

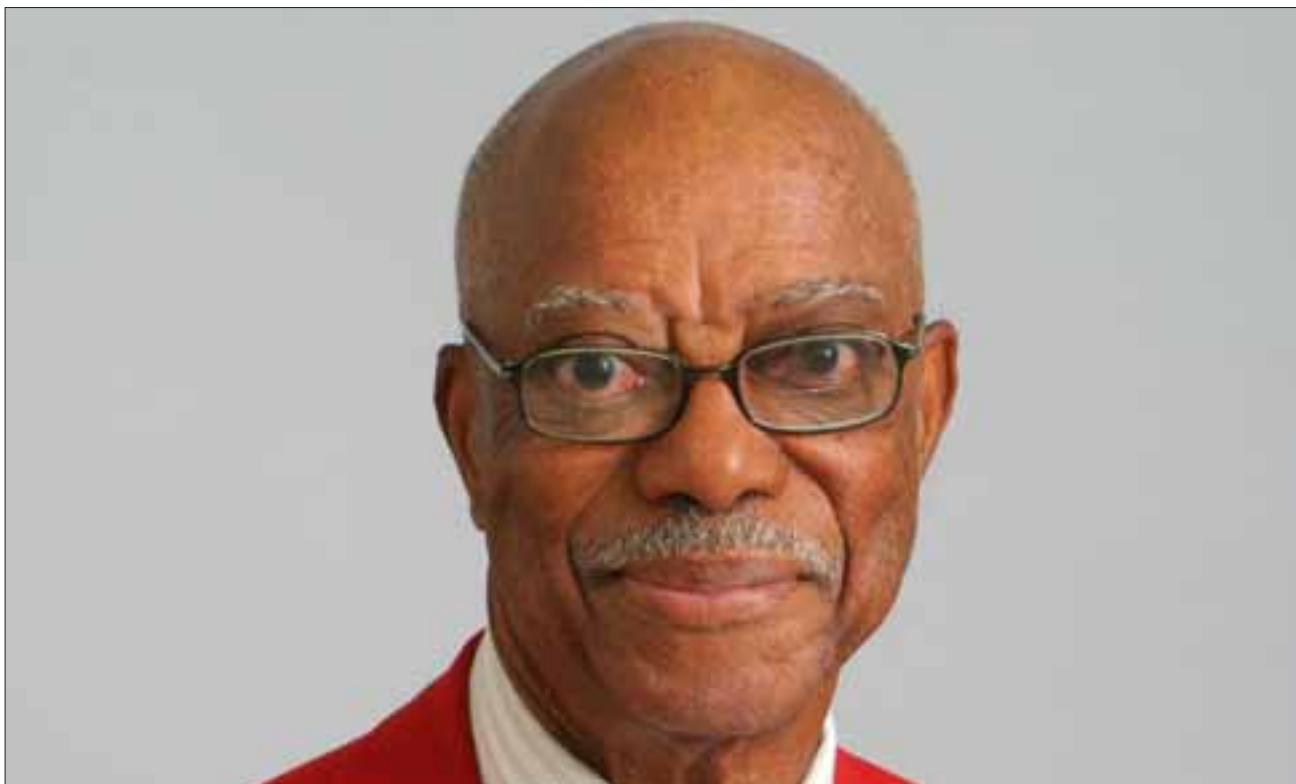


Volume 26, No. 8

*"And Ye Shall Know The Truth..."*

February 26, 2014

# Lancelot C. A. Thompson, Ph.D



*Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at The University of Toledo*

**"Dr. Thompson has dedicated over 50 years to the University of Toledo and, along the way, blazed trails for many to follow. In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Dr. Thompson made a way out of no way." - Pariss Coleman, Esq**

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# A Line in the Sand

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

*... We all have our private moral failings, but when you misuse public power to hurt people, that's a different level of failing.*

- Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II



Speaking at the 50th anniversary March on Washington Reenactment on August 28, 2013, State Representative and Ohio Legislative Black Caucus President Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati) drew a line in the sand when she declared "No more temporary solutions to permanent problems."

More than mere rhetorical flair, the speech announced the current attack on voting rights in Ohio as the uncompromised boundary to an ever-intensifying extremist assault on workers' rights, public education, women's rights, civil rights in the criminal justice system and the politics of black fear manifest in Stand Your Ground legislation.

Representative Reece, also a board member of the National Action Network, took time to speak with me about the Ohio Voter Bill of Rights, an initiative she organized in Ohio as a paradigm for national implementation to counter political extremism.

**Perryman:** Please tell our readers about your involvement with this new initiative, the Ohio Voter Bill of Rights.

**Reece:** Well, I am the Chair of the Ohio Voter Bill of Rights Committee and I'm also president of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus. After being in the legislature and seeing all of the voter suppression bills that have come forward to dismantle voter rights and then to go back to my district and see voter intimidation billboards put up across the street from where I live, having a polling location where provisional ballots took two years and \$1 million in lawsuits in order for anyone to count them. And then, being asked to speak at the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington, and the week

before, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 Section Five was deemed unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court.

It was then I thought about the gains that have been made during the Civil Rights Movement. Many of those gains, such as the Voter's Rights Act, were not permanent and so we need to move now in this current generation to make some of Dr. King's dreams permanent. And so, I stated in my speech at the March on Washington that we have to have "no more temporary solutions to permanent problems" and that it's time for a constitutional amendment that can be put into the various state constitutions across the country starting with Ohio in 2014. So that's kind of how the ball got rolling.

We returned to Ohio and began working and pulling together a coalition of civil rights leaders, clergy, Prince Hall Masons, NAACP State Chapter, National Action Network and many others in the Ohio Student Association and we launched the movement.

**Perryman:** Well, you seem to have pulled together an impressive coalition. But my question is can a fractured black community come together on an issue as great as this? Can we put our internal differences aside in order to sustain the collective action that a worthy issue like this requires?

**Reece:** Oh absolutely, absolutely. I also have to mention that the A. Philip Randolph Institute is a part of this. But, I think so. I have experienced from kickoff, groups of folks who had not maybe worked together on an issue such as this who have already come together. This is a non-traditional, grassroots, bottom-up campaign. And it's dealing with an issue that touches

all of us, whether you marched with Dr. King, whether you remember when they did not have voting rights, whether you are of my generation where we benefited from the voting rights and now those rights are being

taken away or whether you're from the current generation of college students who have been attacked and trying to be disenfranchised because they won't allow them to use a college ID.

