men will be featured in a panel discussion with former Tuskegee Airman and Congressional Gold Medal winner Lt. Col. Harold Brown; Dr. Alvin Jackson, director of the Ohio Department of Health; and Dr. Atiba Jackson, orthopedic surgeon and Detroit Lions team physician. The discussion will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater, followed by a reception.

"A Taste of February," on Feb. 16, offers dinner and a variety of performances in celebration of "Black History: A Century in the Making," with guest speaker John Scott, Ph.D., a BGSU alumnus, and the Social Justice Task Force. Visit <http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/sa/reslife/> for tickets and more information.

Award-winning actress Adilah Barnes will explore the lives of seven influential black women over time. "I Am That I Am: Woman, Black," brings to life Sojourner Truth, Zora Neale Hurston, Angela Davis and others. Her presentation takes place from 7-9 p.m. Feb. 22 in 101 Olscamp Hall.

The 22nd annual Multicultural Affairs dinner theatre will be held Feb. 26 and 27, with music and dance by BGSU students, faculty and staff. Tickets for "Michael Jackson: The One and Only!" are \$12.50 for the 8 p.m. Friday performance, and \$25 for Saturday's, which begins with a dinner buffet at 6 p.m. followed by the show at 7 p.m. No tickets will be sold at the door; purchase them at the Union information desk in advance. Call 419-372-2642 for more information.

Other events feature film, food, music, women's issues and more. For a complete calendar, visit [www.bgsu.edu/blackhistorymonth](http://www.bgsu.edu/blackhistorymonth).



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# Top Toledoans of 2009

(Continued from Page 10)

Some built things, some saved lives and some saved souls. Most of them made our lives just a little bit better in some way or the other.

Some, on the other hand, put themselves in a position to make such a difference.

How did we select the Top Toledoans of 2009?

We had suggestions from readers, to be sure. We threw that in with the committee of our media observers, then we slugged it out.

There may be a few that others may claim

should be on the list, we don't dispute that. But we can guarantee you that every single person on this list belongs on this list.

Appropriately enough, we top the list with the man who captured the city's top prize – Mayor Mike Bell.



## Angela Steward

"One day you wake up and find you are 240 pounds ... two hundred and forty, tired, sick and always hurting," recalls Angela Steward of her own journey to physical fitness.

One year later and 100 pounds lighter, Steward, a longtime paralegal for a Sylvania law firm, started helping other get fit with her "Fabulously Fit" program – a high-energy, intense combination of dance, turbo, weights and kickboxing. It's not a program for the faint of heart.

In 2009, Steward burst onto the scene, displaying her fitness methods around town, at The Studio on Airport Hwy and in the YWCA's Women's Heartplus program.

Each class brings about two dozen women together for a non-stop hour of toning and cardio routines.

"You can give me one more," shouts Steward to her class on a typical day. One more turns into two more, then three more. Then a little rest ... about five seconds worth, before Steward guides the group into the new routine. Wanna get fit? Get Fabulously Fit.



## Calvin Lawshe

"I didn't know we had such capable, bright and experienced planners in this office," said Calvin Lawshe two and a half years ago when he was pressed into service as director of the Plan Commissions – a combination of the Toledo city Plan Commission and the Lucas County Planning Commission.

Lawshe had already had a career at The University of Toledo as, first, an instructor and full professor, and then as an administrator, retiring as assistant to the president.

He walked into a department, say close observers, that was desperately in need of a seasoned administrator who could bring discipline and allow the staff to perform their functions.

He did all that.

Moreover, Lawshe, a graduate of Macomber High School with both undergraduate and master's degrees from UT, has become a vital part of the area's development process, say those same observers, helping to bring together the functions of zoning, planning and land use so that the disparate elements in the community – LCIC, Port Authority, UT – who deal in development can start working on the same page.

Lawshe also revived the concept of area conferences in which experts in planning and economic development can share their wisdom with all in the region – a concept lauded by state officials who hope the idea will be emulated by regions around the state.



## Charles Cohen

It took some doing, some arm-twisting to get Charles Cohen out on the golf course. When his friends suggested he take up the game, he saw it merely as a long walk spoiled.

