



Local and National News

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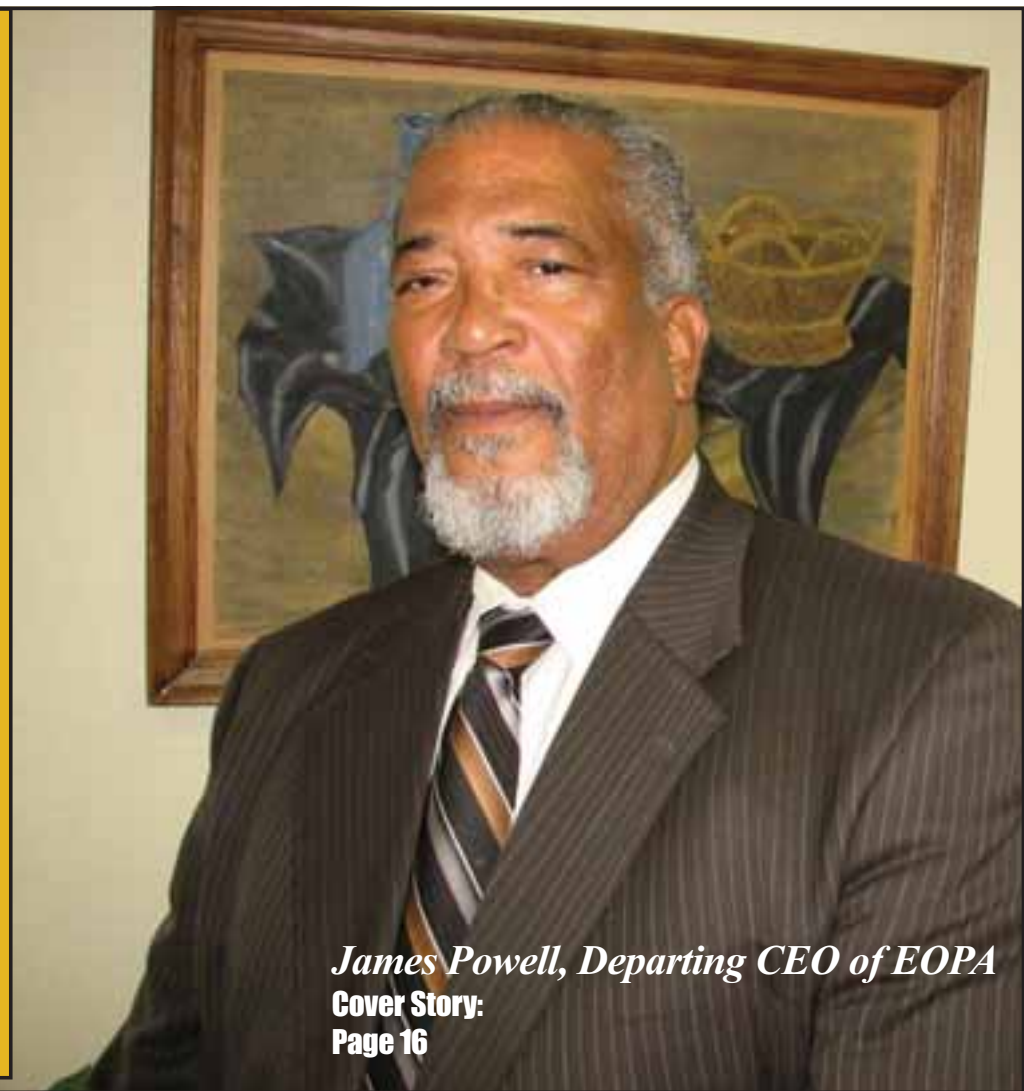
"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."

January 09, 2013

Shakeup at the Top at EOPA

In This Issue

- Perryman
Page 2
- Tolliver
Page 3
- Sen Edna Brown
Page 4
- Jack & Jills
Page 5
-
- The Education Section
- Library Keeps Promises
Page 6
- FHL Tutoring
Page 7
- UT - AA Graduation
Page 8
- Restorative Justice
Page 10
- Treating Violence
Page 10
- Owens Scholarship Opportunities
Page 11
-
- Book Review
Page 12
- Minister on Downtown Toledo
Page 13
- BlackMarketPlace
Page 14
- Classifieds
Page 15



James Powell, Departing CEO of EOPA
Cover Story:
Page 16



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Race, Poverty and Health



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

To live in long-term situations that wear us down, wear us out, sour our hearts, and choke our hopes will soon show up in our bodies. – Joan Chittister

From Why Market-Based Solutions Are Not the Solution to Health Care Costs
By Dennis Hicks, MPA

In the world of health policy we have come to adopt market-based language in order to justify investments in health care that benefit the poor and people of color. The argument often goes something like this: "If we reinforce this portion of the safety net to improve access, it will cost X but it will save us Y." This is, of course, a valid argument; one that I have employed in the past and will undoubtedly use in the future. The poor and disenfranchised are less likely to have health insurance and more likely to use the emergency room as their primary source of health care. The combination means that they put off primary care and health screening tests that can catch illnesses before they become serious (and expensive to treat), and once the illness becomes serious they arrive in the emergency room (the most expensive setting in which to care for patients).

But since our thoughts form our language, and language shapes policy, when our main policy thrust is that "they" are costing "us" money, we miss opportunities to look into the dark heart of health policy to face causes us the most discomfort: real and fundamental change.

Challenge #1: Stop looking at the poor, and especially poor people of color, as dysfunctional. They function very well under the circumstances in which they find themselves. Those circumstances include having been generationally neglected and excluded from the social and economic mainstream. They know this in their bones, waking up with it in the morning and going to bed with it at night. And they know the difference between a system that respects them and one that doesn't. Thus initiatives aimed first and foremost at saving health care dollars are a hard sell among people with no stake in the outcome.

Challenge #2: Instead of arguing for market-based solutions that sidestep the issues of poverty and race, the more difficult but far more rewarding solution would be to call forth a revolution in our own thinking. But how do we begin? Even among well-educated, liberally-minded people, the idea of discussing race and poverty can be an emotional "third rail," provoking anxiety, denial and misunderstanding. I don't have all the answers but I believe we have to get beyond blame and move toward reconciliation. There are lives in the balance, so we have to get on with it.

If we cultivate a core desire to dissolve the barriers in our divided minds about poverty and race, the result will be improved quality of life and longevity for the poor and people of color. It can have the happy side-effect of lowering health care costs but our first instinct would be to improve lives, not to save money. In the process, we demonstrate with our resources as well as our rhetoric that there are no outsiders among us; that we share a common humanity worthy of something greater than cost savings.

The health care community is uniquely situated to begin this revolution. There, we find people of compassion and self-sacrifice in abundance. Many doctors are willing to perform complex and expensive procedures for little or no cost. Nurses work long hours while providing excellent, compassionate care. Hospitals absorb millions of dollars in charity care every year.

Challenge #3: Achieving the goal of closing the health gap between rich and poor, whites and people of color, is not simply a health care responsibility. Quality education, stable employment, decent housing, efficient public transportation and safe neighborhoods (all the things many of us take for granted) are essential pieces of the puzzle.