... continued on page 3

## Community Calendar

### February 2-March 9

City of Zion, the Mt Zion Church: Sundays at 9 am; Life Institute Courses: Living Better, Fight Like a Man

### March 1

United Community Church Call of Duty – Men Event: 11 am to 2 pm; Includes free steak dinner for men: 419-243-3983 or pastordanielj@yahoo.com

### March 5

Second Baptist Church Singles Ministry Seminar: "Enrichment of Your Life and Family Life Through the Word of God;" 6 to 8 pm; Spencer Township Community Building: 419-320-2588

### March 7

Toledo District of FGBCF International "Fire on Friday;" City of Zion Campus; 7 pm; Guest speaker Bishop Joseph Walker III of Nashville: 419-246-1850

Regional Energy Forum 2.0: UT Scott Park Campus; 7:30 am to 4:30 pm; Fresh perspectives on energy landscape; Trends, economic development, entrepreneurship, sustainability strategies

### March 8

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Annual Free Youth Symposium: "Partners for Progress, Working Together to Build Bridges for Youth;" Grace Community Center; 9 am – registration; 10 am – workshops; 1 pm – lunch

### March 9

St. Paul MBC Men's Day: "Obedience Is Better Than Sacrifice;" 10:45 am service – guest speaker Bro. Brandon Tucker of Greater New Psalmist Church; 4 pm service – guest speaker Rev. Cory Pruitt, pastor of Mt. Enon MBC of Dayton  
Calvary MBC 25th Pastoral Anniversary Celebration: Pastor Floyd Smith; 4 pm; Guests Bishop Duane Tisdale and Friendship Baptist

### March 12

Engaging Men Forum: 9 to 11:30 am; The Educational Service Center; An opportunity to engage men in a discussion about domestic violence issues; Speaker Gus Funk; Breakfast and sign in at 8:30 am: 419-244-3053

### March 16

Calvary MBC 25th Pastoral Anniversary Celebration: Pastor Floyd Smith; 4 pm; Guests Rev. Melvin Barnes and Greater Faith Fellowship Church

### March 23

Calvary MBC 25th Pastoral Anniversary Celebration: Pastor Floyd Smith; 4 pm; Guests Rev. W.L. Perryman and Jerusalem Baptist

### April 9-11

City of Zion, The Mt. Zion Church Conference 2014: "Let's Go Higher;" Toledo Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International Intercessory Prayer Conference; 6:30 nightly; Guest – Bishop Duane Tisdale, Pastor Kim Davis, Bishop William Murphy: 419-246-1850

## The Sojourner's Truth

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*Perryman... continued from page 2*

Definitely with an historical approach, we have from like the Reverend Dr. Otis Moss, a national civil rights leader who was with Dr. King saying to me that he not only wants to dedicate his time to this when he doesn't have to do it, but also be one of the original petitioners and stand up for this. So we've got those kinds of people together because we're in a state of emergency. And so I thought it was really important that we kick it off standing together and that our allies stand with us, just like white abolitionists stood with Harriet Tubman and just as other allies stood with Dr. King to get the civil rights movement going.

**Perryman:** Do we have any allies outside of the black community and why do you think now is the time? And are we ready?

**Reece:** Well the time is definitely now. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 has been attacked. When I was a college student at Grambling State University, I never could understand why I would have to worry about the Voting Rights Act being renewed. And I remember one of my elders telling me, "Oh, they would never be crazy enough to touch the Voting Rights Act." And so, we are in a state of emergency at a time when the Voting Rights Act and voter rights are under attack on a daily basis, even in my own district. They are trying to move the Board of Elections from downtown Cincinnati out to an area where only one bus per day goes. So the time is definitely now and that's why we have to move quickly. There is legislation to suppress voting being introduced in the Ohio General Assembly at least once a week and

they have the votes there to sign these bad bills into law. The only way to stop this hemorrhaging is to go to the Constitution. That's why we're going to the Constitution to put something in place where they can't play political football with our voting rights. So the answer to your question, is that we are in a state of emergency as it relates to voting rights so the time is definitely now.

**Perryman:** But do you feel ...

**Reece:** As it relates to other allies, we have -- we just got an endorsement by Freedom Ohio. We have an endorsement by the Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies across the state and those agencies not only are in urban areas, but, are often in the rural areas. Another two endorsements have come forward that we didn't even ask for. There are a few inter-faith alliances across the state that are interested in supporting this and endorsing this of different faiths, black and white clergy. And so, there will be a number of other organizations as we reach out. We are going in the right direction and we're doing it at a grassroots level. It's non-traditional because it is the first time when this type issue would be instituted, kicked-off and filed by African Americans.

**Perryman:** And that's what I'm trying to get at I guess. The African-American community has a difficult time showing up for non-presidential year elections. So again, by this being a grassroots effort, is the black community ready for such an undertaking?

**Reece:** There were a lot of folks in the last presidential election, in my district and throughout the state, who felt that we had made history in 2008 and that President Obama had 2012 in the bag. However,

when the voter intimidation billboards went up it became more personal for people. They weren't just voting for the president. They were now coming out and voting for themselves. Grandma was



Rep. Alicia Reece

getting the whole family out to vote and, as you see from the political vote, there was a larger turnout of African Americans in the last presidential election than the first one in '08 and the African-American turnout was the highest of any other ethnic group to vote. I can remember the time when people would say that African Americans would never be the number one ethnic group to vote.

So the question to can we do it, the answer is yes! And I believe that this year African Americans have an extra push to come out and vote in a midterm election because now they're coming out to vote for themselves. And it is an issue that doesn't only affect African Americans. This is an issue that will help all of Ohio because it puts voting rights in the Constitution. The Ohio Voter's Bill of Rights initiative puts the rules in the Constitution so that everyone can understand and it protects voting as a fundamental right.

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

## Rep. Ashford: Real State of The State Different from Gov. Kasich's

*Top-down economic policies leave 31K more unemployed, more taxes on working, middle class Ohioans*

*Special to The Truth*

This week, State Rep. Michael Ashford (D-Toledo) listened to Gov. Kasich lay out his priorities and recap some past policies during his State of the State address in Medina, Ohio. Gov. Kasich used the Medina venue as an opportunity to herald a state economy that has come to a grinding halt over the last year.

Ohio trailed the nation in job creation over the last year, leaving 416,000 Ohioans unemployed. Ohio is one of four states in the country whose economy is not expanding according to the Federal Reserve, and Ohio finished 2013 as 45th in the nation for job creation.

"It's ironic that the Governor boasted about Ohio's expanding economy during his speech, yet Ohio trailed the nation in job creation last year," said Rep. Ashford. "This year the governor cut taxes for the rich and he's pushing for even more tax cuts that favor top income earners -- all the while half of Ohioans are living paycheck-to-paycheck. Our communities will continue to fall behind as long as our governor caters to the wealthy while standing on the backs of the middle class."