When he finally gave in – in the early 1960's – he was immediately smitten. His game developed to the point that he joined the United Golf Association, a black national golf organization that sponsored tournaments around the country.

Later, he decided that it was his duty to make the game more accessible to minority youth. So in 1992 he formed the Toledo Minority Golf Association and now he teaches the game year round – winter months in a church basement.

He started the Annual TMGA Golf Tournament that year and in 2009 the 18<sup>th</sup> annual tournament was held as about 50 youngsters from around the country traveled to the Detwiler Golf Course to display their skills. Several dozen volunteers assist Cohen with his teaching and the annual two-day golf tournament that brings area college coaches out to scout the youngsters.

Golf has grown in popularity among minority youngsters recently, particularly because of the presence of Tiger Woods, but in the early 90's it was Cohen who served as a pioneer in the sport. It's been a long walk for Cohen, a long delightful walk.



## Sheila Gibson

Sheila Gibson, who looks to be a year or two over 25 years of age, has been teaching dance for just about that long.

"I feel that it is the purpose of dance, to give praise to God," says Gibson of her calling. "I've always tried to walk the Christian walk."

Gibson's Positive Force Christian School of Dance has been walking the walk for years now. She teaches dance around the clock holding 13 different ballet classes for different ages and for different levels of expertise, as well as a number of jazz dance classes.

And then there is the annual recital – the company will hold its eighth this year in early June – which Gibson plans and choreographs.

In 2009, Gibson's efforts brought a bigger pay-off than usual as two of her dancers – then 18-year old Tyree Bell and then 10-year old Nicole Herndon – caught the attention of national talent scouts.

Nicole eventually went to the Big Apple and wowed the crowds of film and stage producers with her dancing and acting.

Gibson, a Rogers high graduate who earned her bachelor's degree at Bowling Green State University, never stops adding on classes, tinkering with the recital or making sure that all of her dancers are able to participate in the big annual event.



## Rev. Cedric Brock

Pastor of Mt. Nebo Baptist Church, president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA), ombudsman for the Toledo Public Schools, sales director at the Ramada Inn on Secor, Rev. Cedric Brock has become Toledo's Man for All Seasons.

At one moment he's gathering members of the IMA to speak out about the Route 66 shooting or the Linda Hicks shooting fatality.

The next moment he's over at Poor Henry's Barbershop making sure that his "Adopt a Haircut" for inner city school boys is going well. Then, he's organizing a vacation bible school with four other churches along Detroit Avenue.

Simply put, Brock, like so many of our Top Toledoans, was all over the city in 2009.

As the TPS ombudsman, he meets with hundreds of school children and their parents every year in an effort to sort out fact from fiction and ensure the grievances are equitably aired.

And, of course, there's all that stuff he does at Mt. Nebo – classes, workshops, prison ministry ... well, you get the picture.

## Patricia Hogue, Ph.D.



Patricia Hogue – chairman and assistant professor in the Department of Physicians' Assistant at The University of Toledo and assistant dean of Diversity, Student Recruitment and Retention for the College of Medicine – teaches, counsels, sees patients, serves as a faculty advisor to the on-campus chapter of the Student National Medical Association, publishes, researches women's health, minority health and geriatric issues, holds licenses as a registered nurse and a board certified physician assistant.

And she finds time to continue her own studies, earning her doctorate in gerontology in 2007.

"I'm a pack mule," says Hogue. "I just do it all."

She doesn't just do it all on the UT Health Science Campus where she is the mentor for just about every student of color who seeks a facilitator and a resource, she does it all in the greater community as well.

Hogue is a member of the Links, Inc., the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and has been on the boards of the Northwest Ohio Planned Parenthood, the Ohio Association of Physician Assistants and the YWCA of Greater Toledo.

Hogue received a NOBMA Impact Newsmaker Award in 2009. "God revealed to me that I'm here for diversity. It's about health care disparities and one way to eliminate those disparities is to increase the number of health care providers."



