



Local and National News

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"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

May 11, 2011

In This Issue

The Truth Editorial  
Page 2

Perryman  
Page 3

Schools as Community Hubs  
Page 4

Volunteers  
Page 5

The Education Section  
Americorps Jason Dixon  
Page 6

Library's Summer Reading  
Page 7

AT & T Grant  
Page 8

Cover Story:  
Delta's Breakfast for M'Lady  
Page 9

Keon's Choice  
Page 10

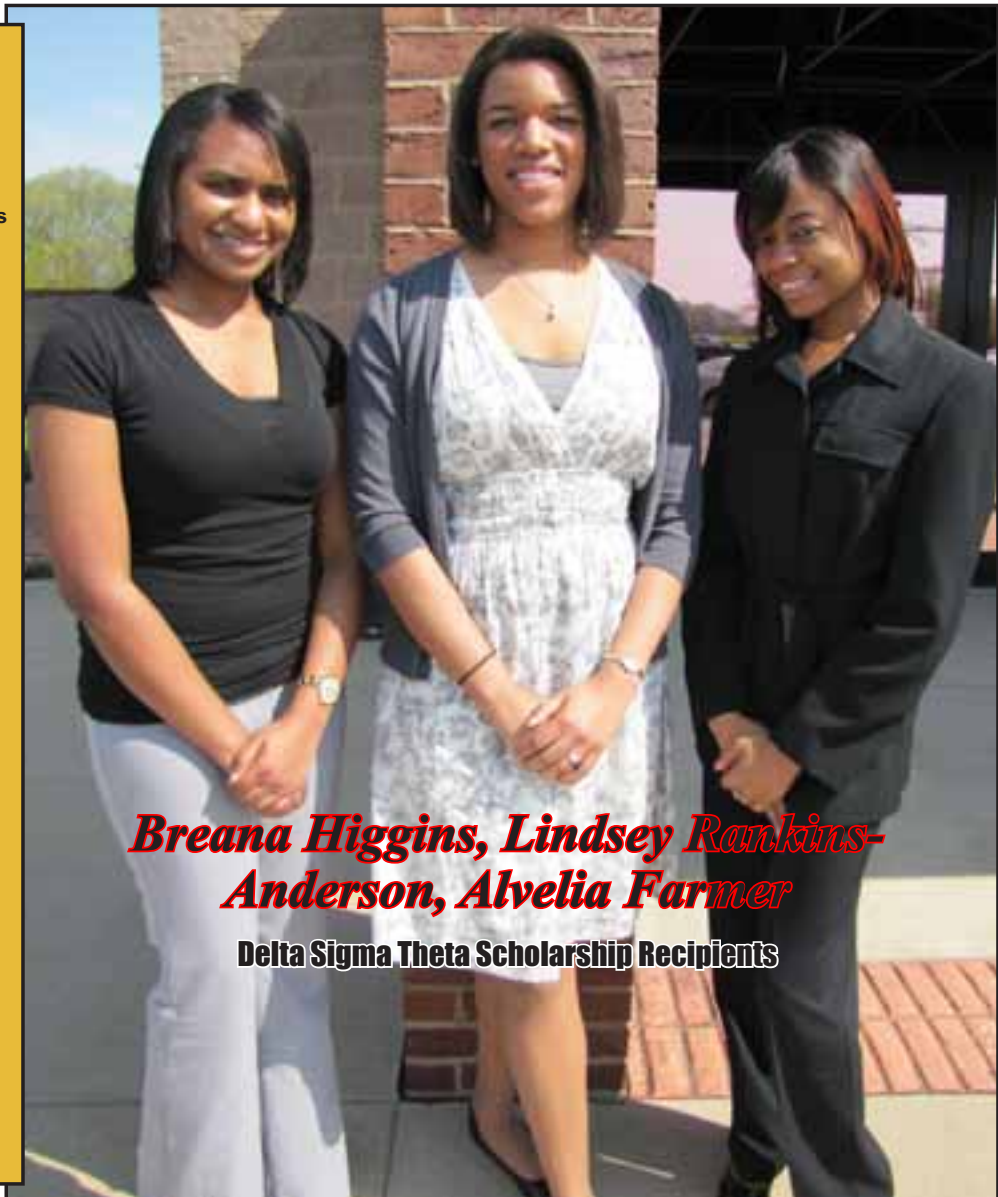
Book Review  
Page 11

Rodney Perry Interview  
Page 12

Minister and Naki  
Page 13

BlackMarketPlace  
Page 14

Classifieds  
Page 15  
Happy Mothers' Day  
Page 16



***Breana Higgins, Lindsey Rankins-Anderson, Alvelia Farmer***

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## This Strikes Us ...

*A Sojourner's Truth Editorial*

Is everyone out there a conspiracy theorist or is it just our imagination? It seems that you can't turn on a radio, pick up a newspaper – even this one, click on a television station or pass a billboard without hearing about another totally, whacky conspiracy theory.

Some, of course, have been around for decades. The Holocaust never happened, the moon landing never happened, JFK was shot by ... well, it appears that every organization in the world was apparently in on that little misadventure – the CIA, Vice President Johnson, the Mafia, Fidel Castro, the Soviets. The killing of JFK was undoubtedly the largest and greatest conspiracy ever.

But for all of the great variety of conspiracy theories proliferating in the world today, the process for starting such nonsense starts the exact same way and proceeds in the same manner. People chat, convince each other that something is glaringly wrong with conventional wisdom and then go off and find "facts" that fit their case.

They take those facts, split them, twist them, exclude any portion that doesn't fit the theory and finally string together a bunch of half truths, lies and innuendo that gives credence to the clearly implausible.

Our favorite these days, of course, is the Obama born in Kenya conspiracy theory. It's our favorite because the conspirators were just so darned prescient back in the early 1960's, weren't they?

This child was born whom they knew would be president one day so they forged the birth certificate to show a U.S. birth, planted false notices in Hawaiian newspapers and got officials in the Hawaiian government, Republican and Democrat alike, over the course of almost 50 years to buy into the plot. How clever was that?

When this same Kenyan announced to the world that he and his team had gotten Osama bin Laden, that fueled two more conspiracies. First, the old chestnut about whether or not bin Laden had even perpetrated the 9/11 disaster reared its ugly head once more. Second, had the Seals really gotten to bin Laden? Show us the photos, exclaimed many.

The president wisely, in our opinion, decided not to show the world the photos of a man who had been shot in the head. Inflammatory, he said. As Americans, we don't need to spike the football, he said.

We applaud his conclusion even as we see the fallacy in his assumptions. American *invented* spiking the football, both literally and figuratively. Nevertheless, faulty reasoning aside, a little display of moderation in this instance will do everyone a lot of good.

And in the final analysis, putting the photos on display will convince no one who is of the belief that bin Laden remains alive. Photoshopped, they will say. And that particular conspiracy theory will remain alive, even as the man himself lies amoldering in his watery grave.

Denial is the tool of the conspiracy buffs. Evidence means nothing. The more evidence you show them, the larger the conspiracy grows in their minds. Evidence actually feeds the frenzy.

And facts are dismissed with a wave of the hand.

For those who believe that bin Laden did not coordinate the World Trade Center act of terror, for example, the so-called record is filled with pieces of so-called facts which buttress their argument, even when bin Laden himself so desperately wanted everyone to know that he was responsible for the greatest act of terror on American soil.

Those on the lunatic fringe of that theory will claim, among other things, that the level of security in the WTC was lowered in order to make room for internal acts of terror and that those airplanes we saw hitting the twin towers really were pretty ineffectual in leveling the structures. Who you gonna believe, they exclaim? Our theories or your own damn eyes?

One would have thought that, given the ease with which one can now find data, more people would be better informed these days. We have so many wonderful tools at our disposal.

Regrettably, those tools have been turned into a veritable wasteland of misinformation and wretched opinion about every topic under the sun.

"It is well documented" is the popular catch phrase that people use after they turn on the Internet and see that some fellow travelers half way around the world share their theories about one conspiracy after another and have made up the facts to support all this goofiness.

In all honesty, we believe that a healthy skepticism about what we hear from such sources as government leaders, big corporations and even the media is a must at all times. It doesn't hurt to check information and verify statements. But the transformation from a skeptic into someone who sees a conspiracy around every corner is alarming and seems to be happening to far too many these days.