Gov. Kasich also talked taxes during the event, promising to further cut Ohio's income tax—a move that favors the very wealthiest. Since Gov. Kasich dished out his first round of

tax breaks targeted at the wealthy — middle and working class Ohioans have felt the effects of his sales and property tax increases across the state.

Kasich offered no plans to prioritize schools and local communities after his initial historic state budget cuts of \$2 billion and \$1 billion, respectively. Instead, the Governor seemed to gloss over the lack of investment, focusing on new "deregulation" initiatives that seem to indicate a stronger corporate presence in Ohio schools. The Kasich administration has yet to offer any steps in working to fix Ohio's unconstitutional school funding formula.

Gov. Kasich also tried his hand at conveying an understanding of Ohio's impoverished population, yet more than 10,000 vulnerable Ohioans were stripped of their SNAP benefits last year due to his new restrictions. As of 2013, Ohio was the seventh most impoverished state in the US with over 1.8 million Ohioans living below the poverty line.



Michael Ashford

### Speaking of Education...

"Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it." — Marian Wright Edelman

"Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading, to make reading one of his deep and continuing needs, is good for him." — Maya Angelou

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you." — B. B. King

"The function of education, therefore, is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. But education which stops with efficiency may prove the greatest menace to society." — Martin Luther King, Jr.

Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.

Barack Obama

"I think education is power. I think that being able to communicate with people is power. One of my main goals on the planet is to encourage people to empower themselves." — Oprah Winfrey

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# Trailblazing Professor Honored for Service to Students, Community

*Special to The Truth*

The University of Toledo on Wednesday, Feb. 19 recognized Lancelot C.A. Thompson, Ph.D., for 55 years of teaching and leading student affairs. The University unveiled the Dr. Lancelot C.A. Thompson Meeting Room in Student Union Room 2592 with a short program and reception.

Expecting about 100 people to attend, the organizers vastly underestimated the widespread interest among Thompson's friends and admirers. Almost 200 people gathered to celebrate the life and career of UT's first black professor.

Thompson, professor emeritus of chemistry, was one of the first four recipients of the institution's Outstanding Teacher Award, an honor based on student nominations.

He went on to serve as vice president for student affairs in 1968 and held the position for 22 years. He also served as assistant dean for undergraduate study in the College of Arts and Sciences, and dean of student services.

Thompson has long served as a mentor to many students, particularly student-athletes. A native of Jamaica, Thompson came to the United States on a track scholarship.

"Over the years, Lance has been an adviser, a mentor and, most of all, a friend to many of

our student-athletes. The wisdom and guidance Lance provides plays an important role in their lives," said Mike O'Brien, UT vice president and athletic director.

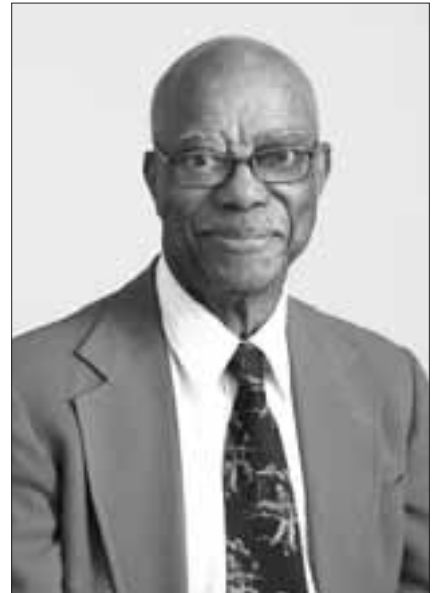
To help inspire the next generation of college students, Thompson also continues to help organize the annual Aspiring Minorities Youth Conference.

"Lance's mark on The University of Toledo and in particular on the Division of Student Affairs is immeasurable," said Dr. Kaye Patten Wallace, senior vice president for the student experience and master of ceremonies for the event. "He's a true student services professional who gave us a blueprint for service and optimism and dedication."

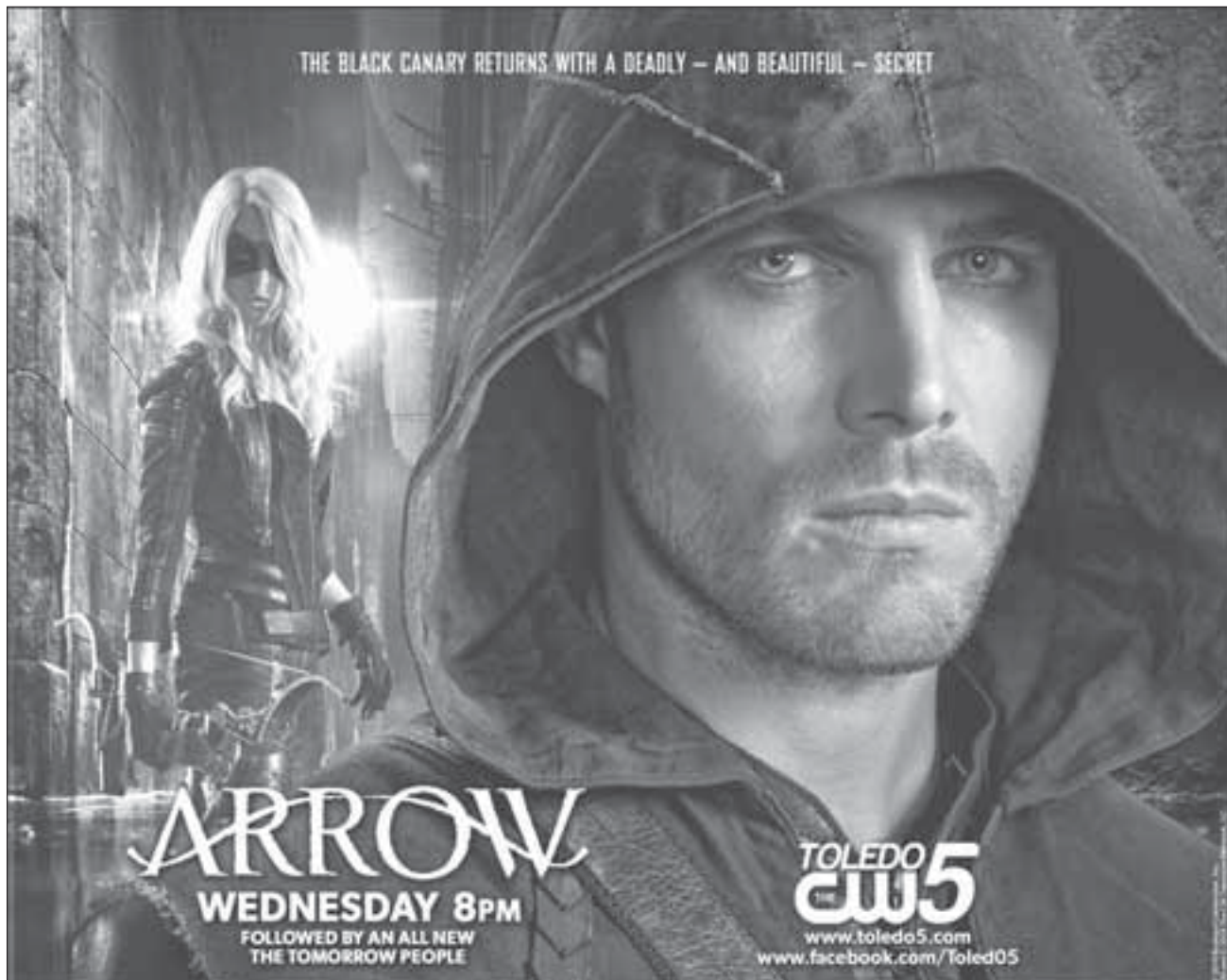
Thompson says that "helping students is a part of me."