Education is one of the primary determinants of health. The more income, the more likely we are to have health insurance and the more likely we are to perceive our own health as good to excellent. More income means more healthy behaviors: less smoking, more exercise and better nutrition. Conversely, poverty brings with it less health insurance, a diminished perception of personal health, more depression and more of the self-medicating behaviors like smoking, drinking and drugs that accompany depression. Some studies suggest that up to 60 percent of smokers have a past or current mental health diagnosis.

Services delivered in individual, isolated agencies and health care facilities can improve individual lives, but they can't heal a community. We could make much more of a difference if we stopped delivering services and started being of service. To heal a community we must begin with the choice to do so. Then we summon the will to move forward. A car driven down the road does not travel in a straight line. As we drive, we make thousands of left/right corrections every minute but our focus is on our forward momentum. Healing the community may work the same way—we go off course, we make corrections. The destination remains ahead.

Dennis Hicks, MPA is Minority Health Coordinator for the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at
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Zoo Offers Free Weekend for Lucas County Residents Jan. 19 - 21

Special to The Truth

To thank Lucas County voters for their ongoing levy support, the Toledo Zoo offers **FREE admission to all Lucas County residents from Saturday, January 19 through Monday, January 21**, throughout the Martin Luther King holiday weekend. Lucas County residents must show ID demonstrating proof of residency to receive free admission.

The weekend includes the Zoo's Winter Weekends activities on Saturday and Sunday. Saturday features an ice-carving demo; Sunday features performances by the Wanna Bees. On both days, visitors get to see animal enrichment/feeding at several animals' exhibits, from reptiles and orangutans to vultures and giant spiders. And all three days (Saturday through Monday), an inflatable bounce house in the Museum of Science gives kids a chance to blow off some energy.

Don't miss special visits with everyone's favorite monster, Elmo, on Saturday, January 19! Saturday's fun, including Science Day activities sponsored by BP Husky Refining LLC, also features hands-on science fun and Imagination Station activities. All weekend long, kids' activities continue in Nature's Neighborhood, the Zoo's award-winning children's zoo.

To make the weekend even more affordable, Lucas County visitors will receive coupons to use throughout the weekend, plus additional coupons for another Zoo visit in March. All this is the Zoo's way of thanking Lucas County voters, who have shown longtime support for the Zoo. Through passage of the Zoo's operating levies over the years, the Zoo has been able to maintain its reputation as a world-class zoological institution and a top regional attraction. In addition, Lucas County's past support for the Zoo's Capital Levy has helped enable the Zoo to create Nature's Neighborhood (opened in 2009), Tembo Trail (opened in May, 2012) and current historic Aquarium renovations (scheduled to reopen in 2015).

The Zoo offers a similar Lucas County Appreciation Weekend over President's Day weekend (February 16-18). Details, including a full schedule of events, are available at toledozoo.org.

The Toledo Zoo is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is located on the Anthony Wayne Trail (US 25), four miles south of downtown Toledo. For more information, please visit www.toledozoo.org or call (419) 385-4040. Lucas County residents are admitted free of charge each Monday from 10 a.m. to noon. ID showing proof of residency is required.



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What's "Gay" about Gay Marriages?

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column



Soon, the United States Supreme Court will take up the issue of deciding if same sex marriages should be on the same and equal footing as heterosexual marriages and thus be recognized as the law of the land.

First, it should be noted that the US Supreme Court is not God and does not stand in the place of God. Nor does the highest court in the land possess any unique endowment or anointing to manifest any superior wisdom about the legitimacy of two people of the same gender uniting in holy matrimony. The will be able to redefine marriage as it sees fit in its "wisdom."

Yes, I did intentionally use the word, "holy" with the word "matrimony" because unless you understand and grapple with the thought and the standard of what marriage is and who can be married, you have to realize that it is, above all else, a "God-thing", you will be in the Twilight Zone about the intellectual and emotional nonsense that swarms around the original fiat of marriage.

Ready for lesson One? Marriage is uniquely defined and conceptualized by God. No one else had or has the stature and power and influence to bring into existence the concept of marriage and to bless its union. No one. That includes state and local governments and the vaulted US Supreme Court.

For a lack of a better concept, God has both the patent and the copyright on marriage. It is a trademark registered exclusively to him alone.

The supremes on the Supreme Court are mere dwarfs in intellectual firepower, moral persuasion and the force of will when they try to finagle another or a new concept of what is marriage and who should be or can be the parties to the a marital union.

I also used the word, "holy" when I spoke of the nature and the blessing surrounding the concept of marriage. Marriage is holy. It is a holy act.

It is both a spiritual

union and a socially recognized human compact that God initiated before we even heard of people bellowing about same sex marriages, domestic partnerships and civil unions.

All of the above terms are indicative of mankind's attempt, futile at best, to reconfigure God to our image and size. We do not want to submit or worship God as He is fully exposed and explained and

defined (as much as our finite minds can grasp infinity, eternity, omnipresence, omniscience and the omnipotence of God) in the Bible.

No, we would rather run from God and cobble our own idols and images out of stone, wood and

gold than to submit to the rule and reign of a sovereign God. To do so would mean that we would have to grudgingly acknowledge his creative powers and that we are his creation and not vis-versa.

A very troubling thought for those who would rather answer to themselves than to a holy God because in how to answer, we are given a moral template, The Word of God, by which we will be judged...and who wants judgment and much less executed by a perfect all-knowing judge?

Judgment brings wrath and if we have knowingly violated God's moral standards, we then realize that judgment awaits us.

Well, it is the same for those who demand the equality of same sex marriages with that of heterosexual marriages. One marriage, the heterosexual norm, is what

God has ordained and established as his moral code. The other union (it is **not** a marriage), is not found in the Word of God and is detested and disavowed and is not condoned by any stretch of the imagination.

Look all you may want, you will not nor never will find any comfort or support or affirmation of same sex marriages in the Word of God. God made Adam and Eve to marry each other...not Adam and Steve!

The influential homosexual lobby will try to rant and rail about being treated equal in their zeal for society to acknowledge that their unions are on par or equal footing with heterosexual marriages.

They have well-financed lobbyists. They have won several court cases allowing them to "marry" but in the eyes of God...where it counts...their unions are a pure mockery and a slamming of the Word of God.

Homosexuality, as a choice and a lifestyle, may meet with acclaim in the locale of Hollywood and

other liberal bastions but when you understand that in the last analysis, it will not be Hollywood judging you or President Obama's endorsement of same sex unions being the standard or even the intellectual underpinnings of corrupt jurisprudence that will prevail.

No, my friend, on this issue, it will be, "what saith the Lord?"

Marriage, as originally designed by God, does not allow any breaches in its original mandate that a man and a woman are to leave

their parents and form a separate union and household. There is absolutely no deference given in the Word of God to any theory or position or thought that the concept of marriage can be enlarged to include unions of a man with a man or a woman with a woman.