## The Sojourner's Truth

Toledo's Truthful African-American  
Owned and Operated Newspaper

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A Certified MBE, 2009

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## Community Calendar

May 11-15

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

May 12-15

First Church of God 50th Pastoral Anniversary: Rev. Robert and First Lady Maggie Culp: 419-724-5451 or 419-255-0097

May 13-14

City of Zion, the Mt. Zion Church Women's Ministry: Purpose in My Press: A Celebration of Women;" Women's conference at 6 pm on Friday; Conference at 8:30 am on Saturday; Guests include Min Sallie Jones and Pastor Patricia Sullivan

May 14

Bereavement Meeting: Bethlehem Baptist Church; 10 am: 567-249-7470  
All Saints' Episcopal Church Gospel Festival: Saturday - gospel workshops from 9:30 am to 3 pm; Festival at 7 pm featuring Barbara Johnson Tucker (soloist), Phillip Hall (pianist) and Obed Shelton (violinist): 419-246-2461  
Friendly Center Community Day: 10 am to 2 pm; Fun, food and prizes: 419-243-1289

May 14-15

United MBC Women's Day: "Women Recharging Our Commitment to Christ; Saturday workshop, Sunday service

May 15

Third Baptist Church: Women's Day; "Destined for God's Purpose;" Guest speaker Rev. Evonne Linnear of Mt. Pilgrim; 10:45 am  
Bibleway World Outreach Church 18th Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor Bruce and Lady Karen Mitchell; "The Year of Revelation;" 4 pm: 419-870-2184  
True Vine MBC 19th Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor and Lady Melvin Barnes Sr.; 4 pm; Guest speaker Rev. Floyd Smith: 419-539-9104

May 16-20

Baptist Ministers Conference of Toledo & Vicinity: Jerusalem MBC; 7 pm nightly; Guest Evangelist Pastor Obediah Clemons of Meridian, MS

May 19-22

Bibleway World Outreach Church 18th Pastoral Anniversary; Services 7 pm nightly: 419-870-2184

May 20

Woodward High School Career Fair: 9:30 am to 3:30 pm: 419-490-3895 or 419-671-6000

May 20-21

New Covenant Church 14th Annual Marriage Retreat; Hilton Garden Inn; Speaker Pastor Chris Hale from Akron: 419-262-0533

May 21

2011 Toledo Start! Heart Walk: UT Glass Bowl Stadium; 8 am to noon: <http://heart-walk.kintera.org/toleodooh>  
Mercy Cancer Centers Free Skin Cancee Screening: Mercy St. Anne; 9 am to 1 pm: 419-251-6372  
AKA Business & Health Expo: Indiana Avenue MBC Stephenson-Roberts Fellowship Hall; 8:30 am to 6 pm: 419-475-3007  
Phillips Temple CME Hat and Purse Style Show: 11 am; Pre-Women's Day Event: 419-242-7906

May 21-22

Mt. Sinai Annual Women's Seminar: Featuring Chain Breakers Group from Atlanta; Registration and seminar start at 8 am: 419-255-8577

May 22

City of Zion, the Mt. Zion Church Women's Ministry: "Purpose in My Press: A Celebration of Women; 10:30 am Minister Rachel Richards  
Mt. Zion Church of Christ Anniversary: 11 am; Guest speaker Elder Henderson of Cleveland  
True Vine MBC 10th Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor and Lady Melvin Barnes Sr; 4 pm; Guest speaker Bishop Duane Tisdale: 419-539-9104  
Roses of Calvary Flower Ministry Spring Musical: 4 pm  
New Prospect Baptist Church Annual "Pew Rally;" 4 pm  
Ebenezer Baptist Church Women's Day: "Sisters with a Testimony;"

May 27

Toledo Center for Natural Health Lecture Series: "Homeopathic Remedies;" 419-913-0567 or 419-517-8810

May 28

Johnson Family Memorial Scholarship Fund 11th Annual Walk-a-Thon: Sponsored by Lucas County foster parent association; Liz Pierson Shelter House; 10:15 registration: 419-213-3347  
Citywide Christian Trustee Association Meeting: United MBC; 10 am: 419-380-9477

May 29

New Prospect Baptist Church 46th Church Anniversary: 4 pm; Guest speaker Rev. Lyons of Greater St. Mary's

# A New Agenda?

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.  
The Truth Contributor



It is far better to be free to govern, or misgovern, yourself than to be governed by anybody else.

- Kwame Nkrumah

The issue of education and its reform in our contemporary society is difficult and extraordinarily complex. And where it has involved African Americans, public education has also been politically polarizing.

However, spurred by funding from the federal Race to the Top initiative and the leadership of Romules Durant, Ph.D., change appears to be taking place quietly at several traditionally low-performing Toledo inner city schools.

Performance scores on standardized tests have begun to show slight improvement with the arrival of new staff, literacy programming, technology and the implementation of novel concepts such as value-added instruction methods.

Yet, even more daunting than raising academic achievement – where other variables such as poverty or family influences can adversely affect student attitudes toward learning – is winning back the affections of large numbers of those, long ago alienated and who no longer see TPS decision makers or its educational process as an authentic representation of the community's needs.

At the root of the rupture and pushing the relationship near the point of no return appears to be differing perceptions of the problem held by the district and the African-American community.

For TPS, the paramount educational issues are perceived to be consolidation, cost-efficiency and curricular programming. On the other hand, some representatives of the black community insist that "education is more than designing technical strategies that merely measure learning by standardized tests or 'rational' financial decisions."

Indeed, scholars such as Jacqueline Irvine, Ph.D., insist that the educational success of African Americans is greatly enhanced by influences such as "cultural syn-

chronization," which occurs when "teachers and minority students are in tune culturally and where communication is enhanced, instruction is effective, and positive effect is maximized from shared knowledge, customs, emotions, rituals, traditions, values and norms."

In addition, the social and emotional losses incurred with the closing of predominantly black or brown schools such as Libbey, caused relocated students to no longer experience a "family environment" or take part in extracurricular activities as in the past.

One parent added, "They refused to listen to us and closed down Libbey, not even considering the sense of caring, community and continuity that was destroyed. A lot of those students were not able to participate in activities or weren't on the honor roll because of indifference or outright hostility."

It is apparent that the major seeds of discord revolve around control of educational policy. Voices in the black community feel that TPS has not responded to community wishes and would like to have a say in determining the educational destiny of its youth.

"You can't tell them (TPS) anything. They have all the answers, already know everything. This paternalistic pattern of always telling the black community what is best for us has got to stop!" stated a frustrated community leader.

Are the differences irreconcilable?

A new agenda, different from the way TPS has worked in the past, could perhaps salvage the relationship if it includes policies such as the following:

The hiring of more African-American teachers who are also visible in the community and whose children attend TPS.

Input for setting criteria for equal quality educational, evaluation and other policy-making powers by community representatives and parents.

More black principals and other minorities in positions of day-to-day power and authority in inner-city schools.

Caring teachers in every inner city classroom who are qualified and competent to "meet the needs of the children who come through their doors, whoever they are and at whatever developmental level they may be."

The inner city school established as "community-owned" with parental and community participation and control in personnel selection, evaluation and in determining curriculum content.

The inner-city school as a focal point in the community where parents can participate in the day-to-day operation of the school, attend classes themselves, be consumers of social services and be members of school governance.

Durant indicates that partnerships with community groups and service providers

are exactly where the school system has indeed arrived.

"We are presently working with The University of Toledo, the YMCA, the Boys and Girls Clubs and many nonprofits to locate programs inside schools. The idea is to make them community hubs so that the neighborhoods become stronger and sustain-

able. Restoring relationships, is my goal. That's what education is all about," he declares.

He's off to a great start. Not only in making education in inner city schools more effective, but in making the district more bona fide from the community's perspective.

As long as "the people closest to the problem are

involved in the solution of the problem" and policies not imposed from the top down, I expect transformation to continue.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D. Min. at [drdperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org](mailto:drdperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org)

# Journalist Craves Objectivity from Network

ing in Washington that **Obama makes the Kool-Aid and MSNBC drinks it.** I agree. If your show hosts can't even discuss an opposing opinion, they shouldn't call themselves journalists.

I'm sending this email to the publisher/editor of The Sojourner's Truth, a local weekly where I worked as

a reporter, editorial writer, and theatre critic for over six years. He and I wrote point-counterpoint features regularly published in The Truth because both sides of every issue bear investigation, discussion and debate.