"If anything is said about me, just let it be that I cared about people, especially students, so they had all the help available to them."

*Ed. Note: The commemorative speech during the program for Lancelot Thompson was delivered by local attorney Pariss Coleman. We have, with Coleman's permission, printed here the speech in its entirety, on pages 5 and 12.*



Lancelot Thompson



# Lancelot Thompson, Ph.D, Commemorative Speech

By Pariss Coleman, Esq

Ladies and gentlemen, friends, Thompson family, Mrs. Thompson and Dr. Thompson;

Good evening and welcome to a remarkable celebration. We will celebrate Dr. Thompson's accomplishments and eternally memorialize him on this campus, in this Student Union with a room named in his honor. He is the first black man or woman to have this honor bestowed upon him. I am privileged to stand before you and participate in this celebration.

One of the first things that I must address is the fact that Dr. Kaye [Patten Wallace] told me to be brief in my remarks about Dr. Thompson. While I appreciate her request, the more research I did the less likely it became that I could honor it.

If you know anything about Dr. Thompson you know that telling his entire story would require a couple of hours. But to do it real justice, a lengthy movie would be better. Dr. Thompson suggested Denzel Washington as the leading man portraying him.

It is no coincidence that we are celebrating this occasion in February as a cornerstone of UT's Black History Month celebration. I understand that over 28 events were planned throughout February, but there has been a spotlight, an emphasis and anticipation for this event for quite some time.

Dr. Thompson has dedicated over 50 years to the University of Toledo and, along the way, blazed trails for many to follow. In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Dr. Thompson made a way out of no way.

UT saw fit to admit its first black student in 1922; it had not seen fit to hire its first black professor until 1958. I think it goes without saying – there is no Dr. [Joseph] Sommerville, no Dr. Kaye [Patten Wallace], no Dr. [Willie] McKether, and no Dr. [Anthony] Quinn, and there would not be countless others without there having been the first – Dr. Thompson.

But equally as important as the professors and administrators I just mentioned, thou-

sands of students would have been robbed of an exquisite and unique educational experience at UT without Dr. Thompson. As his reputation developed from 1958 into the early 60s, not only was he an award-winning professor, but his classes were the first to fill. Keep in mind, we are talking about chemistry classes – neither the subject matter nor the professor was easy.

Being the first in this context came with obvious challenges. Dr. Thompson carried upon those shoulders his reputation and his family's well-being.

But more than that – he carried the hope that there would be a second and third black professor or administrator. He carried the weight of the chemistry department, the chemistry department dean and the president of the university's reputations.

He carried the hopes and dreams of little black boys and little black girls as they now had a role model who looked familiar. And he carried the aspirations of whites who were sick and tired of seeing the nation split along racial lines.

Whether he assumed the burden of the Civil Rights Movement was immaterial, he carried it, too. And he carried the hopes of blacks in all of Toledo – I can only imagine the discussions in the barber shops, beauty salons, and churches about the black chemistry professor on campus.

If you have occasion to talk to Dr. Thompson about students – he will simply tell you that he wanted to teach. He was not concerned about whether the students were black or white. He simply wanted to teach.

In order to truly appreciate the accomplishment of being the first black professor at UT, we need to take a step back in time to appreciate the United States in the 1950s.

On May 17, 1954, the Supreme Court announced its decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, the case that overruled separate but equal and forced integration in education. While the United States struggled with the idea of integration, the Jim Crow South did the best it could to retard it.

In 1955, a young man from Chicago named Emmitt Till was

brutally beaten to death in Mississippi because he committed the ultimate crime of flirting with a white woman. This situation was particularly significant in our history because Emmitt's mother demanded that he have an open casket so all the world could see how the Jim Crow South barbarically treated one of this country's own citizens.

Later in 1955, as the intolerance for second class citizenship grew, Ms. Rosa Parks refused to get up, and started the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

In September, 1957, the Little Rock 9 sought to integrate Little Rock High School in Arkansas. They were only allowed entrance after President Eisenhower was forced to intervene and escort them into the school with the aid of the U.S. Army.

And to bring it home, 1958

was born, on August 4, 1961. So in 1958, the country refused to integrate, blacks could not ride buses in the front, Emmitt Till was beaten to death, and President Eisenhower needed help to integrate schools in Arkansas – YET Dr. Thompson had the audacity to believe that he could teach chemistry, that he would teach chemistry, and that UT would entrust him with thousands of students over his career.

If you know Dr. Thompson,

... continued on page 12



Pariss Coleman

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Dr. John W. Williams, Pastor

# The Annual Perry Burroughs Democratic Women's Club Brunch

By Linda Nelson

*Sojourner's Truth Reporter*

"The Time is Now", was the theme at the Perry Burroughs Democratic Women's Club Brunch on Saturday February 22. The ninth annual event was held at the Premier Banquet Hall on Heatherdowns Blvd, with two purposes: to dispel stereotypes of Toledo Public School students and to stress to students the importance of their voice in the democratic process.

"We want to show the advantage of going to public school, and that all kids aren't bad," said Club President Yvonne Harper.

About 450 adults and students attended the ticketed event, where semiformal dress was the attire. The banquet hall was filled with well-spoken, well-dressed students representing Woodward High School, Scott High School, Burroughs Elementary School, Leverette Elementary School, Pickett Academy, Rogers High School, among others.

Students, dressed for success, sat at tables sponsored by local business owners, unions and political figures, and showed support for one another during eloquent welcome speeches and presentations to guest speaker State Sen. Nina Turner. Turner, who represents the 25th district of Ohio, is also the 2014 endorsed Demo-

cratic candidate for secretary of state. She stated that the intention of her speech was to bring awareness to recent attacks on voting rights.