**Top Toledoans of 2009**

(Continued from Page 13)

**Olivia Holden**



Olivia Holden, executive director of ASSETS Toledo, a training program for small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs, passed a milestone with ASSETS this year. The non-profit, faith-based organization held its 30<sup>th</sup> graduation.

So far, Holden and ASSETS have graduated 982 potential entrepreneurs in the 13-

week, 25-class course that is taught by volunteers from the real business world.

If you have never attended an ASSETS graduation, you've missed a treat. The enthusiasm Holden displays for her tasks and her students is almost palpable, as is the appreciation her students show her.

Holden, however, is more than a classroom leader, she is also leading by word and example in the greater community. She has served on a variety of boards, including a stint as president of the Board of Community Relations.

Just this past year, Holden took up the cause of the departure of the Kroger Store on Manhattan and jumped in to help lead the cause to retain the store.

"I'm calling for a boycott," said Holden at the time. "If Martin Luther King could do it, so can we. This is absolutely wrong, this is corporate greed and they are no better than Enron."

**David Bush**



In 1990, David Bush managed to get a book of his poems into the hands of renowned poet Nikki Giovanni during her visit to Toledo.

"You've managed to create a definite voice," she later wrote him while encouraging him to help others.

Several years later, Bush, who

works at the Toledo-Lucas County Library, was asked to meet with a 13-year old student—a "professional poet," she called herself.

That introduction led to a meeting with seven other students and before long The Madd ("make a direct difference") Poets Society was born ... and continues 10 years later. During that time, all of the Society's high school seniors have graduated.

"Creativity, confidence and cogitation – that's how I get teens to write," says Bush of his students who hold a host of performances throughout the year to showcase their talents. The organization also has a theatre program and a hip-hop debate team.

The program's alumni have moved on to colleges around the state and the country.

For his achievements, Bush was received a NOBMA Impact Newsmaker Award in 2009.

**Richard Mitchell, Esq.**



Richard Mitchell earned his law degree from The University of Toledo in 1989 and immediately began working at the prestigious law firm of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick LLC. Specializing in labor and employment law. He became partner by the age of 35 but five years ago, he left the

firm to go into business for himself.

It's been five good years at Mitchell Law LLC and Midwest Community Title, Ltd. It's been a number of good years, in fact, both inside and outside of the office.

Mitchell has always been involved in more than just the law. He was one of the founders of the Northwest Ohio Black Chamber of Commerce, which, over recent years has morphed into the African American Bureau of Commerce; he served a stint as president of the Thurgood Marshall Law Association and he also served as president of the former Middle Passage Political Action Committee.

"I strongly believe in political activism," he has noted in the past. "And I believe the greatest service is in being a real servant to others."

In 2009, Mitchell reached a notable career accomplishment by being named local legal counsel for Penn National Gaming, Inc, the company that will be operating the Toledo casino – anticipated to open in about two years.

**Celia Williamson, Ph.D.**



Did you know that Toledo is one of the nation's top cities for the recruitment of children into prostitution and trafficking?

Celia Williamson, Ph.D., University of Toledo associate professor of social work, has made it her life's work to educate the community about the dangers of prostitution and the way children and women are victimized by the cycle of violence and drug addiction.

The research of the former social worker, who graduated from Woodward High School and earned degrees in social work from UT, Case Western and Indiana University, resulted in the formation of Second Chance in 1993,

an outreach program to assist the victims of prostitution.

Her most recent efforts, just in this past year, included working with the Ohio State Trafficking Commission and developing statistics for trafficking victims, creating a prevention video and curriculum for use in schools and agencies that assist children and serving as the chairman of the Lucas County Trafficking Coalition.

Williamson has also used conferences, roundtable discussions and theatrical productions to educate not only the Toledo area but also the world about the needs and risks of those victimized by the commercial sex industry.

"This is God's plan for me. I have to do this. I can't sleep at night if I don't. Once you hear one woman speak of the violence and trauma, you can't give up."

**Yusuf Lateef**



A 32-year old artist who studied at the Columbus College of Art and Design, Yusuf Lateef has spent the last several years literally making his mark all over Toledo. His latest project, in collaboration with fellow artist Adam Russell, is a mural titled RISE atop the Vistula Building on Summit Street.