According to holy writ, such a false union is both illogical and anti-God. It is illogical because marriage allows for the procreation of the human species. Same sex marriages cannot do so and will never be able to do so.

It is anti-God because it calls God a liar about what God decreed and declared that only a man and a woman can be partners in a marriage and be part of a blessed union that he has smiled upon.

It is not a matter of being homophobic. One need not nor should disdain the homosexual. One simply needs to honor and protect the sanctity of marriage as defined by God. Yes, you can love the sinner but hate his sin.

Did I just call same sex marriages a sin? I did because it is entered into by two sinners...that is

homosexuals (male or female) who have chosen to defy God and set up their own moral template as to what qualifies for marriage.

It is somewhat akin to a cow giving milk but you are insistent that your pet parakeet is just as qualified to give milk also because they are both animals.

Well, simply because you are a male and your friend is a male does not mean that you are qualified to be mar-

ried. The qualifications of marriage were long ago set in place by God and they are not subject to a debate or to a vote.

I know. I know. You are probably saying, "well, a state can change the laws and allow homosexuals to marry." Yes, they can. Yes, they did. Yes, they will continue to do so. But the response

is, "so what!" That still does not change the moral law that marriage will never encompass homosexual unions.

Being God does not require a dependency on a popular vote or a majority rule or seeking the goodwill of any person or nation or group. Being sovereign means just that. It is independent of

others and nor does it seek nor need to seek out their affirmation or confirmation.

When the homosexual lobby tries to peddle its seemingly large influence to reconstruct marriage to include gay or lesbian couples, understand that there is spiritual warfare taking place between the forces of evil and God.

It is not a matter of being polite or liberal or inclusive or "changing with the times." Rather it is

whether you will acknowledge the limited freedom of marital conduct as found in the Word of God or, will you give yourself over to the lusts of the flesh in making decisions that are antithetical to God?

Must I? Should I? No. You have free will to make choices including you "marrying" someone of the same gender but remember, with all decisions come consequences and the consequence that the Word of God has already stated in clear ineluctable terms is that the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

Go ahead. Have at it! Choose a gay marriage partner but in that choice, unless one repents, it includes a sentence of eternal separation from God.

Now...in light of the above, is a gay marriage really all that "gay?"

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com

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Senator Brown Elected to Key Leadership Positions in 130th General Assembly

Special to The Truth

“I want to assure my constituents and all Ohioans that I will dedicate my efforts each and every day towards making Ohio a better place to live, work and raise a family.”

State Senator Edna Brown (D-Toledo) released the following statement on the opening day ceremonies of the 130th Ohio General Assembly:

“I am grateful today to not only be sworn in as a State Senator, but also as the Assistant Minority Whip of the Senate Democratic Caucus and as the First Vice President of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus. It has always been an honor for me to represent the citizens of the 11th Senate District and I am more excited than ever to continue working on their behalf in the Ohio Senate.

“Over the course of this General Assembly, I will work diligently with my fellow Senators to introduce legislation that will continue moving Ohio forward. My legislative priorities include promoting the safety and education of our children, encouraging strong economic growth which benefits Ohio businesses and families alike, and ensuring that our veterans are given the resources they need to successfully return to their civilian lives.

“I want to assure my constituents and all Ohioans that I will dedicate my efforts each and every day towards making Ohio a better place to live, work and raise a family.”

Senator Edna Brown joined by her brothers Johnny Hutton (left) and T.J. Hutton (right) on the Opening Day of the 130th General Assembly.



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Jack and Jill Showed the Spirit of Giving this Holiday Season

By Rhonda B. Sewell, Toledo Chapter of Jack and Jill Member
Special to The Truth



As we begin the New Year, the Toledo Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated reflects on its spirit of community service during this recent holiday season at its annual Soulful Santa event at the YWCA Northwest Ohio.

Mothers of the Toledo Chapter of Jack and Jill and their children, along with fathers and significant others, came up with the idea to provide a day of fun for YWCA Northwest Ohio mother residents and their children. On Sunday, December 9, 2012, some 80 family members gathered to provide donated sandwiches, salads, apples and drinks from McDonald's along with games, arts, crafts, cookie decorating and more!

A special story time and

joyful Soulful Santa appearance was the highlight of the day! The jolly ole Soulful Santa handed out candy canes and took pictures with the children.

During the exciting Soulful Santa event, Toledo Chapter of Jack and Jill officials - President Felicia Dunston, Vice President Kelli Winston and Program Director Kim Baker, presented a special monetary donation to YWCA Northwest Ohio President and CEO Lisa McDuffie.

Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated was founded in 1938 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by Marion Stubbs Thomas. In 1946, the National Organization was incorporated and since that meeting in 1938, chapters have been organized across

the entire United States. The organization is made up of mother members and is a family organization that promotes youth leadership and so much more.

In other official Toledo Chapter of Jack and Jill news, mothers are busy planning Jean Jam 4, an adult cabaret chapter fundraiser where guests wear their fancy denims and dance to the latest old school and new school tunes. Jean Jam 4, chaired by Jack and Jill member Patrice McClellen, Ed.D, is scheduled from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Friday, February 15 at St. Clement Hall, 2990 Tremainsville Rd. Cost: \$15 per person. DJ J-Roc will provide music. BYOB event with set-ups available. Tickets must be purchased from a

Jack and Jill member. Information: please e-mail DR.PMC25@gmail.com



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Promises Made. Promises Kept. Sunday Library Hours Restored! (FREE parking on Sundays at Main Library)

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



Keeping its promise to Lucas County voters, the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library Board of Trustees last month agreed to restore Sunday hours at four Library locations, beginning this Sunday, January 6. Sanger Branch Library, which has been the only location open on Sunday for the past three years, will continue with Sunday hours. In addition, parking at Main Library's underground lot will be FREE for customers during the restored Sunday hours.

All five locations, which are Main Library, Heatherdowns, Oregon, Sanger and Sylvania, will be open on Sundays from 1 to 2

p.m. The restoration of Sunday hours is a direct result of the passage of a five-year, 2.9 mill Library operating levy on the November 2012 ballot.

"We made promises during the levy and now it's time to keep those promises," said Library Director Clyde Scoles. "I can't thank Lucas County voters enough for understanding the value we bring to this community. We remain a valuable, educational resource for children, job seekers and those wanting to preserve our local memory."

Looking back at 2009, the reduction in state library funding, coupled with a drop in property tax valuations, caused a drastic \$7.4 million shortfall. These state and local funding cuts had a dramatic effect on the Library system, which welcomed 2.7 million visitors in 2011. Library hours were slashed 27 percent. Night and weekend hours were dramatically decreased and only one branch (Sanger) remained open on

Sundays – a time families seek out library services. Library programs for children were down almost 37 percent, and the number of registered borrowers went down almost 10 percent because we are not open when many need us.

"The state and local funding cuts left our hands tied and deeply impacted our Library system," added Scoles. "It was crucial that we passed the levy and we did. However, state funding, which is about half of our budget, remains uncertain."