That usually happens on Morning Joe, the only show on your network I watch daily. Why it didn't happen today I don't know. However, I'm hopeful that in the future someone

on that show or one of your other news shows will look at the issue Rosie O'Donnell brought up in her comments.

We all know had bin Laden been assassinated under the direction of a Republican President, most liberals would be making similar statements. Please bring some objectivity to your network.

*Geneva J. Chapman*

Rosie O'Donnell was summarily dismissed by Mika and Willie one morning this week because she dared to question why we didn't bring Osama bin Laden to trial and didn't jump on the "All Praises to Obama!" that MSNBC has been on since Barack Obama announced his candidacy.

I stopped watching your primetime shows in 2008, because the bowing and scraping was so sickening. I only returned when Lawrence O'Donnell's show was put on the schedule. But he's turned out to be another Obama sycophant.

I'm an African-American, small-town journalist with liberal leanings who believes that people in this business should be objective. I lauded MSNBC as the opposite of FNC, but now realize that liberal media that blindly supports liberalism is no different than conservative media that blindly supports conservatism.

A joke was made at the recent correspondents' gath-

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*Letters from the Heart*

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- Jan, 2010

Hospice of Northwest Ohio kept all of their promises. In caring for my wife and keeping her comfortable with them, I did not alone.  
- Jill, 1987

One of my mom's last wishes was for her favorite reds, even though she couldn't drink. On the night she passed away, a nurse from Hospice of Northwest Ohio put a few drops in her mouth. We'll never forget that compassion.  
- Sara, 2005

For 30 years, Hospice of Northwest Ohio has helped families make memories like these. The sooner you seek our expertise and support, the more we can do to help you and your loved ones have the best end-of-life experience possible.

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## TPS and United Way Launch Community-Based Program

*Sojourner's Truth Staff*

Toledo Public Schools and the United Way of Greater Toledo announced a new community-based initiative on Monday – Schools as Community Hubs. The initiative will focus on organizing and offering community resources to students, parents and area residents within each school's neighborhood.

"Education is our top priority at United Way and we believe this program is going to transform the way we provide support for our kids and deliver service to our neighborhoods simultaneously," said Bill Kitson, president and CEO of the local United Way.

While United Way has been working on the idea of schools as neighborhood hubs for several years, TPS has embraced the concept as part of their overall transformation plan that began in March.

Monday's press conference brought together officials from TPS, the teachers' and administrators' unions, the Local Initiative Support Corporation to voice their support for the Schools as Community Hubs program.

According to Kitson, schools will now be open for longer than the regular school hours in order to offer neighborhood residents: out-of-school activities and enrichment, medical and dental services, mental health services, social services, adult education and community and economic development services. Kitson also noted that he anticipates that parental involvement will be enhanced as the program develops.

"By bringing services directly to neighborhoods and wrapping these services around our kids, their families and their neighbors, we are helping knit a community together," said Kitson. "This is a proven method that works. Research shows an integrated focus like the Schools as Community Hubs model leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities."

The program will be launched during the 2011-2012 school year at Leverette and Robinson elementary schools. Both schools are currently middle schools but they will be transformed into the new K-8 models that TPS is implementing over the summer months.

United Way will manage the proposed initiative and will be seeking community agencies – "lead organizations" – to coordinate, facilitate, staff and oversee core program elements within the schools.

"Those organizations will be selected by a team of school-building leaders, parents and community stakeholders," said Kitson.



## Senator Brown to Host Town Hall to Protect Workers Rights

*Event will also discuss recent legislation including the Voter I.D. Bill and State budget cuts Columbus –*

*Special to The Truth*

State Senator Edna Brown (D-Toledo), Representative Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) and the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus will host a Town Hall meeting on Saturday, May 14 to discuss recent legislation including Senate Bill 5, the Voter I.D. Bill and state budget cuts to essential areas.



"It's critical for all Ohioans to stay informed on how these issues will effect them," said Brown. "Ohio's families are being targeted by recent legislation and they should be empowered to speak out against it."

The town hall will also feature special guest State Senator Lena Taylor from the "Wisconsin 14". Taylor will be on hand to discuss how both Ohio and Wisconsin are fighting against restrictive collective bargaining laws.

The town hall will be held at Warren AME Church at 915 Collingwood Blvd. from 3 to 5 p.m.

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*the Vampire Diaries*

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TV TOTALK ABOUT

## Medical Mutual Employees Give Back to Central Toledo As Part of the United Way Day of Caring

Special to The Truth

Fifty Medical Mutual of Ohio employees in Toledo are getting an extra paid day off this year. The company is giving the employees a day off to do volunteer work and give back to the community where they work and live. Medical Mutual has teamed up with United Way of Greater Toledo for participation in the United Way's *Days of Caring* program.

Recently, 15 employees volunteered to help out at the Padua Center, 1416 Nebraska Avenue, and at the Toledo Day Nursery's *Creating Young Readers* program, 2902 Stickney Avenue.

The 50 volunteers were chosen from among 90 employees who entered a drawing to have the opportunity to volunteer as part of the program. All volunteer activities center on this year's theme of *United Way Days of Caring*—education. More than 500 employees work at the Toledo office located at 3737 W. Sylvania Avenue.

"I had so much fun. I would be willing to do this on my own time," said Fredisha Mallard who helped paint a room at the Padua Center. The Medical Mutual operations department employee said the volunteer program "was a great opportunity to give back to my community in which I live. It is a great way to give back."

"Since joining Medical Mutual in August, I have been impressed with our commitment to communities where we do business," said Gary Thieman, senior vice president, Northwestern Ohio Region. "That commitment is particularly strong in Toledo. At the same time, I believe we can do more," he said.

Medical Mutual employees have long recognized the importance of giving back to the community, both financial and "hands on" support. Volunteers will participate in Toledo area activities such as reading to pre-schoolers, tutoring, assisting daycare

teachers with summer programs, and helping with lunch programs and other activities. Some volunteers will also help clean-up the school buildings and landscape as well as giving the facilities a fresh coat of paint.

"This is a wonderful opportunity Medical Mutual is offering to its employees," said Bill Kitson, United Way of Greater Toledo president & CEO. "Gary Thieman and his team set an outstanding example of seeing the value in allowing employees to increase their impact beyond just writing a check."

*United Way of Greater Toledo works to build stronger communities by embracing the collective power of people and partnerships, driving lasting change in the areas of education, income, and health; and providing a foundation of essential services and outreach.*



Fredisha Mallard



Cherhonda Gunn



Joyce Jones

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### African Art Has Arrived!!

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



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# The Sojourner's Truth Education

Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section • Education Section

## United Way Recognizes AmeriCorps member Jason Dixon



Next week, United Way *AmeriCorps* is recognizing Jason Dixon in honor of National AmeriCorps Week. Dixon is serving with Woodward High School in Community Outreach and Assistance.

Dixon serves by coordinating events to bring the community together to support the students.

At Woodward, Dixon is promoting the 'Aspire To Reach Higher' Youth Campaign. According to Dixon, "the campaign is led by Woodward students who are passionate, determined, and committed to affecting change throughout their school and community."

The Campaign has three initiatives: 'Believe in Our Youth' signature drive, 'Aspire To Reach Higher' youth summit, and 'Aspire To Reach Higher' career fair.

"The response has been great and people are excited to see students being empowered to take control of their own destiny, and be a part of developing and participating in solutions to the challenges facing the community," Dixon concluded.

We thank Dixon for his service to this community!

To find out more about the program and how to become a United Way AmeriCorps member like Dixon, visit [www.unitedwaytoledo.org/ameriCorps](http://www.unitedwaytoledo.org/ameriCorps).

## Girls Booked on Barbershops

### Local Organizations and Beauty Shop Partner to Encourage a Love for Reading

*Special to The Truth*

Reading is one great habit that can truly change your life forever. Reading can entertain you, amuse you, but most of all it will enrich you with knowledge and experiences. Reading purely for leisure is fun, but there are certain reading skills and strategies which, if mastered at an early age, can help individuals to be better and more comprehensive readers. Conveying this information is the goal three groups hoped to convey at the "Girls Booked On Beauty Shops" Event.

For the fourth year, girls ages six-12 attended a Reading at Nevaeh Salon and Spa located at 2020 Reynolds Road on May 2, 2011. Usually girls think of going to a beauty shop to get their hair done or to get a manicure or pedicure, but not to read books. Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., Toledo Chapter, Ruth Court #6, PHA, Hero-

ines of Jericho, Friends of the Lucas County Library and Nevaeh Salon and Spa joined together in a community partnership to promote the importance of literacy and a love for reading in a creative way.