In 2009 alone, Lateef displayed his art – which incorporates existing elements within the compound of found materials – at Bozarts Gallery, the Art Tatum Gallery, Artomatic 419, the Ground Level Coffee House and the Red Carpet Event.

Lateef has collaborated on numerous occasions with the Community HeARTbeats group to produce such pieces as the North-End mural Project and the Aurora House mural Project.

Lateef has been painting for years. He was a NAACP A.C.T.S.O. national Silver Medal winner as a high school student and his first exhibition was in 1993, at the tender age of 16.

Keep looking up at Toledo buildings – Lateef's creativity is on display.

**SUNDAY JAZZ AT MURPHY'S**  
**FEATURING KALVIN HUGHES JAZZ TRIO**

**Sunday January 31 2010**  
**2:00 pm to 4:30 pm – All you can eat**  
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**& Dessert**

**Ticket Information – 419-514-8840 and 419-260-2209**

**\$12, - Adults (Children under 12 eat free)**

**No carry out**



**Other musical guests include**  
*Ramona Collins and many more*

# Tommy Davidson

(Continued from Page 7)

but Americans in general but regular folks.

I have a connection with regular folks. It reminded me of the kind of folks I grew up with, people who ain't have no money ... just regular folks and I made the connection

with regular folks. It makes me really proud to know that around the world, I have fans. So i just stuck to it.

Michael: So what's this

year gonna be like for Tommy Davidson?

Tommy: Gonna keep on going. I got my movies, my TV shows I'm working on. I got my stuff. My clothing line. If any of my fans want to know about my schedule or see all my projects just go to

www.tommydavidson.net See, and you thought he was just that dude from Juwanna Man.

I appreciate the wisdom



Mr. Davidson shared with me, and I even got his open as a veteran in the entertainment industry about this whole Jay Z/Illuminati nonsense and he agreed that it's a pointless distraction from more urgent issues. But please check him out, tickets are only \$20.

You say you're bored in Toledo.. there's no excuse now.

Go check out Tommy Davidson. He will be here

this weekend at Funny Bone in Levis Commons – Friday, Jan. 29 (8 and 10:30 p.m.) & Saturday, Jan 30 (7 p.m.)

Peace to you all.

(my b'day is like a month away... you can mail gifts to the Truth's offices ... lol.)

email/facebook search: glasscitytruth@yahoo.com

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**4522 Oak Creek \$84,500**  
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**Woodley Court - \$259,000**  
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# CLASSIFIEDS

January 27, 2010

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## Request for Qualification

(RFQ) to Hire an Architect/Engineer (A/E). Inquiry #FY10-071, Project# 1130-10-654. The University of Toledo intends to retain professional services for Campus Infrastructure Improvements. Total Project Cost: \$5,250,000.00. Please submit all responses to The University of Toledo, Joy Martin, Plant Operations Building, 2801 W. Bancroft St., Mail Stop 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 by DATE: Friday, February 5, 2010, TIME: 4:30 p.m. All questions and inquiries can be emailed directly to harvey.vershum@utoledo.edu. For a copy of the RFQ please email Joy Martin at joy.martin@utoledo.edu. Please reference Inquiry# FY10-071 on the outside of envelope and include five (5) copies of the SF 330 Form with your response.

## PCN: 997268 ~ Academic Program Coordinator, Civil Engineering:

The Academic Program Coordinator contributes to the fulfillment of the university's mission and vision by enhancing undergraduate and graduate student success. The Academic Program Coordinator reinforces academic expectations and encourages student engagement from the time of enrollment through graduation by being responsive to the student's academic needs. This position promotes the educational experience of undergraduate and graduate students to ensure students gain the confidence essential for their success at the University. This position pays in the mid \$30's.