The Library's administrative team and the Board of Trustees are also working to restore many weekly and Saturday hours. "We will not recover all lost hours but will offer more access to the highest levels of library services," said Scoles, explaining that all new hours will be in place by March 1.

Board President Dennis Johnson said he looks forward to restoring Library hours. "This is a positive result of the successful passage

of Issue 23," said Johnson. "Sunday is a great day for families to come to the Library together, and the restoration of these hours at the level (customers) previously enjoyed is going to have a dramatic impact on this community."

In other exciting news, beginning this Sunday, Main Library, 325 Michigan St., will become the only passport acceptance agency in the region to have Sunday hours. So be sure to visit Main Library this Sunday and anytime during normal business

hours (services offered up to one hour before closing) to fill out forms to obtain or renew your passport. We've got you covered!

For additional information visit toledolibrary.org, or call 419.259.5200

Reform A Focus Of National School Choice Week

Over 3,500 special events will be used to create what's being described as the world's largest-ever celebration of education reform.

School choice supporters plan to hold rallies, roundtable discussions, educational film screenings, school fairs and other events as part of the third annual National School Choice Week, Jan. 27 to Feb. 2, 2013.

The events are independently planned by parents, students, teachers and community leaders across all 50 states and are designed to raise awareness of the need to provide parents with access to better schools for their children.

The Most Challenging Issue

Andrew Campanella, president of National School Choice Week, believes that education reform is the single most important—and challenging—issue facing our nation.

Said Campanella, "With one American child dropping out of school every 26 seconds, our country must do much more to provide every child with access to a challenging, motivating and effective school. National School Choice Week provides an opportunity for millions of people who want real education reform in our nation to have their voices heard."

Campanella went on to say that student achievement can increase and graduation rates can rise if states and localities increase access to a variety of different educational options for families, from traditional public schools to public charter schools, magnet schools, private schools, online learning and home schooling.

"Schools are not 'one-size-fits-all,' because every child has unique interests and needs. Parents deserve the opportunity to select the right learning environment for their kids, regardless of where they live or how much money they earn," added Campanella. "Time and again, research shows that when parents are empowered to make these choices, children benefit tremendously."

The effort has drawn diverse support from celebrities—such as Bill Cosby—and elected officials from both political parties. But Campanella said that anyone who supports the concept of school choice can plan and organize an event.

More information, including tips on planning events and a list of planned public events, is available online at www.schoolchoiceweek.com.

NATIONAL School Choice WEEK
 Jan 27 - Feb 2, 2013

Celebrate National School Choice Week in Toledo!

Save the Date for a special event on Thursday, January 31, 2013.

Join us to celebrate National School Choice Week and to share a spotlight on effective educational options for every child.

National School Choice Week offers a forum to voice and organize the school choice movement's top priority: empowering families to govern public schools for enhanced educational options. This Toledo event makes it right up here in Toledo!

Join us to celebrate the benefits of widespread school choice - including public charter schools and private school choice - in the Buckeye State.

WHISTLE-STOP TOUR
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For more information about the event, or for a list of sponsors, visit schoolchoiceweek.com/toledo.
 To RSVP visit schoolchoiceweek.com/warning, refer to the Toledo event and enter the special code: **SchoolChoiceOH2**

The event is hosted by National School Choice Week in coordination with:

Amelia's Foundation, Community Fund, Ohio Education Network, Phoenix Academy, and School Choice Ohio.

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FHL Tutoring: Education Outside of the Classroom

By Faith Mitchell
Special to The Truth



Faith, Hope and Love Tutoring, LLC is a tutoring company that I developed after my sophomore year in high school. It is a small business that has impacted some students' lives in extremely big ways. After almost two years of helping educate students, I understand the importance of following my passion to help educate youth.

My inspiration to start tutoring came during my freshman year when I was recommended by one of my teachers to be a peer tutor. I enjoyed teaching my peers and

decided I wanted to continue volunteering where young students were in need of extra academic help.

The next year, my father told me about Kids Unlimited (KU). Kid's Unlimited is an after-school and summer program created to "empower kids to succeed...and reach their fullest potential, regardless of economic, social, and cultural barriers." When I heard about its mission, I immediately chose to volunteer for this organization.

I also knew a lot of high school students who wished they had more help preparing for high school and I believed I could make a difference and impact the education of young people.

In my first few weeks at KU, I worked with five different students. Most memorable was a second grader who was struggling with reading. The first thing that I noticed was he easily gave up. He was embarrassed when he couldn't figure something out and was reluc-

tant to ask for help. He didn't ask questions in class because he thought that other students would laugh at him. He was distracted when he saw other students playing and was upset when he finished his work last.

However, he really enjoyed reading! He just needed more one-on-one time to help him focus and for someone to be patient and focus on just him.

I also worked very closely with two other students. I went back and forth between the two of them to keep them on task. I noticed that both of them rushed through their work. They didn't want to do homework "at home" and wanted to play games.

This was understandable, but not productive. They didn't study much at home. Not studying outside of the classroom reflected poorly on their test scores and overall grades. The next times I tutored them, I didn't let them play any games - they were not very happy about this.

Once they'd finished their

homework, we would carefully go over it. If they got an answer wrong, I would explain why it was wrong and make up a few similar problems for them to complete. I also would make note cards for them.

They began to study at home because they knew that

learning.

From that point, tutoring became something I was extremely passionate about. I wanted to help more students on an individual basis and focus on their specific needs. I was already providing free tutoring through an organization, but I wanted to do it

viding students with extra academic help is really important. Even if a student is not struggling, it can be advantageous simply to help them get ahead.

Tutoring can help any student become more successful in school and gain more knowledge than they might

I started my tutoring company mainly to help improve student's grades, but it has become much more than that.

the next time we were together, I would quiz them. Good quiz scores meant they could start playing games again. Learning became a fun challenge. They challenged themselves to do better each week.

Soon, I saw their attitudes towards learning change from negative to positive. After their attitudes changed, so did their test scores. It felt so great to know that I could help two young students become enthusiastic about

on my own and in my own way.

I started my tutoring company mainly to help improve student's grades, but it has become much more than that. Now I also strive to prepare junior high students for high school and all students for standardized tests such as the Ohio Graduation Tests, SAT and ACT.

Most importantly, I get students excited about learning. I help them gain confidence in their abilities. Pro-

get only from inside the classroom. It can also help them gain the confidence they need to succeed and compete with other students in an increasingly competitive educational and employment environment.

Faith Mitchell is a senior at Notre Dame Academy and is in the process of determining which institution of higher learning she will attend next year

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UT Celebrates African Americans in Graduating Class of 2012

It was an afternoon to both celebrate great strides forward and to measure progress still to be made. On December 14, 2012, The University of Toledo gathered to celebrate all African-American graduates for the class of 2012. Sponsored by the Office for Multicultural Student Success, the pre-commencement event, held in the Student Union Auditorium, brought together UT graduates, their friends and families, community members and University professors, administrators and staff.

As Kaye Patten-Wallace, Ph.D., senior vice president for the student experience, noted, the connections forged between UT students, staff and the wider community was another cause for celebration.