This program is one of the national programs promoted by Lady Jacqueline Pope, the national president of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. The national theme is: "Empowering Youth and Adults to Provide Exemplary Service with Passion and Purpose."

The objective of the Community Partnerships Committee is to seek collaborations with businesses and other groups in order to strengthen the local chapter's community service efforts. The Toledo Chapter spearheaded the efforts to bring about last week's program and was able to implement it with the help of its community partners.



Girls in attendance were allowed to browse the many books available for their selection and choose ones they liked. This year approximately 12 girls from St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church attended. Barbara Tucker, committee chairman said "We are grateful to Pastor James H. Willis, Sr. and church youth leaders Cliffie Hunter, Michelle Jenkins and Joyce Wilson for bringing the girls."

At the end of the event,

they were allowed to take several books home for their reading enjoyment. Members of the partnering organization presented information focusing on "Remembering What You Read." Tips and strategies were provided to help readers remember what they read. Girls also participated in reading games and interactive activities to personally involve them.

In addition to free books donated by Top Ladies of Distinction, Ruth Court #

6 and Friends of the Toledo Lucas County Library, the girls were treated to pizza provided by Nevaeh Salon and Spa and a beverage and cookies provided by Ruth Court # 6. A raffle for prizes was held and Nina Rodriguez, nail technician donated a Princess manicure and pedicure for one of the girls.

Nevaeh Salon and Spa is owned by Martina Goodwin who was so kind as to open her facility to the Chapter for this event. Goodwin and her employees' interest in providing services that benefit the community are commendable and greatly appreciated. Goodwin is also spearheading a project to collect hair products and scarves for the female soldiers in the Mideast. Each of the partnering organizations also donated items for this worthy cause. Anyone wishing to donate to this call should call Martina Goodwin at (419) 578-0945.

Mary Dawson is president of the Toledo Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., Mary McKinley Reed is vice president and Clara Petty is second vice president. Tucker and Denise Black-Poon are the chairmen of the Community Partnerships Committee. Members of the committee are: Charlesena Smith, Edith Gholston, Denise Black-Poon, Debra Jelks, Delores Bates, Muriel E. Webb Williams, Wanda Terrell, Denise Cardwell and Equilla G. Roach. Other Top Ladies also supported the event with their participation.

Delores Bates is Most Ancient Matron of Ruth Court # 6, PHA, Heroines of Jericho, PHA. Lena Davis, Most Ancient Vice Matron represented Ruth Court # 6 in the absence of Delores Bates. Also present was King Davis, Most Worthy Joshua.

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**Toledo Fire & Rescue Department**

Is actively recruiting men and women for the positions of firefight and paramedic. Recruiting goes through May 20, 2011. Civil service testing is set for June 12, 2011.

If you are interested contact  
[toledofirerecruitment@gmail.com](mailto:toledofirerecruitment@gmail.com)  
 And visit the department web site at  
[www.toledofirerecruitment.org](http://www.toledofirerecruitment.org) for more information or call 419-392-4550

## One World, Many Stories Library Kicking off Summer Reading Clubs 2011!

By Rhonda B. Sewell, Library Media Relations Coordinator  
Special to The Truth



The time is nearing once again for the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library and public libraries across the nation to kick off **Summer Reading Clubs (SRC) 2011**.

This year's theme is *One World, Many Stories* and if you love books this is a perfect time to round up your friends this summer and travel all over the world with your library through reading!

Did you know that sum-

mer reading programs began in the 1890s as a way to encourage school children, particularly those in urban areas and not needed for farm work, to read during their summer vacation, use the library and develop the habit of reading? (Source: American Library Association).

Join one of our **FREE** Summer Reading Clubs and you'll have a lot of fun on your journey and a chance to

win some great prizes! The Library's Summer Reading Clubs begins on Monday, **June 6 and ends August 6, 2011. Registration gets underway on June 6, so mark your calendars now!** When it's time, simply log on to [toledolibrary.org](http://toledolibrary.org), click on the Summer Reading Club link and sign up! If you have any questions, simply ask a librarian and they'll explain the program in more detail.

## Owens Community College to Host GED Graduation Ceremony, May 15

Special to The Truth

Over 40 area residents will be honored for achieving academic excellence as Owens Community College will serve as host to its second annual GED Graduation Ceremony on Sunday, May 15.

Presented by the College's Office of Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE), the special ceremonies will occur at 1 p.m. in the Center for Fine and Performing Arts Mainstage Theatre on the Toledo-area Campus. Owens is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township. The GED Graduation Ceremony is open to the public.

Graduates will be receiving their Ohio High School Equivalence Diploma, also known as the General Educational Development (GED) Diploma, as part of the graduation ceremony. Tracy Harmon and Rebekah Hurst have been selected as the student class representatives and will address the graduates as keynote speakers during the event.

"Owens Community College is honored to celebrate the many successes of our graduates, many of whom have defied the odds and overcome obstacles in pursuit of their GED Diploma," said Joyce Winters, Owens director of ABLE and assistant director of Teaching and Learning Success. "Each student has worked extremely hard to achieve their GED Diploma, which will certainly open new doors to career and educational possibilities."

The GED examination was created with the goal of providing individuals who do not finish high school with an opportunity to earn an Ohio High School Equivalence Diploma and advance their academic and career aspirations. In order to earn an Ohio GED Diploma, students must earn a minimum total score of 2250 points within five subject areas that include language arts-writing, language arts-reading, science, social studies and mathematics on their official examination.

Owens' ABLE, which is funded by the state of Ohio through the Ohio Board of Regents and the U.S. Department of Education, is committed to meeting the needs of the surrounding communities by providing an array of enriched learning opportunities and academic resources that include reading, writing, mathematics and computer skills. Specific programs available include preparing for post-secondary training and education, obtaining a GED Diploma, improving employability skills and learning English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), among other academic resources.

The College offers ABLE at multiple locations in Northwest Ohio, including the Toledo-area Campus in Perrysburg Township, the Findlay-area Campus in Findlay, the Arrowhead Park Learning Center in Maumee, the Learning Center at The Source in downtown Toledo, Washington Local Schools in Toledo and at several Toledo-Lucas County Public Library locations.

**Good Health Begins With You!**

April is Minority Health Month

For a free calendar of events contact the Toledo-Lucas County Commission on Minority Health  
At 419-213-4095 or  
[bryantr@co.lucas.oh.us](mailto:bryantr@co.lucas.oh.us)

John Kamb, Director - Ohio Public Health Program | Ralph F. Shivers, Executive Director

New this year is a reading club for infants! Studies have shown that reading to infants while still in the womb through their toddler years is very beneficial to their future educational success.

Here are the Library's Summer Reading Clubs' categories:

**'Read to Me' – Infant to 3 years:** Read to your baby every day, complete an activity page and earn a prize for baby and for you!

**'Kids' – Preschool to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Track the time you spend reading and visit your library for a reading folder. Read at least 15 minutes a day.

**'Teens' – 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade and 'ADULTS':** Visit your local library or go to [toledolibrary.org](http://toledolibrary.org), click on the Summer Reading Club link and sign up! Read a book and enter to win.

Once Summer Reading Clubs 2011 gets underway, kids and teens can show their

SRC 'hang tag' and catch a ride to the Library on TARTA for FREE this summer!

Thank you to our Summer Reading Club sponsors:

The Blade, Buckeye Cablesystem, Directions Credit Union, Friends of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, The Library Legacy Foundation, TARTA, and WTOL News 11.

For more details on the Library's Summer Reading Clubs: 419.259.5200.

### Recover High School Credits at Your Convenience.

Students in grades 7-12 who are enrolled in a traditional high school can earn credits – without disrupting summer job schedules – through the Phoenix Academy Outreach Program. Students study on their home computer or at one of our four computer labs. Classes are comprised of modules, which are similar to textbook chapters. After completion of each module, students take an exam at a Phoenix Credit Recovery Outreach Center. Our computer-based curriculum offers the benefits students prefer:

- 24/7 access to lessons on your home computer
- A downtown computer lab and 3 convenient neighborhood computer labs with hours that accommodate individual schedules
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- A clearly defined discipline code and a safe, secure environment

Take charge of your education at Phoenix Academy. For more information and a list of available courses visit [www.phoenixacademy.org](http://www.phoenixacademy.org) and click on Credit Recovery Program.