This position requires:

- Bachelor's degree
- Computer proficiency
- Organizational skills
- The ability to work with a diverse group of undergraduate and graduate students

To apply, submit a cover letter (include position title and job), a resume, as well as three professional references to: The University of Toledo, Human Resources Department, Toledo, Ohio 43606-3390; Fax (419) 530-1490; or email recruit@utoledo.edu, which is preferred. Use only one method of application. Resumes must be received by January 18th, 2010. **The University of Toledo is an Equal Access, Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer and Educator.**

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## Teachers Wanted

Certified K-12 teachers and highly qualified applicants sought to tutor after school in students' homes in Toledo. Must pass BCII/FBI background checks, have reliable transportation and be willing to tutor in students' homes. Hours are flexible and pay is competitive.

Send cover letter and resume to [toledo@tutoringinyourhome.com](mailto:toledo@tutoringinyourhome.com) or post pre-application on [www.tutoringinyourhome.com](http://www.tutoringinyourhome.com).

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-\$12.93/hour (post-probationary). 40 hours/week; Ends March 31, 2010. Perform Home Energy Assistance interviewing activities, verify applicant information and collect/maintain program data. **Qualifications:** Must possess exceptional customer services and organizational skills. Must be computer literate with the ability to type 25-30 wpm.

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-\$18.39/hour (post-probationary), 40 hours/week; 44 weeks/year. Provide direct supervision of Family Service Workers in the operation of their daily responsibilities. **Qualifications:** Associate's Degree in Social Work, Sociology, Family Service or Social Service Technology or related field and five (5) years of related experience.

Application deadline: **Tuesday, February 02, 2010.** Apply at EOPA, 525 Hamilton St., Ste. 202., 8:30-3:30. High School Diploma/GED is required for all positions. Must have reliable transportation and possess a valid Driver's License with proof of auto and liability insurance. Must be willing to travel locally. Employment is contingent upon successful completion of background check and possible drug testing. **NO RESUMES ACCEPTED WITHOUT A COMPLETED APPLICATION. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!** Please visit [www.eopa.org](http://www.eopa.org) for more information.

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## Ministry Positions

FT & PT ministry positions to support USDA SNAP elderly outreach demonstration grant in Lucas County. Communication/computer skills and reliable transportation a must. Experience working with seniors and bilingual desirable.

Resumes only to Toledo Area Ministries, 444 Floyd St., Toledo, OH 43620. EOE

## APARTMENTS

Abundant Life of Perrysburg is a subsidized independent housing facility for those 62 or older. We are located in a beautiful, quiet residential setting in Perrysburg. Abundant Life offers one bedroom garden apartments with private patios, in-door mailboxes, reserved parking and busing to local grocery stores. Applications are now being accepted. Call 419.872.3510 or 419.874.4371



## Health Services Supervisor

Lucas County Children Services is seeking candidates to coordinate and monitor children's comprehensive health care and direct the operation of the Health Services unit and staff activities. BSN + MSN and Ohio RN license. See additional requirements at: [www.lucaskids.net](http://www.lucaskids.net). LCCS offers an excellent salary and benefit package. Send resume to Human Resources, LCCS, 705 Adams St., Toledo, OH 43604 or fax to 327-3291 by 1/31/10. EOE valuing diversity

## Ministry Positions

FT & PT ministry positions to support USDA SNAP elderly outreach demonstration grant in Lucas County. Communication/computer skills and reliable transportation a must. Experience working with seniors and bilingual desirable. Resumes only to Toledo Area Ministries, 444 Floyd St., Toledo, OH 43620. EOE

## DIRECTOR OF ADULT SERVICES

The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County is seeking an individual with proven skills in program planning, development, monitoring, budgeting and fiscal decision making. The Applicant will have at least a Master's Degree in a behavioral health field and must have a current independent license, e.g., LISW, LPCC, APN Certified in Adult Psychiatric Services. Dual license in mental health and AOD disorders is preferred. The Applicant must have at least 5 years experience in management with the above responsibilities.

Qualified applicants should send a letter of interest and resume via e-mail to: Administrative Secretary at [netmail@cmhrsrb.mh.state.oh.us](mailto:netmail@cmhrsrb.mh.state.oh.us) by 5 p.m. January 27, 2010.