"I'm thrilled by the representation here," said Patten-Wallace, who coordinated the event. "There are faculty, deans, representatives from the Registrar's Office. It's so important for top-level administrators to interact with successful students of color, and understand how there's a prominent role for everyone to play in increasing the number of college graduates."

As one example, she pointed to the success of Brothers on the Rise, a grass-roots program designed to replace the drop-out rates of black male college students with degree completion and the launching of lifelong careers: "We have black faculty, staff and graduate students who are meeting, talking with and listening to our young black male students. And they're working to replace a damaging trend with one that's going to ensure a great future for our students."

She added that UT has been working with members of the Boulè (Sigma Pi Phi) — a national fraternity of black professionals — since representatives of the organization expressed dismay to University administrators over student retention rates for black males. "They said they wanted to be part of the solution," Patten-Wallace said.

"This kind of partnership demonstrates how effectively community strengths can be combined, and how committed UT is to turning around this situation."

Pariss Coleman II, an attorney at Cooper & Kowalski, LPA, was the event's keynote speaker. His speech, "Standing on the Shoulders of Giants," focused on the fact that UT's graduates indeed stand on the "shoulders of giants," people who have come before them and opened the doors for their success. Coleman focused on local and national pioneering people and historical moments: UT's first black student, believed to be Ms. Lela Amelia Gertrude



Harris, who enrolled circa 1918 and graduated in 1922; the landmark case of Brown v. Board of Education that allowed for the integration of public schools; Thurgood Marshall, who argued Brown and became the first black Supreme Court Justice; and President Obama's election in 2008 and re-election in 2012.



Likewise, Coleman recognized Lance Thompson, Ph.D., UT's first black employee, who was hired as a chemistry professor in 1958. Thompson served the university as a chemistry professor and vice president until he retired in 1988. Thompson was in attendance and received thunderous applause from the crowd.

Coleman, quoting the poem "The Essence of Survival," encouraged students to compete with the rest of the world and to soon become giants upon whose shoulders the next generation of students will stand.

All in attendance enjoyed a wonderful meal. At the conclusion of the event, graduating

(Continued on Page 9)

10TH ANNUAL BLACK COLLEGE TOUR

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Pariss Coleman

UT Celebrates African Americans in Graduating Class of 2012



students received certificates, stoles, and memorialized the moment with pictures taken in front of the UT crest.



CRUSADERS FOR CHRIST CHURCH Presents *Youth & Young Adult 4th Sunday*

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Caldecott Read-In scheduled Saturday, January 19 @ Main Library

Special to The Truth

The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library invites adults to our annual **Caldecott Read-In** to see the best picture books for children all in one place. Help us choose the local Caldecott winner while comparing favorites and meeting others interested in book design and stories for children beginning at **9 a.m.** on Saturday, **January 19** in the Huntington Meeting Room at Main Library, 325 Michigan St.



Help choose the local Caldecott winner and see how the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library's selection compares with the actual Caldecott winner scheduled to be announced later this month at the American Library Association (ALA) mid-winter conference in Seattle.

This annual local Library event, now in its 39th year, is designed for adults interested in book design and stories for children.

See the best in children's picture books from 2012 all in one location! Come out to compare favorites with other adults. The Caldecott Medal was named in honor of nineteenth-century English illustrator **Randolph Caldecott**. The ALA has awarded the Medal annually since 1938 through its Association for Library Service to Children to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

A potluck lunch is planned. Participants are encouraged to bring a salad or dessert to share, and your own table service. Beverages will be provided. Complimentary underground parking – enter off Adams Street.

UT DIVISION OF STUDENT SUCCESS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
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The Office of EXCELLENCE Programs, UT Joint Committee, and Sponsoring Organizations presents the

29th Annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth
inviting all Toledo-area 7th - 12th grade students, parents and community

*"The Bigger Picture:
Understanding Your Role in the Global Community"*

Saturday, January 26, 2013

8:30 a.m. (sharp) to 1:00 p.m.
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The University of Toledo
Student Union Auditorium
Doors open at 7:30 a.m.

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Kevin Powell
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versatile young leader, poet, journalist, hip-hop historian

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Lourdes University and The University of Toledo Announce National Art Contest

“Justice Through Our Eyes” – a feature of the Fourth National Restorative Justice Conference

Special to The Truth

This spring, Lourdes University and The University of Toledo are partnering to present the Fourth National Restorative Justice Conference. The conference will be held at the Hilton Hotel at the UT Medical Center, June 19-21 and will bring nearly 500 leading international academics, practitioners, and activists in the fields of restorative and racial justice together as they focus on “Keeping It Real – Race & Restorative Justice.”

A new component of the national conference in 2013 is the “Justice Through Our Eyes” art program. Designed to capture the essence and soul of justice in its truest form through the eyes of

our youth, the program is calling for students – either in K to 8th grade, or High School through Higher Education to create a work of art that answers the question: “What does justice mean to me?”

Entries will be accepted now through March 15. Students may create the artwork using the medium of their choice and can upload jpegs or gifs of the artwork at www.lourdes.edu/restorativejustice. There is no fee to enter and students may enter as many times as they wish. The program is open to students worldwide.

All artists’ submissions will be included in the 2013 Fourth National



Gina Jones Paris



Morris Jenkins

Restorative Justice Conference program booklet. One winning entry from each category – “K to 8th grade” and “High School through Higher Education” will be chosen by a select panel of art and social justice professionals.

The two winning student artists will receive a \$500 Visa gift card that can be used for art supplies for the student and

man of the Department of Criminal Justice & Social Work at The University of Toledo.

For more information on the “Justice Through Our Eyes” art program or the Fourth National Restorative Justice Conference, contact Co-Chair Gina Paris, Adjunct Sociology Professor and Diversity Trainer, at 419-277-0568 or restorativejustice@toledo.edu.

The University of Toledo is one of 14 state universities in Ohio. Established in 1872, the institution became a member of the state university system in 1967. The University of Toledo and the Medical University of Ohio merged in July 2006 to form the third-largest public university operating budget in the state.

The University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. For more information visit www.toledo.edu or call 800-

586-5336.

Rooted in the Catholic Franciscan tradition, Lourdes University offers baccalaureate degrees in more than 30 academic majors as well as graduate degrees in business, education, liberal arts, nursing, organizational leadership and theology. Community outreach programs include the Appold Planetarium, the Center for Science Education & the Environment, Lifelong Learning, and Theater Vision.

A member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, Lourdes students can also compete in a variety of men and women’s sports. Named a “Best in the Midwest” college by the Princeton Review, Lourdes University is a nationally accredited, veteran and transfer-friendly institution offering a variety of student scholarships. Discover us online at www.lourdes.edu or by phone at 800-878-3210.

his/her classmates, and will be acknowledged during the conference’s opening session. The winning entries will also be posted at www.restorativejusticeconf.org and appear on billboards in and around the Toledo, OH area courtesy of Lamar Advertising Company.