"We must fight to preserve our voting rights," said Turner. "The time is now to continue to fight for justice and opportunity for all."

In a press release on the Ohio Senate website, Turner expressed her disappointment with the passing of two bills, 205 and 236, that would restrict voting opportunities.

"Voting is a fundamental American right and Ohio lawmakers should be doing everything in their power to encourage and protect opportunities to cast a ballot," said Turner. "These two unnecessary and overly-restrictive bills are an insult to the generations-long struggle to advance ballot access in our state and nation."

Turner, who represents Cleveland, serves on several committees including the Commerce and Labor Committee, Education Committee, Education Finance Subcommittee, Insurance and Financial Institution Committee and the Transportation Committee.

Although Senator Turner was the featured speaker with an important message,

one could not overlook Toledo Public School students who clearly had their best foot forward, due in part to the guidance of Toledo Public School Superintendent, Romulus Durant, Ed.D. Durant talked about the positive impact of encouraging students to participate in events such as this, and networking in positive climates that include public speaking, ushering and greeting.

Durant, who is also the founder of the Young Women of Excellence and Young Men of Excellence programs, believes that the solidarity of the uniform students are required to wear of black pants, shirts and vest, create "peer to peer influence." And he firmly believes that "There is power in the pack." Durant says that more than 2000 students participate in the Excellence programs, and the group is scheduled to make a trip to Washington soon.

Durant, who is a graduate of Waite High school, worked as a teacher and principal before becoming TPS's 30th superintendent. He took office in December 2013, replacing retired Superintendent Jerome Pecko.

Also present at the brunch was Grace Edwards, the daughter of founder Perry Burroughs. Edwards spoke about the



Nina Turner

reason her father began the organization.

"My father began this years ago at his house because he wanted to encourage voting registration," Edwards said. She also talked about her reluctance to join the club saying "I didn't want much to do with politics."

But Edwards would later change her mind when she saw that the club continued to embrace the intentions of her father. "This club represents what he really wanted. That everyone is recognized, no matter what."

For more information on the Perry Burroughs Democratic Women's Club, you can contact them at 419 265-6049 or go to [www.lucasdems.com](http://www.lucasdems.com).

## African Art Has Arrived!!

Hundreds of wood carvings from Ghana have recently arrived at  
The Truth Gallery – masks, statues, village scenes!  
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# Ashford's Re-Election Campaign Kicks off at Our Brothers Place

By Carla Yvette

A re-election kick-off event was held February 24 at Our Brothers Place for State Representative Michael Ashford of House District 44. Ashford, who also serves as Democratic Minority Whip in Columbus says this year he's facing a tough Republican opponent and wants the

people to get excited about the upcoming election.

"I want people to get excited and involved, not just for me but the governor is going to be on the ballot and we have to turn Ohio around," said Ashford. "We have to get people out to elect not only a

new governor but African-American judges, county commissioners etc."

Ashford said he sees the biggest challenge is that African Americans are their own worst enemy. Speaking of the African-American votes, he said: "We will show up 99

percent for Obama, 50 percent may show up for governor, and maybe 35 percent will show up for mayor or county commissioner and even less for judges. We would have so much more of an impact locally if we understood the power of our vote."



Representative Michael Ashford with Tina Butts and Ian English



Darnell Smith and Dr. Carnel Smith



Judge Myron Duhart and City Councilman Larry Sykes



County Commissioner, Tina Skeldon - Wozniak and Michael Ashford



City Councilman Steve Steel and Keith Mitchell



Kim Underwood, Doris Roberts and Dorine Mosley



Sean Machatterre, Melissa Korpik, Gwen Landrum with Danielle Ballesteros and Brandon Copeland



Paul Hubbard and Deborah Wedding

## NURTURES FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT



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# AKA's Honor Golden Sorors at Founders' Day Program

Members of the Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc celebrated their 106th annual Founders' Day with a program on Saturday, February 15 at Parkway Place – the luncheon was the culmination of a weekend of activities which highlighted "The Golden Sorors" – those members who have given

service for 50 years or more.

The Golden Sorors are: Elinor Williams Allen, Edna Ford Allison, Ann Colbert Battles, Anna Marie Chadwell Bolden, Joyce Gibson Brown, Ernestine Butler, Burnice Chambers, Helen Cohen, Martha Ann Washington Cotton, Ethel Kynard Files, Elizabeth Church Foster, Edith Smith Gholston, Mary

Booker Gregory, Druscilla Gibson Griffin, Mildred Hamilton Pack Guy, Theo Simmons Hampton, Joan Martin Harris, Julia Rowser Holt, Willie Kate Jackson, Patsy Kiro, Jeanette E Loper, Sallye Miyara, Brunetta Montgomery O'Neal, Marianne Payne, Rosie J Payne, Equilla Gibson Roach, Edna Brooks Robertson, Jettie

Sansbury, Phyllis Ann Law Stephens, Evelyn Shorter Strickland, Patricia Strong, Frances Stubblefield, Lucretia Topsil Thomas, Theodorsia Soriano Tucker,

Katina Johnson is the president of the Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter and Denise Black Poon was the chairman of this year's Founders' Day Committee.



Denise Black-Poon, Dorothy Buckhanan Wilson and Pres, Katina Johnson



Cynthia Tetterton-Williams and Vanessa Street



Debra Fulton and Cynthia Tetterton-Williams



Equilla G. Roach and Joyce G. Brown



Donnetta Carter and Sherry Reed



Donna Pollard, Clara Petty with Janic Matuscak



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Twins, Equilla G. Roach and Druscilla G. Griffin



Sheila and Angelo Brown



Undergraduates, LaSha Reeves, Paige Cranford, Kycia Pickens



Patrice McClellan and Richelle Watkins



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# Pageant Dreams: Miss Natural Beauty 2014

By Carla Yvette

Toledo's first Junior Miss & Miss Teen Pageant was held February 16 at The University of Toledo's Scott Park campus. Girls ages eight to 16 competed for the chance to be crowned Miss Natural Beauty 2014.

Pageant Organizer and founder of Deesyremei' Enterprise, Deidre Kelly, said the idea was born from a desire to help young girls embrace their "natural" beauty. After hearing so many young girls express a desire to look like the women they see in music videos, Kelly says, "I ask the girls, what's wrong with your

natural beauty? What you look like without weave and makeup sets you apart from everyone else. That's what makes you special."

The girls competed in four categories: talent, fashion, question and answer and photogenic. The event was also used to help raise awareness of the disease LUPUS with part of the proceeds being donated to the LUPUS Foundation.

The winners for each category were: Photogenic Teen – Kennedy Moody; Photogenic Junior- Kenzie Young. Talent Teen – Kennedy

Moody; Talent Junior- Ahsiekal Betts.