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To apply, call (419) 244-6711 ext. 219 or visit our website [www.nosf.org](http://www.nosf.org)  
Scholarship application deadline is June 1, 2011

## Toledo Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Announces \$20,000 contribution from AT&T

*Special to The Truth*

The Toledo Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) announced a \$20,000 contribution from AT&T last week. AT&T's contribution will work to grow a key partnership between LISC and The Toledo School for the Arts (TSA).

LISC has provided key financing for a nationally recognized charter school, The Toledo School for the Arts (TSA), which is in the downtown Uptown Arts District.

As partners with LISC, The Uptown Association and St. Paul's Church are working to increase programs for neighborhood youth and community services coordination.

AT&T's contribution will

work to bring these organizations together to allow LISC to assist with after school programming at The Toledo School for the Arts Fourth and Fifth Grade Academy, which better prepares potential students from the neighborhood for academic success at TSA.

"LISC is very pleased to have the generous support from AT&T so we can work with TSA to increase substantially its outreach to low and moderate income and minority households as part of its priorities," said Hugh Grefe, director of LISC.

The evening preparatory program includes activities and will enrich student's lives while preparing them to be more successful in whatever school they choose.



*State Sen. Edna Brown, LISC's Kathleen Kovacs, AT&T's Dennis Hellman, TSA's Martin Porter*

## REMEMBER

AND MARK THIS DATE!



NAMI of Greater Toledo's next

## NAMIWalks for the Mind of America



is scheduled for:  
**Saturday, May 14, 2011**

(Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.)



at

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Medical Center Campus  
Arlington entrance – Parking  
Lot #44**



Need more information? Contact NAMI @ 419-243-1119.

**Walker Check-In Time: 9:00 a.m.**  
**Official Walk Start Time: 10:00 a.m.**  
**Distance: 1.5 Kilometers**

**REMEMBER: Check in at the PET STATION for your doggie supplies!**

The program and activities of the evening classes contain components of building self-esteem, social skills, and academic support skills.

"I am very pleased to hear of the partnership between AT&T and the Toledo Local Initiatives Support Corporation," said State Senator Edna Brown. "The work to increase the after-school program at the Toledo School for the

Arts, will serve our community well."

Additionally, these funds support the ongoing Toledo Artisans Guild at the Toledo School for the Arts in their after school and summer program for sixth to 12th grade students. The TAG program encourages visual artists to apply their skills and creativity in developing unique works of art and promoting

the successful education program.

"For our communities to be successful it is critical that organizations like LISC receive

support from corporations like AT&T," said State Rep. Michael Ashford. "Our children and our communities will benefit from AT&T's contribution."

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## Delta Sigma Thetas' 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Breakfast for M'Lady

By Torri Blanchard  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

On May 7, the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Toledo Alumnae Chapter, presented their 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Scholarship Breakfast for M'Lady, in honor of Mother's Day.

During the breakfast, the ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., offered a special salute to motherhood, education, and fashion –

fellowship with one another and that is exactly what we are going to do, but we're going to have fun while doing it," said Alexis Means, mistress of ceremonies.

In the midst of the fun, the ladies presented the 2011 *Mother of the Year* award, which was awarded to Lola Ann Glover.

"This is a cherished life-

she has 24 grand children and 18 great-grand children.

To name of few of her many accomplishments, she is also the recipient of *Access to Justice* – Community Advocacy award, and the 1996, *Northwest Ohio Black Media Association* – Impact News Maker Award.

As Glover accepted her award, she presented the listeners with a very thought provoking idea. "As a community, I would like to see us work harder at turning to each other and not on each other."

Glover was a shining example to the three Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. scholarship recipients of what happens to those who are dedicated to their education, family and community.

Through their eager eyes, one could not help but notice in inspiration being bestowed on the high school seniors as they followed along with the program.

One-by-one, the young



*Deltas' Scholarship Committee and recipients*



*Lola Glover with Delta Mother of the Year Committee Chairman Theresa Wilkins and Soror Yolanda Jackson*



*Lola Glover learns she has been named Mother of the Year*

completing what an already a perfect, sunny morning.

As the women dressed in vibrant red began to fill the banquet hall of The Pinnacle, the spirit of unity was truly felt.

"We are here to join in

time award," said Theresa Wilkins, co-chairman of the *Mother of the Year* committee.

While raising her nine children, Glover has served as director of the Coalition for Quality Education. To date,

women, Alvelia Farmer of Woodward High School Breana Higgins of Maumee High School and Lindsey Rankins-Anderson of St. Ursula Academy approached the stage and accepted their scholarship awards.

Many know how easy it is for youth to be negatively influenced by the world we live in today, leading them down the path of slow destruction.

These young ladies made the choice to walk down the path of higher education and, because of their decision to better themselves, they have become the recipients of this prestigious award.

In the fall of 2011, Farmer and Rankins-Anderson will be attending The University

of Toledo and Higgins, The Ohio State University.

"We received over 50 applicants, and the young women you see standing before you were 'the best of the best'" said Jacquelyn Jones, corresponding secretary.

However, the 'best of the best' did not end with scholarship presentation, but with the finale fashion show from *Fredrico International* of Georgia.

Audience members were

given the opportunity to watch an assortment of fashion genres walk the runway – from evening gowns, business attire, to summertime swimwear. The men and women of *Fredrico International* presented on-lookers with a most memorable fashion show!

As it is every year, *Breakfast for M'Lady* was a quality event for quality individuals.

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District 1

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## St. Francis de Sales Knight Life:

### A Chronicle Part IX - Answer to Part VII

By Keon Pearson  
Sojourner's Truth Reporter



For the senior class at St. Francis de Sales, April was a culmination and resolution of four or more years of preparation. Most of us have had our noses buried in the books late into the night, hoping to make the great grades that would enable us to get into an excellent college. Some of us were dreaming about college while we were in junior high school, and chose to attend St. Francis because of its 100 percent college acceptance rate. Our college dreams crystallized into final form during the last two weeks of April. With just a clicking of a mouse, we committed to college!

I have been looking forward to college since I was in the fourth grade. You can imagine how excited I am to finalize my destination for next fall! Even more exciting is that my options are a thousand times greater than I had ever imagined they would be. I simply wanted to go to college. Any college was fine. Now, with Harvard and Yale as my main options, I could not be more elated!

Weighing college options is an arduous task. I asked myself such questions as: What college properly blends the liberal arts with the hard sciences? Which financial aid offer is the best? Which place attracts intelligent and driven individuals from all around the world? Where do undergraduates, and particularly underclassmen, receive the most nurture and support? Do I prefer to live in a residential college or house system? Which school has the most cut-throat academic environment? The list of questions truly goes on for quite some time. Moreover, the differences between Yale and Har-

vard were almost negligible, so I almost decided to choose by luck of the draw!

In the end, though, instinct prevailed, and I decided to go with... drumroll, please... HARVARD!

The choice was hard to make. When I tried to answer the question of which school offered the best blend of liberal arts and hard science, I truly could not distinguish between Harvard and Yale. These two schools are the highest in the nation in terms of what they offer in both the liberal arts, such as social sciences, art, music, and philosophy, and the hard sciences, such as biology, physics, chemistry and mathematics.

The financial aid offices of both schools guarantee that if a student has financial need, his or her need will be met by the college itself. Parents who earn less than \$60,000 per year do not have to worry about paying any money to send their children to Harvard or Yale. My financial aid package from Harvard was substantial, and I will not have to worry about affording

college. Due to paperwork issues, I did not receive a financial aid offer from Yale, but it is safe to presume that Yale would have offered the same scholarship amount as Harvard did.

Here is where the balancing act begins.

Yale supports its freshmen and undergraduates much more than Harvard does. Classes are small, and the professors are expected to focus on their undergraduate students. However, Harvard has what are called "sections," which are small group meetings with a professor's aide, in which any questions can be raised and interesting topics can be discussed.

Yale's residential college system, in which a student lives, studies, eats, and attends classes with a small subset of students (called a "college"), is not appealing to me, because I do not want to feel limited to my "college" like Harry Potter was limited to Gryffindor. I prefer Harvard's House system, which assigns students into less-insular "houses," in

which students eat and live together. However, they are encouraged to interact with all of the other houses. In reality, I know I will make friends and enjoy my experience regardless of whether or not I live in a "house" or "college" system, so again, the difference between Harvard and Yale on this matter is negligible.