“We are excited to add this component to the national conference and look forward to viewing and sharing the views of our youth, as expressed through their artwork,” notes Morris Jenkins, Ph.D., J.D., chairman of the conference and chair-

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Owens Community College Foundation Announces 2013-14 Scholarship Program Opportunities

Special to The Truth

The Owens Community College Foundation is investing in northwest Ohio's educational future by making available thousands of dollars in scholarship opportunities as part of the academic institution's 2013-14 Scholarship Program.

Through the generosity of businesses and individuals within the surrounding communities, the Owens Foundation will offer current and future students the opportunity to apply for over 60 available scholarships for the upcoming 2013-14 academic year. Scholarship applicants must complete and return the application to the Oserve Office at any one of the College's four locations by Feb. 15. Scholarship award

notification will begin in May and will continue until all awards have been made.

For scholarships based on financial need, a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application for the 2013-14 academic year must be on file in the College's Oserve Office by Feb. 28. FAFSA and Foundation Scholarship Program forms are available in the College's Oserve Office or can be downloaded by accessing the Owens website at www.owens.edu.

In addition, Owens currently participates in several need-based federal and state funded grant programs, work study opportunities, and loans, which all require applicants to file a FAFSA form

to determine financial need. Specific programs accessible to students include the Federal Pell Grant, the Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant, the Owens Community College Grant, the Federal Direct Stafford Loan, the Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan and Federal Work Study, among others.

The Owens Foundation was incorporated in April 2002 and has over \$2.7 million in assets. The Foundation Board of Directors currently is comprised of 29 community leaders from Lucas, Wood and Hancock counties. The mission of the Owens Foundation and its Board of Directors is developing and providing resources to advance the

College's overall mission of serving students and the surrounding communities. The Foundation is also dedicated to removing barriers to education by providing student scholarships and supporting

growth and innovation at Owens.

This past academic year, Owens provided more than \$96 million in grants, scholarships, loans and federal work study to support the

educational needs of students. For more information on Owens Foundation scholarship opportunities, call (567) 661-7603 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 7603.

Program Assists Parents in Raising Nonviolent Children

Special to The Truth

The United States leads the world in rates of youth violence. Unfortunately violence in the form of physical aggression, fights, and related acts, such as the tragic school shooting in Newton, Conn., are becoming to commonplace in American schools.

In an effort to address the issue of youth violence, as well as related issues of child maltreatment and family violence, the ACT Great Lakes Regional Center at the University of Toledo offers the ACT Raising Safe Kids program for parents and caregivers of young children. The program helps parents to protect children from violence, use effective nonviolent methods of raising children, and foster safe and nurturing home environments. The program provides interactive learning opportunities for parents and caregivers in friendly environments.

"Decades of research underscore how critical it is for parents and caregivers to be aware of and to minimize the impact of violence on children. Using programs such as ACT, we can mobilize parents to protect children from violence and to raise children who are nonviolent," said Dr. Michele Knox, clinical child psychologist at the UT Medical Center and ACT Regional Center Director. "It is very difficult to effectively treat violent teens. We are far better off when we prevent the problem from happening by starting early in life."

The ACT program's mission is to mobilize communities and educate families to create safe, nurturing environments that protect children and youth from violence and its consequences. ACT provides a parenting program for parents of young children that includes classes and information to teach parents effective, nonviolent discipline and to prevent violence exposure and its effects. Research on the program demonstrates improved parenting, reduced child maltreatment, and reduced aggressive and disruptive behavior in children of parents who complete the program.

The Great Lakes Regional Center in Toledo is one of five regional centers that engage families and professionals in their regions to respond local communities' needs. The others are located in Chicago, Miami, Waltham, Mass. and Pleasant Hill, Calif.

The ACT Great Lakes Regional Center is funded by the Verizon Foundation, Auto Dealers United for Kids - Toledo, American Psychological Association and Metlife Foundation.

Contact the ACT Great Lakes Regional Center at 419-383-5494 for more information

BGSU Hosts Financial Aid Workshops

Special to The Truth

The financial aid process can be a complicated one. Bowling Green State University is hosting workshops on Jan. 19 and Feb. 1 to help students and their families understand the application and award process.

Two workshops will be held on Jan. 19. The first runs from 9 a.m. to noon, and the second from 1-4 p.m. The Feb. 1 session runs from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is required to attend. You can register online at <http://sfa.bgsu.edu/workshop>. All workshops will be held in 202 Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Attendees will learn about the financial aid opportunities available, get information on filling out and filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, hear about scholarship opportunities at BGSU, and grants, loans and employment programs available to help make college more affordable.

Financial Aid and Admissions staff will be available for one-on-one sessions, and door prizes will be awarded, including two book scholarships at each workshop. Student Employment, Student Money Management Services and Residence Life representatives will also be available.

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“Making Habits, Breaking Habits” by Jeremy Dean

c.2013, DaCapo Lifelong

\$26.00 / \$29.00 Canada

256 pages

*By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor*

This year, you're really going to do it. No more unfulfilled promises. No more embarrassment, explaining, or excuses. You'll never have to hide that bad habit again because you're going to quit smoking, stop gambling, be kinder, resist going online every ten minutes, lose weight, whatever it is you've been meaning to do for months.

You're really going to do it. You are. And with **“Making Habits, Breaking Habits” by Jeremy Dean** by your side, you really might accomplish that goal.

Step into the self-help section of any bookstore or library, and you might think that “21” is a magic number: a lot of books claim that you can fix your life in that many days.

Jeremy Dean says establishing habits isn't that easy, however. Research shows that it takes an average of 66 days for a habit to be formed, depending on several factors. A “really strong” habit could take a year to create!

From the time we get up in the morning until the time we fall asleep, we follow habits without thinking about them, which is one of the main characteristics of a habit. Habits are also “curiously emotionless” and are generally followed in connection with another situation: you get in the car and turn on the radio because, well, you're in the car.

That's a habit made in “response to rewards from the environment.” Conversely, making habits can also be intentional but it depends on how worthwhile we find them. You may intend to get to the gym every day, for instance, but if you'd really rather stay in bed, guess which activity wins.

“There has to be an ultimate goal that is really worth achieving or the habit will be almost impossible to ingrain,” says Dean. Muster all the willpower your body possesses, visualize until your head hurts, but nothing works if there's no internal reward. External rewards, Dean says, are “laced with danger.”