For information about the Board and to review the job description visit our website: [www.co.lucas.oh.us/mhrsrb](http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/mhrsrb)

EEO Employer.

**Top Toledoans of 2009**

(Continued from Page 13)

**John Jones**



John Jones took over the helm of the Greater Toledo Urban League in mid-2008 just as the economy was about to tank and non-profit agencies, always the first segment to feel the squeeze in bad times. Keeping the local Urban League afloat has been a challenge ever since, but Jones has managed to do just that and more.

The son of a preacher, a minister himself, Jones had a long history with the Urban League before he ascended to the presidency. He had served on the board of directors and had led the GTUL Young Professionals.

"The State of the Urban League is strong," said Jones in 2009 at a State of the Greater Toledo Urban League Address," at Indiana Avenue MBC. "We have gone through some ups and downs but the positive energy of this community has enabled us to keep moving."

And with that, Jones effectively informed the community what he and the organization were doing to press on with their mission and he let them in on what they could do to help the GTUL and each other.

Looking forward, the GTUL under Jones leadership is on the verge of committing itself to taking bold new steps in an effort to fulfill its goal of empowering communities and changing lives, particularly in the area of education.

Keep an eye on Jones and the GTUL.

**Charlene Gilbert**



Charlene Gilbert, an acclaimed filmmaker, is a professor in The University of Toledo's Women and Gender Studies department and the director of the Eberly Center which exists to support learning, discovery and engagement "en-

abling women to reach their highest potential," says the mission statement. The Center's roots lie in the creation of the Women's Advisory Committee at UT in 1977.

Gilbert, however, is pushing the Center to reach its own highest potential.

The Center has received three recent grants to expand its services beyond the university and into the community. They are building capacity, adding volunteers to tutor girls, assisting at LMHA and the Battered Women's Shelter, holding a High School Day on March 19 of this year for 50 high school girls to try to raise their interest in math and science.

The Center holds workshops for women in developing healthy relationships, understanding self-esteem and assertiveness training, among others.

As for Gilbert, a Yale grad and relatively recent arrival to the area, she's another one of those in-demand types that make Toledo hum. She serves as the chairman, for example, on the UT President's Council for Diversity.

**Cynthia Thompson**



For a number of years, Cynthia Thompson and her husband Ron owned Midwest Stamping in Maumee, number 28, in 2003, on Black Enterprise's list of the 100 largest black-owned industrial/service businesses in the United States. He was CEO and she

was vice president of human resources.

Thompson earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, a master's degree in nutrition from Michigan State University and an MBA from Washington University

Time consuming as that position was, Thompson found enough time to become involved in the community. In 2002, she was elected chairman of the National Board of Directors of the Girl Scouts of the USA – the highest volunteer position in the world's largest female organization.

Closer to her adopted Toledo area home, Thompson serves on The University of Toledo Board of Trustees and the board of directors of the Toledo Museum of Art where she has worked to bring TMA closer to the areas minority communities.

Although the Thompsons now spend a good deal of their time in the Carolinas, both remain of tremendous service to their adopted community.

Creditions

**G CREATIONS 5TH ANNUAL BRIDAL SHOW**  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2010

- Open Vendor Displays
- Bridal Registry
- Fashion Show
- Food Tasting
- Prize Giveaways
- Entertainment
- Marriage Renewal

A portion of proceeds to benefit  
MTAN  
Scholarship Fund





Model - Martina Austin  
Photographer - Dan Durr

**Garden Lake Banquet Hall**  
5359 Dorr Street, Toledo, Ohio  
12:00 Noon - 5:00 P.M.  
Vendor Information: 419-346-5275  
Email: gcreationsproductions@yahoo.com



**Mary Lee Toler**  
January 25, 1927 – January 23, 2009



Mom, it is hard to believe that you have been gone one year. This past year has been like a bad dream, but reality is beginning to sink in. We miss you terribly; however, we also take comfort in knowing that you are no longer suffering.

We are moving forward because we know this is what you would want. It goes without saying, we love you very much and you will ALWAYS be in our hearts. Love your children and grandchildren.