I couldn't objectively determine which school was more cut-throat. I would imagine, though, that if the brightest minds of the country are brought together in any situation, there is bound to be a great degree of competition. Therefore, Yale and Harvard would be equally competitive in my estimation.

It seems that Harvard and Yale are equals in just about every objective metric. Why, then, did I choose Harvard?

I was assured that Harvard was the place for me after attending the Harvard-admitted students visiting weekend, called "Visitas," on April 16-18. Visitas was a chance for me to meet hundreds of my future classmates, and to

experience life as a Harvard student. I was appalled at the prevalence of crazed drinking and partying that goes on during the weekends, but I am sure that I will find friends who do not want to engage in such deleterious behaviors. Overall, I was impressed by the brilliance and confidence of my future fellow classmates, and I know that I could envision myself living pleasantly for the next four years at Harvard.

Simply put, from the moment I stepped onto the Harvard campus last September, I felt right at home! As with any significant decision, my college choice was a result of subjective discernment rather than objective measurement. I went with the school that "felt" right. Anyone who knows me would probably be shocked to hear that I made an important decision with my heart rather than with my head, and, to be honest, I'm rather shocked at myself. But I know that Harvard holds my heart!

**Toledo-Lucas County Public Library**

# One World, Many Stories

## SUMMER READING CLUB

*Kids and teens: Show your SRC 'strong boy' and catch a ride to the library on TARCIA for FREE this summer!*

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- Great prizes all summer long including Nook Color and Kindle readers
- Fun summer programs for the entire family
- Watch for more details coming soon!

2011 Summer Reading Club sponsored by:

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## The Library's Reading Selection of the Month

Special to The Truth

In preparation for next month's kick-off of **Summer Reading Clubs 2011**, the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library wants to recommend the children's book *Giant*

*Steps to Change the World*, which aims to inspire young readers.

This interactive book was written by film director Spike Lee and his lawyer/TV pro-

ducer wife Tonya Lewis Lee, who also collaborated to write the acclaimed children's book *Please, Baby, Please*.

Each page in *Giant Steps* contains an encouraging

### The Strawberry Letter by Shirley Strawberry with Lyah Beth LeFlore

c.2011, Ballantine One World \$22.00 / \$25.00 Canada 165 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

You just don't know what to do.

There's this problem you have to deal with, but it's kind of thorny and you're at a loss. You can't ask your Mama because, well, she's your Mama. Your best friend is always good at advice, but she can talk and with a sensitive issue like yours, that's the last thing you need.

Can't afford a counselor. Can't take this to your pastor. So you throw yourself on the mercy of a voice that sounds like its owner knows what she's saying. And in the new book *The Strawberry Letter* by Shirley Strawberry (with Lyah Beth LeFlore), you'll see that you're not alone.

It was not cool to be smart back when Shirley Strawberry was growing up in Chicago, but her uncle made her proud of her brains. Every chance he got, he made sure to show her off, and he inspired her to continue her education. But radio called and Strawberry went for air.

There were a few bumps in the road before she became co-host of *The Steve Harvey Morning Show* and there are a few lingering regrets, but radio was in her blood and so was advice-giving. When she started getting Dear Shirley letters and began reading them on-air, she discovered that listeners loved it. This book – long requested – continues the advice...

Perhaps because she has her own regrets, Strawberry says to remember what you dreamed about when you were younger, then bring the dreams back. That will get you out of your comfort zone, which

is "essential for... growth and survival."

Look your best at all times and keep yourself updated on world issues. Embrace your creativity, express your ideas, and "don't let the skepticism of others stop you..." If you're older, help someone younger in her career. If you're younger, don't act like you can't learn from anybody.

In matters of love, don't get "stuck on stupid." Make sure your man knows the requirements of a relationship with you. Step up and teach him. Be willing to work on your relationship. And understand that sometimes love means walking away.

Looking for meaningful advice for a problem you've got? You might find it here, but you'll have to dig a bit.

Without a doubt, *The Strawberry Letter* is a

good little book. Author Shirley Strawberry is as enjoyable in print as she is on the radio, and it was fun to learn about her life, her thoughts, friends and family, wishes and regrets.

Strawberry isn't at all reluctant to let readers know about her personal disappointments and she uses her own life as example.

But there's the complication: many of the letters "answered" in this book just led to personal anecdotes that go off-topic and never completely return to the issue at hand. That's great – unless the question asked was your question, too.

If you're looking for a quick book to read, this one is very high on entertainment value. But if you're looking for solid advice, *The Strawberry Letter* is not always so tasty.



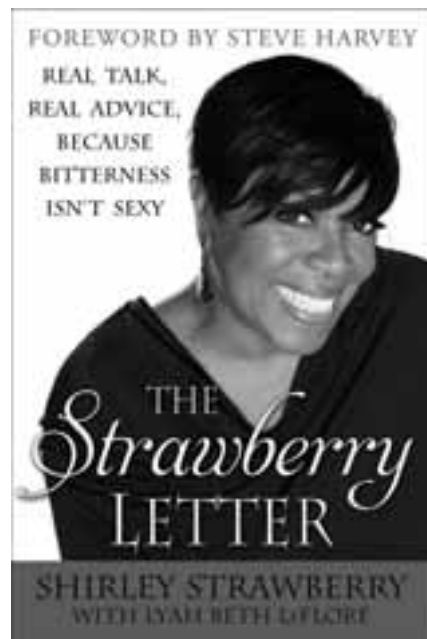
thought and invokes the deeds of a hero. The pages also act as an interactive quiz allowing young readers to match up quotes with selected heroes.

The figures highlighted

in the *Giant Steps* include Olympian Jesse Owens, advocate Mother Teresa, artist Jean-Michel Basquiat, and U.S. President Barack Obama to name a few. The book

concludes with a challenge for young minds: the Lees ask, "What's your next step going to be?"

Source: Publishers Weekly ©



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## Rodney Perry: From the Military to The Mo'Nique Show

By Monique Ward

This week I had the honor of interviewing veteran comedian and actor Rodney Perry over the phone before his scheduled appearance from May 13-15 at Fat Fish Blue in Perrysburg.

Perry: Hello?

MW: Good Afternoon Mr. Perry! My name is Monique Ward I'm calling on behalf of The Sojourner's Truth Newspaper so you can tell us more about who the "real" Rodney Perry is.

Perry: (Chuckles) What would you like to know?

MW: Well I learned that you were doing comedy for the United States Navy prior to you becoming a well known comedian & movie star. Is that how you started in the business?

Perry: Yes, most people don't know this but I actually served in the U.S Navy for eight years. I was

active from 1990-1998, the first four years in New Orleans and last four in the Bay Area. I did comedy the whole time I was in the Navy.

MW: So during the day you served your country and at night you did your comedy?

Perry: Exactly!

MW: As a child who would you say inspired you the most as a comedian?

Perry: I was a class clown but in the second grade I had a teacher named Mr. Thompson who would let me tell jokes at the end of the school day if I promised to be quiet the whole morning while he taught our class. I was allowed to entertain my classmates after the bell rung in exchange for good behavior.

MW: So your teacher made a deal with you and

I guess you can say that worked out well?

Perry: Yeah that helped both of us a lot or else I probably would have been more of a distraction! (Perry laughs heartily)

MW: As a now successful comedian and movie star who would you say has inspired you or helped you along the way in the industry?

Perry: Well there are a lot of wonderful people who have given me amazing opportunities in my career. George Lopez was the first one to take me on the road on tour with him. Steve Harvey gave me my first writing job. Kym Whitley gave me my first job in Hollywood writing for her show OH Drama. Cedric the Entertainer gave me my first starring role in his movie *Johnson Family Vacation*. Mo'Nique gave me my first major television role as co-host of her show.



Then there is of course Tyler Perry who gave me a starring role as Harold in his movie *Madea's Big Happy Family*.

MW: That is amazing ... all the great comedians you have worked with in your career!

Perry: I have been very blessed & fortunate to have worked with such great people in my life.

MW: So where does Rodney Perry see himself in the future as far as his career?

Perry: My goal is to be great enough to be mentioned along with comic legends like Richard Prior and Eddie Murphy. They represent greatness amongst comedians/actors. When you hear people bring them up their name in history or conversation, I would like to be brought

up with them because of my accomplishments. I would also would like to do more movies because I love to act. I feel acting makes my comedy much better. Some people get into comedy to get into acting but I got into acting to fuel my comedy!