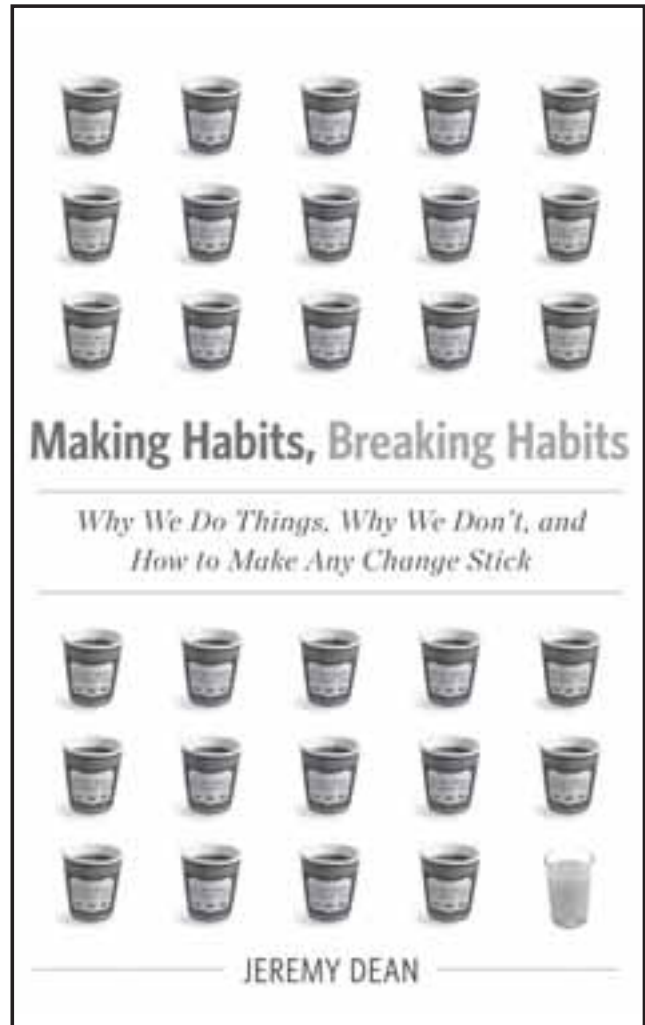
As for breaking habits, it's hard to stop doing something you're not aware you're doing. What's worse: studies show that trying to suppress a thought or action makes you want to do it all that much more. So forget about self-control, says Dean. Instead, change your cues, pay attention, know yourself, and learn some “happy habits.”

Looking for a quick-fix for those New Year's Resolutions? Nope, “Making Habits, Breaking Habits” ain't it.

By helping us understand what makes us tick and why, author Jeremy Dean avoids platitudes and misty advice to give his readers the tools they need to stop being frustrated by change and lack thereof. He advocates patience and dispels a lot of myths about why we do the things we do (or don't), explaining why our willpower fails us or why we find some habits easy to make.

That's helpful, and could make a fix that sticks.

While there are times when this book seemed smaller than its subject, I think it would be advantageous to anyone who's serious about changing behavior. If that's you, then find “Making Habits, Breaking Habits”.... and then do it.



Statement From Former Ohio Governor Ted Strickland

Earlier this week, former Governor Ted Strickland released the following statement:

“Today, I am announcing my decision not to seek election as Governor of Ohio in 2014.

“In many ways, this has been a very difficult decision. I look back fondly on my time as Ohio's 68th Governor – and am proud of my Administration's efforts to

guide our state through the greatest national economic crisis since the Great Depression. With the help of my First Lady—Frances Strickland—my dedicated and loyal Cabinet, and my incredibly hard-working Executive Staff, we held the ship steady. With the help of President Obama, who provided the funds necessary to keep Ohio and all of America from slipping into another Great Depression, we

were able to preserve the social safety net, make important investments in education, and position Ohio's economy for the recovery that started in February 2010.

“And when I look back on my four years as Governor, I am equally proud of those in the Strickland Administration who served the public with honor, integrity, and humility. We sought to make Ohio better.

“My administration was about positioning Ohio as a leader in our rapidly chang-

ing economy and global world. We worked to rebuild our infrastructure with a special effort to make sure the national system for rail transportation included Ohio. We worked to ensure there were more Ohioans with affordable health care coverage. We significantly improved our national standing in public education, made sure it did not suffer from deep cuts during the economic crises, and worked to satisfy the Supreme Court's ruling for equitable funding with a new formula

that was less dependent on property taxes. We enacted a comprehensive energy reform bill that helped to stabilize the energy market for consumers and business while creating a renewable portfolio standard that has positioned Ohio as a leader in advanced energy. And, we made college more affordable. Most significant for jobs, we were leaders in investments in alternatives sources of energy and went to bat for the automobile industry; working closely with President Obama on the res-

cue plan that has been so pivotal in Ohio's economic recovery.

“In short, I believe my Administration stood and spoke for the causes that count.

“Frances and I will continue to be politically active private citizens. We will continue to stand with working men and women to build a stronger Ohio—and to defeat anti-worker and anti-middle class legislation that may arise.”

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Downtown Toledo – My Vision — Part 1

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



Just over 10 years ago there was something called First Night.

It was held on New Year's Eve throughout downtown Toledo.

Even though I'm a less than part time columnist (as seen here weekly), a big part of my life is rooted in my music. My parents used to perform at First Night and when my cousin and I began our group, we followed suit as well.

Imagine thousands of Toledoans walking downtown streets braving a frozen December night taking in venue after venue of live entertainment of all kinds. Then imagine a fireworks display as the clock struck midnight. Welcoming 2013 got me thinking about how New Years Eve used to be.

It also reminded me that a career in the music industry has never been my only career interest... I've always had the desire to develop downtown Toledo.

Where most see emptiness, I see opportunity.

Back when Jack Ford was elected mayor I had a few inside connects and ended up placing a phone call to his home residence.

After getting permission, I went to his house with a brown envelope full of my ideas for Downtown

Toledo in the hopes that at least one would become reality.

I've always had a vision for improving this city and I'm not alone.

In recent years downtown has become a place in which many are proud to live, work and play.

But, I still have a few ideas and from time to time I may write about them mainly just to get them off my chest. I understand they may not all be feasible and I've met enough opposition over the years to know things don't just materialize over night.

DOWNTOWN GRAFFITI PARK

Pick a few blocks of mostly vacant space and erect a series of brick walls no taller than eight feet high. These walls serve as a canvas for all the graffiti crews in the area to do with as they please. This embraces the art form and culture of graffiti instead of shoving it to the shadows where it becomes 'vandalism.' In my vision, I see it operating like an outdoor art gallery.

The walls will be 'wiped clean' every four months so that new works can be displayed. Since it will likely draw passerby traffic as well as up-close gatherers, revenue can be generated from well-placed eye-level billboards companies can purchase advertising space on (my bachelors is in public relations, so those thoughts are always there too.)

In the summer months, this graffiti park could potentially become a feature attraction of downtown Toledo. The space could host events, contests and showcases that encompass the world of graffiti and

other urban art forms. There's lots of available space for something like this to be erected. Perhaps at the new Marina District, or maybe across from the Erie Street Market... all it takes is about a block of land not being used help with zoning from the city and someone to finance it too.

SOLAR POWER TOWER

The Fiberglass tower, former headquarters of Owens Corning, is the second tallest building in the entire city ... and it has been empty since I was a teenager. Because I'm one of those odd people who stays glued to development news, I've followed this building's progress enough to know that no suitable renovation has proved cost effective.

Asbestos removal, handicap accessibility and other things have stalled progress repeatedly over the years.

The top of the building is an antenna farm, but to me, that's still not truly utilizing it's potential. My idea is to replace every single glass window with a solar panel and transform this 400 ft tall skyscraper into an energy source.