Kenzie Young, nine years old, was crowned Junior Miss Natural Beauty 2014 and Kennedy Moody, age 16, was crowned Miss Teen Natural Beauty 2014. First runner up for juniors was Lashon Thompson; first runner up for teens was Andrea Wright.

The event was emceed by Sheri Galloway with a special performance by Mike and the Crew. Judges for the evening were Lonnie J. Hamilton, Marlene Harris-Taylor, Carole Hood and Ronnell Traynum.



Pageant Contestants



Deidre Kelly, Pageant Organizer, founder of Deesyremei' Enterprise



Junior contestants, LaShon and Shontiona Thompson



Teen contestants, Kennedy Moody and Diamond Harris



Junior contestants, Kimaria Singer and Ka-Lajah Higgins



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## Toledo's Soulcial Scene • Toledo's Soulcial Scene • Toledo's Soulcial Scene • Toledo's Soulcial Scene • Toledo's Soulcial Scene

## Jean Jam... continued from page 16

McClellan added: "We wanted an event that was not stuffy but classy, sassy and comfortable all at the same time."

In addition to great music and fun atmosphere, guests had the opportunity to participate in a 50/50

raffle and a chance to win a popcorn assortment from Rachel Michael Gourmet Popcorn. Shape Me Jeans, a local business, donated \$10 per pair of jeans sold to Jean Jam ticket holders. McClellan said, "Not only is it our goal to raise funds, we also like to support and partner with small businesses."

Proceeds from this year's event will go to the Jack and Jill Foundation for grants and scholarships with a portion being donated to the Detroit Avenue Boys and Girls Club. Dunston says their next out-of-the box event will be an inaugural Juneteenth 5k run held this June.



Bob Kovar and Colleen Carson with Alicia and Nate Lawson



Brian and Tamika Kemp



Ed and Angie Cassidy



Harold and Kim Mosley



Brittany Moore and Carla Fitzgerald



Debbie Barnett and Pat Hogue



Ian English and Vallie Bowman-English



Karen and Dennis Jarrett



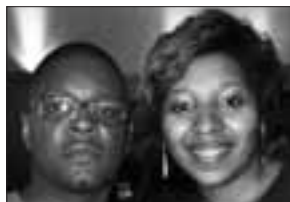
Donnetta Carter and Janet Harrington




Douglas and Mary Robinson



Kim and Julian Highsmith



Keith Johnson and Patrice McClellan

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.  Alpha Phi Alpha Chapter

1908 1908

### The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Scholarship

The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Scholarship provides scholarship dollars up to the amount of \$1,000 to be used toward educational charges beginning Fall Semester 2014. The award is split up into two equal disbursements.

The following conditions apply:

1. Recipients must be an African American male to receive this award.
2. Recipients must be enrolled full-time to receive this award.
3. Recipients must have a minimum GPA of 2.75 or higher to receive this award.
4. This award will be awarded once in the Fall Semester and once in the Spring Semester.
5. Recipients must provide final grades after Fall Semester in order to receive disbursement of award in the Spring Semester 2015.
6. Recipients must participate in an on-campus circle only.
7. Recipients are encouraged to attend the 2013 MLK Scholarship Breakfast.
8. Recipients must participate in service and leadership activities in high school and in the community (offices provide a report about their extra-curricular activities and community service).
9. Recipients must submit two (2) letters of recommendation which can be from non-family members such as a school counselor, teacher, pastor, or mentor.
10. Recipients must attach a 500 word essay answering the following question: "How would the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. scholarship for higher education benefit you personally as an African American male and how would that benefit the African American community as a whole?"

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 City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_  
 College Planning To Attend: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit completed form no later than March 10, 2014 to:  
 Jean Dunston, 2014 Scholarship Chair  
 Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.  
 Alpha Phi Alpha Chapter  
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 Email: JeanDunston@gmail.com  
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\*Students must provide verification of enrollment from institution.

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Marlene Harris-Taylor and Suzette Hackney



Mother and daughter Toni Banks and Jacqueline Rivers



Rhonda Sewell and Janet Harrington



Roy and Montalena Hodge



State Rep. Michael and Ruth Ashford



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# After the Brunch, the Davises Host a Fundraiser for State Sen. Nina Turner

Nina Turner, state senator who represents Cleveland in the Ohio General Assembly and current candidate for Ohio Secretary of State, spent part of last Saturday here in

Toledo as the keynote speaker at the Perry Burroughs Democratic Women's Club Black History Month Brunch and, later, on the receiving end of a fundraiser held at the home

of Vince and Pathy Davis.

Dozens of supporters turned out to help Turner in her effort to win state-wide office in this year's election. Turner, in thanking the guests,

noted the importance in this race for Ohio's African-American voters to replicate the effort and produce the numbers they usually reserve for presidential elections.



Richard and Tanya Isaiah, Vince Davis, Senator Nina Turner, Patrice and Pathy Davis and Jeff Turner



Toledo City Council President Paula Hicks Hudson and Doni Miller



Senator Nina and Jeff Turner



Ian and Vallie Bowman - English



Cheryl Tyler-Folsom with Councilman Tyrone Riley



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*Lancelot Speech... continued from page 3*

you expected nothing less.

The president of UT in 1958 was Dr. Asa Knowles. While it does not appear that President Knowles was overtly involved in Dr. Thompson's hiring, he was clearly responsible for it. Dr. Thompson had little interaction with President Knowles, excepting the time he was hired when President Knowles commented to Dr. Thompson "You're either a very good person, or you paid a lot of money for these recommendations."

Conspicuously, President Knowles left UT in late 1958 or early 1959. I jokingly asked Dr. Thompson if hiring the first black professor at UT led to President Knowles' departure. Dr. Thompson smiled at my suggestion.....but never answered the question.

In 1960, Dr. Thompson was hired as the track coach for UT. This must have been significant because it was reported in *Jet Magazine*.

In addition to being the first black faculty member, Dr. Thompson is:

- The first black faculty member to receive tenure;
- First black vice president campus-wide;
- First black vice president of student affairs;
- One of first four faculty members to receive the inaugural "Outstanding Teacher Award" in 1964.

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Dr. Thompson was not, however, the first black employee at UT. He was second. The first was not "Joe the Plumber," but "Jim the Painter." I probed Dr. Thompson for more information about Jim the Painter and Dr. Thompson shared that he was excited to see another black employee on campus.

And let's not forget Jamaica. We believe Dr. Thompson is the first and only Jamaican to compete internationally in three sports: track, cricket and soccer. While we tend to focus on Dr. Thompson's academic and scholastic successes, we should also acknowledge that he competed in the Pan-American games in track and field in 1946 and 1950, and declined an invitation to compete in the 1952 Olympics.