MW: Well said Mr. Perry! It is been a pleasure speaking with you and I look forward to seeing you at Fat Fish Blue on Friday at 8 p.m.

# A Poetic Farewell

By Michael Hayes  
Minister of Culture



A lot of people in Toledo are simply passing through, but hoping to make a positive impact while they are here. Naki Akrobettoe is one such person. I've known Naki for a while and we've shared the

**Naki:**  
My experience in Toledo taught me how to choose LIFE over DEATH. You can take that however you choose, physically, mentally, spiritually. The impression that Toledo left on me is, that you have to make the best of any situation. I learned so much about being a woman, a student, a leader, a poet, an artist, a mother, a daughter and a friend while here in Toledo. I chose not to move on several different occasions because I felt like I was being taught a very valuable lesson while in Toledo, and that lesson being on how to

experience, I believe that the mass of educated people who are fleeing the Glass City is due to what I call "swimming up the down current". It has been extremely challenging to gain the support in the community where EVERYONE is on board, on one accord. I used to say all the time, Toledo is like a gold mine just waiting to be discovered but the only person(s) that can discover it, are the very own people who reside and live here. They have to want more for the city, and not to say that they don't, but young people here aren't very supported in a large capacity, so that is why they leave.



Naki Akrobettoe

stage as poets, involved each other in events and both seen first-hand the ups and downs of being artistic in a city where that in and of itself can be a challenge. She has a wide array of friends and supporters, so when she makes her farewell party happen this upcoming weekend at the Peacock it will be sure to be a heartfelt and well-attended send off.

But we got a chance to chop it up as she's packing her bags, and the following interview serves as parting shot.

Read on.

**Michael:**

Naki, you're not a Toledo native but you've spent years embracing the city as your own.

As a student, and artist and just in general ... what impression did Toledo make on you?

survive.

**Michael:**

There's a phenomenon in Toledo that people call "Brain Drain".

Where the educated people under 35 would rather relocate than to use their talents to take roots here and establish the Glass City as a place for similar people.

In light of your own experience, what are your thoughts on "Brain Drain"?

**Naki:**

I believe there are two sides to consider to the "Brain Drain" phenomenon. First being that every individual is entitled the opportunity to explore their options. Moving is a part of life and I encourage everyone to step outside of what is familiar and comfortable at times to see life from a different vantage point. In my own personal

**Michael:**

Thinking back, I'm almost certain the first time we met may have been at a poetry event where both our respective spoken word crews were taking part in a reading.

The Renaissance (my crew) was in its fourth and final year of our weekly poetry night, and your crew was just forming.

What are your thoughts on Toledo's spoken word scene?

**Naki:**

I never really rolled with a crew outside of my poetry organization D.E.E.P. (Developing, Enhancing, Empowering, Poets) from UT, but my thoughts on the spoken word scene is we simply need a revival. I

first want to say that The Ground Level Coffee House and The Village Voice presented by Those Fellas LLC.

Truly changed my life and impacted my writing in such a positive way these past two years. There was a central location where all artists came from all backgrounds and genres and it did a good job of bringing the community together but that too ended. I am forever grateful for the spoken word movement

that they created amongst the community and they truly inspired me to do things that I never imagined myself doing. I will say that there are intimate spoken word events that go on all throughout the city each month but what I would like to see is a more cohesive union of those events. Again I believe that

Toledo has a lot of great talent and especially in the youth who are aspiring poets themselves. They most importantly need that venue/event to truly allow them the creative outlet to express their own voices. I truly believe in doing that it, it will inspire others to create that which they want to see in Toledo.

**Michael:**

What are your thoughts on Toledo's artistic scene in general?

**Naki:**

One word to describe Toledo's artistic scene is phenomenal. The only thing is getting everyone on the same accord. As I said in a previous statement Toledo is a gold mine, and I have been afforded the opportunity to work with so many artist. The talent is endless, unique,

cultured, spicy, authentic, and most importantly real. Everyone that I have been blessed to meet has exerted so much passion and that in itself has inspired me. I am very observant of my surroundings and a lot of time I just like to watch the fundamentals in action, that I have come in contact with. I study them and their artistry and that inspires me in my own. I think what I would challenge those artist left in the city is to be entitled to your own opinion, your likes and dislikes, but understand the fundamentals of art. We were all created by the Creator to create, so what one person may not like, another person loves. Respect the craft, honor the vision, and continue to inspire and be inspired.

**Michael:**

Tell our readers everything about your upcoming event this weekend.

**Naki:**

The Poetic J.A.M. which stands for Jazz\*Art\*Movement is a vision that I got inspired to do by the event that my best friend and her boyfriend put on in Columbus, Ohio, called The B.R.U.S.H. Experience. You can check out their website here: <http://brushexperience.com/site/> but basically after attending the event

back in November, I felt like this event would be something that the residents of Toledo need and could appreciate. Having been exposed to the poetry scene,

the art market, and musical artist I felt like I had all the knowledge, and power to put this event together, but with my own twist. So that is how the event came to be birthed. What people can expect is a night of great artist doing what they love to do from poetry, singing, rapping, painting, and just giving tribute to what fuels their inspiration: everything art.

I specifically called it the The Poetic J.A.M. because Poetry is my foundation and my avenue to do all the things I love to do. Jazz to me represents music, soul, live instrumentation and an impromptu spirit that I embody as well as this event will and all of these components represent ART. And most importantly my intentions are to make this event into a movement. To inspire people to do what it is they love to do,

and give back to the community. This event is truly being made possible by the grace of God and all I

wanted to do is give my city one night where they can come be at peace and be inspired creatively. The event is \$5 dollars, but will get each person a personal canvas to paint while at the event. They are going to hear live music by the new upcoming band SQ'air. DJ M.P.R.E.S.S. will be giving us a taste of his music selection with a jazzy twist. As well as two beautiful singers from U.G.E. will be performing. I don't want to give too much away, but I just want people

(Continued on Page 14)



## A Poetic Farewell

(Continued from Page 13)

to be surprised. The night is about the community, togetherness, and being on one accord in the love of art. So I hope to see everyone come out for a great night! Event will be held from 8pm-1am at The Peacock Café. For questions they can contact 419-466-5582 or email azucarmorenaent@gmail.com.

Michael:

What impression do you hope to leave on the city as you embark on the next phase of your journey?

Naki:

I want to leave the impression of Love. Anyone who truly knows my heart knows that this city has been good to me. I want to leave the city knowing that I have done my part in giving back. I keep saying that in my new transition and where I'm going, I'm taking

with me the knowledge and wisdom I gained while being in Toledo and sharing it with the world. And all that I gain and learn while away, best believe I intend to bring back to Toledo. I may not live in Toledo, but my spirit is ever present. I also intend to continue the events that I and my business partners, Keshia McVay, and Ky Lyric have started here in the city, i.e. The E-Zone, The Poetic J.A.M. and much more. There is so much that we plan to do and Azucar Morena Entertainment is very much in its infant stages but we have been afforded the opportunity to grow and expand and that is what we plan to do. In parting I hope that I have made my elders, mentors, friends, and family proud. I love them all for covering me and encouraging me through my past nine years here in Toledo and I

am forever grateful for the relationships that I have built, for that is the most rewarding of all the things I have acquired while living here in Toledo.

Michael:

And lastly, what is life all about according to Naki?

Naki:

Life to me is loving beyond what the natural eyes can see. It's smiling in spite of the distress and learning to find a balance. I truly believe that we weren't created to merely exist but to learn how to live in our life destiny. I challenge every person who reads this to know that life was not meant to be easy. It is hard, difficult, and challenging most of the time, but in that challenge is value, wisdom, strength and power.

Even in my tears I smile and I encourage myself to

know that at all times if I do my very best then God is pleased. I will close with words that a good friend of mine shared with me once and that is: Dreams don't come true, they simply are true. I choose to live my life as though my dream is my reality and so far it has worked. I am the change I seek to see in the world. I know my worth and so now it's time for this eagle to spread her wings and fly. This is only the beginning of my journey.

Thanks for reading and hope to see you at The Peacock this Saturday.

And yes, last week's article ... will have a follow up. Stay tuned.

Email or FB search: [glasscitytruth@yahoo.com](mailto:glasscitytruth@yahoo.com)

### REGISTERED NURSE Contingent Staff

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc. has positions available for experienced nurses to work on an as needed basis performing duties such as health assessments, medication education and direct service to clients in the clinic and in the community. Work schedule for this position varies, may include evening and Saturday hours and may require travel to various sites.