Unless Solar City is just some cute nickname we almost adopted, we should use the infrastructure already in place to create the panels and conversion process right here in Greater Toledo.

I've always had ideas for this piece of property and short of turning it into a giant electronic billboard, I think this is my best one even if it is somewhat audacious.

JEEP PROVING GROUND

The sport utility vehicle has been around for decades but the popularity it enjoyed in the 90s made it nothing short of a phenomenon. Every car manufacturer had to make them in various sizes and trim levels, because every consumer wanted one.

Toledo, Ohio is the BIRTHPLACE of the SUV.

I've always thought there should be a place where all that history plus modern innovation can be comprehensibly put on display in a way people can interact with, right in downtown Toledo.

A small, beginner-obstacle course for sport utility vehicle owners to see that their four-wheeled friend is good for much more than trips back and forth to Krogers. A showroom that displays the rich history this area has with this particular benchmark in automotive history. Also, have a few car dealerships co-opting the spaces at this facility just in case anyone's in the mood to trade-in or buy.

Again, I envisioned this

as something with a large outdoor presence downtown. When I drive down Summit St., between Lagrange and Bush I always see vast opportunities for something like this to exist. It would be like a hands-on museum/dealership/daily auto show with a view of the river! Once again, I'm not sure how feasible this is... but it's just one of those ideas I've had that won't leave. (note: a dealership not too far from Toledo has already done part of this but there's still a way to make a clear distinction).

I could go on and on with my ideas for downtown and Toledo in general.

Over the years I've attended functions to meet the movers and shakers who supposedly make things happen. When you want to make things happen and you have this burning ambition to make a mark, the last thing you want to encounter is pointless bureaucracy.

But I've been to the TMACOG and Chamber events.

I've had copies and revised copies of the Downtown Toledo 20/20 Mas-

ter Plan and all that. As many of you know, I've even held two different weekly events in downtown for a total of five years just because I felt it was important for whatever I'm involved in to include downtown. Recently, there has been great growth and development due to the efforts of people who, like me, see opportunity instead of lack.

If you read this column I'm sure you've seen me give props to all the functions and cool events and all that. There are new buildings, new lofts, murals, outside art, stores, boutiques, performance venues and all kinds of things in downtown Toledo.

All that's missing is more Toledoans to take part.

As for my ideas, if anyone knows a powerful investor or venture capital firm, LET ME KNOW!

Until then, I'll keep seeing the glass half full.

Peace!

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Tips On Improving Your Communication Skills

Experts agree that communication is key to success, no matter what your line of work. One of the first steps to becoming a better communicator is being more self-aware so that you can better understand the situation, your audience and your role in the conversation.

That's the word according to Dr. Annie Shibata, faculty member in Walden University's B.S. in Communication program. In order to become more conscious of what you are trying to communicate and how you are going about it, Dr. Shibata suggests reflecting on the following questions:

- What is my communication goal? Consider your short- and long-term goals as well as what action, information or commitment you want as a result of your communication--both now and in the future.

- Am I deliberate and conscious in how I communicate? Be conscious of both your oral and written communication. Remember, when speaking, it's estimated that the total impact of a message is about 7 percent verbal (words only), 38 percent vocal (including tone of voice, inflection and other sounds) and 55 percent nonverbal.

- Do I know who my audience is? Try to be aware of various factors, such as cultural differences, that may exist within your audience and can play a role in how the message is received.

- Am I aware of my emotions when I communicate? Think about your emotions and how appropriate they are for the situation to determine if you're prepared. In situations such as asking for a raise from your supervisor, it's important to be clear and unemotional and focus on communicating what you've been doing well.

- What nonverbal message am I communicating? Consider how you sit or stand, your facial expressions and how you're dressed. Most of the messages we send other people when communicating are nonverbal.

- Am I an honest communicator? Do you state your needs and desires clearly? Do you

communicate with integrity? The answer to all of these should be "yes."

- Am I listener focused? Do you often use slang, idioms, acronyms or technical jargon? Such language can exclude some or all of your audience. Be clear and concise in your communication and consider how the listener is following and understanding your message.

For more tips on becoming an effective communicator, visit www.WaldenU.edu/success.



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Page 15

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Applications for the Journeyman Inside Wireman test will be accepted January 7-11, 2013 at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 8, 807 Lime City Road, Rossford, Ohio between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The qualifications to be eligible for this examination are:

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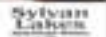
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James Powell Out at EOPA – But Not Quite Yet

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor

The board of directors for the Economic Opportunity Planning Association held a special meeting on Monday night, January 7 and voted to fire CEO James Powell. Powell has been asked to step down on or before June 30, said one board member after the meeting.

Powell, a long-time EOPA employee, has led the agency since 2009, when he survived a long, bitter board struggle to name a successor to longtime executive director Oscar Griffith.

In recent years, however, EOPA, which has an annual budget of around \$17 million, has been scrutinized as never before because of the potential loss of its Head Start program, which accounts for \$13 million of its annual budget.

The EOPA Head Start is one of only 132 such programs – out of 1,600 nationally – that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has decreed must compete for future funding. As a result of that decision, other groups, most

notably the Toledo Public Schools, have decided to apply for the Head Start funding.

The potential loss of Head Start brought an unprecedented amount of fire

on the agency's director over the past year.

"Congress is asking, 'what are we getting for our \$13 million,'" noted newly-elected board president Rev. D.L. Perryman, in the

aftermath of Monday's decision to fire Powell.

Perryman observed that gone are the days when funding for programs is both automatic and not held to an evaluation process.

"I defy anyone to say that any structured educational program for pre-school children is ineffective," Powell told The Truth a year and a half ago. At that time Powell stated that he did not have access to any statistical analysis of the progress the local Head Start program has made over the years.

However, HHS felt otherwise and their judgment was apparently validated last year when former board member, Romules Durant, Ed.D., assistant superintendent for TPS, compiled research from the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment – Literacy (KRAL) tests which showed that local Head Start graduates' readiness for kindergarten was

not significantly different from their counterparts who had not attended Head Start.

The statistics Durant compiled compared Head Start students to all other kindergartners in TPS, to those at Title I schools (free and reduced lunch eligible) and to those at Race to the Top Schools – the five lowest performing central city schools.

The ouster of Powell had been in the offing for some time as board members jockeyed for a way to reach a majority on the subject of his dismissal. In September, the board voted to implement a succession plan, but without directly leveling criticism of Powell's performance.

In this most recent round of maneuverings, a committee of board members attempted to work out a plan with Powell for his resignation. He rebuffed that deal, forcing the board to fire him.

EOPA was formed in the

1960's as part of the Johnson Administration's Model Cities Program. The agency has run the Head Start program for decades. Currently just over 2,000 three-to-five year olds are enrolled in the pre-school program in an effort to achieve the Head Start mission – as recently defined by the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 – of, "promot[ing] the school readiness of low-income children by enhancing their cognitive, social and emotional development in a learning environment that supports children's growth in language, literacy, mathematics, science, social and emotional functioning, creative arts, physical skills and approaches to learning ..."

Powell was not available for comment for this article.



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