All these things illustrate Dr. Thompson's success and commitment to UT, clearly worthy of having a room named after him. His devotion to UT, his family, and his students is amazing. I mentioned the social turmoil of the 1950s. I did not mention that Dr. Thompson's first house was stoned regularly for the six months he lived there. One rock hit the crib his second daughter was laying in.

Despite that, when rumors spread across UT's campus in the 60s that protestors planned to burn down the Field House, Dr. Thompson led student leaders to stay all night at the Field House to prevent anyone from getting on the roof. The roof was important because that was the only part of the structure that would burn. Needless to say, Dr. Thompson was again successful.

I need to thank a few people for the roles they played in making today possible.

- *Mrs. Thompson* - thank you for your patience and trust in Dr. Thompson. Without your support in him and trust in Toledo,

this never would have happened.

- *Thompson children* - thank you for sharing your father with us. Without your sacrifice, so many things here would not have happened and thousands of students would have been robbed of a wonderful experience.

- *Dr. Kaye* - Thank you for having the courage and dogged determination to do the right thing, right now. Dr. Thompson has been a giant at UT for a long time and worthy of this commemoration and immortality. Under your leadership and advocacy, this day, this event, and this commemoration became possible.

- *And Dr. Thompson* - Thank you for your hunger, thank you for your desire, thank you for your courage and intolerance. Having the audacity to think you could teach here and should teach here opened a door for many professors and administrators to follow, opened a door for many students to walk through and served as a shining example of what good can happen when we rid ourselves of the ignorances associated with prejudice. Whether you chose to carry the burdens you bore is immaterial, you carried them and carried them well.

Thank you and congratulations.

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Dr. Lancelot and Naomi Thompson

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### POLICE OFFICER

The Village of Ottawa Hills is accepting applications for the position of part-time Police Officer.

#### Required training and experience:

Minimum two year college degree or equivalent, from accredited college. Must be commissioned Peace Officer according to the rules of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council.

Testing must be conducted through the National Testing Network ([www.nationaltestingnetwork.com](http://www.nationaltestingnetwork.com)) and completed no later than March 22, 2014. For more information visit [www.ottawahills.org/employment](http://www.ottawahills.org/employment) or email [police@ottawahills.org](mailto:police@ottawahills.org). Pay range: \$18.23 - \$20.54 hr.

The Village of Ottawa Hills is an equal opportunity employer.

# Saint Monkey by Jacinda Townsend

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The Truth Contributor

The first time you saw her, it was all you could do to resist touching her curls.

They were perfect, just like her fingers and her apple-dumpling cheeks. Her eyes drew you in, begging you to love her – and you did.

She was the most beautiful doll you'd ever seen. And she was property of your best friend, who wouldn't let you touch her.

Do we ever outgrow wanting what someone else has? Or, as in the new novel *Saint Monkey* by Jacinda Townsend, do we instead learn that those things are as tarnished as our own?

Fourteen-year-old Pookie never did like Audrey much.

They were only friends because Pookie's bad teeth and Audrey's braininess meant that nobody else would play with them. Eventually, they just had one another, their friendship sealed over baptism in front of God and old ladies who "got happy."

At 14 years old, Audrey liked to read. She also liked to sit on her porch swing on Queen Street and watch Pookie's daddy come home every night. Three years before, Audrey's father went to Korea and never came back. She sometimes pretended that Sonnyboy was really her daddy.

c. 2014  
W.W. Norton  
\$24.95 / \$26.50 Canada  
352 pages

Or, she did – until Sonnyboy murdered Pookie's Mama.

And that right there, it changed a lot of things. Pookie started

using her given name – Caroline – and she started messing with boys. She'd always said she was going to Hollywood and Audrey believed her. The funny thing was that Audrey was the first to leave Mt. Sterling, when a man heard her playing piano for a funeral and offered her a job in Harlem.

Leaving her Mama and Grandpap was hard, but Harlem was a dream come true for Audrey. She missed Caroline, too, but they'd had disagreements before she left, and Audrey was sure the friendship was too damaged to continue.

Still, Audrey wrote letters back home, telling Caroline about life in New York, meeting a special man, fame and about Harlem through the eyes of a country girl. But to Caroline, it all seemed to be bragging. She always knew that Audrey thought she was better than everybody else.

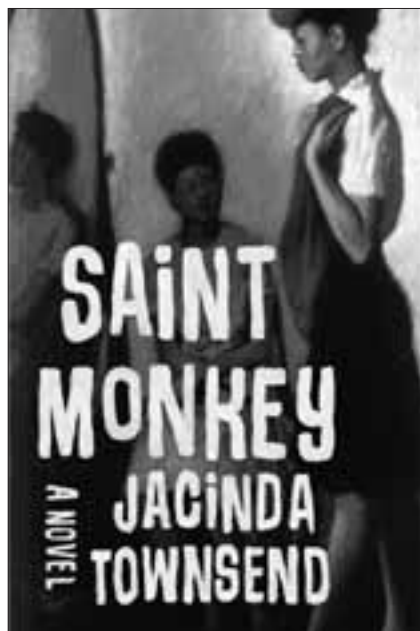
What did she ever see in that girl, anyhow?

Reading *Saint Monkey* is as painful and irresistible as the friendship that forms this novel's core.

Written in two distinct voices, this is the story of a love-hate relationship between two friends who grow together and grow apart but can't seem to let go of either. It's the story of moving on, while aching for your roots, and of treading water while wondering what's beyond the boundaries of your town.

And for those reasons, sticking with the theme of this novel, it's easy to both love and hate author Jacinda Townsend's utterly compelling characters: Audrey, for her preoccupied properness, and Caroline for hiding her hurt behind sarcastic sass.

This is not a whip-through-it-quick novel. No, this one demands that you sink into the pages and take some time. And if you've got that, then *Saint Monkey* is surely a book to curl up with.




Jacinda Townsend, courtesy Hebbah Vidali



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# CLASSIFIEDS

February 26, 2014

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## Field Technician

The Lucas County Land Bank is seeking a Field Technician that will make regular site visits to properties owned and targeted by the Land Bank; inspect and photograph the interior and exterior based on Land Bank specifications; meet prospective purchasers, realtors, and contractors at properties; and provide basic maintenance services. An ideal candidate will demonstrate a sincere commitment to the Land Bank's mission of strengthening neighborhoods and restoring property values. Experience in property management, property inspections, and/or property maintenance is required. Reliable transportation required. Salary commensurate with experience. For more information or to apply, visit [www.LucasCountyLandBank.org](http://www.LucasCountyLandBank.org). Deadline: March 7, 2014. EEO/AA.

EOE

## Clinical Therapist Full-time

Clinical Therapist/Diagnostic Assessor needed to provide group and individual therapy to adults and children.