Qualified candidates must possess current Ohio RN license. Minimum of three years nursing experience that includes psychiatric nursing experience required.



Send resume or apply to:

Human Resources Director - RN  
Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.  
1425 Starr Ave.  
Toledo, OH 43605  
Fax: 419-936-7574  
Email: [hr@unisonbhg.org](mailto:hr@unisonbhg.org)

EOE

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# CLASSIFIEDS

May 11, 2011

Page 15



Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for a Maintenance Instrument Foreman. The selected candidate will provide technical assistance, direction and supervision to instrument mechanics to meet day-to-day maintenance requirements of the plant. This position is responsible for delivering quality Instrument PM's and repairs while keeping quality as a priority. They will also coordinate and communicate issues and daily progress against schedule.

Candidates must have a minimum of 7 years of refinery instrument maintenance experience as well as 5 years related supervisory experience. A two year Instrument Technology/Technician certificate is preferred.

For confidential consideration, please submit your resume via email to

[dayna.brown@pbfenergy.com](mailto:dayna.brown@pbfenergy.com)

EOE/M/F/D/V

## House For Sale

By owner – three bedrooms  
W. Woodruff Avenue  
Call after 7 pm  
419-241-8566

## Legal Notice

Bid packets will be received by Lucas County Job & Family Services (LCDJFS) until 4:00 p.m., June 3, 2011 for the selection of a Provider to provide Home-based Chore Services for eligible participants. Submitted bid packets must be completed according to the specifications and provisions outlined in the Request for Proposals (RFP). The contract period will be from approximately July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

No bids will be accepted after 4:00 p.m. on June 3, 2011; bids that are submitted via any method other than that described in the RFP will not be accepted.

The Request for Proposals will be available on May 4, 2011. It will be available for potential bidders to download by going to the site: <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

An Electronic Question & Answer (Q&A) process will be from May 4, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. to May 19, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. PARTICIPATION IS OPTIONAL, BUT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED. Questions for the Q&A must be submitted in writing and received via email, by Michelle Niedermier at [niedem@odjfs.state.oh.us](mailto:niedem@odjfs.state.oh.us) by May 19, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.; the posting of the Q&A will be on May 23, 2011. If any changes are made to the RFP as a result of the Q&A, an addendum to the RFP will be posted on the website address (noted above).

This notice is posted, as of May 4, 2011, at <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Pete Gerken - President  
Tina Skeldon Wozniak - Commissioner  
Carol Contrada - Commissioner

Bid: 48-12-RFP-01



Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for an Electrical and Instrumentation Superintendent. This position is responsible for the safe and reliable operation of all power distribution, instrumentation, and analyzer systems in the refinery. The superintendent ensures that all work is done in a safe manner, consistent with equipment design and intended service and in compliance with applicable regulations, standards, and procedures. Responsibilities include reliability and PM programs, management of planning and safe execution of maintenance work requests, and compliance with regulatory agency requirements. This position also has the responsibility of managing the work of contractors and hourly employees to meet work demand.

Candidates must have a degree in engineering or equivalent work experience as well as a minimum of ten years refinery or petrochemical experience. Line, Turnaround, planning, and execution experience is also necessary.

For confidential consideration, please submit your resume via email to

[dayna.brown@pbfenergy.com](mailto:dayna.brown@pbfenergy.com)

EOE/M/F/D/V

## Legal Notice

Bid packets will be received by Lucas County Job & Family Services (LCDJFS) until 4:00 p.m., June 3, 2011 for the selection of a Provider to provide Work Experience Program (WEP) Site Development and Client Participation Services for eligible participants. Submitted bid packets must be completed according to the specifications and provisions outlined in the Request for Letterhead Bids (RLB). The contract period will be from approximately July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

No bids will be accepted after 4:00 P.M. on June 3, 2011; bids that are submitted via any method other than that described in the RLB will not be accepted.

The Request for Letterhead Bids will be available on May 4, 2011. It will be available for potential bidders to download by going to the site: <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

An Electronic Question & Answer (Q&A) process will be from May 4, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. to May 18, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. PARTICIPATION IS OPTIONAL, BUT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED. Questions for the Q&A must be submitted in writing and received via email, by Michelle Niedermier at [niedem@odjfs.state.oh.us](mailto:niedem@odjfs.state.oh.us) by May 18, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.; the posting of the Q&A will be on May 23, 2011. If any changes are made to the RLB as a result of the Q&A, an addendum to the RLB will be posted on the website address (noted above).

This notice is posted, as of May 4, 2011, at <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.aspx>.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Pete Gerken - President  
Tina Skeldon Wozniak - Commissioner  
Carol Contrada - Commissioner

Bid. 48-12-RLB-01

## ADVERTISEMENT- NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Toledo Public Schools will receive proposals for a Workers' Compensation and Unemployment Consultant. Written specifications are available through the Employee Benefits Department, Room 112, Toledo Board of Education, Thurgood Marshall Building, 420 East Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608.

Relevant questions may be directed to Mary Dunne via e-mail@ [mary.dunne@tps.org](mailto:mary.dunne@tps.org). Proposals for Workers' Compensation and Unemployment Consultant must be returned to the Office of the Treasurer, no later than 4:00 PM, Friday, June 3, 2011.

This agreement for Consulting Services will become effective upon award.

## Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY11-101

(Project # 5016-11-1538) for Clinical Simulation Center - Phase I for the University of Toledo Health Science Campus. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Main Campus, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 31, 2011. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Rd., Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$65.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Teri Baker Umbarger of BHDP Architecture at 614-486-1960. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the Health Education Building, Room 105, at the University of Toledo, Health Science Campus, 3000 Arlington Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43614. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 10%. Project Estimate: \$324,200.00; Breakdown: General Const: \$218,320.00; Plumbing/Fire Protection: \$16,305.00; HVAC: \$19,800.00; & Electrical: \$69,775.00.

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## Happy Mothers' Day 2011: The Gainey Family Celebrates Mothers' Day with Usual Large Turnout

Willie Catherine Gainey arrived in Toledo in 1944 and the head of the Gainey family will turn 100 at the end of this year on December 27. In her honor, the matriarch's family decided seven years ago to make a big occasion of Mothers' Day and, ever since, the family has turned out to celebrate not only Willie Catherine but also all the family's mothers.

Ribs, chicken, macaroni and cheese were among the many items the family and guests feasted on this past Sunday after church service at Warren AME.

Indeed Pastor Otis Gordon and First Lady Debra Gordon were themselves on hand to help the Gainey family celebrate Mothers' Day 2011.



*The Gainey Family*



*Pastor Otis and First Lady Debra Gordon of Warren AME (second and third from left) join Willie Catherine Gainey and her daughters, Eunice Brown, Allie Smith and Lucille Boyd for Mothers' Day feast*

## Pastor Lucas and Liberty Ministries Celebrate Eight Years of Service

*Special to The Truth*



*First Lady Elaine and Pastor William Lucas  
Pastor Chester and First Lady Donna Trail*

Liberty Ministries celebrated eight years in ministry ~ the number 8, meaning new beginnings on Friday, May 6. The church had held its first service in The Clarion Hotel (now known as the Ramada Hotel).

"I only knew that the three of us would be there - the Lord, my wife Elaine and I," said Pastor William Lucas, Sr. "It has been challenging starting a work for the Lord from ground up, but God is faithful".

The church started its celebration with First Lady

Rhonda Witty of Universal New Beginnings Church as the guest speaker, followed Pastor Louis Self of Majestic Praise Church and concluded the celebration with Superintendent Chester Trail of Grace Temple & Greater St James Church's, as guest speaker.

Special guests during these services included, Bishop Edward T. Cook, District Superintendent John Hobbs, Jr. and several local pastors. The church's foundational scripture is Luke 4:18-19.

"I can truly say, we love the Lord and seek to please Him," said Pastor Lucas.

Services are presently being held at 4112 Airport Hwy, between Byrne & Wenz Road, across from Swan Creek Park. The opportunity for worship is Sunday Morning at 10:45 a.m.

"We don't have a dress code - we just say come, and we will welcome you with a smile and open arms to embrace you," said Pastor Lucas.

Positive Force Christian School of Dance  
Sherida Gibson, Artistic Director

presents

# Faith

Owens Community College  
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Saturday, June 18, 2011 @ 8:00 pm  
Sunday, June 19, 2011 @ 5:00 pm

For Ticket Information Call: 419.932.0593