Qualified candidates must have strong clinical skills including the ability to make clinical decisions, knowledge of therapeutic principles and practices, thorough knowledge of current DSM and strong group process skills. Masters degree and Ohio licensure as a PC or LSW required. Independent Licensure as a PCC or LISW preferred.

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



Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for an Industrial Hygienist. The selected applicant will serve as a technical resource in the Health and Safety Department by developing and maintaining compliance for safety and industrial hygiene programs of the refinery. The Industrial Hygienist will be responsible for the following duties: instrumentation; chemical inventory of the refinery; and conducting statistical analysis, surveys and assessments on respiratory and sample data. Other duties include but are not limited to conducting personnel and community monitoring during emergencies; coordinating all requirements for governmental reporting, including interpretation; making call outs of external and internal monitoring; assisting with job hazard analysis and field safety evaluations; and assisting field management with loss control efforts. The selected candidates will also serve as the facility Radiation Safety Officer.

Candidates must have a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Hygiene, Safety Engineering or related field. A minimum of 5 years' Industrial Hygiene and/or safety experience in an industrial setting or refinery assignment is preferred. Certification by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene in the comprehensive practice or other specialty aspect of industrial hygiene is preferred or a willingness to achieve the CIH Designation in 2 - 4 years after start date.

All interested candidates may apply by going to [www.pbenergy.com](http://www.pbenergy.com) and selecting the Career tab. Once on the career page, candidates can view current job opportunities and apply to desired position.

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY TOLEDO, OHIO

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Directors that Sealed Bids will be received by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority for:

### Construct Taxiway "A" Phase II and Navaid Improvements at Toledo Executive Airport Millbury, OH 43447

The project "Construct Taxiway "A" Phase II and Navaid Improvements" consists of a base bid, deductive alternate no. 1, additive alternates no. 1 and no. 2. Base bid consist of construction of a new asphalt taxiway (approximately 17,000 square yards) including unclassified excavation (approximately 4,000 cubic yards), placement of existing crushed concrete (approximately 3,000 cubic yards), crushed aggregate base course (approximately 6,000 cubic yards), bituminous surface and base course (approximately 4,000 tons), pavement marking (approximately 12,000 square feet of permanent and miscellaneous associated markings), installation of 2" PVC conduit (approximately 10,000 lineal feet in turf), installation of #8 5kV underground cable (approximately 11,000 lineal feet), installation of runway and taxiway pavement lighting (approximately 87 taxiway edge lights), installation of L858 guidance signs (9 each), electrical vault improvements including ALCMS upgrades and seeding/mulching (approximately 11 Acres). Deductive alternate no. 1 includes removal of Taxiway "A4" portions of base bid including unclassified excavation (approximately 1,000 cubic yards), placement of existing crushed concrete (approximately 500 cubic yards), crushed aggregate base course (approximately 500 cubic yards), bituminous surface and base course (approximately 500 tons), pavement marking (approximately 1,400 square feet of permanent and miscellaneous associated markings), installation of 2" PVC conduit (approximately 900 lineal feet in turf), installation of #8 5kV underground cable (approximately 900 lineal feet), installation of runway and taxiway pavement lighting (approximately 22 taxiway edge lights), installation of L858 guidance signs (8 each). Additive alternate no. 1 consists of installation of a precision approach path indicator system and associated wiring and vault improvements. Additive alternate no. 2 consists of Runway 4-22 navigation aid system improvements including installation of 2" PVC conduit (approximately 3,000 lineal feet in turf), directional drilling of conduits under existing pavements (approximately 500 lineal feet), installation of various underground cable (approximately 7,000 lineal feet, site equipment and electrical vault improvements including ALCMS upgrades and seeding/mulching (approximately 11 Acres). Project may be awarded by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority at its sole discretion. The engineer's estimate for the base bid for this project is approximately \$1,395,547.00, deductive alternate no. 1 is approximately a credit of \$183,375.11, additive alternate no 1 is approximately \$79,785.00 and additive alternate no. 2 is \$142,630.00.

Plans, Specifications, Instructions to Proposers, and Forms of Proposal and Contract are on file, and may be obtained by either (1) obtaining hard copies from Apex Micrographics, Inc., 5973 Telegraph Road, Toledo, OH 43612, phone 419.476.6535, during normal business hours, or (2) ordering from Apex Micrographics, Inc. via e-mail to [ami5973@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ami5973@sbcglobal.net) at a non-refundable price of \$64. Bids will be received at the Port Authority's administrative offices at One Maritime Plaza, Toledo, OH 43604 until Monday, March 24, 2014, at 11:00 AM, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The full advertisement may be viewed at the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority's website at <http://www.toledoportauthority.org/en-us/publicnotices.aspx..>

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EOE

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Qualified candidates must have excellent customer service and clerical skills. Computer experience is required. Previous experience in dealing with individuals with mental illness preferred.

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## LEGAL NOTICE INVITATION FOR BID

Sealed bids will be received by the Fallen Timbers Field Office of Toledo Area Metroparks, 6101 Fallen Timbers Ln., Maumee, Ohio 43537, no later than 3:00p.m. local time, on **Wednesday, March 18, 2014**, and thereafter will be publicly opened, read, and recorded for **Furnishing and Delivery of Aggregate Material for Metroparks of the Toledo Area**.

Scope of Work: includes furnishing and delivering bulk aggregate material to Metroparks throughout Lucas County.

All bidding documents may be obtained by bidders at [www.metroparkstoledo.com](http://www.metroparkstoledo.com) **Toledo Area Metroparks Administrative Headquarters**, 5100 W. Central Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43615 free of charge or by emailing [joe.fausnaugh@metroparkstoledo.com](mailto:joe.fausnaugh@metroparkstoledo.com). If you have any problems accessing the information, please contact the Park Services Department at 419-407-9744 or by e-mail.



## Jean Jam 5: Still Live! Still a Party with a Purpose!

By Carla Yvette

It's a party with a purpose and always has been. The Toledo Chapter Jack and Jill Jean Jam, held on February 21 at St. Clement and now in its fifth year, continues to be a sold-out event.

President Felicia Dunston attributed its popularity to the community's awareness of the good things the organization does.

"The people understand that it's a party with a purpose," said Dun-

ston. "Our focus is instilling leadership in our families and community and they like to contribute."

According to Dunston, the concept of Jean Jam originated with mothers back in the day who would

hold 60's and 70's themed dances but Dunston says they decided on a cabaret-style party.

Foundation Chairman Patrice

... continued on page 10



*Ladies of Jack N Jill*



*Anthony and Carmen Miller*



*Birdy Gordon and Mary Brown*



*Carolyn and Michael Alexander*